

ISLAND TIMES

Volume II, Number 18

Pensacola Beach, Florida

January 3, 2007

Beach Buckeyes and Island Gators Draw Line in the Sand



Will the little Buckeye choke the Gators or will the fearsome jaws of the Gator crack the Buckeye? Time, and a lot of football plays on January 8, will tell the tale of who's the best football team in the United States for this season. The fans shown here will work themselves into a frenzy twirling their good luck Buckeyes or doing the Gator Chomp as they head toward game day. (L to R) Brian Finkbone, Rita Finkbone, Kim Duell, John Rebic and Amy DePew. More on this story, Page 2.

Will the Florida Gators Crack The OSU Buckeyes?

Fan Poll: Florida Fans - Yes!

OSU Fans - No!

There's a world of ecological difference between a buckeye and an alligator. A buckeye is a little brown nut that grows on trees in Ohio. An alligator is a fearsome scaled animal which grows and grows and grows in the Florida swamps. And soon the two will meet for the first time in the national championship football battle in Glendale, Arizona.

Gator fans and Buckeye fans have a lot in common. They are all crazy. Well, crazy about their teams.

The national championship game will be played at the University of Phoenix Stadium at 7 p.m. on January 8. Break out the wings and popcorn.

The weather is expected to be hot and dry. Hot will suit Florida just fine. Dry might be another story. As for Ohio State, those guys will be so glad to get out of that cold weather in Columbus, that anything above forty degrees is acceptable.

The quarterbacks, the

much decorated Heisman trophy winner, Troy Smith of OSU, will face Chris Leak and sometimes Tim Tebow in the national shootout. Who cares if they are playing against the best football star in the United States? Not Florida.

There is only one blemish on the Florida record this year, the day Auburn University took them down 27-17. Ohio State came through its season without a loss. Most of this trivial information is not worth much. Forget the state. Just watch the game. And, erase that one fact that Coach Urban Meyer is a former Buckeye. He's a Gator now. There are plenty of Gators around like Amy DePew whose dad graduated from Stetson College which did not have a football team, so he adopted UF and gathered his children to join him as they listened to the games on WCOA. Amy's mom would ask where the children were. They were so quiet. They were busy getting their first taste of growing up in the Gator

Nation. A noble experience.

On the other hand, Kim Duell, assistant manager of Human Resources and Events at the Santa Rosa Island Authority, has been a Buckeye all of her life. She is originally from Alliance, Ohio and to date, shows no signs of changing her allegiance to Florida, although she moved here in 1999.

Brian Finkbone, a graduate of the University of New Orleans is a Gator fan by marriage. He does have a little secret. His dad, Richard, played

football at Ohio State and graduated in 1948. But, Brian's wife Rita has converted Brian, and he better not revert back. When Brian went to talk to Rita's dad about marrying his daughter, her father asked, "Are you a Gator fan?" Yes, of course, gulped Brian. He was then and still is.

And there's John Rebic, who lives and breathes with the luck of the Buckeyes. He goes back to Ohio every year to visit family and friends, and somehow Ohio State football gets

into the conversations.

That little Buckeye may be a hard nut to crack, but maybe, the jaws of the Florida Gator will be strong enough to do it.

John Rebic has made his own prediction: Ohio State 42, University of Florida, 38. The Island Times sees it a little bit differently. University of Florida, 31 and Ohio State University, 28.

No matter what the score, one of these teams will be the National Champion. It's the way the football bounces.

Laura Bush Foundation Grants \$25,000 To Beach School Library

Pensacola Beach Elementary School students will be reading a lot. A whole lot more than usual since the school is the recipient of the \$25,000 grant from the Laura Bush Foundation. Announcement was made at their December 18 Board meeting that Jeff Castleberry, principal, and Linda Dempsey, parent and author of the grant, traveled to New Orleans to receive guidelines on spending the grant money. Now, all they have to do is find room in their library facility for all those books.

The financial position of the school remains strong, according to figures submitted by Treasurer Chris Bayer.

"Everything is within budget. We have money in the bank and everything is rolling along," Chris said.

The Partners-In-Education program is now under way, and usually provides a big boost for school finances. Anyone who would like to become a partner with the school can call and get an application, according to Conna O'Donovan, Partners-in-Education chairperson.

Four individuals expressed an interest in becoming members of the School Board including Gordon Sprague, Shelby Smith, Patrick Lanza and Mark Lee. Others wishing to serve on the Board should call the school at

934-4020, before January 15.

Second grade teacher Debbie Campanella who has been serving on the Board for first grade teacher Sandee Bredesen will step down and Sandee will resume her place.

Debbie Campanella told board members that the Success Maker computer software has tallied the students' math scores for the semester.

"The computer lab has been a huge success," she said. "Every child has made learning gains in math and we are very proud of that."

The next meeting of the Board will be January 22 at 6 p.m. at the school.

Wrecks Parade Entry Fee Back To Normal

2006 Entrants Get First Slots

Entering your float in this year's Krewe of Wrecks parade won't be as hard on your budget as last year. The entry fee is \$100 per float as opposed to the hurricane emergency fee of \$600 that the Krewe was forced to charge last year.

"We will allow all Krewes who entered floats last year to have the right of first refusal for this year's parade," Kay Turner said. "After those floats have been entered, we will open the event to others but the number of spaces will be limited."

Krewes who wish to enter this year's parade can send their checks to Kay Turner, Pensacola Beach Elk's Lodge, P.O. Box 551, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562. Make checks payable to the Krewe of Wrecks.

The Wrecks collected cash and toys for the Children's Services Center this year.

Announcement was made at the Christmas party at the Elk's Lodge that membership is still open for the Krewe of Wrecks. Membership is \$20 per

person per year.

The next Wrecks party will be at 6 p.m. at The Break, Monday, January 8.

Hit the Beach Running to Start New Year

Runners have until January 5 to enter the Pensacola Beach Run, scheduled for Saturday, January 6 at 8 a.m. The race - a 5K, 10K and half marathon is expected to attract about 800 to 1000 participants. Latecomers can register on race day between the hours of 6 a.m. and 7:30 a.m., only.

The event which is sponsored by the Pensacola Runners Association is headquartered at the Hilton Garden Inn on Pensacola Beach which has provided special rates for runners. Other sponsors are Flounder's, Nova Care, and A.G. Edwards.

The sponsors, Pensacola Runners Association, are telling all entrants to come for the run and stay for the fun. The post-

race party will be at Flounder's and will include live music, soft drinks, and cold beer. The race is noted as a spirited way to start the new year with all the

festivities designed for a real runners' New Year's party.

For information, call Gary Bunde, 850-476-7434 or email bunde@cox.net. The Pensacola

Runners Association website, www.pensacolarunners.com offers information on local events as well as training opportunities.

ISLAND TIMES

PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY

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Barefoot on the Beach

By Jane Waters Cooper



Here it is, the third column in the Holiday Trilogy. Thanksgiving, Christmas and now the New Year nudges me into thinking some thoughts about the Beach. Some of these thoughts represent miserable problems almost, but not quite, beyond our control. Some are happy and lighthearted. So, step inside my head as I randomly think of the Beach in 2007.

HURRICANES: Forecasters, what do they know? Let Mother Nature make the predictions. I would like to have a hurricane season in 2007, exactly like the one we had in 2006. Also, you can count on Nasty John's "voodoo" hurricane bag. (Well, it worked this year.)

TAXES: Ad Valorem, that is. Is it really necessary to have the courts tell us that land we are renting requires payment of owners' taxes on the improvements? Not only that, but it takes pages and pages of gobbledegook to explain the reasons that rental property is tantamount to ownership. Give us a break.

ABOLISH THE SRIA: What? Not again! The Florida Legislature gave us the SRIA to run this island...and they are doing a good job. If you mix this up with taxation, all kinds of evils will erupt. We would surely rebel and fight our way to incorporation. Everybody would own their piece of sand, pay taxes, have a mayor and council, and live in a gated community. The City of Pensacola Beach is born. Goodbye public playground.

BIKE PATH: The bike path along Ft. Pickens Road was officially dedicated to you-know-who as the W.D. Childers Sea Oats Trail several years ago. Isn't it time to change the name of the path with the new roadway completion? How about Harry Gowens Sea Oats Trail? Keep the other path on Via de Luna as the Michael Keenan Bike Path, since it was his friends who raised the money to construct the first ever path.

PENSACOLA BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: What can we say? My thoughts here are to help keep the school going to help. The Partners-in-Education program is underway. Become a partner and invest in the kids.

VIA DE LUNA: Good news. Crews are working faster than usual. Completion date of this spring should be reached. This will be the island street of dreams. Now, if someone would just create a workable plan to get pedestrians moved from one side of the street to the other.

PENSACOLA BEACH BUSINESSES: Let the cash registers ring. You can find just about everything you need on the Beach. Support these people. Buy it on the Beach.

FIVE FLAGS INN AND CLARION SUITES: Some day, some big developer will be sorry he didn't buy one of these properties when the price was right.

LIFEGUARDS: Here's to another year just like the last one. However, the guards will have their own "office" in the new Safety Building. So, they have a nice rate of pay now and they deserve every penny of it. And they deserve every inch of their part of the new building.

PENSACOLA BEACH COMMUNITY CHURCH AND OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION MISSION: The Beach churches are thriving and providing food for the soul. Not to mention all kinds of off-shoots to accommodate their many parishioners. For instance, there's ROMEO (no, it's not the Dallas Cowboys Quarterback). They are the Community Church's Retired Old Men Eat Out. The churches reach out to everybody in many different ways.

MARDI GRAS ON THE ISLAND: Your troubles seem to be over for the moment. The SRIA believes in you, the general population of Northwest Florida believes in you, the locals adore all you do for them. Keep the rain away on February 18.

WOOLY BOOGERS: They are asleep and probably won't show up for a while. Let sleeping Wooly Boogers lie.

OPTIMISTS, WOMAN'S CLUB, ELKS LODGE, YACHT CLUB: May you all experience the joys of brotherhood and sisterhood as you pursue the community-oriented activities beach people really count on.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS:

See, I told you my random thoughts would go here, there and everywhere. All I have to say is Geaux Saints, winners of the NFC South Division.

SISTERS OF THE BEACH: Not a day goes by that I don't think about you wonderful, wacky women. Thank you for caring for each other, for the Beach and for me. Don't ever change.

I have lots of thoughts about so many Beach folks and organizations. Sorry, my space in this newspaper is so limited.

FINAL THOUGHT: Protect and nurture what you have on this Island. In return, the Island will protect and nurture you.

What goes around, comes around.

Krewe of Wrecks Meetings • Begin at 6:00 p.m.
There are a few memberships remaining. Join at the meeting. \$20

1/8-The Break	1/15-Paddy O'Leary's	
1/22-The Islander	1/29-Flounder's	2/5 Sidelines

EVENTS

Jan. 6 Nereid King Kake Party	3 p.m.	Paradise
Jan. 13 Krewe of Sandshaker Costume Contest	8 pm.	Shaker
Jan. 19 Nereid Moon Pie Party	7 p.m.	Sandshaker
Jan. 21 Junkanoo Cajun Boil	TBA,	Sandshaker
Jan. 27 Nauga Breakfast	10:30 a.m.	The Dock
Jan. 27 Brewski Beach Babe	1:30 p.m.	The Dock
Jan. 27 Bananimals Ball	8 p.m.	Hilton
Feb. 2 Rhinestones & Royalty	7 p.m.	Paradise
Feb. 3 Brewski/Nereid Black Tie Ball	8 p.m.	The Dock
Feb. 9 Krewe of Warriors Ball	9 p.m.	Hadji Shrine Temple
Feb. 10 Junkanoo Kritter Krawl	Noon	Gulfside Pavilion
Feb. 10 Krewe of Kids Parade	1 p.m.	Gulfside Pavilion
Feb. 10 Krewe of Wrecks Ball	8 p.m.	The Dock
Feb. 11 DeLuna Fest	11 a.m.	The Islander
Feb. 17 Krewe of Wrecks Champagne Breakfast	10 a.m.	Crab's
Feb. 17 Krewe of Wrecks Street Dance	1 p.m.	Bobby D's
Feb. 18 Krewe of Wrecks Parade	2 p.m.	Via de Luna
Feb. 19 Red Beans and Rice	Noon	Casino Parking Lot
Feb. 20 Krewe of Coma	6 p.m.	Sandshaker



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Association of Krewes Meeting
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Krewe Rep
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HOMESWEETHOME

After two long years and two and one-half even longer months, Lil Kamphuis returned to her home at San Souci. She had been living in an apartment in Gulf Breeze all the time since Hurricane Ivan. She's been keeping tabs on things by reading *Island Times* and requested that the Mardi Gras schedule be larger. Consider it done.

STUDENT STARS

Jace Amberson and Lia Lampona are the December Students of the Month at the Pensacola Beach Elementary School. Both are in the third grade and Joy McLaurine is their teacher.

KITCHEN WITCH WIZARDRY

Melanie Waite is planning to set a date for someone to host a kitchen witch coven. She wants to show off one of her pair of witches who is so powerful she scared the "monster" away from beneath her grandson's bed.

AFRICAN ADVENTURE

Yoko Jemison and Karen Kreitzberg are back home again after an exciting trip to South Africa. They visited with Yoko's family. Karen promises to share the photos sometime soon.

WOOLY BOOGERS LOVE MORGAN PARK

The Woolly Booger Kiss The Hurricane Season Goodbye Bawl on December 3, netted \$247.30 as a contribution to Morgan Park. The park was a favorite spot for Les Cieutat, His High Wooliness, who founded the WBs. The Woolly Boogers have gone dor-

mant again, but Chuck LeBum, president, delivered the donation in person. As far as anyone knows, Queen Sugah Paulette will reign for another year. She warns that her subjects may arise at any time and throw another party.

SANDY THANKS

Sandy Watkins took time to write a note to thank the *Island Times* for publishing a story about her trip to Deanna Lambert's wedding in Charlotte. Get ready, everybody, the longtime Beach resident and SOB is heading to the Island for Mardi Gras.

CYNDI and SHU MOVE NORTH

Cyndi and Shu Schumaker have moved to Reston, Virginia. Shu is now employed by the FDA on a national level. Cyndi is working in Arlington, for the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists. When vacation time arrives, guess where they will be going? They will hop in their RV and head for home, Pensacola Beach.

READY FOR IRAQ

Chris Luchsinger had a really neat holiday in store for him before he deployed for duty in Iraq. He spent two weeks at Christmastime with his family in Gulf Breeze before he deployed overseas.

WHITE CHRISTMAS?

Pat and Bill Griffith have returned to Pensacola Beach after spending Christmas in Montana with their son.

THE EYES OF TEXAS

Sandy and Bob Franz made a whirlwind Christmas trip to

Texas to visit relatives near Killeen. They did not leave the Beach long, so they would be back at in their condo at The Verandas before New Year's Eve.

CAVORTING AROUND

Who knows whether it's a family tradition or a sense of adventure but at Christmas some beach folks venture to other parts of America. Leaseholders President Tona de Mers and her daughter, Rebecca drove to visit family in Arkansas. Christy Jones and Michael Sullivan went all the way to Boston. Everyone reported "we had great time seeing family, but it feels so good to be back on the Beach." Amen.

Delectable King Kakes Come Marching In

The Mystic Krewe of Nereids will host the first Mardi Gras party of 2007. The annual King Kake celebration will be at Paradise Bar and Grill at 3 p.m. on Saturday, January 6.

"Delicious King Kake will be served," Paulette Provost, Krewe

TRIVIA

Elk's Lodge Trivia Team Sings Out Correct Answer

Technically, there were two correct answers to the last trivia question. In the spirit of Christmas, the trivia master was willing to accept which ever answer arrived first. The question was "Who supplied the bus that took the Beach Christmas carolers on their merry rounds?"

The story begins when McGuire sent his bus out from town, and the carolers boarded, and felt like they were in Merrie Old England, celebrating an old-fashioned Christmas. All was going well even if the carolers on the first floor were sometimes singing a different song than those on the second floor, all at the same time. But, then the bus broke down, and someone sent for Harry Gowen's School Bus, so the carolers finished their tour of the neighborhoods riding in the

little bus.

First to send an answer was the Trivia Team of Bill Greene, Elaine Tennimon, and Kay Turner. Their answer was "Harry Gowen's Bus." Now, they have a t-shirt which they can divide up any way they see fit.

Try this one. The New Year's Day Polar Bear Dip/Plunge has been a Pensacola Beach tradition for many years. It's been held by different sponsors and in different places. "Name one other sponsor and the matching body of water, other than this year's Paradise."

T-shirt for the first correct answer sent to islandtimes@bellsouth.net. Email your answer with "Trivia" in the subject line before 5 p.m. January 10. Be sure to include your name and phone number.

of Nereids said. "If you have never tried one, it's a coffee cake with purple, green and gold icing. Hidden in the cake is a plastic baby, and whoever gets it is supposed to host the next party."

The new King and Queen of the Krewe of Nereids will be re-

vealed about 4:30 p.m. Music will be provided for dancing.

Wear your Mardi Gras attire. You will not be asked to leave if you are not wearing purple, green and gold, but you'll have more fun, if you're dressed for the occasion. It's the Mardi Gras, dahlin'!

Pensacola Beach



Stunning water views and spectacular sunsets abound from this waterfront townhouse on Sabine Bay. A great front row seat for the beach fireworks, and famous Blue Angels Air Show. Unit has been totally upgraded and is good as new. This townhome features a stainless steel range and refrigerator, upstairs and downstairs air conditioned sunrooms, hot tub, and open air decks on both levels. Boat docking privileges are available behind the unit on Sabine Bay. Never flooded.

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The Sisters of the Beach spread their own kind of Christmas cheer when they gather at Flounder's each year for the annual SOB Christmas Luncheon. As is the tradition the generous women made a \$310 donation to Favor House and purchased a Morgan Park commemorative brick in memory of Andrea Brunt. Toasting the holiday on December 17 are Front row (L to R): Barbella Fail, Lois Jernigan, Tarsha Bechtol, Gayle Shackelford, Beverly Hughes, and Christine Hewerdine. Second Row (L to R): Santa's Helper Sam Peavy, Judy L'Oignon, Dee Riley, Barbara Lanton, Christy Jones, Lynn Cieutat, Deb Friedman, Kathi Lewis, Bonnie McDonald, Paulette Provost, Andrea Stanley, and standing Caroline Provost. Third row (L to R): Amy Drees, Mary Drees, Linda Hartmann, Nichole S., Lori Jordan, Beverly Sarasua, Denise Kever. Fourth row (L to R): Melanie Waite, Marie Steele, Jackie Henderson, Claire Marcey, and Sandy Johnston. (Back row, L to R): Chrissy Cook, Karina Foster, Robin Taylor, Gwen Gibson, Danah Gibson, Margarite, Shelly Geier, Becky Shearman, Melody Spink, Kennedy Neal, Lila Cox, Sandi Johnson, Kathy Ross and Amy DePew. Not in photo are Nancy Roney and Peggy Henshall.

Sisters of the Beach Rev Up Resolutions For 2007

MELANIE WAITE: I resolve to buy a new vehicle with a GPS that automatically takes it home from the Beach. (I can get there on my own.)

CLAIRE MARCEY: I resolve to keep on eating, drinking, and partying as often as possible.

SECRET AUTHOR: I resolve to be an SOB and Queen now and forever. Party always - Just a bit earlier in the day.

SHELLY GEIER: I resolve to always be a Beach gal even though we live in America now.

LILA COX: I resolve to always take time to enjoy the Beach, to never bury my head in the sand, and to do all I can to help my friends

keep their heads up.

BECKY SHEARMAN: I resolve to continue as I have for the past years.

SANDI JOHNSON: Time is extremely valuable to us all. I resolve to make the most of my days, hopefully in productive ways and to waste as little time as possible.

ROBIN TAYLOR: I resolve to be a better person; to live and love like there is no tomorrow!

CHRISSEY COOK: To return to the Beach to live and appreciate it more than ever!

MELODY SPINK with the help of Jimmy Buffet: I resolve to never make another resolution. Enjoy this ride on this trip around the Sun.

LOIS JERNIGAN: To live every-

day as if it was my last.

KENNEDY NEAL: I resolve to come back to 805 Rio Vista and be with the wonderful people of the Beach everyday and help as many as possible.

TARSHA BECHTOL: Don't look back.

LORI JORDAN: Smile all the time.

NICHOLE S.: Be positive about all issues.

DENISE LEGGS KEEVER: Make sure everyone knows how much I love them.

LYNN CIEUTAT: To live each day as if it were my last.

KARINA FOSTER: Some how get rich and famous.

CHRISTY JONES: To really get married and start to laugh and love more.

GWEN GIBSON: My New Year's wish is for everyone to be with loved ones, eat and be merry and not to forget the ones we have lost. We will have them forever in our hearts. Love each other always - life is short.

DANAH GIBSON: My New Year's resolution is to stick to my family and true friends, support and love one another and scrape off anything causing stress. Enjoy time on the planet.

KATHI LEWIS: I made a resolution way back when not to make resolutions ever again. That has worked very well for me as I have never broken that tradition. May this be the happiest year ever.

PAULETTE PROVOST: The greatest resolution to me is to enjoy every minute that we have and treasure great friendships and special times together. A very Happy New Year's wish to all.

BEVERLY HUGHES: Thanks to all the SOB's for their friendship. God Bless.

JACKIE HENDERSON: I resolve to be a better friend, mom and person, and to enjoy everyday.

SANDY REYNOLDS J: I resolve to remember that each step forward, even baby steps, is still going forward.

NANCY RONEY: I don't write - I just take pictures.



peas, porridge & a dry martini

~~~~~  
by kathi lewis

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and remembered to say "Happy Birthday" to Jesus. It's His day, you know! Boy, I'd sure hate to have blow out the candles on that cake!

I want ya'll to know that I'm writing this on my Editor's laptop computer because, while we are in our house, we're still operating on extension cords. And, after moving furniture and the TV (which fell twice) during the cold, dark and windy Christmas Eve, there was no energy left for moving the computer. Bill asked if I would be able to do this with my aching knee and I told him I would do it if my entire leg fell off! Christmas was my deadline for moving in my Beach house, ready or not.

We are proud to report that our granddaughter, Sissy got her two front teeth for Christmas.

So much has happened in the last two weeks, I'm not sure where to start. Well, maybe with the SOB brunch and Parade. What a blast that was. You don't want to miss next year's, they just keep getting better and better. Thanks to Flounder's for another wonderful brunch...I know the wait staff loves us!

I transferred my telephone back to the Beach and the telephone company rep was very worried that I would not be able to have my Christmas tree up in time. I laughed and told her we had a "Charlie Brown" fiber optic tree and that's all we needed!

I had a call from Sara Shaw who said that she, Rob and baby Ash will be moving back to our area in late January. They are so excited, as are we.

Shelley was so concerned about my column, she even brought me a recipe for King Cake. The Nereid King Cake party kicks off Mardi Gras on January 6.

The history behind this cake is very interesting. The tradition is thought to have begun with French settlers, continuing a custom dating back to 12th Century France. A similar cake was used to celebrate the coming of the three wise men bearing gifts 12 days after Christmas, calling it the Feast of Epiphany, Twelfth Night, or King's Day. The cake usually contained a bean, pea, or a figu-

rine symbolizing the baby Jesus. (I like that idea best!) Anyway, in 1871, the Queen of Mardi Gras was determined by who drew the prize in the cake. It is definitely considered good luck to the person who gets the figure, and that person holds the next party! We used to do that way back when, in our earlier SOB days. We had a hard time deciding if it was good luck or bad luck to get the baby in the cake. Okay, let's cook....

## Mardi Gras King Cake

1 envelope active dry yeast  
¼ Cup warm water, about 105 - 115 degrees  
2 Tbsp. milk, scalded and cooled  
4 to 5 Cups flour (all-purpose)  
8 oz. butter, softened  
¾ Cup sugar  
¼ tsp. salt  
4 eggs  
2 tsp. melted butter  
Very small plastic doll, large bean, or coin  
Light corn syrup for topping  
Granulated sugar colored with food coloring, green, purple & yellow

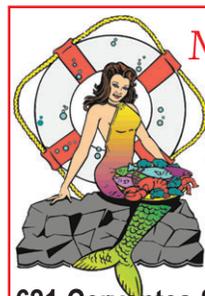
Dissolve yeast in warm water. Add milk and about ½ cup flour. In a large bowl, blend butter, sugar, salt and eggs. Add yeast mixture and mix thoroughly. Gradually, add 2 ½ cups flour to make a medium dough. Place in a greased bowl. Cover with a damp cloth and allow to rise until double in volume, about 3 hours. Use 1 more cup of flour to knead dough and roll into a 4 to 5 foot rope. Form into an oval on a 14 x 17" greased baking sheet, connecting ends of the rope with a few drops of water to make a good seal.

Press the doll into the dough from the bottom. Cover dough ring with a damp cloth. Let rise until double in volume. (About 1 hour) Bake at 325 degrees, 35 to 45 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool. Brush top of cake with corn syrup and sprinkle with alternating bands of colored sugar. (Cake can be frozen)

Enjoy, share and don't forget to join the Krewe of Wrecks. I do expect to see a home-made King cake somewhere....and I want some! See ya in the kitchen (or at a Mardi Gras party).



In the finest Sisters of the Beach tradition, when a Sister makes it to her fortieth or fiftieth birthday, she is honored with a gold bracelet, which is then referred to as "her SOB gold." Mrs. Boogie, Bonnie McDonald, celebrated her birthday December 17 at the SOB Christmas luncheon. During the melee of toasting and singing at Flounder's, the bracelet presentation was made much to her surprise. Bonnie is not telling whether she is 40 or 50, however.



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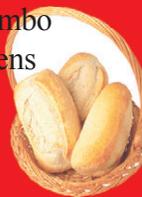
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## EXCELLENT WINES

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## GOURMET ITEMS

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- Salsas & Dressings
- Sauces & Marinades



New Items Weekly

## Wine Talk



with Bob Temple  
Beach Wines and Liquors

### Drinking Not To Forget

With all the newly discovered health benefits that are being attributed to drinking wine and other forms of alcohol (moderately, of course) it should come as little surprise that researchers have found that drinking Cabernet Sauvignon may help prevent Alzheimer's disease. While this finding is based on laboratory work, it was still observed that drinking Cabernet Sauvignon was linked with significantly reduced Alzheimer's disease-type brain deterioration of memory function. The benefit can be explained by the fact that Cabernet Sauvignon has the ability to prevent the generation of protein that cause the buildup of plaque in the brain, which is the main characteristic of Alzheimer's disease. It must be stated that these effects were observed only with moderate wine consumption.

HINT: Moderate wine consumption is defined by FDA dietary guidelines as one drink per day for women and two for men.

At BEACH WINES & LIQUORS, INC. we love to hear a new reason to enjoy wines and now we have a good one specifically for Cabernet Sauvignon. We carry many fine wines including Cabernets and we invite you to stop by and browse our expansive selection of high quality wines. If you have questions regarding wines, and its health benefits, please call 932-8850 today!

# Business Buzz ~ ~

## IT'S TRANSPONDER TIME

Escambia County has sent out its bridge transponder information about renewals which began January 2. Annual prices for the transponder renewals are the same, \$50 for two axled vehicles. Pull into the far right lane at the toll booth, Monday through Friday and Saturday until noon. Closed on Sunday. Be sure to have your application and check or money order ready.

## CLEAN UP FOR '07

If the holidays left you with a monumental mess, let the Stanley Steamer crew spiff up your floors and upholstery. You are just a phone call away from clean.

## WALKALLOVER ME

Comfort Zone Footwear will help you achieve your fitness resolutions without even trying. Their new MBT line of shoes helps strengthen and tone just by slipping a pair on. Makes you feel better from your toes on up.

## JUST A CLICKAWAY

Real estate appraisal expert, Dan Green has set his website up at [www.gdanielgreen.com](http://www.gdanielgreen.com) so his clients have fast access to order and receive appraisal reports. You can still call and talk to a real, live person at 934-1797.

## DISCOUNT FOR DIVAS

Does your Mardi Gras ball gown need to be shined, sparkled, press or fluffed up? X Clean Cleaners is just on the other side of the bridge in the Office Depot Shopping Center. Discount to new customers.

## Portofino Golf Cart Parade



**TOP PHOTO:** Christmas golf carts ambled through the streets of Portofino, Saturday, December 16. **BOTTOM:** Santa picked the Most Festive Cart which was decorated by: Back row (L to R) Yasmine and Maya Hurmeda. Front row (L to R) Sammy Hurmeda and Bella Brindley.

## Seniors Learn To Surf the Web

In an effort to meet the needs of the fastest growing segment of Internet users in the U. S., the University of West Florida Division of Continuing Education will offer "Retire with Technology" courses, which are designed for seniors and will provide more than 22 hours of hands-on computer experience in a student-paced environment beginning January 17.

For more information or to enroll, contact the UWF Division of Continuing Education at (850) 474-2914 or visit [ContinuingEd.uwf.edu](http://ContinuingEd.uwf.edu).

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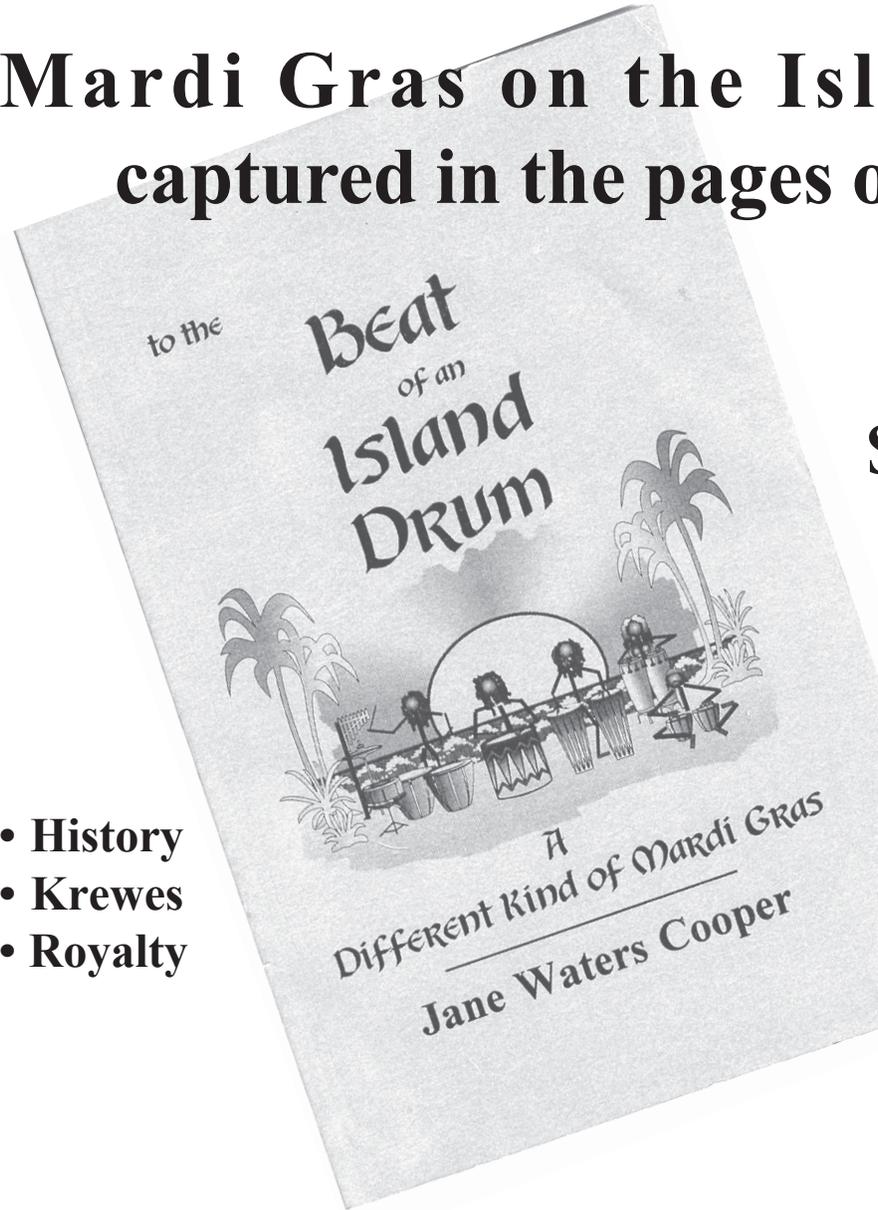
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# Mardi Gras on the Island captured in the pages of



**\$10**

proceeds go to the Krewe of Wrecks Parade Fund

- History
- Krewes
- Royalty

A Different Kind of Mardi Gras  
 Jane Waters Cooper

Available at all Krewe of Wrecks Meetings or at the Pensacola Beach Visitor's Information Center. Make Checks Payable to the Krewe of Wrecks Parade Fund.

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**LOBBY CLOSED FROM 1-3 PM EACH DAY. DRIVE UP OPEN DURING ALL BANKING HOURS.**

# Beach Natives Anticipate Naugas Arrival - New Competition Crowns Nauga Dawga

It is known to some and surmised by most that the elusive Naugas will appear in late January on Pensacola Beach. As the story goes, they stay in hiding until the Krewe of Nauga's annual Champagne Breakfast and Native Noontime Ball, Saturday, January 27 at 10:30 a.m. at The Dock. Even the most sedate souls are infused with Nauga-ness as they arrive decked out in their best pajamas and are issued official Nauga ears to wear all morning.

Breakfast is a buffet of usual favorites and the champagne flows, all for \$15. Tickets are sold at the door only and the price of admission makes each partier a member of the Krewe of Nauga. Krewe members must swear allegiance to the Nauga Queen and commit to toss off any semblance of gloom, worry or reasonable behavior for the remainder of the day.

The royal coronation ceremony will take place about noon,

so the Queen may view her loyal subjects and prepare them for the Mardi Gras season on Pensacola Beach. After the tiara and scepter have been received, the monarch will be assigned a trusty guardian in the form of a Nauga Dawga.

"The perfect pooch will be full of personality, possibly pernickety and definitely all dawg," according to Queen Nauga I Danah Gibson.

The Nauga Dawga will be chosen from photographs submitted by the pooches' parents. All photos will be on display on the Waggin' Braggin Board during the Nauga Breakfast. The cost to enter your dawg's photo is \$5 and the deadline is 11:30, Saturday, January 27. Judging will take place at noon. Rebecca Watford, owner of Best Paw Forward Dog Training will be the Nauga Judge.

"The criteria for becoming a Nauga Dawga fall somewhere between outrageous and mystical. I

will know by the photo which dawg has the right attitude, but it will be a hard decision to appoint

just one pooch," said Rebecca.

Proceeds from the contest will benefit the Humane Society.

For more information, please call the Nauga Hotline at Danah's Hair Studio, 932-4323.

## Enter Your Dog's Photo in the Nauga Dawga Competition



**Hemi Johnson**  
Rescued Golden Retriever  
2 years old

- Bring your dog's photo (4 x 6 or smaller) to Danah's Hair Studio, Pensacola Beach
- Photos accepted beginning January 3 through noon January 27.
- \$5 entry fee benefits the Humane Society
- Photo will be displayed on the Waggin' Braggin Board

**All photos will be displayed and judged at the Krewe of Nauga Champagne Breakfast and Native Noontime Ball, January 27 at The Dock. An official Nauga Dawga will be named!**

# WAKE UP TO



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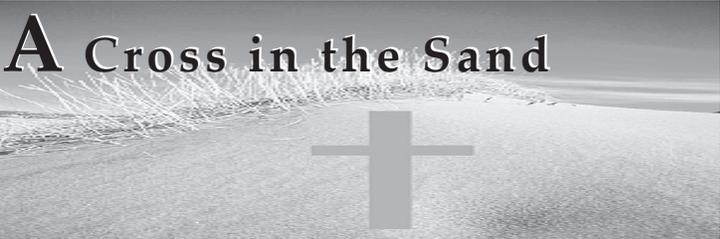
Your Overall Health  
Your Daily Performance  
Your Children's Well Being

### Resolve To:

Get Enough Sleep in 2007



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# A Cross in the Sand

By Dr. Chuck Randle

Pastor, Pensacola Beach Community Church

As I write this article, the end of the year is fast approaching. For many people, that will be a welcome relief as it signals the opportunity for a new beginning. During the New Year, many may be able to return to their hurricane damaged or destroyed homes; others will have some time to heal from the loss of a loved one; others may find their economic situation in better condition; some will complete their degrees in education and move on in their chosen field; and others will discover many unanticipated surprises. Of course, during the year there will be negatives in the lives of some, and they will long for the end of the year and the beginning of a new one.

Many of us have discovered that the important time to live is now. We do need to plan for the future, but if we live each day as efficient and good as we are capable, each day will build into a wonderful future.

An old Sanskrit Proverb reads:

Look to this Day,  
 For it is life,  
 The very life of life.  
 In its brief course lie all  
 The realities and verities of existence,  
 The bliss of growth,  
 The splendor of action,  
 The glory of power . . .  
 For yesterday is but a dream,  
 And tomorrow is only a vision.  
 But today, we'll lived,  
 Makes every yesterday a dream of  
 happiness  
 And every tomorrow a vision of  
 hope.  
 Look well, therefore, to this day.

May each day of your New Year be one of excitement, growth, and reward.

January 6 is Epiphany: It is known as the Day of the Three Kings (or wise men) and thus celebrated with King Cake. Krewe of Nereids King Cake Party, Jan. 6 at 3 p.m. at Paradise

# Catholic Church Hosts Family Events

**Real Love Program**  
 Registrations are being accepted through today for Family Honor Real Love & Real Life program January 5-6 at St. Ann Catholic Church, Gulf Breeze. This family-centered chastity education program for 7th and 8th graders and their parents teaches how to build a better family life by learning to communicate, anticipate and deal with changes. Family Honor programs are designed to enhance parent-child communication and connectedness, so the parents or adult guardians are required to attend this program with the teens.

Topics include: learning about appropriate future dating behavior (as in older teens), developing values and responsibili-

ties in the family, the changes in adolescence, and much more.

Cost for the program is \$40 per family and forms are available at [www.familyhonor.org](http://www.familyhonor.org) as well as at St. Ann Catholic Church. For more information call Tom Hofius 934-4162 or Matt Hitpas 916-0279.

Newcomer Welcome Night will be Wednesday, January 11, at 6:00 p.m.

We invite our newly registered parishioners to get acquainted at our weekly Wednesday Night Dinner at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Dinners cost \$5 per person/\$12 per family and we ask that you please call the parish office with reservations by the prior Monday so our chefs may

plan accordingly. Babysitting is available.

Beach resident Teet Brannon hosts Wine Down and Perk Up on Sunday, January 15 from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. Teet invites everyone to come together to share ideas for Educational, Social, Musical and Cultural events. For more information contact Teet Brannon at 934-3558.



**Pensacola Beach Community Church**  
 United Church of Christ  
 Via de Luna & Ave 18  
 Sunday Services 10 a.m.

**Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Mission**  
 Via de Luna & Ave 18  
 Sunday Mass 9:45 a.m.

## Spring Festival On The Green Marches Onto UWF Campus

The University of West Florida will hold its annual Festival on the Green event March 30 and 31 on the UWF Main Campus. Events and attractions include an alumni jazz brunch and awards celebration; "Strut your Mutt"- a Humane Society fundraiser; Time Portal to the Past, an international stage; a dog sports exhibition; a children's festival; library book sale; a fine arts show; a crafts fair; and festival food.

Off the Green events include the annual Student Art Exhibit; a high school volleyball tournament; tennis matches; and softball and baseball games.

Festival on the Green is a two-day event that welcomes the Northwest Florida and South Ala-

bama community to the UWF campus. Last year, the festival attracted approximately 20,495 visitors.

For more information, contact Jeff Comeau, festival director, at (850) 474-2610 or e-mail at [jcomeau@uwf.edu](mailto:jcomeau@uwf.edu). For a complete schedule of events, visit [uwf.edu/festival](http://uwf.edu/festival).

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- Snow Ski Apparel
- Rock Climbing Gear, Ropes & Shoes
- Kayaks



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# After Sundown



## CRABS - WE GOT 'EM

Go crabbing on the Gulf of Mexico, at Crabs, We Got 'Em - Alaskan Snow, Dungeness and King Crabs are all on the extensive seafood menu. Sip and sit at the live aquarium bar or at the upstairs, outdoor Gulfside deck. Oysters and Wings are two bits on Monday through Thursdays. No reservations, come as you are.

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](http://www.crabswegotem.com)

## PARADISE BAR AND GRILL

A little bit of paradise at this open air, island style bar with its own private white sand beach. Pull up a rattan stool. Cold beer. Live Music. Exotic Libations. Friendly locals. Lunch and Dinner everyday. Cuban sandwiches. Black and Blue Burgers. Happy Hour 11-7. Live Bands. Poker on Monday.

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.

## SEVILLE QUARTER

The Gulf Coast's Premier Entertainment Complex. Seven rooms of fun all under one roof! Karaoke, Texas Hold 'Em, Team Trivia, Pool, Video games and more. Live Entertainment Seven nights a week with live music on four stages every Friday & Saturday night. Serving lunch and dinner, too! It's where the Party People Party!

Located in Historic Downtown Pensacola at 130 East Government Street. Open Monday - Saturday from 11 until 2:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. until 2:30 on Sunday. Ring 434-6211 or visit [www.rosies.com](http://www.rosies.com)

## FLOUNDER'S CHOWDER HOUSE

Step back in time and enjoy Flounder's antique collection. Step into now and enjoy Flounder's top rated seafood. Indoor and outdoor dining. Even a beach playground for the kids. Beach Bar 'neath the moon and stars - Diesel Fuel in a commemorative mason jar. Bilgewater Margaritas. Gift shop. Fred Flounder, founder.

Located at the traffic light on Pensacola Beach. Next to the 55 ft. shrimp boat. Open everyday. 850-932-2003. [www.flounderschowderhouse.com](http://www.flounderschowderhouse.com)

## PEGLEG PETE'S

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](http://www.peglegpetes.com)

## SIDELINE'S SPORTS BAR AND RESTAURANT

Score! Don't miss a point. See it all in high definition - 11 big screens, 42 televisions. If it runs, jumps, races, it's here. Famous for Thursday Wing Night. Burgers. Seafood and Ribs. Kids menu for the JV players. Full bar. Indoor or outdoor seating. Video sports games.

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](http://www.mcguiresirishpub.com)

## SANDSHAKER LOUNGE

The "Almost 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 Thurs, Sat & Sun. Karaoke Tues, Fri. Tiki Bar specials Fri-Sun. Iguana Grill open Thurs-Sunday

Across from the Fishing Pier on Pensacola Beach. Open 11am until 3am. 850-932-2211. [www.sandshakerlounge.com](http://www.sandshakerlounge.com) for photo gallery and event schedule.

## THE ISLANDER LOUNGE

The oldest lounge on Pensacola Beach. Happy Hour 11 to 7. Hot, crispy deli sandwiches from 11 to 11. DJ spins dance tunes 7 nites. Fri-Sun Live Music. Shuffleboard, video games, pool, foosball, golf, bowling. Brass Pole. Poker Wednesdays. Original music Tuesdays. Visit the upstairs Cypress Lounge, open air bar overlooking downtown Pensacola Beach. Available for private parties.

Find us at 43 Via de Luna. Open Everyday, 11 a.m. til 2:30 a.m. [www.islanderbar.com](http://www.islanderbar.com) 850-932-9011.



# Surf Side Strollers

If you are ready to stroll, join us.  
Thursday, January 11 at 5:30 p.m.  
Surf Side Food Store Parking Lot  
22 Via de Luna • Pensacola Beach

Fill out this Registration Form and mail to: Island Times,  
P.O. Box 844, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562. Your membership  
card and mileage log will be waiting for you!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Each individual is responsible for his own safety and  
Surf Side Food Store is not responsible for any of the Strollers.*

Walk at your own pace, for as long as you want and log it in on your personal mileage log sheet. You don't have to go far or fast, but you do want to look good!

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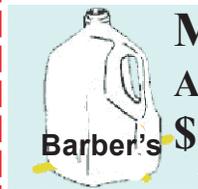


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*Here's to the New Year Specials*

## THINK HEALTHY



**MILK**  
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**Surf Side Strollers  
Walking Club**

All are welcome to walk  
and log in at the Store  
Begins Thursday, January 11  
at 5:30 p.m.

## In a Hurry?

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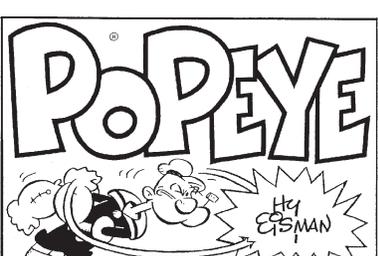
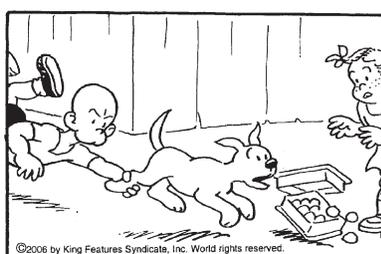
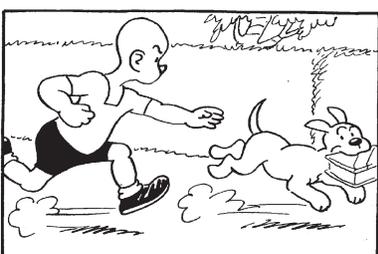
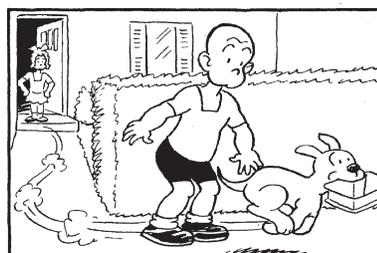
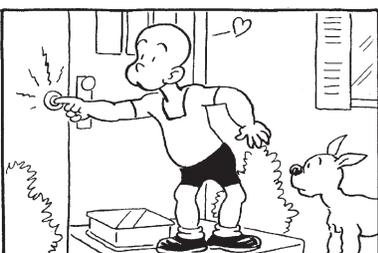
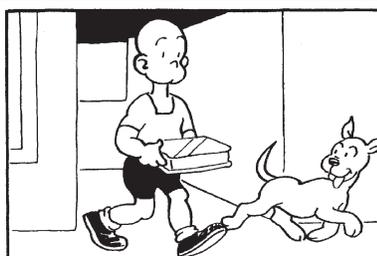
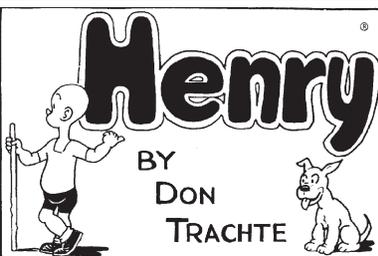
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## The Spats



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**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) A hectic period begins to wind down. Take time to draw some deep breaths and relax before getting into your next project. A long-absent family member makes contact.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) You're eager to move forward with a new challenge that suddenly dropped in your lap. But you'd be wise to take this one step at a time to allow new developments to come through.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) You're almost ready to make a commitment. A lingering doubt or two, however, should be resolved before you move ahead. An associate could provide important answers.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Caution is still the watchword as you move closer toward a decision about a new situation. If you act too hastily, you might miss some vital warning signs. Go slowly and stay alert.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Your new goal looks promising, and your golden touch does much to enhance its prospects for success. In your private life, Cupid does his best to make your new relationship special.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) That impatient side of yours is looking to goad you into moving before you're ready to take that big step. Stay calm and cool. Let things fall into place before you act.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A legal matter you hoped could finally be settled could be a pesky problem for a while, until all the parties agree to stop disagreeing with each other. Be patient.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Partnerships -- personal or professional -- which began before the new year take on new importance. They also reveal some previously hidden risks. So be warned.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Your associates are firmly on your side, and that persistent problem that has caused you to delay some activities should soon be resolved to your satisfaction.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Favorable changes continue to dominate, and you should be responding positively as they emerge. Someone wants to become more involved in what you're doing.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) A friend wants to share a secret that could answer some questions you've wondered about for a long time. Meanwhile, travel aspects continue to be strong.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Stay on your new course despite so-called well-meaning efforts to discourage you. Rely on your deep sense of self-awareness to guide you to do what's right for you.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have the capacity to meet challenges that others might find overwhelming, and turn them into successful ventures.

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by Jeff Pickering

# Esposito's Surf Report



by  
Freddy  
Esposito

## "Looks like we made it"

Well, here it is the dawn of the new year, 2006 is finally over!

Wow, what a paranoid year. We all seem to have expected this year to be a huge Hurricane Season with dozens of global warming sent Cat 5 hurricanes and death and destruction everywhere.

All the newspapers and TV shows were on it. Remember the news warning us that this upcoming year of 2006 will unleash the worst hurricane season to date. Prepare yourselves. Get ready for the end of days. Buy more duct tape!

For the 2006 North Atlantic Hurricane Season, NOAA predicted 13 to 16 named storms, with eight to 10 becoming hurricanes, of which four to six could become major hurricanes of Category 3 strength or higher.

So what happened?

We all have heard the term "El Nino" in the past. You know that whole warming water in the Pacific thing - remember?

Most people thought it was

a new slang and a buzz word for surfers and weatherman alike.

Wrong, people. Old El Nino has saved the day. It sends upper level west winds across the Gulf region and shears any approaching storm to pieces.

Plus our old friend the Bermuda High was in the right place all season. That stirred any storm up and moved it past the high placing it in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean - away from any U.S. city or state.

If anyone needed good news this year, it was us. Rebuilding is still going on, new roads and new condos.

Life is getting back to some sort of normalcy, to a degree.

The beach looks great compared to just a year ago, changing everyday and building is in full swing!

So, thanks El Nino for a great Christmas present, great weather, great times, and clean waves. Good luck to everyone in 2007.

A Very Happy New Year!

Stay Stoked.

# Lights Out For Turtles

## Helping Hatchlings Make It Through The Night

Are you a friend or foe or is that you just don't know what to do to protect the sea turtle population? Turtles can't tell the difference between moonlight and reading lamps, so follow the correct procedure to help the sea turtles. Here's how:

Minimize beach front lighting during turtle season, April through October.

Keep your curtains and drapes drawn so lights do not reflect on the Beach.

Fill in large holes dug in the sand each night.

Properly dispose of plastic bags and balloons, and other debris which may appear to be food to the turtle. This process will help the birds, too.

Recycle or dispose of excess fishing line that could entangle and drown turtles.

Walk on boardwalks instead of traveling over the dunes system. Dunes block artificial lighting from turtle nesting areas.

If you encounter a turtle or hatchling, just watch quietly. No flashlights or photos.

If you see hatchlings crossing the streets in an effort to get to the beach, you can gently lift and carry the baby to the sandy shoreline.

Once a hatchling turtle emerges from the nest, he heads toward the brightest direction to find his way to the water. This is not a problem on undeveloped beaches, but on a populated beach, one light can lead hundreds of hatchlings astray. Scientists estimate that only one of every one thousand baby hatchlings makes it to adulthood. You can help improve that number.

Turn off the lights.

# SURFER'S MEMORIAL

Friday, January 12  
The Break  
7 p.m.

Donation will be made to the Pensacola Beach Elementary School at 7 p.m.

Party and Music follows



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# Strollers Prepare Walk It Off

They may not go far or fast, but the Surf Side Strollers do want to walk. And, walk they will at their first meeting, Thursday, January 11 at 5:30 p.m. Those who wish to become a Stroller should gather in the parking lot of the Surf Side Food Store on Via de Luna.

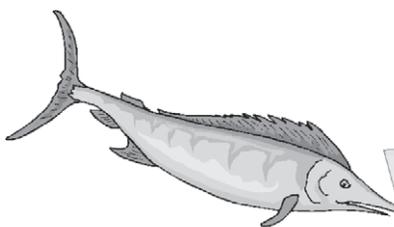
There is no charge to belong to the group. A membership card is available and each Stroller will have his own page in the Stroller log book. The book will be kept at the Surf Side Food Store so Strollers can log mileage any time the store is open.

Everyone is welcome to stroll at any pace for any length of time. The goal is to get moving in the new year and encourage others to do the same.

"I am really excited about the opportunity to get together with others who wish to walk off some of the holiday pounds," said Sandi Johnson, Portofino resi-

dent. "I have been walking on the treadmill for months now, some fresh air would be great."

For more information about the group, contact the *Island Times* office at 916-5258.



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Don't Miss A Word

# Love Is In The Air When The Wind Is In My Sails

BY TRISH THE SKIPPER, NAMASTE

## Part II

"Well, let's go aboard, and I'll give you the tour," said Jim. (I just made up that name. I really don't know what his name was. I'm ashamed of that. His offer changed my life, and I can't even remember his name or face.)

We stepped from the dock to her pristine deck, and she moved gently as if she had just taken in her breath. The sun warmed my head and shoulders. Its reflection moved from her deck to my face, blinding me. I was on overload. It was like jumping from an airplane. New sensations crowded my brain. I was in love; I was terrified; I was exhilarated.

"Just walk down these steps like you're walking down a ladder." Jim was motioning me toward the companionway. Bob was looking at me strangely. I did as I was told.

The interior was cool and dark, and I was temporarily blinded. "To your left, to port, is the galley." I turned my head to the left because that was the only word I'd understood. Was this a foreign language?

"And starboard is the navigation station, and here's the salon. Through this door is the captain's berth, and beyond that the head. Here are the life preservers. You won't need them; I'm just required by law to let you know where they are."

My eyes were beginning to adjust, and I could just make out a small bed, covered with a red and blue patchwork quilt. An overhead hatch, a sort of skylight from this vantage point, flooded the cheery squares of the quilt with sunlight.

"My wife says there's not enough lockers, but this boat's really pretty generous." Huh? What did he say? He was pointing toward a tiny little closet across from the bed. Is his wife a midget? If so, that closet is just the right size. I'm not a girly girl, but even my sparse wardrobe couldn't be crammed in that tiny thing.

"Um-hum." That was the closest to an intelligent comment I could make. Sailing must involve learning a foreign language.

"Okay. Here's the head. You need some instructions." He was pointing toward a little bathroom. A rather small toilet sat opposite a diminutive sink. A showerhead attached to a hose like in a kitchen sink protruded from the top of the sink. "That's the shower. You won't be needing that, but let me

give you some instructions on about the toilet. He's going to show me how to work the toilet. Yea!

"See, you flip this lever here, pump at least ten times to pump away the waste, then flip the lever back to this position to wash the bowl with salt water." Oh my. I just hope I don't have to pee. I'll never remember all this. "See this lever? This is for emptying the holding tank. Don't touch this one. Any questions?" I nodded dumbly. I definitely was not going to pee this trip. Why did it have to be so complicated?

"Alright! Let's get back to the cockpit and get going. Ever been sailing before?"

"No, this is my first time. She's beautiful." She was, too. My eyes, now fully adjusted to the filtered light, feasted on the amber glow of the teak walls. It was like being inside a piece of beautiful furniture. Plush cushions rested against each wall with a narrow walkway between them. The floors were also teak, with a little stripe of lighter wood for contrast. Books and a little television adorned the shelves behind the built-in couches. A small drop leaf table, off-center toward the right looked like a perfect place for a leisurely meal.

"All righty. Just climb right on back up here, just like climbing a ladder, and we'll get started." Jim was already up the companionway and out the door.

I glimpsed a stainless steel sink and a three-burner gas stove as I walked past the tiny kitchen. It was small, but I bet you could put a good meal on that table. Why, you could actually LIVE on this boat!

Years ago, when I still lived in Houma, Louisiana, a young man named Don came through town and spent some time at our house. My husband was a seaplane pilot, so when Don pulled up at the seaplane dock in his sailboat, he invited him over for dinner. Don lived on his boat. He was full of stories of crossing the Gulf of Mexico, encountering a hurricane, and rolling his boat 360 degrees. Whew! Don't think of that now. The point is, you could LIVE on a boat like this.

I barely remember the trip through the pass in Little Sabine into Santa Rosa Sound. Bob and Jim talked of starboard and port, foredecks, aft, amidships, lines and sheets, generally they con-

tinued to speak that foreign language. I feasted my eyes on my new world. Everything looked different from here. The sun was brighter, the wind more refreshing, the water bluer. I'd been here lots of times on my windsurfer, but this was so different. This was a real sailboat. I was on a real sailboat, and I was sailing. I'd watched so many go by and wondered what it was like. Now I was the lucky one.

To be continued...

[Trish is the owner of the Namaste sailing vessel which offers charters from Pensacola Beach. She can be reached at 305-766-3518.]

## Beach Yacht Club Announces Officers

The Pensacola Beach Yacht Club has announced that the following volunteers will serve as officers this year: Commodore Will Berry, Vice-Commodore Mike Blanda, Rear Commodore Corrie Keich, Secretary Juli McCormick and Treasurer Al Greene.

Also serving are: Fleet Captain Dave Hoffman, GYA Off-shore Council Rep. William Paden, GYA One-design Rep. Andy Werner, GYA PHRF Area Handicapper Dave Dunbar, Junior Sailing Program Jeff Phillips, Membership Coordinator Jo Dee Cattrell, Club Manager Dick Dunbar, Fleet Counsel Joe Hammons and Dock & Facilities Master Steve Headley.

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Pensacola Beach Woman's Club President Chrissy Cook, left, presented donation checks to (L to R): Gayle Crume of Gayle Force Vision, and Pauline Huddleston and Mary Ann Claus of Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Church for Hunt Hall, at the Christmas Luncheon December 14.



Pensacola Beach Woman's Club Birthday Girls for December celebrated at the annual Christmas luncheon December 14. The lucky ladies are (L to R): Nancy Crane, Linda Saeger and Carolyn Turk. The Woman's Club mascot, the mermaid, helped them blow out the candles.

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## Beach Hold 'Em Poker Players Shuffle Through the Holidays

Beach skateboarding wizard Jimmy Z rolled over the competition to survive a wild night of cards at Paradise Bar and Grill, December 18. It was his first Texas Hold 'Em 4 Fun title. Trace Lewis was second and Duane Leifur was third.

Paradise Bar and Grill hosted the 2006 Texas Hold 'Em 4 Fun Tour Championship at year's end. Watch for results in the next edition of *Island Times*.

There are plenty of card games to sit in on, and action at The Islander Lounge in Pensacola Beach's historic district happens on Wednesday and Saturday nights.

Tim Rinker beat a tough Larry Gers in the Saturday night showdown on December 16 at The Islander, but he couldn't quite get the cards to fall his way on December 20. Tim slid into second place behind Trace Lewis who finished strong to take the title at the Islander.

Christmas came a few days early for Scott "Arnie" Palmer on December 23. He played patiently and folded his cards most of the night waiting for his chance to take on chip leader J.O. Weeks. It happened in the final showdown with Scott gettin' the cards to take down J.O. for the win at The Islander.

Fran Cox wore his new good luck charm around his neck to the December 27 card game at The Islander and finished with a win. Mark Beachman, who was the chip leader right up until the end, was second.



Fran Cox, left, and Mark Beachman have a good time battling at the Texas Hold 'Em 4 Fun tables at The Islander Lounge on December 27. Fran came from behind to take the win crediting his new lucky moonstone necklace.



Executive Chef John Smith snapped a few photos of his appreciative guests, the Sisters of the Beach, during the December 17 Christmas luncheon at Flounder's. The Sisters sang his praises.

## Top Notch Teacher Earns Accolades

Long time beach resident, Rita McGartland, was chosen teacher of the year at the Program for Academically Talented Students Center for 2006-07.

The PATS Center serves gifted students from middle and elementary schools in Escambia County including Pensacola Beach Elementary.

## Letter to the Editor

### Thanks to All

I received a letter addressed to the Sisters of the Beach which contained the following message: To all the SOBs who participated in the purchase of flowers for Andrea's mother, Mrs. East and Andy's mother, Mrs. Brunt. They

wanted you all to know how much your love and caring meant to them. None of us will ever forget our Sister, as she remains in our hearts, minds and a lot of memories, always. The Brunt and East families send their love, gratitude and thanks to all of you.

Kathi Lewis

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## Crazy Costumers Compete For Sandshaker Contest Prize

Bring out your best Mardi Gras masks and wildest costumes for the second annual Krewe of Sandshaker Costume Contest. The gaudy and glittered event kicks off at 8 p.m. Saturday, January 13 at The Sandshaker Lounge on Pensacola Beach. The spirit of Mardi Gras is alive and well at the Shaker. The costumed contestants will be fueled by Bushwackers served by brave bartenders.

"We're looking for the people who capture the spirit of Mardi Gras - the zanier, the better," said Shaker co-owner Beverly Boswell. "Last year riverboat gamblers sipped whiskey next to mystical mermaids, so pretty

much anything goes for the costume themes."

The secret judges will look for creative Beach costumers who pull out all the stops in bringing the Mardi Gras spirit to life. Awards will be given to the best costume.

The Krewe's den is located at the Shaker and interested parties may apply to join. The Krewe is so secretive that no one seems to know if there are rules or dues. It is certain that one requirement is attendance at the annual costume contest and the ability to dance the night away Shaker style.

For more information about the contest, call 932-2211.

Paradise Invites You

# Mardi Gras

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# Beauty & Beach

By Danah & Gwen Gibson

Seeing how this is our first edition of the *Island Times* for 2007, surely all of you are busy trying to stick to your New Year's resolutions! The most popular two seem to be to lose weight and quit smoking. Well, I can't help you with #1, but I do have a few words about #2.

Ok, we all know that smoking is bad for you, so we won't go on about emphysema, throat cancer, or losing a lung. Rather than appeal to your desire to live a long, healthy life, let's address your vanity. These are some reasons to quit based purely how you will look or feel. (I am down to social smoking, as I like to call it. So all you tobacco lovers out there, I'm right there with ya!)

❑ Wrinkle alert!

Because smoking deprives skin of oxygen, tissues can't regenerate. Lines above your lips and brows start popping up in your 20s, instead of 30s and 40s. It's no fun when red lipstick starts to bleed above your lip like a little old lady. At least she has an excuse, she's old!

❑ Did you know that women

who smoke are 50% more likely to grow facial hair than non smokers? Are you looking forward to having a mustache like Uncle Fred?

❑ Yellow teeth and bad breath. That explains itself.

❑ Losing your sense of taste and smell. Is that nicotine you're wearing? Most smokers cannot smell their selves, but believe me, everyone else can!

❑ Smokers hack. There's something so attractive about a beautiful, young woman coughing up phlegm before she takes another drag!

❑ Think about the money you would save. If you do decide to quit, take the cash you would spend on cigs and put it in a special jar, then at the end of the year, do something special for yourself. Take a trip, go on a shopping spree, or whatever. Just be totally self indulgent. That is a great motivator, and you deserve it!

Here's to a healthy and happy New Year. Remember the Hair Hotline is just a dial tone away and I will answer any questions you have, 932-4323.

You should have Comfort and Joy all year long, so Pillow Talk is renamed today.

I want to know if you are Sleep Deprived.

Here a few indications you aren't getting enough sleep:

◆ Daytime drowsiness

◆ Temporary loss in energy and alertness

◆ Inattentive and groggy

◆ Mood shifts, including depression, increased irritability and loss of sense of humor

◆ Stress, anxiety & loss of coping skills

◆ Lack of interest in socializing with others

◆ Weight gain

◆ Feelings of being chilled

◆ Reduced immunity to disease and viral infection



Pandora says get plenty of rest.

## Comfort and Joy

by Pandora de Balthazar

◆ Feelings of lethargy  
◆ Reduced productivity

◆ You fall asleep watching TV

◆ You feel drowsy while driving

If you answered yes to more than ten of these, you are probably sleep deprived and need to take action to get a good night's sleep on a regular basis,

or your entire productivity and life's balance will be affected.

Taking action is important. Proper exercise, nutrition and an adequate sleep environment lead to a better night's rest. Watch for the next column to learn more.

### Surf Side Strollers

#### Walking Club

Thursday,  
January 11

5:30 pm

All are welcome

Surf Side Food Store

## Chili Competition Heats Up

The weather is perfect to stir up the competition in the Great American Chili Cook-off, Saturday, January 13, at Seville Quarter.

The cook-off is limited to 13 teams. Deadline to enter is Thursday, January 11. Team entry fee is \$15. Teams are limited to 3 cooks per team. Trophies will be awarded to the top three winners based on Taste, Smell and Consistency plus there will be awards for the People's Choice and a Showmanship Award.

Cooking starts at noon and the judging begins at 4 p.m. The public may come from 4 to 6 p.m. to taste test the spicy entries. The charge is \$10 at the door. Proceeds benefit Seville Sertoma Club.

"The competition is hot. The cooks are gathering secret spices and other ingredients," quipped Susi Lyon, of Seville Quarter.

Everything must be prepared on premises. Seville will provide Chef burners and tables. All other

equipment must be brought by the team. For more information

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# The LIZZARD'S TONGUE



by E.K. Hewson

I can't believe what has happened to me. I have Super Bowl frenzy and the main event is still a month away. This all actually started in mid-December as I was standing in line waiting for Disney World to open. I met a family from Metairie, Louisiana and we exchanged pleasantries for the next hour. I introduced them to my Harrys. They introduced me to about 30 family members. PawPaw and Trey were still back at the hotel. We talked about Katrina, beignets, Mardi Gras and of course, the Saints. "They goin' all the way baby," said the dad.

His son chimed in "Reggie Bush for president." As the gates to the Magic Kingdom opened that day, I never missed an opportunity to wish upon that magic star for this dream to come true.

Then on Christmas Eve day, I turned on my computer to "watch" the Saints play the Giants. I get to see yellow arrows and high-tech computer graphics move the ball up and down the field, as well as I get a typed out play by play of who is on what yard line. I also get sketchy messages like this: "Time out. Saint down and hurt." So I called my sister, Shelley. I knew if I left a desperate enough message, she would probably call me back. She did and while she was watching the Saints on TV, I continued my computerized vigil. Then she said it. "They goin' all the way baby."

I countered with "Nah, dahlin. You think?" She made it very clear that the Saints have an actual shot at being the NFC champions and earn-

ing a berth in Super Bowl XLI. So while visions of sugar plums danced in your head on the night of December 24, I searched the internet for any Super Bowl sweepstakes I could possibly enter and wondered what I could sell on e-Bay to come up with the minimum \$3000 per ticket price tag.

Now while most of my friends leave their Christmas decorations up until the New Year, I was on a mission. By 6 a.m. on December 26, I was ready for my husband to start putting all the boxes back up in the rafters of our garage. I had pulled an all nighter and de-Christmasized my house in order to get ready for the Saints last regular season game and post-season play. "Hey, sweets, while you're up there would you mind getting down those two bins that say 'Geaux Saints' on them?" I asked using my sweetest voice, knowing full well that these containers caused a major meltdown when we moved from Maryland to California a few years ago. That's an Eagle's fan for you. He considered them not essential and thought they should go in storage until we finally moved back to Maryland at some unknown future date. Guess he's glad I won that argument or he'd be making the 12 hour round-trip from North Carolina to Maryland to get me my boxes for this year's post-season games and celebrations.

My living room is now a sea of black and gold with way too many fleur de lis hanging from the ceiling. I have out every Saints deco-

ration I own, not to mention voodoo dolls and velvet pouches filled with gris gris. Marie Laveau would be proud. My freezer is filled with homemade gumbo and my refrigerator has two containers of traditional olive salad just waiting to be used for muffalettas. I've asked the manager of the base package store if he could get me a case of Dixie beer, maybe even two. I've entered every win free tickets sweepstakes I can find. Now if I am not so lucky at my bid to win a seat at this year's Super Bowl, I have no intention of punting. I'll find a way to go for it on fourth and long.

Hey, if the Saints are goin' all the way baby, then this former Orleanian plans to be there.

Until next time,  
Geaux Saints!

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# Mostly Nuts & Bolts

By Candace Segar

## 2007 - A Banner Year

2006 has been a really interesting year for me. I have learned a lot. One of the things that I learned was that eventhough I am a detail-oriented person, I certainly have done some rather strange things in conjunction with mini vacations. I showed up a week early at one place because I was so excited I just lost sight of the actual date of the event. Then more recently I showed up wearing two different running shoes - one on each foot. The funny thing is I can't find their mates. Oh well.

I have learned that clutter is just that - clutter! It feels better to get stuff organized, or given away, or thrown away.

I have vigorously studied many branches of science including climatology, anthropology, quantum physics and astronomy. Philosophy, which I shied away from in college, is now a constant companion in the form of many different modes of thought and studies. Also I have enjoyed many adventures in the realm of mathematics. I have done this as research for writing my science fiction books and also because I hunger for insights into life. But with all this new knowledge, I re-

alize what is most important to me.

In 2006, the most valuable treasures I have in my life, are my family and friends. I have a wonderful husband, Ralph, whom I joke about in this column. (He deserves it; trust me.) And I certainly have a wonderful family, extended family and friends that cover not only the United States, but other countries around the world as well. With all this beautiful richness in my life, I look forward to 2007. I plan on making it a wonderful year!

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE ISLANDTIMES READERS!



Goldie, the Bessone's cat, in Villa Sabine has had a lot of attention over the holidays which was purr-fectly okay with her. Friends and relatives from Kansas City and North Carolina who came to Pensacola Beach and stayed with the longtime Beach residents this year are (L to R): Sarah Velten, Kathy and Lucy Kreamer, hosts Andy, Mary and Goldie Bessone; and David, Mary, and Michael Velten.

Photo by Sam

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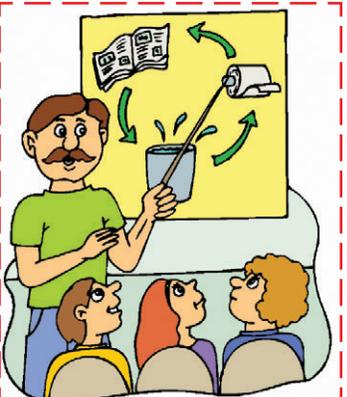
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Recycling Ralph says...

Electronic components contain toxic and hazardous materials and must be disposed of properly. The Department of Solid Waste Management has a program for the collection and recycling of end-of-life electronics such as stereos, tv's, vcr's, computer equipment, etc. These items can be brought to the Perdido Landfill at no charge or to our Regional Roundups. Please call 850-937-2160.

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**Maintenance Supervisor - Part Time.** Visit St Ann Gulf Breeze.org under "Join our Team" for job description. (850) 932-2859. Resume deadline: January 13, 2007.

**Bookkeeper - Part Time**  
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MLS# 316837 \$499,000

**35 Ensenada Marbella**  
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**Santa Rosa Villas**  
1754 Ensenada Seis, Gulf Front Lot, In Private Cul-De-Sac, \$1,680,000  
MLS:288030

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Pensacola Beach Soundfront Lot. \$925,000 MLS# 315079

**1581 Bulevar Menor**  
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**800 Via de Luna**  
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home: 850-932-1701  
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## King Crossword

Answers  
Solution time: 27 mins.

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

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## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Interior designer's concern
- 6 Dine
- 9 Sheriff's weapon
- 12 Hum endlessly
- 13 Bookkeeper (Abbr.)
- 14 Zoo favorite
- 15 Instruct
- 16 9-Across container
- 18 Fall, for one
- 20 Nurse
- 21 Toward the stern
- 23 Ghost's shout
- 24 Hot rum drink
- 25 Owner's document
- 27 Pizzazz
- 29 Venus' sister
- 31 One of the gang
- 35 Impel
- 37 Days gone by
- 38 Heterogeneous
- 41 Indivisible
- 43 Scepter topper
- 44 Always
- 45 Mecca pilgrims
- 47 Expensive seafood choice
- 49 Acid-alcohol

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |    |    |    |    | 56 |    |    | 57 |    |    |    |

- 26 compound
- 27 Tramcar
- 28 contents
- 29 Existed
- 30 G-rated
- 31 Bloomberg's abbr.
- 32 Idolater's writing
- 33 Earth (Lat.)
- 34 Follower of 4-Down
- 35 One of the gang
- 36 Designed to restrict entrance
- 37 Overturn
- 38 Dweeblike
- 39 Inclement
- 40 Up to now
- 41 Billboards
- 42 Retainer
- 43 Father's Day gift
- 44 Postpones
- 45 Tweaks a bill
- 46 Head movement
- 47 Fishy group
- 48 Tusk stuff
- 49 Mediterranean sailing vessel
- 50 Mess up
- 51 CSA soldier
- 52 Rough
- 53 Casaba, e.g.
- 54 Tusk stuff
- 55 Mediterranean sailing vessel
- 56 Leader
- 57 Gilligan's place
- 58 Duo
- 59 Listener
- 60 Genetics abbr.
- 61 Supplement

### DOWN

- 1 Bug spray
- 2 Prior to
- 3 Sled
- 4 Fairy-tale starter
- 5 Clinic doings, for short
- 6 Fishy group



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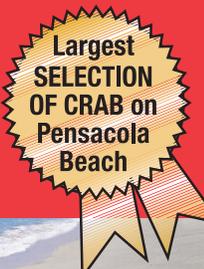
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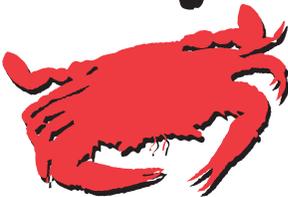
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