

ISLAND TIMES

Volume III, Number 17

Pensacola Beach, Florida

December 19, 2007



Sisters Spread Good Cheer

Sisters of the Beach spread the magic of Island spirit all year long. At Christmas they come together to toast each other and another year of lasting friendship. The Sisters who brunched at Flounder's on December 9 are front row (L to R): Dawn Drees, Melanie Waite, Tarsha Bechtol, Ashley Spencer, Kayla Clarke, Charlotte Spencer, Beverly Hughes, Christine Hewerdine, Sharon Mattair and Lynn Cieutat. Second row (L to R): Ella Hess, Denise Keever, Judy L'Oignon, Kennedy Neal, Mary Drees, Melody Spink, Beverly Sarasua, Linda Matthews, Marie Steele, Kathi Lewis, Jayne Redmond, Rita Love Perry and Paulette Provost. Third row (L to R): Amy Drees, Tracey Doyle, Lorraine Brown, Lila Cox, Gwen Gibson, Karina Foster, Bonnie McDonald, Lydia McCaa, and Amy Depew. Back row (L to R): Lois Jernigan, Courtney Winstead, Jan Sutton, Sandi Johnson, Chrissy Cook, Deb Friedman, Becky Shearman, Danah Gibson, Jackie Henderson, Susi Mardis, Robin Taylor, Marilyn McDonald and Claire Marcey. Not in photo Shelly Geier and Kathy Ross. Want to know more about the SOB mystique? See page 2.

Christmas Spirit Lives Forever in the Hearts of the Sisters

The Christmas spirit must remain in our hearts every day of the year. This is the law as recorded by the Sisters of the Beach. It is part of their mystique and it is the philosophy which governs their way of life.

This eclectic group of ladies never set out to make any waves or do much of anything when they were hanging out on Pensacola Beach many years ago. The Beach girls and a Beach guy, Jay Wall, often socialized on sunny afternoons. Then, on the Fourth of July, 1974, Jay surprised the girls with a card he had printed for them which read, "SOB." Thus, the Sisters of the Beach were born.

"There were not many of us," Nancy Roney, an original member recalled. "I remember Shelly Geier, Jane Peaden, Trish the Dish, and Johnnie Bohannon. There were a couple of others, but I've

forgotten their names."

So, for a while, these few young women did what they had always done. Nothing. They wanted nothing and expected nothing.

But, as more people came to join them, things began to change. First, it was all about parties. No SOB ever got married, had a birthday, or had a baby without the blessings and gifts from her Sisters at an elaborate shower. The tradition continues today.

"I was the first SOB to have a child," Nancy said.

Her daughter Shannon was born 28 years ago, and yes, there was a baby shower for her.

Along about that same time, the SOBs developed a network to help any Sister who fell on hard times. Many of their years were marked with tragedy, but they clung together, loving and caring

for the person who needed them. And, they did a whole lot of cooking and fundraising. They were all wonderful cooks, and they would take their baked items and set them up on a table on Derelict Corner. All the monies they collected would go directly to the person in need. They visited each other in hospitals. They baby sat with each other's children. They did what had to be done.

Along with the tending to emergencies, the SOBs continued to have plain, old-fashioned fun. One of their many annual events was a sleep-over, where they started off with a punch bowl full of their signature drink, the Mimosa, and ate lots of food. Most of them stayed up all night, typical of all females at a slumber party.

When Mardi Gras arrived on the Island, they went for it big time.

Every season, for many years, the SOBs won a prize for their sometimes daring, but always exciting parade floats. As many of the SOBs have become mothers and grandmothers, they may have mel-
lowed a bit. Most of them now wear a gold bracelet, given to them by their Sisters to commemorate their fortieth or fiftieth birthdays.

Also, they now take great pleasure in their monthly fishing trip on the Lively One. They call themselves the Lively Ladies when they board the ship, laden with

coolers, fishing gear and good cheer. When they get twenty miles offshore they lose their inhibitions, if they ever had any. They, also, catch more fish than any other anglers from the Beach.

Beach males, perhaps a little envious of the SOBs, were always trying to crash their parties, or become a real member of the club. Only one ever complied with the rules the SOBs wrote for men who wanted to join them. Come to a party, meet the no clothing dress code, and



Robin Taylor received her gold bracelet from Amy Depew, Dec. 9

bring a gift. Only one Beach guy had the courage to comply with the regulations, Leroy Cardenas. He is the only male "Sister" of the Beach.

The Christmas spirit spilled out of their hearts when the SOBs learned of Leroy's near fatal accident on Via de Luna in November. The long established drill began at once. Pray Sisters, pray. Pray for Leroy. That was first and foremost, although doctors gave him only a slim chance of living through the night. But, they prayed anyway.

Then, they took action. They set up their Coconut Telegraph and soon word got around, so each SOB knew what part she would play. They took food to Leroy's elderly mother, and did everything in their power to comfort Mary Jo. They also began holding little fundraisers and established a bank account to help the family meet immediate expenses. They did all these deeds for "Sister Leroy." They are still helping. They will continue to do whatever it takes, no matter the length of the journey.

Leroy not only made it through the first critical days after the accident, but is now awake. His prognosis for recovery is optimistic.

Last week, the Sisters celebrated, as usual, at their annual Christmas luncheon where they took up a collection for the Leroy Fund.

And, they sang their song for Leroy. The raucous song that has always been their trademark, "Here's to Sister Leroy, we love you so much...."

Board Cancels Meeting, Elects New Officers

The Board of the Santa Rosa Island Authority gave itself an early Christmas present at the December 12 meeting when they voted to cancel the December 19 committee meetings.

"There are only three items on the agenda," Buck Lee, executive director said. "Committee meetings can be scheduled for January 9 to address these items."

The noise ordinance which has been silent for a while has been raised again by residents of South Harbor. The SRIA Executive Director asked the Beach Chamber of Commerce to appoint a committee to study the problem and they will bring a recommendation to the meeting on January 23. The County regulation stipulates that the noise must not exceed 70 decibels, but local deputies do not have a decibel meter. After the January 23 meeting, the Authority will send a recommen-

dation to the County regarding the ordinance.

The Board is still pursuing commercial rebuilding on the Island and they will have letters sent to those businesses which are not yet in compliance - Five Flags Inn, Holiday Townhouse, Tiki House, Jubilee, The Palace, and Azure Development. Azure is the corporation which owns the Soundside property adjacent to the Soundside Market.

The attorney for The Palace, Paul Flounacker, appeared before the Board to request a time extension.

"I am trying to get this project back on track," he said. "My client needs more time to prepare a building plan for the 18 story hotel/retail center that they envision."

SRIA Attorney Mike Stebbins outlined the history of the lease and recommended that the time extension not be granted.

The Palace owes the Island Authority \$29,700 plus \$18,000 in liquidated damages and attorneys fees. Flounacker indicated that he had a check for the \$29,700 to settle an account from a previous legal action, but when asked by Chairman Vernon Prather to turn the check over to Finance Director Jayne Bell, he said he would have to confer with his client.

The Board voted on Lee's request to have the authority to dismiss, demote, or suspend department directors, but the employee involved would have the ability to request a Board hearing after the action is taken.

Buck Lee noted in the Board Member's forum that he would ask the County to come up with \$10 million at their December 13 meeting to build a parking garage on Pensacola Beach. The Island Authority would be obligated to pay the money back and several suggestions were made to accomplish this including selling the current SRIA office location and giving the County the rent from retail shops which would be located in the garage.

If the County fails to come up with the money for the project, the SRIA would entertain the possibility of giving the land to an entrepreneur in exchange for building the parking garage.

"It can be a public venture or a public/private venture," Lee

said. "Either might work."

Safety measures on the new Via de Luna were discussed with Dr. Tom Campanella suggesting that the top speed might be reduced to twenty-five miles per hour. This request will be added to the committee agenda.

Tammy Bohannon noted that she had received calls from residents who were upset over the possibility that the SRIA would hire deputies to catch residential speeders going back and forth to work. She indicated that residents were not going to be the problem.

The New Year will bring a new set of officers to the podium with Campanella as chairman; John Peacock, vice chairman; Tammy Bohannon, secretary-treasurer; and Fred Gant, acting secretary-treasurer. Dr. Campanella will announce committee assignments in January.

And finally, if you're looking for the ice vending machine, it will stay where it is for now. The request to move the machine to the overflow parking lot north of the Pensacola Beach Marina uncovered information that the land is in preservation. The Board voted to request that the parcel be rezoned as recreation/retail.

The Full Board will meet on Wednesday, January 9 at 5 p.m. at the Authority Office. All meetings are open to the public.

ISLAND TIMES

Published every other Wednesday

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www.MyIslandTimes.com

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Barefoot on the Beach

By Jane Waters Cooper



I love everything about Christmas. It's in my genes. When I was a child, there was no such day as "Black Friday," but we knew at our house, even as we were eating our Thanksgiving leftovers that Christmas was about to begin. My mother always created a decorating theme, which usually required an abundance of advance preparation. One Christmas the theme was Christmas bows. Mom got out her sewing machine and made gigantic Christmas bows for all the windows. She then made bows to cover the tree, and she added red lights. My brother, sister and I thought our house was the best in the neighborhood as we went out to look at the red lights reflecting in the snow drifts in the yard.

Somewhere along the line, I remember how Christmas got derailed by one of my mother's elaborate plans. We called it the "blue light" Christmas, long before Blue Light Specials blinked in a discount store to designate low priced items.

It was not cheery. In fact, it was eerie. Everything was blue and silver. After putting blue lights on the tree, we all helped cover it with Angel hair. That was the filmy stuff, full of glass particles. For safety's sake, they don't make it anymore. Not even in China. The final effect was more like Halloween than Christmas. That was the only year we were glad when the decorations came

down. We were always warned not to touch the Christmas lights which were large and lethal. Even if they were blue, they were red hot. How did we ever escape burning the house down?

As the years went by, Mother began crafting unique items. She would knit tiny red socks, and decorated the top with white fur, just big enough to hold a lipstick or a ten dollar bill. She also made a series of climbing monkeys from peanuts. She painted them so they would look like they just left the jungle, assembled them on pipe cleaners, so they could climb up candles.

During all her frenzy of baking, sewing and decorating, Mother never forgot the needy. I'm not sure how she found the families who needed help at Christmastime, but there were always baskets of food in our house, which she and my dad delivered themselves.

Even after my brother, sister and I had moved on to our own homes and were decorating for our families, Mother continued her Christmas projects. Only, by now, she had time to conceive more elaborate ideas. She, along with the help of a handyman, painted stove pipes, and made a giant candy cane display in the yard. Later, she took that up a step. She painted steel tubes, and put contractor's flares on top, and placed them near the front door. (Still, nothing burned down, despite the open flame blowing

in the wind on top of the gigantic candles.)

We took our children home one Christmas to find a large tree lighted in standard, multi-colored lights. The size of the bulbs had come down to about half the size of the originals that we remembered as kids.

Mother's artistry that year, was expended on a Christmas scene. She had made a snowfall on the mirror above the fireplace by sticking wisps of cotton on drops of syrup on the glass. The village on the mantel was filled with little people, all festively dressed for Christmas. My mother could make unbelievable dolls out of clothes pins. She used the old fashioned pins without a spring. Then, she used her imagination, her sewing machine, and miscellaneous rhinestones, feathers and fake fur to give birth to an entire village of Christmas people.

One year, right after Thanksgiving, my mother began what was probably her most impressive endeavor. She went behind service stations and gathered dirty, oily purulators. These were small mesh cylinders used as filtering devices in motors.

She began storing them on the back porch and bit by bit, she cleaned them and painted them. She planned to line the walkway

with these quaint luminaria. That project was never finished since she suffered a heart attack two weeks before Christmas.

"I'm seventy-three and I thought I was thirty-seven," she quipped when she left the hospital to return home.

Mom lived twenty years after the heart attack, but she was never again able to dream up and complete any of her spectacular Christmas decorating scenes.

I have never been able to duplicate my mother's Christmas magic. However, one year when I lived in New Orleans I made a tree out of cardboard, attached big gold bells to it and hung it on the front door. When the wind blew, the bells chimed. I won a ribbon in the neighborhood decorating contest for that creation. I was so thrilled I was out of control.

I have never been very good at making gingerbread men (or women), taffy, and popcorn balls - all skills my mother must have been born with.

But I keep on trying. When I first moved to the Beach in 1979, no one put up outdoor decorations. I got out all my lights, extension cords, and put up a display. My neighbor across the street, Dr. Jim Morgan responded by lining his eves with big lights. I then found spots for a few more

lights. Jim, then, put lights on his bushes. It's different now with all kinds of great residential displays. And I hang in there with hundreds of lights twinkling on my house, thanks to Frank who has the decorating bug. (I'm not sure, but I think he caught it from me.)

And one lesson we have all learned through the generations of Christmas decorating, blue lights and angel hair are great for Halloween and K-Mart specials.

Leroy Continues To Improve

Leroy Cardenas, who was critically injured in an accident on Via de Luna on November 16 is making progress in his recovery. He remains in guarded condition. Details are available on his website www.getwellleroy.com

A fund has been established at the Bank of the South to help the family weather the emergency situation they are now facing. Make checks payable to the Leroy Cardenas Fund, take them to Judy Lenderman at the Bank and she'll do the rest.

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CANADIAN BEACH GAL

Former Beach resident Gayle Walker Tytlandsvik called from Canada to say that she had been a very good girl all year and Santa would be renewing her Island Times subscription. She keeps up with her Beach sisters via the paper. She also sends Merry Christmas wishes to her family and friends on Pensacola Beach.

TAXLADY

Nancy Roney says all she wants for Christmas is to complete her IRS testing. One of the original Sisters of the Beach, Nancy missed the Christmas luncheon because she was studying for the last of the three part exam.

TENNESSEE BOUND

Jennifer Neal spends her days at Pensacola Beach Elementary School with a classroom full of kindergartners. She is looking

forward to the Christmas holidays and spending some time with family in Tennessee.

SHARING THE JOY

Alan and Jureda Lambert were just part of the hundreds who got caught up in the tidal wave of Christmas spirit brought on by the Joy For The Beach Concert December 4 sponsored by the Pensacola Beach Optimist Club. Even the Grinch would have liked this show.

BUSY GEIER GIRLS

Shelly Geier came out of retirement to teach at Catholic High. She says she loves her job. Daughter Crissi, who is in the Air Force stationed in Germany, is making the most of it by spending her weekends snowboarding in the mountains of Europe. Little sister Erika is a junior at the University of Central Florida. She

goes to school full time and works at Latitudes in Orlando. Shelly promises more updates in the New Year.

CELEBRATING SECOND GRADERS

Blair Amberson and Meredith McCurdy already opened presents this month. The Pensacola Beach second graders celebrated December birthdays. Their classmate Zosia Uszok is celebrating a second place win in an international drawing contest which she entered in Poland. Congrats.

CERTAIN OF A WHITE CHRISTMAS

Ella Hess is leaving the white sands of Pensacola Beach behind in search of a snowy Christmas. She feels certain that she will find it in West Branch, Iowa while visiting Ted Pence.

TRIVIA

The December 5 trivia was a no-brainer. We asked for the name of the Beach resident who had a lot of clutter in his yard and protested endlessly, especially about having to pay a toll to get to his home. Darla Permenter was the first to email the correct answer, Papa Joe Reynolds. She wins the t-shirt.

Morrie Drees, faithful trivia player, sent in answers to the two last questions, both just a little late. Remember Morrie, "He who hesitates is lost." But, as runner-up, Morrie wins a free round of fantasy golf at Tiki Island.

Trivia newcomer, Angeli McMillan of Gulf Breeze finished in third place with the following answer. "Would the man who kept a lot of junk in his yard be the infamous Papa Joe?" Correct, but too late.

Papa Joe was a real Beach character whose front yard contained a bar and bar stools, an old fashioned buggy, among other things that added to the clutter.

He squared off at almost every Santa Rosa Island Authority meeting, challenging the Board on their decisions. He never bought a bridge pass because he said no one should have to pay to reach home. (His friends bought him a pass, so, if he ever left the Island which wasn't often, he could get back on.) His voice is stilled now. We miss him.

So, it's almost Christmas. "How long will a fruit cake last if properly stored?" This is multiple choice. We want someone to win a t-shirt for Christmas. If you don't know, guess. A. Two Months; B. Six Months; C. One Year; D. Ten Years; E. Twenty-Five Years.

You can win the coveted t-shirt if you are the first to email the correct answer.

Rules are the same. Send your trivia answer to islandtimes@bellsouth.net with "trivia" in the subject line. The deadline to respond is 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 26.

Good luck!

Send 2007 Out With A Bang!

New Year's Eve is a family night on Pensacola Beach. Chamber of Commerce officials are advising parents to be sure the kids take a long nap before they come to Casino Beach for the fireworks display at midnight.

Tiki Island Golf and Games,

which is adjacent to Casino Beach, will be open, serving hot chocolate and cappuccino to sip while playing fantasy golf or one of their many arcade games.

This free presentation is sponsored by the Beach Chamber. For more info call 932-1500.

Elks Bid Brother Farewell

Dick Zelius was a pillar of the Pensacola Beach Elks Lodge. Over a span of more than forty years, Dick, a charter member, kept the books and records in tact to always insure the smooth operation of Lodge affairs. This humble man, who was always smiling was arguably the most influential member of the Lodge during those years.

Dick passed away in Pensacola on December 4. His family had been in Pensacola since the 1800s. Dick and his wife Clare, and their children lived on Pensacola Beach before relocating to Pensacola.

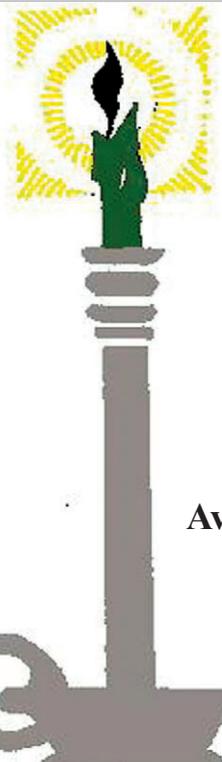
Both were active in Mardi Gras celebrations and were members of the Krewe of Wrecks, serving as Ship's Officers in the court

of 1989.

Dick is survived by his loving wife of 28 years, Clare and three children, Leigh, David and Charlie Shearman, and three grandchildren.

Elks services were held on December 7, following visitation, graveside services were held December 8 at Holy Cross Cemetery.

Dick was 77-years-old.



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& Carols*

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Early Birds Not Welcome

Wrecks members were warned at their Monday night, December 3 meeting not to show up early at the February 2 Champagne Breakfast at Crabs.

Lynn Cieutat, decorating chairman, said, "Don't come early pretending to be on the decorating committee, so you can get the best table."

The doors will open at 10 a.m. and the decorating will be finished by the committee on Friday night before the breakfast.

The Krewe of Wrecks

showed up at the meeting at The Dock despite windy, cold weather. They were rewarded for their efforts when the hosts rolled out Red Beans and Rice with spicy sausage, fried catfish, fried chicken strips and chicken wings.

Melanie Waite, the treasurer, submitted the information for this story, commenting that it was a great night to enjoy a sofa, blanket, fire and a hot toddy at home. The Wrecks, well known for their sturdiness, thought otherwise.

Grand Prize Awaits Passport Winner

Do you have your passport stamped and ready to travel? Remember to get it stamped at Beach businesses participating in the Season Your Holidays with Island Spirit festival, presented by the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce.

After you have ten stamps, take your passport to the Visitor's Information Center,

and you will receive a free souvenir gift from the Chamber. Also, your name will automatically be entered in the drawing for the grand prize of dinner for two at the Hilton, a night's stay on the Beach, and \$500 in other prizes. The drawing will take place at the Paradise Bar and Grill at 4 p.m. on New Year's Day. You do not have to be present to win.



Kowabunga Santa (Mike Foley) gets to hear the secret wishes from Graham Pennington, a three-month-old Pensacola Beach surfer dude. Graham slept through the festive breakfast at Surf Burger but was wide awake for his first visit with Santa.



The Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce Season Your Holidays with Island Spirit celebration included a Kowabunga Breakfast with Surfing Santa at Surf Burger December 9. According to Santa these high spirited Beach people have been very good - Jeff Elbert, Chamber president; Dr. Thomas Campanella, SRIA Board member; Debbie Campanella, Beach School teacher; and Debra Foley, co-owner of Surf Burger who hosted the event.

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peas, porridge & a dry martini

by kathi lewis

Lord, was that the best SOB Christmas Brunch we've had in years, or was it just me? I know it wasn't just me, because there were still a lot of Sisters playing when I went home. The Jingle Bell caravan to Jane's was wonderful. After we arrived, Deb Friedman ran around handing out papers as if anyone could possibly read at that point. Her intentions were good, of course. And, it was a lovely thought, just not exactly practical for 'after' brunch. As I looked blearily at the paper the next morning, I realized it contained a number of Christmas Carols that Deb had high expectations of the SOBs performing for Jane and Frank. God Bless her.

Someone, I have no idea who, began to "sing" the Twelve Days of Christmas! That's the hardest song in the world to remember even before a Champagne Brunch! And, let me point out, that had we been capable of reading, the words to that song were not on the paper! Oh my God, I'll bet that was the most entertaining sight to behold that Jane or Frank have ever seen. I sure hope it was entertaining, at least, since the only words that we were all capable of remembering were "Five Golden Rings!" We had that part down, for sure.

And God Bless Jayne (Drees) Redmond for trying her best to lead us in "singing" the correct words! That was very brave of you, Jayne, and we thank you, but you can only do so much with a bunch of Champagne filled SOBs. For a moment there, I wished I was the one up on Jane's balcony because I understand what it means to be only one special Sister that is paraded and serenaded by the SOBs.

We love you, Sister Jane, (and you too, Frank) and I hope we put a smile on your face and some warm stuff in your hearts!

And another God Bless to LeRoy Cardenas. He is still recuperating at Baptist Hospital, so Amy DePew and I went to visit his mother, Ms. Maggie Bryant. What a real treat this remarkable lady was to visit! We brought her some food because she had been so worried she was not eating well. Amy and I introduced ourselves and tried to explain that

the Sisters of the Beach were providing this food and her son was the only male member of the SOBs. Yeah, right...try explaining THAT to someone's mother!

Amy had made a beautiful card, which she read to Ms. Maggie. Well, Ms. Maggie was so impressed she carried that card to the hospital and read it to anyone who would listen, and a few that wouldn't. I heard she read it to LeRoy numerous times!

She didn't quite understand who the SOBs really were, and, I guess it was the "Sister" part, but she told everyone that we were an all female church on the beach and LeRoy was the only male member! She was so proud of her son, and rightly so. He has been our 'token' male for numerous years and has shared in our adventures with sealed lips.

We can't do very much for LeRoy right now, so I'm asking the SOBs to help Ms. Maggie. LeRoy is her only surviving child and he visited his mother several times a week. He will not be able to visit her this Holiday Season. If you can spare just a little time to visit with her, I know that when you leave, you will find that you received the most benefit! She is truly delightful, very gracious and loves biscuits. Throw a couple in your pocket when you go.

I know I had too much cooking stuff in the last issue, but we do have to throw in a recipe. This one is guaranteed to be a big hit at Christmas Dinner! So, let's cook.....

Fruitcake Surprise

1 large fruitcake, any kind
¼ Cup Cherry Brandy
½ Cup Peach Schnapps
1 Cup Banana Liqueur

Punch a lot of holes in the fruitcake. Slowly pour all liquids over cake. This may be the first fruitcake ever actually eaten! Not to be served to children.

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays to all and remember, "Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver, the other is gold!"

See ya in the kitchen.....

Gingerbread House Construction - Tiki Island Golf and Games, December 2



Matt Schang's Condo



Nicki Newman's Chalet



Lauren Pinkston's Castle



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Wine Talk



with Bob Temple
Beach Wines and Liquors

HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR SCOTCH?

The popularity of single-malt Scotch whisky is surging, with devotees concentrating on the stronger-tasting varieties. To fully appreciate single-malt Scotch whisky, it is important to begin with the proper glass. Use a "nosing glass," which is a cross between a brandy snifter and a tulip shaped wine glass, both of which are decent alternatives. With the base of the stemware being wider than its top, a nosing glass allows the aromas of the whisky to gather in the bowl and waft upward. Next, it is a good idea to add a wee dram of water to the whisky, which serves to release the fugitive aromatic compounds and sufficiently dilute the alcohol so that it anesthetizes neither the nose nor the palate.

HINT: Whisky should be drunk cool, not chilled, and never with ice, which obscures the flavors.

Each Scotch, especially single-malt Scotch, has its own taste and today's column offers some ideas of how to best sample them. Here at Beach Wines and Liquors, Inc. we have a great selection of liqueurs and spirits, mixes and wines. Feel free to browse around and to ask us any questions you may have. For quality and service that will please you, we are here for all your wine and spirit needs. 932-8850



Been Naughty or Nice lately?

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 Season Your
 Holidays with
 Island Spirit
 presented by the
 Pensacola Beach
 Chamber of
 Commerce 

 **December 23**
Santa and His Paparazzi Photo Session - Island Style - 2 to 4 pm
 On the eve of Christmas Eve, be sure to visit Santa. The sweet smell of peppermint candy canes will lead you right to him. Have your photo taken for a nominal charge.

December 24
Candlelight and Carols - Beach Church - 6 pm
 The choir of the Pensacola Beach Community Church invites visitors to join in their Island Christmas Eve tradition of caroling by candlelight. All are welcome. Free.

December 25
Mass, Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Mission - 9:45 am
 The Island's Catholic Church is located at the corner of Via de Luna and Avenida 18. Everyone is welcome at Mass on Christmas Day.

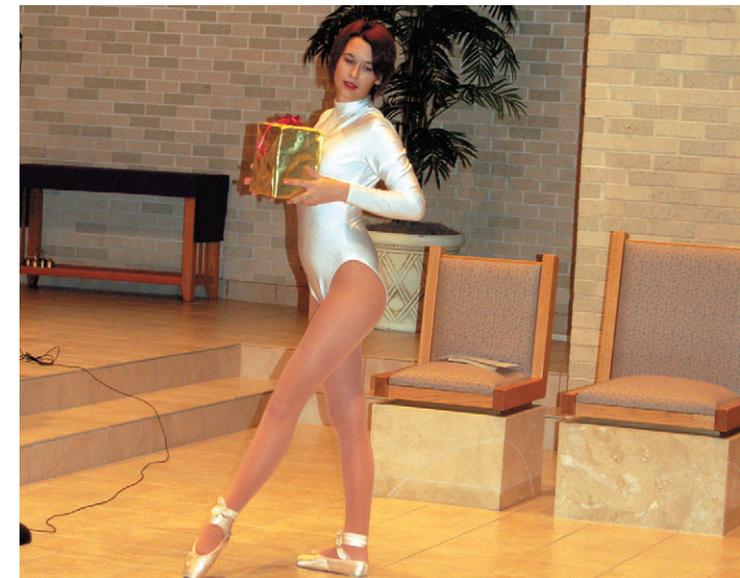
December 31
Fireworks Finale - Casino Beach Parking Lot - Midnight
 Dazzling display of pyrotechnics will awe spectators ready to ring in the New Year on Santa Rosa Island. Bring the whole family. Enjoy dinner and shopping on the Island. Tiki Island Golf and Games will also be open all night long.

 **January 1**
Polar Bear Plunge - Paradise Bar and Grill - 2 pm
 The emerald waters of Santa Rosa Sound are filled with those hardy souls who wade, swim and scurry to the finish line. Heaping bowls of black-eyed peas wait to warm them. Entry fee benefits the Chamber. No charge to cheer. Passport to Santa's Island Grand Prize Drawing at 3 p.m.

For More Information Call 932-1500



(L to R) Brian Tucker, Veronica Johansen, Karen Jurkowich and Tommy O'Brien prepare to delight the hundreds who attended the Joy for the Beach Concert, December 4 at Our Lady.



Dancingly Yours Dancer Ashley Spencer performed a solo on pointe to "The Christmas Box." Seventeen-year-old Ashley is the daughter of Tim and Charlotte Spencer.

**X-MAS PARTY
 DECEMBER 22ND
 8:30pm featuring
 WILDWOOD
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 Pendant to be
 GIVEN AWAY**



Monday 10am til - BARE Appreciation Day: 1st drink FREE with badge or ID. Happy hour til close 7pm - Football & Free Pizza while it lasts!

Tuesday 8pm til - KARAOKE PARTY! New song list

Wednesday 7:30pm til - "OPEN MIC NITE"

Thursday 8pm til - LIVE MUSIC by Tim Spencer

Friday & Saturday 8:30pm-12:30am - LIVE BAND
(www.sandshaker.com for lineup)

Sunday 3-7pm - TOAST & JAM w/Michael Jencks

Iguana Grill has New Hours & New Menu!

Hours: Wed thru Fri 11am-3pm, 5-9pm. Sat & Sun 2-9pm

Specialty items include: Jambalaya Grits, Fried & Blackened Fish, Gumbo

Check out our Daily specials!
 Burgers, Dogs, & Fries always available!

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850.932.2211 - Open 10am-3am - 7 days a week

731 Pens Beach Blvd., Pensacola Beach (Across from the Boardwalk)

For weekly lineup, visit us at www.SandShaker.com

PIGSKIN PICKS

Pigskin prognosticator Barry McCleary has made his annual picks for the college football bowl season. With his 'Bama hat squarely on his head and his crystal ball polished to a high shine, Barry has predicted the victors by underlining their names.

Bowl Game	Date/Time Site	Matchup
Poinsettia Bowl	Dec. 20, 9 p.m. San Diego	Utah vs. <u>Navy</u>
New Orleans Bowl	Dec. 21, 8 p.m. New Orleans	FL Atlantic vs. <u>Memphis</u>
PapaJohn's.com	Dec. 22, 1 p.m. Birmingham	<u>Cincinnati</u> vs. Southern Miss
New Mexico	Dec. 22, 4:30 p.m. Albuquerque	<u>New Mexico</u> vs. Nevada
Pioneer Bowl	Dec. 22, 8 p.m. Las Vegas	<u>BYU</u> vs. UCLA
Sheraton Hawaii	Dec. 23, 8 p.m. Honolulu	East Carolina vs. <u>Boise State</u>
Motor City	Dec. 26, 7:30 p.m. Detroit	Purdue vs. <u>Central Michigan</u>
Pacific Life Holiday	Dec. 27, 8 p.m. San Diego	<u>Texas</u> vs. Arizona State
Champs Sports	Dec. 28, 5 p.m. Orlando	<u>Boston College</u> vs. Mich. State
Texas Bowl	Dec. 28, 8 p.m. Houston	<u>TCU</u> vs. Houston
Emerald Bowl	Dec. 28, 8:30p.m. San Francisco	Maryland vs. <u>Oregon State</u>
Meineke Car Care	Dec. 29, 1 p.m. Charlotte.	Wake Forest vs. <u>Connecticut</u>
AutoZone Liberty	Dec. 29, 4:30 p.m. Memphis	UCF vs. <u>Mississippi State</u>
Alamo Bowl	Dec. 29, 8 p.m. San Antonio	<u>Penn State</u> vs. Texas A&M
Independence Bowl	Dec. 30, 8 p.m. Shreveport	Colorado vs. <u>Alabama</u>
Bell Armed Forces	Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m. Fort Worth	Air Force vs. <u>California</u>
Sun Bowl	Dec. 31, 2 p.m. El Paso	<u>South Florida</u> vs. Oregon
Humanitarian Bowl	Dec. 31, 2 p.m. Boise	<u>Georgia Tech</u> vs. Fresno State
Music City Bowl	Dec. 31, 4 p.m. Nashville	<u>Kentucky</u> vs. Florida State
Chick-fil-A	Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m. Atlanta	Auburn vs. <u>Clemson</u>
Insight Bowl	Dec. 31, TBA Tempe	<u>Indiana</u> vs. Oklahoma State
Outback Bowl	Jan. 1, 11 a.m. Tampa	Wisconsin vs. <u>Tennessee</u>
AT&T Cotton Bowl	Jan. 1, 11:30 a.m. Dallas	<u>Missouri</u> vs. Arkansas
Gator Bowl	Jan. 1, 1 p.m. Jacksonville	Virginia vs. <u>Texas Tech</u>
Capital One Bowl	Jan. 1, 1 p.m. Orlando	Michigan vs. <u>Florida</u>
Rose Bowl	Jan. 1, 4:30 p.m. Pasadena	USC vs. <u>Illinois</u>
Allstate Sugar Bowl	Jan. 1, 8:30 p.m. New Orleans	<u>Hawaii</u> vs. Georgia
Tostitos Fiesta Bowl	Jan. 2, 8 p.m. Glendale	Oklahoma vs. <u>West Virginia</u>
FedEx Orange Bowl	Jan. 3, 8 p.m. Miami	<u>Virginia Tech</u> vs. Kansas
International Bowl	Jan. 5, 12 p.m. Toronto	<u>Rutgers</u> vs. Ball State
GMAC Bowl	Jan. 6, 8 p.m. Mobile	<u>Tulsa</u> vs. Bowling Green
BCS National Champ	Jan. 7, 8 p.m. New Orleans	Ohio State vs. <u>LSU</u>

Holiday Festivities Winding Down

Don't forget to have your passport stamped at Chamber of Commerce businesses participating in the Season Your Holidays with Island Spirit festival. When your passport is complete take it to the Visitor's Information Center and you will receive a special gift. Also, you will automatically be entered in the prize drawing for dinner at the Hilton's H2O, a night's stay, and \$500 in other gifts and prizes. The drawing will take place at Paradise Bar and Grill during the Polar Bear Plunge. You do not have to be present to win. It's not too late to pick up your passport at the VIC and take it around the Island to get it stamped.

If you are yearning for a joyous, relaxed Christmas moment, go to the Beach Community Church Christmas Eve at six o'clock and participate in the Candlelight and Carols service. Everyone is invited to join this Christmas Eve tradition.

Christmas Mass will be at

9:45 a.m. December 25 at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church. The churches welcome all residents and those who are visiting for the Season Your Holidays with Island Spirit to their services.

New Year's Eve
FIREWORKS
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Mon - Thurs 9 - 4:30
Friday 9 - 5:30

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

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SIDE DISHES

	Small (4 to 6)	Large (8 to 12)
Squash Casserole	\$9.99	\$18.99
Green Bean Casserole	\$9.99	\$18.99
Sweet Potato Casserole	\$9.99	\$18.99
Green Beans	\$6.99	\$12.99
Corn Bread Dressing	\$10.99	\$18.99
Mashed Potatoes	\$6.99	\$12.99
Gravy		\$ 5.99
Cranberry Relish		\$ 8.99

DESSERTS

Pumpkin Pie	\$12.99
Apple Pie	\$14.99
Pecan Pie	\$14.99

Smoked Turkey
(14 to 16 lb) \$34.99

Smoked Turkey Breast
(9 to 12 lb) \$24.99

Pit Ham Spiral \$28.99

Rib Roast
per pound \$11.99

Lamb Rack
per pound \$19.99

Order Party Trays
Meats, Cheeses, BBQ, Chicken Wings

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on the island

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Merry Christmas,
Carol & Jerry

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TDC Hears 2008 Requests For Funds

The Tourist Development Council has just completed distribution of Bed Tax funds in Escambia County, but is already hearing requests for 2008. At their meeting on December 4 Ed Schroeder, Pensacola Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau, came before the TDC Board to request funding to support the advertising of seventeen major festivals that will occur in

Escambia County next year. Schroeder requested \$170,000 for advertising. The council did not fund the request.

"There is no money to do this," said Nancy Halford, Board member. "We will have to look at the available sources in this financial information."

Ray Palmer from the Pensacola Sports Association made a request for \$15,000. The

Council voted to assist the PSA, if the need arises, to create a professional presentation in their bid to become an NCAA Championship City.

"This is a huge opportunity for us to bring college championships here from 2009 through 2013," Palmer said.

Two members of the Board are from Pensacola Beach, Andrew Rothfeder, Portofino and Nan

Harper, Island Realty.

Rothfeder asked Schroeder why people come to this area. Schroeder replied, "The beaches," but added, "There are many secondary attractions such as the Naval Air Museum, history and culture."

Rothfeder voiced his concerns that the funding awards are a reactive process.

"We seem to do just what has been done before. I, personally, would be in favor of creating a strategic plan prior to hearing requests; a road map of where we are going and what goals have been established. I am willing to invest my time to do that," he said.

The Council heard a report from Janet Lander, County attorney, who told the group that the TDC allocates the Three Cent Tourist Development Tax and the County Commissioners allocate the Fourth Cent tax.

The Council voted unanimously to authorize Denis McKinnon, chairman, to write a letter to the County Commissioners requesting that the TDC also control and allocate the Fourth

Cent tax.

Robert Turpin, Escambia County Marine Resources agent, gave a report on the artificial reefs, including the Oriskany.

"The Oriskany project, along with the sinking of the artificial reefs impacts tourism in a great amount. The University of West Florida is publishing a study which reveals impact at \$200 million," Turpin said.

Although the Santa Rosa Island Authority requested funding to purchase new lifeguard stands and the Beach Chamber of Commerce sought funds to help with their month long Christmas festival in 2007, neither received any TDC money. The SRIA did, later, receive monies from the Fourth Cent sales tax. Distribution money comes primarily from Bed Taxes. The Beach supplied a total of \$1.4 million in Bed Taxes to the TDC in 2007. To date, although this is a substantial sum, Beach requests have rarely been honored.

The next meeting of the TDC will be Tuesday, January 15 at 4:30 in room 8201, second floor at 221 S. Palafox Place in Pensacola.

Boy Scout Reaches Out To Native American Children

by George B. Dodge, Sr. Chief White Antelope

Star Scout Robert Baston of Gulf Breeze Troop 401 called me after having read an article in the *Island Times* and asked if I was still taking school supplies to Indian children living on reservations.

Robert, a Gulf Breeze High freshman, asked if he could collect school supplies and donate them for the children.

Three weeks later Robert and his Mom were at my door with a car load of goods. The Caldeceaver Indian School in Mt. Vernon, Alabama conducted a Native American Pow Wow on the day of our intended delivery.

All the elementary children were handsomely dressed in full Native Choctaw regalia for the festivities and Robert was taken to the center of the dance circle to be recognized.

This was Robert's first exposure to Native American culture and before this day, he had never heard the Native American Drum or seen Indian children all dressed up in authentic regalia at a real Pow Wow. It was the first time he ever met a true Native American Princess.

All this culture impressed Robert to the degree that he and his Mom have decided to research their own Native American family history.

This is truly a story of selfless giving for the holiday season and for Robert this is a story that goes on all year long. His latest project is collecting toiletries for the homeless.

I wonder what Robert Baston will be doing for mankind fifteen or twenty years from now? I, for one, am inspired by his giving nature and humble willingness to serve his fellow man and I'll think of him with every trip I make to a reservation in the future.



Gulf Breeze teenager Robert Baston, seated, collected school supplies for the children at Caldeceaver Indian School in Mt. Vernon, Alabama. Chief George Dodge, standing, supports Native Americans and tribes in South America year round through his school supply drives. Joining the two men are Choctaw Indian Princesses.

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Sunday Church Services
Pensacola Beach

Churches are located at the corner of Avenida 18 & Via de Luna

Our Lady Catholic Mission
 - 9:45 AM

Pensacola Beach Community Church
 10 AM

Christmas Eve Community Church
 Candlelight & Carols
 6 pm

Christmas Day Our Lady Catholic Mass - 9:45 am

Mardi Gras on the Island 2007-2008

Krewe of Wrecks Meetings
 All begin at 6 pm.
 Join at the meetings. Dues \$20

▶ **Jan 7 Sideline's**
Jan 14 Elk's Lodge

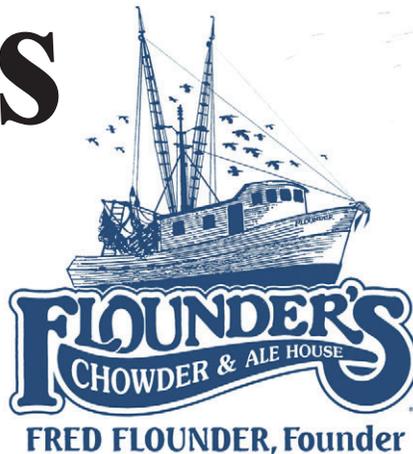
Dec 31	Nereids/Brewe New Year's Eve Ball - Elks Lodge, 8 pm	\$35/person
Jan 5	Krewe of Nereids King Cake Party, Paradise, 3 pm	Free
Jan 6	Rhinestone and Royalty, Paradise, 3 pm	Free
Jan 12	Krewe of Nauga Champagne Breakfast, The Dock, 10 am	\$15/person
Jan 18	Krewe of Nerieds Moon Pie Party, Sandshaker, 7 pm	Free
Jan 19	Krewe of Junkanoo Ritter Krawl, Gulfside Pavilion, noon	Free
Jan 19	Krewe of Kids Parade, Gulfside Pavilion, 1 p.m.	Free
Jan 19	Krewe of Bananimals Ball, Quality Inn, Gulf Breeze, 8 pm, BYOB	\$25/person
Jan 21	Krewe of Wrecks King's Supper, Elk's Lodge, 7pm	\$25/King
Jan 21	Krewe of Wrecks Queen's Dinner, Flounder's, 7 pm	\$25/Queen
Jan 25	Shaker Krewe Toast 2 U, Sandshaker Lounge, 8 pm	Free
Jan 26	Krewe of Wrecks Grand Costume Ball, The Dock, 8 pm	\$25/member
Feb 2	Krewe of Wrecks Champagne Breakfast, Crab's, 10 am	\$25/member
Feb 3	Krewe of Wrecks Parade Via de Luna, 2 pm	Free
Feb 4	Krewe of Wrecks Red Beans and Rice, Casino Beach, 11 am	Free

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Martinis

All Day
Any Day



\$14⁹⁵

Shrimp

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Cooked Anyway You Like

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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

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

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

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

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

SANDSHAKER LOUNGE

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

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

THE CABANA CLUB & CAFE

Open for Breakfast and Lunch everyday from 8 to 2. Waterfront dining overlooking beautiful Sabine Bay. The Club is also available for wedding receptions, business meetings or any other occasion that calls for a spacious waterfront venue, casual to elegant catering and a staff who truly cares about their clients. Sunsets are priceless. Elevator rides are free. Your hosts are Carol and Jerry Sears. Located on the third floor above the Market on the Island. 916-7446.



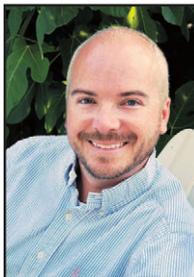
HONORED GUESTS - The Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce honored longtime volunteers at their December 9 Christmas party at the Hilton. Eileen Cywanowicz, left, and Jean Curtis guessed that their combined years of service totaled close to three decades. Discussing important beach business in the background are Pat Spencer, center, and Visitor's Information Center Administrative Assistant Ashley Archer.



*We wish all of you a blessed
Holiday Season!*

Stop in at the Emerald Isle Resort Realty Office for coffee, holidays treats, and good conversation!

*Merry
Christmas!*



Brian Tucker
850-261-9128



Karen Jurkowich
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In a Hurry?

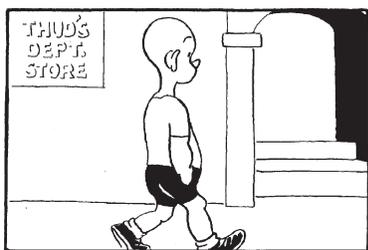
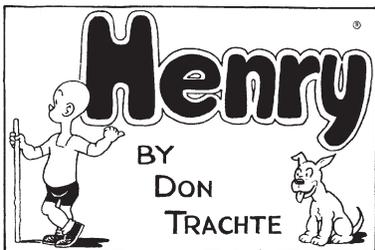
- Groceries
- Ice
- Ice Cream
- Coffee
- Cold Beer & Wine
- Frozen Foods
- Premium Cigars
- Free Island Times

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Need for football !**

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LOW CARTON
PRICES*

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) An old adversary wants to make amends over the holidays. The decision is yours. But wouldn't it be nice to share the upcoming new year with another friend?

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) As news of your work gets around, expect to receive a special holiday "gift" from influential contacts who could help you launch your new projects in the new year.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Instead of fussing over what you didn't do to prepare for the holidays, relax and enjoy the kudos for a job truly well done. A happy surprise awaits you early next year.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The best way to shake off lingering holiday blues is to join loved ones in the fun and festivities of this special time. A confusing situation starts to make sense in upcoming weeks.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Special emotional rewards mark this holiday time for Leos and Leonas who are able to open up to new relationships and the possibilities they offer in the upcoming year.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your efforts to make the holidays especially memorable for some people will be rewarded in some unexpected (but very welcome) ways in the upcoming year.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Be assured that your efforts to make this holiday special for everyone won't go unnoticed by those who could make some important changes in your life.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Lots of folks want you to light up their holiday parties. But try to take some quiet time 'twixt those glittering galas to spend with some very special people.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) While the current round of holiday revels has your social life on the fast track, someone special might want to keep pace with you next year as well.

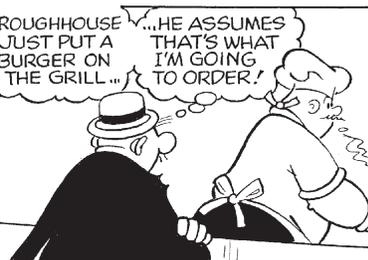
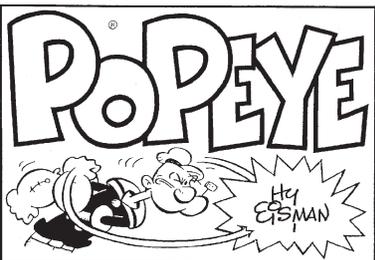
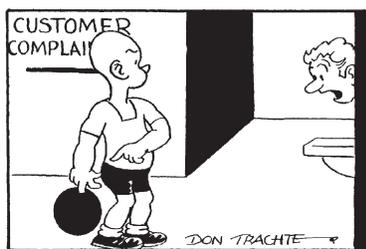
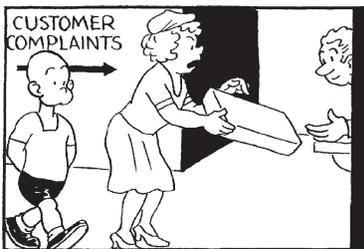
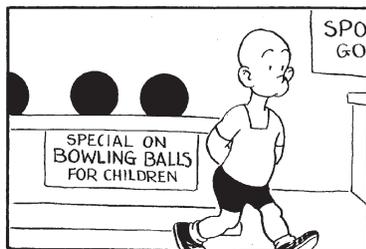
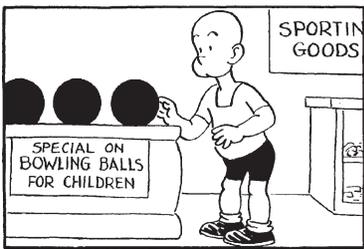
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Enjoy all the fun you deserve at this holiday time. However, don't lose sight of the need to check out some of the changes the new year is expected to bring.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) What happens during this holiday time can help clear up some of the confusion jeopardizing a once-stable relationship. Follow your instincts on what to do next.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Your holidays are brightened by new friends eager to become part of your life. But don't forget to spend time with that one special person. (You know who.)

BORN THIS WEEK: You have the ability to encourage people to reach their potential by setting an example with your own efforts.

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The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Letters To The Editor

Trivia Evokes Fond Memories

Hmmmm, the answer to your trivia question for December 5 sounds like the ever cantankerous "Papa Joe." Ah yes, the man who hung plastic crawdads in his beard for Mardi Gras or painted it green for St. Paddy's Day.

I just had to send this in after running across your paper at McGuires, although in my mind, it will always be entwined with my memories of *The Islander*.

Who am I? Someone old enough to be an obscure piece of beach trivia herself.

Hugs to Jane, Shelley and Liz.

Sara James

[Sara James was a member of the founding committee of the Krewe of Wrecks. She served as the house artist and court jester for many years. The original artwork reproduced on this year's shirt, was created by Sara. She also designed and made the first costumes. Sara was a cherished SOB whose art often appeared in ads in *The Islander* Newspaper. She is now a registered nurse living in Pensacola.]

Wooly Booger King Longstanding Good Guy

Renee Mack was crowned Queen Shugah at the Wooly Booger Bawl, December 1. Her King of Wooly will be her husband, Jim Mack. To prove his longstanding Wooliness and love for the Beach, she has submitted a letter of commendation from the Santa Rosa Island Authority General Manager Jack Cowley which was written to Jim's parents on October 30, 1969.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Mack:

Every summer the Island Authority hires a limited number of young men to help us maintain our Beach facilities and carry out necessary maintenance work. This work is not easy and at times it is of a very menial nature with long hours under the hot summer sun. Our superintendent, Mr. Joe R. Lee, has mentioned to me several times what an excellent group of young men we had with us this summer and it occurred to me that since your sons Tom and James were among this group that you should be aware of Mr. Lee's comments. He stressed that even under these conditions Tom and James carried their full share of the work at all times and never hesitated to tackle any assignment.

Tom and James performed like good citizens and show real promise for the future.

Sincerely yours,

Jack Cowley
General Manager

Down the Road

A Pensacola News Journal article dated October 16, 2007 stated that widening 3.4 miles of Via de Luna Dive on Pensacola Beach and the \$12 million allocated for this project should be ready for traffic by mid-December 2007. It should also be noted that Via de Luna is being 4-laned for 2.4 miles not 3.4 miles as stated in the Oct. 16, 2007 article. For the record, the SRIA Board in August 2002 allocated \$10,056,086 for widening both Via de Luna and Ft. Pickens

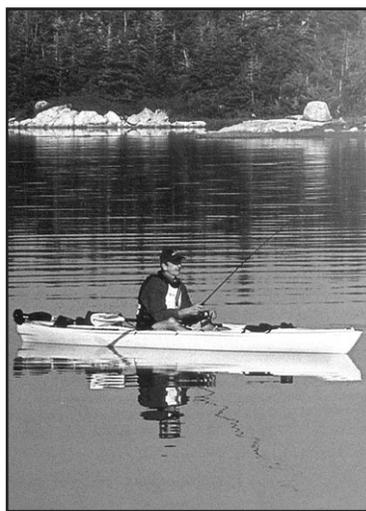
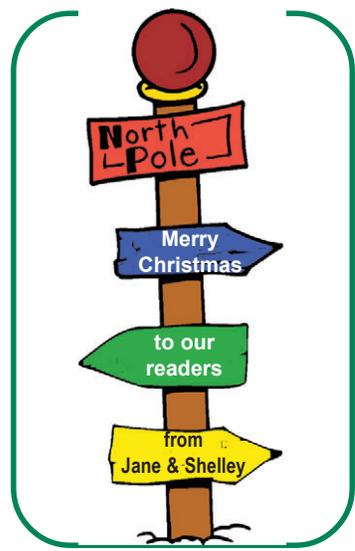
Road. They also allocated \$12,770,000 to place utilities underground for both roads. Oddly enough, the cost to place these utilities underground escalated to such a point they could be done underground only on Ft. Pickens Road and should these utilities need repair, Gulf Power will make the necessary repairs and send the SRIA a bill for these repairs.

This \$22,828,086 bond issue pays out to the year 2032. Winter or summer locals are the backbone of Pensacola Beach busi-

nesses including special occasions such as the Blue Angels weekend and Mardi Gras. It is critical that the SRIA find additional parking for locals in as much as locals now crowd Pensacola Beach all summer long.

Now more than ever we need to have year round visitors. One thing is for sure, whatever it takes to bring in year round visitors is imperative to the success of our area.

Bill Gahlenbeck

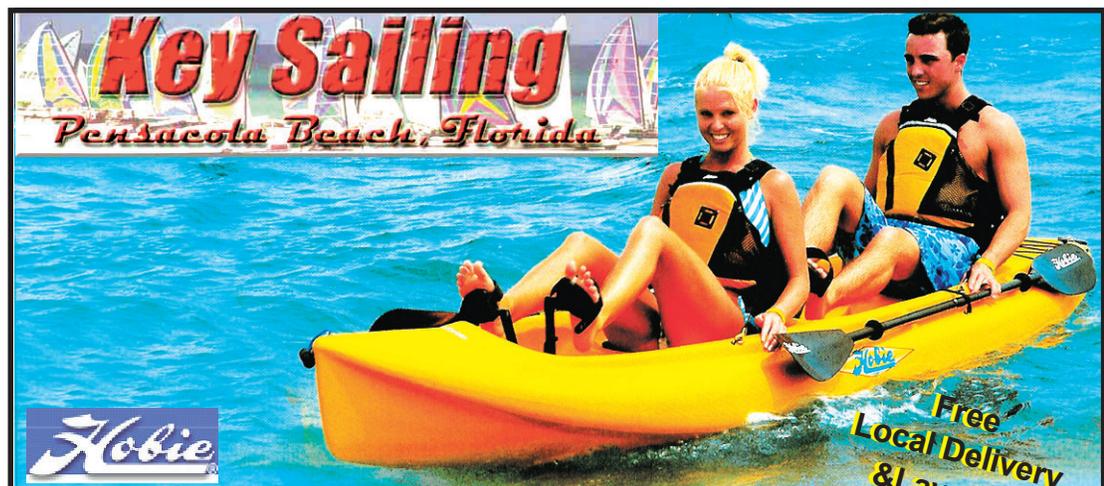


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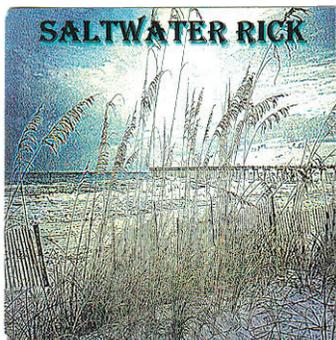
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readin' the water

Well it's that time of the year again - warm weather and great fishin' just in time for Christmas. Strong catches of Pompano in the Gulf waters on good ol'sandfleas are making Beach fishin' a lot of fun. Southeastern breezes make it very nice to be on the Island.

Local fisherman are taking Bonita off the Pier and big schools of Redfish along with Flounder have made the last couple of weeks very productive in area waters.

If you have some more

shopping to do for your people, fishin' stuff is always a great gift. And it just keeps on giving everytime you catch another fish. That's a meal you don't have to buy and that's the best gift of all.

For those of you who will be dipping in the Sound at the Polar Bear Plunge, water temp should be a balmy fifty degrees - give or take a few degrees. No wet suits allowed, but Renee will have plenty of good food to warm you up!

Remember, teach a kid to fish and they will eat for a lifetime. Make it a Great Christmas and Go Fishin'.



The Santa Claus Look Alike Contest at Bamboo Willie's, Saturday, December 8 drew a crowd of jolly old elves and one Grinch. Vying for the first prize pass to the Gulf Pier were (L to R): Pappy Traynham, Alec Adams, Beach Santa Richard Corley and Jim "The Grinch" Cox. Beach Santa took home first place.



Volunteers from the Junior League and The Studer Group in Gulf Breeze played Santa's helpers at the Breakfast with Santa extravaganza December 1. The Breakfast included a series of boutiques for children in foster care to shop for gifts for their families. Helpers include (front, seated): Barbara Rouillier. Second row (L to R): Lauren Holtzman, Sarah Redding, Julie Hughes, Andrea Tippett, Rachael Johnson and Sarah Dowlatkhah. Back row (L to R): Lisa Dailey, Joy Tompkins, Stacy Tompkins, Sarah McGaughey, Leslie Fore, and Penelope Tucker. Rachael Johnson, volunteer coordinator reported that there were 24 Junior League of Pensacola volunteers and 40 Studer Group volunteers (including family and friends).



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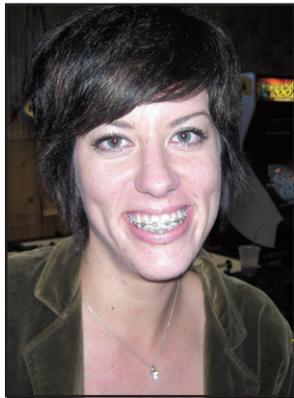
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Liz Captures Champion's Crown

Weekly winners and past the final.

Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun Champions gathered around the felt at the Paradise Bar and Grill, Friday, November 30 to crown a monthly champion. The crown sits nicely on Liz Ives' head. She took down the top players and claimed the title. Mark Julian had to settle for second place.



Misty Wood earned her first Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun title at The Islander.

The Islander
Larry Gers faced down four female players and took them out one by one Saturday, December 1 at the oldest lounge on Pensacola Beach. Billie Urquhart was second.

Misty Wood claimed her first 4444 Fun title, Saturday, December 8 by taking down the 2006 grand champion Trace Lewis in

Paddy O'Leary's

With a packed house on hand, Fran Cox battled with Mark Julian in a back and forth epic match and came out on top hitting a pair of Aces on the final hand to clean Mark out and claim the Sunday crown. We had it all on the second day of December, crazy tourists and crazy locals.

Redneck Anne Vinson returned to the winner's circle on December 4 taking out Skateboard Jimmy in the final.

The ladies are staking a claim to the top spots. Kristin Larmer claimed her first win after taking down Misty Wood in the final on December 9. Then, Billie Urquhart

won her first tournament in front of a large group of card players and fans on December 11. Donnie Beall was second in a very close final.

Paradise Bar and Grill

Action on December 3 at the Paradise saw seventeen players packed the inside bar. They were witness to another great battle between new player Kimi Stamps and Jacob Barry. Kimi took the win in a great final with the blinds reaching \$100,000 and \$200,000 in chips.

At the waterfront tables at Paradise on December 5, Phil Tracy took wins two Wednesdays in a row out-dueling Skateboard Jimmy in the final.

We had nineteen card players at three tables battling for the win on a warm, foggy December 10 night in Paradise. Sean Nolan took down the infamous Trace "All In" Lewis to earn the win.

From the Chip Stack

Scott Stanley has opened a Gym in Pace and says he won't be around as much but wants to stay in touch. If you're out that way, look him up. Good luck, from the gang.

Welcome to the Dotsons. David and his wonderful wife Denise will be here for a month to play cards with the Beach folks and "soak it all up."

Last Chance For Photo With Santa

The last chance to get your usual place, so he can munch his way along his delivery route. There will be a nominal charge for the photo or bring your camera with you and take the picture yourself. Island Style is next to Flounder's and this photo session will be the final one in the Season Your Holidays with Is-



Nan Harper and Santa at the Boardwalk, Sunday, December 9.

land Spirit festival. Be sure to check with Santa to see if he has your list, and tell him the milk and cookies will be in the



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The Beauty & Beach

By Danah Gibson

What You May Not Know About Coloring Your Gray Hair

You find the gray and you live with it for awhile. The day comes when you look in the mirror and decide "It's got to go!" It is not attractive to you anymore, your friends are harassing you, plus it makes you feel ancient, so you head to your hairdresser and ask her to make it disappear. Sometime later, you leave either loving or hating the results.

And now, the maintenance begins. This is the part you really need to consider before you make a move. If you opt for permanent hair color, it can be costly and time consuming, and worst of all, if you are totally gray, when your new growth or "roots" start to show it's obvious to everyone that you are coloring your hair.

There are more options for covering gray than you would think! As a hairdresser and woman with some gray hair, let me share some secrets with you regarding gray coverage.

On my clients who are not totally gray, I like to use semi-per-

manent hair color, which will cover nicely. It fades out on tone, and does not leave a big line of demarcation. Since this type of color lasts 45-65 shampoos or roughly 4-6 weeks, by the time it is faded, you are ready for a touch up anyway. This is a low-ammonia based color, so it does not damage your hair. If you have 50% gray or more, your hair might be resistant to a semi-permanent color, and you might need to go with a permanent color. In this case, I would recommend some custom highlighting. Add a few different tones if your color is dark, just to break up the flatness of one shade, and to give you a more natural look. These can be re-touched, just like your base.

And last but not least bring pictures of hair color choices that appeal to you. I even like to see what you don't want. A picture is worth a thousand words, and this will help your hairdresser know what you are envisioning. Here's to coloring up the gray, unless you want to look like Santa! Merry Christmas to you!



By Pandora de Balthazar

Give the gift of peace this holiday season!

As we approach the holidays, I am reminded of my good friend, Edna Watley, who so graciously prays for peace each day. Such a simple, straightforward prayer, the reality of which would be a worthy worldwide goal.

Imagine! If each of us prayed only for peace, what a powerful outreach it would be.

I have always believed that our incredibly magnificent Pensacola Beach holds a special kind of peacefulness. The Beach imparts this to each of us who come to this Island.

It's most recognizable as the Island and its residents prepare for Christmas on the Island, with concerts, parties, events, and most of all, sharing what we have with others!

Here is my wish: For each of you who see or set foot on our incredible Beach to have a deep and unabiding peace, joy, and celebration equal to our Beach's beauty. We have much to share and many who need to experience our love of the Island.

Merry Christmas and here's to peacefulness for your New Year.

And thinking about the New Year, don't forget to resolve to be well-rested. You will be more productive and enjoy a better quality of life. Nine hours of sleep for adults and 12 hours for kids - it chases away the post-holiday blues and encourages peacefulness to start the days ahead!

Blessings from me to you.

Woolly Boogers Gather At Kiss the Hurricane Season Goodbye Bawl • Saturday, December 1 Paradise Bar and Grill - Downtown Pensacola Beach



Former Beach resident Diane Donahue Collins traveled from South Florida to the Bawl. She won a prize basket, much to her surprise.



Queen Shugh Paulette and G Cole represented all Woolies on the front page of Island Times. Lynn Cieutat holds up the paper for the crowd to see.



Beverly Hughes, left, and Shelly Geier discuss the merits of voodoo as a Hurricane avoidance technique for the Beach.



Newly crowned Queen Shugh Renee Mack gives Morrie Drees her royal approval of his "Papa Joe" t-shirt.



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The LIZZARD'S TONGUE

by E.K. Hewson



I realized last week that it was time for me to get out my feather pen, liquid ink, parchment paper and hot wax seal. Time to write a letter to the man in red whose address simply reads North Pole. Time to reflect and ask for a few things I really would like. So I did. Here goes.

Dear Santa,

It's taken me an entire year and lots of reading, but I've put together my final wish list. I've been extra good this year and I truly apologize that Rudolph is still picking wax out from between his teeth after opening my last letter. I didn't realize he also worked in the mail room. To follow is my list.

I would like to blessed this year with a refrigerator full of fresh fish like the ones Saltwater Rick reports on in *Readin' The Water*; a box full of *Peas, Porridge and a Dry Martini* recipes by Kathi Lewis to prepare them by; and the perfect bottle of wine, preferably one recommended by Bob Temple.

Next I would like Joe Stukey. You know the guy. This newspaper's *Bytes and Bits* columnist. Since, I've never met him, I am not sure he would fit in my stocking; but I would like some advice as to why my anti-virus software asks me to update it every 10 minutes.

As you know I am still recovering from running the Marine Corps Marathon, so I would like some down time and I am not talking quiet time. I think you ought to contact Pandora de Balthazar or at least read *Comfort and Joy* to get a greater understanding of my relaxation needs. And please Santa, no feathers in my running cap.

Though I believe beauty comes from within, Santa I could use all the glitter and gloss you can afford to send. There is not one single Danah Gibson in Havelock. In fact the only Gibson

I can find is at Guitars, Etc. and it does not do hair or nails. I am in desperate need of a *Beauty & The Beach* makeover.

Also on my list is a little surf. Nothing too big, just some nice glassy 3 to 4 foot waves. I bet you're not even sure what "glassy 3 foot waves" are. I've enclosed a picture of Freddy Esposito from *Espo's Surf Report* catching one.

And Santa, how about a few solar panels for my roof? I realize that these panels can make landings a little difficult for your team of reindeer. I am sure that Candace Segar can devise an environmentally sound and structurally safe platform that can be erected every Christmas. I hear she is mostly nuts, but I would trust anything that she bolts together.

Additionally I need a chip, a chair and a little luck. Weekly, I read about all those Texas Hold 'Em 444 Fun winners Rick Uzdevenes writes about. The Lizzard, on the other hand, continues to slither away from the poker tables a little less than victorious.

I know, this is a long list, but I am almost done. Santa I would like a book titled "Barefoot on the Beach." According to Amazon.com no such publication exists. Do you think you could ask Jane Waters Cooper to compile her hundreds of columns into what I am sure would be a national best seller?

Finally, Santa I am asking for this one last gift. This Christmas I would like for our world to be at peace with itself. I want a peace that cannot be shaken by man or nature. I want that feeling of peace that Dr. Chuck Randle imparts upon us all in *A Cross in the Sand* to stay with us forever.

Merry Christmas and again I apologize about the little wax incident and Rudolph.

Until next time...
The Lizzard



Third grade students at Pensacola Beach Elementary School studied each of the fifty states. As a semester Social Studies project, they created a presentation about each state. In the front row, Daniel Green and Reddon McLaurine show their projects along with Dillon McCain and Patrick Hodges in the back row.



Third grader Jackie Owens made the State of Florida the topic of her Social Studies report at the Beach School.



State Representative Dave Murzin, left, presented Principal Jeff Castleberry with a resolution commending Pensacola Beach Elementary School for achieving national recognition as a Blue Ribbon School. Murzin commended the students, faculty and staff for their excellence in education and national recognition during the Blue Ribbon ceremony held at the school on December 6.

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Mostly Nuts & Bolts

By
Candace Segar

The Search for Stripes

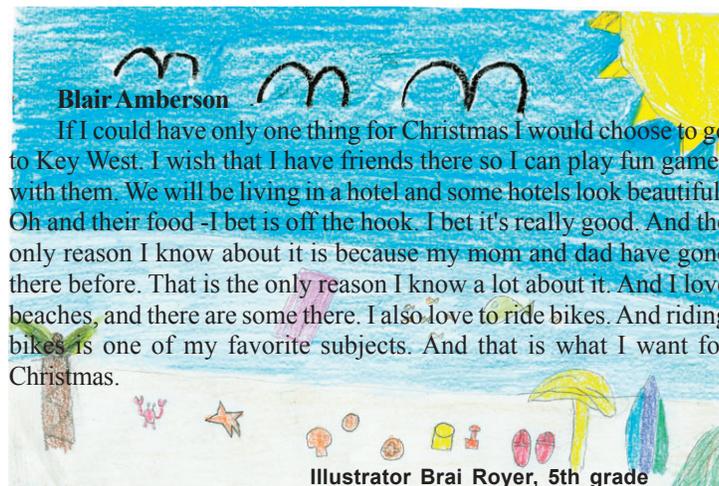
I think one of the most wonderful things about any holiday is the special foods and desserts associated with it. One of my favorite treats is candy canes. I decided to search to see if candy canes had any history. I figured there wouldn't be much. I was wrong - candy canes existed 350 years ago. Back then they were strictly white in color and straight in form. They were just basic hard sugar sticks.

During the 1600s, Europeans adopted the tradition of a Christmas tree. Their decorations consisted of cookies and stick candy. (You know that must have been difficult for the kids to resist. If my sisters and I had been there, the Christmas trees would have been naked.) Anyway the actual candy cane shape is documented about 1670. A choirmaster at the Cologne Cathedral in Germany decided to bend sugar sticks into canes. He thought this represented the shepherd's staff and used them to pass out to children in order to keep them quiet during the long winded nativity services. (much like this last sentence) Clergy passing out candy canes during Christmas services spread to America. In 1847, it is documented that a German immigrant named August Imgaro decorated his Christmas tree in Wooster, Ohio with candy canes. Still there were no stripes; just all white candy canes.

So, no one knows who invented the stripes, but we do know that before 1900, candy canes were all white on Christmas cards. After 1900, Christmas cards showed striped candy canes. It was also during this time that candy makers started adding peppermint flavors to the candy cards. So maybe the Christmas card folks gave the candy makers the idea. I am glad they did because right now as I write this I am munching on - you guessed it - and old fashion candy cane. Merry Christmas everyone!

Savvy Second Graders Ask For Christmas Goodies

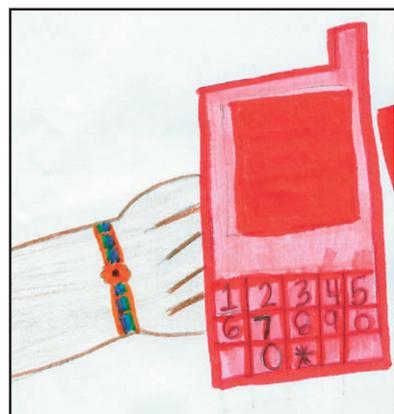
Debbie Campanella's Pensacola Beach Elementary class penned their wishes to Santa.



Blair Amberson

If I could have only one thing for Christmas I would choose to go to Key West. I wish that I have friends there so I can play fun games with them. We will be living in a hotel and some hotels look beautiful. Oh and their food - I bet is off the hook. I bet it's really good. And the only reason I know about it is because my mom and dad have gone there before. That is the only reason I know a lot about it. And I love beaches, and there are some there. I also love to ride bikes. And riding bikes is one of my favorite subjects. And that is what I want for Christmas.

Illustrator Brai Royer, 5th grade



Illustrator Megan Cronin, 4th grade

play games like pinball and spider solitary. And that is my reason for what I want for Christmas.

Ali Salazar

If I could have only one thing for Christmas I would choose a video camera because it helps you to remember going to places. Also I want to remember what I did at other kinds of places. I also want a video camera because I want to have fun with it like I want to make videos. I also get to play with my video camera anytime. I also want to send in a video that I made. I might do a video and send it in to television. I might send it in to World's Funniest Shows or Animal Planet because I could video tape one of my animals. So those are the reasons why I want a video camera.

Abby Jacobs

If I could have one thing for Christmas I would choose Fureal Friends Horse Butter-scotch. I would be able to sit on it. It would be like riding. I could feed it carrots. It even makes crunching sounds! It's a realistic animal. It neighs and turns its head. It's very special.

Now you know why I want this. What do you want for Christmas?



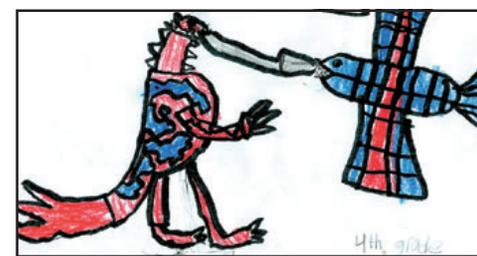
Illustrator Lia Lampone, 4th grade

Thomas Goodroe

If I could have one thing for Christmas I would choose an iPod. I love music. You can put head phones on. No Kristen singing. You can't get inappropriate songs. You can pick your favorite song over, over and over. You can pick your band. Like Thirdday. They have tech students in the band. My other is Hannah Montana. She is only 14-years-old. She is good. Then Georgia Tech because of the fight song. Then Jarsaday. They have great back ground music. Then Small Town Pockets. They're good! They have funny songs. Next is Adrenaline. They sing very funny. Next is Detalk, they jump in the crowd. Now you know what I want.



Illustrator Trey Wrigh, 4th grade



Illustrator Maguire Foreste, 4th grade

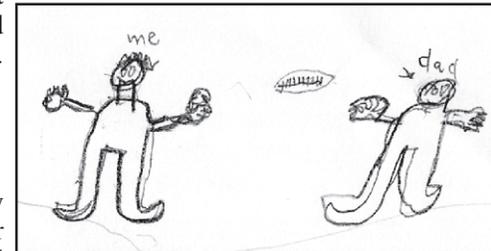
Jeff Doyle

If I could have only one thing for Christmas I would choose the Pokemon Game Fire Red version. The first reason is because it is cool. It is cool because the battling and the attacks look so awesome and so are the Pokemon. The second reason is I can collect them in my Pokemon game. There are lots of Legendaries. The third reason is there are new towns and cities. I will play with it a lot and catch lots of Pokemon. These are the reasons I want Pokemon Fire Red version for Christmas.

are lots of Legendaries. The third reason is there are new towns and cities. I will play with it a lot and catch lots of Pokemon. These are the reasons I want Pokemon Fire Red version for Christmas.

Patrick Seigh

If I could only have one thing for Christmas I would choose a football. I would like to throw it with my dad. And I like to share with my brother. And I would want to play a football game with my friends. I would practice in the sand and play tackle football with my brother.



Illustrator Patrick Seigh

Zosia Uszok

If I could have one thing for Christmas I would choose a real dog, Pug. I would want him to look like this. He would be brown and a black mouth and ears. When I would be sad he would make me happy. One way he could make me happy is by licking me. The second way is being funny. I call those things playful ways. He would eat and drink. He would eat dog food from a bowl. Then he would drink water from a bowl. This is what I want for Christmas and now tell me what you want for Christmas.



Illustrator Zosia Uszok

Merry Christmas

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS are \$5 for 20 words. Additional words are 10 cents each. Send ad with check made payable to Shelley Ink, P.O. Box 844, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562.

Real Estate For Sale

Pensacola Beach Townhome
3/2.5, just steps from the Gulf. Great waterfront views from patio and balcony. As is price makes this a great investment property. \$395,000. Call Dennis Remesch, Re/Max on the Coast. 850-384-7607

Paradise Bay. Three bedrooms, two baths. 3877 Sailwind Drive. \$189,000 Owners have upgraded this home generously. Hardwood, tile, and new carpet. Kitchen features new countertops and stainless steel appliances. The backyard features a spacious deck for entertaining and a hot tub. Waterfront neighborhood features underground utilities. Call for your personal tour, Jeremy Johnson, Island Realty, 850-377-3145 - www.JeremyJohnson Realtor.com

Gulf Breeze 3/2 Like new custom home in a waterfront neighborhood. 1,986 sq ft, all brick, & never flooded. \$225,000 Call Jeremy Johnson, Island Realty 850-377-3145.

Pensacola - 3/2 Condo. \$115,000 Great opportunity. Hot Price - Call today. Karen Cook, Cook Realty 850-712-8587

Real Estate Wanted

Gulf Front Home or Cottage to purchase. Across the street from the Gulf will also be considered. I am looking for a place to call home. 850-450-4634

Lots For Sale

Gulf Breeze - Residential Lot - 1150 SAWGRASS DR Lot Size 50X100. Stunning Views from this Sound Front Lot on the Santa Rosa Sound; just waiting for your waterfront dream home. \$379,900 - MLS# 304450 - Call Dennis Remesch, Re/Max on the Coast. 850-384-7607

Lowest Priced waterfront lot in Santa Rosa Shores. Only \$249,000. Call Jeremy Johnson, Island Realty 850-377-3145

Lots For Sale

PENSACOLA BEACH LOTS

2 Ocean View Dr.
Gulf & Sound Views
MLS# 328414 \$549,000
Lot 16 Calle Marbella
Sound Front.
Gated Community.
MLS# 326210 \$799,000
Lot 17 Calle Marbella
Sound Front.
Gated Community.
MLS# 326254 \$799,000
Lot 23 Calle Marbella
Across from Sound.
Gated Community.
MLS# 326212 \$449,000
213 Panferio Dr.
80 ft of Sound Frontage.
MLS# 310666 \$549,000
1301 Panferio Dr.
116 ft of Sound Frontage.
MLS# 331987 \$634,900
800 Via Deluna Dr.
Large Corner Lot
MLS# 295784 \$495,000
1100 Panferio Dr.
Across from Sound.
Great Views
MLS# 316837 \$439,000

1581 Bulevar Menor
Lowest priced Soundfront Lot!
MLS# 303140 \$399,000
Lot 35 Ensenada Marbella
Direct Gulf Views
Santa Rosa Villas Estates
MLS# 278391 \$599,000
Lot 27 Seashore Dr.
Sound Front in Seashore Village. Community Dock
MLS# 315079 \$835,000
1754 Ensenada Seis
Gulf Front in Private Cul-de-Sac. 85 ft. of Gulf Frontage
MLS# 288030 \$1,575,000

GULF BREEZE LOTS
4 Soundside Dr. Lots
Sold individual or separate
MLS# 310300
\$180,000-\$280,000
131 Eufaula St.
70 ft of Sound Front
MLS# 332892 \$425,000
135 Eufaula St.
67 ft. on Canal
MLS# 332875 \$399,000
Lot 1 Eventide Dr
Soundview
MLS# 336112 \$280,000
NAVARRÉ
8052 Sleepy Bay Blvd.
Bay Front Lot. 105 x 896
MLS# 296513 \$225,000

MILTON
6024 Moors Oaks Dr.
On the Bayou
MLS# 337317 \$89,000

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The Beach Specialist
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Lots For Sale

Navarre Sound Front
Lot 1 North Shores Dr.
90 Ft. on Sound
MLS# 340264 \$389,000
Lot 2 North Shores Dr.
89 Ft. on Sound
MLS# 340279 \$389,000

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Upper limit
- 4 Say confidently
- 8 Eager, plus
- 12 Tin Man's need
- 13 Picasso contemporary
- 14 Cinderella's horses, originally
- 15 Disadvantage
- 17 Existed
- 18 Holler
- 19 Pal
- 20 Dark-brown fur
- 22 Baseball's "Say Hey Kid"
- 24 October stone

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										31		
32			33						34			
			35					36				
37	38	39				40						
41					42	43					44	45
46					47					48		
49					50					51		

- 49 Dweeb
- 50 Hammerhead part
- 51 Barbie's companion
- 10 On the rocks
- 11 Say it ain't so
- 16 Jack Benny interjection
- 19 Computer data
- 30 Chew at
- 33 Teem
- 34 Nitwit
- 36 Accumulate, as
- 37 Verve
- 38 Rickey
- 39 Homer's refresher
- 40 Nibble
- 42 Energy
- 43 Reason to say "alas"
- 44 Miler
- 45 "— -Tiki"

DOWN

- 1 Lutfesk
- 2 Melody
- 3 Hearing what you just recorded
- 4 Saunter
- 5 Test tube
- 6 Mythical monster
- 7 Stir-fry need
- 8 Surprise attack
- 9 Competed
- 20 Pop
- 21 Unoriginal one
- 22 Half a 1960s quartet
- 23 Intentions
- 25 Pugilist's weapon
- 26 After-the-fact opinions
- 27 Caspian feeder
- 28 "My Fair —"

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

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



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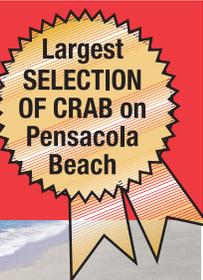
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