

# ISLAND TIMES

Volume II, Number 16

Pensacola Beach, Florida

December 6, 2006

## Leading the Way



Beach residents choose Grover Robinson, IV, as their County Commissioner for District 4. As promised, Grover appointed a Beach resident to the six member Santa Rosa Island Authority Board. Tammy Bohannon, who has lived on Pensacola Beach for twenty-one years, will participate in her first meeting as a Board member tonight. Story, page 2.



# After Sundown



## CRABS - WE GOT 'EM

Go crabbing on the Gulf of Mexico, at Crabs, We Got 'Em - Alaskan Snow, Gungness 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.

## OLIVE DROP MARTINI BAR

Clearly elegant martinis served in the signature Olive Drop glass. Full bar. Live entertainment. Dancing.

Situated in the Soundside Market across Via de Luna from the Hilton Garden Inn. Begin your experience. Open everyday.

## 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.



## THE OLIVE DROP



## MARTINI BAR

### Monday Night Football

Come Watch The Game Here!

Happy Hour All Night

Hors d'oeuvres

## HAPPY HOUR

Sat & Sun 11 to 7

Mon-Fri 2 to 7

hors d'oeuvres 5 to 7 Mon-Fri

live music & dancing

Open Monday-Friday at 2 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday at 11 a.m.

Your host Conner Cagle says:

It's time to get jolly  
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**Olive Drop Egg Nogg**  
a traditionally tempting treat  
for naughty or nice

## Candy Cane-tini

holiday spirit  
infused  
with powerful  
peppermint

Decorations  
are hung.  
Spirits are high.  
You deserve  
something  
special, so  
please stop by.



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The best in live entertainment

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Ronnie Levine  
Tuesday & Wednesday



Michelle West  
Thursday - Saturday



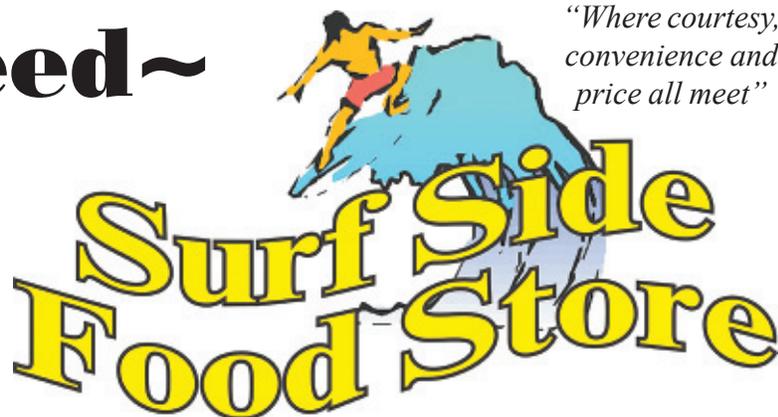
Live Music on Sunday at 5 p.m.



located in the Soundside Market  
Pensacola Beach across from the Hilton

# Everything you need~ Right here on the Beach

Open Everyday 6 AM until 11 PM



## Gasoline to Groceries



Put a tiger in your tank.

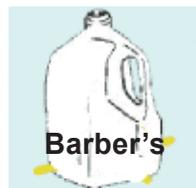
**EXXON**  
Gasoline  
on the Island!



**SAVE TIME & MONEY**

Easy entry and exit on Via de Luna.  
Prices comparable to Gulf Breeze.

### Specials



**MILK**  
All Gallons  
**\$2.99**



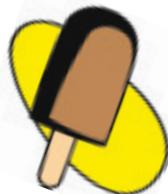
**Natural Light**  
**SUITCASE**  
**\$10.99**

### In a Hurry?

- Groceries • Convenience Items
- Coffee and Free Island Times
- Fresh Produce • Frozen Foods
- Ice • Snacks • Cold Beer
- ATM available inside •

### ICE CREAM

Frozen Novelties  
and Treats



- Full Line of Beach Supplies
- Beach Toys • Beach Floats
- Sunscreen • Coolers

### Premium Cigars

For your smoking pleasure...



- Onyx • Cohiba
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- Macanudo
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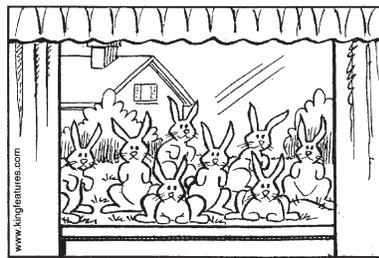
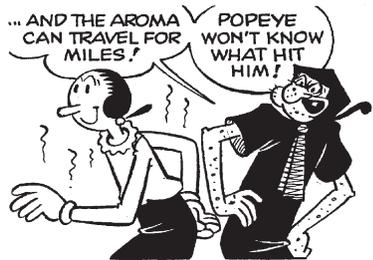
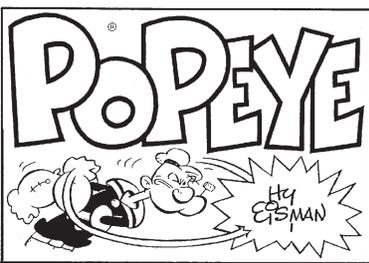


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**18-pack \$13.49**

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3 Pack Cigarette Specials  
**LOW CARTON PRICES**

22 Via de Luna • Across from Subway and Paddy O'Leary's • Pensacola Beach



**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Make your holiday preparations one step at a time in order to avoid being overwhelmed and leaving things undone. That confusing family situation continues to work itself out.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Ease this year's holiday money pressures by letting your thrifty side guide you as you look for those perfect gifts that typically reflect your good taste and love of beauty.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) You'll have a good handle on potential holiday problems if you delegate tasks to family members, friends or co-workers -- most of whom will be more than happy to help out.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Right now you are especially vulnerable to holiday scams that seek to take advantage of your generosity. Best advice: Check them out before you send out your checks.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) The upcoming holiday season gives the Big Cat much to purr about. Relationships grow stronger, and new opportunities loom on the horizon, just waiting to be pounced on.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) A changing situation brings conflicting advice about how to go forward with your holiday plans. Your best bet: Make the decision you feel most comfortable with.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Holiday plans get back on track after some confusion about the direction you expected to take. A potentially troublesome money matter needs your immediate attention.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Your holiday preparations are on track. But you need to confront a personal situation while you can still keep it from overwhelming everything else.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Tight financial matters ease a bit during this holiday season. But the sagacious Sagittarian is well-advised to keep a tight hold on the reins while shopping for gifts.

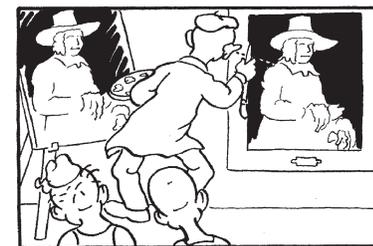
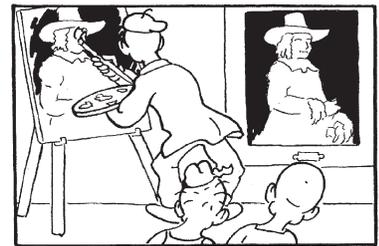
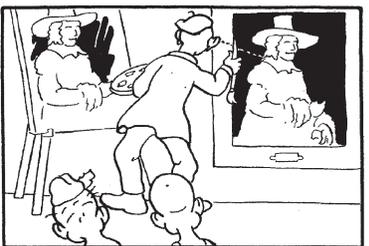
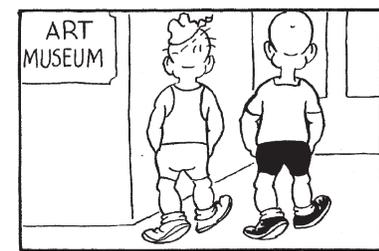
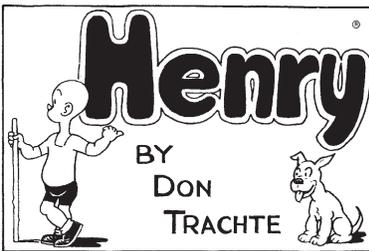
**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Don't put off making decisions about this year's holiday celebrations, despite the negative comments you've been getting from several quarters. Do it NOW!

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) The holidays will bring new friends and new opportunities. Meanwhile, be careful to use your energy wisely as you go about making holiday preparations.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) There's good news coming from a most unlikely source. And it could turn out to be one of the best holiday gifts you have had in years. Remember to stay positive.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You are respected for your honesty and loyalty. You make friends slowly -- but with rare exceptions, they're in your life forever.

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The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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# Espo's Surf Report



by **Freddy Esposito**

Well, it seems you nice people are really reading my weird, little article every couple of weeks. There's not a day that goes by that I don't hear some kind of comment - good or bad.

First of all, thanks everyone for the feedback and a special thanks to Shelley from this fine newspaper for letting me say the things I think I need to share with all of you. I had a fifth grade teacher say she actually reads it to her class. Those poor kids.

I wrote radio commercials for years for the entertainment bizz - big over the top ads with quite a Espo cynical view. Well, not much has changed, has it?

I'm sure that there are times when some people don't agree with my viewpoint, and trust me they find me pretty quickly and state their case in person. Good for them. That's called feedback. I love it!

We live in a time of 24 hour TV news, constant web updates, emails and mindless, meaningless blogs, mixed with a dose of local and regional newspapers. It's overwhelming, however we rarely get to put in

our two-cents worth. We read. We watch. We listen to what is fed to us.

Well, I think it's time for individuals to be heard.

So, I want you to send me some e-mail and tell me what you have to say about our tiny beach community or anything else you might want to share information on.

Remember, state whether you want me to post your e-mail or comment on the subject. I will feature your comments every few weeks, so stay tuned and get ready for some crazy stuff!

You can reach me two ways: go to [www.espocreative.com](http://www.espocreative.com) or please e-mail me at [freddy@espocreative.com](mailto:freddy@espocreative.com) and please put in as your subject: Island Times.

Also, Happy Holidays to everyone and congratulations for a hurricane free summer and fall season.

The beach looks great and you all look happier...and thanks for letting me rant!

Pura Vida

**Congratulations to Beach School Second Graders Students of the Month**  
**Benton Byrd and Maddie Grace McCurdy**

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# ENJOY New Year's Eve at THE BEACH



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 PER NIGHT  
 2 bedroom Sky Home

*Water Taxi service to the boardwalk available, weather permitting.*

*terracotta*  
 — AUTHENTIC CUISINE BY THE SEA —

*The resort's exclusive fine-dining restaurant offers a*  
**Four Course Dinner**  
*for* **\$75**  
 PER PERSON

**PORTOFINO BOARDWALK SPECIALS**

*Hemingway's*  
**ISLAND GRILL**

This New Year's Eve enjoy a special dinner with a Key West flare.

**\$50** PER PERSON

**ENJOY FAMILY SPECIALS at CABO GRILL**  
**MIDNIGHT BALLOON DROP at BAMBOO WILLIE'S**  
 Call 916-5000 or 888.362.9738  
 Make your reservations early, space is limited.



# Ego & Credibility?

By Pete Della Ratta



Ladies and Gentleman,  
I took some heat for the last article because I included my wife and some sentimental moments we have shared together. You now have the opportunity to read what is really on her mind about the experiences she has had with me...PDR



When I moved to stunning Gulf Breeze, Florida in 2001, my intent was to be with my family, continue to work and enjoy the glorious beaches. Only my thoughts were to enjoy the beaches from my chair with my SPF 8 sunscreen and a good book. Little did I know about fishing in the Gulf of Mexico. In Northwest Pennsylvania, where I was born and raised, fishing was pretty much limited to Perch and Wall-eye. Don't get me wrong, I deeply enjoyed fishing with my brother and father from a canoe in Lake Erie or the Chemung River in Elmira, New York. These are the places where deep fried Perch and coleslaw is the special of the day, every day, in most restaurants.

My first taste of fishing in the Gulf was when I was on vacation here in my early 20's and caught the biggest fish I had ever caught off the Pensacola Beach Pier. I was thrilled to get a Jack Craval and loved it even more when the men on the pier congratulated me for catching such an unusual fish.

Since I have lived here, I have been fortunate enough to meet and marry an avid fisherman who lets me not only fish with him, but counts me as an equal. On our first date I remember telling him how I just got back fishin' for "Spanish" earlier that day with my brother and it was "love at first site."

Many people believe that fishing is for men only, but I strongly disagree. For my husband and me, fishing has been some of the best times we've ever had. There were many dates that required a cooler, ice, rods, bait, a radio and drinks for the night. I will never forget being awakened at 3 a.m. to find him and his friend cheerfully filleting two sharks in our driveway. It was quite a site but boy was that good eating! A little shark steak marinated in Hawaiian dressing, wrapped in bacon on the grill will make any mouth water.

I officially got the "Bait Girl" title when I so willingly started to give away live cigar minnows off the Pensacola Beach Pier. The look from my husband would burn a hole through anything. Somehow, I was more amused than he was. How did I know that you don't give away live bait to your competitors? I thought I was just being nice. I did make up for my foolish mistake by getting pizza delivered at the Pier. There is nothing like walking 2 large pizzas down the pier in the middle of the afternoon in front of starving but dedicated fishermen or fisherwomen! I could have sold it for millions!

Anyway, to prove what love and dedication we have to this sport, read on. Not only was my husband's groom's cake topped with a new Shimano reel, our best friend got us the greatest wedding present ever, two custom made fishing rods with our names inscribed on them along with our wedding date. What a gift!

I guess my point is this. Ladies, do not get upset when your man goes fishing. Join him! So many great memories are made together doing something you both enjoy. And if you think you won't enjoy it, just try it! You may surprise yourself and your husband. Until the next adventure,

Lisa Della Ratta



So, there you have it folks. My ego and credibility have been restored somewhat. At least I can keep telling myself that for years to come as long as my wife is by my side.

Let's wet a line.



**BLACK FRIDAY FOR RED FISHING** - Beach Realtor Jeremy Johnson reeled in a 27 inch Redfish while fishing with brother-in-law Jason Edwards aboard the New Haven III on November 24.

Sit. Sip. Stay.



LOCALS WELCOME

Gulf Views from our Tiki Bar  
**Happy Hour**  
familiar name, friendly faces,  
frosty libations

located at



24 Via de Luna  
Pensacola Beach  
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Locals  
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**Key Sailing**  
Pensacola Beach, Florida

Starting at \$469

Free Local Delivery & Layaway

## Kayaks • Catamarans

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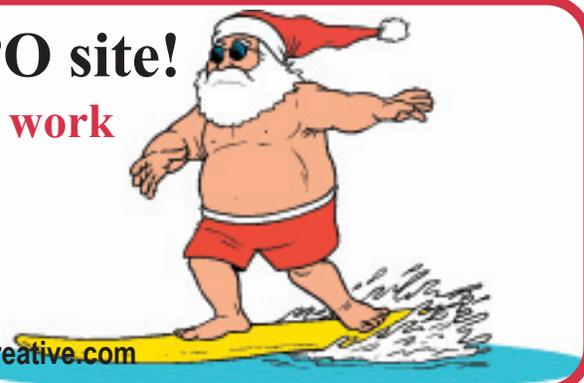
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# Beach Card Players Put On Poker Faces

Texas Hold 'Em 4 Fun hosts poker games at Beach venues for those who know when to hold 'em and know when to fold 'em.

"It really is all good fun," said promoter Rick Uzdevenes. "But we do have some players who have mastered the poker face."

Playing to his first win at the historic Islander Lounge in downtown Pensacola Beach on November 15 was Gary "the first-timer." He and Anne Vinson



**Poker faced winner  
Anne Vinson**

battled to the final moment for the title. The following week Trace Lewis added to his Islander win total by capturing win number thirteen. Jason "the Bassman" was second. In post holiday action The Islander filled up the room for some serious action on November 29. When the night ended Mark Beachman

defeated Franny Cox in a close game.

Santa Rosa Sound is the backdrop for weekly games of

Texas Hold 'Em at Paradise Bar and Grill. Anne Vinson took out last week's champ Fran Cox and the rest of the crowd with a strong nerve and a cold stare on Monday, November 20. Anne returned to successfully defend her title the following week. She limped in, not with her bet. Anne played to victory with a broken foot. Emily McDonald was a strong second.

Everyone is invited to play Texas Hold 'Em 4 Fun. A basic knowledge of the game is necessary. Games are played on Monday night at Paradise Bar and Grill and Wednesday nights at The Islander Lounge. Sign up at 7 pm. Central Beach Time.

For more information, please email questions to [salt2o@mchsi.com](mailto:salt2o@mchsi.com)

# Donate A Toy, Hop On The Hayride, Sit With Santa

The Escambia County Parks and Recreation Department, in conjunction with the Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" program, proudly announces the Fourth Annual Santa Hayride. This event will be held Friday, December 8, from 5:30 to 9 p.m., at the Escambia County Equestrian Center, 7750 Mobile Highway. Admission to the event is free. There will be nominal charges for concessions.

This "winter wonderland" will be fun for children of all ages. You can ride and sing on the hayride, enjoy seasonal, fun activities, such as inflatable "moon walks," make holiday decorations, enjoy a petting zoo, take a pony ride and have a chance to give Santa your wish list all at no charge.

The event will also serve as an official drop-off site for the "Toys for Tots" program sponsored by the Marine Corps League Detachment 066. Patrons are also encouraged to drop off broken or old cellular telephones, which will be exchanged for free minutes, to allow overseas troops to call home for the holidays.

For more information on the hayride and deck the stalls, contact Brandi Daigle at the Escambia County Parks and Recreation Department, 850-475-5220.



## BEACH Wines & Liquors

**BOB & MARCUS' SUPER SPECIALS**

<p><b>Columbia Crest</b> Merlot &amp; Chardonnay reg \$11.59 <b>SALE \$8<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p>Australian Wine <b>Oxford Landing</b> Cabernet, Shiraz, Chardonnay, Merlot reg \$8.99 <b>SALE \$7<sup>99</sup></b></p>	
<p><b>SKYY VODKA</b> 1.75 LT reg \$33.99 <b>SALE \$25<sup>99</sup></b></p>	<p><b>CANADIAN CLUB</b> 1.75 LT reg \$26.49 <b>SALE \$20<sup>99</sup></b></p>	<p><b>BACARDI RUMS</b> 1.75 LT -Lt or Gold reg \$28.99 <b>SALE \$22<sup>99</sup></b></p>

**#5-B Via de Luna • Pensacola Beach • 932-8850**  
In the Soundside Market, next to Wings, across from Hilton



**Maggie Ehrenreich displays her winnings. The door prize was donated by Constance Crosby Interiors at the Beach Chamber Business After Hours, Tuesday, November 28. Connie Crosby, left, presented the gift.**



## X'mas Party

**SATURDAY**  
**DECEMBER 9TH**  
**MIDNIGHT CONFESSIONS**  
Live 8pm-midnight  
FREE Raffle Ticket with each drink!  
Grand prize - Red Diamonds!!  
Door Prizes & Drink Specials

**Monday Night Football & Pizza**

**Live Band every Sat & Sun**

**HAPPY HOUR DAILY 11AM-7PM**

**Tues, Wedn. & Friday night Karaoke**

**Tim Spencer live Thursdays 1/2 price drinks if wearing Shaker shirt**

**SANDSHAKER LOUNGE & PKG**  
850.932.2211 - Open 11am-3am - 7 days a week  
731 Pens Beach Blvd., Pensacola Beach (Across from the fishing pier)  
[www.SandShakerLounge.com](http://www.SandShakerLounge.com) for complete schedule



## Invites You

**Come celebrate**  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
with us!  
**WILDWOOD playing 9pm-till**  
Midnight Champagne Toast  
PARTY FAVORS - LOADS OF FUN!

**DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE**  
Call today and make your reservation at Paradise Inn, the most affordable place to stay on Pensacola Beach  
Room rates starting at **\$59**

Then join us for the  
**2ND ANNUAL Paradise**  
**POLAR PLUNGE**  
January 1<sup>st</sup> at 3pm  
Blackeye Peas and Cabbage  
Proceeds to benefit  
Pensacola Beach Mardi Gras Fund



(850) 932-2319  
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21 VIA DE LUNA  
PENSACOLA BEACH, FL



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# The Beauty & Beach

By Danah & Gwen Gibson

Well, it's that time of year again - you are either excited that the holidays are right around the corner, or, you are dreading all the work you have to do to get ready for them!

Either way, I find a good way to give you the extra nudge you need to boost your sprits, is to change your look. It doesn't have to be anything major. Go a hair color shade deeper or lighter. Get a few face framing streaks. Whatever shade you choose, buy some of those different colored contact lenses, just for fun. Wear red lipstick, (or just some lipstick if you don't wear any). Break out those diamond earrings you have been

saving and wear them to the grocery store! Anything to kick the blues away and make you feel great is one gift you can give to yourself (and, who better to give to?)

Or, if you feel like making someone else feel beautiful- we offer gift certificates in any amount for hair services, waxing, or pedicures, manicures. At Danah's we can do a whole package deal if you'd like, just call or stop by the studio, maybe we'll even throw in lunch!

We are all looking forward to the SOB Christmas Brunch on December 17 at Flounder's. See ya there!

## St. Ann Accepts Donations To Fill Empty Pantries

For the first time ever, all the collected food for Caring and Sharing of South Santa Rosa County was given out at Thanksgiving, said Connie Clark of the C&S board.

"We didn't turn anyone away, but not everyone got a box of food," Clark said. "Some got gift cards instead. We have more than 300 hundred families signed up for Christmas. That's more than 600 kids. And we have no food left to give them right now."

St. Ann Catholic Church is a collection point for food, cash donations and gifts for the Christmas drive. To donate food, coordinate a food and gift drive, or for more information, call Connie Clark at 932-2859 at extension 249.



Carol Sears, Cabana Club Coordinator, left, and Gay Bell discuss menu selections available for rehearsal dinners at the November 19 Cabana Club Open House. The waterfront banquet room is located at the Beach Marina.



by Pandora de Balthazar

It's time for you to give and receive the GIFT OF SLEEP!

Did you know that you, and even your children are, more than likely, sleep deprived?

Do they get 11 hours of sleep each night? Do you sleep at least eight full hours each night uninterrupted?

If not, you are Sleep Deprived.

### NINE IS FINE

It's a known fact that REM sleep rewards and refreshes your body, allowing it to rest and recuperate from your stressful and activity filled days. Without a full night's sleep, you can miss from 60 to 70 percent of the REM sleep that provides your memory and motor skills. More importantly, if you don't capture 9 hours uninterrupted sleep, you also miss the calcium burst so important to your body!

Wow. That's what I thought, too. Yet, it's true. Buy a copy of Dr. James Maas book, "Power Sleep" or drop by my shop on South Ninth Avenue to pick up your copy, and you'll find out for yourself. I, too, was amazed.

You see, since neurosurgery 11 years ago, I have focused on bed rest, sleep, sleep environment, and the textures one surrounds oneself with.

### FEATHER YOUR NEST

I manufacture down mattress

pads and down pillows that merge your body to the mattress, yet keep a corridor of air surrounding your body for cool comfort and leisure, giving your body and mind the opportunity to rest, sleep, and rest again upon awakening. Thus refreshed, you can face the world with a peaceful mind and body—it truly makes the difference. My mission has been to change the way America makes their beds, and to create soothing bedtime environments.

Nevertheless, I was missing something very important which I clearly learned last summer from Dr. James Maas, a professor at Cornell University for the last 38 years. I was Sleep Deprived.

### TIME WILL TELL

While I was getting good sleep, bed rest before and after sleep, and creating the luxurious environment to allow my mind, body, and spirit to rest, recuperate, and rejuvenate for the coming day, I wasn't getting enough sleep. Your nightly sleep minimum is a full 8 hours of uninterrupted sleep to achieve a rested awakening, and to provide you a full day of activity at your body's peak performance...being 'in the zone' so to speak.

### SLEEP FOR SUCCESS

Think about it—changing

your attitude about sleep can make you more effective at work and play, but it can make a lifetime of difference in your children and grandchildren's lives, not to mention their level of success, health, and happiness.

It's time to stop feeling guilty about taking a nap, or going to bed early.

No more crash and burn sleep, awakening in the midst of the night, thinking, oh, no, I can't go back to sleep!

It's time for new pillows, new duvets and mattress pads, and lots of sheets, fresh for changes, because that is your sleep environment—you must change your sheets and pillow shams more often, and wash all the down bedding to secure a fresh sleeping environment for yourself.

### JUST DO IT

It's not just that you should, or that you deserve it, but it's that your life's performance will be drastically affected!

### ASK AN EXPERT

It's truly the gift of a lifetime. If you have questions, please email me: Pandora@antiqueeuropeanlinens.com

Sincerely, I wish you great Sleep during the Holidays.

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**The LIZZARD'S TONGUE** 

by E.K. Hewson

Recently Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point held its annual lighting of the base's Christmas tree. Not just any ordinary tree, but a huge, towering pine tree that is lighted stem to stern and decorated with oversized metallic balls. And not just any casual flipping of the switch to light up the night's sky. This celebration, now in its seventh year, is overflowing with pomp and circumstance that even Martha Stewart couldn't outdo. The 2nd Marine Air Wing Band belts out carols while Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive on a fire engine with candy and treats for kids of all ages. Dozens of employees from Marine Corps Community Services volunteer their time and their willingness to dress in holiday costume to keep young children entertained and parents from throwing holiday tantrums. Or maybe it's the other way around. Even the base theater gets in on the act by hosting a meet and greet with Santa. There are the face painting and fake tattoo stations manned by elves. Plus table after table, totally unmanned, of cookies and hot beverages. No one can confirm or deny if you go back for seconds.

Last year we went as a family, braving the blustery winds and ice cold temperatures. This year just my son and I attended. As hundreds of Marines and their dependents mingled in the balmy evening breezes, I wanted to feel sorry for myself since once again duty called and my husband was away. Then the reality check set in. What's a few days at the Pen-

tagon briefing whoever on whatever versus a few hundred days in Iraq? "Brief away, baby" is what I say. Bottom line is after spending more holidays, birthdays and anniversaries apart than together, I am grateful, thankful and very fortunate that my husband will once again be stateside for Christmas.

As the evening wore on, I came home with a small snapshot of what this holiday season holds for the families at Cherry Point. The hospital is going to be busy as there were quite a few Marines mentioning they had been home about 9 months and quite a few moms-to-be sizing up the cookie platters. There was another contingency of women who couldn't wipe the ear to ear grins off their faces. In less than 36 hours, after way too many months in Iraq, their Marines would be landing on the tarmac at Cherry Point. Their Christmas wishes had all been granted. Then there was the group that was making the most out of the night because soon their Marines would be taking off to less friendly parts of the world. The chartered airliners arrive full and never leave empty.

So, as the days in December click away and Christmas approaches, try to find a reason to celebrate peace and happiness, no matter how fleeting, with gusto.

If Marines and their families can continue to find their inner holiday spirit during times of war, so can you.

Until next time...

Luv,  
Lizzard



The Pensacola Beach Woman's Club celebrated Thanksgiving at their November 16 meeting with a potluck luncheon served at Our Lady's Hunt Hall on Pensacola Beach. Additionally November Birthday Girls were treated to sumptuous cake and birthday wishes. The birthday celebrants are: (L to R) Joan Haydon, Beverly Dufrechou, Patty Lou Kattner, Janet Penniman, Janet Miller and Pegge Phaneuf.

**Park Presents Tree Program**

*Saturday Seedling Give Away Set*

Superintendent Jerry Eubanks announced today that the National Seashore will host a Live Oak Celebration at the Naval Live Oaks Visitor Center on Saturday, December 9, from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. The celebration will feature a natural history presentation about live oak trees by Pat Ann from the Santa Rosa County Extension Office at 1:30 p.m. and "Trees for Defense" by Park Ranger Edison Woods at 2:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served and free live oak seedlings will be offered while supplies last. Visitors may also take self-guided hikes on the trails in the Naval Live Oaks Area.

For a complete program schedule and more information, call 934-2600 or visit our website at [www.nps.gov/guis](http://www.nps.gov/guis).



Beach Optimists spread holiday cheer by purchasing and delivering Thanksgiving dinners to fifty families at the Favor House. Favor House staff members assisted Optimists Teet Brannon, (front right) and Karen Jurkowich, (back right) unload the goodies.



## End of Season

# Sale

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in prestigious Portofino.  
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# Mostly Nuts & Bolts

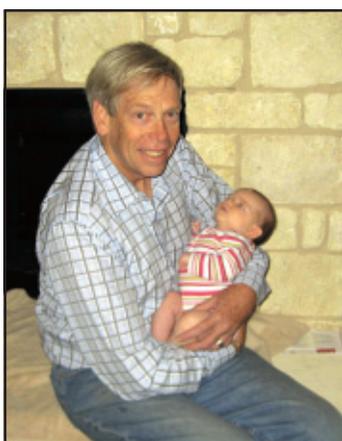
By Candace Segar

## There Is No Caulk Gun Like An Electric Caulk Gun

This past week I got to play with one of the modern marvels of technology. Of course, if my husband Ralph, hadn't been home, I wouldn't have gotten to use it. It is an electric caulk gun, appearing from the inner sanctuary of one the black holes of the universe - our garage. Let me tell you that caulk gun is so much fun. A caulk gun is to a contractor what an icing funnel is to a pastry chef. You can make the most perfect caulk bead; it can be very tiny and fine or very large and robust. You exert very little pressure pressing the switch, which by the way has two speeds. Ralph and I went through eight tubes of caulk. No leaks in this old house - don't count on that!

Ralph and I worked on an exterior wall including adding a window. His approach tends to be more cautious, genteel in ripping out the wall. Mine is more direct. Grab the hammer and rip out the wall. And if that doesn't work, follow it up with the crow-

bar. Of course when we work together, he looks for my tools first, i.e., the hammer and crowbar. He can easily find them. They don't go to the black hole; they stay in my toolbox where they belong. Actually that's where all tools belong especially the cool ones that our brother-in-law Richard gives to us. I have mentioned Richard before; there is no new tool that escapes him. The bottom line is this - I love that caulk gun and secretly hid it from Ralph. It is in the room we've been working in - it didn't make it back to the black hole. So caulk, caulk and away!



**NEW GORDON GIRL** - Rick and Suzi Gordon traveled to Plano, Texas during Thanksgiving to meet Sofia, their first grandchild. Rick said it was a great trip to see a gorgeous baby and the Texas-Texas A&M football game. Sofia's parents are Jeff and Angela Gordon.



Beach Chamber members blew in by the dozens to Business After Hours Tuesday, Nov. 28 on a wet and windy night. Hosts at Springhill Suites greeted their guests with gourmet hors d'oeuvres and warm Southern hospitality. Sales staffer Jeanetta Moultrie, left, and Sales Director Christy Dixon, right, congratulate Scott Carstens who won the grand prize of a weekend stay at the property.



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MAI, SRA  
REA #R2836

## Recycling Ralph says...



### These things are good to recycle!

- Empty metal cans, caps, lids, bands and foil. There is no need to remove labels or bands from cans and bottles. Clean only enough to prevent odors.
  - Unbroken glass containers. Clear glass is the most valuable. Lids can go with the metal recycleables.
  - Clean and dry newspaper and newspaper inserts.
  - Plastic stamped #1 or #2 on the bottom.
- Save and Sort!

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Gulf Breeze Duplex - Totally renovated. New wood laminate, tile and carpet. New cabinets and countertops. Stainless appliances. \$290,000

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## Real Estate For Sale

**Lots • Lots • Lots**  
**1100 Panferio Drive**  
 Pensacola Beach  
 MLS# 316837 \$499,000  
**35 Ensenada Marbella**  
 Direct Gulf Views. Santa Rosa Villa Estates. \$735,000  
 MLS # 278391  
**Gulf Breeze Proper**  
 133 Eufaula Street, large parcel. Desirable location. \$1,899,000 Lots may also be purchased individually. MLS: 308878  
**Santa Rosa Villas**  
 1754 Ensenada Seis, Gulf Front Lot, In Private Cul-De-Sac, \$1,680,000  
 MLS:288030  
**213 Panferio Drive**  
 Pensacola Beach Soundfront lot, \$899,000  
**27 Seashore Drive**  
 Pensacola Beach Soundfront Lot . \$925,000 MLS# 315079  
**603 Ariola Drive**  
 Corner Lot, Located across from Gulf, Public easement to Gulf, \$840,000 MLS:293192  
**1581 Bulevar Menor**  
 Lowest priced Sound Front Lot MLS# 303140 \$525,000.  
**800 Via de Luna**  
 Large Corner Lot in prime location \$550,000  
 MLS:295784  
**Santa Rosa Villas Estates**  
 Lot 7 Calle Marbella, Gulf View Gated Subdivision \$519,000 MLS:290526  
**Navarre Bay Front Lot**  
 8052 Sleepy Bay Blvd. Priced at \$295,000. MLS: 296513.

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 home: 850-932-1701  
 office: 850-932-6278  
 connadonovan@aol.com  
 www.connaodonovan.com

## Real Estate For Sale

**Gulf Breeze Proper - 307**  
 Washington. 3/2 with detached studio. 1800 sf total. 850-529-7589. \$189,900

**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

**Gulf Breeze Proper - 2 Bedroom.**  
 2 bath Sailwind Condo. Immaculate with pool. New interior. \$142,500. Jeremy S. Johnson, Broker Associate/Realtor, Island Realty of Pensacola Beach. 850-377-3145

**Navarre Waterfront Safe Harbour**  
 Condos - 2 bedrooms/ 2.5 baths. Enjoy the Intracoastal Waterway from either of your two private balconies. Permitted for private boat slips. \$299,900 - MLS 316514 Jeremy S. Johnson, Broker Associate/Realtor, Island Realty of Pensacola Beach. 850-377-3145

**Pensacola Beach Gulf Front Sans Souci**  
 Condos- 2 bedrooms/ 2 baths. Best deal on the beach. New windows and doors have been installed. Updated and remodeled interior. \$499,000 - MLS 286649. Jeremy S. Johnson, Broker Associate/Realtor, Island Realty of Pensacola Beach. Direct: 850-377-3145, JeremyJohnsonRealtor.com

**GEAUX Saints!**  
**King Crossword**  
*Answers*  
**Solution time: 21 mins.**

T	O	G		E	L	F		N	A	P	A	
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M	A	G	S	N	E	D		M	A	N		

## Real Estate For Rent

**Gulf Front Condo-Emerald Isle**  
 on beautiful Pensacola Beach. Two bedroom Two bath, heated pool / jacuzzi. Tastefully furnished. Call 850-934-3442

**Gulf Front Condo - Emerald Isle**  
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**Get Ready for the Christmas & New Year's Eve edition**  
**Wednesday, December 20**

## King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Dress (up)
  - 4 Will Ferrell movie
  - 7 Wine area of California
  - 11 Egg
  - 13 Kilmer who played Batman
  - 14 Oklahoma city
  - 15 Rani's wrap
  - 16 Literary collection
  - 17 Notion
  - 18 Wet snow
  - 20 Olympic champ Louganis
  - 22 Vat
  - 24 Pertaining to a people
  - 28 Small bunch of flowers
  - 32 Mistreat
  - 33 Operator
  - 34 - Mahal
  - 36 Valhalla VIP
  - 37 Trumpet sound
  - 39 Least wealthy
  - 41 "Bye"
  - 43 "Humbug!"
  - 44 Paraphernalia
  - 46 Martin's comedy partner
  - 50 Capri or Wight
  - 53 Cow's call
  - 55 Columbus' place

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	
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50	51	52			53		54		55			
56					57				58			
59					60					61		

- 56 Mast
  - 57 Under the weather
  - 58 Prank
  - 59 Periodicals, for short
  - 60 Actor Beatty
  - 61 Fellow
  - Down
  - 8 Moreover
  - 9 Slapstick
  - 10 Computer language
  - 12 Longtime
  - 19 Embrace
  - 21 Greek vowel
  - 23 Cudgel
  - 25 Undressed
  - 26 Egyptian fertility goddess
  - 27 Penny
  - 28 Tiny protuberances
  - 29 Norway's capital
  - 30 Close up tight
  - 31 Puppy's cry
  - 35 Occupation
  - 38 Away from WSW
  - 40 Scull prop
  - 42 Street urchin
  - 45 Portrayal
  - 47 Caprice
  - 48 Verdi opera
  - 49 Middy
  - 50 Doctrine
  - 51 Health resort
  - 52 Trail the pack
  - 54 Antiquated
- DOWN**
- 1 Pitch
  - 2 Office shape
  - 3 Mentor
  - 4 Longoria of "Desperate Housewives"
  - 5 Singer k.d.
  - 6 Signal light
  - 7 Place for 12-

# It's A New Ball Game for the SRIA

It will be a whole new ball game for the Santa Rosa Island Authority Board when they meet for the first time today. The election took two members away and county commissioners appointed two new members leaving only two from the original board, Dr. Tom Campanella and Vernon Prather.

They met in a special session on November 27 to learn the ins and outs of the Sunshine Law. Tammy Bohannon, Kelly Robertson, and Fred Gant were present with John Peacock missing.

Matt Dannheisser, SRIA attorney, gave the new members an overview of the Sunshine law and told them how the law governs all public officials. He stated that the Island Authority was an anomaly as an entity and that the only other entity like it is the Daytona Speedway Authority.

Buck Lee, General Manager of the SRIA, outlined the procedure for preparing the agenda and receiving the pre-meeting packets. He said he would call a meeting of the Board today and conduct an election of officers. The scheduled meeting will begin after the Board is elected. Committees were temporarily assigned as follows: Development and Leasing: John Peacock, chair, Dr. Tom Campanella and Vernon Prather; Architectural and Environmental: Kelly Robertson, chair, Fred Gant and Vernon Prather; and Administrative: Fred Gant, chair, John Peacock and Tammy Bohannon. The Operations Committee will not meet until January. The new Board Chairman will assign new

committee positions in January.

The staff plans to request Board approval to change the SRIA meeting dates to the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, so the first meeting in January would be on the tenth of the month.

Tammy Bohannon, Grover Robinson's appointee, has lived on the Island for 21 years. She owns three businesses. Her husband is Lewis Bohannon and they have two daughters, Katie and Elizabeth. When she asked former board member Bill Griffith for some advice, he simply said, "Make decisions that are in the best interest of the whole island. Be fair. Make decisions you can live with. It's not always an easy job."

Kelly Robertson is retired from exploration geophysics. He is a resident of Perdido Key. He graduated from Lamar University and did post-graduate work at Tulane University. He has had a thirty year career in oil and gas exploration. He is active in community affairs and is currently the

vice-president of the Perdido Key Association. He was appointed by Gene Valentino.

John Peacock is currently a representative for Edward Jones Investments in Pensacola. He is a graduate of the University of State of New York Regents College. He also has his certification in financial planning from Florida State University. He is married to Jerre and they have five children, ages 20 to 29. He was appointed by Mike Whitehead to replace Bill Griffith.

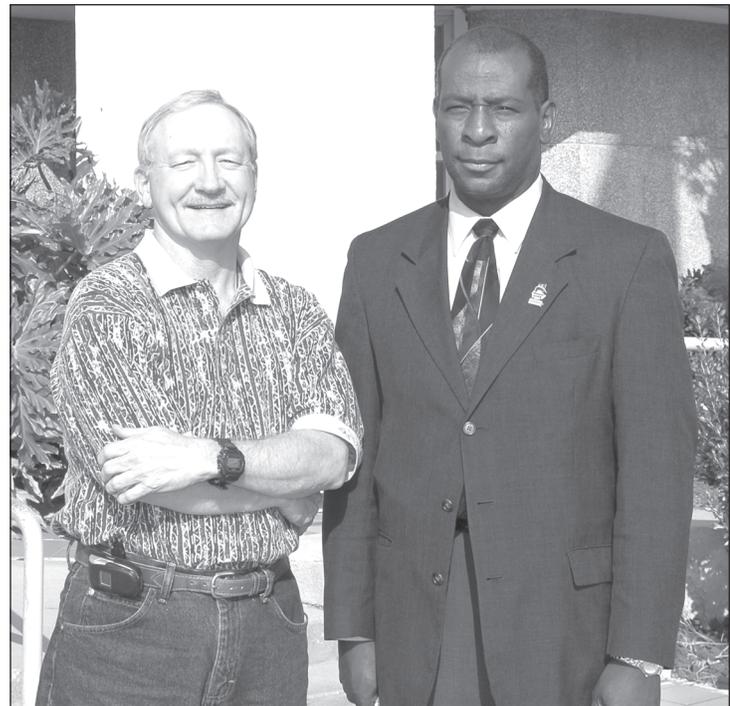
Fred Gant, attorney, was appointed by Marie Young to replace Jimmie Perkins. He has been practicing law in Pensacola since 1984, and has received numerous accolades and awards. Notably, he has been the president of the Gulf Coast Bar Association, and the recipient of the Pensacola News Journal/Pensacola Chamber of Commerce Emerging Leader of the Year award. He has served as General Counsel for both the Pensacola Chamber and the Gulf Coast African American Cham-

ber.

He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Florida and his Juris Doctorate from Howard School of Law in

Washington, D.C.

The next meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, December 13 at the Santa Rosa Island Authority Office at 5 p.m.



New Island Authority appointees Kelly Robertson and Fred Gant.

## Businesses Lose First Round In Tax Suit

The hopes for a favorable tax suit decision didn't come about exactly right for the thirty-seven business leaseholds on Pensacola Beach. In an order dated November 17, Judge Nicholas Geeker handed down a decision that the plaintiff's request for Summary Judgement had been denied.

Contained in the decision was the fact that Escambia

County construes these interests as specially classified "real property interests" which are the equivalent of "fee simple ownership."

In part the Summary Judgement read: Plaintiff's have the right to use or rent the improvements, encumber their interests, transfer their property rights, and realize any appreciation in value

from sale or rental income. They insure and maintain the improvements and are responsible for the payments of premiums and taxes. Plaintiffs also bear the full risk of loss on the improvements and are entitled to payment of insurance proceeds when claims are paid. All these benefits and burdens of ownership are expressed in the terms of the leases filed in

this action and plaintiffs admit having such benefits and burdens of ownership. Parenthetically, this Court observes and surmises that should any of plaintiffs' leasehold interests become the subject of an eminent domain action, plaintiffs would in all likelihood assert entitlement to payment of compensation for loss or damages sustained as a result of such taking.

The next step is to take the suit to the Court of Appeals. A second law suit filed by the residential leaseholders has not yet been ruled on.

More information on the law suit can be found at [www.pbeachtaxsuit.com](http://www.pbeachtaxsuit.com)

## New County Commissioners Take Office

Swearing in ceremonies were going along smoothly as ex-



Bill Griffith

commissioner Whitehead attempted to sooth troubled waters. He called former Santa Rosa Island Authority board member Bill Griffith to come up and receive a plaque complimenting him on the wonderful job

he had done during his 12 years of service. However, he had bumped Bill off the Board, so Bill thanked him for the opportunity to serve on the Board, then he said, "Running the Board was like running a corporation. You

must be a good steward and in the business world we have a saying, 'If it's not broken, don't fix it.' Sorry, Mike."

These remarks referred to Commissioner Whitehead's desire to abolish the Island Authority, a move openly opposed by Griffith.

Grover Robinson, District 4 and Gene Valentino, District 2, were both sworn in. Commissioner Kevin White was approved as the Board Chairman and Commissioner Marie Young

“  
*If it's not broken,  
don't fix it.*  
-BILL GRIFFITH

## ISLAND TIMES

PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY  
JANE WATERS COOPER, PUBLISHER  
SHELLEY W. JOHNSON, EDITOR

Post Office Box 844  
Gulf Breeze, FL 32562  
850-916-5258

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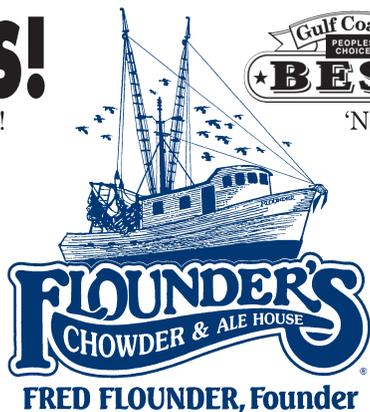
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 'Neath the moon & stars on our beach

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*"Best seafood on Pensacola Beach"*  
 - Fromers Guide to Florida



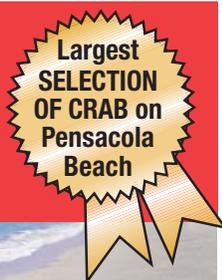
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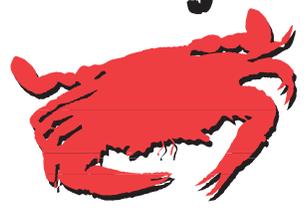
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# Barefoot on the Beach

By Jane Waters Cooper



If you are looking for a book filled with crime, cruelty, accidents (some fatal), bad manners, infidelity, and surrealism, you can find it in the bookstore section devoted to preschoolers. Yep, the nursery rhymes are scary, gory, and sadistic.

How about Tom, the Piper's son? He swiped a pig, and took off. What a role model!

Kings get pretty good press in the book, but one ruler sent all his men and horses to try to save Humpty Dumpty's life when he fell off the wall. They couldn't do it. That loveable little egg lay in a thousand pieces, beyond any kind of life support. Not a pretty picture for kids.

Then, there is the king who sits down to a lunch which is four and twenty black birds baked in a pie. But, guess what, when the pie was opened the birds began to sing. Now, wasn't that a dainty dish to set before the king? Old

King Cole wasn't about to eat a singing bird for lunch, so he went off to his counting house to count his money. His wife was in the parlor munching on bread and honey. The maid was in the garden hanging up the clothes when along came a black bird and snipped off her nose. Attention, all toddlers - stay away from black birds.

One of the most bizarre nursery rhymes features a cat and a fiddle, a cow that jumped over the moon, a little laughing dog, and a dish with legs running away with a spoon. Now, there's a wacky message for a preschooler.

Then, there was a guy named Peter, who was a pumpkin eater. He had a wife, but couldn't keep her. What wife, in her right mind, would want to be married to someone who ate pumpkin all the time?

Then, there is this thing that starts out with Hickory, Dickory, Dock, whatever that means. Any-

way the poem depicts a little mouse who runs up and down the clock whenever it strikes one. That would be round trips twice a day. Poor mousie. Too bad he never met Walt Disney.

There's even more weird stuff. There was this little boy who lived in the lane and a black sheep gave him a bag of wool. Now, what is that kid doing with a bag of black wool?

Wee Willie Winkie qualifies for off-the-wall capers. He has a little lantern, runs all over town, upstairs, downstairs, and in his lady's chamber. Willie is pretty wild.

Jack seemed to be a favorite name for the rhyme writers. Like the Jack who had to be nimble and quick so he could jump over the candlestick. At least, he didn't burn his feet during the jump.

There was skinny old Jack Spratt who was on the South

Beach Diet. He could eat no fat and his rotund wife could eat no lean, so the two of them managed to lick the platter clean. Can't you just visualize those two with their faces down, licking away at a platter of roast beef?

Don't forget Little Jack Horner who was sitting in a corner eating his Christmas pie. He stuck in his thumb, pulled out a plumb and said, "What a good boy am I." If he was so good why was he sitting in a corner on

Christmas Day eating pie with his bare hands? This one could be changed to stuck in a spoon, pulled out a dune, and said, "What a Beach boy am I."

O.K. it sounds as goofy as the cow that did the high jump. But at least, Jack's manners would be improved and he could get out of that corner.

There are now eighteen shopping days until Christmas. Is a nursery rhyme book on your list?

### Krewe of Wrecks Meetings • Begin at 6:00 p.m.

- |                    |                 |                      |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 12/11-The Dock     | 1/8-The Break   | 1/15-Paddy O'Leary's |
| 12/18- Elk's Lodge | 1/29-Flounder's | 2/5 Sidelines        |
| 1/22-The Islander  |                 |                      |

#### EVENTS

- Jan. 6 Nereid King Cake Party, 4 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, Paradise, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 3 Brewski/Nereid Black Tie Ball TBA
- Feb. 9 Krewe of Warriors Ball, Hadji Shrine Temple
- Feb. 10 Junkanoo Kriiter 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 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 Beach Parking Lot
- Feb. 20 Krewe of Coma, 6 p.m., Sandshaker

# Wrecks Ship of Pleasure Sets Sail

Fifty Wrecks showed up at a meeting at Hooters on Monday, November 20, as Mardi Gras on the Island begins to turn the Beach into a world of make believe. Since the Head Wreck, Andrea Brunt passed away in October; the Board has decided not to elect a new Head Wreck. They intend, however, to honor her memory by producing the best ever Mardi Gras celebration. Andrea had completed the scheduling and much of the work before her death.

Board members are Vern Phillips, Kay Turner, Nancy Roney, Jeff Goudey, Sandy Johnston, and Phil Simoneaux.

Kay Turner announced that memberships are still open at \$20 per person. Breakfast and Ball tickets will go on sale soon. The number of Breakfast tickets will be limited, so Kay suggested that Wrecks get theirs as soon as they are released. Ball tickets will be sold in advance and at the door. Everyone is welcome to attend the Ball. Costume or formal wear is required.

The Wrecks Christmas Party will be at 6 p.m., Monday, December 18, at the Elk's Lodge. Members are asked to bring a wrapped toy, tagged for a girl or boy, to be taken to Favor House.

There are still openings for

volunteers. And, this year, anyone who is interested in designing the logo for the t-shirt should get in touch with Nancy Roney at [ctc@98east.com](mailto:ctc@98east.com).

All meetings, events and Wrecks information will be published in *Island Times*.



The Krewe of Wrecks have launched into the months long Mardi Gras season on Pensacola Beach. Behind the parties, royals dances and spectacular parades are these hard partying souls. Board members who will steer and stir Mardi Gras madness on the Beach are (L to R): Vern Phillips, Jeff Goudey, Sandy Johnston, Nancy Roney, Phil Simoneaux, and Kay Turner.



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### ISLAND TIMES FIRST - PARTYING SECOND

Chuck LeBum spent most of his birthday, November 20, delivering *Island Times*. After work he purchased a couple of gourmet steaks at the Market on the Island, so he and Judy could celebrate in style.

### VIRGINIA DEAN PASSES AWAY

Virginia Dean of Gulf Breeze who worked for several years in the Santa Rosa Island Authority reception area, passed away on November 15 while visiting relatives in Houston, Texas. She is survived by two daughters, Connie Rova, Gulf Breeze and Linda Garman, Pensacola; and one son, Scott Garman, Gulf Breeze.

### BOOGIES FLY TO BIG APPLE

Boogie man David McDonald and Bonnie are back after a trip to New York City to celebrate their thirtieth wedding anniversary. They have been revving up the beach with music all those years.

### MAGIC CARPET

Amy DePew and Sharon Mattair have been a team of day-after-Thanksgiving shoppers for many years. Amy thought she would end the run this year since she would be visiting the Cheshire family in St. Petersburg. So, as if by magic carpet, Sharon was also in St. Pete visiting her sister. Their traditional shopping expedition continued in St. Petersburg.

### YOUNG AND JOYFUL

Joy Anderson wants everybody to know there is life after forty. She will be kicking up her heels at the celebration of her seventy-fifth birthday on December 29.

### SEMINOLE BOUND

Elizabeth Bohannon, a se-

nior at Gulf Breeze High School, has been accepted at Florida State University for next year. Her parents are newly appointed SRIA board member Tammy and Lewis Bohannon.

### BIRTHDAY GAMBLER

A great, huge, gigantic happy birthday wish goes to Doug Permenter who will celebrate a major milestone, the big FOUR-O on December 8. He and Darla will celebrate in Biloxi.

### CANADIAN CONNECTION

Gale Walker Tytlandsvik, Larry Keever's sister and former Beach resident was thrilled to find out about the *Island Times*. She reads it on the website which is fun when it's thirty below and she's snowed in. Gale was famous as the Beach's best pool player...even defeated Papa Joe in official competitions.

### HIDEAWAY

Chuck Steele, underground newspaper magnate, and Lynn Cieutat are back on the Beach after a trip to their Mexico Beach digs.

### SAINTS ALIVE!

Lila and Jim Cox recently adopted the New Orleans Saints as their official football team. They attended the Bengals-Saints game on November 19 and watched their NFL adoptee go down the tube. It didn't sting too badly since they are originally from Cincinnati.

### UPDATE ON JAN

Jan Scruggs, manger of The Dock, is undergoing treatment for cancer in Texas. She is her usual upbeat self as she goes through a bone marrow transplant. After the round of treatments is complete, she will remain in the hospital for a month before she gets

to come back home to Pensacola Beach. Emails would be so welcome. Scruggs244@aol.com

### WEDDING GUEST

SOBs from far and wide made their way to Charlotte, S.C. for the wedding of Deanna Lambert to Mike Moore. Sandy Watkins, former Pensacola Beach resident, dropped everything in her current hometown, Asheville, N.C., so she could attend the November 10 nuptials.

### BUSY BUSY BUSY

Madison Murphy who was the *Island Times* correspondent for the Beach School, sends news of her life as a sixth grader at Gulf Breeze Middle School. She just finished the volleyball season and will soon start playing on the tennis team. She is walking dogs and sending whatever she earns to the Humane Society. She planned to help her grandmother and mom cook Thanksgiving dinner. She prepared chocolate covered strawberries and cherries. She says that's all for now.

## TRIVIA

Chuck Gobbles Up Competition

Chuck Steele, Sandspur publisher, is not ashamed to admit that he is an avid reader of *Island Times*. Besides, he has been looking around for a new t-shirt which would be a suitable addition to his gentleman's wardrobe. So, he brought it all together when he emailed the first correct answer to the last trivia question. "A handsome pair of turkeys, Fred and Florence, resided in a crate near the entryway of a local restaurant for a week prior to Thanksgiving. Just before Thanksgiving Day, the individual who came closest to guessing the correct weight of the turkeys won them. Can you name the restaurant which sponsored this event?"

The answer was Flounder's. Chuck went on to say that between Freddy Esposito's eat-to-cruise column and the Mighty

Sandpipers Secret Turkey recipes, his sides hurt from laughing and he was wiping tears from his eyes. Poor Chuck. *Island Times* contributors will have to cool it.

Would you like to have a very special, spiffy t-shirt? Be the first to email the correct answer to this question. "It used to snow every winter on Pensacola Beach. There was a kids' snow corral, a toboggan slide, and a snowball fighting ring. What was the name of the SRIA Department Manager who arranged with Mother Nature to bring a snow storm all the way to Pensacola Beach?"

The rules are the same. Email your answer with "Trivia" in the subject line to islandtimes@bellsouth.net before 5 p.m. December 13. Be sure to include your name and phone number.

## Sisters Of the Beach

Christmas Luncheon  
Sunday, December 17 at Flounder's, 11:30  
Jingle Bell Caravan to Jane's follows.  
Ends at The Islander



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# League Of Women Voters Hears SRIA Story

## Escambia County Commissioner Whitehead Goes to Football Game

Commissioner Mike Whitehead was supposed to show up for the November 18 meeting of the League of Women Voters but instead he went to a football game. After committing early on to attending the meeting he called just a few days before to say he had forgotten that he had agreed to go to a football game, and he was sending Amy LoVoy, a budget analyst in his place. About seventy audience members stayed to hear LoVoy and M.J. Menge, attorney at law, discuss the pros and cons of abolishing the Santa Rosa Island Authority. The push to abolish the SRIA was Whitehead's idea. It turned out to be mostly cons as Menge eloquently proceeded through the history and organization of the SRIA.



M.J. Menge

In discussing the background, Menge said it was a history of Escambia County and Santa Rosa County which exchanged a series of transactions which resulted in the 1500 acres left to lease, use or manage.

"The state went through a number of acts including bringing the Board to six members," Menge said.

The Island Authority has one of the largest parcels of dedicated public land in its control. "Of that 1500 acres over 60 percent is utilized for public use or public service. I don't know of any county on the Gulf Coast that dedicates as much of its county owned land and has as much access to its public beaches," said Menge.

Menge went on to quote from the October 2002 study prepared by the Haas Center at the University of West Florida. The study said "Pensacola Beach tourism contributes approximately \$277 million per year to the local economy and supports over 4000 local jobs. This represents approximately one-third of the tourist impact in the two county Metropolitan Statistical Area. Pensacola Beach collects approximately 28 percent of Pensacola MSA bed tax revenues and approximately 33 percent of Escambia County's bed tax revenues.

Finally, Menge commented, "I am going to tell you that our beaches are a very precious resource for this community. They deserve to be cared for, maintained and managed in a proper manner. SRIA's been doing this job for over 58 years. And unless somebody shows me where something could do it better, then I am not going to be in favor of any kind of move to abolish it."

I say I think it is clear just how important the beaches are to the economic progress of the county and how big a part of the industry they are," Menge said. "I really challenge you to compare the development of Pensacola Beach with Perdido Key, Fort Walton Beach or Destin." He continued, "It took a long time getting here. SRIA General Managers Jack Cowley, Jim Sheffer, Monte Blews and Buck Lee all played a part."

Menge stated that he is opposed to the abolishment of the SRIA because he firmly believes that a regulatory body is needed that is focused solely on maintaining, managing operating Pensacola Beach. And if we lose that focus, we will lose what we now know as Pensacola Beach.

This is not the first time the proposal has been made to abolish the SRIA. There are those who agree with the motion, based on the following ideas: (1) We disagree with the SRIA policies and actions; (2) There is a duplication of bureaucratic processes; (3) There is a perception that abolishing the SRIA would result in monetary savings for the County; and (4) There is perceived lack of representation or accountability.

In answer to these questions, Menge said (1) I do not know of any government body who will have everyone in agreement with every issue; (2) I understand the dissatisfaction with the bureaucratic process that you have to go through, but that could be addressed with changes in the County policy where you don't have this duplication of effort. (3) Are you going to take the functions that are now carried out by SRIA staff and distribute those among the various county departments that we have? Doing that will lose the focus that I was talking about. And (4) the county has to approve the SRIA budget which is power over the purse strings and can veto any substantive change in the Land Use Plan or commercial and residential leases.

When Amy LoVoy stepped up to speak she jokingly told the audience that the Island must be about two feet higher because all the leaseholders are here right now. And, then, joking aside she said that all the money the SRIA collects stays on the Island. However, she noted some exceptions such as \$200,000 for fire rescue. The SRIA gives about \$69,900 for EMS support. Also they support a number of county initiatives that take place in the Beach.

"The County and the Beach are in a joint venture to renourish the Beach. They did a heck of a job before Ivan," LoVoy commented. "Ad valorem taxes, which the Beach people do not

pay, would be the largest source of revenue for the county. They fund such things as Sheriff's protection, detention, the jail, parks, libraries, planning and zoning and your Constitutional officers such as the Tax Collector, ironically it pays for the county's transportation plan."

She went on to say that an average Island leaseholder might pay \$1031 for a combined MSBU plus lease fee per year. She noted that same parcel would be charged \$6,469 in property taxes per year.

LoVoy pointed out that businesses on Pensacola Beach would pay based on size and traffic. The average assessment according to LoVoy is a \$2203 MSBU plus a \$24,602 lease fee and if that commercial parcel were located on the mainland it would pay at least \$65,045 in taxes.

She also noted that the Board of County Commissioners has no official position on the abolition of the SRIA, since it has never been voted on at a Commission meeting.

LoVoy also presented four financial scenarios of what would happen at the county level if the SRIA was abolished. The text of these has been reproduced on our website [www.MyslandTimes.com](http://www.MyslandTimes.com).



Amy LoVoy



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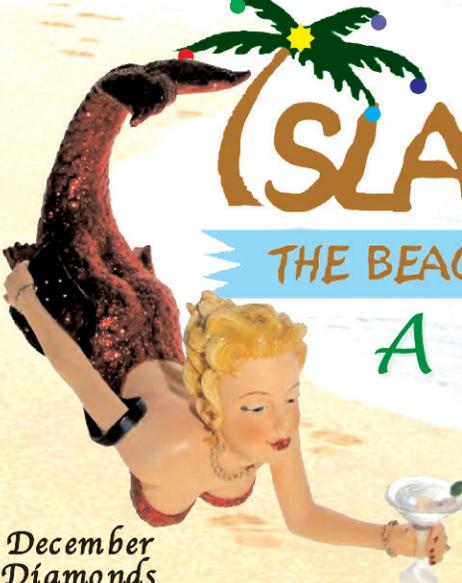
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# ISLAND STYLE

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peas, porridge  
&  
a dry martini  
~~~~~  
by kathi lewis

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and remembered to give thanks because we are lucky, lucky people. We had a Hurricane-Free Season thanks to Queen Shugah, Paulette, of the Wooly Boogers. She did such a fabulous job, we've allowed her to keep her tiara for another year! Maybe by next season, she will have that "Keep the Hurricanes Away Bawl" organized.

Now, we head into the season of parties galore! Christmas was my mother's favorite holiday. It is the day of the birth of Jesus and no matter how tough or tight the money was, it was a time of celebration. She and Daddy paid the rest of the following year, but they made sure we had a wonderful Christmas.

I won't be seeing my family in Georgia this year for Christmas and I'll miss the wonderful food and fantastic desserts that they will be serving. As I've said before, we each have our specialties and this week's recipe comes from my sister, Sharon Abercrombie. It is the best peanut brittle I have ever put into my mouth! She's made it for years and she is a pro at this recipe, so it's a brave soul that takes on this recipe (without cutting it in half). It makes 16 - six inch patties and she makes it by the tons. She sells some, gives away a lot, makes gifts of it, and always has plenty left for the family to enjoy at Christmas dinner with even more to take home. Nobody leaves without peanut (or pecan) brittle! Yes, she also makes pecan brittle, too.

Sharon is about 18 months older than I. My mother had 5 children in 7 years so nobody is very far apart in age. Can you imagine? Yes, I know some of you ladies can, but I can't imagine staying pregnant for seven years. (And, she still managed to love us all.)

Sharon lives only one house away from my mother's and she took good care of our Mom for a very long time. I want to say Thank you, Sharon, you don't know how much it meant to have you there with her. I know you miss her, as we all do. But, I see her nearly every day. If I should miss seeing a bird, Jesiah will

point it out to me and say, "There's Great Granny." He includes Great Granddaddy, if there are two birds. He also throws out food for them and will say to me, "Nanny, I'm going to save this to feed Great Granny and Great Granddaddy." So, they are both with us if we take the time to look. They're in the eyes of our grandchildren and are the birds that fly around us. I see them in the clouds of the beautiful sunsets....them and all the many that have passed before us. They are still here.

I hope this is the best Holiday Season for all and may we all experience the love and joy of Christmas throughout the coming year. To my family, I miss you all dearly, but we will be spending Christmas this year in our new beach house back on our island. Hope to see you soon.

Sharon, this one's for you....Let's cook.

### Sharon's Peanut Brittle

16 disposable pie tins  
3 Cups Peanuts  
3 Cups sugar  
1 ½ Cup Light Karo Syrup  
1 Cup Water  
3 tbsp. Butter  
1 tsp. salt  
3 tbsp. Baking soda

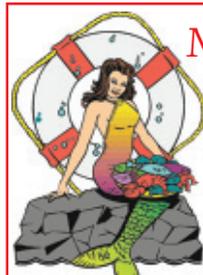
Measure butter, salt and baking soda into a bowl together. Set aside. Butter 16 pie tins. In a heavy broiler (or pressure cooker) combine sugar, karo syrup and water. Cook on high, stirring constantly until candy thermometer reaches 300 degrees. Add peanuts (or pecans), turning down heat and continuing to stir. Cook until thermometer reaches 325 degrees and peanuts are brown. Remove from heat. Using large spoon, add bowl mixture (butter, salt and baking soda) and stir vigorously until thickened and spoon immediately into pie tins. (If you don't do this quickly enough, it will become too thick to put into tins). Cool completely and remove from tins.

Enjoy, share with a neighbor and call me if you cook this - I want some. Happy Holidays and don't forget to join the Krew of Wrecks.

I'll see you in the kitchen....



The competition cooked at the Timeless Traditions Thanksgiving Table Decorating Extravaganza hosted by Pandora de Balthazar at her Ninth Avenue shop. Pandora said the delicious part of this competition was that the beautifully decorated tables earned cash votes. All proceeds were donated to Manna Food Bank for their holiday projects. After all the votes were counted, the Opera-sponsored eclectic table which included a horned Viking helmet was crowned the winner. Present at the Awards Ceremony are (standing, L to R): Pandora de Balthazar, and Edie Dance, Manna Food Bank. Seated is Sherrie Mitchell, Pensacola Opera.



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## Wine Talk



with Bob Temple  
Beach Wines and Liquors

### Grappa, The Soul of the Grape

Grappa is a drink of humble origins that has gained high status. This clear brandy with high alcohol content began as a cheap drink favored by peasants of the wine producing regions of Europe. Unlike brandy, which is distilled from wine, the peasants had no choice but to resourcefully turn to the solids left behind from the winemaking process. It is from the "soul of the grape," the pressed fruit, skins and stems, that grappa was (and still is) made. While this drink is renowned for its elegant but harsh character, the technique has been refined sufficiently to produce more stylish but still powerful grappa. The best of today's grappa is dry and austere, with a penetrating and clean finish.

HINT: It is generally agreed that grappa was first produced between the 12th and 15th centuries.

Grappa has a high alcoholic content, between 40 and 60%, so at Beach Wines and Liquors, Inc. we recommend drinking it in moderate amounts. There are many varieties of the grape derived alcohol, and we invite you to come to our store, and browse our selection of grappa. If you have questions that we can answer over the phone, don't hesitate to call 850-932-8850.

-- adv --

# Business Buzz ~ ~

## KIRK KRINGLE HIDES HOBIES

How do you hide a new Hobie kayak before Christmas? Kirk Newkirk will store your Key Sailing purchase and will make a Christmas Eve delivery to you. Ready to paddle. Ho. Ho. Ho.

## BEFORE YOU KNOW IT

The Krewe of Wrecks Mardi Gras parade will be here before you know it, February 18. If you are looking for a room for the weekend, right on the parade route, call Charlotte Spencer at Paradise Inn at 932-2319 or Christy Dixon at Springhill Suites at 932-6000.

## SOFT SPOT FOR THE ARTS

Pandora de Balthazar dominated one of her internationally famous down sleep systems to the Beaux Arts Ball live auction. The luxury items netted a cool five grand for the Arts Council of Northwest Florida. Bravo!

## FLOUNDERIFIC

Admiral Fred Flounder rivals Santa Claus for seasonal spirit. He advises that the most tasteful gift this year is a Flounder's Gift Card. Denise Keever says buy them for everyone on your list. She can hook you up.

## SURF SIDE STROLLERS

Slip off the flip flops and lace on your walking shoes - the Surf Side Strollers are getting ready to take to the streets of Pensacola Beach in January. Stroll on your own or with the group and log in your miles at the Surf Side Food Store on Via de Luna. More details to come.

## SMOKE SIGNALS

If you see smoke wafting up from the sand, it's not a message from an underground entity. The underground pipes are being smoke tested from the west end to the east end of the Island through December 8.

## BANKERS WANT TOYS

Judy Lenderman and Duffy Folmar are collecting toys for needy children. Please bring your new, unwrapped toy to the Bank of the South lobby before December 10.

# They're Coming Back Home

It's been two years and three months since the condo owners at the Palm Beach Club have set foot in their residences, but they are coming back now, according to Rick Gordon, USB Financial analyst, and condo owner. Rick made the announcement at the November 28 meeting of the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce.

And, following that remark, Buck Lee, Santa Rosa Island Authority general manager, presented an overview of the progress of the Beach.

"We are greatly concerned about the lack of progress on the repair of the Navarre Beach Road and the road to Fort Pickens National Park," he said. "I have writ-

ten a letter to Senator Martinez requesting that these two roadways be repaired and reopened."

On a better note Buck commented, "The Beach is doing great. The revenues are strong and we have a lot to look forward to in 2007."

Announcements were made about the Double Bridge Run set for February 3. Run officials are expecting 5000 civilians and 1600 military runners to enter.

Also, a fireworks display has been scheduled for Veteran's Day in 2007.

The next Chamber meeting will be Tuesday, January 30 at 8:30 a.m. at the Comfort Inn. Business After Hours will be at 5:30 p.m. the same date, place to be announced.

# The Tale of the Tape And Other Sticky Shipping Situations

*Tips for Holiday Packing & Shipping via UPS  
By Linda and Wally Schiessl*

1) Shipping should only be done in a corrugated box. Paper wrapped boxes are not allowed.

2) Liquor boxes are not allowed even if there is no liquor in them. The Post Office will not accept them either.

3) Shipping of alcohol and tobacco products is prohibited.

4) Bubble wrap all breakable items. Cushion with at least 2 inches of peanuts around each item. When box is shaken, no sound should be heard.

5) Tape with shipping tape

along all seams of the box. Masking tape, electrical tape and duct tape should not be used.

6) Do not place the label on a box seam (that's where the two flaps meet).

7) If box is being reused, remove all previous labels to avoid confusion.

8) Ship early.

9) Bring items to be shipped to The UPS Store and we will gladly pack and ship them for you.

# Beach Woman's Club Promotes Giving Spirit

There is just one more day to make your reservation for the Pensacola Beach Woman's Club festive Holiday Luncheon. Reservations are required and are being accepted by Kathy Christoff until December 7. Call Kathy at 932-9777.

The annual luncheon is set for Thursday, December 14 at 11 a.m. at the Bay Beach Inn. All ladies should bring a gift in a gift bag to be donated to a child under

Protective Services. During the meeting the Woman's Club will be presenting donations to Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Mission and to Gale Force, a nonprofit organization benefiting the blind.

The Woman's Club will also present a check to Gulf Breeze Hospital Auxiliary during the Tree of Lights ceremony.

For more information contact Publicity Chairman Sandi Johnson, 916-2533.

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# Beach School Gets Blue Ribbon Nomination

The Pensacola Beach Elementary School has received a Blue Ribbon School nomination. Out of all the schools in Florida, both public and private, only thirteen schools were nominated for this prestigious award. Announcement of the nomination was made at the Beach School Board meeting on November 27. The winners will be announced in the spring and if the Beach School should win, Principal Jeff Castleberry and a teacher would go to Washington to receive the Blue Ribbon flag to fly over the school.

Changes in faculty included an upgrade for Monika Springer from teacher's aide to technology coordinator with an accompanying raise in pay. Also, Jackie Henderson will be teaching music as well as art, since the music teacher resigned.

The Beach School Christmas production will be Thursday, December 14 at 6 p.m. at the Beach Church. Monette Hodges is co-

ordinating and choreographing the event which is open to the public.

The weather station is up and running again, after a recorded 95 mile per hour wind took it down during Ivan. The Beach School weather station supplies Channel 3 with weather information and can be viewed at [www.weathernet.com](http://www.weathernet.com).

## Parade Funding Tops AOK Agenda

Funding the Krewe of Wrecks Mardi Gras parade was again the top agenda item for the meeting of the Association of Krewes on November 16 at The Islander Lounge. The meeting was conducted by Deb Friedman, president.

Kay Turner, Krewe of Wrecks board member, presented an update of the work in progress on the parade.

"What you all are curious about is the parade entry fee," Kay said. "Until we have our

The Board of Directors is seeking volunteers who would like to serve on the Board for the upcoming school year. Interested community members should contact Jeff Castleberry, principal at 934-4020.

Marilyn Sundstrum will step down after five years as a Board member. She said, "I have no children at this school, but am a

retired school teacher and I have enjoyed my tenure on this board."

Chris Bayer, Board treasurer, gave a report from the recent Finance Committee meeting. The Board accepted the Committee's recommendation to put into place a fundraising software which allows donors to pay online.

budget completed I cannot give you an exact figure."

Kay predicted that this year's parade entry fee per unit would be much lower than last year's \$600.

"The entry fee should come down at least by half," Kay said. "Maybe even more."

Kay commented that the Board had been dealing with the untimely death of the Head Wreck, Andrea Brunt and the death of board member Jeff Goudey's father. However, the parade budget should be available by the next

AOK meeting.

The parade committee has already established some guidelines, according to Kay, including the rule that those who entered last year's parade will be given the first opportunity to join the Wrecks parade this year. Parade date is Sunday, February 18.

Kevin Rudksi, owner of The Islander Lounge, announced that he would commit to contributing the same amount to the 2007 parade as he gave last year.

"All of us in this area do a

In his finance report Chris said, "I have provided you with a report, but the short story is that there is money in the bank and everything else is going along as expected."

The Board which ordinarily meets the fourth Monday of the month will meet next on Monday, December 18 at 6 p.m. at the Beach School.

great deal of business based around the Mardi Gras season and the work of the volunteer krewes," Kevin said. "I will support your effort in every way that I can and I will encourage other businesses to do the same."

For information on the Wrecks parade, call Kay Turner at the Elk's Lodge, 932-4444.

All krewes are welcome to send representatives to the AOK meetings. The next meeting will be at 6 p.m. at The Islander Lounge, January 4.

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# A Cross in the Sand

By Dr. Chuck Randle  
Pastor, Beach Church

Lights, music, shopping, even Advent wreathes, all point us toward the Christmas celebration. One of the activities that gets a lot of attention is giving to the less fortunate. There are so many opportunities available that most of us can find one at least that catches our attention. Our churches have special emphasis on the giving of food and providing gifts for families; other community groups gather coats, gifts for children, supplies for adults and children in safe houses, plus the myriad of letters that come in the mail seeking funding for their causes. It is said that businesses often make their profit for the year during this season, and that encourages them to remain open on January of the New Year. The recipients of all the giving are encouraged and given hope through the generosity of those who care. We may think that our little bit won't make a difference in the big picture, but my little bit, and the little bits of others add up to a significant amount. A secondary result of our giving is the joy we feel in knowing that we are helping to make a difference in the life of others. Is it possible that the more we give, the more joy we feel? Perhaps that would make a good experiment to try during this season - an experiment that each of us can verify in our own experience. Go ahead - get all the joy out of the season that you can.

# Beach School Writers Pen Santa Claus' Elf Stories

*Secret Agent Elf*  
By Rebecca Summers

Fifth Grade Pensacola Beach Elementary School

Hi, my name is Holly. I am Santa's assistant. I do Santa's hot coco, his food and bring his clothes to him. That is not all I do. I do help the elves with building toys, baking cookies, help with the reindeer and wrap presents.

I even help Santa deliver the presents. I help with the magic. Plus I get to go down the chimney. I can treat myself when I get a chance, but that does not happen very often. I help everyone in the North Pole that needs help like if one of the FBI elves is injured, I will fill in as that person. I barely get any sleep. I would 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Now I will tell you a story when I filled in for an FBI agent elf. One cold day I got a call in the middle of the day and the elf said, "I need you to fill in for Sally, an FBI agent."

So, I got up and went to the station. I put my suit on and went to the boss. He gave me a mission.

The mission was to teach a bad boy some manners. The boy's name was Andy and he was 14-years-old. He picks on people and he takes lunch money from the younger children. I found his house and scared him so bad that when he got to school he was probably the nicest person in that school. Then my mission was complete.

After a few days I felt better about my job. Then, Santa called me and asked if I could check the Naughty-And-Nice Book. When I checked it, Andy was on the Nice side of the book and I was surprised. I saw every student in Pensacola Beach Elementary School on the Nice side of the

Naughty-And-Nice Book!  
Merry Christmas.

## iPod Elf

By Molly O'Donovan

Fifth Grade Pensacola Beach Elementary School

Hello, my name is Holly. I am the toymaker for Santa Claus. I am going to tell you about the best Christmas ever at the North Pole. I hope you like it.

One frosty afternoon at the North Pole, I was looking at the Christmas list to see what kids wanted for Christmas. On the list, I saw a girl named Kirsty. She was an orphan in New York City. She wanted an iPod for Christmas. A pink one. I wanted to make it special.

So, I looked at the "people globe" where I could look at her in New York. Everybody was making fun of her because she was the only one to believe in Santa Claus. So, I got a letter from Santa Claus and he signed his name so everyone could believe her that Santa was real.

It was Christmas night. Santa Claus brought the iPod to the orphan place and put Kirsty's name on it. He got back in the sled and came back to the North Pole in frost, snow and wind.

Then, when Kirsty was opening presents, she saw the pink iPod. Kirsty was so jolly. She turned it on and there was the letter from Santa and where he signed. She showed it to all the kids. Then all the kids believed her that Santa was real and they became her new friends. Another great present was that she was adopted and got a new family.

It was the best Christmas ever. I will never forget that outstanding Christmas.

*Febe The Wonder Elf*  
By Ally

Fifth Grade Pensacola Beach Elementary School

Hello, my name is Febe, the Wonder Elf and my job is taking care of the reindeer. One day the reindeer got out of control. I'll tell you the whole story from the beginning.

One day I opened the stable door and saw the reindeer on the ground with their ribs showing. So, I rushed over to the elf in charge of the kitchen and while rushing I accidentally left the latch of the stable door open. But, all the elves that took care of the reindeer admit it is easy to forget to latch the lock on the stable door.

So, when I got to Cookie Crums (the elf in charge of the kitchen), I asked him if he had filled all nine reindeer bowls with food and water. He said, "Oh, was I supposed to do that?"

I replied, "Well, yeah. Don't you remember? Santa got those new food slots. You just empty the food into the slot and it goes straight to their bowls."

Crums said, "I thought those were trash cans. Oops."

Back at the stable, Cupid figured out that the latch was open. He told all the reindeer and they quietly scurried out of the stable to try to find something to eat.

"Hey," said Prancer to Cupid

quietly. "Let's go to the bakery."

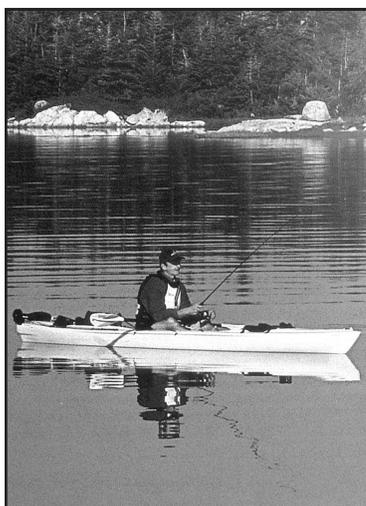
"I know how to get there," Rudolph replied.

The reindeer scampered over to the kitchen, but there was one problem. The door was open and there stood Cookie Crums looking across the room. They carefully snuck across and around the corner, straight to the bakery. They opened the bakery door and their eyes grew bigger and their mouths dropped. Then Donner blurted out, "It's amazing. This could fulfill all your sugary needs. There's pastries, doughnuts, cakes, cookies and so much more."

Back at the kitchen I stopped arguing with Cookie Crums and walked out of the kitchen. I stopped in the middle of the doorway and looked down in the snow. I saw reindeer hoof prints all the way to the bakery. I walked to the bakery and found the reindeer moaning and groaning on the floor with full tummys.

In a couple of minutes the elf ambulance came and they loaded all nine, stuffed reindeer on cots. The ambulance drove them to their stable and put them in their hay beds.

And, I gave Cookie Crums a feeding schedule. From that day on everything was great at the North Pole and Santa got an alarm for the bakery, too.



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