

ISLAND TIMES

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Pensacola Beach, Florida

July 7, 2009

Fans Roar, Planes Soar *Pensacola Beach Has The Blues*



THEY'RE HERE - All eyes are on the skies above Pensacola Beach when the United States Navy's Flight Demonstration Team performs its aerial maneuvers during Red, White and Blues week, July 8-11. Thousands of fans will flock to the Island to experience the thrills of the Blue Angels Air Show. For complete details and schedule, see page 2.

Spectacle In The Sky Returns To Pensacola Beach

The thrill never goes away. Goose bumps pop out in spite of the hundred degree temperatures on the Beach. The minute the first of the Blues swoops noisily into the sky above the Beach thousands of spectators jammed together on the ground erupt in applause and cheers that can be heard all up and down the streets. Many of the viewers are back again after seeing countless air shows, but the tempo of the show gets better and better for longtime spectators as well as newcomers. The Blues are the talk of the town for days in advance of their stunning performance and lingers on for days and days following.

Red, White and Blues Week, open to the public at no charge, kicks off slowly but not quietly on Wednesday, July 8. Jets One and Four fly circle and arrival maneuvers at 8 a.m. followed by Jets Five and Six performing at 9 a.m. and the beloved C-130 Fat Albert, takes off at 9:50 a.m. The Blues will also hold a practice session at 2 p.m. on Thursday, July 9.

Fortunately, spectators can see the entire Blue Angels Air Show on Friday, July 10. The show which begins at noon is a full dress rehearsal complete with back up performances by various pilots and groups.

The main show with the pilots flying F/A-18 Hornets and a number of flight demos will begin at noon on Saturday, July 11. Aircraft and teams participating are as follows:

- 12:15 p.m.** Water in front of show area is cleared for safety precautions
12:30 p.m. Julian MacQueen's Grumman Widgeon G44
12:35 p.m. US Coast Guard Search and Rescue (SAR) demonstration in an HH-65 Dolphin

- 12:45 p.m.** Skip Stewart's Modified Pitts Special
12:55 p.m. Gary Ward's MX2 sport aircraft
1:05 p.m. Aeroshell Acrobatics Team, WWII North American AT-6 Texans Swimmers are allowed back into the water
1:20 p.m. Water is cleared again for the main event
1:40 p.m. Fat Albert, C-130 Hercules
1:50 p.m. Blue Angels F/A-18 Hornets

All these events are open to the public free of charge and are outdoors. Weather conditions may change the events without prior notice.

★ Spectators are cautioned that this week is one of the hottest of the year. Precautions should be taken in order to protect yourself from a trip to the emergency room.

★ Come early and stay late. Traffic coming onto the beach and leaving the beach will be clogged. Don't let it get you down. Play some miniature golf, eat dinner, swim, or take a relaxing ride in one of the air conditioned trolleys.

★ Special attraction this year is a free screening by Baptist Hospital for melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers, both are related to sun exposure. The screening will be at the Public Safety Building on Casino Beach from 8 a.m. to noon on July 10 and 11.

★ Bring tents and other shade devices, plenty of water and sunscreen. The Krewe of Bananimals will be selling water as a benefit for the Santa Rosa Kid's House. They will be located under the big tent at Casino Beach.

★ The Gazebos along Quietwater Beach and Ft. Pickens Gate have barbecue grills. Have a

picnic.

★ Best view is in the Core Area. However, bits and pieces of the show can be seen from vantage points all over the Beach.

★ Boat traffic is just about as dense as vehicular traffic.

★ Little Sabine Bay fills up early, but it's a great viewing spot, especially from Bird Island.

★ Twice during the day, everyone is asked to stay out of the Gulf. Cooperate with lifeguards and deputies.

★ Be sure to observe the rule of the surf warning flags which tells you when you can safely swim in the Gulf.

Remember, your safety is important to the hosts of this show. Deputies, safety personnel, and the lifeguards are all ready and willing to help you if you have an emergency.

In addition to the events listed

Cha-Ching Cha-Ching, Beach Business Booms

Midway through the high season, business leaders on Pensacola Beach are declaring that the economic problems which dog so much of the nation are not evident here.

Speaking at the June 30 meeting of the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce, Karen Cook, owner of Cook Realty, said, "We had a fabulous month. The best month we've had in a year."

Other Realtors agreed. Paula Sunshine of Resort Realty said, "People are getting their checkbooks out to put down payments on condos. I think we have reached the bottom of this and are coming up now."

Everything is ready for one of the biggest events of the year, Red, White and Blues Week, featuring the Blue Angels Air Show. The Chamber will host the VIP tent with Marta Ray, Shelley Johnson, Nora Jones and Paula Sunshine serving.

Looking ahead Bamboo Willie's has the Jamaican Fest and Bathtub Races planned for September 4-6. The Taste of the Beach, which was so successful last year, will be on September 19-20. Renee Mack, Paradise Bar and Grill; and Jesse Brown, Native Café, will co-chair this event.

"We want to enlarge this event as it matures in its second year," said

you can enjoy the Kyle Parker Band at the Gulfside Pavilion at the Bands on the Beach Concert from 7 to 9 p.m., July 7. The Sounds of Summer will be featured in the Quietwater Amphitheatre with Anna Garrott playing from 6 to 8 p.m. on July 11 and 12.

"We are anticipating huge crowds for this event this year," Buck Lee, Santa Rosa Island Authority executive director said. "All spring and early summer we have been experiencing 20,000 cars com-



The arrival of Fat Albert, the C-130 Hercules, signals the beginning of the Blue Angels Air Show.

ing through the toll facility on weekend days. These are the same number as the cars who came though during last year's Blue Angels Air Show."

For more information, go to visitpensacolabeach.com.

Nan Harper, events chairman. "We will coordinate with the Corvette Club and the Harley Owners Group this year."

Bob West, Santa Rosa Island Authority Safety Director, asked businesses to help promote safety on the Beach by posting information about rip currents and surf warning flags in their establishments.

"It starts with public education," he said. "We can save lives. The lifeguards can do what they need to do, but it is a team effort with business involvement, too."

West said the helicopters will be parked in the Sheriff's substation parking lot on Blue Angels weekend.



The Pensacola Beach Lifeguards do their part to make Pensacola Beach a safe place. They also conduct Junior Lifeguard training camp during the summer. Completing a swim and run exercise at Quietwater, June 27 are (front row, L to R): Guard Hilary Rivkin, and trainees Adam Foley, 14; Natalie West, 15, and Shane Howell, 14. Back row (L to R) are: Guards Council Vaughn and Zack Butler.

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Barefoot on the Beach

By Jane Waters Cooper



This is the week we're all thinking of things that fly. Mainly, about men and the flying machines who will dominate the skies over Pensacola Beach this weekend. Well, after going to the air shows over all the years, I have about run out of superlatives to describe the show. Just go to it. It just keeps getting better and better, and never stops thrilling the cheering crowds on the sand below.

I do have a little story about some other flying things. Birds. We have reinstated our bird feeder and we are now the hosts for numerous red headed finches and doves who come to our house for breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks and happy hour. How they love those bitsy seeds. Sometimes, a blackbird shows up. He is obviously not welcomed by the other birds and is soon kicked out of the buffet line.

Did you know that doves

are not afraid of humans? They are not skittish like the finches. They will sit on the balcony railing, munching away when we are sitting out there, just a foot or so away from them. They always seem to have an insatiable appetite. I don't know if they are watching us while they eat or not. Doesn't matter.

One of our doves is bigger than all the others. We call him Greedy Gus. He is so big he can't fit in the feeder like the other birds, so he has to perch on the side to reach the food. Which he does. With no fear.

Sometimes, Frank doesn't always keep the feeder constantly filled. The finches do a fly over, check it out, find it empty and take off for some other restaurant.

Not Greedy Gus. He paces the railing as if that bit of impatience will draw attention to his plight and the feeder will magically be filled. It doesn't usually

happen so magically, so he jumps up on the edge and puts his head down in the dish, pretending to eat. Then, he paces the railing again. The feeder is still empty.

Does he fly away? No. He hops over to the back of one of our chairs on the balcony and sits there for a few minutes staring at the glass door. That doesn't work, so he performs some short flying maneuvers. Honestly, he does. He flies to the seat of the chair where he does little flip flops. Honestly, he does. All that and still no replacement food.

He then walks over to the area which usually gets the seeds the birds spill. They have all been eaten. As a last resort, Greedy Gus comes and stands in front of the glass door, and stares inside. Stares and stares. Honestly, he does.

Greedy Gus has put on this dramatic performance more than

once. Frank said he didn't believe me when I first told him about it. Then, he actually witnessed it with his own eyes.

"I hope this makes you feel terrible that you have not filled the feeder," I told him.

He went promptly to his job and filled the feeder. The first to come back were the finches. It's as if they were all sitting around in the palms or in the sea oats just waiting for that guy to bring the food.

And, in no time at all, here come the doves, including Gus. He muscled his way to the feeder

and scattered the finches and a couple of doves while he chewed voraciously. When he was satisfied, he just flew away. No drama. No thank you. No staring. Nothing.

The finches returned, and peace was restored on the front balcony. At least for now. We know that as long as Gus has plenty of food, he won't be looking daggers at us through our front door. We really are glad a stand-off with him has ended. We really would not like to be attacked by a flock of hungry doves. Honestly, we wouldn't.



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Most Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays through Aug. 30,
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Please, no glass containers or pets.

For updates, call SRIA at (850) 932-2257,

visit www.VisitPensacolaBeach.com or tune to Cat Country 98.7

PEOPLE

Trivia? FIREHOUSE FIVE FONDLY REMEMBERED?

CONDOLENCES

Sympathies go to the friends and family of Konrad Rupkus who passed away Tuesday, June 30 at his home in Gulf Breeze. Konrad, who just retired from working at Winn-Dixie, was well known around the beach for his fishing and culinary skills. He was 66-years-old.

GAMMIE'S BEACH

Little Logan Moore is going to experience the thrill of the Blue Angels for the first time with his "Gammie" Deb Friedman. His mom Dee, a Pensacola Beach native, and his dad Mike will be on the Beach all week.

HOOKED ON FISHING

Beach kid Matthew McCurdy looked approvingly as his mom Fran wrestled an oversized fishing net out of the car. The youngster is crazy about fishing and could not wait to get his net in the water. Looks like the Beach has another junior angler.

SLIGHT OF HAND

Saltwater Rick sent a welcome home announcement to the People section when Allison Garrett arrived back on the Beach from Arizona. He reported it to *Island Times*, but a missed keystroke spelled the friendly Crab's We Got 'Em manager's last name incorrectly. Welcome home, for a second time Allison.

ALONE AT LAST

Jim and Sherry Hobbs had an empty nest for a few days last week. Their three children Drew, Shelby and Jamie were all in Alabama. Drew and Jamie stayed at their grandmother's house while Shelby

attended Dance Camp in Tuscaloosa. Sherry and Jim treated themselves to a stay-cation on Pensacola Beach.

FLEET FEET

Beach residents Janet and Allen Penniman's granddaughter, Sarah Andrews, has qualified to be a member of Team USA in the Pan American Jr. Athletic Championships to be held in Port of Spain, Trinidad starting July 31. She recently completed her junior year of high school and is the Texas State Champion in the one and two mile running distances. She has competed in triathlons on Pensacola Beach.

COME ABOARD

There's always room for a few more boating enthusiasts who enjoy having a good time at the Pensacola Beach Yacht Club. This month's new members include Robert and Lorie Brandon, Ira Rowe and Darby Goodwin, all of Pensacola Beach and Fred Miller and Alexander Cook of Pensacola.

SUNDAY MORNING

Members of the Pensacola Beach Community Church are happy to welcome longtime member Nellie Bryan who attends services every Sunday. It was Nellie's late husband, Rupert, who was the named plaintiff in the Florida Supreme Court case which declared Ad Valorem tax assessments on Pensacola Beach illegal in the mid-1980s.

BIRTHDAY LASS

Irish eyes smiled on Christy Sullivan's birthday July 1, since she spent the entire day working at Paddy O'Leary's.

The Trivia Master thought all the signs were right to bring trivia players to their knees. A really, really hard question and an early deadline. Perfect for knocking all the players to the ground. So what happens? Along comes Jayne Drees Redmon and says the answer to the question of the name of the entertainers from the Sandspur Republic's Fourth of July celebration was the Firehouse Five. That was absolutely correct, and Jayne gets the t-shirt.

Jayne wrote: "Man, I hope I finally win. That was the Firehouse Five containing my brother Matt, Shawn Harris, Ric Ruminski, Paul McCleary, and Chris Schmidt, I think? They all wore white shirts and sang Do-Wop songs. It was hilarious."

The Trivia Master recalls John-John Savelli was a member, so probably Chris was not. However, we did not ask for the names of the guys.

Notably they were all members of the Pensacola Beach Volunteer Fire Department and were all beloved by Beach residents.

Sir Bill Greene and his trivia sidekick Jeff Goudey never did find the right answer but they were in deep thought about who the musical group might be. They finally guessed Wildwood.

And, Kathryn Curle, who is now becoming a Trivia Pro, had the right answer, but was too late to win.

We do not know where the Queen of Wrong Answers went.

Maybe the early deadline got her.

All right. Blue Angels fans, front and center. What was the name of the Florida town which was the home base of the Blue Angels when they performed their first air show in 1946? The first to email the correct answer will receive a coveted *Island Times* t-shirt.

Rules are the same. Send your answer to islandtimes@bellsouth.net with "trivia" in the subject line and include your name, phone number. Deadline to answer is July 21, 2009. Good luck!

EVERYONE IS INVITED

The Reverend John Cheshire
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Sunday, July 19 at 11:15 a.m.
Beach Church
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|-------------|---------------------------------------|
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| Wed JUL 8 | Latin Night |
| Thu JUL 9 | Bud Smith |
| Fri JUL 10 | Wildwood |
| Sat JUL 11 | Wildwood |
| Sun JUL 12 | Tomato at 11; Motor City Josh at 6 |
| Tues JUL 14 | Nouveau Honkies |
| Wed JUL 15 | Dash Rip Rock |
| Thu JUL 16 | Dash Rip Rock |

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Meet Real Hero On Pensacola Beach

He's a real hero. United States Army Sergeant First Class John Brandon Adams was awarded a Bronze Star with Valor for his exceptionally valorous achievement during ground combat operations in Iraq. You can meet him at the Real Hero's Party at the Sandshaker, Saturday, July 25 from 4 to 7 p.m.

This event is open to all ages, children are welcome.

"The Real Hero Party will take place under the white tent at the Shaker, so kids can attend and meet SFC Brandon Adams, a real hero," said Sonny Campbell, Shaker co-owner. "We are honored to be able to salute this soldier."



SFC Brandon Adams will be at the Sandshaker, July 25 to give away a Real Hero action figure in his likeness. Adams' mother Beth Adams, resides in Gulf Breeze.

tank in combat in Iraq. He has earned

The Real Hero program is a United States Army initiative which includes a video game and action figures of the nine active duty heroes. Adams will have action figures to give away and he will be available for autographs and photos.

Brandon Adams, who enlisted in the Army in 1993 after graduating from Milton High School, commanded an M-1 Abrams

many honors and awards for his service. He now is stationed in Indiana as an Army recruiter.

"In the Army, there are two people you will always remember: one is your Recruiter and the other is your Drill Sergeant," Adams said. "This is by far the toughest but most satisfying time of my career in the Army. I'm challenged every day as a Recruiter to provide the strength and character that our Army needs. The Army has given me so much. This is my time to give back."

Adams is proud to be in the U.S. Army. "It has given me everything: excitement, a chance to see the world and a good life for my family," he said.

Adams will be at the Sandshaker for the entire three-hour party. The supply of action figures is limited, so come early. There is no charge to enter.

For more information about the Real Hero's program or America's Army, visit www.americasarmy.com.

Real Hero Party

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Bronze Star Recipient

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After Sundown

CRABS - WE GOT 'EM

Only restaurant on Pensacola Beach offering breath taking views of the Gulf while dining directly on the beach. Come as you are straight off the sandy beach and enjoy our indoor/outdoor bar and gulf side deck. Crabs has the largest selection of Crab on the beach, was voted Best Crab by News Journal readers. She Crab Soup, Stuffed Blue Crabs, Alaskan Snow, King or Dungeness - you'll find them all! We have many other seafood favorites on our menu as well as a great assortment of chicken, steaks and pasta dishes. Don't forget to try one of our signature drinks like 'The Crab Trap' which come with a souvenir glass to keep!

Open 7 days a week. Sunday Brunch with live Steel Band. Look for the Red Roof on Pensacola Beach. 850-932-0700 www.crabswegotem.com

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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. Sandwiches. Salads. Fresh Catch of the Day. Renee's Famous Shrimp Salad. Happy Hour 11-7. Live Bands. Poker on Monday and Wednesday.

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

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Open 7 days a week. Sunday Brunch. At the Traffic Light on beautiful Pensacola Beach, 850-932-2003 www.flounderschowderhouse.com

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

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

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.

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Open every day at 11 am, 850-433-6789 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. "Grilling & Chillin'" with Lost Kees, Sat-Sun 1:30 to 6:30 p.m.

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

NATIVE CAFE

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

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



peas, porridge & a dry martini

by Kathi Lewis



I was going to the bank a couple of days ago when I came upon two of those Funny Cars loaded with a bunch of young girls who were grinning and waving at everyone who passed and, of course, everyone was passing. Still, their joyousness was contagious and I had to laugh and wave back as I blasted the Caddy horn.

No matter how hot it gets in Paradise, when you hit the top of the toll bridge that view is worth it all! Then you pass the beautiful dolphins swimming around the water tanks. When my grandson Jesiah was just a baby, he knew he was on the Beach as soon as he saw the water tanks. For years we waved and said hello to the dolphins every time we passed by.

I get a sentimental feeling when I see our Beach Elks Lodge all dressed up in its patriot flag bunting. And the flags waving so elegantly in the summer breeze as you cruise through the heart of the Sandspur Republic tug at my heartstrings. The afternoon thunderstorms crash and boom through the sky with God's very own "Kaboom" leaving that special scent of wet earth and Gulf of Mexico. The sunsets are spectacular, there's a refreshing breeze and natural fireworks are lighting up the sky in every direction. It's a panoramic view from the round brown house that I like to call "Never Ever Land" (because it's mine and I will never ever give up my land). I'm a lucky, lucky gal.

Actually I've been lucky enough to bring home most of the money I've taken to the Biloxi casinos in the last couple of trips, so it's time to stop. I think I finally managed to cool my gambling fever, at

least for a while. Deb Friedman, Elaine Mitchell and I went for an overnight trip and had so much fun my ribs are still sore from laughing.

I ran across something on the computer about foods that cause wrinkles. Why can't they find the foods that cure wrinkles? I finally had a homegrown (oh yeah, from downstairs) tomato sandwich. I also had some fresh squash (from Marilyn LeNormand) and fresh snap beans (from Courtney and Jim Winstead).

Okay, so I'm getting the chocolate fountain out for the Blue Angels festivities, with lots of fresh fruit for dipping and dripping. And I'm sharing another one of my summer favorites. This dish can't be ruined even if a Blue Angel lands in it. You can substitute your favorite pie filling, pudding or fresh fruit for the blueberries. I hope you'll share it with the Angels in your life! Let's cook....

Blue "Angel" Berry Dessert
1 ¼ Cup AP Flour
1 Stick butter, soft (NOT melted)
1 Cup chopped pecans
1 Large carton whipped cream
1 8oz. pkg cream cheese, softened
2 Cans blueberry pie filling

Mix flour, butter and pecans and press into bottom of a 13 X 9 baking pan. Bake @ 350 for 10-12 min. until set & lightly browned. Mix cream cheese with ½ carton of whipped cream and spread on baked crust. Spread blueberry pie filling over cream cheese mixture and top with rest of the whipped cream. Refrigerate until served.

Happy Red, White and Blues Week! Stay cool, be safe and don't forget to share! See ya in the kitchen....

Stargazers Train Eyes On Night Beach Skies

The daytime skies above Pensacola Beach are filled with the Blue Angel F/A-18 Hornets and the night skies are brightly illuminated by the full moon of July 7, twinkling stars, and Mars as it approaches the Earth in August.

Stargazers will have a real treat on July 17 as the Escambia Amateur Astronomers' Association sets up telescopes at Battery Worth in Fort Pickens beginning at 8:30 p.m.

"Weather permitting, we will have telescopes trained on the night sky, so everyone can delight in the stars, planets and constellations," said Dewey Barker, Escambia Amateur Astronomers' Association vice president. "The Association has another stargaze scheduled for August 14 at Fort Pickens."

For more than 25 years, Escambia Amateur Astronomers' Association, has, in conjunction with the Interpretation staff at Ft. Pickens, conducted annual stargazes during the summer months. These stargazes are preceded by a

program held at the Battery Worth Amphitheater. The program, beginning at 8:30, consists of a slide presentation, constellation and bright star identification, planet identification, and satellite watches. Meteor showers are a bonus in August. Free star maps are distributed to those in attendance.

Stargazers should bring bug spray, long pants or a towel to sit on, and closed shoes. Binoculars or small telescopes are optional--for meteor and satellite watching, tilt-back, folding chaise lounges are nice as is a small cooler with refreshments. Optical instruments other than the naked eye are of little use during the Perseid Meteor Shower, unless you want to do some traditional astronomical observing.

Following the program, which lasts about 30 - 40 minutes, EAAA club members will have telescopes of varying types and sizes set up on the beach side of the Battery Worth parking lot near the rest rooms.

Telescopes will be set on planets, double stars, nebulae, open or

globular clusters, or other interesting celestial objects.

There is no charge for the program but there is an \$8 entrance fee to enter Fort Pickens.

Wine Talk

By David Griffin,
Beach Wines
& Liquors



DRINKING BETTER BEER

Baby boomers have been at the forefront of some beer-drinking trends, the first of which was the light beer movement. Now, as Boomers age, their beer-purchasing behavior has continued to evolve in an unexpected way. Even though they may have more disposable income than they did when they were younger, they are not necessarily drinking more beer. Instead they are spending more money on less beer. It is the classic matter of quality over quantity. Boomers are "trading up" to micro and regional specialty beers, or craft brews. All the growth in beer over the past decade has gone into the production of better beers. This is a trend that is likely to continue.

HINT: Over the last quarter of the twentieth century, light beer became the dominant segment in the domestic beer category.

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The Santa Rosa Beach Mouse, which lives on Pensacola Beach, was studied by the University of Florida's Dr. Elliot Wilkinson, who will report findings back to the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation. This little rodent has had his ear tagged and will be released back into the dunes.

PHOTO BY SARA OLIVER

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Beach School Board Approves First Grade Teacher, Anticipates Full House

The Pensacola Beach Elementary School roster of teachers and staff was approved at the June 29 Board meeting. The only change to the teaching staff was the hiring of Kelli Gunter to replace first grade teacher Sandee Bredezen whose contract was not renewed at the Beach School. Gunter grew up on Pensacola Beach and is a graduate of the Beach School. Gunter, who won out over more than 150 applicants, taught first grade at Gulf Breeze Elementary School last year.

Other instructional and staff members are: Kindergarten Jennifer Neal, Second grade Debbie Campanella, Third grade Joy McLaurine, Fourth grade Susan McLeod and Fifth Grade Margie Pitts. Ginny Baynes will return as the Physical Education teacher; Pam Speer, Media Center; Liz Niven, Art;

Mary Holway, Music; Sandy Patterson, Spanish/Teacher Assistant; Tara Turk, Teacher Assistant; Jennifer Magee, Office Manager;

Monika Springer, Technology Coordinator; Kathy Christoff, Exceptional Student Education; Kyle Lakas, Speech Therapist; and Bruce Mays, Bus Driver.

Jeff Castleberry, principal, commented, "We are an A school again. We set our goals high. We talk about FCAT every year, but we try to stay away from teaching the FCAT. Our teachers do not teach the FCAT, but we want to make an A. When the parents read the paper, they want to see an A."

The new Enrollment Policy will be implemented this fall which caps student numbers.

"In trying to keep the enrollment down to a manageable size, there may be some sad faces, I am afraid," Castleberry said. "There may be some students who have been coming to school here who do not live on the Beach who will not be allowed to attend. If the classes are filled with Beach students, then off Beach students will be turned away. If there are too many Beach resident students, then the cap will

be exceeded."

The school does not plan to increase the size of the physical plant in order to accommodate increased enrollment.

Todd McCurdy, Board president, gave the financial report which is not as flush as in the past, but is still in good shape.

McCurdy pointed out that in addition to fewer donations the Charter School is faced with a proposed seven percent decrease in state funding, and other variables like insurance, salaries and rent which will increase.

The Board approved a budget to make repairs to the air conditioning, handrails, steps, walkways and ramps.

Glen Goodroe, whose children previously attended the Beach School, asked the Board to put more structure in place.

"The Board should be strong and the parents should be involved," he said.

Board members spoke to the matter with Reed Dunne saying he is always begging for more input and volunteers.

"I suggest a committee within the Board be established to be sure we are addressing the policies in

place," Board member Shelby Smith said. "Enhancing documentation, communicating and pulling these documents together to make sure they are current and are serv-

ing the needs of the school."

The next meeting of the School Board will be at 8 a.m. on July 27 at the Beach School. The meeting is open to the public.



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BYTES AND BITS

By Joe Stukey, Your Computer Pal

Q: "How can I protect my computer data?"

A: Of course, the most effective method is to make a backup copy of your data on a media that is separate from your computer. Do that as often as necessary to prevent the loss of your newest files. Here are some other tips.

Invest in a UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply). That will prevent your computer from crashing during a power failure. If you hear unusual noises coming from your computer, turn it off and investigate it or call for technical support. If a computer is moved from a location where it was exposed to extreme heat or cold, allow it to return to room temperature before turning it on.

If you decide to upgrade your computer's operating system software, get a backup of your data before you start the upgrade. Make sure you have good virus protection

installed on your computer and scan your entire computer frequently. When your hard disk is in use, don't move the computer. If using an external hard disk, don't turn it off while your computer is still running. Always use the "safely remove" icon, or turn your computer off first.

Keep your computer from overheating by providing adequate space for air flow around the computer. Computers often overheat inside closed spaces. Also, remember to keep your computer fans clear of dust, which is one of the biggest culprits in overheating of laptops and desktop models. Whenever possible, avoid keeping the computer on the floor (where most dust is found). The risk of losing your data and programs will be much less if you are able to apply some of these techniques.

For questions, contact Joe at joe@ycpals.com or 206-3156.

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Get Wild At Vacation Bible School

New Beach Church Fellowship Hall Swings Into Action

The new Fellowship Hall at Pensacola Beach Community Church will serve as the jungle setting for the Vacation Bible School themed week "Wild About God" July 20 to 24. Children ages three-years-old through fifth grade are invited to attend the action packed week from 9 a.m. until noon.

"We will make sure the kids have fun and make new friends," said Sherry Hobbs, coordinator.

Each day will be filled with lessons, games, crafts, Bible stories and songs. A snack is provided. Friday is the wet, wild and final day of the Wild About God week where students get to swim

and play water games in Santa Rosa Sound.

"VBS had to be rescheduled this year due to the construction delay of the Fellowship Hall, but now that it is complete, we are geared up to have the best VBS ever," said Pete Rasnick, church deacon.

There is no charge to attend Vacation Bible School and it is open to everyone. Registration can be completed in advance up to the first day of VBS. More details are available at the Pensacola Beach Community Church website, www.thebeachchurch.com or by calling 850-932-6628.

Members of the Make A Difference Team led by Pandora de Balthazar hosted a birthday party for children in foster care at the Beach Church, June 27. Activities included a trolley ride around the island compliments of Beach Bum Trolley. Getting ready to roll are: (L to R) Driver Steve Coon, Trolley owner Tom McKean, Make A Difference Team Members Barbara McGlynn, Pandora de Balthazar with grand daughter Cailyn Cooke (front), Pete Rasnick, Kitt Lough, and Hazel Fairey.



Beach Bands Take Patrons Back To The Sixties

Rock 'N' Roll With 13th Hourglass, The Reunion Band and Kee Creek

Bands on the Beach will rock your world on Tuesday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. The free concerts are hosted by the Santa Rosa Island Authority at the Gulfside Pavilion, an open air stage with the sandy beach and Gulf of Mexico as its seating area.

Get ready to flash back in time as the 13th Hourglass performs on July 14. After a 40-year hiatus, one

of Pensacola's most popular rock bands in the 60s will rock the stage on Pensacola Beach. Expect the band to stick to its roots and play classic songs from the 60s, 70s and 80s, as well as a few hits from the 90s. Band members include Tom Turner, Robert Lewis, Larry Kennedy and Forrest Higgins.

Wear your dancing shoes and get ready to boogie down as crowd favorite, The Reunion Band, takes the stage on July 21. With an eclectic mix of high-energy dance beats from the 60s and 70s, R&B, British invasion hits and Motown, their lively playlist is sure to get everyone out of their seats. Sing along to your favorite songs such as "Mustang Sally," "Pretty Woman" and "I'm a Believer." Band members in-

clude Bill Harrell, Charlyne Kilpatrick, Hank Bell, Ed Nickinson, Ross Orenstein, Dave White and Larry Northup.

The Kee Creek Band will bring its own personal flair to Pensacola Beach on July 28. The band knows how to make great music by combining ear-pleasing music with tight vocal harmonies. With an extensive song list ranging from Lonestar to Led Zeppelin, they will play something for everyone. Band members include Shawn Brown, Davis Lawrence, John Akridge, Jimmy Pace and Tommy Pace.

Spectators are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets to the pavilion area. For more information, call the SRIA at (850) 932-2257, go to www.VisitPensacolaBeach.com

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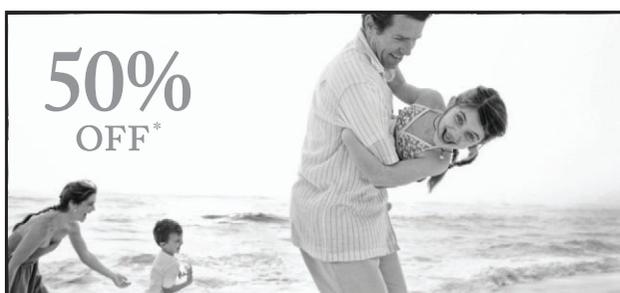
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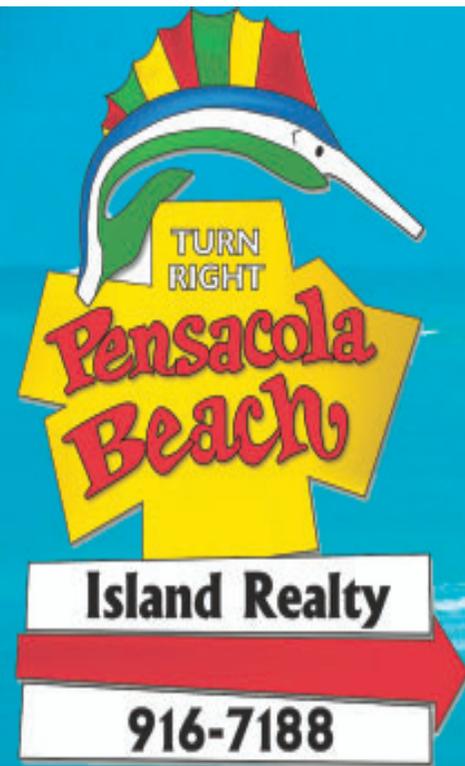
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Trolleys will be running all weekend long during the Blue Angels Air Show, according to Bob West, Santa Rosa Island Safety Director.

"I plan on adding trolleys on Saturday for the Blue Angels," West said. "Last year we had them in service from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It worked extremely well getting folks from Fort Pickens to the Casino parking lot before the show."

"We are expecting record crowds for the Air Show and want

everyone to take advantage of the trolley. It's air conditioned, and it's free," he said.

Spectators can relay on trolley transportation between Ft. Pickens

gate and the core area on the Saturday of the Blue Angels Air Show which begins at noon with civilian flight demonstrations. The Blue Angels fly at 2 p.m.

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Dim Bright Lights For Nesting Turtles

Residents and visitors to Pensacola Beach are reminded once again that turtle nesting season is now. This means it is time to turn off or subdue your lighting system. The turtles who are trying to make their way to the safety of the Gulf of Mexico don't know if they are following the moon as they should or following that beautiful bright light in your garden which they shouldn't.

Give the little guys a break. Turn off your outdoor lights and pull your drapes shut if you have bright lights in your house, or rental unit.

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The Lizzard's TONGUE

by E.K. Hewson



"Free To Good Home"

I live in a very small town in southern Maryland. Piney Point is much like living on Pensacola Beach. Not so much in geographical features, though we are surrounded by water, but because of the locals who graciously co-exist with the transplants who either live here year around or just own waterfront summer homes.

Last summer when we first moved back to Maryland, I began to realize this might be my last military move and I should probably get involved with the community. While hanging out at the local bar, Chief's, which is where the local watermen gather after the oysters have been harvested and the crab pots pulled and replaced, would have been total fun, I've lost my ability to start drinking well before noon. I had to find another way to get to meet the real locals. So I volunteered to help out with the annual oyster and ham dinner at the Catholic Church. On day one, I was definitely being watched. Though, I may have been the rookie resident, I had charmed a tougher "locals only" crowd (at 15-years-old) when I waited tables at Pensacola Beach's infamous Junkyard Coffee Shop. Within the week, a gentleman by the name of Tom Goddard, whose family once owned the farmland where my neighborhood is now built,

started calling me Baby Cakes and his wife Ms. Mary Alma had invited me over for dinner.

So one year later when I found myself in quite a predicament, it is only fitting that a Piney Point local came to my rescue. Recently, the Kid was diagnosed as having allergies and at the top of the list was none other than Sparky, the forlorn feline our neighbor rescued before Christmas and somehow we ended up taking into our home. She had to go and it would be my responsibility to find her a new home.

I called every military wife I knew. Next I e-mailed the local cat rescue group. After looking at the bazillion cats they had up for adoption on their website, it was no wonder no one ever got back with me. Finally, I took the next step.

I made flyers and hung them up all over the place. I heard nothing for days and my heart was beginning to sink. Then on a hot and muggy Sunday afternoon, I rode my bike over to our local market, Dent's, which just happens to be in front of Chief's - literally you have to walk through the market to get to the bar - where I sealed Sparky's fate. As I was waiting to check out, I heard the man behind me ask no one in particular if that was a cat on that flyer. He had left his glasses at home.

Quickly, I pulled another flyer out of my purse and told him all about Sparky. As he introduced himself as Wayne Goddard, I didn't miss the opportunity to find out if he was related to Ms. Mary Alma and Mr. Tom. Turns out they are his aunt and uncle.

"Tell you what," he said as he placed his suitcase of beer on the counter. "I have charcoals glowing, but I live just across the main road and you can bring her by anytime."

Not wanting to sound too desperate to get rid of her, I asked if I could drop her off in 15 minutes.

The Colonel, the Kid, Sparky and I drove to Wayne's, but only after making another stop at the market to buy a couple of suitcases of beer for her to bring as a "I'm here to stay" offering. Ms. Donna, the cashier at Dent's, vouched for Wayne telling me she had known him her entire life and assured me that he would take good care of Sparky.

As we drove onto the 125-acre waterfront farm complete with main house, barn, horse ring, boat building shop and a view like no other, I realized that Sparky was the ultimate transplant. As I handed her over, it was then I realized with the help of locals, both she and I had found our respective homes in Piney Point, Maryland. Until next time...

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BUSINESS BUZZ

OPTIMISTIC PLANS

Pensacola Beach Optimist Club will host their Summer Social on July 24 at the Beach Church Fellowship Hall, according to Sandi Johnson. She said the event is "just to celebrate our accomplishments and perhaps recruit new members." Their First Responder's Dinner which is held in August to honor all fire fighters, deputies, park rangers and lifeguards, will include another Chili Cook Off, since it was a great success last year. Apparently, Helen Randle is the Queen of the Chili Pot, so get your recipes ready.

TIMING OF THE TIMES

You will notice that this issue of *Island Times* was published one week early. We love the Blue Angels and had to get our high flying edition to you before they took to the skies. Look for the next issue on July 28, chocked full of Beach news. We're IT on Pensacola Beach.

SIGN ME UP

Some of you already know Larry Williams from his long years in the sign business. When you are ready for a new sign or a banner, give him a call. He knows what beach businesses need.

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MediaCom has a digital cable offer for *Island Times* readers that starts at \$29.95 per month when combined with phone and internet service. Good deal. Ring 'em up.

TURNING FOUR

The UPS Store in Gulf Breeze has been open since July 2005. They celebrated their fourth anniversary with sub sandwiches and snacks for all their customers. Partying and packing all in one day.

ENERGIZED

The July program of Unlimited Horizons will discuss Free Energy

Swimmers, Bikers, Runners Prepare For Santa Rosa Island Triathlon

Triathletes are sharpening their training and transitioning skills in preparation for one of the world's best destination triathlons, the fourteenth annual Santa Rosa Island Triathlon. The event, which takes place on Pensacola Beach October 3, will have a one-third mile swim, 18 mile bike ride and a 3.1 mile run course. Registration is open and will be \$70 until August 1. The fee to enter goes up as the event date nears.

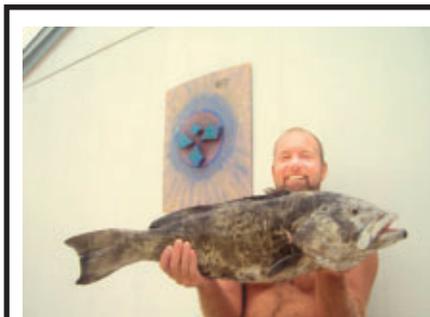
or "Vacuum Energy Conversion Machines: History of Development and Description of Types" with John Shelburne. The program will be held on Sunday, July 12, 2:30 to 5:30, at the Gulf Breeze Recreation Center, 800 Shoreline in Gulf Breeze. More information is online at www.unlimited-horizons.org.

CLUBBING WITH PHIL

Hemingway's General Manager Phil Robinson is hosting the Pensacola Beach Woman's Club for their July 16 luncheon meeting. Club President Lynda Knell noted that the summer is for socializing so they will have a waterfront dining experience.

Famous beach tiki carver Charlie Knight is creating special tikis for awards to complement the traditional plaques given to winners. There will be overall, age group, team and challenged categories. A post race party will be held at the Hampton Inn.

For information visit www.sritri.org or call race director Charles Gheen at 850-380-0741.



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A Cross in the Sand

By
Dr. Chuck Randle, Pastor
Pensacola Beach Community Church

I have several friends who were paratroopers or skydivers and, for the most part, enjoyed it. I can not, in my wildest dreams, imagine jumping out of a perfectly good airplane. It would take a strong push along with a lot of will power to hurtle out the door into nothingness! Those who have taken the plunge say it was one of the most exhilarating experiences of their lives. One who ended up with a broken foot did not let that be a deterrent to more exhilarating experiences.

Our Blue Angels do not enter into this kind of activity, however, I am sure the pulsating of those thousands of pounds of steel under their control, bolstered by the tremendous g-forces as they "slip the surly bonds of earth" bring about great feelings of exhilaration. What a thrill it must be as they dance the skies on laughter-silvered wings, climb sunward, and join the tumbling mirth of sun-split clouds, as expressed by

John Gillespie Magee, Jr., in "High Flight" – and do a hundred things of which we have not dreamed.

The power of those planes, along with the ability of the pilots to accomplish such precision flying maneuvers, bring "oohs" and "ahs" from the thousands of onlookers as the planes disappear into the distance, only to return with more breath taking examples of the prowess of those young, physically fit pilots.

I hope for those young officers it is more than an air show, but in the words of John Magee, "...while with silent lifting mind I've trod the high untrespassed sanctity of space, put out my hand, and touched the face of God," it is a highly spiritual experience.

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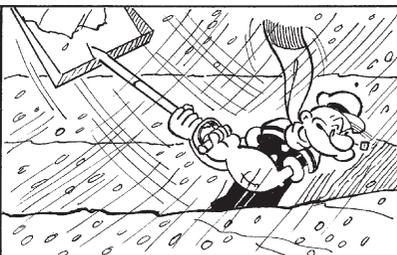
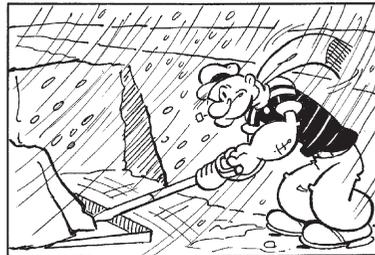
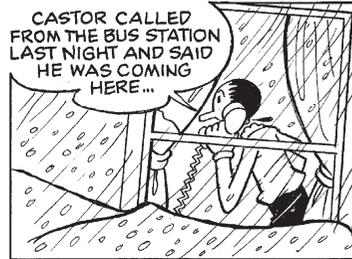
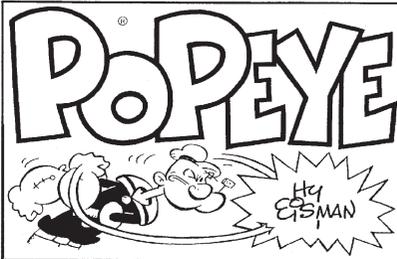
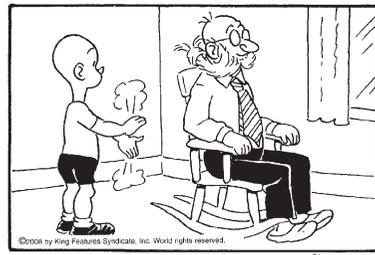
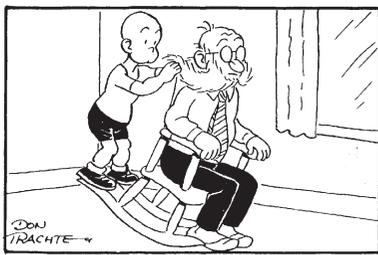
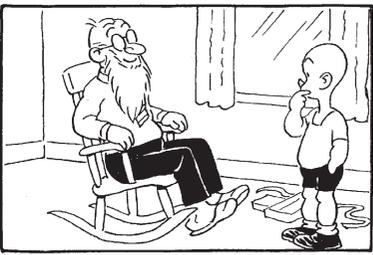
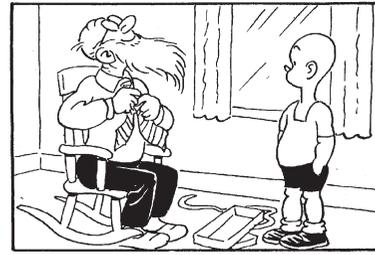
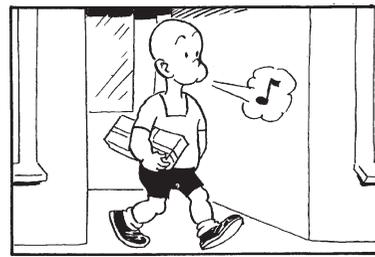
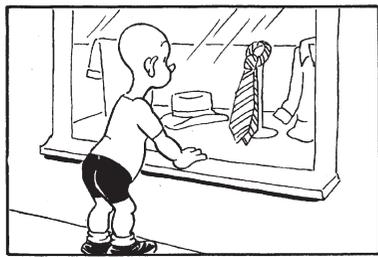
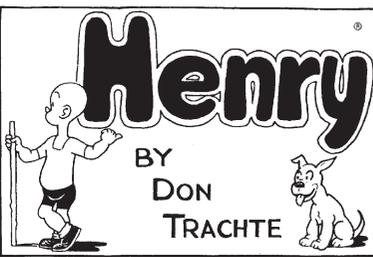
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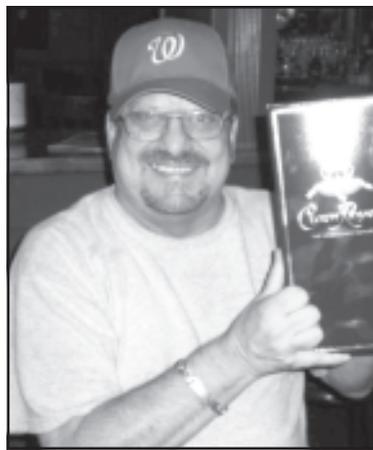
Sequestered in a secret location, poker officials counted and re-counted the points amassed by contenders for the Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun Player of the Month contest. Phil "The Colonel" Tracy has captured the Champions title for three months in a row. Billie Urquhart was making a run for the crown and came close when she beat Dr. Glenn Burleson on June 29 at the Sandshaker. She outlasted 16 players, but could not overtake the leader of the pack. The Colonel stands among the Beach poker elite.



A quick visit to the winner's circle was on the itinerary for Pierre Falgout.

Tracy on June 25 at Paddy O'Leary's. In Sunday night action at Paddy's, Pierre Falgout paid a visit to the poker tables. Pierre, who was on the beach to see his brother, Freddy, beat Kristin Larmier, Justin Scher and Todd Lentini on his way to the winner's circle.

Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun games are open to anyone who has a basic knowledge of poker. Games begin at 7 p.m. at Paddy's and the Shaker. For information, please call the poker hotline at 850-324-2667.



The Champion with his first prize- Phil Tracy has earned enough points to win Player of the Month for three months running. Will July add another jewel to his crown?

Lady poker players are hard to beat on the Beach. Toots Humphrey earned a win on June 23 at Paddy O'Leary's over Eric Weatherford. She settled for second best on June 24 when Justin Scher ended the evening with all the chips. She beat two tables of competitors on July 1 to take the top spot. Richard Butler, lucky hat and all, was a close second.

Eric Weatherford played his cards just right and edged out Phil

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This dynamic duo volleyball team of Erin Phillips, left, and Kim Clark calls Flounder's Beach their home court. The small, but mighty, two-some put their setting and spiking skills to the test during tour play. After a first place finish on Panama City's beaches last month, the team will travel to New Orleans in July to compete in the Coconuts Beach Regional Qualifier event.

Superintendent Eubanks Invites Locals To See The Fort For Free

Gulf Islands National Seashore will join with other National Park Service sites around the country and offer fee-free entry into the park on selected weekends.

At Gulf Islands National Seashore, which includes Fort Pickens, all entrance fees will be waived for visitors to the park on Saturday and Sunday July 18-19.

Park Superintendent Jerry Eubanks said "We particularly encourage local residents who haven't been to the national seashore in quite some time to take advantage of these opportunities to reconnect with all the recre-

ational and educational opportunities the park has to offer." Park entrance stations will have Senior and Annual Passes available for those who wish to purchase them.

Visitors to the Fort Pickens and Santa Rosa units will note that facilities and services will continue to come on-line as storm restoration efforts continue in these areas.

For a full description of the facilities and programs currently available, visit the park's web site at www.nps.gov/guis or contact the Naval Live Oaks Visitor Center at 850-934-2600.

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Looks like Jeremy Hogue of the famous fishin' family took the in-shore at Flounder's on June 27 and won himself a Sundance skiff. Great Job, Mr. Hogue. My wife Janie and I love our Sundance, The 4fun, and we know you'll love yours.

Please remember to be safe and respect others as the waters will be full of boats over the Blue Angels weekend and lots of water cops will be making sure you do.

The fishing's great, so remember to shed those nasty treble hooks and rig up with a circle hook on

those jigs. Try using a split rings with a swivel then the circle hook. I think you'll catch more fish and do less damage to the ones you release. Do yourself a favor and Go fishin'!



The winning King Mackerel in the BudLight King Mackerel Tourney weighed in at 52.53 pounds on June 27 at Flounder's Beach. Richie Byrd, left, and Ron Wiggins were aboard the Byrd Dog and landed the winning fish early in the day.

Sertoma Anglers Set Records

Sertoma's Family Fishing Rodeo was held on June 27 and 28 in Gulf Breeze. Three hundred fish were weighed in including a record 84.1 pound Amberjack caught by Delynn Sigler. Other winners are:

Master Lady Angler - Isabelle Jacobi; Master Male Angler - Clayton Linkous; Junior Boys Angler - Danny Gill and Junior Girls Angler - Malia Barnes.

In the Junior Angler group, Danny Gill, Isabelle Jacobi, Austin Phipps, Malia Barnes, Catie Gill, Kale Jarvis, Bethany White, David Brayton, and Ryleigh Maxwell brought in winning fish.

Master anglers Delynn Sigler, Justin Herrin, Devon Lock, Larry Carpenter, Billie McCluskey, Daniel Finelli, Hunter Carlsen, Court Cantrell, Chad Barden, Scott Stillman, Kreg Corpstein, Billy Hamac, Dale Overly and Clayton Linkous took top honors.

More information and photographs are available at www.gulfbreezesertoma.com

JT Keller weighs in a big one. ➤



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