

# ISLAND TIMES

Volume VII, Number 25

Pensacola Beach, Florida

April 3, 2012

## Connor Inspires Crusaders

**Teams Raise  
Funds For  
Cancer Society  
at Inaugural  
Pensacola Beach  
Relay For Life  
Event**



Shannon Berry, right, is on a crusade to support the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event on Pensacola Beach. Her enthusiasm is contagious. Her mission is clear: raise money to find a cure. Her inspiration comes from her nephew Connor Berry, who turns seven-years-old this week. He was diagnosed with Leukemia last year. The first ever Pensacola Beach Relay for Life will begin Friday, April 13 at 6 p.m. at Casino Beach. Connor, his little brother Riley, and parents Jamie and Chad will be at the opening ceremonies. Connor's Crusaders along with twenty-three other relay teams will stay the course until noon on Saturday. Turn to page 2 for more about the fun and fundraising.

# Relay Teams Celebrate Life, Raise Awareness And Cash To Fight Cancer

Shannon Berry and her Relay for Life teammates work full-time jobs, and dedicated leisure time to raising funds for the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life, April 13 and 14 on Pensacola Beach. This is the first time Relay will be run on Pensacola Beach, but the event concept began 27 years ago in Tacoma, Washington.

With a \$4,000 goal, Connor's Crusaders Relay Team began fundraising last fall. Team Captain Shannon Berry along with Linda Maddox, Kegan Berry, Sharon Berry, Nikki Johnson, Rachel Adams, Carrie Hill, Amber Larson, Ashley Seiber, Heather Williams, Hayley Loughridge, Liz Jordan, Laura Sominski, Heather Bruce, Stephanie Bruce, Shannon Marsh, Brittany Barnwell, Teresa Perkins and Ariel Cantrell hosted bake sales, crawfish boils, gift basket drawings, and dining out events.

"Sometimes I am operating on very little sleep," said Berry, who tends bar at Sidelines. "But I am powered by the love of a little man who is sick."

The little man is Berry's nephew, Connor, who is a first grader at Oriole Beach Elementary School. He was diagnosed with leukemia and has undergone treatment.

"He did not get to attend school during that time," said Connor's mother Jamie Berry. "He's back in school, loves his friends, video games and Legos, just like all the other kids his age."

Unlike the other kids his age, Connor will be at the Pensacola Relay for Life at 6 p.m. April 13 to take part in the Opening Ceremony and Survivors Lap.

"Relay for Life is a community event to celebrate, remember and fight back against cancer,"

said Beach Team Coordinator Marilyn McDonald. "Teams will gather for an overnight 18-hour event at the Casino Beach."

The opening ceremonies will begin at 6 p.m. when Pensacola Beach Relay for Life Chairman Reverend Chuck Randle will welcome the 24 relay teams and event participants.

Cancer survivors will ceremoniously walk the first lap to celebrate their victory over cancer. The Caregiver's Lap is next, followed by the Opening Lap of the 2012 Relay for Life, where the all team members walk together.

"It is truly powerful to see and be part of this," said Bank of the South's Judy Lenderman, who has participated in other area's Relay for Life events. "This year, I am part of the Margaritaville Team."

Each team will have a tent set up near the Gulfside Pavilion so visitors can stop by, make a donation, a purchase or give a word of support. Attendees will immediately recognize the wide variety of groups represented in the Relay for Life effort. Beach Elementary School children, military groups, Mardi Gras krewes, sorority sisters, small businesses, large corporations, churches, civic and community groups are combining efforts to exceed the \$35,000 fundraising goal.

"Leading up to the event, the Junior Optimist Club has worked very hard raising money," said Debbie Campanella, Pensacola Beach Optimist Club. "These children, who are in third, fourth and fifth grade, hosted bake sales, Wear-A-Hat to School Day, and a Glitter Day, among other things. They have had fun."

Not everyone can attend the Relay event, but all can make a

difference. Christy Sullivan at Paddy O'Leary's is reaching out to her fellow Beach bartenders, and delivering special purple and white collection jugs to each.

"On Friday the Thirteenth, a lucky day, I will donate half of my tips from working at the Pub to the American Cancer Society in memory of my son Chris White. I will challenge my daytime rivals that day to donate half of their tips, and the biggest challenge goes out to the Pensacola Beach daytime bar customers, to make it worth your favorite bartender's time to donate to the cause that day."

The 146 team members in the first ever Relay will participate in 18 hours of celebration and ceremony. The fun continues through the night. Team members will take turns walking on a set course, until noon on Saturday. Signs of encouragement and in memoriam are placed around the course as track markers. Anyone may sponsor a track marker, even local beach government has taken the challenge. The Santa Rosa Island Authority Board is a track marker sponsor.

During the evening, the Luminaria Ceremony takes place. At 9 p.m. sand-filled bags with candles will line the walking course. Each candle is placed ei-

ther in honor of someone's memory, or to recognize a person who continues to battle cancer. The names are written on the bag for all to see. The public is invited to participate in the ceremony and may make a Luminaria donation at the event.

The event concludes with a Fight Back Ceremony where individual team members and guests take a pledge to continue their work to raise awareness and prevention. The 24 Beach relay teams taking the pledge, are:

Anne's Angels, Captain Corlette Mueller

Beach Community Church, Captain: Marilyn McDonald

Beach Peeps, Captain: Deborah Campanella

Clever Ogre, Captain: Nora Jones

Connor's Crusaders, Captain: Shannon Berry

Dancingly Yours Studio, Captain: Monette Hodges

Domino's Pizza, Captain: Jeff May

Gulf Blue Vacations, Captain: Laura Belsinger

Hilton Pensacola Beach Gulf Front, Captain: Joshua Butler

HT-28 Hellions, Captain: Mark Thompson

Krewe du Cure, Captain: BJ Davis

Krewe of Blues, Captain:

Jayne Cecil

Lowe's, Captain: Jeff Gruenloh

Margaritaville Beach Hotel, Captain: Leann Collins

Notre Dame Club of Pensacola, Captain: Lee Dulion

Our Lady of the Assumption, Captain: Mary Ann Claus

Paddy O'Leary's, Captain: Seamus Hunt

Peg Leg Pete's, Captain: Yvonne Doege

Pensacola Area Delta Gamma Alumnae Association; Captain: Mary Claus

Really for Life, Captain: Brian Finkbone

Sabine Sandbar, Captain: Jeff Walton

The "I Do"-ers, Captain: Charles Randle

The Break/ The Islander, Captain: David Kelly

Tracey E. Pinkston, MD, Captain: Bettie Lee Sundstrom

The Relay teams welcome community members to join them anytime from 6 p.m. April 13 through noon April 14. The fun never stops at Relay For Life and neither does the fight against cancer.

For more information [www.pensacolabeachrelayforlife.com](http://www.pensacolabeachrelayforlife.com) or American Cancer Society Community Representative BJ Davis at [bj.davis@cancer.org](mailto:bj.davis@cancer.org) or 850-380-0684.

## Hop Around Island Easter Weekend

The island's natural beauty serves as a backdrop for sunrise services, Easter celebrations and family gatherings April 6-8. There is something for everyone and all are welcome to attend these events.

### Friday, April 6

Stations of the Cross. Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church. 3 p.m.

Good Friday Prayer Vigil. Beach Church. 3 p.m. to Midnight.

First Friday, Portofino Boardwalk. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. No charge. Music, drawings.

Full Moon Walk, 7:30 p.m. Meet at Langon Beach in Ft. Pickens, Gulfside. \$8 entrance fee to Fort.

### Saturday, April 7:

Easter Egg Hunt, 9 a.m., Fifth grade and younger. No charge. This is a long standing island tradition, dating back to the early 80s. Bring your camera and don't be late. The "hunt"

areas are divided by age groups and the hundreds of brightly colored eggs are spectacular on the white sand. Pensacola Beach Community Church, Via de Luna & Avenida 18, [www.thebeachchurch.com](http://www.thebeachchurch.com)

Easter Egg Hunt, 11 a.m. Paradise Grill Soundfront beach. Everyone is welcome. General Manager Renee Mack hosts this casual egg hunt for locals and visitors. Stick around and soak up some of the vibes at Paradise. No charge. 21 Via de Luna. [www.paradisebar-grill.com](http://www.paradisebar-grill.com)

Eggstravaganza and Adult Easter Party, 2 to 6 p.m. Hosted by the Krewe of Junkanoo at the Sandshaker Lounge. Open to the public, 21 and older. Easter Bonnet Contest, Deviled Egg Contest, Easter Egg Hunt for Bar Tabs, Prizes and loads of other stuff. The contests include the hunt for a very special Easter Egg which is hidden somewhere at the Shaker. Wear the wildest

and wackiest Easter bonnet you can create.

### Sunday, April 8:

Sunrise Service: 6:30 a.m. Amphitheater Portofino Boardwalk.

Sunrise Service: 6:30 a.m. at Flounder's with the Gulf Breeze United Methodist Church.

Sunrise Service: 6:30 a.m. Gulfside Pavilion. Includes Beach baptism. [www.CoastlineEaster.com](http://www.CoastlineEaster.com).

Easter Mass: Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, 8 a.m. and 9:45 a.m.

Easter Service: Pensacola Beach Community Church, 10 a.m.

Easter Service: Worship by the Water, 9 a.m. hosted by the Gulf Breeze United Methodist Church, at Flounder's.

The Easter Bunny has directed Beach restaurants to put on a spread for Sunday brunch on the Island.

Happy Easter!



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# Forever...Barefoot on the Beach

As a tribute to Jane Waters Cooper, *Island Times* will continue to run some of Jane's favorite columns for your enjoyment

The Islander Newspaper – March 22, 1983

Easter is here once again... the time for the renewal of all of life. The tortured days of Christ in the weeks before His resurrection are over. There is joyous peace and glad awakening in the hearts of Christians the world over. What does this

holiday mean to us on Pensacola Beach? It signals the beginning of our sharing season with vacationers from everywhere. I can remember when we packed our car and headed for Pensacola Beach to spend Easter weekend. Frequently, the weather was too chilly for swimming, too wet for walking, and still, we could

look out over the Gulf waters and a kind of peace would settle over us...a tranquility never felt anywhere else.

If the weather was good, we would join the rest of the tourists in sunburn city, and toast away on the white sands...and my memory always serves me well as I recall those lazy days.

No matter how many bodies lay between me and the lapping surf, I felt at peace. I could close my eyes and let the hypnotic sounds of the singing seagulls, the music of the waters lapping the shore, the soft rustle of a refreshing spring breeze, filled my spirits with renewal...the feeling that beginning again had a certain depth and meaning.

Lying there on the sandy beaches, I always thought Easter was my New Year. For Easter is a time of proof...proof that the brown grasses of winter will turn green and luxuriant, that the dull waters of winter storms will sparkle once again in their emerald hues, that the pale rays of winter's sun will once again warm the earth and awaken new life.

here, day in and day out, for almost five years, do I still get carried away into that never never land? Not as often as I would like. But, I do have my very own ritual. Every morning, I go to my window that overlooks the Gulf of Mexico, and I thank the powers that directed me to live on this Island. And then, I am ready for my day; most of the time far more hectic than tranquil. And yet, every year at Eastertime, I feel renewed, and I look forward to the time when I can capture all the lazy days of Spring, and starch them in my memory for these are God's own tranquilizers. He has given them to us in ample supply as He blesses our beaches every Easter. Our surroundings and our way of life on this island are perhaps unmatched and unmatched.

And now that I have lived

## Island Times Collects Historic Beach Editions

Why do people save newspapers? The flimsy newsprint crackles with age. The paper yellows and type fades. Yet, it is not tossed aside, because somewhere among the pages is something of great value – a few words strung together by a thoughtful writer or a photograph which forever captures a moment in time. This is the media of a bygone era.

If you are ready to get rid of your stash of beach newspapers, go ahead. *Island Times* is offering a prize for the oldest copy of *The Islander Newspaper*.

Diane Tyson delivered a stack of memories to the contest desk. Her *Islander* publication dates ranged from 1979 to 1988. Old is good in this contest, so Diane is sitting in first place.

Christine Hewerdine says her entry is not the oldest, but has a place in history since it is the tenth anniversary edition of

*The Islander*. A very special one indeed.

It was rumored that the late Norm Simons had a complete set of *Islanders* in the historic office in downtown Pensacola. He retained them for the historic information about the Beach during this era. Papa Joe Reynolds had a collection of the Beach newspaper, as well. Both gentlemen have passed away. Did these collections end up as fish wrappers?

The search is on. There's still a few weeks to bring in your entry.

Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place.

Here's the rules:

1. Find an oldie but a goodie edition of *The Islander Newspaper* published by Jane Waters.
2. Bring your name, email address and phone number along with the paper to the Pensacola Beach Visitor's Information Center.

3. You may also enter by mailing your copy to: *Island Times*, Post Office Box 844, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562. Remember to include your name and contact info.

4. The oldest edition, turned in prior to the May 1, 2012 will be the winner. Two runners-up will be recognized.

*The Islander Newspaper* began publication in April 1979. If you have questions, email shelley@myislandtimes.com.

### Full Moon Walk

April 6 at 7:30 p.m.

*Langdon Beach on the Gulfside, Ft Pickens*  
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# PEOPLE

## THREE CHEERS

Congrats to Dennis Caire and his gumbo cooking Elk's Team. The Gumbo Ya~Ya contest at Seville Quarter raised over \$3000 for Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Northwest Florida. The Beach Elk's Lodge with their Gumbo Yats Gumbo Finger won the People's Choice award and was the runner up in the Showmanship category.

## IN THE KNOW

Holiday Inn Express General Manager Beverly McCay was raised on Pensacola Beach. When Sea Grant Extension Agent Rick O'Connor requested to meet a person who knew about Pensacola Beach, about tourism and cared about the environment, he was directed to Beverly. O'Connor, who has only been in his position for a short time, is selecting individuals to serve as experts on a committee. The Beach can be proud of this choice.

## SAILING SOON

Ken Branch had a special green cast on his ankle for St. Paddy's Day. After some extensive surgery at The Andrews Institute, he was hobbling around to say hi to friends at the Yacht Club and Sandbar. His doctor promised him he would be able to run a foot race by summer. According to Ken, he only needs to be able to run the length of his sailboat.

## PASS THE WALKER

In ceremonies of a dubious distinction, Tommy Grice has been awarded the Old Man's Walker which has been passed down from friend to friend upon reaching a distinguished age of

60. Well-wishers gathered at the Shaker on March 18 to celebrate with the Beach's biggest Saints fan.

## REV IT UP

Walt Lumpkin introduced Jeff Nicklus of Desperado Motorcycles to Pensacola Beach on St. Paddy's Day. The world famous Texas-based motorcycle designer was in town to help Walt and Cindy celebrate their birthdays. He wasn't the only celebrity. When Santa Rosa Island Authority Executive Director Buck Lee found out that Cindy was a weather watcher, he got the Weather Channel's Jim Cantore on the phone to wish her a happy birthday.

## FINAL FOUR

Former NBA Coach Roger DuTremble made his picks for the NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four. All top seeds. All, but Kentucky were knocked out by an underdog. That's the way the ball bounces, particularly during March Madness. He predicted Kentucky in the winner's circle. If you see Coach, buy him a drink, just for being a good sport.

## WRECK-OGNIZED

Running Around Wreck Jeff Goudey and Treas-Wreck Dan McGrath stepped to the stage March 27 to accept the Beach Chamber's recognition of the Krewe's economic impact on the Beach. Goudey said it would not be possible without the three Energizer Bunnies that serve with them - Melanie Waite, Carleen Wheeler and DJ Zemenick. The volunteer board works year round to host the Wrecks events.

## Share Your Shoes

Tom Brame and his daughter Taylor are on a mission to collect gently worn shoes to donate to local charities.

weather," said Brame. "Let's get the unused shoes and donate them."

A collection box will be located at the Beach School until April 30.



**Nan Harper**

- Region VII Vice President National Women's Council of Realtors
- Florida State President Women's Council of Realtors, 2010
- Pensacola Beach Chamber Board of Directors
- Tourist Development Council of Escambia County
- Pensacola International Relations Board
- Pensacola Association of Realtors Committees



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# Trivia

Jim Knell has been on an unending quest for the Holy Grail of Beach t-shirts. The retired Marine Corps Major flies to his computer with wild guesses as answers, not often correct, but always entertaining. This week was different. His answer slid in fast and accurate. Knell knew the recycling symbol was a form of a Mobius Strip. He scores the win and the shirt.

Sir Morrie Drees lead the knights at the Roundtable with a correct response. Put another jewel upon Sir's chalice.

Villa Sabine was well represented with Mike and Chrissy Cook and Ben Womack sending answers. Ben knew it was a Mobius. Chrissy Cook wrote, "I believe it is commonly referred to as a Möbius loop which was discovered in 1858 by August Ferdinand Möbius, a German mathematician and astronomer. Gary Anderson drew upon the concept of the Möbius strip when he was designing the recycling symbol."

Well, said Chrissy. Anderson was a California college student who won the design contest which was hosted by what is now Smurfit-Stone Container Company. They are located in America, somewhere near the paper mill.

Chrissy's husband Mike sent an impressive sounding answer, "Geocentric Helix." Geocentric refers to things that orbit around the Earth. The Master would like to establish a triacentric orbit. Where all things revolve around him.

Larry Keever and Jayne Drees were brainiacs and answered correctly. Jeff McCain sent his answer in right before the deadline. Correct and last. Gets your name in the paper, but no shirt.

Jane McGrath admitted that math was not her forte, and guessed that it was a triangle. Well, Jane, you are correct; math is not your forte.

The Trivia Master got a weather report from Gwen Foster in New Jersey. But her answer never appeared. Probably frozen. By the way, it was 45 degrees there. Spring, apparently, has not

yet sprung!

Carol Ascherfeld, the previous edition's winner, sent in a correct answer, too. She is vying for a place in the Duchess of the Dunes' Court. Joanne Brooks rules over that trivia wonderland which sometimes includes Alice and the Mad Hatter.

Mr. M. Hatter and Easter Bunny send this question to the *Island Times* readers, just in time for Easter. "What is the Top Egg Producing State?" It's one of the continental United States. It is not Florida. That's all the hints you will get.

Will you crack the answer or fall to pieces? Good eggs should go to your computer and email the answer to [islandtimes@bellsouth.net](mailto:islandtimes@bellsouth.net) with trivia in the subject line. Include your name and phone number. Good luck and keep the sunnyside up. Deadline to answer is Tuesday, April 10.

## Easter Egg Hunt

**Saturday, April 7**  
**9 a.m.**

Pensacola Beach Church  
Avenida 18 & Via de Luna  
open to children  
fifth grade and younger



Everyone's invited. No charge.

## HAVE A GREAT TIME IN PARADISE!

<p><b>A Music</b> 30 x 90 April 6-7</p> <p><b>Joey Gilmore</b> April 3</p> <p><b>Shawn Kellerman</b> April 9 &amp; 12</p>	<p><b>Biscuit Miller &amp; The Mix</b> April 8, 10</p> <p><b>Big Al &amp; The Heavyweights</b> April 11</p>	<p><b>The Sauce</b> April 13</p> <p><b>Dream Vipers</b> April 14</p> <p><b>Ben Prestage</b> April 15</p>
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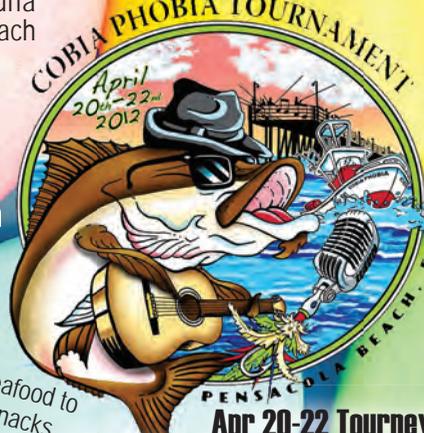
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# Island Authority Committees Get Updates on Master Plan, Go Green

The Development and Leasing Committee accepted a report at their March 28 meeting from Santa Rosa Island Authority Board Member Tammy Bohannon on the status of the Master Planning process.

"The engineers are not developing, designing or doing anything until after the Board of County Commissioners votes," Bohannon announced. "That is on their agenda for April 17, and they may at that time ask the SRIA to reconsider their priority list."

Committee Chairman Ed Guernsey reminded members that the issue of pedestrian and vehicular safety and future growth are paramount in his mind. Part of his solution includes the implementation of a

ferry boat system and increased trolley service.

Member Vernon Prather agreed.

"I think it is incumbent on this board that there be some kind of resounding 'yes' to make some safety improvements on this beach. There may not be easy answers, but we need to make a commitment to improvements."

Green was the color of the night. The Architectural and Environmental Committee followed by the Operations Committee discussed environmental issues. The Administrative Committee focused on money-based agenda items.

A unanimous vote from the Architectural and Environmental Committee approved the continuation of the SRIA's participa-

tion in the Sea Turtle Monitoring program implemented by the Gulf Islands National Seashore. The SRIA provides funding, equipment and support services during the nesting season beginning May 1.

The Operations Committee will continue their discussions about a request for designated parking for electric vehicles in the public parking areas. The item will remain on the committee agenda.

Dr. Thomas Campanella, elected SRIA member, said, "I think we need more time to discuss this. What qualifies as an electric vehicle? Do we need to lower the speed limit for golf carts? What about charging stations?"

Dottie Ford, SRIA Director of Finance, presented her report

to the Administrative Committee. The collections through the end of January are ahead of what was budgeted, and are 5.2 percent higher than in 2011.

After the Committee unanimously accepted the report, they granted a request for sponsorship of the Marine Aviation Memorial Tower. The amount of \$5,000 will be donated and a plaque bearing the Santa Rosa Island Authority's name will be displayed at the Tower in Pensacola. Based on the proud military heritage of the area, the Marine Aviation Tower will be an added attraction of historical significance at the Veterans Memorial Park.

Songwriter's Festival Promoter Jim Pasquale requested \$5,000 to advertise their event

which brings regional, national and international songwriters to Pensacola Beach during the shoulder season. The Committee approved the request and congratulated the organizers on their prior success.

In other business, the Committee requested that staff bring pricing for granite benches to commemorate people and places in Beach history. This would serve as one part of the SRIA's Spirit of the Island program recognizing community service. The staff will also discuss parameters by which candidates may be chosen for recognition.

The Full Board will meet next, on Wednesday, April 11 at 5 p.m. at the SRIA Boardroom, #1 Via de Luna. The meeting is open to the public.

# Double Taxation Remedies Top Discussion Group Agenda

Local attorneys volunteered their time at a March 28 meeting chaired by Santa Rosa Island Authority Board Member Ed Guernsey to discuss the double taxation burden carried by Pensacola Beach leaseholders and the strategies for relief. Ed Fleming and Danny Kepner, both attorneys who have represented leaseholders in the tax lawsuits, offered updates and summarized the history of the island's taxation battles.

The Escambia County Board of Commissioners announced their intent to return a portion of the money collected to the Santa Rosa Island Authority at the conclusion of the tax lawsuits. These suits, which are now in the hands of the Florida Supreme Court, contest the legality of collecting ad valorem taxes from the leaseholders. According to Danny Kepner, the Supreme Court is not on a time deadline to make a decision, but hopes to have a verdict by fall of this year.

"If the County sends the money to us, it would be up to the Island Authority to decide how to equitably distribute the money to the leaseholders," said Guernsey. "The attempt to find a methodology to doing that is not so simple."

Santa Rosa Island Authority Attorney Mike Stebbins explained that this first meeting was really for fact finding. A number of suggestions were offered regarding the distribution of the sum that the County might return to the SRIA. One idea proposed

that leases could be purchased back from leaseholders on an annual basis. Guernsey simplified the idea using a car lease as an example.

"Would this work?" he asked. "How would we make this a reality, if we can do it? We are on an idea hunt."

Pensacola Beach resident Jim Cox felt like the monies should be distributed among the residential leaseholders since the commercial interests already are part of an SRIA economic development program. He suggested the County could dictate that.

Other ideas involve elected officials helping to solve the dilemma through legislation. Leaseholders could request that the State Legislature statutorily reverse the courts' ruling to allow taxation. Danny Kepner reminded the group that the State Legislature laid the groundwork for the lease fee rather than tax collection on the Island in 1948. In 1971 the statute was changed and tax collection was allowed on 99 year leases. Because of the economic pressure brought by the founder of NASCAR and the Daytona Speedway, the law was changed again in 1980. For most, only intangible taxes could be collected.

A Federal bill to give Escambia County to ability to confer Fee Simple title to Santa Rosa Island leaseholders is currently languishing in Washington. Congressman Jeff Miller is sponsoring the bill but it lacks a Senator's support. In

contemplating transferring title, Guernsey noted that could mean the demise of the SRIA. He said the SRIA's careful stewardship of the island makes it successful.

Ed Fleming, who is a local attorney, agreed. "I came here today as a private citizen who loves this beach. I appreciate the good job the SRIA has done to make this beach unique. A good blend of private development, hotels and business to create a people's beach, a fun beach. This

beach serves as a huge economic engine for Escambia County."

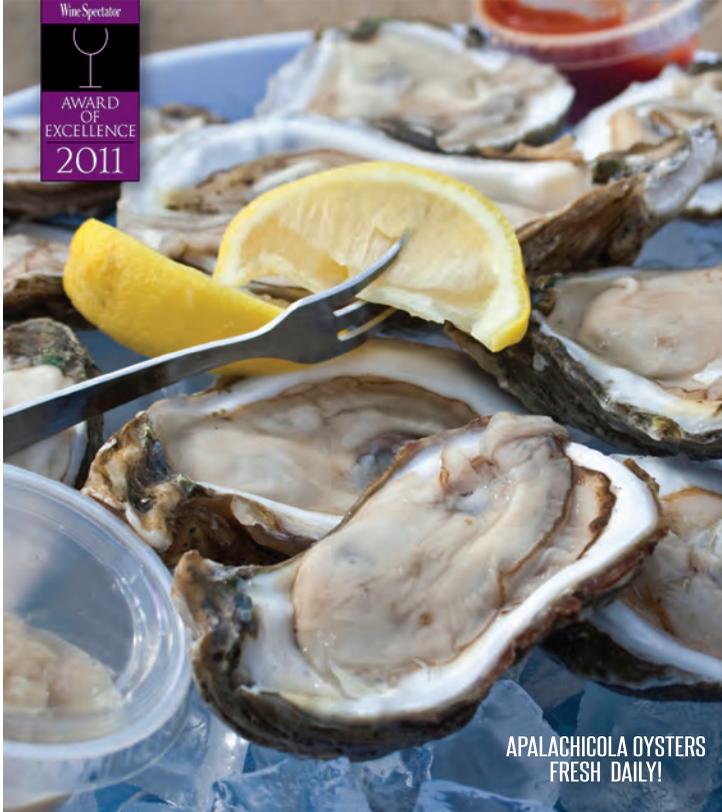
The discussion on these topics will continue. Guernsey indicated that it is imperative that the residents and businesses on the Island come together as one unified group in voicing their needs to the Board of County Commissioners. He also gathered data to support the need for retaining an Island Authority.

"I get a sense that the BCC thinks they can run the island

better than the SRIA. The bridge traffic has almost doubled over the last few years," said Guernsey. "The increases are due to the good management of the island by the SRIA."

Ed Guernsey brought his review and report of this meeting to the Development and Leasing Committee of the Santa Rosa Island Authority on March 28.

The group's next meeting date will be announced.



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# peas, porridge & a dry martini

by Kathi Lewis

My life is so busy that I can barely remember what I'm supposed to be doing. Right now, I'm just hanging on to this crazy carnival ride which is my brain on life! I intend to start downsizing until my daily list will fit on a single page. I'm not talking about a big page either; just one page in a notebook. If that works out then I'm going to a smaller notebook next!

I know I'm in dire need of some of the lazy time of those long summer days which I took for granted as a child. I enjoyed them immensely and thought they would never end. I would lie in the grass for hours just watching the sky and clouds. (Well, okay it was probably more like half-hours but they seemed much longer then.) I remember how excited I was when I realized that clouds move. I could hardly get to my Mom fast enough to share my news. Of course, it wasn't news to her, but I thought I had really made some great discovery about the universe.

My latest discovery is not about the universe and it conveys a lot more irony than excitement. It's pretty basic really and I know that I'm not the first person to figure this out. But I've come to the realization that most of us spend a major part of our lives working hard in order to buy and acquire stuff only to spend our Golden Years trying to unload it all. I sure wish some really wiser, older person had bothered to share that with me. It would have saved me a lot of money not to mention physical wear and tear. So, to my younger friends – consider this a heads-up! All that stuff you think you can't live without now can someday be the same stuff that drives you nuts.

When I moved here thirty years ago, I was searching for a new path for my life other than the one I could foresee in the town of my childhood home. There were multiple highly intelligent and much older colleagues quick to tell me how and why this would be a serious mistake. What I found was more than I could ever have imagined. Those colleagues would have done much better had they told me about the "stuff" because they got the other part wrong.

I am truly blessed to live in

such a divine place where I can see and feel God's touch every day. And I am eternally grateful to live such an extraordinary life (even if I complain occasionally). I have never had a single regret about my choice to change my own life. In fact, I can't imagine how it would have been otherwise.

All that talk about "stuff" reminds me of my favorite joke:

There was once a rich banker who died and went to Heaven. He's dragging two suitcases and huffing and puffing by the time he reaches St. Peter at the Pearly Gates. As he stops to rest, St. Peter asks him what's in the suitcases. Red faced and sweating the banker opens the suitcases to reveal they're both filled with gold. "Pavement?" cries St. Peter, "You brought pavement?!"

I hope your Easter Bunny's on his way bringing lots of toys and joys! I don't know about you, but one of my favorite things for Easter Sunday is deviled eggs! I'm a big "egg person" anyway and they've always been economical and healthy. (Although the healthy aspects depend on what particular person you talk to or whichever article in whatever magazine or newspaper you read on any given day. And subject to change at

a moment's notice.)

So.....let's cook.

- Deviled Eggs**
- 1 doz. Medium to large eggs**
- ½ Cup Mayonnaise**
- 1 Tbsp. Spicy brown mustard**
- 2 Tbsp. sweet salad cubed pickles**
- Salt (to taste)**

Place eggs in large saucepan and cover with cold water. Bring to a boil over medium heat. Cover and reduce heat to simmer for 10 minutes. Remove from heat, drain water from eggs and rinse pan with cold water to cool it slightly. Cover eggs with cold water and let sit until cool to touch. Meanwhile, mix together other ingredients. When eggs have cooled drain water again. Cover pan with lid and shake vigorously. (Eggs will be easy to peel and some will even come completely free of shell.) Cut eggs in half length-wise and add yolks to mixture. Mix thoroughly, adding more mayonnaise if needed. Arrange eggs on serving platter and fill each egg half with mixture using a spoon or plastic bag with a cake decorating tip. (I like to sprinkle eggs with dill weed before serving.)

Enjoy, share and have a safe and Happy Easter!

See ya in the kitchen.....



Everyone loves "Eddie The Phone Man." After 37 years with AT&T, Eddie Williams has retired. He has some important things to do. Two-year-old Phare Tupelo is excited to get more time for fishing and sitting under the umbrella with her "Geddie" - Grandpa Eddie. Grand Eddie gets even grander at the end of April when his second granddaughter will arrive. Both granddaughters live only five blocks away and intend on learning all Geddie has to teach them about the island. Eddie Williams was The Islander Newspaper Father of the Year. He is married to Mary and his daughters are Lauren and Jamie.

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# A Glimpse of Heaven

By Father Paul Lambert  
St. Ann's Catholic Parish

"Christ is Risen. Truly, He is Risen," is a way we could greet one another this weekend as we celebrate Easter. This exchange, which finds its roots in scripture, would be a bold way to declare the great news that Christ is Risen!

What would stop us from making such a claim? We know that not everyone is Christian, and so we tend to shy away from making such a public demonstration of our faith. We worry about hurting another's feelings, or that we are imposing our views on others. The fact is, when Christ rose from the dead over two millennia ago, the apostles and disciples were in the streets announcing this great news.

What makes them different from us? Well, we weren't there! Is that a valid response or

excuse? I was challenged by a young lady, of all places, at Paddy O' Leary's St. Patrick's Day Party. She emphasized the importance of sharing one's experience of Christ with others and being that witness to the resurrection. Her challenge stirred within me that challenge that Christ's resurrection is truly something happening to me now. This joyous occasion is something I participate in today, in the here and now.

My prayer is that all of us on Easter Day and the days to follow during the Easter Season, will proclaim boldly that Christ is Risen! Not from a sense of self-importance or pride, but from the pure joy that one possesses knowing that Christ is Risen, which means that one day we will rise with him into eternal life.



The Ladies of Elks participated in a colorful candle lighting ceremony as part of their installation of officers Sunday, March 25 at the Pensacola Beach Lodge. Accepting their posts are (L to R) Vice President Eileen Imhof, Secretary Sue Shufelt, President Lena Bessinger, Treasurer Carole Bryan and Chaplain Tina Gramenz.



The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks installed their officers during ceremonies at the Lodge, Sunday, March 25. The following will serve Pensacola Beach Elk's Lodge (front row, L to R): Loyal Knight Neil Mortman, Leading Knight Jeff Dykes, Exalted Ruler James Rodriguez, Lecturing Knight Kenny Gramenz, Trustee Phil Gambrell, Secretary Patsy Ledford and Treasurer Sandy Milburn. Back row, (L to R): are Tiler Derek Pratt, Grand Exalted Ruler Beryle Farmer, Chaplain Fred Bryan and Paul Gambrell.

## Beach Lodge Names Knell Top Citizen

Pensacola Beach Elk's Lodge tapped top members and one Pensacola Beach resident during the Awards portion of their installation ceremonies March 25. Jim Knell was awarded the Elk's Citizen of the Year award. Knell, a retired Marine, is active in the military community hosting a Gulf fishing trip, a Thanksgiving Day dinner on the Beach and multiple other opportunities for the military personnel to meet the community members.

Kenneth Gramenz was named the Elk's Officer of the Year and Fred Bryan was awarded the Elk of the Year honors. Bryan coordinates the annual Hoop Shoot contest.

The Lodge is open to the public for certain events. Bingo will be hosted from 6 to 8 p.m. on April 15 and April 29. Everyone is welcome. Proceeds benefit the Elks Youth Camp and Children's Therapy Services.

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# Businesses Spring Forward Into Busy Season

Records breaking weekends and sharing the wealth were the hot topics at the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce membership meeting, March 27 at the Days Inn.

Reports from the Bob Sikes Toll Facility confirmed what Beach business owners already knew – March has been a good month. The Beach Chamber’s Go Irish on the Island promotion which includes the St. Paddy’s Day Pub Crawl attracted locals and visitors alike. The toll facility reported 59,117 vehicles came onto the island from March 16-18, far more than in previous years. The proceeds from the St. Paddy’s Day Pub Crawl t-shirt sales, totaling \$3,200, were donated by the Chamber to Covenant Hospice.

“I am so proud of the 17 participating businesses,” said Maureen LaMar, Chamber President/CEO. “It took a lot of work and coordination, but brought a great deal of business to the island.”

Two poker tournaments are part of the Go Irish promotion, hosted by Texas Hold ‘Em 4444 Fun. The proceeds from those events were donated to the Pensacola Beach Elementary School Music Department.

New members were welcomed to the Chamber which is now 133 strong. Fast Eddie’s Fun Center, Aegean Breeze and Bon-Fire Jam Pensacola Beach joined the Chamber during March.

Chamber Events Chairman Beverly Campbell announced that the Chamber will once again serve Crawfish at the Bamboo Willie’s Crawfish Festival. The event is in its eleventh year. The Chamber earns tips to augment their technology fund and other projects.

“The first year I had 1,000

pounds of crawfish and someone had to teach me how to cook them,” said Bamboo Willie’s General Manager Robert Gleim, who founded the event. “We have 8,000 pounds on order for April 20-22, and we will sell every last one.”

During the Roundtable discussion Lynda Knell stirred everyone’s patriotism with an invitation to the May 8 Military Fishing Trip dockside party. The Chamber event is coordinated by Major Jim Knell, USMC retired, and sponsored by the Chamber. Attendees are asked to arrive at 2 p.m. at the Pensacola Beach Marina to greet the military anglers. The party includes awards and a recognition ceremony for Beach veterans. Food and drinks are served.

Bill Guyer of The Grand Marlin is Gulf Breeze Natural Gas’ first Beach customer.

“I am excited to see the savings in our first invoice,” said Guyer, who is the comptroller. “We have also implemented a new online reservation system for our guests.”

Beach resident and Corvette owner Rick Gordon brings the Life’s A Beach Corvette Show to the Island. This year’s event

which coincides with the Taste of the Beach is September 15. He will bring a contingent of car buffs to the Beach from Jacksonville on April 21, as well.

Hoteliers reported busy weekdays and sold out weekends and look forward to the trend continuing.

Robbie Lofty, Santa Rosa Island Authority events coordinator, noted that the Bands on the Beach weekly concert line up begins on Tuesday, April 3. The concerts are from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Gulfside Pavilion and are offered at no charge to the public.

Upcoming events which were announced at the meeting include the May 5 Race for the Roses, according to Dan McGrath. This is a Pensacola Beach Optimist Club fundraiser hosted at the Santa Rosa Dunes Clubhouse during the Kentucky Derby.

Escambia County Sheriff David Morgan was the guest speaker at the March meeting.

The next membership meeting is Tuesday, April 24 at 8:30 a.m. at Days Inn. For membership information, contact LaMar at 850-932-1500 or penbeach@visitpensacolabeach.com.



**Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce President Maureen LaMar, right, presented the proceeds from the St. Paddy’s Day Pub Crawl at the March 27 Business After Hours at Laguna’s to Covenant Hospice. Accepting the \$3,200 donation are (L to R): Leah Harrison and Angie Schlosser, representatives of Covenant Hospice.**

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- GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 6  
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- HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 7  
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# The School Bell Rings



## HISTORIC WIN

Pensacola Beach's Jet Crowdis and project partner Ian Price are headed to the State History Fair in May after scoring a win at the local level. Their project was entitled, "LeRoy Collins Strength in the Sunshine State: Transforming Floridians Minds to Acceptance." Collins served as Governor of Florida and was known for his work in the areas of minority issues, women's rights, education, highway safety, labor, health, and welfare. Crowdis and Price are enrolled in Pensacola High's International Baccalaureate program.

## MAD SCIENTIST

Harry Hewson received Honorable Mention for his entry "Short- and Long-Term Memory: Boys vs. Girls" in the Southern Maryland Regional Science Fair in the Behavioral and Social Science category. The Fair was held at Prince George's Community College. The winners move to a national competition. Hewson, an eighth grader at Little Flower Catholic School, is relocating to Pensacola Beach this summer with his parents Liz and Harry

Hewson. He will attend Gulf Breeze High School.

## NEW FACES

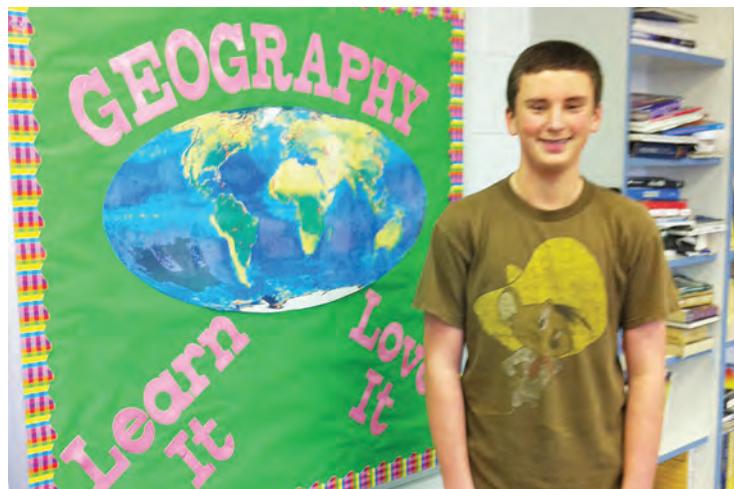
Fifth grade students at the Beach School welcomed Ethan Roberts to their class during March. Roberts is from New Orleans, but reports that he likes the Beach and his new school.

## GO TEAM

Pensacola State College students Elizabeth Merritt, Anna Ledet, Savannah Mongeau, Carey Stabenau and Jeane Thomas have been selected to the 2012 Phi Theta Kappa All-Florida Academic Team. Each year, a Phi Theta Kappa All-Florida Academic Team is named to recognize outstanding students in the Florida College System. The distinction is given to honor academic achievement, leadership and service to the community.

## WHAT'S WHEN

Good Friday holiday: April 6  
Report Cards: April 9  
Memorial Day holiday: May 28  
Last Day of School: June 7



Grayson Rine, an eighth grader, at Gulf Breeze Middle School qualified to participate in the State Level of the National Geographic Bee, March 30. Grayson traveled to Jacksonville University in Jacksonville, Florida to compete against 100 students. The winner moves on to the National Level to be held in Washington, DC. Grayson is the son of Doug and Samantha Rine.



Pensacola Beach Optimist Club's Annual Oratorical Contest finalists competed at the Beach Church Fellowship Hall, Tuesday, March 27. The Pensacola Beach Elementary School students, who presented speeches on "How My Optimism Has Helped Me Overcome Challenges," are (L to R): Tanner Braxton, Jon Sawyer Smith, John Turk, Sydney Traux, Gabriella Rice, Max Mateer, Hannah May, Grace Reece and Sophie Faircloth.

## Park Offers Junior Ranger Specialty Program

One hundred fifty years ago, our nation nearly tore itself apart. Soldiers in blue and gray struggled on battlefields across the country and changed the face of the United States of America.

In the Southeast Region of the National Park System, 22 national park units, including Gulf Islands National Seashore, Vicksburg National Military Park, and Fort Sumter National Monument, have banded together to encourage young visitors and their families to visit the special places where the Civil War unfolded to reexamine what that terrible conflict means to us today.

Children ages six and older can earn a special Junior Civil War Historian patch by completing the Junior Ranger programs at two or three of the participating parks and/or completing special online activities. During their visits, youngsters and their families will have the opportunity to explore how the Civil War impacted the lives of everyone American then and still affects us

as a people today.

There are two ways to become a Junior Civil War Historian.

### Option 1

Become a Junior Ranger at three (3) participating parks. Make sure you get a ranger to initial and date your activity card (available at all participating parks) or your Junior Ranger program booklets.

Once you have become a Junior Ranger at three parks, turn in your activity card or Junior Ranger program booklets at a participating park to receive your patch.

### Option 2

Become a Junior Ranger at two (2) participating parks and do one online activity. Online activities can be found at <http://www.nps.gov/stri/forkids/jcwhonline.htm>.

Turn in your activity card or Junior Ranger program booklets along with a printout of your completed online activity at one of 22 participating parks to re-

ceive your patch. At Gulf Islands participants may pick up activity cards in the Florida District location at the Naval Live Oaks, Fort Pickens, and Fort Barrancas Visitor Centers and in the Mississippi District at the Davis Bayou Visitor Center in Ocean Springs and at Fort Massachusetts on West Ship Island.

Gulf Islands is the nation's largest national seashore where people love to visit the beautiful beaches and swim in the Gulf of Mexico, but it also protects four massive brick forts that saw action in the Civil War. For more information, go to [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).

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# BYTES & BITS

By Joe Stukey  
Your Computer Pal

Q: "What is new in the iPad 3?"

A: The features most commonly mentioned are a better screen, lighter weight, faster processor, better battery, and a better camera. The iPad 3 has a feature that Apple calls a "retinal display", meaning that images are so sharp and smooth that you cannot see the pixels. The screen has a resolution of 2048 by 1536 pixels. With twice as many pixels (vertically and horizontally) as the iPad 2, the new unit's display has a resolution that is 4 times higher than the iPad 2.

The device weighs 1.45 pounds and is 0.37 inches thick. The camera takes 5-megapixel photos and records video. Other camera features include autofocus, face detection, and tap-to-focus. The battery allows the iPad to be used for about 10 hours before needing a recharge.

Prices appear to be about the same as previous models, ranging from \$499 for the 16-gigabyte wi-fi model, to \$829 for the 64-gigabyte 4g wireless model. The wi-fi model can connect to the Internet through your home network or at a local hotspot. The 4g wireless model connects with a cellular service purchased from AT&T or Verizon. With either carrier, the highest data package (5 gigabytes per month) tops out around \$50 per month. The 4g model can also connect through wi-fi networks.

Most people surveyed said that they are interested buying the iPad 3 because of its excellent screen and faster processor. However, those same features may be causing it to run hotter than expected. Users report that the iPad 3 runs hotter than the previous models. Some users have reported that the heat is on the lower left-hand side, when held in portrait mode. It can reach 116 degrees F when being heavily used. That is about 12 degrees higher than the iPad 2. Even though Apple says that those heat ranges are within their specifications, the extra heat can be uncomfortable for users.

This article was provided by The Stukey Group. For questions, contact Joe at joe@ycpals.com or 850-206-3156.



Kad Henderson, center, prepares to lead 40 riders on a bicycling adventure to three archeological significant sites in Fort Pickens, March 22. The Florida Public Archeology's Tour de Fort included a thirty minute presentation followed by the bike ride. There was no charge to attend.

## Runners Prepare for Gulf Coast Marathon

Long distance racers should lace up their running shoes for the third annual Gulf Coast Half Marathon hosted on Pensacola Beach Sunday, April 15. The starters gun sounds at 7 a.m. and participants must complete the distance in less than four hours.

Registrations are still being accepted. The cost to enter is \$85 through April 14. According to race directors they anticipate 1,800 runners will attend the event. Each finisher receives a commemorative medal at the post race awards ceremony hosted at Flounder's. The party begins at 10 a.m.

Awards for first, second and

third place will be given in 14 different age categories beginning with 14 years and younger to those who are 75 and over.

Contestants should leave baby strollers and dogs at home. Neither are allowed on the race course.

There will be mile markers and eleven supported water stations along the route.

Beach residents and visitors can cheer for runners. Drivers are asked to proceed with caution in areas along the route.

For more information, go to [www.pbhalf.com](http://www.pbhalf.com) or call Gulf Coast Event Group's office at 850-325-0131.

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# BUSINESS BUZZ.....

## GOOD FRIDAY

The First Friday in April is Good Friday. Perfect way to kick off the weekend with a social and business networking event at the Boardwalk. Easy to listen to music by John Wheeler and David Dunn begins at 5:30 p.m. Bring a stack of business cards to enter into the merchant's drawing for discounts.

## VOTE FOR ME

It's not political. It's partying. Paradise Bar and Grill wants to be considered for a two-peat as one of Florida's top ten beach bars. The Sandshaker, which is the originator of the famous Bushwacker on Pensacola Beach, is asking for a nod from their customers. Fred Flounder is lobbying for a top spot as are a big list of Beach venues. Chris Sancin, head barfly at Florida Beach Bars, notes that there are ten Pensacola Beach watering holes to consider: Bamboo Willie's Beachside Bar, Paradise, Flounder's, Capt'n Fun, Hemingway's, Hooters, Land Shark Landing, Pegleg Pete's Oyster Bar, Sandshaker Lounge and The Dock. Vote online at [www.FloridaBeachBar.com](http://www.FloridaBeachBar.com).

## WHISKEY RIVER IN AL

If you saw Willie Nelson at the first DeLuna Fest, and want to see the music icon again, you can catch his show at BamaJam 2012 in Enterprise, Alabama, Thursday, June 14 through Saturday, June 16. Willie joins previously an-

nounced stars Kid Rock, Tim McGraw, Zac Brown Band and Alan Jackson. Tickets are available online at [www.bamajam2012.com](http://www.bamajam2012.com).

## MORE JAMS

BonFire Jam on Pensacola Beach just gets better and better. They've added three new acts to warm up the crowd before headliner Ronnie Dunn takes the stage on May 12. Craig Morgan, Sunny Sweeney, and Brett Eldredge will open the beachfront concert.

"We're really excited about the package of opening acts we've put together," said Joe Lewis, BonfireJam-Pensacola Beach promoter. "Fans are going to see three of the best talents around. Craig Morgan is already a member of the Grand Ole Opry and Sunny and Brett are performers everyone is going to be talking about very soon."

BonfireJam-Pensacola Beach is presented by the Santa Rosa Island Authority and sponsored by PenAir Federal Credit Union, Mediacom, and the Santa Rosa Medical Center. Tickets, which begin at \$37.50, are available at [bonfirejam.com](http://bonfirejam.com).

## EARLY RISERS

Jesse and Joyce Brown, the Natives at the little Cafe in the Via de Luna shopping center arrive at the crack of dawn to prepare for the morning crush of hungry patrons. Just a few doors down, Kim LoBue and Jack White do the same at DJ's Cafe. Two locally

owned, cooked to order breakfast spots. Crowded but worth the wait especially if you are hungry early.

## WHAT'S SUP

Stand up paddleboarding is the craze on the Island. Big, stable boards for beginners and an array of choices for those who know which end of the paddle to dip in the water. You can hop aboard and get instruction at Innerlight, Key Sailing and Paradise. Eco-friendly sport that the whole family can enjoy.

## SING TO ME

The Beach Church is seek-

ing a new Choir Director. [www.thebeachchurch.com](http://www.thebeachchurch.com).

## CHAMBER CHATTER

Gulf Breeze Area Chamber's January 2012 Business of the Month is AppRiver LLC. AppRiver was co-founded by Michael Murdoch and Joel Smith in 2002 with a mission to develop and deploy a steady flow of powerful email and web security solutions.

The February 2012 Business of the Month is Pen Air Federal Credit Union, a locally owned and operated financial

institution. Pen Air is one of the BonFire Jam Pensacola Beach sponsors.

The Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce has set the dates for Taste of the Beach, a weekend of showcasing the Beach's culinary experts. It will be held September 15-16 at the Gulfside Pavilion. The Art and Wine Festival will be October 6-7. Artists who wish to be considered for the show should contact Maureen LaMar, Chamber president at 850-932-1500 or [penbeach@visitpensacolabeach.com](mailto:penbeach@visitpensacolabeach.com).

*Join us the first Friday of the Month*

**First Friday**  
pensacola beach  
2012 Entertainment Schedule

April 6th.....	John Wheeler & David Dunn
May 4th.....	Mike Jenks & Paul Killough
June 1st.....	Marc Kaul & David Dunn
July 6th.....	David Dunn & John Wheeler
August 3rd.....	Paul Killough & Marc Kaul
September 7th....	John Wheeler & David Dunn
October 5th.....	Paul Killough & Marc Kaul

**PENSACOLA BEACH'S PREMIER BUSINESS NETWORKING EVENT FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH. ADMISSION IS FREE. COME MINGLE WITH YOUR BUSINESS PEERS WHILE ENJOYING THE SUNSET AND ENTERTAINMENT. DROP OFF YOUR BUSINESS CARD AT ANY OF THE PARTICIPATING RETAIL SHOPS OR RESTAURANTS ON THE BOARDWALK TO BE ENTERED IN THE DRAWINGS FOR FREE DISCOUNTS. THE DRAWINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE AMPHITHEATRE BETWEEN 6:30 AND 7:30.**

**No Admission Cost, Free to Everyone**  
Entertainment Begins at 5:30

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# Hey Yawl



By Frank Cooper

Many of you who read this column will know immediately who I am going to write about. A lot of "Harrys" have lived on the Beach, but there was only one Harry Gowens. There may be only a few of the "Harry Stories" that can be retold, much less printed.

Harry Gowens was a long time Beach resident and was instrumental in the early growth of Pensacola Beach. Harry was born in Ball Play, Alabama, up above Gadsden. Harry was the second of seven children. He had one sister and five brothers.

It took a lot of children to work a mule farm in addition to raising cotton, corn and maybe some vegetables. For those of you not familiar with the term, a "mule farm" is a farm where the hard work of pulling a single plow or a wagon or maybe even a rake was done by a mule.

Mules are a little shorter than a horse but have the larger head like a donkey, large ears and can pull like you wouldn't believe. You might say they look a little dumb, but they are not. They will respond to their name. They know left from right. They know left is "haw" and right is "gee" and they would pull in that direction when told. I have known good college graduates who never got that straight.

Unlike my Uncle Tom from up above Helen, Georgia, who didn't register for the draft, Harry fought overseas and even

managed to bring home some German lead in his hip when he returned from France.

Harry graduated from Washington and Lee College on the GI Bill. Many of us went to college on the GI Bill. Most of us were also on the 52/20 club when we were discharged. Uncle Sam gave us 20 dollars a week for 52 weeks to help us get by and get on with our lives. Actually, that seemed like a pretty good deal at the time.

After graduation Harry got a job teaching and coaching football at Hokes Bluff High School not far from his home. He tried to help with the farm work back home but his dad almost ran him off.

It seems that before his Dad left for a farming seminar down in Auburn he outlined the land he wanted plowed before he returned. Harry told me there was no way he and his brothers could get that land plowed in the time allowed, so Harry just went down to Gadsden and traded the mules for a tractor. With their new tractor Harry and his brothers were able to finish the job.

When Mr. Gowens got back from the seminar he was happy to see the plowing completed, but he sure was not happy to see what it had cost him. According to Harry, Mr. Gowens soon realized the advantages the tractor had over the mules and allowed Harry to get back in the house.

In his early career Harry

worked for Hilltop Auto Parts located in Jonesboro, Georgia. I think it was out near the old Candler Field Airport, they call that Hartsfield International Airport today. Man, don't things change?

Well, when Harry tried to advertise for business he ran into some Atlanta regulations which restricted him. Harry didn't like that. Rather than purchase printed ads in the Atlanta Journal or Atlanta Constitution, he would take his wrecker with painted advertising on it, hook up a really messed up wrecked car body and pull it up and down Atlanta streets to advertise Hilltop Auto Parts. He would pull that rig all through The Varsity parking lot and then on down through the Georgia Tech campus hoping the students there would think of him when they needed repairs or if they were looking for a new "Rambling Wreck."

This kind of reminds me of Richard Wells, some years ago, towing a very illegal sign around Pensacola Sound to advertise his restaurant on Pensacola Beach. That's a story for another day.

Harry moved to Pensacola with Apex Auto Parts in the late fifties and operated that business for some time. His son, Glenn, is still operating Apex on Highway 29 where it plays a vital part in providing used auto parts for that area.

Harry had a way of getting along with almost anybody and he would help out anybody who

really needed the help. Harry Gowens was that kind of man.

He is credited with starting Pensacola Beach Elementary, was

the first Captain of the Krewe of Wrecks and was honored with a Spirit of Pensacola Beach Award prior to his death.

## Free Concert Series Kicks Off Tonight

Bands on the Beach cranks up its weekly concert series at the Gulfside Pavilion on Casino Beach starting April 3 from 7-9 p.m. Bands on the Beach, is organized by the Santa Rosa Island Authority and sponsored by Cat Country 98.7. It is free and features regional artists performing in musical styles ranging from jazz and soul to classic country and Southern Rock.

A limited number of seats are available at the beachfront pavilion, so spectators are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets. No pets are allowed and glass is prohibited.

For more information, call the SRIA at 850-932-2257, go to [www.visitpensacolabeach.com](http://www.visitpensacolabeach.com), or tune into the Cat Country 98.7 for the latest updates.

### 2012 Bands on the Beach Schedule

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| April 3: The Kyle Parker Band            | July 10: Crosstown                     |
| April 10: Shades                         | July 17: Pearl Clarkin & Big Jim Brown |
| April 17: Holly Shelton                  | July 24: The Reunion Band              |
| April 24: Beulah Land South Band         | July 31: Not Quite Fab                 |
| May 1: Mass Kurfuzion                    | August 7: The Laymen                   |
| May 8: Westside Players                  | August 14: Big Muddy                   |
| May 15: Mr. Big & The Rhythm Sisters     | August 21: Southern Breeze             |
| May 22: Rain Date                        | August 28: The Sawmill Band            |
| May 29: The Song Byrds                   | September 4: 13th Hourglass            |
| June 5: The Astronauts                   | September 11: Wildwood                 |
| June 12: Lektric Mullet                  | September 18: NO Bands on the Beach    |
| June 19: Dr. Breeze                      | September 25: Kee Creek Band           |
| June 26: Modern Eldorados                | October 2: On the Beach                |
| July 3: Johnny Earthquake & The Moondogs | October 9: Class X                     |



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APRIL

- 4-Karaoke with Becky 7:30PM-11:30PM
- 5-Karaoke with Becky 7:30PM-11:30PM
- 6-Johnny Barbato & Friends 7:30PM-11:30PM
- 7-Posi-Tones 4PM-8PM
- 8-Southern Breeze 4PM-8PM
- 10-Sean Brown and Kelly Gallawa, 6PM-9PM
- 11-Karaoke with Becky 7:30PM-11:30PM
- 12-Karaoke with Becky 7:30PM-11:30PM
- 13-Dennis Gossman and Tim Morgan 7:30PM-11:30PM
- 14-Crosstown 7:30PM-11:30PM
- 15-Tomato & Dennis Gossman 4PM-8PM

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at the Sabine Marina



Hundreds of delegates attended the Power Up Energy Expo on Pensacola Beach at the Hilton, March 19-21. Escambia County Extension Agent Carrie Stevenson, left, prepared her booth for visitors. Mary Gutierre of Gulf Coast Energy Network, center, is one of the hosts of the annual event. Gulf Power Marketing Manager Keith Swilley, right, offered energy saving ideas for homes and businesses.

## Keep Looking Up

The Escambia Amateur Astronomers will have their telescopes trained on the night skies above Pensacola Beach. The Beach Star Gazes are offered at no charge. Mark your calendars for April 27-28 at Casino Beach.

For more information, contact Dewey Barker after 4 p.m. at 850-450-7767 or visit [www.eaaa.net](http://www.eaaa.net) or go to: <http://rlwalker.gulfweb.net/astronomy/index.html> to view the calendar of events and club photos.

# MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND

## SATURDAY MAY 12th

TOES IN THE WATER, FANNY IN THE SAND

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- San de Luna, 2/2.5 Waterfront, \$249,900
- Seahorse, 1/1.5, Gulf front, \$235,000

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Community Association Manager  
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### Jeremy Johnson

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# 2012 APRIL ENTERTAINMENT

## Beer Fest Great Music Crawfish Fest Bikini Contests

April 5 Shawna P & Adam Tyler Brown, 7 PM	April 14 BEER FEST
April 6 Schofield, 9 PM	One Irie, 3 PM
April 7 Avenida 16, 1PM	Ba'nana Republic 9 PM
Spring Break Bikini Contest & Sophie's Swimwear Fashion Show, 5 PM	April 15 Avenida 16, 3 PM
Schofield, 9 PM	April 19 Brian Short, 7 PM
April 8 Wildwood, 3 PM	April 20 Crawfish Festival begins 4 PM
April 12 David Dunn, 7 PM	April 21 Crawfish Festival opens at 11 AM
	April 22 Crawfish Festival opens at Noon

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# BAMBOO WILLIE'S STAGE

**Friday, April 20th**  
4pm- The Blue Party  
9pm- Longreef

**Saturday, April 21st**  
Noon- Gravy Flavored Kisses  
5pm- Tout Les Soir  
10pm- Longreef

**Sunday, April 22nd**  
Noon- Tout Les Soir  
5pm Brooke Woods

# APRIL 20-21-22

CHECK OUT THE BOARDWALK MERCHANTS SALE!

Gravy Flavored Kisses  
David Dunn  
Marc Kaul  
Shawna P. & Adam Tyler Brown  
The Blue Party  
Maggie Koener  
Brooke Woods  
Longreef  
Tout Les Soir  
Avenida 16

# QUIETWATER AMPHITHEATRE

**Friday, April 20th**  
6pm- Avenida 16

**Saturday, April 21st**  
1pm- Shawna P. & Adam Tyler Brown  
6pm- Maggie Koener

**Sunday, April 22nd**  
Noon- David Dunn  
4pm- Marc Kaul

**Corona**

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# King Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 1 Mary's pet
- 5 Sleepwear, for short
- 8 Commotions
- 12 Brit's exclamation
- 13 Debtor's letters
- 14 Domesticate
- 15 Made moist
- 17 Send forth
- 18 Lance
- 19 Crouches
- 21 Line of fashion?
- 24 Boom times
- 25 Auction actions
- 28 Asian desert
- 30 Animation frame
- 33 Historic time
- 34 Bolivian city
- 35 Guitar's cousin
- 36 Jewel
- 37 War god
- 38 Cruising
- 39 Pick a target
- 41 Profound
- 43 Jamaican music style
- 46 Blunder
- 50 Satan's specialty
- 51 Greek threatened by a sword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18						19	20			
21				22	23		24			
25	26	27		28	29			30	31	32
33				34					35	
36				37				38		
39	40			41		42				
43	44			45		46		47	48	49
50				51	52	53				
54				55				56		
57				58				59		

- 54 Flintstones' pet
  - 55 Wildebeest
  - 56 Aid
  - 57 Lily variety
  - 58 Tackle's teammate
  - 59 Slithery
- DOWN**
- 1 Covers
  - 2 Now, on a memo
  - 3 Jerry Herman musical
  - 4 Circumvent
  - 5 Wrestling win
  - 6 Scarborough of MSNBC
  - 7 Lather
  - 8 Enjoyed thoroughly
  - 9 Syrian city
  - 10 Leave out
  - 11 Collections
  - 16 Before
  - 20 Classroom surprise
  - 22 Culture medium
  - 23 Segway alternative
  - 25 Plead
  - 26 Rage
  - 27 Harmful
  - 29 Diamond corner
  - 31 — out a living
  - 32 Meadow
  - 34 Dalai —
  - 38 Iraq War helicopter
  - 40 Nome dome home
  - 42 Id counter part
  - 43 Cincinnati team
  - 44 1960s singer
  - 45 Sands
  - 46 Rim
  - 47 Run away
  - 48 Toppled
  - 49 Catch sight of
  - 52 Massachusetts cape
  - 53 Pie filling?

If at first you don't succeed  
Flounder, Flounder again

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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

### Real Estate For Sale

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**BEAUTIFUL LOT Waterfront Gulf Breeze.** Stunning on Santa Rosa Sound. Your own beach with 1.73 acres. Build your dream home. \$300,000. Owner will divide. Dennis Remesch, Re/Max on the Coast, 850-384-7607

**Pensacola Beach Condo** 2-bedroom, 14th floor unit in Emerald Dolphin. \$299,000. Call Jeremy Johnson, Island Realty, 850-377-3145

**East Bay Waterfront home** 2,485 sq.ft. with 102 feet on the bay. MLS listing # 402379 Call Linda Murphy, Keller Williams Realty 850-748-0865

**PENSACOLA BEACH CONDO** Portofino, Tower 1, 2BR/2.5BA with numerous upgrades and private parking. Gulf view (southwest), nicely furnished. Built-in patio grill, 1325 SF, Ready to live in or rent. \$375K. 228-875-3676 or 228-324-9638.

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### Real Estate For Rent

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### Fitness

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### Pets

Adoptable dogs and kittens. Pensacola Humane Society. [humanesocietyofpensacola.org](http://humanesocietyofpensacola.org)

Best Paw Forward Training people to work with their pets. Group and private lessons. [www.BestPawForward.info](http://www.BestPawForward.info) Find us on Facebook

Kids and Kritters Parade. Pensacola Beach February 2, 2013

### Weddings

**NOTARY to perform wedding ceremonies. 850-748-6878**

## King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

## Calendar

- April 6  
First Friday. Portofino Boardwalk. Music. 5:30 p.m.  
Full Moon Walk. Ft. Pickens, 7:30 April 7  
Easter Egg Hunt, 9 a.m. Beach Church  
Junkanoo Easter Bonnet Parade. Sandbar to Shaker. 2 pm  
Junkanoo Easter Party. Sandshaker 2 - 5 p.m. Open to public.
  - April 8  
Easter Sunrise Service, Flounder's, Amphitheatre at the Boardwalk, & Casino Gulfside Pavilion
  - April 11  
Santa Rosa Island Authority Meeting, 5 p.m. #1 Via de Luna.
  - April 13  
Relay for Life. 6 p.m. Casino Beach. ends at noon April 14.
  - April 14  
Premie Cup Sailing Regatta. Pensacola Beach Yacht Club
  - April 15  
Gulf Coast Half Marathon. Casino Beach  
BINGO. Pensacola Beach Elk's Lodge. 6 p.m. \$1 per card. Family friendly. Open to public.
  - April 16  
County Commission Meeting. Palafox Place.
  - April 20  
Crawfish Festival. Bamboo Willie's Boardwalk. End April 22
  - April 20  
Star Gaze Fort Pickens. Dark.
  - April 21  
Run For Their Lives. 5K. 8 a.m. Gulfside Pavilion  
Paddleboard Classic. Grand Marlin. 9 a.m.  
Cobia Fishing Tournament. Paradise Bar and Grill. Ends Sunday.
  - National Parks Week. Free entrance to Fort Pickens thr April 29.  
Tour de Cure bicycling event. The Andrews Institute.
  - April 25  
Santa Rosa Island Authority meeting. 5 p.m. #1 Via de Luna.
  - April 28  
Jr Ranger Day for Kids. Ft. Pickens. 9:45 a.m. to Noon
  - April 29  
BINGO Beach Elk's Lodge. 6 p.m. \$1 per card. Family friendly. Open to public.
- .....
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1st and 3rd Thursdays,  
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  - BEACH BRIDGE CLUB**  
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# Mostly NUTS

By Candace Segar

I have been giving a lot of thought to the allergy shots I get every other month. This has been going on for a year, and the results have been phenomenal. I am no longer allergic to wheat. This has opened up my world to wonderful tasting foods that I missed such as rye bread and pasta. Not only can I re-introduce those foods back into my diet, but my energy level has skyrocketed. I often wondered if there was anything outside my own self which may have contributed to my immune system breaking down. This is what I discovered.

There are a multitude of chemicals used as preservatives and agents for packaging. I removed the bulk of these from my diet with the exception of at least one item. The chemical found in plastic containers and the lining of metal cans is known as bisphenol A or BPA. It has the potential to leach from the containers into our food and water, and when it does, it acts as an estrogen mimicking compound.

As of 2012, over 1000 studies have been completed on BPA. All the industry studies found that BPA is 100 percent safe. The independent studies performed have shown that BPA contributes to epidemics such as cancer, obesity, diabetes, heart disease and immune dysfunctions including asthma and allergies. This is what caught my eye.

The Food and Drug Administration realized that there was reason for concern sharing the National Toxicology Program perspective that BPA exposure has a negative effect on the brain, behavior and growth of fetuses, infants and children based on recent studies. The FDA has the power to prohibit the use of a chemical. The FDA can quickly protect the public by revoking the use through a notice published in the Federal Register.

The focus has been on the young, but I wonder what are the cumulative effects of this chemical with other chemicals on adults? What are the effects over many years?

The other problem for the FDA is getting information from the chemical industry to find out where BPA is used. I am not kidding. Right now there is a self policing effort for companies to come forth and identify where it is used. How effective is that? We should know what chemicals are actually in what products.

This leads me to wonder what else may be leaching into our food and drink. I think the laws need to be changed so we can know what is contained in foods so we can make good decisions. All I can say is this, do yourself a favor, and research, research, research. Be proactive and make your voice heard. Your healthy life depends on it!

# Hold Em Players Support School Music Program

Imagine the game that was made famous on Mississippi Riverboats, in Wild West saloons and back room gambling joints has become so mainstream on Pensacola Beach that it is played by musicians, retired military officers and school teachers. Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun games bring the challenge and camaraderie of poker to anyone who would like to play. No gambling involved, just fun.

The poker players raised \$320 for the Pensacola Beach Elementary School's music department. This is in addition to their donation from the proceeds of their Celebration 4444 Education Tournament hosted in September each year.

"The Opera performed at

the Beach School," said Music Teacher Mary Holway. "That was one of the programs supported by the Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun donations."

donations have been used to fund musical instrument purchases. Future plans include a new piano. Hold 'Em games are hosted on a weekly basis on Pensacola Beach.

John Woodham has played second fiddle over the last 14 days. At the Shaker Tex Atkinson was the March 19 winner with Glen Burleson earning the top spot on March 26. Woodham was runner-up at both games. At Paddy's Sara Mandel slid in ahead of Woodham on March 22. However, the poker playing diva could not outlast Ted



Rick Uzdevenes, left, presents Pensacola Beach Elementary School Music Teacher Mary Holway with a donation from tournament play.

Holway, who accepted the donation at the Beach Chamber's Business After Hours on March 27, also mentioned that previous

Gorder, who took all the chips on March 25.

For information, call Rick Uzdevenes at 850-324-2667.

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Island Times

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**Monday:**  
Sandshaker, 7 PM

**Thursday:**  
Paddy O'Leary's, 7PM

**Saturday:**  
The Dock, 2 PM

**Sunday:**  
Paddy O'Leary's, 5 PM

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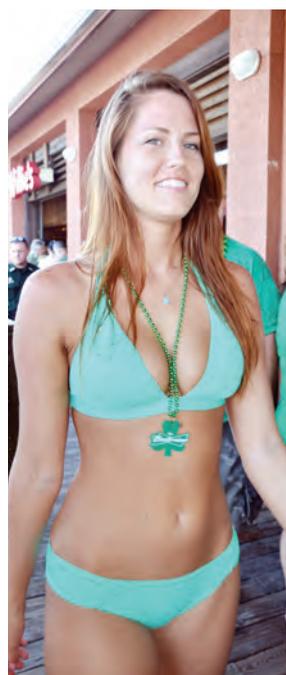
This is the Beach's resident Leprechaun, Lloyd Hess. He has been attending the St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawl since its inception. Since the event has grown, he only visits a few of the participating bars, but draws stares and smiles where ever he goes.



Ready for the shenanigans! Michelle Calvert and Gary Pagan were at the first stop, Sidelines, at the St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawl, March 17.



Morrie Drees has a long Irish tale about the shamrocks in this pot which are descendants from those grown on St. Patrick's grave. He was showing them off at Sidelines at the St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawl, March 17.



Go Irish on the Island was hosted by the Beach Chamber from March 12-18. St. Patrick's Day included 35 events, including a Green Bikini Contest at Bamboo Willie's. One dozen beauties entered. The judges had a difficult task, but finally awarded first place to Samantha Carroll, right. Chanel Cegielski, left, and Brittney Crowell, center, enjoyed the thunderous cheers from the standing room only crowd under the thatched palapa roof.

**Did you see me in IT? More photos available  
online at [www.myislandtimes.com](http://www.myislandtimes.com)**

**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!

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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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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.

**FLOUNDER'S CHOWDER HOUSE**

Celebrating 30 years of Floundering 'neath the moon and stars. Offering fresh Seafood including Tuna, Mahi and of course Flounder! Award winning chowder, po boys, burgers and Pensacola Beach Style baked oysters. Sample our Fresh catch including the Shrimp Boat Platter- loaded with shrimp cocktail, BBQ shrimp, fried shrimp, popcorn shrimp and U-peel ems. Kids love our Pirate Ship playground located on our beach - well within view of dining parents. For late night revelers- Flounder's is host to the world's finest beach bands. Dance all night on Flounder's beach to the most popular bands from across the south.

Open 7 days a week. Sunday Brunch. At the Traffic Light on beautiful Pensacola Beach, 850-932-2003 [www.flounderschowderhouse.com](http://www.flounderschowderhouse.com)

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One of America's great steakhouses; proudly serving USDA Prime Steaks, seafood and Irish specialties including Irish fisherman's bouillabaisse, Corned Beef and Cabbage and Shepherd's Pie all inside a turn of the century New York Irish Saloon themed pub. McGuire's is celebrated for its atmosphere, boasting more than 750,000 signed dollar bills hanging from the ceilings of the pub. Live entertainment coupled with great food and warm and friendly service by Employees who Give a Damn! Visit our on-site brewery and the O'Tolf Wine Cellar featuring the complete vertical collection of the Chateau Mouton Rothschild Artist Series. Featured on NBC's 'Today' Show, highly recommended by Fodors, Frommers and AAA travel guides, Florida Trend Magazine Hall of Fame Member.

Open every day at 11 am, 850-433-6789 [mcguiresirishpub.com](http://mcguiresirishpub.com)

**SANDSHAKER LOUNGE**

The "World Famous Sandshaker"- a Pensacola Beach Tradition since 1973. Home of the Original Bushwacker. Been selling this signature drink for over 30 years. First bar on the Beach to offer this tasty frozen concoction. Monday half price BARE 10 a.m. til close; TX Hold'Em at 7 p.m., \$2 Tuesday & Karaoke, Wednesday \$2 Ladies Nite, Thursday half price T-Shirt Nite. Live Entertainment Year Round Wednesday thru Sunday. Check out the Gift Shop. Across from the Boardwalk. Open 10 am - 3 am. 850-932-2211. [www.sandshaker.com](http://www.sandshaker.com)

# After Sundown

**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)

**NATIVE CAFE**

Open at 7:30 a.m. seven days a week. 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. Serving breakfast and lunch everyday; 45 Via de Luna. Downtown Pensacola Beach. 934-4848.



Captain Kirk Newkirk readies his NACRA 20 sailboat to race in Santa Rosa Sound during the Midwinter Nationals, hosted March 23-24 at Key Sailing. The expert sailor won first place in the Open 20 Fleet.

Sailing very close together in Santa Rosa Sound on March 25 during the Midwinter Nationals, Charlie Harp, background, earned fifth place in the Open 20 Fleet. Taylor Reis, foreground, won the F-16 Fleet.



Charlie Trinqué with 1337 on his sail, left, and Mike Hill await the start of their race at the Midwinter Nationals, hosted March 23-24 on Pensacola Beach. Trinqué was awarded second place in the Open 20 Fleet while Hill sailed to fourth place. Warm weather and ample winds welcomed the sailors to the thirty-fifth running of this event. The awards ceremony was at Key Sailing.

Duly Chaltain sailed in the Open 20 Fleet at the Midwinter Sailing Nationals, hosted on Pensacola Beach March 23-24. Warm weather had sailors competing for space in the Sound with powerboats and jet skis.



Paul Price captained his Hobie FX1 to a first place finish in the Open Fleet of the Midwinter Nationals, hosted March 23-24 at Key Sailing.



Sailor Pat Pettengill heads for the Beach which was crowded with spectators during the Midwinter Nationals, hosted March 23-24 at Key Sailing. Pettengill earned fourth place in the F-16 Fleet.



Imagine if you will, it's the first of May and a quiet night on the beach. The peaceful surf gently pulls toward the shore, a light breeze blows, and sea oats sway atop the dunes as a crimson sun sinks below the horizon. Beachgoers make their way home and lights start twinkling all along the beach as shadows lengthen. Suddenly, something breaks the surface of the Gulf water, not far from shore. If you happened to be sitting quietly nearby you might notice the large head of a sea turtle strain upward from the water to scan the beach, moonlight reflecting on its ruddy carapace. It is most likely a female loggerhead scoping out the perfect place to nest on the very beach where she herself hatched many years ago. And so our sea turtle season will begin.

opened to be visiting at just the right time. In the combined areas of Gulf Islands National Seashore which we patrol - Perdido Key, Ft. Pickens, and Santa Rosa, plus Pensacola Beach - we counted 87 nests. Of those, a few were later recategorized as false crawls. By the end of our 2011 turtle season, over 3,400 tiny hatchlings were witnessed making their way into the Gulf of Mexico, a record for us after twenty years of sea turtle patrolling and monitoring!

May is the month sea turtles start coming ashore to nest in our area as the northern Gulf water becomes warmer. The first nests of the 2012 season were documented in south Florida and halfway up Florida's Atlantic Coast around the end of February, but May 1 is traditionally the start of sea turtle patrols on Pensacola Beach and the surrounding areas of Gulf Islands National Seashore. Bio-techs and trained volunteers, passionate about sea turtles, will soon begin their trek at first light each morning in UTVs or on ATVs, searching for tracks and tell-tale signs of nests.

Unfortunately, one of the biggest problems our sea turtles encounter is not Mother Nature, but light pollution. Sea turtles, which once had no trouble finding dark sections of the beach where they could nest, now find themselves crowded out by communities which don't understand the impact they are having on these ancient mariners. Bright lights from high-rise condominiums, businesses, and residential areas light up the night sky, frightening away females coming ashore to nest and disorienting hatchlings.

Last year was an exciting time for our patrollers and sea turtle enthusiasts, as well as a few lucky tourists who hap-

But worse, should hatchlings emerge from a nest earlier than expected and no one is there to monitor or assist, they will frequently become disoriented and trek inland, eventually dying from dehydration or predation. In a perfect world, the horizon which beckons them would be an expansive sea illuminated by moonlight, not the man-made sky glow which will surely lead them toward death.

event shirt and lunch. It also allows you to be part of the post race awards ceremony which will follow immediately at The Grand Marlin.

Many people have no idea that something as simple as bright white porch lights or inappropriately placed landscape lighting, or even open curtains during nesting season could have such a negative impact on sea turtles. But most of them, I believe, upon hearing this would be eager to learn what they could do to help alleviate the problem.

For more information call 916-1600.

Throughout the 2012 sea turtle season, I will share things which can be done to make our beaches more safe and appealing for sea turtles. Each of us has the power to make small changes which in turn create big changes for these magnificent creatures. What a wonderful legacy for our children, to leave the planet just a little bit better than we found it.

Until next time, Lights Out!

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### Time To Enter Five Flags Stand Up Race

The Grand Marlin will host the first ever Five Flags Paddleboard Classic, Saturday April 21 beginning at 9 a.m. Competitors can choose between the one mile or three mile race course. The fee of \$35 includes your race entry,

event shirt and lunch. It also allows you to be part of the post race awards ceremony which will follow immediately at The Grand Marlin.

For more information call 916-1600.

We'll be rolling off the presses with routes, maps, schedules in May 2012.

Mailed to beach residents  
Advertising rates, deadlines  
email  
shelley@myislandtimes.com

# readin' the water

By Saltwater Rick

It's spring and the ling are in full swing. The boats are out there harvesting the best the Gulf has to offer. I watched Jeremy Hogue in his inshore rig just slaying the Redfish and Trout hanging out at The Grand Marlin on Monday evening. Looked like they were using live shrimp and the guys were having a blast.

Monster schools of Redfish are cruising the shallows and all it takes is a little time and a shiny



lure and dinner is in the cooler.

The big boats are booking and the marina is open for business. So do yourself a favor and go fishing!



Jeremy Hogue, Derrick Wall and Ben Arnold show off their Cobia catches.

# Local Tourneys Test Anglers Skills

Is it time to wet a line? You bet it is. The local waters are full of action for new and seasoned anglers. Tourney organizers are dangling all kinds of fishing fun for you this season:

### Gulf Breeze Bait and Tackle Pompano Tourney:

You can still enter. The tourney continues through May. [www.gbackle.com](http://www.gbackle.com). Here's a look at the fish to beat.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Ed Cunningham 4.56
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Art Posis 4.44
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Will Neuman 4.27
- 4<sup>th</sup> Ricky Teeran 4.22
- 5<sup>th</sup> Larry Hipsh 4.21
- 6<sup>th</sup> Omar Breiz 4.15
- 7<sup>th</sup> David Michell 4.03
- 8<sup>th</sup> Jody Herzog 3.98
- 9<sup>th</sup> Victor Pollard 3.74
- 10<sup>th</sup> Patsy Thomas 3.65

Lady Angler:  
Callie Newman 2.08  
Jr Angler

Maxwell Jowers 3.70

### United Way Santa Rosa's 7th Annual Fishin' With a Mission bass tournament:

Milton, Saturday, April 14. They are looking for volunteers. Call 850-623-4507 or email [marianne@unitedwaysrc.org](mailto:marianne@unitedwaysrc.org) to sign up.

### Paradise Pier and Small Boat Cobia Phobia:

April 20-22 at Paradise Bar and Grill. Small Boats can enter at \$250. Cash prizes start at \$2,500

for first. Top five will get cash awards. Junior and Lady angler divisions. Anglers can enter to fish from a pier for \$20. More information is available at Paradise. Pick up entry forms at the bar. 21 Via de Luna.

### Gulf Breeze Bait and Tackle Cobia Tourney:

Continues through April 30. Sign up at Gulf Breeze Bait and Tackle. \$20 entry fee. Fish can be caught off any pier but must be weighed-in at Gulf Breeze Bait and Tackle. As of March 27, Derek Walls was the leader with a 55.8 pound Cobia.

More information is available at [www.gbackle.com](http://www.gbackle.com).

### Pensacola Bud Light King Mackerel Tourney and Shallow Water Slam:

June 23-24. Weigh in at Flounder's Beach. First place King Mackerel earns the angler



Current leader of GBBT Pompano Tournament Ed Cunningham with his 4.56 pound Pompano.

\$7500. The biggest combined weight of Redfish, Flounder, and Speckled Trout will win \$5,000. Great tourney for anglers and spectators.

If you want to know more, go online to [www.pensacolakingmack.com](http://www.pensacolakingmack.com).

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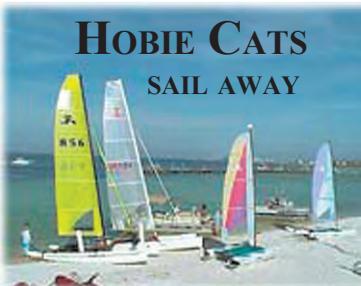
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Ricky Phelps & Dennis Gossman, 8:30 PM  
**Fri & Sat, April 6-7**  
Kyle Parker Band, 9 PM  
**Sun, April 8**  
Rez & The Solutions, 4 PM  
**Thurs, April 12**  
The Rez Duo, 8:30 PM  
**Fri & Sat, April 13-14**  
Buzzcut, 9 PM  
**Sun, April 15**  
Lektric Mullet, 4 PM

**APRIL 7 2 to 6 pm**  
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Half Price Drinks/Shots for BARE Customers  
**\$2 TUES:** 10 AM -Close  
\$2 Wine/Beer/Well. Karaoke w/Becky, 8 PM  
**WED:** Ladies Nite. 5 PM-Close  
\$2 Wine/Beer/Well. Other Drinks Half Price.  
**Rock Star Karaoke** with Mike Jencks Band, 8 PM  
**THURS:** 7 PM-Close  
1/2Price Drinks w/Shaker Shirt. Music at 8 PM  
**SUN:** Music/Karaoke with DJ Vic at 9 PM til

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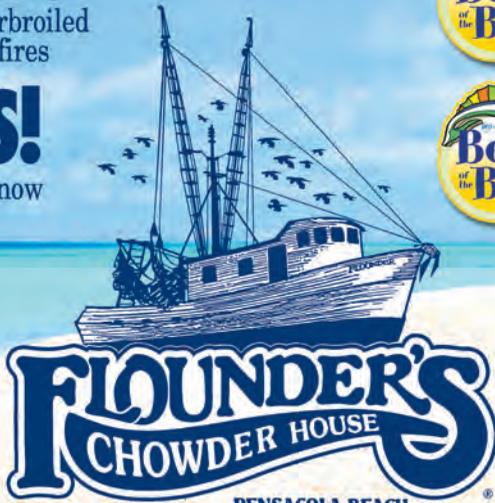
## SHRIMP!

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**WEDNESDAY**  
\$2.50 Hurricanes

**THURSDAY**  
\$2.50 House Martinis  
50¢ Raw Oysters  
4 pm to close

**FRIDAY**  
\$6 Crab Traps

**SATURDAY**  
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**SUNDAYS AT NOON**  
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