

# ISLAND TIMES

Volume IX, Number 18

Pensacola Beach, Florida

December 24, 2013

## Grin and Bear It



**Polar Bear Plunge  
January 1 at 2 P.M.  
Santa Rosa Sound  
behind Paradise Bar  
and Grill**

The grand finale of the Pensacola Beach Chamber's Season Your Holidays with Island Spirit promotion is the Polar Bear Plunge at Paradise Bar and Grill on January 1. Wade, splash and scurry through the out-and-back course in Santa Rosa Sound. Beach Bears Marcia Hoven, left, and Gabby Barrett make a splash each year with their unique attire. They are perennial favorites in the Plungewear Contest hosted by Island Times. Bundle up and dive into the story on Page 2.

# Polar Bears Plunge in New Year's Day Event

The hibernation ceases for Pensacola Beach Polar Bears on January 1. It's time to take a swim in the chilly waters of Santa Rosa Sound. The Pensacola Beach Chamber hosts this event, so Polar Bears and their cubs can step to the starting line at Paradise Bar and Grill at 2 p.m. on the first day of the New Year.

No one is sure how long the Polar Bear Plunge on Pensacola Beach has been taking place. Foggy memories of past splashes include galloping into the Gulf near Bogie's and swimming behind the Sun Ray Taco Shop. It has been part of the Beach Chamber's Season Your Holidays with Island Spirit since 2006.

The population of Polar Bears grows each year.

"Ironically, we registered 213 entrants in the Polar Bear Plunge on January 1, 2013," said Pensacola Beach Chamber President Nicole Stacey. "It was

amazing to see all those people get into the cold water to kick off their new year."

The friendly volunteers from the Pensacola Beach Woman's Club will handle the registration which begins at noon. There is a \$10 charge for Polar Bears to participate. The entry fee, which benefits the Pensacola Beach Chamber, entitles the Bear to a commemorative, custom designed Polar Bear Plunge t-shirt, one prize drawing ticket and some of Renee Mack's famous black-eyed peas.

"The good luck is cooked right into the big, pot of black-eyed peas," said Paradise General Manager Renee Mack. "Every year we need a bigger pot of peas, there are so many entries."

The Chamber's Polar Bear Cub Club was created for elementary school-aged and younger who brave the cold water to take the Plunge. The entry fee for Cubs is \$5. Each Cub gets

a special Cub Club membership card and a bag of goodies. Chamber officials have packed the goodie bag with sweet treats, pencils and tiny toys.

Since the starting gate is a small strip of sand on the Paradise beach shoreline and the announcement to begin is hard to discern over the cheering of the exuberant crowds, this is not considered a race. The Bears wade and waddle, skip and swim out to a point approximately even with the end of the Paradise pier before heading back to shore.

Dave Greenwood, Santa Rosa Island Authority Water Safety Supervisor, predicts that the water temp in the Sound will be in the low 60s and if the north wind comes to the party, factor in the wind chill. For real polar bears, snowbirds and Frosty the Snowman, those stats are mild.

It does not matter if you are timid bear or a brazen bear,

everyone has a chance to win. A prize drawing is held immediately follow the Plunge. The grand prize is an overnight stay at Paradise. Additional prizes include a \$25 bar tab and a Paradise t-shirt.

"There is no penalty for turning around too soon or lingering in the ice water," said longtime Polar Bear Plunger Marcia Hoven. "My den of bears likes to take our time and enjoy the invigorating water. We just have to finish before the prizes are announced."

Hoven, along with Gabby Barrett, and friends from all over the country go all out for the wet event. They are always top finishers in the Polar Bear Plunge-wear Contest sponsored by *Island Times*. A panel of secret judges select the Bear or Bears who have the most creative costumes. Prizes are awarded for the top three based on creativity and fun factor.

Pensacola Beach native Christy Newkirk celebrates her January 1 birthday by taking the Plunge. She wears more traditional attire – a swimsuit and goose bumps. Her mom Susan, who is a competitive runner, waits on the shore readying a big, warm towel.

Charles Gheen, who is the Beach's triathlon race director, is no stranger to cold water swims. He shared some tips.

"Stand shin-deep for a few minutes and then walk out quickly and dive in. I have done this event before, it wasn't that bad, but it got my attention for sure. I've done it in the Pacific without a wetsuit in their cold, cold water and it hurts," said Gheen. "Keep an old sweatshirt on the shore to put on immediately until you can rinse off. If it's the thing where everyone wades out about navel-deep and splashes around, wear the sweatshirt out in the water. Of course, there are those evil souls who will push you under."

Gheen's final piece of advice, "Have fun!"



Twenty-eight very merry passengers stowed away on the Shady Lady during the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce's Lighted Boat Parade, December 7. The parade launched from Sabine Marina in Little Sabine Bay and traveled into the Sound with Portofino Boardwalk as a final destination. The Shady Lady won top honors as the Best of Show for its lighting and decorations.

Looking for the Christmas and New Year's Event Schedule?

Turn to **CHRISTMAS TIMES**  
on Pages 10-11 of this edition.

## ISLAND TIMES

Published every other Tuesday  
SHELLEY W. JOHNSON, PUBLISHER  
Post Office Box 844 • Gulf Breeze, FL 32562  
850-748-6878 phone  
[islandtimes@bellsouth.net](mailto:islandtimes@bellsouth.net)  
[www.MyIslandTimes.com](http://www.MyIslandTimes.com)

No portion of this publication may be reproduced without the consent of the publisher.

## Gulf Islands National Seashore Announces Living History Camp and Candlelight Tours

Gulf Islands National Seashore will present a Living History Camp, January 11-12 and Candlelight Tour of Fort Pickens, January 11. During daytime hours, the event features a living history encampment by Company C, 3rd U.S. Infantry (1860-1865) from 9 a.m. Saturday until 3 p.m. Sunday. Uniformed re-enactors will conduct period "Colors" ceremony at 9 a.m. Saturday and Sunday; and a "Retreat" ceremony Saturday at 5 p.m. Company drill demonstrations will be conducted at 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. on Sunday. A ranger led tour of Fort Pickens will be at 2 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday.

The fort will remain open until 8:30 p.m. for self-guided candlelight tours Saturday, January 11. The event provides a rare opportunity to experience

the fort at night. Costumed re-enactors will be stationed around the fort answering visitor's questions and providing information about Pensacola during the Civil War. Visitors should arrive no later than 8 p.m. in order to experience the fort prior to closing at 8:30 pm.

Although the fort will be lighted with candles, flashlights are allowed. Dress appropriately for the evening weather and wear comfortable walking shoes.

Parking is limited so carpooling is recommended. Superintendent Brown encourages everyone to enjoy the National Seashore and ranger-led programs. For a complete program schedule and more information, call 934-2600, visit the Gulf Islands National Seashore website at [www.nps.gov/guis](http://www.nps.gov/guis), or follow on Twitter@gulflandsnps.

## Krewe of Wrecks Releases Mardi Gras Parade Applications, Sets Safety Meetings

It's time to roll. The Krewe of Wrecks Mardi Gras parade is set for Sunday, March 2 at 2 p.m. Floats and marching unit applications are now available online at [www.PensacolaBeachMardiGras.com](http://www.PensacolaBeachMardiGras.com) or by emailing Parade Chairman Jayne Drees Redmond at [jayneredmond41@aol.com](mailto:jayneredmond41@aol.com).

Each entry must submit the application, fees and documentation at one of the two mandatory safety meetings. The meetings will be Thursday, January 16 at 6 p.m. and Saturday, January 18 at 10 a.m. at the Santa Rosa Island Authority boardroom, #1 Via de Luna, Pensacola Beach.

## Beary Good Plunging Tips

by Dave Greenwood  
Water Safety Supervisor:

1. If you cannot swim, do not go into the water
2. Warm up before you enter the water
3. Do not drink BEFORE entering the water; alcohol impairs judgment and lessens the body's ability to maintain adequate body heat
4. Have a swim cap on to preserve body heat; most body heat is lost through the head
5. Make sure feet are covered with appropriate shoes; in cold water, the skin becomes numb, and you can easily lacerate numb skin
6. Consider not submerging head into frigid water
7. Have a towel and dry clothes available for changing out of wet clothes once you exit the water
8. Have a hot beverage to consume after you exit the water
9. Do not jump/dive off the small pier
10. Hypothermia is a serious risk factor, and can quickly sneak up. We treated a SCUBA diver from a Park East shore dive who was Lifeflighted to Baptist Trauma center.

# Forever...Barefoot on the Beach

As a tribute to Jane Waters who passed away January 10, 2012 Island Times will continue to run some of Jane's favorite columns for your enjoyment

If you have a feeling you have read this story before, you are probably right. Since we reprint this fantasy every year at Christmastime, it slides comfortably into Beach lore. We believe it should be repeated every year, because it has good thoughts. It's all about a devoted married couple, unbroken friendships, loving, sharing, and living life in the exotic lane. It also reveals the secret that thousands of people who visit Pensacola Beach never want to leave, but like Santa some insurmountable obstacle stands in their way. It teaches us that families all over the world are really just like us, Beach folks in their hearts. And all of us Beach dwellers know the lesson we learn from it - that no matter what issues are lapping at our shores, we will somehow protect our enchanted way of life.

We will prevail because every Christmas Eve we are blessed with a sprinkling of elfin dust when Santa stops by to check on his property. Hey, Santa and Rosa, your island is alive and well.

## ~ The Day Santa Named the Island ~

When Santa Claus visits the Island every Christmas, he always brings Mrs. Claus along. She doesn't make many business trips with her husband, but she has a special reason for returning year after year to the Beach.

This legend goes far back to a time when there were few living things on the Island. The white sand glistened for miles and miles, untouched by streets or structures. Or people. Santa, who was making his annual rounds that year, decided the uninhabited white stuff he noticed below would make a safe landing place for his sleigh so he and the reindeer could take a break. He fastened his seat belt, and turned on his twinkling lights. The eight tiny reindeer brought the heavily laden sleigh down easily. It nestled in the soft sand, a distinctly different runway from their usual snowy rest stops. Santa got out of the sleigh, loosened his belt, stuck his boot in

the squeaky sand, and exclaimed to the reindeer, "Hey, we landed in Paradise."

Donner and Blitzen snorted because the snow ball they tried to make wouldn't stick together.

I may relocate my workshop to this Island, Santa mused. We could eliminate the woodcutter section, and add those guys to the toy making division. Think how happy the kids would be if we produced more toys than ever.

He pondered the possibility as he removed his heavy jacket and let the sun shine on his chest. We would never have to arrange for vacations, because no one would want to leave paradise. Our new work uniforms would be long shorts and t-shirts. All our raw materials could come in like magic on the water. We'd never have to thaw out the cans of paint.

Santa pulled off his heavy boots and pants and jumped into the Sound for a swim wearing only his candy striped underwear.

We would have to put up a new sign. That old North Pole sign is pretty worn out anyway. What can I name this place?

Then a Christmas light exploded in Santa's head. He would name this romantic little Island after his beloved wife and himself. Santa Rosa Island. Santa liked the sound of the new name.

Reluctantly, he put his heavy, red suit back on, and prepared the reindeer for take off. After the worldwide delivery trip ended, and he was resting by a big open fire in his living room at the North Pole, he told his wife, Rosa, about his plan to move the entire operation to a truly, magnificent place surrounded by sparkling water. A place that was warm and cozy. Where the elves could test the water skis, yachts, fishing rods, and sailboards the year round.

"Ah, Rosa, I have found paradise," Santa said. "A romantic place for the two of us."

Rosa pushed her spectacles

up on her nose, and Santa knew he was in trouble. She only did that when she was getting ready to yell at him about major problems like running out of Barbie dolls or drinking too much Coca-Cola.

"Santa," she said in that awful tone of voice, "How could you play such a dirty trick on Frosty the Snowman?"

So, Rosa had the last word, Santa could never move to a place where his old sidekick, Frosty, would never survive. Santa did

not move his factory to the Island.

But one starry Christmas eve, he asked Rosa to ride with him, and he landed on the beach for a short time. Just long enough to put a small sign, "Santa Rosa Island."

So that's how the island got its name. And that is the reason Mrs. Claus climbs aboard the sleigh on the night Santa makes his annual visit to Pensacola Beach. After all it's not every wife who has a whole island named after her.



Raw Oysters  
Fresh Gulf Seafood

Lunch Specials Mon-Fri 11-2  
Dinner Specials Nightly

**Peg Leg Pete's**  
PENSACOLA BEACH, FLORIDA  
OPEN EVERYDAY at 11am

Our latitude will change your attitude

- Waterfront Dining
- Oyster Bar
- Live Music
- Gift Shop
- Kids Playground
- Specials
- Tues: Half Price Bottles of Wine
- Wed: Raw Oyster Specials
- Thurs: Baked Oyster Specials

1010 Ft. Pickens Road • Pensacola Beach  
932-4139 • www.peglegpetes.com



**Sidelines**  
SPORTS BAR & RESTAURANT  
OPEN EVERYDAY at 11 AM

Wings • Burgers • Seafood • Ribs

CATCH IT ALL!

Sports in Hi Def  
40 TVs  
8 Big Screens

**WINGS 49¢**  
Every Thursday

Monday - Cajun Nite  
Tuesday - Surf and Turf  
Wed - Mexican Madness  
#2 Via de Luna  
Pensacola Beach  
934-3660  
www.sidelinessportsbarandrestaurant.com



All Sports Always On



**Krewe of Wrecks**  
PENSACOLA BEACH, FLORIDA  
30th Anniversary 1980-2010

Start Time: 6 PM  
Dues \$30  
~  
The Krewe welcomes all who wish to join. Please come to meeting to apply.

**Krewe of Wrecks Meetings**

Jan 6	Hemingway's	Feb 3	Cactus Flower
Jan 13	Flounder's	Feb 10	Sidelines
Jan 20	Shaggy's	Feb 17	Elk's Lodge
Jan 27	The Break		

**Mardi Gras on the Island Events**

January 11: Krewe of Nereids King Cake Party, 3-7 pm Paradise  
January 11: Krewe of Bananimals Ball, 7-11. Springhill Suites \*  
January 18: Krewe of Shakers WigWacker Party, Sandshaker, 9 PM  
January 25: Krewe of Nauga Champagne Breakfast, The Dock, 10 AM \*  
January 25: Krewe of Kids Sign Up, Beach Church, 2 PM  
January 25: Krewe of Brewe Beach Babe Contest, Sandshaker, 3 PM  
February 7: Krewe of Nereids Moon Pie Party, Sandshaker, 7 PM  
February 8: Krewe of Kids Royal Doughnut Breakfast, Church, 8 AM \*  
February 22 Kids and Kritters Parade, 2 PM, Across from Sidelines  
February 22 Krewe of Wrecks Grand Costume Ball, Elk's \*  
February 24 Queen's Dinner, Flounder's \*  
February 24 King's Supper, Elk's \*  
March 1 Champagne Breakfast, Crab's, 10 AM \*  
March 1 Street Dance, Sabine Sandbar, Noon  
March 2 Krewe of Wrecks Parade, 2 PM  
March 3 Red Beans and Rice Lunch, 11 AM  
March 4 Krewe of Coma, Sandshaker, 6 PM  
March 4 Shoe Box Float Contest, Paradise, 8 PM

\* Some events require tickets, reservations, or membership

**PensacolaBeachMardiGras.com**





**STAR STUDENT**

Thomas Chase Allen is making his mark in his teacher's grade books. The Beach School grad is in eighth grade at Gulf Breeze Middle School and continues to score high. He has been named to the Honor Roll for the first nine weeks. Congrats Chase.

**PARTY IN DECEMBER**

Dan and Jeannine Reiff of Shiloh, Illinois, visited Pensacola Beach in October, so Dan thought it would be a great Christmas gift to give his gal an *Island Times* subscription. He contacted the newspaper office to order and admitted that December's a big month at their house. The couple's wedding anniversary is December 10 and Dan's birthday is December 24. With all those parties, hope they have time to read this.

**YOU MEAN SEW MUCH**

Pandora de Balthazar shared a holiday message: The textile of our life is like a patchwork quilt. It tells the story of where we have been and warms us as we adventure with God, guiding us each day. Without memories, we would each be a blank page, making it up as we go. Sandy Lewis you are a part of my hand stitched textile. Donna Alexander, you ride bicycles around the edges of the border, gaily singing sweet stories of goodness. Chuck Randle and Susan Smith your carols are still ringing in my ears. Bob Wright keeps my Alabama dreams

alive and well. Vicki Ann Baroco brings beauty into my everyday life. Kathy Frags, Bruce Barone, Marilyn Trainor Storey all weave a world wide love of beauty and connection to my textile. Andrea Brown, Jamie Stone Starr, Martha Brown McCarver and Sabrina G. Evans keep my Momma alive in the texture and layers of my textile. James Poule and Burma Davis share the color of my textile: that of the Gulf of Mexico. John Parrish, Morgan Parrish, Robert and Meagen Cooke, Beata Antal and more are the past, the future, and the present of the pure fiber of my woven textile...like silk sheets in the summer and linen covered down duvets in the winter, each of you are extensions of the love I feel for life. Merry Christmas!

**ARTFULLY DONE**

The art gene has passed from Beach resident Bonnie Elbert to her granddaughter Josey Collins. Josey was recognized for her ceramics entries into the Great Gulf Coast Arts Festival. Josey's mom is Becky Elbert Collins.

**SWEET SNOODLE**

Seventeen-month-old Isla is the lanky, curly haired beauty at the end of Sandy and Billy Patterson's leash. She has a big list of tricks that she will perform, if you have a big bag of treats to give. She was seen walking her parents at the Beach's Surfing Santa Christmas parade.

**Trivia** ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

Are the Trivia players scared of high heels and swimsuit wearing beauty queens? Was the question dating back to 1949 too much before their time? Certainly, someone remembers the prize given to Val Hartnett, who was crowned Miss Pensacola in a beachside ceremony. She earned a glamorous trip to Havana, Cuba, where, at the time, the jet set partied.

Not one correct answer. Too bad. The Trivia Master felt like Santa. Opening email after email, addressed to him, with a variety of pleas for a new shirt, fame, fortune or a little respect. He's giving none of those things to the naughty trivia players. He needs to stump the playing public every once in a while. The *Island Times* t-shirt gets returned to the shelf and a new batch of questions bubble up in the TM's vat of useless facts.

If the beauty pageant question was too much for you, try this. From living dolls to one famous little doll. Countless children have hugged, lugged and loved this little gal. She's been around since 1959, and was created by Ruth Handler. She was named after Ruth's daughter Barbara. The TM is, of course,

referring to the ever-famous doll, Barbie. Do you know what Barbie's last name is? Put down the eggnog and skip over to your computer. Email your answer to [islandtimes@bellsouth.net](mailto:islandtimes@bellsouth.net) with

Trivia in the subject line. Include your name and phone number with your answer to be eligible to win a fabulous 2014 *Island Times* t-shirt. Good luck. The deadline to answer is Tuesday, December 31.

**COOLEST SANTA ON THE BEACH!**  
Abigail Redman, 10, gets to whisper to Surfing Santa at the Kowabunga Breakfast at Surf Burger, December 7. She knows she'll get her wish... Surfing Santa is her dad, Johnny Redman.



**Gifts Galore**  
Whimsical • Home Decor • Sports Teams  
Teachers • Children's • Gourmet  
Mermaids and more....

**Blue Sky Gift Shoppe**  
3479 Gulf Breeze Pkwy • 850-932-7100 • Next to Sonic

**Come as you are** **Go where** **Dance in the sand**  
**Bike, boat or car** **the locals go** **Eat by the Sound**

**Be Here!**

- NEW YEARS EVE, TUESDAY DEC 31**
- Fireworks at 8 pm & Midnite.
- 2 Parties, Too Much Fun!
- Paradise All Star Band plays.
- Get a room.
- POLAR BEAR PLUNGE, WED, JAN 1, 2 PM**
- \$10 for adults, \$5 for Polar Bear Cubs.
- T-shirts, Prizes. Free Black Eyed Peas for good luck.

**Krewe of Nerieds King Kake Party**  
Saturday, January 11 • 3 p.m.  
Open to all fun people. No charge.  
Music • King Kake • Prizes

**POKER: WED, 7 PM** **FUN**

- Texas Hold 'Em
- SPORTS: College Bowl & NFL Football** on our big screen

**CLOSED CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY, DEC 24-25..... HAPPY HOLIDAYS....**

**21 Via de Luna**  
Pensacola Beach  
850-916-5087  
[paradisebar-grill.com](http://paradisebar-grill.com)

**BAR**  
Top 10 Florida Beach Bars  
Full Service  
Open Air

**FOOD**  
Try a Fred Burger or Renee's Famous Shrimp Salad

**INN**  
Play & Stay Rates  
Reservations  
850-932-2319

**Paradise bar grill**

**THERE'S A PARTY GOIN' ON!**

**Boogie Inc.**

850-438-1660 • [www.boogieinc.com](http://www.boogieinc.com)

Weddings • Birthday Parties • Class Reunions  
School Dances • Theme Parties • Outdoor Sound Events  
Also available for Bars, Restaurants & Clubs!  
We Do It All!

# Bohannon To Lead Authority Board

The Santa Rosa Island Authority Board set the stage for the new year at their December 11 full board and committee meetings electing Tammy Bohannon to serve as Board Chairman. Bohannon is a beach resident and business owner, who serves as Commissioner Grover Robinson's appointee. Local attorney Fred Gant is vice-chairman. Janice Gilley was tapped as secretary-treasurer and Ed Guernsey is the acting secretary-treasurer.

In addition to the changes in leadership, the Board paved the way for new businesses and infrastructure projects for next year. Subway's request to move next door to the Circle K was approved. World of Beers owners Matt LaFon and Scott Zepp, received approval to open a Caribbean-style, open air, upscale social venue at the eastern edge Pensacola Beach Gulf Pier property. Papa's Pizza will also operate at the Pier.

In a written statement, LaFon and Zepp announced, "Our vision to draw and cater to local and visiting professionals begins with planned improvements and capital investment into the property located at the base of the Pier. We strive to create a unique atmosphere, focusing on customer service and high quality products that will include a vast assortment of island lagers."

Changes to the Tiki Island property are slated after the Board unanimously approved a lease amendment to allow all upgrades and uses limited only by zoning.

The Casino Beach Park-

ing Lot will become safety and turtle compliant with new lighting fixtures, but the bids for a new Visitor's Center all fell flat. Paolo Ghio, Director of Environmental and Developmental Services, reported that the new lighting plan for the Casino Beach was the culmination of a two year effort which involved multiple local, state and federal agencies working together. The project, which is expected to commence in March, will add 20 light poles with turtle friendly fixtures and bulbs.

"The overall darkness in the parking lot is going away," said Ghio. "It will be much improved. The goals of public safety without turtle disorientation is what we were looking for."

The funding for the project is coming from Natural Resource Damage Assessment fines from the Deepwater Horizon Disaster. Construction should be complete by May 2014.

A number of pre-construction projects for building a new Visitor's Center in the northern portion of the Casino Beach parking lot are moving forward. Roads, Inc. is responsible for the underground work to the site, and relocation of an existing water main will be complete next month. The SRIA, who has committed to investing \$100,000 in underground utilities, \$25,000 for detailed civil engineering and construction plan drawings, rejected all bids at the December 10 bid opening. Nine companies responded to the RFP, but none were below the \$250,000 budget to construct the Visitor's Center.

"We are going to revise the specs on the Visitors Center and put it out for bid again," said SRIA Executive Director Buck Lee. "The RFP will be delivered to the Homebuilder's Association as well as advertised in the PNJ."

The current building is 20 years-old, and when vacant, the SRIA will accept proposals from interested parties.

The eastern and western gateways to Pensacola Beach will be improved next year. The Board gave a green light for a gazebo and park benches to upgrade the visitor experience at Park West. Beach resident Monica Kellner approached the Board with a three-phase improvement plan to the "expanse of flat concrete parking lot" transforming it into a destination park for locals and visitors. The Sunset Vista Park concept was not approved, but the SRIA board will spend \$50,000 for a 30 x 50 pavilion and five park benches.

"Thank you for this first step, but don't let this plan disappear. I fully endorse what you have done so far, but don't think you are complete," said Pensacola Beach Advocates President Terry Preston. "The scope of work fits nicely with the eco-tourism."

Drivers need to slow down on the island and the design of two roadway changes near Portofino will make that happen.

Pedestrian congestion crossing at Allen R. Levin Way creates a need for these traffic calming devices. The design and eventual installation will come from excess Portofino lease fees in the dedicated Island Beautification Fund.

Finance Director Dottie Ford supplied the board with a comprehensive report from October's collections.

"We are 7.7 percent ahead of October of last year," said Ford. "And, expenses are well within budget."

Commercial lease and residential lease fees totalled \$448,990 for October.

Auditors from Carr, Riggs and Ingram presented their findings from the annual audit of the SRIA financials. The audit was clean.

Representatives from two events made requests for funding. The Krewe of Wrecks asked for an additional \$3,000 to cover the cost increase for barricades to line the Mardi Gras parade route. The request was approved.

"Mardi Gras is a premier off season event and the Krewe of Wrecks hosts this," said Dr. Thomas Campanella, the Board's only elected member. "This brings guests to the island and fills the hotels."

The Krewe of Wrecks is an all-volunteer organization, who hosts and coordinates the Beach's Mardi Gras parade, among other

public events.

William "Cadillac" Banks approached the board with an amended request to support his second SummerFest, a concert slated for Labor Day Weekend. His prior request for \$200,000 held in committee, now changed to a current request for \$100,000.

The promoter intends to return the grant, if approved, by dedicating the first \$100,000 of ticket sales to the SRIA.

"From the response we had last year, we expect 25,000 people," said Banks. "We need the grant to secure a headlining act. Then I can start really promoting this."

The request to assist in this way is unusual for the SRIA. The motion to authorize the SRIA attorney to draft an agreement between Banks Enterprises and the SRIA to advance \$100,000 and stipulate that tickets sales will reimburse the amount along with attorneys fees, passed 2-1. Promoter's financial records will be open for the SRIA review. The item will be before the Full Board at their January 8 meeting.

The Board approved a \$15,000 severance package for Mason Kilgore, who is retiring as the Director of Public Works.

The Santa Rosa Island Authority meets next on Wednesday, January 8 at 5 p.m. The meetings are open to the public.



We have gone back to basics.  
Expect the same incredible quality food delivered in less time.

<p><b>Mon:</b> Red Beans &amp; Rice \$2<sup>50</sup></p> <p><b>Wed:</b> Karaoke 6 - 9 Mug Club Members \$1 &amp; \$2<sup>50</sup> any beer!</p> <p><b>Sun:</b> Live Music 5 to 7 p.m. Perfect way to wrap up your weekend</p>	<p><b>Beer Mug Club</b> \$1 any light beer, any time with RED label mug</p> <p>\$2.50 any light beer, any time with BLACK label mug</p> 	
---	---	--

**Family Friendly**  
**Inside & Open Air Waterfront Dining Area**  
850-932-1417  
500 Quietwater Beach Blvd • Upstairs from Key Sailing

Wine Spectator  
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE  
2013

TGM 2013

# New Year's Eve

THREE-COURSE DINNER

Crispy Southern Fried Quail  
Alabama White BBQ Sauce, Blackberry Pepper Biscuits  
Or  
Handmade Ravioli of Roasted Butternut Squash  
Seared Nantucket Cape Scallops, Browned Butter

Herb Roasted Prime Rib of Veal  
Fricassee of Wild Mushrooms, Potato Gratin  
Or  
Seared Gulf Red Snapper  
Citrus, Crab and Caramelized Fennel, Meyer Lemon Butter

Individual White Chocolate Banana Cream Pie, Salted Caramel Sauce  
Or  
Chocolate Raspberry Truffle Cheesecake  
Raspberry Ganache, Bittersweet Chocolate Sauce

THE GRAND MARLIN

RESTAURANT & OYSTER BAR  
PENSACOLA BEACH, FL

For reservations online visit [thegrandmarlin.com](http://thegrandmarlin.com) or call 850.677.9153.  
\$65 per person. Regular dinner menu available.

400 Pensacola Beach Blvd. | Open daily at 11 | Sunday Brunch 10-2



# peas, porridge and a dry martini

by  
Kathi  
Lewis



[Special Disclaimer: Please remember the views and opinions expressed herein are solely mine and in no way reflect the opinions/views of our beloved Island Times, its Publisher, Owner, Editor, Columnists or even Advertisers. It is not intended to condone, increase nor encourage the drinking of more vodka than you may or may not consume already.]

Y'all might remember that in my last column I was talking about the various uses for vodka (other than just drinking it, like me). There are so many that I was unable to list all of them so to mention that it's also great for cleaning tile grout (as in showers, tubs). Maybe just talking about vodka makes you "forget" a lot. However, I would like to say on the record that I believe this is not only an expensive cleaner (even if you buy the cheapest vodka) it is also the very definition of "alcohol abuse." Using it for "medicinal" purposes is certainly acceptable as is "cosmetic" enhancements. I have also discovered (strictly for research of course) that if you drink the vodka, your shower stalls and bathtubs look much better anyway. In fact, your whole house looks better! The conclusion of my research has proven to me that I just need to hand a nice glass of vodka to anyone coming inside my little round, brown sandcastle. If that doesn't get them in the spirit, then I'll give them another one.....

Congratulations to Elaine Mitchell on her Christmas gift of a brand new Honda van (excellent for hauling a pod of mermaids). Paulette Provost and I were honored to be the first to ride in it and strangely for us three, it was a very ordinary ride to Ella Hess' house for the Krewe of Nereids Christmas Party. I say this because some very strange things usually (nearly always) happen when the three of us ride together. Our Well-Traveled Trifle recipe was created while riding together. What started out as a lovely cake was bounced around, thrown around, rolled around and tossed around until it was in a lot of pieces. Since it stayed contained, there was nothing actually wrong with it, so we put it in a trifle bowl and started adding good stuff like whipped cream and pudding. It

turned out to be a great recipe, everyone loved it and it took the stress out of traveling with cakes for holiday reunions with family and friends.

As happy as I am for Elaine, I just have to say how much I still love my old Caddywagon. We have a bond created when I sat in the driver's seat the first time I saw her. Of course, she was in much better shape at that time (so was I) and we have aged together. We've also gotten a few dents and bang-ups along the road, as well as losing a few parts (things we can both live without) and her shine (I still have magic dust). We have both had some minor necessary repairs, although I was a bit jealous when she got a rear-end job and I didn't.

We have a bond and even though a lot of people judge us by our outside cover, we not only don't care, we won't waste time on those who do. Inside, both of us carry the love, joy, excitement, tears, spills, hissy-fits, pride - all of life's emotions shared with each other, grandchildren, family and friends. I've never fussed at my grandchildren (or others) for spilling, putting dirty shoes on the seat, dropping food or anything else that happens inside Blue. Another added benefit is being instantly recognized at every drive-through window in Gulf Breeze. But here's an even better one.....

Last week I was coming out of a local Department Store with a huge parking lot. It had begun to rain. As I'm walking fast to old Blue, I spot a young couple running ahead of me. Before I reach Blue, the guy (holding bags over his head) yells, "This is not your car!" The girl is still running in his direction but starts punching the button on the key pad. Her car turned out to be two rows over. As I reached the massive trunk of old Blue, the young man looks at me and all I could do was smile and shake my head. I never have any trouble finding my ride in a parking lot!

I do think that everyone should experience owning a brand spanking new vehicle at least once in their lives. Just for me, I've been there and done that.

I have had an incredible year and I am grateful, thankful and Blessed for all of it. I have

travelled a lot and enjoyed many wonderful adventures that I never thought would happen. I was also grateful to be available when close friends needed help. I have the closest loving and imperfect family that anyone could want. I have so many close friends and Sisters of the Beach. I live in a panoramic round, brown sandcastle in Paradise. Looking back at this year, there is not a single thing I would change or trade because I am truly one lucky gal and Blessed.

First, we gotta get through Christmas! Are y'all ready? I'm not, sure hope I am by the time this publishes. But I do have a fabulous recipe commonly found in the sandcastle kitchens of all Mermaids. It has been revamped because some ingredients only come from the Gulf as gifts from God. Others, like bacon can only be found on shore but bacon is most loved by all Mermaids (well, that and shoes). Feel free to add your own fresh-caught ingredients. Right now, it's time to cook....

## Siren's Stew

(or for landlubbers: Mermaid's Bisque)  
12 oz. Bacon  
2 ½ cups Water  
16 oz. (or more if desired) Chicken Broth  
½ Gal. Half and Half (you can add milk if desired)  
1 - Onion, finely chopped  
1 - Bunch green onions, (cut tops)  
1 lb. fish  
1 lb. crab meat  
1 lb. shrimp (peeled and deveined)

Using a large pot, cook bacon until very brown. Remove bacon, let drain and reserve. Drain all but 2 tbsp. bacon grease from pot, then pour in water (stirring to release bits stuck to bottom of pot) and remaining liquids. Add onions (both) and bring to a light boil, stirring often. Add fish and shrimp, reduce heat, cover and simmer until seafood is cooked (approx. 4-5 minutes). Add crab and stir just enough to break up the clumps. Crush bacon and add to the top for serving. (You can also add a bit of cheese, if desired.) I like lots of soup which is why I often add more liquid than recipe requires. This will easily serve 10-15 people.

Enjoy, share and have a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

See ya in the kitchen.....

## Island Times Blog

"where shelly waters meet sandy beaches"

[www.myislandtimes.com](http://www.myislandtimes.com)



Move In Specials

850-932-2323

SmartStop  
Self Storage

15 McClure Drive  
Gulf Breeze

formerly Storage Advantage

24/7 Digital Surveillance

Safe, Clean & Secure

Great Rates

Professional

Management

Climate Controlled Self Storage  
Drive Up Access  
Boat Parking  
Moving & Packing Supplies

[smartstopselfstorage.com](http://smartstopselfstorage.com)



Cajun stitchery  
& fine embroidery

850-261-2462

names, logos, custom art  
small or large quantities

Owner Peggy Henshall  
is ready to keep  
you in stitches!

[www.CajunStitchery.com](http://www.CajunStitchery.com)  
CajunStitchery@yahoo.com



Award winning service...

Linda Taylor Murphy

850-748-0865

Women's Council of Realtors  
2012 REALTOR of the Year

LindaMurphyRealtor@bellsouth.net  
[www.pensacolagulfbreezehomes.com](http://www.pensacolagulfbreezehomes.com)

KELLER  
WILLIAMS  
REALTY  
independently owned and operated

## Maria's Fresh Seafood Market



Take a little bit of the Gulf Coast home!  
Fresh from the boats daily  
We can cold pack for travel or ship anywhere.

- RED SNAPPER AND TRIGGERFISH
- GROUPER AND FLOUNDER
- OYSTERS AND SHRIMP
- MUCH MORE!

621 Cervantes Street  
Pensacola • 432-4999  
Call for directions from the Beach

MON - SAT 8 AM - 7 PM  
SUNDAY 8 AM - 6 PM



## native cafe

Serving Breakfast & Lunch

7:30 am to 3 pm

Homemade Soup

Hot fresh soups daily

Best of the Bay  
2012 WINNER  
Gumbo • Red Beans  
Shrimp Chowder

45 A Via de Luna • 934-4848



# A Cross in the Sand

By  
Rev. Dr. Tom Garrison  
Pensacola Beach Community Church



'Tis the season to be jolly... Have a very merry Christmas... It is the most wonderful time of the year. Throughout this Christmas season we hear those things in shopping malls and almost everywhere we turn. For many or even most of us it is a time with friends, family, gift giving and receiving. It is a time for children to be excited about what Santa has brought them. It is a time for parties and seeing those we have not seen. It is also a time to attend that special Christmas Eve service with all the Christmas hymns and readings. All in all, it feels like it is the most wonderful time of the year.

However, for many people this time of the year is only a reminder that there has been a hurt, or pain because of loss that has never been healed. Many years ago I was introduced to a service that was not about joy but about sadness. The title may make us smile because of the song by Elvis, but it is a very serious service and is called "Blue Christmas Service". When I first encountered this service and was part of putting it on, I was surprised at the people that showed up. Many of us are acquainted with the paradox of the Advent and Christmas seasons – a time when we feel we are supposed to celebrate hope,

love, joy and peace, and yet a time that can also be full of depression, sadness and grief. Blue Christmas services offer special recognition of the struggles that many people face during this season. Its somber tone also testifies to the struggles of Mary, Joseph and Jesus that are often overlooked. We may not have a "Blue Christmas Service" this year, however we do acknowledge the struggles that we all face while providing a safe place of rest, comfort and healing. Please during this time of year stop and do something kind and loving for those who are suffering because of loss or depression.

It is always good to remember Jesus brought hope into the world, and we can be part of that hope for others.

## Poker Players Donate Toys For Tots At December Tourney

The focus was on fun at the Toyz 4444 Totz poker tournament hosted by Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun, December 7 at the Dock. For the third year, poker diva Terri McKamey has played the Elf-in-Charge of the charity event.

"We collected over 350 toys for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Campaign," said McKamey. "Bicycles, race tracks and baby dolls from the poker gang will be under the Christmas tree this year."

Thirty card sharps battled for hours. Jon Woodham was the champion and took home the trophy donated by Jeff Wheelock. Larry Gers was the runner-up and Deb Friedman battled to a third place finish. Everyone took a prize home donated by dozens of local businesses. Melissa Williams assisted in the prize gathering.

The players sharpen their skills at weekly games. Jon Woodham continues his streak with a December 1 win at Paddy's over Terri McKamey. Woodham bested Mike Wood at the Sand-



The poker gang called in the United States Marines to pick up the overflowing boxes of new toys collected during their Toyz 4444 Totz Texas Hold 'Em Tourney, December 7 at The Dock. (L to R): USMC Corporal Ashley Telegdy, Tourney Coordinator Terri McKamey, Texas Hold Em 4444 Fun Promoter Rick Uzdevenes and USMC Corporal Danija Mack.

shaker, December 2.

Ted Gorder settled for second place behind Glenn Burleson at the Pelican, Dec. 3; before winning at Paddy's over Justin Scher. In the family that plays together, and stays together, Mary Kay

Wood went to the winner's circle with her husband Mike trailing her at the Shaker, December 9. The mysterious Waldo Defindorfin outplayed Justin Scher for the win at Paddy's, December 12. For poker information, call 850-324-2667.

## Book Club Discusses Faulkner

Novel: *As I Lay Dying*

Readers and fans of William Faulkner are invited to the Gulf Breeze Book Club's monthly meeting, Monday, December 30 at 6:30 p.m. at the Pensacola Beach Elk's Lodge.

"We invite you to join us as a visitor or new member," said Donna Jones, Book Clubber.

Southern Author William Faulkner's novel, "As I Lay Dying" will be discussed. Set in Mississippi, the novel is the story of the death of Addie Bundren and her family's trials and tribulations to meet her dying wish for burial in the town of Jefferson.

For more details, contact Donna Jones at donnajones@hotmail.com or 850-932-8620.

<b>Shipping Services</b> Fax Services Printing Services Notary Services Moving Supplies & Packaging Materials	<b>Packing Services</b> Copy Services Document Finishing Mailbox Services Office Supplies
Gulf Breeze Shopping Center 362 Gulf Breeze Parkway Gulf Breeze, FL 32561	850.932.8533 Tel 850.932.1588 Fax
Copyright © 2011 Mail Boxes Etc., Inc. B9MF683769 09.11	
<b>The UPS Store</b>	

# Lillo's

## TUSCAN GRILLE

Serving the public since 1948

**Happy Hour**

**Dine In Special**

**Buy One Dinner, Get One 1/2 Price**

**Tues-Thurs 4-6pm**

Ask your server for details. Not all menu items are included. Some restrictions apply.

**Take Out Special**

**Let us do the cooking. Call ahead... or order To Go.**

**Free Drink Card While You Wait**

**850-934-LILO (5456)**  
[lillostuscangrille.com](http://lillostuscangrille.com)

**Booking Private Parties**

**TUES - SAT 4 PM 'til Closed Sun & Mon**

**Across from the Hilton on Pensacola Beach**

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Rodgers collaborator
- 5 Kreskin's claim
- 8 Birthright barterer
- 12 Smell
- 13 Twosome
- 14 Swine
- 15 Paper
- 17 Responsibility
- 18 Charged bit
- 19 Good horseshoe toss
- 21 Burrito condiment
- 24 Shetland, for one
- 25 Spruce up
- 26 Piece
- 30 Help
- 31 Got up
- 32 Homer's interjection
- 33 Cellar
- 35 Landlocked African nation
- 36 Amateur-night prop
- 37 Imp
- 38 Call forth
- 41 Madam's counterpart
- 42 Henry —
- 43 Slumlord's building
- 48 Heidi's heights

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

- 49 A Gershwin a person
- 50 Related (to) 9 Croon
- 51 Egg 10 Chills and fever
- 52 Upper limit 11 Cold War nation (Abbr.)
- 53 Barbershop call 16 Extinct bird
- 20 "Bus Stop" playwright 37 Conk out
- 21 Pierce 38 Terrible guy?
- 22 Operatic solo 39 Cleopatra's water
- 23 Covers 40 Big shots
- 24 Tine 41 Break suddenly
- 26 Greatly excited 44 Historic time
- 27 Dutch cheese 45 — out a living
- 28 — contended 46 Veto
- 47 Potent stick



# The Lizzard's Tongue... BY ELIZABETH K. HEWSON

It's beginning to look a lot like a bad day on the set of Project Runway, the Lifetime Channel reality show about fashion designers, as opposed to Christmas at my house. I do not know what got into me this holiday season other than I decided exactly one month ago that I would design and sew every person in my family a present, even the dog. If those incredibly talented, hand selected, thimble thumbed contestants on Project Runway can create a look in 24 hours, certainly I could create a little something for 10 people and one mutt in 30 days. Right?

I began with such confidence. I was CoCo "Cocky" Chanel as I read two books on couture sewing and signed up for online classes such as "Fashion Draping" and "Sew Better, Sew Faster: Garment Industry Secrets". Jackets. Shirts. Dresses. Shorts. Pants. Scarves. Hats. Purses. Wallets. Luggage. Towels. It was all on my to do list. So I began with virtual shopping -- New York (Mood Designer Fabrics), Washington (Seattle Fabrics), Arizona (Fabrics.com), Missouri (Sew For Less) and Minnesota (Embroidery Library), followed by Black Friday brick and mortar shopping at Jo-Ann Fabrics. For about a week, it was like Christmas every day as boxes of fabrics, notions, and sewing machine accessories were left on my doorstep. I opened each with the bright eyed excitement of a child opening her stocking from Santa. My emotional side of my brain was filled with joy and happiness. The logical side questioned my sanity and allowed dread and the reality of the situation to sink in. I lacked

three things to really pull this off: time, talent, and anyone's measurements!

Not one to be discouraged and going into a Walter Mitty trance to summons up my inner Zac Posen, I immediately started with my sisters -- that was two looks off of my list consisting of a total of 10 different pieces. Then my son -- no real coordinated look here, but four pieces that I really hope he doesn't chose to wear all together. Next on my list, were the in-laws -- two brothers and a mother. I gave myself a pass on one brother-in-law who is out of the country until January and the other brother-in-law was worth two more pieces and four days of my time. And, of course, my mother-in-law who has everything in the world except a complete line of soft sided luggage to include an overnight bag, a weekend tote, a garment bag, and a toiletry carrier all in a black, brown and gold quilted fabric that took me more time to pick out than design and sew. Next up were my nephew and grandnephew -- three more pieces with the guarantee that if they fit, they will wear them.

With my niece, husband, and faithful furry friend still to design for, I realized I had completely transformed my sewing room into a sweat shop where I found myself all hours of the day and night. I was living on ramen cup-o-noodles and green tea. I began to only emerge for bandages (I sewed my fingers on more than one occasion) and to visit the chiropractor (spending many hours hunched over a sewing machine will seize up one's back). With the one look for my husband complete and a bone-of-scrap for the dog finished, I was down to my niece who dresses like she just stepped out of a fashion magazine. Nervous but determined, I pulled down my sketch book and returned to

a design I began for her in the spring. One that included four elements that I had no concept how to implement.

As I finished hemming her garment by hand, I realized I had done it. I had put together an entire collection for my fam-

ily in under 30 days. For me, a stitch in time did more than save nine. It made me realize that the greatest gift of all this season is my family and we are the most unique fabric stitched together by love.

Until next time...

*[Native Orleanian Elizabeth Waters Hewson arrived on Pensacola Beach in 1978 at age 14. Love and careers swept her to other shores, but she has returned with The Colonel and The Kid to live permanently on the Beach.]*



## FOOTBALL FUN!

Catch all the Bowl Game Action at Shaggy's ...

- \* 45 cent wings
- \* \$2 domestic drafts, \$3 imports
- \* \$7 domestic pitchers, \$8 imports
- \* \$3 well drinks
- \* our \$2 unlimited S'mores Bar next to the warm & cozy fireplace

Pre-game starts at 6 pm for the Jan. 6 BCS Championship!

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

- \* Shaggy's New Year's Eve special ...  
Rib-Eye cooked to order,  
mashed potatoes,  
house or caesar salad & dessert  
[\$26.95]

Happy Hour specials  
all night!

- \* New Year's Day  
plated special ...  
Brisket, greens, rice, black-eyed peas  
& cornbread ... traditional good luck meal!  
[\$10.95]

**Football Time!**  
**Bowl & NFL Games**  
**Paddy's Mug Club**  
\$5 Mug • \$2 Beer  
during football games

Happy Hour  
Mon-Fri 11 to 7

Pensacola Beach, Fla  
PaddyOLearysIrishPub.com

Texas Hold'Em  
49 Via de Luna  
916-9808

OPEN EVERY DAY AT 11 AM • 850.934.4852 • 701 PENSACOLA BEACH BLVD • WWW.SHAGGYS.BIZ



Maureen White, left, created super gawdy sweatshirts for her family for the Beach Chamber's first ever Ugly Christmas Sweater Pub Crawl. Joining her are (L to R): Jessi Pulver, Chris White and Kevin White. They're showing off their holiday garb at Paddy O'Leary's.



Friendships made while laughing at each other's sweaters... Liz Russell is surrounded by (L to R) Brian and Ashley Grow, Jillian Windham and Kristin Burks at Paddy O'Leary's during the Ugly Christmas Sweater Pub Crawl, December 15.



Super nice 4BR/3BA townhouse in Regency Cabanas, gated community on the Gulf with 2 pools and tennis. Granite, crown molding, elevator shaft. \$525,000 MLS #455194

ParadiseCoastalRealty.com

*Exceeding Clients' Expectations*



Kimberlee Bell	Robbin Boyd	Ardythe Haas	David Owens
Joe Billingsly	Christine Furman	Kevin Hayes	Fred Simmons
Nancy Rae Bom	Melanie Furman	Jennifer McCrary	Sandy Zern

850.932.0067 | 29 Via de Luna, Pensacola Beach, FL 32561

Did you see me in IT?  
 Check out our photo gallery online [www.MyIslandTimes.com](http://www.MyIslandTimes.com)

850-934-6117

on The Boardwalk  
 BAR AND GRILL  
**CASTAWAYS**  
 ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX  
 Pensacola Beach • Florida

**ANY PARTY OCCASION BUDGET**

**Let's Celebrate**

NOW BOOKING ALL DATES

**the DOCK**

850-934-3625

HAVE IT AT THE BEACH!



# CHRISTMAS TIMES



**holiday happenings on Santa Rosa Island . . . after all, the island's first name is Santa**

**Tuesday, December 24:** Candlelight and Carols, 6:30 p.m. Pensacola Beach Community Church. All are welcome to sing traditional carols and hear the Christmas story. Parishioners will sing Silent Night in a darkened sanctuary by the light of hundreds of hand-held candles.

**Wednesday, December 25:** Christmas Mass Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Mission. 9:45 a.m.

**Tuesday, December 31:** Double the fun. Two Fireworks displays. The Beach Chamber will light up the night sky on the last day of the year with a Soundside fireworks display at 8 p.m. and a Gulfside spectacular at midnight. Parties islandwide. Discounted room rates. Please party with care.

**Thru December 31:** Think about the pets that for one reason or another end up at the Humane Society. Mary Wright and her team at Wright Pet Care are hosting the Annual Paws and Claws Pet Food Drive. All proceeds will go

directly to Pensacola Humane Society and Uncle Sandy's Macaw Bird Park. By donating food to these local non-profit organizations, you can help feed local homeless dogs, cats and exotic birds. Beach drop off location is Paradise Bar and Grill. Updated information including additional drop off/purchase locations, and types of food needed are both on the website: [www.WrightPetCare.com/pet-food-drive/](http://www.WrightPetCare.com/pet-food-drive/)

**Wednesday, January 1:** Polar Bear Plunge, 2 p.m. Paradise Bar and Grill. Hardy souls test their resolve in the icy waters of Santa Rosa Sound. Adults pay a \$10 entry fee which includes a Polar Bear Plunge t-shirt, a raffle prize drawing ticket, and free black eyed peas for good luck. Polar Bear Pub Club for kids under 12. A Club card and a few Cub Club goodies, entry fee is \$5. *Island Times'* Best Plungewear Costume Contest will be judged. Top three costumes will earn prizes. Awards and 50/50 drawing follow the Plunge. Stick around for music, and drink specials.



WEAR-TV news anchor Molly Barrows, left, served as Grand Marshall for the Beach Chamber's Surfing Santa Beach Parade, December 8. Her husband, Craig Vigodsky and daughter Vivian helped bring the parade down Via de Luna. Her capable driver is Angela Moore. Parade vehicles were supplied by Pete Moore Chevrolet.



Krewe of St. Patrick Royal Court Member Lois Crane, left, and husband Mark, participated in the Beach Chamber's Surfing Santa Beach Parade, December 8. The Krewe's new float was christened and took its maiden voyage down Via de Luna to the Gulfside Pavilion.



The most spirited two-wheeler on the entire Beach belongs to Bob Dority. He spends a great deal of time getting his Christmas cycle ready for the Beach's parade, so he can deliver his precious cargo to the little girls and boys waiting along the route.



Renee Gleim loves parading on the Bamboo Willie's float with her friends and family during the December 8 Surfing Santa Beach Parade.



Monsignor Luke Hunt of St. Ann's at the Surfing Santa parade, Dec. 8.



Setting the pace and presenting the colors at the Beach Chamber's Surfing Santa Beach Parade, December 8 are the United States Air Force Color Guard members (L to R): SrA Marcus Walker, A1C Darius Thomas, A1C Nicholas Esposito, TSgt Ross Kael and SrA Gage Kitchen. The Honor Guard is stationed at Hurlburt Air Force Base near Fort Walton Beach.



Irish Green kilts and Christmas green Santa's hats were the uniform of the day for the McGuire's Pipes and Drums at the Pensacola Beach Chamber's Surfing Santa Beach Parade, December 8. The pipers and drummers group has been around since 1988, and are regionally famous. Among their wide repertoire of music, ranging from traditional Scottish/Irish tunes to classic show tunes were a few Christmas carols which echoed down Via de Luna. Piper Mark Lowe delighted crowds with a holiday song on his bagpipes.



Pensacola Beach Advocates' Judi Purcell rode in her red Corvette spreading good cheer to all at the Beach Chamber's Surfing Santa Beach Parade, December 8.



The Santa Rosa Island Authority's red sleigh rolled in the Beach Chamber's Surfing Santa Beach Parade, December 8. (L to R) SRIA Staffer Courtney Fell, SRIA Board Member Fred Gant and Buck Lee, Jr. were among the merrymakers.

Ladies representing the Beach's oldest civic organization, the Pensacola Beach Woman's Club, marched in the Beach Chamber's Surfing Santa Beach Parade, December 8. The group supports the Beach Chamber's events throughout the year by providing volunteers. Right: Pensacola Beach Woman's Clubber Jane McGrath made a fashion statement in her Christmas Tree shades while handing out beads at the Surfing Santa Beach parade.



*Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays  
Wishing you all the best in 2014!  
Shelley, Diana, Kathi, Liz,  
Terri, Tom, Charles, Rick, DJ, Joe, Susan*

# Sunrise and Sunset



**By Susan Haselton-Barr**  
Jambo (Hello) Everybody. The big question: Are you buying this year's gifts with next year's money? Ouch! I confess. I am part of the trend that has practiced this holiday buying craze for years.

I guess it is time to start a new holiday tradition. So ask yourself... How many gifts can you remember that were given to you throughout the years? Was it the Easy Bake Oven from the 50s, your first bicycle, Nintendo, remote controlled car? I have been walking down memory lane the last few weeks. The gifts that immediately pop in my brain vary. However, the ones that were most precious were specific to a friendship or family relationship. My Aunt Lorraine sent me homemade Christmas ornaments over 40 years ago. They have traveled far and wide with me. I value them so much. They are in the Hurricane Box for speedy evacuation. My Father once gave me a coupon book with hand written events he would take me on during the following

year. My children through out the years have blessed me with their hand made gifts. Hand-written poems, handmade cards with words of appreciation and thankfulness on them (Hurricane Box). One year my son gave me a paper with his hand and foot prints. Yes, it's still hanging in hallway.

I was a single parent raising my two children with little disposable income for lavish gifts and trips. I always invited my children's friends over for a day of cookie making and decoration, sending everyone home with generous amount of cookies and love. My daughter has recently told me these were her favorite memories of the holidays.

Tailor-made gifts is a tradition we need to begin. Share with your super favorite people what memories you cherish, a small photo album of childhood

pictures perhaps. My mother gave each one of my children a framed picture upon their 18th birthday. In the framing area was a picture of children for the last 18 years taken around their annual birthday. I have yet to let my children take them to their respective homes (Hurricane Box).

Remember, you don't have to take the teeth out of a smile just replace the missing ones. I pledge to keep my funds in the current calendar year. I pledge to give everyone a gift from the heart designed specifically for them.

Quaharini (Until we meet again.)

*Surfer's Memorial  
January 12  
at Paradise*

**ISLAND TIMES**

View the online edition at [www.myislandtimes.com](http://www.myislandtimes.com)

## Weatherford's

Four Season Apparel

Men's and Women's Casual & Outdoor Clothing

Hiking & Backpacking  
Snow Ski Apparel  
Rock Climbing Gear, Ropes & Shoes  
Indoor Rock Climbing Wall



[www.weatherfords.net](http://www.weatherfords.net)

**patagonia**

**3009 East Cervantes • 433-2822**

*Here's to a more beautiful you!*

Susan Haselton-Kelley  
Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultant

Easy ordering online or by phone

850-934-3865

[MaryKay.com/shaselton](http://MaryKay.com/shaselton)

- Gift Sets
- Eye Shadow
- Skin Care
- Lipstick
- Fragrances
- Sunscreen

MARY KAY®

FREE DELIVERY TO THE BEACH  
GULF BREEZE & PENSACOLA

Free Gift with orders over \$40



School's Out Until Jan 2  
**Drivers, please use caution**

**FULL SERVICE HAIR SALON**

we offer Bare Escentuals

Mon 9 to 5  
Tu & Th 9 to 9  
W & F 9 to 6  
Sat 10 to 5

**Studio HAIR 98 DESIGNS**

[studio98hairdesigns.com](http://studio98hairdesigns.com)  
**939-8800**  
Call for easy directions from the beach

**DJ's Beach Cafe** **Everyday 8 AM - 2 PM**  
**Fri & Sat 3 - 9 PM**

63 Via de Luna  
*across from Springhill Suites*  
850-916-0716

**Breakfast 8 AM TO NOON**    **Lunch 11 AM TO 2 PM**    **Dinner FRI - SAT**

Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun • 850-324-2667

**Monday:** Sandshaker, 7 PM  
**Tuesday & Friday:** Pelican Lounge, 7 PM  
**Thursday:** Paddy O'Leary's, 7PM  
**Sunday:** Paddy O'Leary's, 6 PM

**STANLEY STEEMER** **V-8 Powered Steam Clean Process**

LIVING BRINGS IT IN. WE TAKE IT OUT.

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaner  
Area and Oriental Rugs • Tile & Grout  
Marble, Vinyl & Hardwood • Cars, Boats & RV Interiors

Don't forget **SCOTCHGARD**

932-7670 • 934-1913

**Get Well • Feel Good • Look Great**

Integrating traditional health management with natural and alternative approaches

**Dr. Tracey Pinkston**

- New Patients Welcome
- Medicare & Tricare
- 10 miles from the Beach
- Call for Appointment
- Women's Health
- Chronic Illness
- Hormone Replacement
- Anti-Aging

850-473-1008    4300 Bayou Blvd Suite 5 • Pensacola

[DrTraceyPinkston.com](http://DrTraceyPinkston.com)

**Innerlight SURF SHOP**

655 Pensacola Beach Blvd  
second building on right past toll booth

**850-934-9004**

- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Sandals
- Surfboards
- Paddleboards
- Beachwear
- Rentals

[www.innerlightsurf.com](http://www.innerlightsurf.com)

After Sundown.....

**CRABS ON THE BEACH**

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. 850-932-0700 www.crabswegotem.com

**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

**MCGUIRE'S IRISH PUB**

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, 850-433-6789, mcguiresirishpub.com



**PARADISE BAR AND GRILL**

A little bit of paradise at this open air, island style bar with its own private white sand beach. Pull up a rattan stool. Cold beer. Live Music. Exotic Libations. Friendly locals. Lunch and Dinner everyday. 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.



**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



**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



**PADDY O'LEARY'S IRISH PUB**

May the luck of the Irish be with you as you enter the Beach's authentic Irish Pub. Happy bartenders serving Happy Hour priced drinks Monday thru Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Have you tried a Car Bomb? Electronic Darts. Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun. Live music. All kinds of shenanigans. Located in the historic district of Pensacola Beach, 49 Via de Luna. Call 850-916-9808. www.PaddyOLEarysIrishPub.com



**THE ISLANDER LOUNGE AND PACKAGE**

A bit of history. The oldest lounge on Pensacola Beach located in the Via de Luna Shopping Center, about one mile east of the traffic light. Specials, daily. Dance on the pole. drink a shot. Shuffleboard. Upstairs Cypress Room and Sundeck. Live music. Just steps away from The Break., our sister establishment. Open everyday for fun. 850-932-9011.



**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.



**BAMBOO WILLIE'S BEACHSIDE BAR**

A beach experience under the giant thatched roof. Open air bar serving your favorites. Specialty Fat Tuesday frozen drinks like the Octane 190. Live music on stage. Bikini contests. Crawfish Boil on Sunday afternoons. Willie's Wear Gift Shop. Waterfront on Santa Rosa Sound. Located at the Boardwalk. 850-916-9888. www.bamboowillies.com



**SHAGGY'S WATERFRONT BAR & GRILL**

Fresh seafood served overlooking Little Sabine Bay. Breezes are free to float through the open air dining room and side bar. Laid back, funky, family friendly. Arrive by boat or car, bike or on foot. Open everyday at 11 a.m. in the big red building on Pensacola Beach Boulevard. 850-934-4852. www.shaggys.biz



# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

### Real Estate For Sale

101 Cypress Pt. E, Pensacola, \$359,000. MLS #448250. This lovely three story contemporary overlooking Escambia Bay comes with deeded access to shared dock with private covered boat slip/lift. Call Today. Call Linda Murphy, Keller Williams Realty 850-748-0865

.....  
\$26,900. Gulf Breeze .19 acre. Check out my website for additional residential lot listings. www.denrem.com Dennis Remesch, Re/Max on the Coast, 850-384-7607.

.....  
\$240,000. Gulf Breeze. 4/3 home in Grand Ridge. Spacious floor plan, Underground utilities. Two car garage. Just blocks from Oriole Beach boat ramp. MLS#434436 Dennis Remesch, Re/Max on the Coast, 850-384-7607.

.....  
Call a professional who advertises in Island Times!

### Real Estate For Sale

Waterview Lot.  
320 Deer Point Drive, Gulf Breeze. Exclusive Gated Neighborhood. \$125,000. Contact Jeremy Johnson, Sales Manager, Levin Rinke Resort Realty. 850-377-3145.

.....  
5636 East Bay Blvd. Waterfront 3/2.5. \$489,000 MLS #448374  
Watch the sunset on the dock of this East Bay waterfront home complete with a covered boat house and sitting area.  
Call Today. Call Linda Murphy, Keller Williams Realty 850-748-0865

### Real Estate For Rent

Pensacola Beach Vacations Rentals. Call for the BEST RATES on Beachfront condos and beach homes. Toll Free 800-242-3224. Visit online gulfbluevacations.com

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.

### Pets

Pensacola Beach Dog Parks. Daily, 7 to SUNSET. Leashed, friendly dogs. Parking Lot "E" located near park east and Parking Lot "B" near park west on Fort Pickens Road.

.....  
Kids and Kritters Parade, Saturday, Feb 22 at 2 p.m. at Casino Beach. Get your wagon or stroller ready. The theme is Out of this World!

.....  
Pensacola Humane Society has adoptable dog, cats and kittens. They are accepting cash and supply donations. www.pensacolahumane.org

# Calendar

## DECEMBER

24: Candlelight and Carols. Beach Community Church. 6:30 p.m.  
31: Fireworks 8 pm & Midnight

## JANUARY

1: Polar Bear Plunge Paradise 2 pm  
8: Santa Rosa Island Authority Meeting, 5 pm. #1 Via de Luna, Open to the Public. www.sria-fla.com  
11: Pensacola Beach Half Marathon. Casino Beach, 8 a.m.  
11: Ft. Pickens Living History, 9-5. Candlelight Tours until 8:30 p.m.  
11: Krewe of Nereids King Kake Party, 3 p.m. Paradise. Open to public.  
11: Krewe of Bananimals Ball, Ticket \$50. Springhill Suites. 7 pm  
12: Ft. Pickens Living History, 9-5  
12: Surfer's Memorial, Paradise  
16: Krewe of Wrecks Parade Safety Meeting, 6 pm, SRIA boardroom  
18: Krewe of Wrecks Parade Safety Meeting, 10 am, SRIA boardroom  
18: Krewe of Shaker Wigwacker Party, Sandshaker, 9 p.m.  
22: Santa Rosa Island Authority Meeting, 5 pm. #1 Via de Luna, Open to the Public. www.sria-fla.com  
25: Krewe of Nauga Champagne Breakfast and Native Noontime Ball. 10 a.m. The Dock  
25: Krewe of Kids, Sign Up Meeting, 2 p.m. Beach Church  
25: Beach Babe Contest, Krewe of Brewe, Sandshaker, 3 pm

## FEBRUARY

1: Double Bridge Run, 7 a.m. End on Beach  
2: Super Bowl XLVIII  
7: Krewe of Nereids Moonpie Party, 7 pm, Sandshaker. Open to public.  
12: Santa Rosa Island Authority Meeting, 5 pm. #1 Via de Luna, Open to the Public. www.sria-fla.com  
22: Kids and Kritters Parade, 2 p.m. Casino Beach Parking Lot  
26: Santa Rosa Island Authority Meeting, 5 pm. #1 Via de Luna, Open to the Public. www.sria-fla.com

## MARCH

1: Mardi Gras Street Dance, 1 pm Sabine Sandbar. Open to public.  
2: Krewe of Wrecks Mardi Gras parade, 2 p.m. Via de Luna to Gulfside Pavilion.  
3: Free Red Beans and Rice Luncheon. Casino Beach parking lot. 11 a.m. Hosted by the Krewe of Wrecks. All are welcome.  
4: Fat Tuesday. Krewe of Coma Coronation, Sandshaker. 6 p.m.  
4: Shoe Box Float Contest, 8 p.m. Paradise. No entry fee.  
12: Santa Rosa Island Authority Meeting, 5 pm. #1 Via de Luna, Open to the Public. www.sria-fla.com  
13: Pensacola Beach Woman's Club Fundraiser  
15: Strongman Contest. Bamboo Willie's.

## — King Crossword —

### Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

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



**Island Times Blog**  
**myislandtimes.com**  
"where shelly waters meet sandy beaches"

# CAUTION: READING ISLAND TIMES CAN RESULT IN SPONTANEOUS MOMENTS OF UNBRIDLED JOY



for one year's worth of Island Times delivered right to your mailbox

Send \$32

to Shelley Ink

PO Box 844

Gulf Breeze, FL 32562-0844

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_



# Pigskin Prognostications

By Barry McCleary, Esq.

The Mac is back after a year layoff. These predictions come from the heart and not the head. Yes, some attorneys do have a heart when it comes to football. No crystal ball, just years of watching gridiron action. Note: Barry's picks are in bold. \*Due to an early holiday deadline and Christmas press schedule, he made his predictions prior to the December 21 kick off.

**Saturday, December 21 \***

Gildan New Mexico Bowl  
Royal Purple Las Vegas Bowl  
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl  
R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl

**Washington State** vs. Colorado State  
**Fresno State** vs. USC  
Buffalo vs. **San Diego State**  
Tulane vs. **Louisiana-Lafayette**

1:00 pm The coach at Washington State is an old crazy former gun slinger from Texas Tech.  
2:30 pm USC changed coaches more this year than I did underwear, if I wore underwear.  
4:30 pm San Diego's much warmer than Buffalo.  
8:00 pm The Cajun food is better in Lafayette than New Orleans.

**Monday, December 23 \***

Beef 'O' Brady's St. Petersburg Bowl

**East Carolina** vs. Ohio

1:00 pm I'm just a pirate at heart.

**Tuesday, December 24**

Sheraton Hawaii Bowl

Boise State vs. **Oregon State**

7:00 pm Did you ever see what a beaver can do to a tree ?

**Thursday, December 26**

Little Caesars Pizza Bowl  
Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl

**Pittsburgh** vs. Bowling Green  
**Utah State** vs. Northern Illinois

5:00 pm I was born sixty miles west of Pittsburgh in West Virginia. Call me a Homer.  
8:30 pm After what Utah did to Alabama, I fear anything from that state.

**Friday, December 27**

Military Bowl  
Presented By Northrop Grumman  
Texas Bowl  
Fight Hunger Bowl

**Marshall** vs. Maryland  
Syracuse vs. **Minnesota**  
**BYU** vs. Washington

1:30 pm The Thundering Herd over the Turtles. Call me a Homer again.  
5:00 pm Just make my friend New York Nick mad.  
8:30 pm The Mormon's need to win something after the last presidential election.

**Saturday, December 28**

New Era Pinstripe Bowl  
Belk Bowl  
Russell Athletic Bowl  
Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl

**Rutgers** vs. Notre Dame  
Cincinnati vs. **North Carolina**  
**Miami** vs. Louisville  
**Michigan** vs. Kansas State

11:00 am The Brain Bowl. Not picking Notre Dame after what they did to Alabama in the 70s.  
2:20 pm UNC played some close games this year. Besides the coach at Cin coach at Auburn.  
5:45 pm Should be a good game. I'm picking Miami for my FSU friends.  
9:15 pm Michigan looked good against Ohio State.

**Monday, December 30**

Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl  
Franklin American Music City Bowl  
Valero Alamo Bowl  
National University Holiday Bowl

Middle Tennessee vs. **Navy**  
**Ole Miss** vs. Georgia Tech  
**Oregon** vs. Texas  
Arizona State vs. **Texas Tech**

10:45 am Even though I was in the Army, I'll still stick with a military team.  
2:15 pm Ole Miss beat and should have beaten some good teams this year. Look out next year.  
5:45 pm Who could not pull for a duck?  
9:15 pm Texas has the six shooters.

**Tuesday, December 31**

AdvoCare V100 Bowl  
Hyundai Sun Bowl  
AutoZone Liberty Bowl  
Chick-fil-A Bowl

**Arizona** vs. Boston College  
**Virginia Tech** vs. UCLA  
Rice vs. **Mississippi State**  
Duke vs. **Texas A&M**

11:30 am The AZ, FSU & AL coaches were all born within fifty miles from my home town.  
1:00 pm The boys from Blackburg will take it to the surfers from the west coast.  
3:00 pm I do not know how the Bulldogs got into a bowl game.  
7:00 pm Duke has had a good run this year. But no match for Johnny Football.

**Wednesday, January 1**

TaxSlayer.com Gator Bowl  
Heart of Dallas Bowl  
Capital One Bowl  
Outback Bowl  
Rose Bowl  
Tostitos Fiesta Bowl

Nebraska vs. **Georgia**  
**UNLV** vs. North Texas  
Wisconsin vs. **South Carolina**  
Iowa vs. **LSU**  
Stanford vs. **Michigan State**  
UCF vs. Baylor

11:00 am A difficult pick considering all the injuries to Georgia, but SEC pride prevails  
11:00 am Do not bet against Vegas  
Noon Who can not root for the Cocks; besides they have the Ball Coach  
Noon This is for Mike, Caroline, Paulette and all the rest of my friends that are Tiger fans  
4:00 pm MSU did all it could do to get Alabama back into the national championship game.  
7:30 pm I hope UCF can be the giant killer of this bowl season

**Thursday, January 2**

Allstate Sugar Bowl

Oklahoma vs. **Alabama**

7:30 pm The first memory I have of these two teams playing was a Sugar Bowl where the coaches were Bud Wilkinson and the Bear. Going to be a great game.

**Friday, January 3**

Discover Orange Bowl  
AT&T Cotton Bowl

**Clemson** vs. Ohio State  
Oklahoma State vs. **Missouri**

7:30 pm It is hard for me to pick a Tiger with my present state of mind.  
6:30 pm Picking another Tiger, but it is an SEC Tiger, so it's not too difficult.

**Saturday, January 4**

BBVA Compass Bowl

**Vanderbilt** vs. Houston

Noon Vandy will out smart them. Their football program is getting pretty good these days.

**Sunday, January 5**

GoDaddy Bowl

**Arkansas State** vs. Ball State

8:00 pm Arkansas is in the south. Have no idea where Ball State is located. Go State.

**Monday, January 6**

BCS National Championship

**No. 1 Florida State** vs. No. 2 Auburn

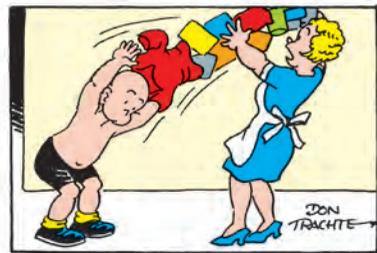
7:30 pm. These are two great football programs, as well as teams. I wish they could both win. I will not be disappointed no matter which team wins. Go Noles! Go Tigers! May the best team, and not the luckiest team, win.

With his Alabama football cap planted squarely on his head, the Pigskin Prognosticator has offered his educated guesses for the Bowl Season. *Island Times* will report how many correct predictions he made in our next edition.

We heard him exclaim as he hopped in his ride, "Merry Christmas y'all...and Roll Tide!

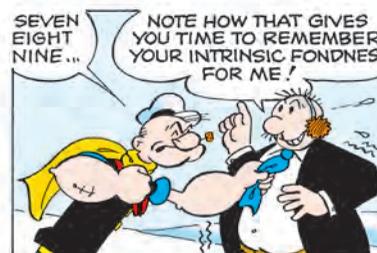
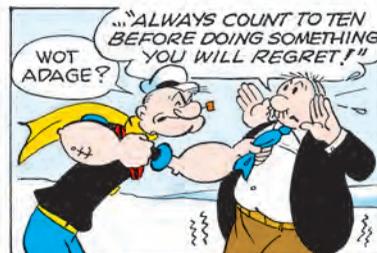
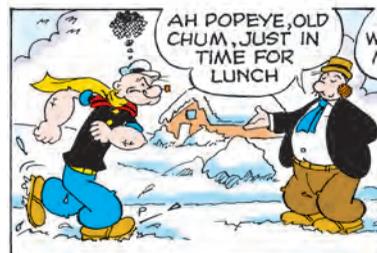
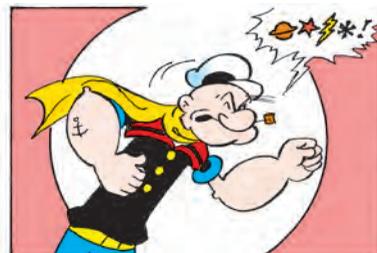
# Henry

BY DON TRACHTE

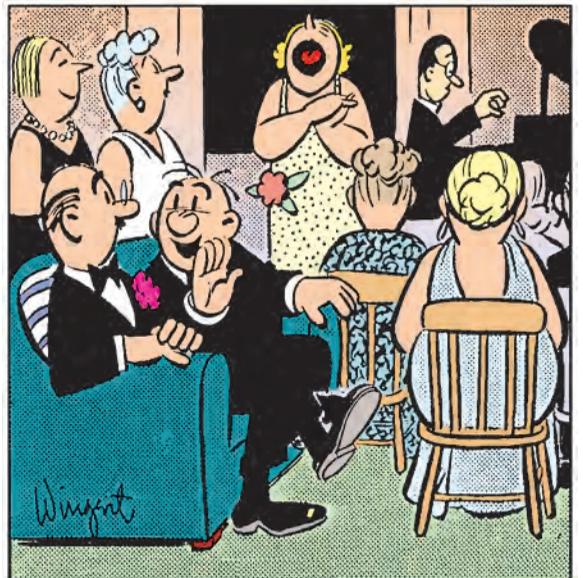



# POPEYE

HEY CYSMAN

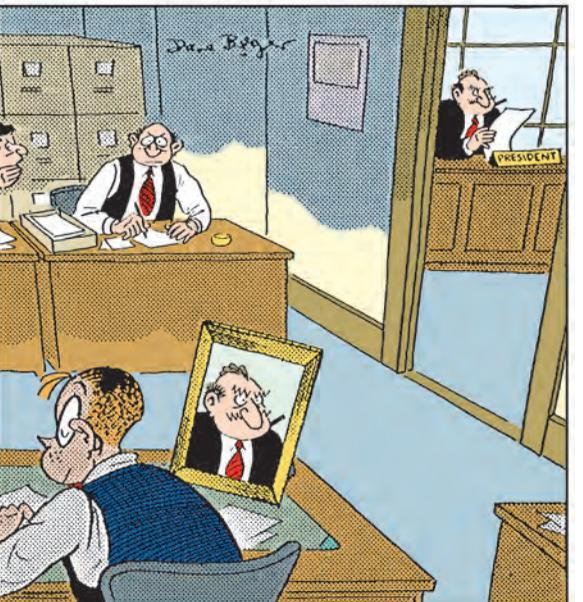


# HUBERT - - By Dick Wingert



"Relax! I just phoned a complaint to the police."

# MISTER BREGER By Dave Breger



"Greatest yes-man this place ever saw . . ."

# Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



# Old Friends Make New Resolutions

As we near the New Year, drink in a few of these resolutions, thoughts and dreams from your Beach friends.

**Mary Ann Claus, President, Pensacola Beach Woman's Club:** We hope to continue to lend support in our community in 2014, our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, by donating funds and giving of our time as needed to make a positive difference. We wish a Happy New Year to *Island Times* and all their readers!

**Jeff Castleberry, Principal Pensacola Beach Elementary School:** My New Year's Resolution for 2014 and beyond is that no child will go to sleep hungry.

**State Senator Don Gaetz:** When the Senate sets up our Christmas tree in the Chamber, it reminds us of the promise of hope and peace that brings comfort throughout the world during the holiday season. We are thankful for the opportunity to serve you and the State of Florida and wish you and your family a very happy new year.

**Reverend Tom Garrison and the Beach Church Family:** We resolve to be a path of good for the community of this beautiful Island; to touch more lives and offer ourselves to others in a special way; to offer special and meaningful worship for those that come our way; to offer better exposure about our events and services by adding an additional Church Sign for the Island to get to know us better; to offer musi-

cal events for the Island Community; and to be a people of peace and acceptance to everyone.

**DJ Zemenick:** On New Year's Day, you can frequently see me with a smile on my face, already thinking about the upcoming sea turtle season. I hope we continue to see a rise in the number of sea turtle nests in 2014, as well as increased interest in conservation efforts to save these magnificent, endangered marine creatures.

I am hoping for less plastic and trash on our beach in 2014. My own New Year's Resolution: is to investigate how to implement an Adopt-A-Beach program for Pensacola Beach to keep our sugar white sand sparkling!

**Melanie Waite:** As Queen Shugah, my resolution for 2014 is to ward off any hurricanes or tropical storms that might seek to ravage the shores of the Sandspur Republic. My regal objective is to protect the homes and businesses of the Woolly Boogers as well as the nesting areas of the sea turtles and shorebirds who visit the squeaky white sand beaches of Santa Rosa Island during spring and summer. I will endeavor to attract during the winter season prevailing winds and tides that will deposit additional sand to the eroded areas on our Gulf and Sound beaches.

**Krewe of Wrecks Board:** resolves to foster fellowship among those who are reckless enough to embrace our

Wreckhood. We will engage in frolicking, frivolity and foolishness during the entire Mardi Gras season, as we hold weekly training sessions building up to the fantastic Costume Ball, fun-filled Champagne Breakfast, fabulous Queens Dinner, favorite Kings Supper, famous Krewe of Wrecks Mardi Gras Parade and the festive Coma Procession. Laissez le bons temps rouler!

**Terri McKamey:** Develop patience.. whether it's with a person or that fish nibbling at my line.

**Kathi Lewis:** I have had an incredible year and I am grateful, thankful and Blessed by all of it

For next year, I'm "borrowing" a very special Toast from my dear, close friend and sister, Judy L'Oignon. To my beloved *Island Times*, the Publisher, our columnists (I love to read your work) TriviaMaster, Rev. Dr. Tom Garrison, Elizabeth Hewson, Susan Haselton-Barr, Joe Stuckey, Candy Segar, Charles Gheen, Terri McKamey, Saltwater Rick and especially YOU – our dear readers:

"May the best of your past be the worst of your future - and may all your pain be Champagne!"

**Shelley Johnson, Island Times:** When the ink dries on the newsprint and the electrons buzz onto our website, I hope the stories and photos convey a message about the good life on this barrier island. The celebration continues in 2014. Keep reading.

**ISLAND TIMES**

the beach's news available worldwide

www.myislandtimes.com • ads as low as \$20 per month



**Jennifer Byrom, P.A.**

Attorney At Law

Wills, Estates and Probate • Marital and Family Law Child Custody • Juvenile Law Civil Litigation • Guardianship Law

916-9000

Toll Free: 877-889-8822  
5177 Elmira Street

Milton

www.ByromLaw.com

Facing the Courthouse

\*The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Before you decide, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience.

**ARE YOU READY?**

We understand your insurance needs!

850-623-8092



CALL US TODAY FOR A QUOTE

Life, Business Auto & Motorcycle Commercial Vehicle Homeowners & Flood

family owned and operated independent insurance agency

www.bayins.com • bay@bayins.com



Computer Repair in Your Home

www.ycpals.com  
joe@ycpals.com

850-206-3156  
Joe Stukey

*Own The Lifestyle.*



80% of Portofino units sold, Only 5 units left in Tower 3!  
10 Portofino Dr.



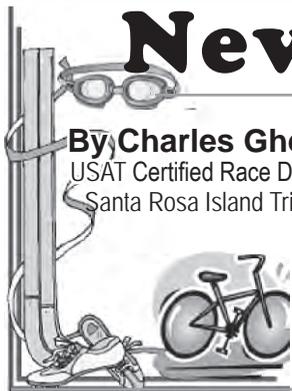
On-site sales office open 7 days a week, 9-5pm. Come by today!  
18 Via de Luna

If you're thinking about buying a luxury home or condominium, why not capitalize on current market opportunities? Let others dream of this lifestyle—the team that's handled more than \$1 billion dollars in real estate transactions over the past 17 years is ready to help you own it.



850.916.5050  
ResortRealtyLife.com

# Never Hurts To Tri



**By Charles Gheen**  
USAT Certified Race Director  
Santa Rosa Island Triathlon

## Pensacola Beach's Half Marathon

On January 11, 2014, over 1000 runners and walkers will line up at the Pensacola Beach Run (PBR) starting line at Casino Beach amid great fanfare. There will be loud, invigorating music, many flags and banners and an air of anticipation and excitement. The competitors are typically arrayed in brightly-colored attire and footwear and the scene will resemble an energetic, fast-moving parade as much as an athletic competition. Whether the athletes are traversing 13.1, 6.2 or 3.1 miles they all will be experiencing a great physical event amid the unique and scenic beauty of Pensacola Beach.

This event originally was an eclectic, quirky road race at Navarre Beach that enjoyed great popularity and success. It was one of the Pensacola Runners Association's (PRA) signature events and was renowned throughout the Gulf Coast. It started and ended at the Holiday Inn in Navarre Beach and was composed of Half Marathon, 10K and 5K competitions. The Half Marathon was limited to runners only, but the two other distances featured divisions for walkers.

In addition to the three distances the event also was known for its brightly colored wind shirts and for the raucous party

after the race. The celebration was held in the Holidome, a domed structure with a translucent roof that contained the indoor pool and was part of the hotel. The PRA had a band, food and refreshments and it was an amazingly energetic scene.

In 2004 Hurricane Ivan struck Northwest Florida and the Navarre Beach Holiday Inn was one of the casualties (along with the Pensacola Beach Holiday Inn). It was demolished and the area was cleared of all the debris. In January 2005, the race was again held there, but it wasn't quite the same. The PRA was faced with a tough decision regarding its future.

For the 2006 event the PRA moved the race to Pensacola Beach and it has prospered here ever since. It was originally hosted at the Hilton Garden Inn (now the Hilton Hotel) and started in front of the hotel on Via De Luna. The three courses have been significantly enhanced, but Pensacola Beach's original half

marathon remains an amazing athletic experience nearly nine years later.

One element that has characterized the race is the unpredictable weather – it has been warm and muggy, it has been very windy, it has been cold and one year there was a frigid rain that very much resembled sleet. Despite the varying conditions the scenic vistas of Santa Rosa Island have remained a consistent draw for the runners. Throw in the extra enhancements the PRA provides and it has become known as one of the most well-organized events of the year and certainly one of the most popular.

This year the PBR will feature high-quality, long-sleeved, technical race shirts, finishers' medals for the half marathon, great food and refreshments and an amazing party at The Sandshaker. You can still be part of this memorable event by going to [www.pensacolarunners.com](http://www.pensacolarunners.com) for more details and registration information.

*Avid runner Ronnie Tibbs competed in the November 30 Jingle Bell 10K Run. He posted a time of 42:20 and earned first place in his age division.*

*Will we see him at the start line of the Pensacola Beach Half Marathon?*



[www.SabineSandbar.com](http://www.SabineSandbar.com)  
715 Pensacola Beach Blvd  
at the Sabine Marina

**Happy Hour**  
Mon-Sat 9am-6pm  
Sun 9am-3pm

**Sabine Sandbar**  
Pensacola Beach, FL  
*Our Bar*

Tuesday, Dec 24: Timmy's Smart Ass Trivia, 7:30 pm  
Wednesday, Dec 25: Bar BINGO with Becky, 7:30 pm  
Thursday, Dec 26: Karaoke with Becky, 8 pm  
Friday, Dec 27: Karaoke with Becky, 8 pm  
Saturday, Dec 28: Dennis Gossman & Bill Dossey, 7 pm  
Sunday, Dec 29: Dennis Gossman and Tomato, 3 pm  
Tuesday, Dec 31: Southern Breeze, 8 pm - **NYE PARTY!**  
Wednesday, Jan 1: Black Eyed Peas & Football  
Thursday, Jan 2: Karaoke with Becky, 8 pm  
Friday, Jan 3: Karaoke with Becky, 8 pm  
Saturday, Jan 4: Dennis Gossman & Ricky Lee Phelps, 7 pm  
Sunday, Jan 5: Freeway 98, 3 pm

**Mondays Guest Bartender 6 to 7 pm**  
Tips donated to the Beach Elementary School

ARC Gateway Plant Nursery has salt tolerant plants!  
**OPEN Mon-Fri 7 AM to 3 PM**  
1112 E. Fairfield Drive  
Pensacola, FL 32503  
850-469-0849



Rob Jackson enjoyed the irony, so he snapped a photo of the Osprey perched on the Conservation Area sign on Pensacola Beach. The bird, which goes by many nicknames including fish hawk, was probably waiting for dinner to swim by. Osprey nests can be found in tree tops all over the island and in man-made nests in Villa Sabine.



The Gambler gets lined up prior to the Pensacola Beach Chamber's Lighted Boat Parade, December 7 near Sabine Marina. The boat received an Honorable Mention award from the judges for its decorations.

**Stunning Gulf Breeze Waterfront Home**  
4/3.5 High end features and attention to detail.  
\$999,900 MLS #448434

**Call Dennis Remesch**  
850-384-7607  
[www.denrem.com](http://www.denrem.com)  
[denrem@denrem.com](mailto:denrem@denrem.com)

**RE/MAX on the Coast**

# Off the Hook

By Terri McKamey

So it's almost Christmas and I know a lot of you out there think fishing's done for the year. You couldn't be more wrong! Even with the weather being up and down so much (freezing one day and back in the 70's the next; or raining one day and sunny and calm the next) those fish are ready to be caught.

Flounder are still biting this month. They are wrapping up their migration out of the Bays and into the Gulf where they will spawn. I like live bait such as Finger Mullet, small Pinfish or Bull Minnows, but they are harder to find this time of year. You will find most of them on the near shore wrecks in about 30-70 feet of water.

Now if you want to go offshore, Amberjack is your best bet. Try using larger Mullet as your bait. There are plenty of Snapper and Gag Grouper, too, but you'll have to practice catch and release with those. Still, they are a lot of fun.

On the bridges and piers you should find plenty of Sheepshead and Redfish. Those Bull Reds will be moving up and down the beaches from the surf to out off

the sandbars. Live shrimp works well here.

Here's the best suggestion I can give you for fishing: Take a friend, a fishing buddy, a kid, someone who's new to fishing in this wonderful place we call home. First, you are going to catch fish. And second and most important, you are going to share the appreciation for your surroundings, the thrill of landing that Redfish or whatever it may be, and the laughter and joy that comes from being on the water with someone who matters to you. When you get right down to it, it's never the fish you catch that matter, it's the feeling you take home with you and the positive energy you project towards others after.

Try it. I promise you will feel better on the ride home than you did when you left the house. Merry Christmas everyone! What are you waiting for? Grab a kid and go fishing!



The Entertainer Captain Rusty Smith submitted this photo. (L to R) Tyler Massey, Chaz Heller and Jeremy Griffith with a Wahoo they landed fishing offshore during December.

## Gulf's Bounty Serves As Beach Chefs Staples

Local anglers fish for sport and feasting, their catches oftentimes are fried to a crispy perfection. Not every kitchen holds the same fish cooking traditions.

Chef Dennis Moore at Flounder's is preparing Lyonaisse Fish for New Year's Eve. It's a potato crusted Mahi over Napa cabbage slaw with charred tomato Burre Blanc flash fried capers, and lemon scented asparagus.

Chef Gregg McCarthy at The Grand Marlin is serving a seared Gulf Red Snapper with a citrus, crab and caramelized fennel and Meyer lemon butter as one of his New Year's Eve menu offerings.

From perfectly raw oysters at PegLeg's to fish tacos at Shaggy's, enjoy the bounty of the area's waters.



Pensacola Beach Chamber Board Chairman Beverly Campbell served as a dignitary at the Chamber's Surfing Santa Beach Parade, December 8. The expert parade convertible driver is Bob Cowen and his co-pilot is Chamber President Nicole Stacey.

## Fire On Ice Event Brings Cool Riders

The Fire on Ice World Championship ICE motorcycle and quad racing will rev up at the Pensacola Bay Center, Saturday, January 11 at 7:30 p.m.

World Championship ICE Racing is a sport born from necessity – the need for speed! It's expected to attract many of the nation's best riders in both ICE Professional Divisions of competition; Manufacturers World Cup Motorcycles and the ICE Unlimited Outlaw Quads. In just over two hours fans will experience the thunder of 20 exciting races on ice to determine event champions in all classes.

The pros are capable of accelerating from 0-60 miles per hour in under 3 seconds on the ice.

Tickets are available at the Pensacola Bay Center Box Office, PensacolaBayCenter.com, Ticketmaster, or at 800-745-3000.

**One Stop Shop for the Watersports Enthusiasts**



**Key Sailing**

*Pensacola Beach, Florida*



Get a VIDEO of your Key Sailing Fun!

Get a new kayak in 2014

SALES & RENTALS

Catamarans  
Parasailing  
Waverunners  
Kayaks  
Boat Rentals

Pensacola Beach at the Boardwalk  
850-932-5520  
www.KeySailing.com

OPEN 9 to 6  
weather permitting

Something's Always Shakin'

# Sandshaker

Pensacola Beach

Sandshaker.com  
850-932-2211

<p><b>MONDAY: 10 AM-Close</b> Half Price Drinks/Shots for BARE. Poker, 7PM. Trivia, 7:30 PM</p>	<p><b>Christmas Eve:</b> Karaoke w/Becky 8 PM</p>
<p><b>\$2 TUESDAY: 10 AM-Close</b> \$2 Wine/Beer/Well. Karaoke with Becky 8 PM</p>	<p><b>Fri - Sat • Dec 27-28</b> The Core, 9 pm</p>
<p><b>WEDNESDAY: 5 PM-Close</b> Ladies Nite. \$2 Wine/Beer/Well. John Hart Band, 9 PM</p>	<p><b>Sun • Dec 29</b> Dunnottar, 4 pm</p>
<p><b>THURSDAY: 7PM-Close 1/2Price</b> Drinks w/Shaker Shirt. Tyler Mac Band 9 PM</p>	<p><b>Fri-Sat • Jan 3-4</b> The Mainstream, 9 pm</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Dec 25 Open at 2 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Sun • Jan 5</b> Lektric Mullet, 4 pm</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Open at 2 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Mon • Jan 6</b> BCS Championship Tailgate Party</p>

Shake in the New Year!

TUES, Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Party

Something Huge • 9 PM to 1 AM

Free Champagne at Midnight

TWO FIREWORKS SHOWS  
8 pm & Midnight

Watch from our Observation Deck

Open at 2 p.m. on January 1

Bloody Marys • Bushwackers • Football

across from Boardwalk



# VOTED BEST SEAFOOD RESTAURANT!!

One of many "Best of the Gulf Coast" awards won by Flounder's in the News Journal's polls.



## SEAFOOD!

Fresh Gulf seafood charbroiled over flaming hardwood fires



## OYSTERS!

We sell so many, you know they're fresh!



## SHRIMP!

Gulf shrimp served scampi style, barbecued, beer batter fried, or steamed in beer



## BEACH BAR!

Neath the moon & stars on our beach



PENSACOLA BEACH FLORIDA

FRED FLOUNDER, Founder

"Floundering at its best"

-Fodor's Florida

"Best seafood on Pensacola Beach"

-Fromers Guide to Florida

"Best seafood on Pensacola Beach"

-USAir Magazine

"Great vibes...and happy guests"

-Florida Trend Magazine



At the traffic light on beautiful Pensacola Beach • 850-932-2003 • [www.FloundersChowderHouse.com](http://www.FloundersChowderHouse.com)

Since 1979

# CRABS

## on the beach

### LIVE MUSIC GREAT FOOD & FAMOUS MARGARITAS

After a day at the beach come unwind and enjoy our famous margaritas, local blue claw crabs, fried seafood, steaks and more!

### BEST SUNDAY BRUNCH!

Crab Cakes Benedict, Crab Omelets, Rise & Shine Breakfast, Classic Brunch Entrees, Bloody Marys & Bottomless Champagne.

BEST VIEW!

BEST BEACH BAR!

### MONDAY

\$2.50 Crabwackers

### TUESDAY

\$2.50 Margaritas

### WEDNESDAY

1/2 Price House Wine & We Call It Drink Specials

### THURSDAY

\$3 House Martinis

### FRIDAY

\$6 Crab Traps

### SATURDAY

Tim Spencer  
\$7 Souvenir Pilsners

### SUNDAYS AT NOON

Pensacola Steel Band  
Brunch Served—  
10 am to 2 pm

Bottomless Champagne \$5.99

### SUNDAY

\$6 Voo Doo Juice Buckets

### HAPPY HOUR!

Mon thru Sun 4 to 6, 1/2 price well, house wine and draft beer



Look for the RED ROOF at the traffic light on Pensacola Beach  
850-932-0700

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

