

ISLAND TIMES

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Pensacola Beach, Florida

January 7, 2014



Surfers Celebrate Life With Memorial

Twenty-four years of honoring
W.D. and the Brothers of the Sea
at the
Pensacola Beach Surfer's Memorial

The twenty-fourth annual Pensacola Beach Surfer's Memorial is a day of celebration. The event, held on January 12 annually, will be hosted by Paradise Bar and Grill beginning at 3 p.m. and is open to the entire community. It started as a fish fry and party for the friends who mourned the loss of Willie Dail, and now serves as a living memorial to all who love the water and the waves. Music blends with cherished memories and the embrace of friendship honors the lives well lived. The Planning Committee members putting the final touches on this year's celebration are: Cary Brown (standing), DeeDee Hebert, left, and Renee Mack, Paradise Bar and Grill general manager. For more on the Memorial, turn to page 2.

Friends, Music, Memories Blend At Surfers Celebration

The memories are always there. Fleeting or lingering, fading or sharp. The friendships forged on the sands of Pensacola Beach are so strong for the surfing family that a loss of one is a loss to all. Pensacola Beach surfers designate January 12 to celebrate the lives and honor those who have passed away. The Pensacola Beach Surfer's Memorial is Sunday, January 12 at 3 p.m. at Paradise Bar and Grill.

"This is a living memorial," said DeeDee Hebert, who is a planning committee member. "What better way to honor our friends and family who have died, than to gather, celebrate and remember."

The celebration has come a long way from the first fish fry and bon fire hosted by Willie Dail's friends.

Dail, a beach resident and surfer who passed away in 1990, was only 36-years-old. His friends got together on January 12 on the sand behind the Holiday Beach Resort to toast the memory of their lost brother. Cary Brown recalls that Dave Bartee and Jimmy Freeman were at the party.

"I was at the first one, and never miss the Surfer's Memorial with the exception of the years that I spent in Costa Rica," said Brown. Brown sailed away from Pensacola Beach making his home in the Central American surfing hot spot. He has recently returned home.

The Planning Committee, which is loosely organized according to Hebert, has some long-time stalwarts. Mark Anderson, BZR Turner, Don Rogers, Chester Williams and Jim Freeman are among them. Freeman serves as the group's historian and archivist. That puts Freeman in charge of the most important possession, the Memorial Board.

Hundreds of names are etched on the Memorial Board. Sadly, the list grows. This year

Mike Bloodworth and Jeremy Johnson will be added. Jeremy's twin brother Jason said, "Jeremy succumbed to the demons of PTSD on December 26 after many combat tours defending the nation's freedom in the Navy."

The Surfer's Memorial was a surfers-only event for the first three years, but the numbers grew and the surfers welcomed the entire community to the celebration.

"If you love the beach or want to honor someone, we welcome you," said Hebert, who shared a beach house with Dail. "This is a respect-filled time, but not sad nor somber. And, the event is open to everyone. Willie would have wanted it that way. So many of the surfer's families were touched by the honor and remembrance, that it has become a revered event."

Guests are asked to bring a flower to place at the Memorial Board to pay their respects. The Board will be available for viewing beginning at 3 p.m. for as long as the celebration continues.

In addition to the Memorial Board, a staple of the celebration is the music and the talented people who donate their time to entertain. Who will you see on stage? The list is as fluid as the waves they ride. Cary Brown, Mark Anderson and Don Rogers in Over Pour will play a few tunes and Tim Spencer is scheduled for an early appearance. Hebert says the evening can turn into a jam session of who's who among local musicians. Beach favorites Jeff Johnson, Doug Curle, Freddy Esposito and Mike Wheeler have made the scene in year's past.

"Tribe Zion is going to perform," said Hebert. "The music is going to be great."

Take time to peruse the Silent Auction items. This year's auction items include custom jewelry designed by beach girl Nancy Woody, owner of Fire Sign Jewelry.

"There are so many generous businesses who support this event annually," said Hebert. "We have been lucky enough to have a donation from Tiki carvers Jim Freeman and Jeff Wheelock. Chef Dan Dunn will be among the artists donating work. Paradise Bar and Grill, this year's host, has added a two-night stay to the Silent Auction."

Next to the Silent Auction tables will be a Surfer's Memorial sales table. The famous black and white t-shirts and sweatshirts will be for sale as long as the supplies last. Embroidered knit caps will be offered for \$20. An Innerlight surfboard will be raffled off.

The proceeds from the auction and sales are dedicated to local initiatives and community outreach. Historically, the Surfer's Memorial Committee was dedicated to erecting a Gulf front memorial statue or marker. The funds and final form were in flux when one of the Gulf Coast's most famous surfers, Yancy Spencer, passed away. Spencer's family and friends moved forward with a memorial statue. It was dedicated at Casino Beach in February 2013. The statue serves a broad population of locals who want to pay their respects and tourists who curiously approach and then learn more. The bigger-than-life bronze is the focal point of hundreds of photos each month.

"We were able to make a considerable donation to support that memorial statue," said Hebert. "Now that it is in place, it changed the focus of our fundraising."

The Surfer's Memorial committee finds worthy causes to support.

"Sometimes it's international and sometimes it's helping a local surfer in need," notes Hebert. "You never know what or when, but we are glad to be able to help."

Those who brave the frigid

water to carve up winter swells and bounce around waiting for a tropical low to bring a good set of brothers and sisters. They reserve this day for those lost, but not forgotten. It's truly a living memorial.

Paradise has special heated tents for the event and Renee Mack is preparing a soul warming black beans and yellow rice dish.

"It's going to be good, so come early," said Mack. "Served free of charge compliments of

Paradise, but when it's gone, it's gone."

Bartenders will be ready to serve the crowds. Room rates have been slashed to as low as \$35, to accommodate the Memorial guests.

The Surfer's Memorial welcomes everyone to Paradise for their twenty-fourth gathering. The event is the only one of its kind on Pensacola Beach where the surfer's take time to toast friendships, to celebrate living and to remember those who did the same.



Traditional tiki designs and custom carved creations by artists Jeff Wheelock and Jim Freeman will be part of the Silent Auction. Unique jewelry to Beach weekends will be up for grabs at the January 12 Pensacola Beach Surfer's Memorial. The Silent Auction proceeds benefit local initiatives.

Beach Mardi Gras Kicks Off This Week

And, so it begins. The parties, masquerade balls, parades and events that have been in the planning stages for months, are ready to take center stage. The first official Mardi Gras event is the Krewe of Nereids King Kake party, Saturday, January 11, 3 p.m. at Paradise. The Krewe of Bananimals are getting wild with a Toga-themed Mardi Gras

Ball at Springhill, January 11 at 7 p.m. The tickets are \$45 and available to the public.

The Krewe of Shakers Wig-Wacker Party is Saturday, January 18 at the Sandshaker Lounge.

If you are a veteran of Mardi Gras on the Island, it's imperative to have a detailed schedule. If you are a Mardi Gras greenhorn, then you will want to pay

close attention to the special section on pages 10-11. *The Good Times* will run in the next five editions of *Island Times*.

To see all the photos, updates and merriment, log on to our Mardi Gras website, www.PensacolaBeachMardiGras.com. It's powered by *Island Times* and fueled by our advertisers. Please support them. Bon temps!



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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

The Islander Newspaper – April 25, 1986

Of all the dirty words in the English language, the dirtiest is the three letter word – TAX. Just when April 15 had faded from our memory, we began to hear rumblings that the Florida Legislature is beginning to figure a way to tax the hapless inhabit-

ants of Santa Rosa Island. It has dawned upon the legislators that selling rather than leasing island property would mean immediate taxation on both the land and the improvements. It really is not necessary to rehash what has preceded this most recent maneuver to find a base to tax Island leaseholders. Since our

leases are the same as the one held by the Daytona Speedway, some residents who have pursued their cause through the courts, have come off tax free. As long as Daytona Speedway retains a 99 year lease, and pays no taxes, the lucrative operation will continue in Florida. If it becomes taxable property, it is rumored that the Speedway will relocate.

A couple of questions come to mind. Can the Florida Legislature legally grant ownership to a group of private individuals who now hold leases and at the same time, continue to give Daytona Speedway the lease and the tax advantage it now enjoys?

More importantly to those of us who have consistently paid both lease fees and Ad Valorem taxes over the years, will Escambia County ever give us anything in return? At the time we were obligated to pay taxes by a court order, we all asked what are you doing with the millions of dollars we are paying the County in Ad Valorem taxes.

We received miscellaneous unsatisfactory answers. Once, I asked this question of the Northwest Florida Delegation, and I was told that the population of Pensacola Beach and the small amount of taxes paid in comparison to the rest of the County

meant we could not expect the Commissioners to direct funds to such projects as maintenance and drainage of County roads on the island, much less toward such an extravagance as bicycle paths.

At one point, the County Manager appeared before the SRIA and told us we received a number of services for our tax dollars -- like libraries in Escambia County and a polling booth during elections.

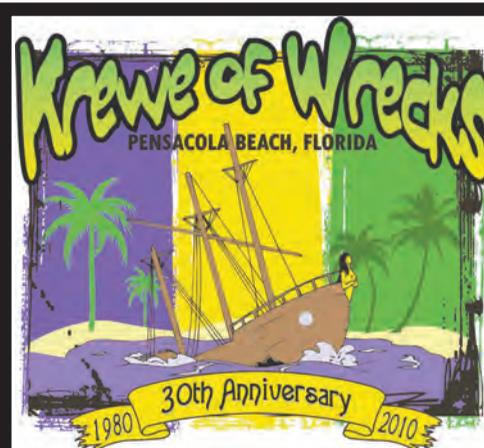
Where do we go from here? It's been pointed out that the taxation on Island residences at proper assessments would be pretty hefty. Most residents agree that they would not mind paying taxes if they thought there was some return to the Island itself. Will that come about? The tax

question is the most privately and publicly debated subject on the Island. It gets to be an enigma. When we are paying taxes, the amount is so small that we do not dare ask, "What are you doing with our taxes?" However, when we are not paying taxes, there seems to be a big enough gap in the County's tax income to force the Commissioners to seek ways of collecting the monies.

All most of us can do is wait and see. And finally, whatever happens, we will be doing what the courts and the Legislature tell us to do. If it happens that we must legally pay Ad Valorem taxes, we'll go back where we were originally, and we will ask, "What are you doing with our tax money?"



Christmas bells turned to wedding bells when David Shearman proposed to his sweetheart Terese Overlade on Christmas Day on Pensacola Beach. The celebration continued for days, since Terese's birthday is December 27. The couple will announce wedding details soon.



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

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



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TIME WITH TIM

Charlotte and Tim Spencer took their friends on a little trip down Memory Lane December 27, showing off a thirty-four year old photo of the happy couple after they were married.

TRAVELERS

The holidays signal travel time for many area residents. Glenn Windham reported in from Belize. Brian Underwood and Steve Picker boarded the Liberty of the Seas in South Florida for a perfect holiday cruise.

ventured on a pre-Christmas trip to the Dominican Republic. All the island hoppers have returned home.

SHAKE IT

Bluesman and poker promoter Saltwater Rick and Mrs. Salty were kicking up their heels on Christmas night at the Sandshaker. John Hart and his band were tearing up the tunes on stage, so Rick and Janie followed owner Sonny Campbell to the dance floor.

PEACE PACE

Jacob Pace was home on the beach for the holidays visiting parents Joe and Karen Pace. His job in the Peace Corps takes him to Cameroon on the African continent.



The newest Sister of the Beach - Liv Marvel Newlin, was born at home on Pensacola Beach on Christmas Eve. Her welcoming party includes parents Laren and Isaac Newlin, sisters Phare, 4, and Isla, who is 20-months-old.

Trivia

The subject of last edition's trivia is one famous little doll. She's a superstar among playthings and although she takes some heat for being a curvy, high-heel wearing diva with a pink convertible, she has outlasted many of her plastic counterparts.

Trivia Tim Pike was the first to flex his Mattel muscle, and state that Barbie's last name is Roberts. When Tim's not answering trivia, he is working at the Holiday Inn Express on Fort Pickens Road.

This question elicited a high number of responses, many from men. Recalling that dads of daughters can become Barbie experts and that the diminutive doll's Dream House and Pink Vette can require a contractor-mechanic, it was no surprise.

Shirtless Kathy Christoff and Jane McGrath flew to their computers. Kathy was the third correct answer, and sweet Jane could not figure out how to turn her machine on. With the help of husband Dan, who is a veteran trivia player, Jane sent a correct answer, but not the first.

Marie Colberg, who is the administrator at Our Lady, sent a correct answer. The rookie trivia player was in the middle of the pack. Rita McGartland knew the answer. Bet her daughter Katie had her house full of Barbie dolls.

Island Times Circulation Manager Diana Harvey submitted her answer unofficially, just

because she loves Barbie. She passed her Barbie-loving gene right down to daughter Laken, who is a mature fourth grader at the Beach School.

It makes the TM smile just thinking about his toothy friends who swim around in the Gulf, so nibble on this question. The Footprints in the Sand Eco-Trail has a trail marker dedicated to sharks and rays. Where is it? Extra credit if you include a photo of the marker.

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Polar Bears Plunge During New Year's Day Event

Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce hosted the annual Polar Bear Plunge January 1 at Paradise Bar and Grill. Two hundred fifteen hardy souls participated.



Penguins in Paradise (L to R): Stephanie Funkhouser, Tony Chicola, Tracy Steiner, Michelle Williams, Debbie Hitchcock and Suzanne Walton.



Brown Bear Adam Hurst



Kirwan Price says "I Do" Plunge!



Roy Adams in his plungewear



Team Grinch (L to R): Craig Chamberlin, Shirley Chamberlain, Michael Prout, Nancy Prout, Diane Dodt and Bea Nash.



Ring in the New Year by plunging on Pensacola Beach, (L to R) Carsyn and Jenny Lincks and Olivia Melton, all from Fort Smith, Arkansas.



Jackson Pipes, fifth grader at AK Suter Elementary, is a giant squid.



Ray Couy, left, is beach famous for his wild costumes at the Beach's Polar Bear Plunge. He has entertained crowds with everything from Willie Wonka Oompa Loompa to this year's Redneck Plunger. Accompanying Couy, who dressed as a Beach Bubba, is Jennifer Ross.



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by
Kathi
Lewis



It's the last day of 2013 as I write this column and so far it has not been a good one for me. Oh, don't worry. It's not anything really serious. It's been full of irritation and frustration. All of it concerning paperwork (which I absolutely hate in the first place), corporate financial greed and irritation at myself. Once again I failed to renew my toll gate transponder in time to avoid the line at the SRIA.

Every December I promise myself that this will be the year that I am definitely going to drop off the renewal form at the toll gate before they stop accepting them. I start at the beginning of the month and actually pick up the form from the toll gate operators. I carefully place it on my side table in the living room where the rest of my paperwork constantly fights for its own space. Sometimes when I'm combing through the jumble, I turn the now buried form on its side so it's taller and I can see it easily. During the next search for papers which I no longer have, I transfer the form to my checkbook, so I'll remember to pay it the next time I pay bills. Since I'm in a big hurry to write the checks for bills that have to be paid right now, I skip the renewal because I still have "plenty" of time.

And, then somehow, just like Christmas, the days seem to actually disappear. Instead of having plenty of said time it's now racing to the finish line determined to win the race. It's not even a close race and I know I'm coming in last once again. At 4:45 on the last day of the year I scribble the check as fast as possible not even bothering to add it to the check register (that can be done later, of course) then climb on the hoods of both huge vehicles to get the transponder number and race around to the back so I can write in the tag numbers.

By the time I hop in Old Blue I'm sweating regardless of the actual temperature (today it's been cloudy all day, not even a ray of sunshine, 47 degrees not counting wind chill and it's beginning to rain).

I quickly set her GPS, which in our case stands for "Go Pretty Swiftly" because we've gotta get over the bridge and back to the toll gate before 5 p.m. (One year I was ahead of the ending

date but missed the 5 p.m. deadline by 15 minutes.) We make it because Blue can do pretty much anything I ask of her. In fact we were there in plenty of time for the toll operator to explain that we were too late, because of the date, not the clock.

I've known for a long time that I could be "Queen of Procrastinators" because I sincerely believe anything that can be done tomorrow, should be. You very wise and organized readers are most likely saying, "But tomorrow never comes!" For me, sometimes it does and sometimes it doesn't. If it "doesn't come" then it means whatever it was probably didn't really need doing anyway and I would have been wasting time had I done it. And if it does, then I really do work best under pressure. Without pressure, I could also reign as the "Queen of Laziness."

My theory makes me feel better anyway and I'd rather be living the best parts of my life instead of dying while doing something that will end up as a complete waste of good time. I do enjoy wasting time as long as it's done in a good way and I feel sure I'd make a great "Queen of Wasted Time" too. How about that? I do believe I have just set three very desirable goals for the New Year!

The corporate financial greed was discovered when I checked the interest rate on a credit card.

In this instance, I had received checks for a special balance transfer rate and used one to transfer a higher interest balance from another card. I made a mistake by using a previously received check that had already expired. I did have current checks for the same offer but the bank approved the transfer using the expired check. They made money on the balance transfer fee which I knew about and have no objection to, but they also knew a higher interest rate would be imposed on the transfer by the next month. I felt I deserved some sort of notification that the check was expired and I would very quickly be losing the low interest offer before it was approved. I know it's my fault for not shredding the old checks, but I have been a customer in good standing for over twenty years without a single late pay-

ment. I will now go straight to the top of the food chain.

CEOs, Presidents and Vice Presidents dislike receiving letters or phone calls from people like me. I won't stop because while this banking practice may be legal, it's unethical. Here's a piece of advice to share: everyone needs to pay attention to all financial statements including reading the teeny, tiny print (use a magnifying glass if necessary).

I feel fortunate that I chose to get out of working in finance a long, long time ago. For me money is a nuisance. While necessary it is otherwise unimportant in my life, because all I need is just enough. I am so rich in everything else that I would never even consider a trade.

I also have a very delectable recipe to share. This one comes to us from Chrissy Cook, who cooked and brought it to our Mental Health Night Christmas Party. It was disappearing very quickly when I decided to grab a serving for Paulette Provost and me since we always eat later. It must have been an angel's voice in my ear because I managed to get a serving before it disappeared and I am guaranteeing that you will understand when you taste it. If this is how we start 2014, then we'll be making some incredible recipes all year and this one may be hard to beat. It is worthy of being the first! So, let's cook.....

Crawfish Casserole
1-(5 oz.) package saffron yellow rice
6 Tbsp. margarine
1 Large onion, chopped
1 Green pepper, chopped
1-(10 oz.) can mild Rotel tomatoes and green chilies
1 lb. Crawfish tail meat
1-(10 ¾ oz.) can Cream of mushroom soup
Grated cheddar cheese
Tony Chachere's to taste

Cook rice according to directions. Set aside. Saute onions and pepper in margarine. Add tomatoes and simmer 10 minutes. Add crawfish and simmer 10 minutes. Remove from heat and add soup, stir, add rice and stir. Add Tony's to taste. Put in 13 x 9 casserole dish and sprinkle with cheese. Bake 25 minutes at 350 degrees.

Enjoy, share and wishing you all a healthy and happy New Year filled with just enough!

See ya in the kitchen.....

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Wine and Dine With Fred Flounder

Fred Flounder's gotten pretty highfalutin. He's hosting a five course dinner with fine wine pairings, Wednesday, January 29. The Kendall Jackson Wine Dinner will commence with a reception beginning at 6:30 p.m., followed by seating at 7 p.m.

It starts with seasonal fruit and artesian cheeses served with an Avant Chardonnay. The menu features oven-lacquered Hudson Valley squab, twice-cooked pork belly with butternut squash

cream, and braised St. Louis-style beef short ribs paired with Grand Reserve Merlot, Summation Red Blend and Grand Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon. Finish with a charred buttery pound cake, macerated seasonal berries, goat cheese honey mousse, and Vintners Reserve Late Harvest Chardonnay.

The charge is \$65 per person and reservations are required. For more information, 850-932-4653 or chase@mcguiremgt.net.



Winners of the Gulf Breeze Middle School National Geographic Bee are seated (L to R): Bickston Laenger, third, Winner Michael Palermo and Blake Barclay, second. School officials (back row, L to R): Raelynn Dover, Principal Richard Cobb, School Board Member Jenny Granse, JoAnn Considine (Geography Bee Coordinator), Martha Antoun and Judy Friery.

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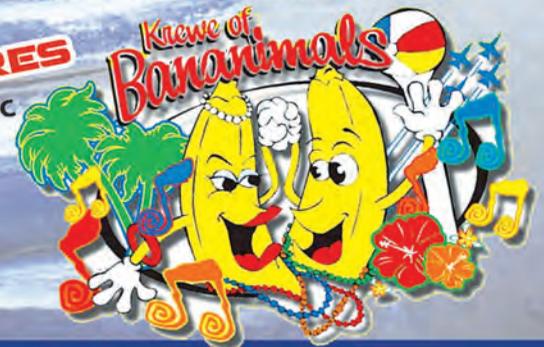
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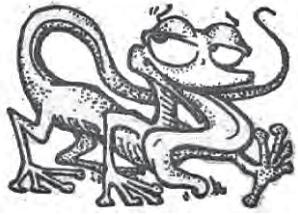
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The Lizzard's Tongue...

BY ELIZABETH K. HEWSON

Eve I will not have disappointed myself.

I resolve that I will drink at least one box of wine in 2014. A bottle would be too easy.

I resolve that I will lose and then find at least five pounds. Five pounds of what, I am not sure.

I resolve that I will start, stop, start, stop, but never finish at least one novel. This includes both the ones I am working on and someone else's already published book.

I resolve that I will save money, but for how long I cannot predict between half off coupons at Jo-Ann Fabrics and free shipping from Fabric.com. So much fabric, so little time.

I resolve that I will participate in one run this year. Being part of the support crew counts, doesn't it?

I resolve that I will be a more understanding mom when

it comes to my 16-year-old son. Can anyone really define what more means when it comes to understanding a teenager?

I resolve that I will beat my husband just once in a game of Words with Friends. I could possibly be setting myself up for failure on this one. I do, how-

ever, have 12 months to do this and hundreds of word apps to download before the clock strikes midnight on December 31.

So there you have it, my 2014 resolutions. I am thinking already it's going to be a great year filled with success and promise. 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.]

I hate New Year's resolutions and I come by that honestly. My mother, Jane Waters, could never understand why anyone would start the New Year with a list of goals that, in all honesty, were probably not going to be accomplished, thus setting a person up for that miserable feeling of failure some time by mid-January. Of course, she also didn't believe in a curfew. Her rationale for that was you could do the same thing at two in the afternoon as two in the morning. She was such a wise woman.

So taking the lead from my mom, I thought I would share my resolutions for 2014. I can guarantee you by this New Year's



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BEACH BIRD - The Santa Rosa Island Authority brought a Pelican in Paradise to perch on its front lawn December 20. Artist Diane Goeller, left, and SRIA Executive Director Buck Lee unveiled the pelican, which sports flips flops, khaki shorts and a pair of sunglasses atop his head. Iconic beach logos and a blue fishing shirt complete the design. Goeller has a flock of pelican designs to her credit. The Pelican art is a Pensacola News Journal project which benefits their Newspapers in Education literacy program.

Beach Chamber Recognized By County

Escambia County Commissioners recognized the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce at their January 2 meeting commending the business group for a job well done. Citing the work the Chamber has done to increase shoulder season revenues with event creation and

promotion, increased membership participation, Visitors Center management and obtaining a BP funded grant, the Beach's Commissioner Grover Robinson presented President Nicole Stacey with an official County resolution. The resolution is online at www.myislandtimes.com

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Saturday, January 11

King Cake Party. 3 - 7 p.m. Paradise Bar and Grill. Open to the public at no charge. The Mystic Krewe of Nerieds in their finest Beach Mardi Gras tradition host this event on the first Saturday after Twelfth Night, the official beginning of the Mardi Gras. The all-ladies krewe is celebrating their 24th Mardi Gras season on Pensacola Beach and invite all who care to cast their worries aside to join them. Take a spin around the dance floor, enjoy the traditional Mardi Gras king cake and witness the crowning of their new king and queen.

All are welcome, always a good time.

Additional information Elaine Mitchell, Krewe co-chairman at 850-932-1080 or Sharon Mattair, Krewe co-chairman 850-292-6586

Bananimals Ball. 7 - 11 p.m. Springhill Suites, 24 Via de Luna. Open to the public. Tickets, \$45 per person. The Krewe of Bananimals goes Roman at their Toga, Toga, Toga themed 2014 Mardi Gras Ball. Costume is encouraged, but formal wear will do. Dance to Touch of Gray. Plenty of heavy hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Call 850-916-0599 for reservations and ticket information.

Saturday, January 18

WigWacker Party. 9 p.m. til, Sandshaker Lounge,

713 Pensacola Beach Blvd, just north of the Beach Ball water tower. Open to the public at no charge. Top your crop with a wild or wacked wig for this event. The Krewe of Shakers, who make the Sandshaker Lounge their home, have only one requirement for this party - you need to know how to have fun.

Shaker Queen will reign over the wild affair. Contest at 11 p.m. for the WigWacker Wigin Out Best Wig. As always great prizes, good fun. Drink Specials All Night Long. More information, call 850-932-2211 or email sandshakerlounge@bell-south.net

Saturday, January 25

Krewe of Nauga Champagne Breakfast and Nautive Noontime Ball. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Dock. Open to the public, \$15 at the door. Can't figure out what a Nauga is? Come to this raucous champagne fueled party and become one (hosted by the Krewe of Nauga).

This year's theme honors their twentieth anniversary "Roaring Twenties."

The history of the Nauga is presented by Queen Nauga X Deb Friedman. All past royalty are honored and the new queen will take her place among the ranks.

Last year 900 pajama clad revelers crammed into The Dock, danced their cares away with the vista of the Gulf of Mexico to greet them. This is the only Nauga

event, so you better arrive early.

Dress in your best pajamas, and let your inner Nauga out. Pajama Contest. Breakfast Buffet with Champagne plus party favors included with your entry fee. Cash bar.

To honor the mythical beach creature, the Humane Society benefits from the elaborate and creative raffle baskets (Tickets offered at \$1 each.) Grand Prize Beach Weekend tickets are \$5.

Make a day of it by attending the Post Nauga Party at Paradise Bar and Grill. Special room rates.

Beach Babe Contest. 3 p.m. until, Sandshaker Lounge, 733 Pensacola Beach Blvd. Open to the public at no charge. The Krewe of Brew Beach Babe Contest brings beautiful young ladies to the stage at the Sandshaker Lounge to vie for prizes. The winner is crowned as the Krewe of Brew Beach Babe and will ride with the krewe on the float in the Krewe of Wrecks Mardi Gras Parade. Come as you are, the Brewskis welcome everyone.

Friday, Feb. 7

Moan Pie Party. 7 p.m. til, Sandshaker Lounge, 733 Pensacola Beach Blvd, north of the Beach Ball Water Tower. Open to the Public at no charge. The all female Krewe of Nereids will be decked out in their top hats and tuxedo tails adorned with glittering sequins and rhinestone pins. Participi-

pants are encouraged to wear Mardi Gras colors and the zaniest hat you can find. Not that there is a dress code for this informal event, but the hat can help deflect the Moon Pies that come sailing into the crowd at regular intervals. The band plays on and the dancing never ends.

All are welcome, a beach Mardi Gras tradition.

Additional information Elaine Mitchell, Krewe co-chairman at 850-932-1080 or Sharon Mattair, Krewe co-chairman 850-292-6586

Saturday, February 22

Kids and Kritters Parade. 2 p.m. Casino Beach Parking Lot, across from Sidelines. Dogs and kids walking procession. Come catch some beads. Or join the parade. www.pensacola-beachmardigras.com.

Mardi Gras Grand Costume Ball. 8 p.m. at the Pensacola Beach Elk's Lodge. Open to the public. Tickets are \$30 per person. Hosted by the Krewe of Wrecks. Some masquerade in costumes and some in formal wear to herald Pensacola Beach's original krewe at their Grand Costume Ball. The Krewe of Wrecks break all the rules for formal galas and set all the standards for fun. Rub elbows with Beach royalty. Additional Info: Melanie Waite at melanie@waite.cc

Saturday, March 1

Krewe of Wrecks Champagne Breakfast. 10 a.m. at Crab's on the Beach. Open to the public. Ticket \$30. The excitement bubbles over as the Krewe of Wrecks board prepares to announce the new royal court. Toasting and toast. Corks pop. Generous breakfast is served. Pomp and circumstance - as only the Wrecks can do. The names of the royal court

Monday, February 24

Queen's Dinner. 7 p.m.

at Flounder's. Open to ladies, \$30 per ticket. Limited number of tickets available. Queens are honored at this lavish dinner. All Queens in attendance are recognized. Dinner is served. Champagne flows. Tiara's are required. Rhinestones, sequins, all forms of fun and fanciful clothes are recommended. melanie@waite.cc for ticket information.

King's Supper. 7 p.m. at the Elk's Lodge. Open to men, \$30 per ticket. Limited number of tickets available. A feast fit for a king served to all previous and current rulers of the Pensacola Beach krewes. The after dinner entertainment includes traveling across the street to Flounder's to see the one hundred dazzling women at the Queen's Dinner. melanie@waite.cc for ticket info.

Saturday, March 1

Krewe of Wrecks Champagne Breakfast. 10 a.m. at Crab's on the Beach. Open to the public. Ticket \$30. The excitement bubbles over as the Krewe of Wrecks board prepares to announce the new royal court. Toasting and toast. Corks pop. Generous breakfast is served. Pomp and circumstance - as only the Wrecks can do. The names of the royal court

are revealed. A glittering tiara, bejeweled captain's hat are bestowed in a wild ceremony. Attendees tie napkins together in a long strand as the official Krewe of Wrecks song is performed. A decades old tradition. melanie@waite.cc for ticket info.

Mardi Gras Street Dance. noon until the dancing stops, at Sabine Sandbar. This event is open to the public, be the first to congratulate the newly crowned Krewe of Wrecks Royalty! The Wrecks Royal Court has been known to lead a procession into the street for a brief, unauthorized dance, pending patient drivers and agreeable weather.

Fat Tuesday, March 4

Krewe of Coma Royal Coronation and Lighted Hat Procession. 6 p.m. at the Sandshaker Lounge, No charge, open to all. The grand finale of Mardi Gras on the Island is the crowning of the King and Queen of Coma. This evening event requires participants to bring, wear, or otherwise possess lighted and glowing adornments.

Anything goes as long as it glows. Clever and creative types can enter the free Lighted Hat Contest to win fame but not much fortune.

Monday, March 3

Red Beans and Rice Luncheon. 11 a.m. Casino Beach Parking Lot, Open to the Public at no charge. The Bean Team at the Elk's Lodge spends days planning and preparing the traditional New Orleans style Monday fare.

The spicy red beans and rice are ladled into bowls by the volunteers from the Pensacola Beach Woman's Club. Thousands come for the free meal - Dining tables are lined up in the parking lot. Workers on their lunch hour dance with costumed krewe members under the tent. Drinks are available for sale. Tip jars collect cash to donate to local charities. Additional Info: Melanie Waite at melanie@waite.cc

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Mini Mardi Gras Events for Petite Paraders and Pooches

Krewe of Kids

The Krewe of Kids is celebrating 21 years of Mardi Gras merriment. This is the only co-ed social group for kids on the Island and is open to fifth graders and younger. Preschoolers must have an adult partner. The Kids have a few traditions that stick like glue - creating their custom hand print banner by putting their entire hand in wet paint; eating doughnuts and cokes at a big time fun breakfast party where they draw names to choose a King and Queen; creation of a secret handshake and cheer; and finally, they allow one adult, the Biggest Kid, to join their ranks for the year.

Dues: \$10

Sign Up Meeting: Saturday, January 25 at 2 p.m. at the Beach Community Church Fellowship Hall. Open to children fifth grade and younger.

Royal Doughnut Breakfast: Saturday, February 8 at 8 a.m. at the Beach Community Church. Must be a Krewe of Kids member to attend. Royalty will be crowned, games, doughnuts for breakfast.

Parade in the Kids and Kritters Parade: Saturday, February 22 at 2 p.m.

Contact: Captain of Kids Diana Harvey, 850-207-6425

Kids and Kritters Parade

Saturday, February 22 at 2 p.m. Northeast corner of Casino Beach parking lot, across from Sidelines.

Registration opens at 1 p.m. Marching procession. All kids are welcome, Dogs are \$5 each. Theme is "Out of this World."

All are welcome to join the youngest Mardi Gras revelers as they parade in their best Mardi Gras get-ups. Leading the parade will be the Krewe of Kids royal court, followed by their members. The Krewe of Kids is comprised of elementary school children.

Decorate your stroller or wagon and join the parade; or parade on foot. (No motorized vehicles allowed). Prize for best decorated "mini float" -decorated wagons and strollers. Prize for best costumed pets.

Bring your well behaved pet, costumed, on a short leash or carrier to join the kids.

Spectators are welcome to catch beads and trinkets as the Kids and Kritters march around the parking lot. Treats available for Kids and Kritters.

Flier and parade application available at www.pensacolabeachmardigras.com

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By Susan Haselton-Barr

Jambo (Hello) Everybody! New Year -New Me is the normal January mantra. Seems it came rather quickly with the holiday fervor of 2013. My concern is: I may have to become an adult this year. Lions, Tigers and Bears,

Oh My!

My son is heading off to school this week. We, of course, discussed the adult questions. His responses were surprising. "Mom, I want you to know the moment I knew I had become a full-fledged adult. It began with a ritualized bedtime routine. I could no longer just flop down and go to sleep. A classic tooth brushing is now mandatory. I used to wet the brush to convince everyone, myself included, that my teeth had been brushed. Picking up nightly and planning for the next day is now a requirement."

My son even admitted the most embarrassing gaff. Making his bed in the morning before he leaves for the day. He assured me his routine does not include hopping on one leg and spinning around!

When most children are

young, parents tend to create career paths and choices for their future. I have learned to my surprise, our children are brilliant. What they decide for their future path is usually a far better option than what we, as parents, could ever have dreamed up for them in the first place.

Time to become an adult myself. My New Year-New Me Mantra...Stop running the same thoughts and ideas in a loop in my mind. Just because I have a thought, does not mean I have to follow it. What a concept! Live my life to the fullest each day without a swarm of bees in my head. Having a greater appreciation because I reside in Paradise. Let's all revel in our new found adult rituals. Quaharini (Until we meet again.)

Artel Exhibits Masks

Artel Gallery will present its seventh annual "Masks!" exhibit by Escambia County Schools students, through January 17. The exhibit coordinator is Patti Wheeler, art teacher at N. B. Cook Elementary School of the Arts.

Artel is a not-for-profit educational gallery located at 223 Palafox Place and is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call the gallery at 850- 432-3080 or go online to artelgallery.org.

Mentors Needed

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida is in need of mentors. There are over 200 children on our waiting list ready to be matched with a caring, supportive Big Brother or Big Sister.

It takes as little as an hour a week or an activity twice a month to make a lasting difference. There are school based, community mentoring, Big Couples and Sports Buddies in addition to the traditional programs. For more information, call 850-433-KIDS (5437) or via email at bbbs@bbbsnwfl.org.

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Calendar

JANUARY

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 \$45. Springhill Suites. 7 pm
12: Ft. Pickens Living History, 9-5
12: Surfer's Memorial, Paradise, 3
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.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Persian bigwig
- 5 Corn core
- 8 Donahue or Collins
- 12 Little, in La Scala
- 13 Regret
- 14 Logical
- 15 Deserve
- 16 Table scrap
- 17 Differently
- 18 Guiding principles
- 20 Grown-ups
- 22 "Help!"
- 23 Tokyo's old name
- 24 Crazy
- 27 Roared
- 32 Id counter-part
- 33 Acapulco gold
- 34 Geological period
- 35 Delighted (in)
- 38 Nervous
- 39 Writer Deighton
- 40 Fellow
- 42 Catchphrase
- 45 Expectorant drug
- 49 "The Music Man" locale
- 50 Personal
- 52 Gospel writer
- 53 Help a hood

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49				50	51			52		
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56				57				58		

- 54 Periodical, for short
- 55 Eye part
- 56 Fashion
- 57 Type measures
- 58 Fender bender
- 7 Next after alpha
- 8 Fake
- 9 Consecrated
- 10 "Meet Me - Louis"
- 11 Dregs
- 19 Accomplish
- 21 First st.
- 24 Morning moisture
- 25 Khan title
- 26 Ensued
- 28 Preceding
- 29 Inn offerings
- 30 Work unit
- 31 Rotation duration
- 36 Official emissary
- 37 - budget
- 38 There may be a shadow on it
- 41 Movie with a balloon-borne house
- 42 "The King and I" locale
- 43 Timber wolf
- 44 Iditarod terminus
- 46 Remedy
- 47 Similar
- 48 " - la vie"
- 51 Hardly ruddy

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COME TO THE BANANIMALS BALL!

JANUARY 11, 2014, 7PM - 11PM

TOGA! TOGA! TOGA!

featuring the band **Touch of Gray**

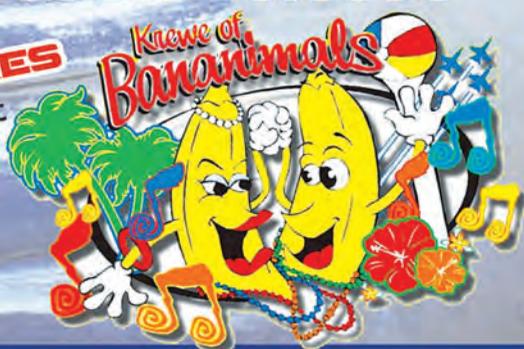
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Pigskin Prognostications

By Barry McCleary, Esq.

It was a classic gridiron match up, the strength and traditions of top notch football programs versus the wit, experience and uncanny ability of Barry McCleary to call 'em like he sees 'em. The Pigskin Prognosticator forecast the winners in 35 college bowl games. Prior to this edition's deadline, 30 of the bowls were complete. McCleary picked 19 out of 30 correctly. A very respectable 63 percent correct. It puts him ahead of a random computer generated 50 percent, a coin flip and a well trained chimp.

"By the time you read this, the Noles or the Tigers will be the nation's top college football program," said McCleary. "I sat in a sea of red in the New Orleans Super Dome to watch the Sugar Bowl. Oklahoma Sooners 45 and Alabama Crimson Tide, 31. Roll

Tide. We'll get 'em next year." McCleary admits that he sticks with the Southern teams and they did not disappoint for the most part. Louisiana-Lafayette earned his nod because of the Cajun food, but they can play football, too. Sneaking past Tulane by 3 points.

Then, the big school in Baton Rouge posted a win in the Outback Bowl. LSU beat Iowa by a touchdown.

"I picked the Tigers for all the LSU fans on the Beach," he said. "And, that's a lot of people."

McCleary had faith in Ole Miss, who won the Music City Bowl and Texas Tech took the Holiday Bowl. Texas A&M with the famous Johnny Football at quarterback beat Duke. McCleary picked Mississippi State to win, although he was mystified about

them being in a bowl game. Central Florida turned out to be the giant killer that McCleary predicted them to be. Racking up 52 points against Baylor. McCleary has a deep knowledge of SEC football, so his money was on the Ball Coach and his South Carolina Gamecocks in the Capital One Bowl. Good way to start the year, Cocks win by ten points.

The Nebraska Cornhuskers, Colorado State Rams, Kansas State Wildcats hit him in the midsection with unpredicted wins. The "surfers" on the West Coast played better than McCleary thought they would. USC and UCLA earned bowl game victories.

Note that we will recap his final tally in the next edition to include the bowls that had not been played prior to our deadline.

Seeing Stars...

this week's horoscopes



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Romantic aspects are high at this time for single Lambs looking for love. Warm and fuzzy feelings also are at enhanced levels for Rams and Ewes in paired relationships.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) This week favors what Taurus dote on -- namely, love and money. Look for more meaningful relationships for both singles and pairs, as well as an improved financial outlook.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) All lingering shreds of that recent bout with boredom are dissipated as you eagerly accept a challenging offer. Your positive mood persuades others to join you in this venture.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You might need validation for a possible solution to a situation involving someone close to you. Consider asking a trusted friend or relative to help you with this problem.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Investigate carefully before agreeing to assist a friend or colleague with a personal problem. There might be hidden factors that could emerge later that will create problems for you.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your decision to work with an associate rather than go it alone, as you first proposed, brings an unexpected bonus. Be careful not to be judgmental. Allow for free and open discussion.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A loved one's health problem could, once again, make demands on your time and attention. But this time, make some demands of your own, and insist

that others pitch in and help.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) This is a good time for the traditionally staid Scorpion to plan adjustments in your day-to-day schedules. Be more flexible and allow for more impromptu, off-the-cuff actions.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Avoid creating unnecessary fuss over a situation you don't approve of. If it's going to work, it will do so despite your objections. If it fails, it will do so without a push from you.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Working with a trusted colleague could open your mind to exploring some considerations you previously dismissed out of hand. The weekend brings news from a loved one.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Resolving a recent problem leaves you in a good position to strengthen your influence on how things get done. But continue to encourage ideas and suggestions from others.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A new friend suggests an interesting opportunity. But check it out before you snap at it. It might be a good deal for some people, but it might not work in helping you reach your goals.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a way of helping people solve their problems, making you a most-respected counselor and trusted friend.

Saturday, December 21

Gildan New Mexico Bowl	Washington State vs. Colorado State	No	45-48
Royal Purple Las Vegas Bowl	Fresno State vs. USC	No	20-45
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl	Buffalo vs. San Diego State	Yes	24-49
R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl	Tulane vs. Louisiana-Lafayette	Yes	21-24

Monday, December 23

Beef 'O' Brady's St. Petersburg Bowl	East Carolina vs. Ohio	Yes	37-20
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Tuesday, December 24

Sheraton Hawaii Bowl	Boise State vs. Oregon State	Yes	23-38
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Thursday, December 26

Little Caesars Pizza Bowl	Pittsburgh vs. Bowling Green	Yes	30-27
Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl	Utah State vs. Northern Illinois	Yes	21-14

Friday, December 27

Military Bowl	Marshall vs. Maryland	Yes	31-20
Texas Bowl	Syracuse vs. Minnesota	No	21-17
Fight Hunger Bowl	BYU vs. Washington	No	16-31

Saturday, December 28

New Era Pinstripe Bowl	Rutgers vs. Notre Dame	No	16-29
Belk Bowl	Cincinnati vs. North Carolina	Yes	17-39
Russell Athletic Bowl	Miami vs. Louisville	No	9-36
Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl	Michigan vs. Kansas State	No	14-31

Monday, December 30

Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl	Middle Tennessee vs. Navy	Yes	6-24
Franklin American Music City Bowl	Ole Miss vs. Georgia Tech	Yes	25-17
Valero Alamo Bowl	Oregon vs. Texas	Yes	30-7
National University Holiday Bowl	Arizona State vs. Texas Tech	Yes	23-37

Tuesday, December 31

AdvoCare V100 Bowl	Arizona vs. Boston College	Yes	42-19
Hyundai Sun Bowl	Virginia Tech vs. UCLA	No	12-42
AutoZone Liberty Bowl	Rice vs. Mississippi State	Yes	7-44
Chick-fil-A Bowl	Duke vs. Texas A&M	Yes	48-52

Wednesday, January 1

TaxSlayer.com Gator Bowl	Nebraska vs. Georgia	No	24-19
Heart of Dallas Bowl	UNLV vs. North Texas	No	14-36
Capital One Bowl	Wisconsin vs. South Carolina	Yes	24-34
Outback Bowl	Iowa vs. LSU	Yes	14-21
Rose Bowl	Stanford vs. Michigan State	Yes	20-24
Tostitos Fiesta Bowl	UCF vs. Baylor	Yes	52-42

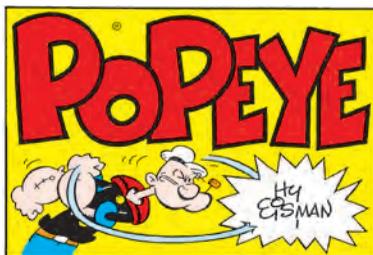
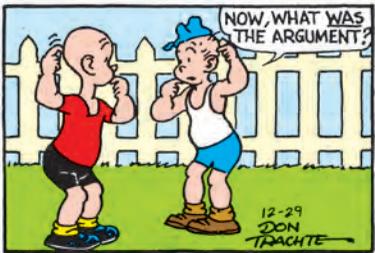
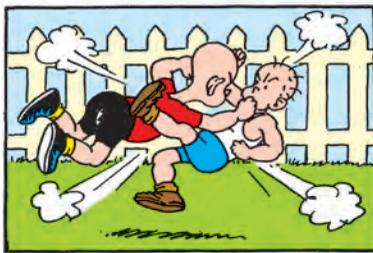
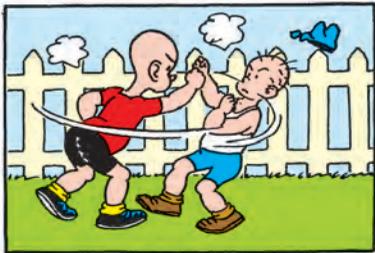
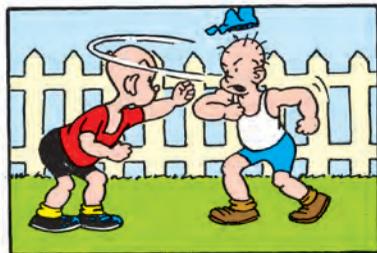
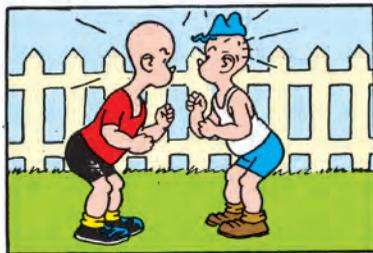
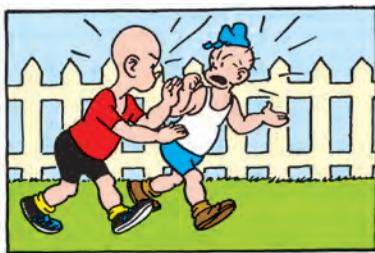
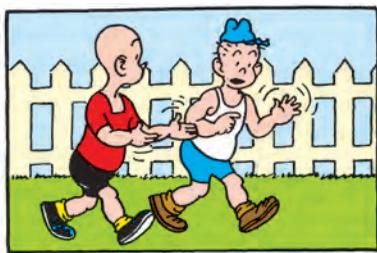
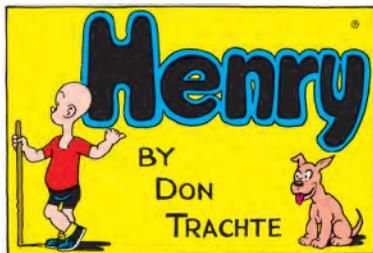
Thursday, January 2

Allstate Sugar Bowl	Oklahoma vs. Alabama	No	45-31
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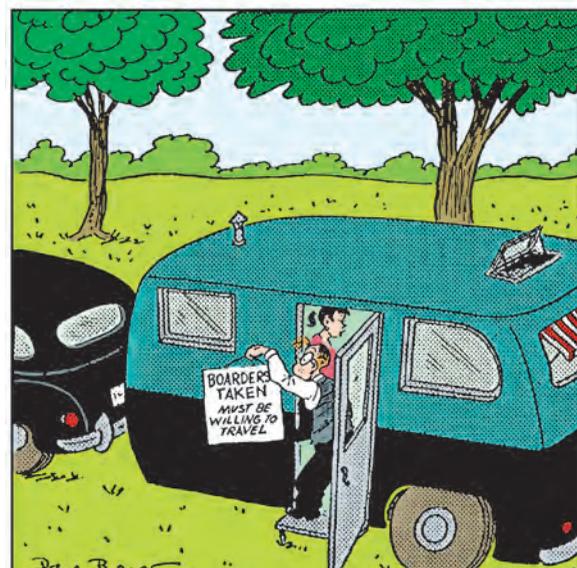
Out on a Limb



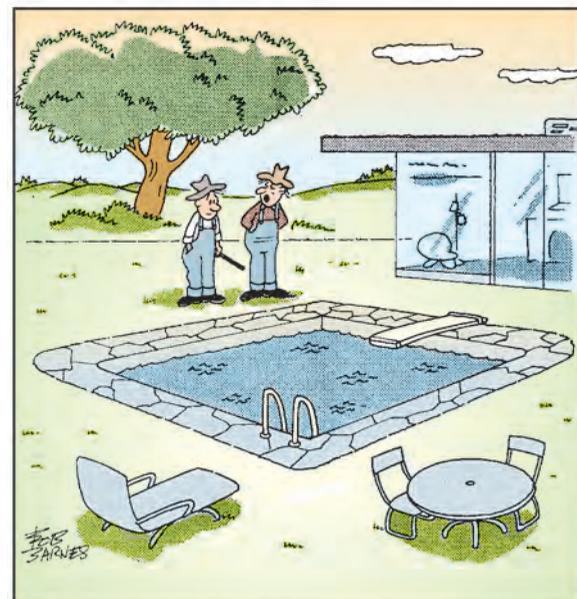
by Gary Kopervas



MISTER BREGER By Dave Breger

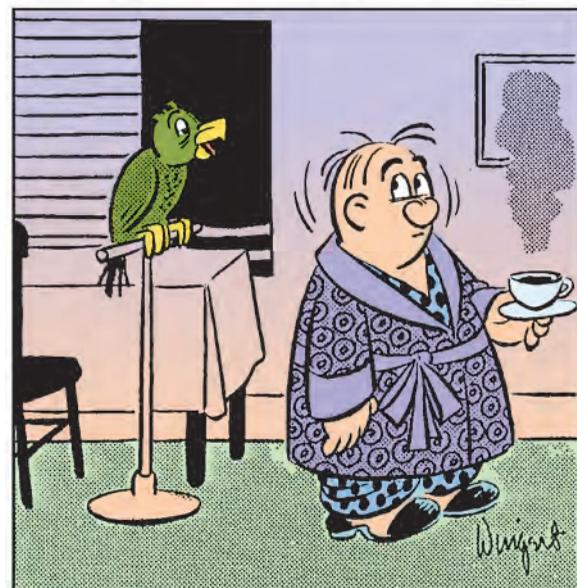


LAFF - A - DAY



"Dern fools! ... If they'd built the basement under the house it wouldn't have filled with water."

HUBERT - - By Dick Wingert



"I feel terrible—call the vet."

Business Buzz

BANK APP

Did you know that the Bank of the South has its own App? Yes. If you want to check on your account in the middle of the night, you can go online or go to the app on your smart phone. It will never be able to replace the friendly tellers like Judy Lenderman at the quaint branch out on the Island, but it is available 24/7.

SOUPY SALES

Joyce Brown and her friendly Natives at the Native Café have been stirring the pot. They have as many as four fresh homemade soups available daily at the Via de Luna Shopping Center location. The choices are not always the same, but gumbo and red beans and rice are cold-weather staples. Look for beignets to land back on the menu after Mardi Gras gets revved up.

THE BEST

More good news from the staff at the Holiday Inn Express. Diane Furrow has won another Best of the Best Guest Service Manager Award. Winners were selected based on performance that goes above and beyond normal job responsibilities, by providing outstanding and unique service to the property, to the guests and to the community.

“Diane continues to raise the bar for providing great guest service and our guest service staff steps up to deliver it,” said Beverly McCay, the hotel’s General Manager. “We are so proud to have her on our hotel staff. This is her second Best of the Best Guest Service Manager Award in four years and that is a remarkable and well deserved achievement.”



Diane Furrow, Holiday Inn Express

MOTHER OF INVENTION

Cajun Stitchery’s Peggy Henshall has filled a void for bespectacled revelers. She has designed a Mardi Gras mask to wear over eyeglasses. Her first designs include a mermaid and a sea turtle. Your imagination and her fleet of embroidery machines are all it takes to have one of your very own. Congratulations, Cajun Stitchery.

THATCHING A PLAN

For months, Robert Gleim has been looking at the needed repair in his thatched roof over Bamboo Willie’s. The beachside bar is ready for a rockin’ 2014.

MONDAY CELEB

Who will be the Bartender Du Jour at the Sabine Sandbar on Monday nights from 6 to 7 p.m.? You will have to stop by to see. The tips earned during the hour-long guest bartender’s shift will be donated to the Beach School.

REVAMPED SITE

The Beach Church has launched a new website to better assist locals and visitors to know what’s going on. In addition to Sunday services, the Church has classes, groups, crafts, Sunday school and a beautiful party room for rent. This and more at www.thebeachchurch.com.

THROW ME SOMETHING

Want to reach the participants and crowds at the Beach Mardi Gras? Advertising is available on PensacolaBeachMardiGras.com for as low as \$23 per month.

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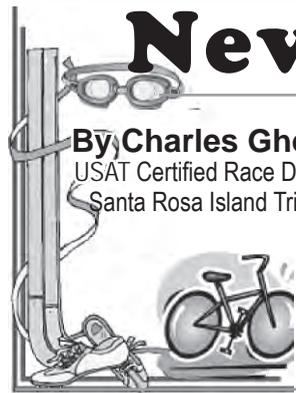


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Never Hurts To Tri



By Charles Gheen
USAT Certified Race Director
Santa Rosa Island Triathlon

All The Way Around The Bay

The alarm went off and I managed to roll over and open one eye. I soon focused on the alarm clock display and it read "4:05 a.m." I've gotten out of bed this early many times for an athletic event, but I've never really gotten used to it. This year the Santa Rosa Island Triathlon was again sponsoring a team in the Round The Bay Relay in the Fort Walton Beach-Destin-Niceville area and it was time to get up and get going.

I pulled my running gear on, inhaled a piece of toast with peanut butter and washed it down with some sports drink. Less than 60 minutes after I awakened, six of us had piled into a van and were heading for the Fudpuckers in Fort Walton Beach. It was the last Saturday of the year and the weather forecast was for stiff winds, cold temperatures and rain showers. I was desperate for some coffee as we drove hurriedly down an almost-deserted highway.

There are many relays in the country and most of them last a couple of days and are almost 200 miles in distance. The Round The Bay Relay is a scenic 36.8 miles around Choctawhatchee Bay; past the bayous, inlets and beaches there. There are seven bridges to cross. The race lasts about six hours and the field was limited to 100 teams this year. An associated "ultra distance" event was available for athletes who chose to cover the entire distance themselves.

We pulled into the jammed parking lot just after 6 a.m. and it was a melee of runners and support personnel. Some of the teams were dressed in costumes. There was unusual headgear and everyone, it seemed, had on bright, neon colors. Rain sprinkled down and the wind was blowing hard as we waited for our starting time. It wasn't the best of circumstances, but I had finally gotten some coffee.

After what seemed like a long wait, Jackie Brown our first runner, took off and headed east toward the Destin bridge. The

road there has some amazing vistas, but we didn't notice because of the weather conditions. We drove ahead of her and stopped several times to take some action pictures while cheering her on.

The staggered start times and the varying abilities of the runners strung the field out and our runner was soon by herself. She ran across the bridge and at about 2 miles into Destin she handed off the relay bracelet to our next runner, Diane Martinez. It was raining a little harder and the wind was decidedly picking up as she turned north towards the Mid-Bay Bridge. There, on the bridge ramp, she passed the bracelet to me.

I had asked for this leg because it's the hardest and I wanted the challenge. I was headed north directly into the wind. There's a significant hump in the middle and it's about 3.8 miles long. I started running and the wind and rain were blowing hard directly into my face and body. What was I thinking?

I trudged along in the bike lane against traffic. Vehicles whizzed by me throwing up sheets of water as I tried to stay close to the bridge's outer wall. I passed a couple of runners and two or three passed me, but for the most part I was alone with my thoughts and my labored breathing. Finally, I ran down off the bridge and through the tollbooth as my teammates yelled encouragement. I still had over 2 miles left, but now I was turning west

and the wind was no longer blowing directly in my face. The rain abated and I got into a rhythmic pace that felt much faster than on the bridge.

I handed off to Jehan Clark who headed west into Niceville and had a strong run. Our fifth teammate Nancy Brashears took the bracelet and headed toward the airport. She did well and the rain began again as our final runner Angelika Cope took over and headed for "home." At times it poured on her as she turned south through Shalimar. Gaining strength, she flew over the three bridges on her 6.6-mile route and finished strong! It was a fitting end to an interesting and memorable experience that I'm sure we'll be talking about for months to come.



Charles Gheen runs his leg of the Round The Bay Relay.



Not their usual swim, bike and run event, but the Tri Gulf Coast club members like to take on a challenge. Athletes who prepared to take a quick splash into Santa Rosa Sound on January 1 at the Beach Chamber's Polar Bear Plunge are (L to R): Dr. Evan Malone, Troy Godbee, Dr. Miles McDaniel, Perry Palmer (kneeling), Aaron Runyon, Chris Hicks, Mindi Straw, Kevin Swenson, Carey Martin, Joel Mathews, Brandon Grover, Kelly Agall, Gabriela Gasque, Joanne Chakowski and Matt Salvator. The group's next events include the Pensacola Beach Run January 11 and a TriGulfCoast Bike Ride January 12.

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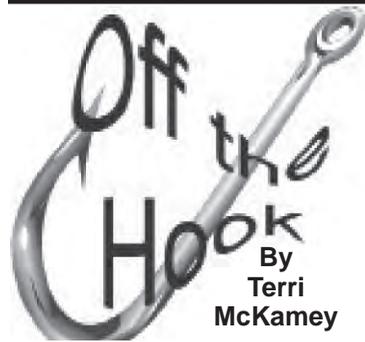
Tuesday, Jan 7: Timmy's Smart Ass Trivia, 7:30 pm
Wednesday, Jan 8: Bar BINGO with Becky, 7:30 pm
Thursday, Jan 9: Karaoke with Becky, 8 pm
Friday, Jan 10: Karaoke with Becky, 8 pm
Saturday, Jan 11: Dennis Gossman & Mike Norris, 7 pm
Sunday, Jan 12: Southern Breeze, 3 pm
Tuesday, Jan 14: Timmy's Smart Ass Trivia, 7:30 pm
Wednesday, Jan 15: Bar BINGO with Becky, 7:30 pm
Thursday, Jan 16: Karaoke with Becky, 8 pm
Friday, Jan 17: Karaoke with Becky, 8 pm
Saturday, Jan 18: Dennis Gossman & John Mascaro, 7 pm
Sunday, Jan 19: High Horse Band, 3 pm

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RE/MAX on the Coast



Welcome to the new year! I think we're going to have a terrific fishing year with plenty of action

Don't think that the fishing is over for January, there is still plenty of fishing for all of you - it just might be a little wetter or colder out there. We've had some really foggy days and some perfectly sunny days, but so far the weather hasn't effected the Bull's bite. The key with the Reds is to watch the tides, because even though they are here in the Bay by the thousands, you have to fish with the moving water.

Bonita seem to be the catch on the Pier although I heard about a few Sheepshead being caught off Navarre pier. It's a little early for them, but very possible.

Catching Sheepshead is a learned art. It looks as if it should be very simple; toss a piece of fresh-cut shrimp in front of them and they eat it, most of the time. But, that parsimonious mouth is very stingy when it comes to ingesting hooks; often they nip off the bait and leave you hanging.

Use a hook small enough to fit the small mouth of the fish; but the teeth are so strong that the fish can occasionally bite right through the light wire of smaller tackle.

You usually need a sinker of some sort because 'Heads

are most often found in holes, channels, around rocks, concrete or other hard structures where shellfish grow and where small crabs live.

One good way to rig is to put the hook on a dropper made of 20-pound-test hard mono or fluoro (both have more resistance to teeth than standard mono) and then hang the sinker on the bitter end of the line about 18 inches below. With this rig, you can immediately feel it when a fish starts nibbling on the bait; if the sinker is above the hook, as in a standard rig, the fish has to bite hard enough to move the sinker before you feel anything—and by that time the bait may be long gone. Whatever the bait, the trick is to hold light tension on the line when you feel that first bump. If you can sense weight there as you take up the slack, go ahead and set the hook; you miss some, but you hook most, once you develop the touch.

Whatever you are fishing for (right now your best bet is Redfish), have fun. Let's start this new year off right - grab a kid and go fishing!

Woodham Crowned Poker Champ

Jon Woodham has been named the Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun Player of the Year for 2013.

That announcement was made by Poker Promoter Rick Uzdevenes on the last day of December.

"Jon is a steady poker player," said Rick. "He earned Player of the Month honors four times this year, including in December. He amassed many first place finishes and augmented that with a batch of second places."

The Player of the Month and Player of the Year are determined by the number of wins and second place finishes a participant accumulates. In case of a tie, the Poker Commissioner reviews the results and makes a determination.

Locals and tourists made their way to the Winner's Circle the last two weeks of the year.

Cassie Cady Smith was the winner over Jon Woodham December 13 at the Pelican Lounge. Beach pioneer and flying ace Tex Atkinson outlasted Todd Lentini at the Pelican December 17, only to repeat the performance the next night against Mike Wood at the Sandshaker.



Jon Woodham 2013 Player of the Year

chips at the Sandshaker besting Mike Wood. The following Monday in a spectacular final hand, tourist Bill Lang sent Rick Kool, Tommy Grice and Waldo Defindorfin packing. He visited the Sandshaker's Texas Hold 'Em winner's circle.

Congratulations to Angela Weatherford, who placed first in the Cindy Shindig Benefit Tourney hosted at the Third Base Pub last month. Jon Woodham was second with Trace Lewis in third place and Richard Butler in fourth place. The event netted \$250 for the cause.

Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun games are open to anyone who is 21 or older and has a basic knowledge of the game. Rookies and those who have not played for a while are welcome. The game schedule is on page 12 of this edition. Call Uzdevenes at 850-324-2667 for more information.

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Fort Sets Programs

Gulf Islands National Seashore will present the following events during January:

Living History Camp, January 11 and 12: 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.

Candlelight Tour of Fort Pickens, January 11: The Fort will remain open until 8:30 p.m. for self-guided candlelight tours.

Fee Free Day, Monday, January 20: In conjunction with the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, there will be no entrance fee into National Parks, which includes Fort Pickens.

For more information, call 850-934-2600, or go online to www.nps.gov/guis.

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Poker, 7PM. Trivia, 7:30 PM

\$2 TUESDAY: 10 AM-Close
\$2 Wine/Beer/Well.
Karaoke with Becky 8 PM

WEDNESDAY: 5 PM-Close
Ladies Nite. \$2 Wine/Beer/Well.
John Hart Band, 9 PM

THURSDAY: 7PM-Close 1/2Price
Drinks w/Shaker Shirt.
Tyler Mac Band 9 PM

On the Sandshaker Stage!

Wed, Jan 8 John Hart Band 9 PM	Wed, Jan 15 John Hart Band 9 PM	Get your Shaker T-Shirt
Thurs, Jan 9 Tyler Mac Band 9 PM	Thurs, Jan 16 Tyler Mac Band 9 PM	Beach Mardi Gras headquarters
Fri-Sat • Jan 10-11 Class X, 9 PM	Fri, Jan 17 Something Huge, 9 PM	After Parade Party March 2
Sat, Jan 11 • 8 AM P'col Bch Run Party	Sat, Jan 18 Lektric Mullet, 9 PM	
Sun • Jan 12 The Hushpuppies 4PM	Sun • Jan 19 Lektric Mullet 4PM	across from Boardwalk

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Krewe of Shakers WigWacker Party
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Lektric Mullet



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