

ISLAND TIMES

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April 1, 2014

Leaseholders Turn Into Taxpayers

*Louise Turner,
Pensacola Beach
resident since
1958*

*Florida Supreme
Court Rules on
Beach Taxation*

Louise Turner has been leaseholder on Santa Rosa Island for fifty-six years. She and her family moved to the Beach in 1958 and she has lived here ever since. She believes she is the longest tenured Beach resident. She recalls when the island had a handful of permanent, year round residents and the Santa Rosa Island Authority advertised to encourage development and lure new leaseholders to settle on the Beach. Islanders paid lease fees, but not taxes. She has weathered many changes, suffered through catastrophic storms and rebuilt. She read the Florida State Supreme Court unanimous opinion that allows the Escambia County taxing authorities to collect ad valorem taxes on the improvements on Pensacola Beach. Turner must now pay lease fees and taxes. What's next? Turn to page 2 for more.

Leaseholders Lose Lawsuit, Taxation Fogs Future

Louise Turner has been a leaseholder on Pensacola Beach since 1958. And, now, she is also an Escambia County taxpayer.

Turner can tell you about change. Some subtle, some horrendous. She recalls businesses that have come and gone, but most of her beach stories revolve around family. Her sons, Herb and BZR, and her dear husband JR, who passed away, recently; her grandchildren and soon-to-be born great grandchildren are tied to her love and life on the beach. Turner cherishes her longtime beach friends and considers them extended family. Those relationships are the part of beach living that is most important to her.

Turner paid her taxes prior to the March 20 Supreme Court decision. She did not wish to discuss the politics of the recent ruling, only making one comment about the island that she has called home for fifty-six years.

"If I have to pay taxes, I would like to have title to my property," said Turner. "That seems only fair."

Will fairness be the cast by which the future is molded? It is too early to tell. Here's some of the variables:

The Ruling

The wait is over. The Supreme Court of Florida ruled against the 2,200 Pensacola Beach leaseholders contesting ad valorem taxation of their improvements. The March 20 decision, written by Justice Charles Canady, agreed with the lower court's ruling that the leaseholders are equitable owners who hold virtually all the benefits and burdens of ownership. Thus, they can be assessed ad valorem taxes on the improvements to their leasehold property. On the same date, the Supreme Court ruled against the Navarre Beach leaseholders whose case

protested the taxation of both leasehold land and improvements. Both decisions were unanimous among the Supreme Court justices.

[There are additional lawsuits still being litigated in lower courts.]

Is It Final?

The Supreme Court allows 15 days for rehearing motions to be filed. The deadline to do so is April 4.

Tax Man Cometh

Escambia County Tax Collector Janet Holley says that tax bills will be sent as soon as the Supreme Court mandate is final, which likely would be no sooner than April 4. The bills cannot be mailed until the mandate is issued. The deadline to pay taxes will be 30 days after the bills are mailed. On the 31st day taxes are delinquent. 850-438-6500 or escambiataxcollector.com

Tax Liaison Committee

Originally, a group of four citizens who volunteered to answer leaseholders' questions regarding tax lawsuits. Liaison members' dedication responding to frequently asked questions saved time and attorney's fees. The group is not responsible for decision making on behalf of any leaseholder.

Fee Simple Title

Congressman Jeff Miller filed a bill, H.R. 2954, on August 1, 2013, which seeks to remove the restrictions to offering fee simple title to Pensacola Beach leaseholders. The Santa Rosa Island Title Fairness and Land Preservation Act passed the House of Representatives on February 6 and can be followed online at <http://beta.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/2954>.

As of March 28, the Senate had not considered the bill, but has referred it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

If the Bill passes, then Es-

cambia County would have the option to offer title to leaseholders at a minimum charge. Leaseholders would not be compelled to accept title. Areas which are currently dedicated to conservation, preservation, public, recreation, access and public parking would be preserved in perpetuity for those purposes.

Santa Rosa Island Authority

Created by State statute in 1947, the Santa Rosa Island Authority serves as the local government managing the island, its development and promotion. The SRIA's budget is funded through the collection of lease fees from residential and commercial leaseholders. During the fiscal year that ended September 30, 2013, residential lease fees totaled \$3,241,040. The SRIA collected \$4,533,157 in commercial lease fees. According to SRIA Chairman Tammy Bohannon \$1.1 million is paid to Escambia County by the SRIA. The island is self-supporting, operating within its budget.

Taxes and Lease Fees

Currently, most residential and commercial leaseholders are burdened with paying ad valorem taxes and SRIA lease fees. Relief from the double taxation is being sought, but is a challenge to cure. While it is not possible to refund taxes, officials continue discussions about the future of leases and fee collection.

Be It Resolved

In a resolution dated April, 2011, the Escambia County Commissioners voted on their intention to make efforts to eliminate lease fees for all leaseholders if fee simple title became available and taxes were being assessed on the buildings and the land. Also, contained in that document is the intention to maintain an entity on Santa Rosa Island to oversee certain departments to help ensure the current levels of service regarding public safety, maintenance, recreation and promotions are upheld.

SRIA Workshop

Santa Rosa Island Authority Board Chairman Tammy Bohannon presided over the March 27 meeting with a goal to discuss the burden and relief of paying taxes and lease fees, the function of the SRIA, its future and funding sources; and the responsibility of Escambia County to its taxpayers. Board members and citizens proposed ideas and solutions. No consensus was reached on a plan,

but there were a number of points that most agreed upon.

- Leaseholders are now taxpayers and Escambia County must be compelled to provide services.

- Citizens are encouraged to speak with each Escambia County Commissioner, attend the April 10 Committee of the Whole at 9 a.m. in the Commission's meeting room, 221 S. Palafox St., and the April 14 Beach's Town Hall Meeting at 5:30 at Our Lady.

- SRIA Board members agreed to educate and discuss issues with their appointing Commissioners.

Workshop notes are available at MyIslandTimes.com.

Town Hall Meeting

Pensacola Beach Advocates have set a public forum for Monday, April 14 at 5:30 p.m. at Our Lady Catholic Church's Hunt Hall. The meeting is open to everyone. Escambia County Commissioner Grover Robinson, whose district includes Pensacola Beach, is seeking input from his constituents. Escambia County Attorney Allison Rogers will attend to answer questions.

Crystal Ball

In a March 25 meeting with constituents, Escambia County Commissioner Grover Robinson estimated that a transition out of the current lease fee/taxation situation could be complete as early as September 30, 2015.

Timeline

(reference pbeachtaxsuit.com)
November 2004: Tax rolls are certified. Escambia County Tax Collector sends bills to lease-

holders.

December 2004: Shell, Fleming, Davis & Menge filed suit on behalf of a large group of Pensacola Beach residential lessees to contest taxation of their improvements. Similar suits were filed annually, 2005-2012.

April 2005: Judge orders all collection of contested taxes to cease until such time as the court renders a ruling.

December 2009: Escambia County Circuit Judge Michael Jones ruled in favor of the taxing officials and against all but the original eight parcels involved in the 1980's case of Bell v. Bryan.

July 2011: The First District Court of Appeal affirmed the ruling of the lower court decision that Pensacola Beach leaseholders are equitable owners and are subject to ad valorem property taxes on their improvements.

February 2012: State Supreme Court accepts jurisdiction of the two cases contesting ad valorem taxation on leasehold property and improvements on Santa Rosa Island (Pensacola Beach and Navarre Beach).

November 2012: Attorneys appear before the court to present oral arguments.

December 2013: Deadline to file suit is missed. No case to contest the taxation was filed, so leaseholders were advised to pay 2013 tax bills prior to March 31, 2014 deadline.

March 20, 2014: Supreme Court rules, agrees with lower courts that improvements on Pensacola Beach are subject to ad valorem taxes.

Rulings are posted online at MyIslandTimes.com

Public Meetings

Wednesday, April 9, 5 PM: Santa Rosa Island Authority Full Board Meeting, #1 Via de Luna. Agenda: www.sria-fla.com

Thursday, April 10, 9 AM: Board of County Commissioners, Committee of the Whole, 221 S. Palafox Place. Agenda: www.myescambia.com/government/agenda-quick

Monday, April 14, 5:30 PM: Town Hall Meeting hosted by Pensacola Beach Advocates. Our Lady Catholic Church, Avenida 18 & Via de Luna. www.PBAdvocates.org

Elected Officials

- Dr. Thomas Campanella, SRIA. dr.lures@hotmail.com, 850-324-3637
- Grover Robinson, IV, County Commissioner, 850-595-4940, grobins@co.escambia.fl.us
- Steve Barry, County Commissioner, 850-595-4950, district5@myescambia.com
- Lumon May, County Commissioner, 850-595-4930, district3@myescambia.com
- Wilson Robertson, County Commissioner, 850-595-4910, district1@myescambia.com
- Gene Valentino, County Commissioner, 850-595-4920, district2@myescambia.com



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 SHELLEY W. JOHNSON, PUBLISHER
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islandtimes@bellsouth.net
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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 10, 1987

Surfing is a crazy sport. Its participants, are, perhaps, even crazier. I'm not sure when surfing originated, but it's been enough years back to allow the riders to establish their own language. If something is fantastic to me, it is tubular to them. If a little kid is a little kid to me, he's a grommet to them. They talk in radical and gnarly and

da'kine and flat and glassy and other foreign phrases. It is just as well that they cling together because no one else can understand a word they say when they are describing the waves. When our surfing columnist brings his copy in, he has to sit by the typesetter, explaining the spelling of each contrived word he has written.

Surfers wear special clothes...doggers, jams and

Bucci sunglasses. When they get dressed up, they wear checkered tennis shoes and white baggies. Most of them have bronzed skin, shining white teeth, sun bleached hair and ripply muscles. In the winter they have purple feet unless they have booties to go with their wet suits.

They do not mind skipping school or work if the waves are surfable. They do not mind pad-

dling and paddling and paddling forever just for a few second ride. They also do not mind changing clothes in the middle of a well-graveled street.

Surfers do not grow old. They do not fade away. They go right on surfing and competing. These guys are world travelers. Most of them have caught waves in Mexico, Spain, France, Hawaii, Australia and Bali before they celebrate their twenty-fifth

birthdays.

How do they live? Any way they can. Lots of them are self-employed in some surfing related business. Others are waiters, musicians, artists, bartenders... whatever they want to be.

Actually, I don't think I've ever met a surfer I didn't like. They pull some pretty rad moves. Like saving drowning people who do not know the water the way the surfers do. They are pure environmentalists. They are meteorologists. Surfers have a lot going for them, even if they are crazy.

Truthfully, they are da'kine. That's why *The Islander Newspaper* is sponsoring its first ever surfing contest May 9 or 10 or 16 or 17...see, that's the way it is with the waves. At the moment, we're shooting for May 9. We will present trophies to the top eight contestants from a field of forty-eight. There will be t-shirts and plenty of surfer type goodies in each ditty bag... and we will be handing out big merchandise prizes. This contest is *The Islander Newspaper* Open Surfing Challenge '87. Steve Forstall and Mark Anderson are directing the classic. They both speak the language based on years of experience.

Just barefootin' it, Jane...

Musicians, Fireworks Take A Back Seat To Crawfish At Thirteenth Annual Festival

The Crawfish will get top billing on Pensacola Beach, April 11 – 13 at Bamboo Willie's on the Boardwalk. The annual Crawfish Festival promises thousands of pounds of the Louisiana delicacy will be imported to serve at the three-day food and music festival. Bamboo Willie's General Manager has his team ready to dish up portions of spicy crawfish professionally prepared by Mudbug Express with corn, potatoes, onions and mushrooms.

"We had an exceptionally cold winter," said Gleim. "The crawfish are usually running amok by now but they've been slow to emerge from their winter dens this year. Beach bayou rumor says when we have a cold winter, the crawfish taste all that much better. So these should be

our best ever."

Gleim's goal is to sell 5 tons of crawfish, so the volunteers from the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce manning the Crawfish Sales Tent have a big order to fill.

"We are up to the task," said Nicole Stacey, Chamber president. "It's alot of fun."

Some volunteers will give instruction on tail pinching and other crawfish eating secrets.

"Each year we invite the Chamber to staff the Crawfish Tent," said Gleim. "They have a good time, and earn donations."

Work up an appetite shopping or dancing to the music. The Boardwalk merchants will have a special Sidewalk Sale. Two stages will rock for three days according to Gleim. The stage

at Bamboo Willie's will host Mo Jiles, Hope Cassity and Adam Stewart, Aveneda 16, John Hart Band and Wayback Whensday.

"Lots of great music this year," said Gleim. "Don't miss Adam Stewart playing fiddle."

Stewart, who was born in Alaska and started playing violin at age three, has a background in music that spans Beethoven to bluegrass. He appears at the Crawfish Festival with Hope Cassity, a Monroeville, Alabama native. Both musicians are currently based in Nashville.

The open air Amphitheatre Stage will have performances by High Horse, Buck Nasty, Cat Rhodes and the Truth, Dave and

Joe, and Kayla Nettles and Josh Matheny. There's no cover charge to enjoy the bands.

The festival will culminate with a dazzling fireworks show, Saturday, April 12 at 9 p.m. Watch from the best vantage points along the sound or sit in the Amphitheatre.

"Weather permitting, we are going to light up the night sky," said Gleim. "Bring your family and friends to eat, dance and enjoy the Crawfish Fest."

For more information, go online to www.bamboowillies.com.

The festival hours are:
Friday, April 11 - 3 pm 'til
Saturday, April 12 - 11 am til
Sunday, April 13 - 11 am 'til

The Beat Goes On

The popular Bands on the Beach Tuesday night concert series kicks off tonight, April 1 at 7 p.m. at the Gulfside Pavilion. After Midnight will perform classic rock and oldies for what Santa Rosa Island Authority organizers expect to be a crowd of thousands.

The program, which began as Blues on the Beach, changed names to Bands on the Beach in 2005 to more properly reflect the variety of music that was being offered. The SRIA hosts the event at no charge to fans, and funds it with the commercial and residential lease fees collected on the island.

Spectators are encouraged to arrive early, bring beach chairs or blankets. There is ample room for those who want to dance in front of the stage. Coolers are welcome but glass and pets must be left at

home. Beach restaurants will prepare food to take to the concerts and are open after the last song is played at 9 p.m.

"It's hard to estimate how many people attend the concerts since there is no charge," said Robbie Schrock, SRIA Director of Administration. "Best guess is crowds range from 2,000 to 4,000 on any given Tuesday."

The band line up is a who's who of local bands including Not Quiet Fab - the Beatles Band, and beach famous names like the Posi Tones, the Reunion Band, True Blue with Nate Smith, Robert Wayne, Chloe Channel and Holly Shelton.

Parking is free and free trolley service begins on May 23 with stops at the Gulfside Pavilion.

Go to VisitPensacolaBeach.com for the entire line up.

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Trivia ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

Did Tim Pike dance in the sand to "Rosanna" at the "Toto for USO" Spring Break concert in April, 1985 at Casino Beach? Perhaps he did, because he was the quickest email to the Trivia Master's inbox with the correct answer. He is on the verge of earning a place at the infamous Trivia Roundtable with the Knights and other odd titleholding players.

The TM asked for the band's name who performed at Pensacola Beach's Spring Break 1985. The rock and rollers from near and far were certain it was Grace Slick and all of the bands she played in... Jefferson Airplane, Jefferson Starship and Starship. Well, actually, no one thought it was The Great Society, which was one of Slick's first bands.

The esteemed Sandspur publisher Chuck Steel emailed a first answer of Jefferson Starship and a second try of Bruce Hornsby and the Range. Sharon Mattair was a barkeep prior to her salon days. She thought it was Grace Slick's band.

"I worked at Bogie's then," said Sharon. "It was Jefferson Starship."

Big Bob Dority shouted "Jefferson Starship" as he drove by in his golf cart. That was wrong in many, many ways.

Trivia Rookie Mary Lee Eschbach wanted her mind to serve her correctly. It did not. She answered Jefferson Starship.

Slick took Jefferson Airplane from a folk rock group to a band on a psychedelic ride. More than a few trivia players were still on that ride. Alice Aman Ramsey and Frannie Cox landed on Jefferson Airplane for their answers. And the Queen of Wrong Answers Joanne Brooks

was off in the wild purple yonder with her answer of J. A.

"I am going to take a shot," said the royally wrong Joanne. "Gracie, Gracie, Gracie Slick and Jefferson Airplane."

It was like a night at the Grammys for a while at the TM's desk. Lots of players, with good intentions and lost memories. No wonder. Budweiser sponsored the tour and the beach businesses ponied up prizes for events like a beer belly contest, wrist wrestling, oyster bobbing and sandcastle building. Tug-O-War, dart, pinball and pool tournaments joined horseshoes, volleyball and an Over-The-Line softball contest on the calendar. Flounder's sponsored a Board-sailing regatta. The Dunes Hotel had a pool party and the Tiki hosted a street dance. Crown Royal bags were used as purses and beer huggies were made of Styrofoam. Fans arrived at the Toto concert via car, boat, in-line skates, bike and leather express.

The Trivia Master rocks on. After all the talk of Spring Break concerts, a soundside entertainment location popped to mind. Tier seating and a band stage with a giant seashell as a back drop, the Quietwater Amphitheatre opened on Pensacola Beach amid a bunch of whoops and hollers.

The TM is feeling kinda groovy, so here's a hint: Carol and Jim Glasscock were in the Mayoki Court and Don Tristan de Luna the Thirty-Seventh was in attendance.

Do you remember the year? If so, don't delay. Email your answer with your name and phone number to island-times@bellsouth.net. Deadline to answer is Tuesday, April 8. Good luck!



CELEBRATE SANDEE

Sandee Bredezen's friends hit the dance floor to celebrate her birthday. She was serenaded by famous Beach musicians Mike Wheeler, Mike Sarra, Bob Tucker and Jeff Johnson at Paradise, March 14. Her birthday is March 11, but it's not unusual for a real party girl to stretch her birthday out for a few extra days.

ANOTHER CRUSADER

Shannon Berry is adding to her formidable group of fundraisers. She is the Connor's Crusaders team captain and raises thousands of dollars annually to donate to the American Cancer Society during the Relay for Life. Shannon and her husband Keegan welcomed little Keegan James "KJ" Berry, II, to their family on February 12. Although Shannon is a new mom, she's still fundraising and will be at the Relay for Life event, April 25-26 in Gulf Breeze. Shannon reports that her nephew Connor, 8, is still fighting cancer successfully.

ON TARGET

Darts used to be the game of choice for Pensacola Beach bar hoppers. That was back when tips were steel and boards were

cork. Now it's all electronic, but it's still popular. Paddy O'Leary's hosted a Dart Tourney during the Go Irish on the Island celebration, March 12. Teams of two were drawn at random. Russ Mesey and Tim Gillman took top honors. Dean Kline and Todd Lentini earned second place.

HERE'S TO HATS

Corrie Keich and Kriss Harris were seen at the Pensacola Beach Yacht Club's ladies brunch event looking like they stepped out of an English tea party. Were they pretending they were at Downton Abbey or getting ready for the Kentucky Derby? Either way their hats were over the top.

VISIT PICKENS

If you visit Fort Pickens, you will likely see some familiar faces like Ranger Mike Aymond and Ranger Steve Luppert. Make a stop at the Visitor's Center which houses the bookstore and gift shop and you might run across David L. Walby. He is a retired stock broker turned historian. He's penned, "How Pensacola Got Its Name" and will autograph it for you. He is making a presentation

April 5 at 10 a.m. about William Henry Chase.

WORLD TRAVELER

Florida Sister Cities International Pensacola President Nan Harper has just returned to the Beach from a trip to Spain with a delegation of locals. Nan was rubbing elbows with dignitaries and royals. Ask her about it.

CRUISIN COCKTAILS

Dale Fowler and Charla Watts have taken a dozen cruises to far off lands and exotic ports of call, but they seemed to be equally happy at the St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawl on Pensacola Beach. The fun couple recounted a special cocktail program that their previous voyage offered noting that it was just too many drinks, even for them.



Dale and Charla at Flounder's March 17



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- **Terry Hanck...** Sun, Apr 6 at 3 PM
- **JP Soars..** Tue-Wed, Apr 8-9 at 6 PM
- **Carolyn Wonderland...** Sun, 4/13 at 3 PM

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Island Authority Seeks Golf Cart Policy

The wheels are turning for the Santa Rosa Island Authority to adopt a Golf Cart Friendly policy on Pensacola Beach. The board members received very little public input at a March 26 hearing to address the topic, after which they voted unanimously to task the Board attorney with drawing up a policy.

Board Chairman Tammy Bohannon received two emails

on opposite sides of the discussion. Meredith Hartsfield thought allowing golf carts to operate on island avenues would be a nightmare. As did Barbara Miksch, who appeared in person at the meeting. Miksch, a Fort Pickens Road resident, asked the board to consider the volume of cars traveling to Fort Pickens, when making their decision. She noted that over one million visitors

come to Gulf Islands National Seashore annually.

"I would hate to see golf carts on Fort Pickens Road," said Miksch. "There is not much of an opportunity to pass slow vehicles."

Elected Board Member and Villa Sabine resident Thomas Campanella considered the slower vehicles a positive. In addition to the reduced emissions and road

impact, he does not want the beach streets to be speedways. He thought the carts showed a further commitment to being eco-friendly.

"This is a clean, quiet way to get around the island," said Campanella. "It's a novelty. Slow down and smell the roses."

Other Board members concurred. Ed Guernsey added that it fits with the community and the positives certainly outweigh the negatives.

Beach resident Brian Williams is a golf cart expert. He owns Kool Karts and told the board that if a policy requires that golf carts be tagged it becomes a heavy burden. Most golf carts would have to add \$1,200 in accessories, get a weight slip and an inspection.

There are a number of golf

carts operating on the island presently. According to Chuck Brower, who owns a cart, they have a daily route which includes the beach's secondary roads.

"We like to ride on Panferio to Avenida 23, then go along Ariola or Maldonado," said Brower. "We try to stay off Via de Luna with the exception of a brief need to cross it or travel on it to get to Paradise. Nobody wants to impede traffic."

The Board tasked staff to create a policy which mirrors the Santa Rosa County 2009 ordinance. The ordinance allows operation of golf carts on County roads on Navarre Beach, excluding the bridge. The county is required to post signs where golf cart operation is allowed. The policy will be brought to the Full Board meeting, April 9.



Pensacola Beach...a la cart. That's the way to ride around the island according to golf cart owners (L to R) Bob Dority, Ronnie Thomas and Chuck Brower. They stick to the secondary roads to avoid other vehicles but support a non-restrictive policy similar to Santa Rosa County's.

Engineers Begin Ongoing Facilities Program

Mike Langston and Jeff Huggins, Baskerville Donovan engineers, premiered a program to the Santa Rosa Island Authority Architectural and Environmental Committee, March 26, which included the island's history, Baskerville Donovan's past proj-

ect involvement, and overview of island projects and current issues. The issues included transportation, public and pedestrian access, stormwater and drainage. The April 23 presentation will be a list of potential improvements, which agency is responsible for the

implementation and repair, costs, and possible funding sources. The engineers recommend a proactive approach to island improvements, rather than a patch-to-repair mentality.

The Facilities Program will be updated monthly.

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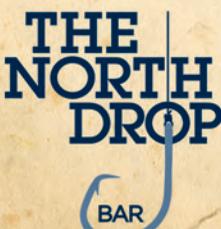
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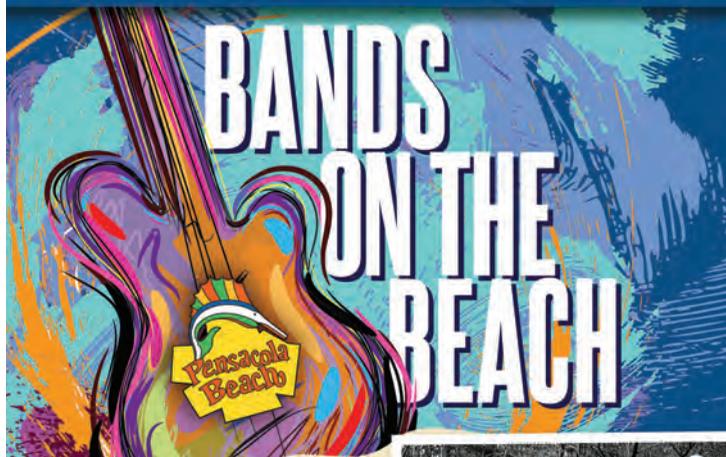
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Country



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Beatles Tribute Band



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peas, porridge and a dry martini

by
Kathi
Lewis



It was the best of times..... Girl Grass at Bunker Lodge and Therapeutic Retreat. Perfect timing right after Mardi Gras with all the make-up, hair curling, accessorizing, fairy dusting and running on adrenaline trying to participate in every event. Bunker Lodge is owned and operated by Jayne and Johnny Redmond and Jayne is the official Activities Director each year. She does a magnificent job always providing a roaring bonfire and scheduling our boat trips. She attempts to coordinate the food, too, but we always end up with enough to last us a month or so in the event we're ever trapped at the Lodge. And since it is at the very end of a dirt road where even leaving a trail of breadcrumbs wouldn't help you find your way out, that is a very real possibility.

This year, I became the self-appointed Safety Officer (we needed one). Jayne has a neighbor (yes, there are a few other people who actually live there) who always comes by to visit when we're on Retreat. Since I am changing names to protect the guilty (and Jayne), let's just call this woman "Delilah." As we sat around the huge bonfire laughing and enjoying ourselves, it quickly became obvious that Delilah had begun the party much earlier in the day (I'm guessing somewhere around breakfast). She stumbled dangerously close to the fire several times. Since we are miles from nowhere, God only knows how and where help would come from if injured. So I made a judgment call and announced that if anyone got injured in any way, I'd just have to shoot 'em. I was later told that I scared a newbie, who was very concerned since she didn't know me very well. Delilah left fairly quickly after that and I'm proud to report there was not a single injury during the entire Retreat.

We stayed three glorious days basking in the quiet, relaxing atmosphere of the beautiful Lodge and surrounding area. It was wonderful to be ourselves lounging around in comfortable clothing, no make-up and not even combing our hair. Yes, we do continue to practice good hygiene but only what's necessary. Obviously, we'd had a few cocktails when we failed

to object to Amy Depew and her ever present camera. The "never should be seen" photos were posted to Facebook before we even remembered they had been taken. Oh, and were deleted, as soon as we saw them. At least they were a bit blurry since Amy had apparently sampled the cocktail bar, too.

We all made it safely home with Melissa Overlade driving Amy Depew, Charlotte Spencer and me. A great big "Thanks" to our sweet Terese Overlade for offering her fabulous ride to her Mom and us for the second year. Believe me when I say it is not returned in the pristine condition in which it is maintained and kept by Terese. It is, after all, dirt roads and it always rains for one full day providing lots of mud on the way out. We do send "thank you funds" because we're too tired to even think about stopping at a car wash. I don't know what it is about a relaxing Retreat that can really wear you out. Maybe it's the release of all those toxins.....

It was the worst of times: By now most of you already know the Florida Supreme Court ruled against us leaseholders in the Taxation Lawsuit. Obviously the Lease itself is no longer worth the paper it's written on. For those of you who have no idea what I'm talking about, the Island is leased property and we are not allowed to actually own the land on which our homes are built. Instead of property taxes, we pay a yearly Lease Fee which remains on the island and ensures it is basically self-maintained with all public facilities paid for by this residential and commercial fee.

I don't think I'll ever understand nor will anyone be able to explain it enough to satisfy my belief that it is wrong to change the contents of our Lease Agreement during the course of its duration (we assumed and signed the remainder of 77 years of a 99 year Lease Agreement when we purchased our home). Now I'm hearing that our Lease Fees paid during the last several years while we were being charged property tax on our home and the land we cannot own, may possibly be refunded to prevent "double taxation." That says to me that my Lease Fee has obviously always been considered a

form of taxation.

So, here are my biggest concerns. No one knows if the SRIA will remain as stewards of the Island or if that will now be in the hands of the County Commissioners. Secondly, can I never rely on a contract, again? Will that same system now allow Mortgage Companies to change the contracts they hold? Who knows what the future will bring for our beloved Paradise or its leaseholders?

What I do know is that this is a little early, but I probably won't be able to find it next week, so I'm gonna share it now. It's a really fun, new and innovative take on an old tradition. I know it's not going to be considered a "real" recipe by those of you who have been taking more notice of those lately. But I can't wait to try it with my grandchildren and I hope you do, too. Get your scissors so you'll have it ready for Easter weekend.

Let's cook some eggs.....

Boiled Eggs

Boil eggs by placing them in a large pot and covering with cold water. Cook on medium-high heat until boiling, place lid tightly and turn temperature to simmer. Cook approximately 9 minutes and rinse immediately with cold running water (I always run water until the pan cools, then add some ice to the water and let it sit until eggs are completely cool to the touch). Make sure to dry eggs thoroughly before dying.

Easter Egg Dye

Spread cheap white shaving cream on a cookie sheet (approx. 1-2" thick).

Apply drops of neon food coloring across the surface using more than one color.

Use a toothpick to swirl the colors in the shaving cream.

Roll the dried, cool eggs in the cream, using gloves to prevent staining hands.

Allow eggs to set for 3 - 4 minutes on a paper plate.

Wipe off shaving cream with paper towels.

Rinse and enjoy your beautiful marbled Easter Eggs!

Vodka Tip of the Week:

To remove a bandage/band-aid painlessly, saturate the bandage with vodka. It will dissolve the adhesive. My Tip: Drinking it also works to dissolve things.

Enjoy, don't forget to share and put your toes in the sand.

See ya in the kitchen.....

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A Cross in the Sand

By
Rev. Dr. Tom Garrison
Pensacola Beach Community Church



As I was thinking about this article something unusual or I could say something usual happened. It struck me as being something that could be seen as a shortcut or a way to have the advantage in a situation. Maybe I should just tell you what occurred, I was sitting in my car at Publix Supermarket and I notice an SUV pull into the handicapped parking space.

What happened next brought me to this article. Two young guys in the SUV and one reached in the back pulling out a handicap hanger and put it on the rearview mirror. They jumped out and I was sort of thinking maybe one of them would have some disability, but not so. I happened to stay there long enough for them to come back and as they were about to back out, the driver took the handicap hanger and put it

away for the next use.

It was at that time I was thinking, maybe people do not realize that this is really a form of unkindness. If someone is truly handicapped and needed that space they would have to use one that did not have the extra room or that was close to the door. When you put all this into the simple event of someone parking in a handicap parking space because you have a tag that makes it legal does not make it "right" or "kind."

I have discovered kindness is something that is cultivated in a person's heart and not something that is legislated. It takes a heart of kindness to consider other people that may or may not be present. I could say it is these young people that are unkind, however I have experienced people of all ages that conduct their lives in this manner. You do not have to be

a person that does something bad to another person to be unkind. It is a matter of self-examination. It may be a good time in our lives to stop and think the last time we acted unkind to people, not because we said something rude or pushed someone out of the way, but not considering our actions and attitudes that make us selfish, these are really acts of unkindness.

I am very thankful for so many people that are kind and not selfish. Maybe just a reminder for all of us; in the words of Jesus, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" or the Apostle Paul's words, "Be kind one to the other."

One last thought, "Please Be Kind!"

ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS
by Jim Roberts
ECUA, Public Information Officer

Did you know...Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG), which originates in most kitchens, is a byproduct of cooking? When washed down the drain, FOG sticks to the inside of sewer pipes, which can potentially cause sewage backups and overflows. For more information visit ecua.fl.gov



Did you know...a five-minute shower uses about 14 gallons of water and, conversely, as much as 50 gallons of water is used during a typical bath? Taking quicker showers saves water, the extra cost of heating it, and your money. For more information visit ecua.fl.gov



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Easter Events

Saturday, April 19

9 AM - Easter Egg Hunt, Pensacola Beach Community Church. Corner of Avenida 18 and Via de Luna. Free and open to the public. Hunt areas for three age groups.

10:30 AM to Noon - Eggstravaganza at Paradise Grill, 21 Via de Luna. Dye eggs, Easter Egg Hunt, games and crafts. No charge and open to the public.

Sunday, April 20

6 AM - Sunrise Service. Rev. Tom Garrison and Innerfaith Ministries, Boardwalk Amphitheatre. Open to the public.

6 AM - Sunrise Service. Calvary Coastline Church, Gulfside Pavilion. All are welcome

7 AM - Free Pancake Breakfast, Pensacola Beach Community Church. Ends at 9 AM

9:45 AM - Mass, Our Lady of the Assumption

10 AM - Easter Service, Pensacola Beach Community Church



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- 5 Lion or tiger
- 8 Wound cover
- 12 Lotion additive
- 13 Caustic solution
- 14 Dorothy's dog
- 15 Violent protest
- 16 Always, in verse
- 17 Soldiers collectively
- 18 Connected series
- 20 Incursion
- 22 Finds by chance
- 26 Actor Lorenzo
- 29 Chart format
- 30 Cistern
- 31 Unsigned (Abbr.)
- 32 Corral
- 33 Long story
- 34 Hostel
- 35 Skillet
- 36 Choir member
- 37 Region of Northern Ireland
- 40 Repast
- 41 Griped

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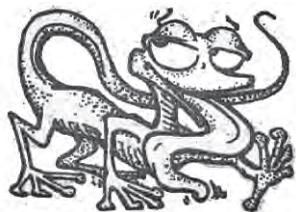
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- 1 Painter
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The Lizzard's Tongue...

BY ELIZABETH K. HEWSON

No one loved a good practical joke more than my mother Jane Waters and April 1 was her day to shine. She played tricks on her family and friends, and eventually on her community as well. As the owner of *The Islander*, the local beach newspaper at the time, she pulled off her greatest prank ever under an April 1 dateline.

Just like *Island Times*, *The Islander* was tabloid in size but it was folded in half as it came off the press. The front page was always a single black and white photo, so it was crucial that the attention getter be above the fold. Usually it was the headline in combination with part of the photo. But Jane had every intention of breaking with tradition for this one jokester edition.

Now sometimes a good

prankster needs a side kick who is willing to play along and Jane found just the person at her favorite pizza eatery, Nero's (now Paddy O'Learys). Faron Chalmers was a local beauty. She was like a mermaid personified with her megawatt smile and curves that ebbed and flowed as only nature intended. Faron was also blessed with a great sense of humor and not an ounce of shyness.

At the time I was the photographer for *The Islander*, so I was all in for a photo shoot at Nero's. "Will work for pizza" was one of my favorite mottos during the 1980s. My subject matter was flawless with her hair freshly curled and her make-up just so, and she wearing a tube top per Jane's instructions. This was a no brainer and certainly wasn't like trying to photograph sailboarding Santa at night in gusty winds and freezing temperatures. I later learned that day never to count your pepperonis until they've

been sliced.

Hours later, it was a busy Saturday afternoon, and with multiple canisters of black and white film, I finally felt confident that I had the shot. Scrutinizing each developed print with a devilish glint in her editorial eye, Jane finally picked the one. She

meticulously calculated photo placement in conjunction with the fold and even lectured her pressmen about it. Computerized press production and printing didn't exist. Her prank depended on mental and manual perfection from humans.

I will let your imagination

run from here as to the content of that famous front page. Let's just say if Jane had owned a smoking jacket and silk pajamas, she would have worn them on delivery day. As for the headline, it ran beneath the fold and simply said "April Fools!"

Until next time...

Chamber Board Supports Beach Renourishment, Prepares For July Blue Angels Air Show

The Pensacola Beach Chamber Board wants more dollars for sand. During the March 18 Board meeting they approved a letter be sent to Florida Governor Rick Scott requesting an increase in budgeted funds for beach renourishment. The Chamber joins the Santa Rosa Island Authority, Visit Pensacola and the Tourist Development Council requesting that an additional \$8.5 million be made available by the State for restoration. This amount coupled with local funds would be used to renourish the 8.2 miles of beaches between Park East and Park West. The cost of the renourishment project is \$17 million.

"Clearly, beach renourishment is a must to keep our beaches and properties intact," said Board Chairman Beverly Campbell.

The Board received updates on events from Chamber Presi-

dent Nicole Stacey who reported that interest in the upcoming Blue Angels Show is at an all-time high. The Chamber sponsors a tent at Show Central where vendors can purchase space.

"I am fielding four to five calls per day from interested vendors," said Stacey. "There are a very limited number of slots available."

The Board will review each vendor application for approval. The tent will be open during the July 11-12 Blue Angels Air Show rehearsal and shows.

The Chamber is seeking volunteers to serve patrons at the Crawfish Festival, April 11-13, and the Taste of the Beach, September 19-21. The Taste of the Beach showcases Pensacola Beach chefs and will include an appearance by a celebrity chef. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Stacey at 850-932-1500.



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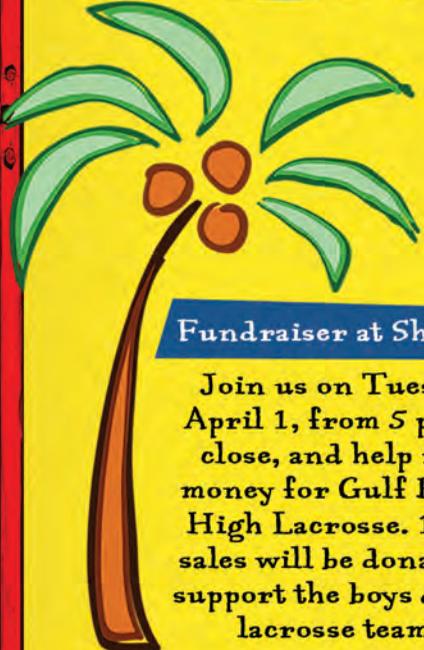


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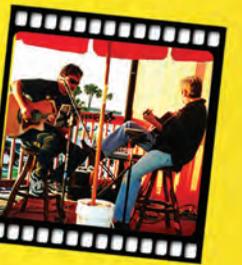
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Thursday: Paddy O'Leary's, 7PM





Pensacola Beach gals transformed into fashion models at the Pensacola Beach Woman's Club Luck of the Irish Fashion Show Extravaganza. The event, which is the Club's lone fundraiser, was a big hit. Marilyn McDonald, left, and Janet Penniman prepare to walk the runway before a standing room only crowd in Our Lady's Hunt Hall, March 13. The proceeds from the event are donated to local organizations and charities.

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Beach Optimists Host Accomplished Orators

Pensacola Beach Elementary School students competed in the annual Optimist Club Oratorical Contest during March in their classrooms with finalists moving on to an open division contest, March 25 at the Beach Church. Melanie Waite, Dr. Thomas Campanella and Monica Kellner served as judges.

This year's topic, "How My

Passions Impact The World," brought students to the podium discussing a wide range of topics.

The grade level winners are:

Joy McLaurine's

Third Grade Class:

First - McKell Spring

Second - Katie Turk

Third - Kate Allen

Erin Olsen's

Fourth Grade Class:

First - Kacie May

Second - Natalia Dadisman

Third - Peyton Bunting

Tara Turk's Fifth Grade Class:

First - Max Mateer

Second - Lauren Kent

Third - John Turk

Kacie May has a passion for environmentalism and Katie Turk for writing. Both young ladies adequately delivered their message.

Max Mateer, however, returned to uphold his family's tradition of winning this beach event. With his sisters Macy and Madi, both former contest winners, in the audience he eloquently delivered his speech to wow the judges and earn first place. Lauren Kent finished in second place and Kacie May, third. The awards ceremony and reception immediately followed the speeches.

The Pensacola Beach Optimist Club President Carleen Wheeler was pleased with the level of professionalism and poise

displayed by each student.

"We need a big round of applause for these wonderful boys and girls," she said at the contest's conclusion.

The Pensacola Beach Optimists next event is the Beach School Bike Rodeo set for Friday, April 4 at the School's campus.

The Club's annual fundraiser is a Race for the Roses Kentucky Derby Party. It's set for Saturday, May 3 at the Santa Rosa Dunes Clubhouse. For more information about the Club, email Wheeler at carleen7@bellsouth.net.



Finalists in the Pensacola Beach Optimist Club Oratorical Contest are the guests of honor at a reception following the competition. Pensacola Beach Elementary School Contestants are (L to R): Lauren Kent, Katie Turk, Kacie May, John Turk, Natalie Dadisman, Max Mateer, McKell Spring, Kate Allen and Peyton Bunting.

Athletes Wheel Onto Island

Pensacola Beach is the finish line for a race which begins in Louisiana and concludes near the Visitors Center, April 4-6. It's 263 miles, so teams arrive continuously over the final day. Sandwiches, booze and music on Saturday evening, followed by a big party and awards ceremony Sunday afternoon. For more information, go to GulfCoastInt-

erstateRelay.com.

The Tour de Cure does not require feats of cycling strength. If you can pedal your bike six miles, and want to join the fun on April 12, sign up. Ride distances are 6, 20, 40 and 65 miles.

"We are excited to announce all routes will be leaving from Casino Beach under the Pensacola Beach Ball! The 40 and 65 mile

route will travel off the island utilizing the previous routes," said Lynne Cranford, coordinator.

All this and you can raise money for diabetes. Registration is \$25 and a minimum \$200 fundraising pledge must be made to participate. For information log on to www.diabetes.org/gulf-coasttourdecur or contact Cranford at 850-492-6100, ext. 3131.

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NOON-HOPE CASSITY & ADAM STEWART
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10pm-MO JILES

SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH
NOON- JOHN HART BAND
5pm- WAYBACK WHENS'DAY

QUIETWATER AMPHITHEATER

FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH
6pm-HIGH HORSE

SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH
1pm-BUCK NASTY
6pm-CAT RHODES & THE TRUTH

SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH
NOON- DAVE AND JOE
5pm-KAYLA NETTLES & JOSH MATHENY

PERFORMERS: MO JILES, WHAYBACK WHENS'DAY, JOHN HART BAND, KAYLA NETTLES, DAVE & JOE DUO, BUCK NASTY, HOPE CASSITY, ADAM STEWART, CAT RHODES, JOSH MATHENY, AVENEDA 16, HIGH HORSE.

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4TH ANNUAL SMALL BOAT PARADISE COBIA PHOBIA TOURNAMENT

APRIL 18 - 20 2014

PENSACOLA BEACH, FL

The Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce sponsored a March 16 Go Irish Scavenger Hunt and the March 17 St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawl. Although Mother Nature added torrential rains and grey skies, the island was full of merriment and shenanigans.



The Beach's official leprechaun Lloyd Hess, left, and Sandy Watkins arrived at Flounder's during the March 17 St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawl.



Decked out in their best kilts and caps, (L to R) Michelle Peterson, Terry and Christie Brisco at the Flounder's stop of the March 17 St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawl.



Kristin Larmeir, left and her sweetheart Kermit "The Redneck Leprechaun" Devlin listened to the Irish band at Paddy O'Leary's during the March 17 celebration.



Jennifer Watson and Sara Ratliff earned second place in the Beach Chamber Scavenger Hunt. Their prize basket was filled with gift cards and t-shirts from Beach businesses.



Chamber President Nicole Stacey, left, awards the grand prize Pot O'Gold to the Scavenger Hunt winners Joy and Dan Hickey from South Carolina at the Visitors Center, March 16.



Paradise Bartender Terese Overlade served the wild and partying Pub Crawlers with a smile during the March 17 St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawl.



Four lucky lasses made it to the tenth St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawl stop at Flounder's. (From left) Jeanette Cooper, Robin Van der Veen, Rachel Stevanato and Chris Godwin.



Mary Bedard mixed Irish wakes, car bombs and poured pint after pint in the outdoor bar at Paddy O'Leary's on St. Patrick's Day. And yes, that's Krewe of St. Pat's Roy Adams, right.



St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawlers (L to R) Jeremy Agricola, Jaimie Tew, Kyra Holland, Dustin Holland, Holly Simpkins and Jamie Culham.



Sunrise and Sunset with Safari-Su

By Susan Haselton-Barr

Jambo (Hello) Everybody. Have you thought about what legacy you will leave when not on this Earth?

My legacy includes grandchildren, family members, dear friends, acquaintances and the unknown stranger. The impact we have on others is not always immediately recognized.

I spent a weekend with my baby sister recently. We have not shared much time together as adults. It was fun to be reunited for several days. My daughter joined us for a Three Musketeers mini vacation. Being the eldest of my family, I certainly did my fair share of baby-sitting two younger sisters. I was amazed at how many habits and eccentricities my baby sister had picked up from me. I only claim the most positive of

those.

My daughter, Sissy, was blown away at how "the sisters" put on identical eye masks when we all got ready for bed the first night. A habit my daughter has teased me about for years. Of course, I have already presented my precious granddaughters with their own child sized eye masks. This is a nightly ritual I began as a small girl that has grown to have a life of its own. My sister June and I reminisced and compared notes on the numerous traditions we share.

Here's a few ideas for you to ponder. The human mystery: your personal impact on individuals that may never be revealed. Chapters open and close; people flow in and out of our lives like the tides on Pensacola Beach.

Smiles are free, so give them



out often.

Develop a unique style of your own. What type of legacies have you created in your own life? What type of legacies do you want to create in your own life?

Remember legend says, when you cannot sleep at night, it's because you are awake in someone else's dream. What a delightful thought.

Take time today to drift away into the fog of time. Get lost for a while in your mind. Think of the happys in the past, present and future.

Prolong your life and legacy by beginning your own journey with passion.

Smile and grin from ear to ear. Quahrini (until we meet again)

BEACH FIT By Geoff Kalmbach

Spring break is in full swing which means the beginning of summer and lots of barbecues and burgers. Beach time is right around the corner.

Is your body exactly where you want it to be for the beach?

If you started a weight loss program at the beginning of the New Year you should be seeing some serious results by now. If not, you need to call me immediately. In the meantime here are 8 reasons why your results may be slower than expected.

1. Are you eating too much? Even if you're carefully measuring your meals, extra calories can sneak in. It's very common to significantly under-estimate the number of calories you're consuming on a daily basis. If you're not sure, write down everything you eat for one whole week.

2. Are you not eating enough? You need to create a caloric deficit by reducing calorie intake slightly. Going too far below your maintenance calories and your body goes into starvation mode; sheds muscle and stores calories as fat for future energy source. Not eating enough also lowers the amount of calories you burn....less thermic meals = less body fat burned.

3. Are you resistance training? Cardio burns calories but doesn't boost your metabolism. Resistance training is critical for maintaining your muscle. If you're not resistance training while trying to lose body fat, you'll lose muscle and your metabolic rate will decrease causing you to burn fewer

calories 24 hours-a-day.

4. Are you exercising enough? You should only decrease your caloric intake so much. The only other alternative is to increase calories out. Very few people are successful at losing weight and keeping it off without exercising regularly. Make it a rule to be active at the very least 5 days a week for 30 minutes.

5. Are you skipping meals/snacks? If so, don't expect to see good results. Missing meals is far worse than eating bad food. Skipping meals slows your metabolism causing your body to store calories rather than burn them.

6. Are you eating sugary foods or simple/refined carbs? White (non whole wheat) flour products, soft drinks, sweetened drinks - like juice, and the hundreds of products that contain added sugar that's deceptively listed on ingredient lists with names like sucrose and high fructose corn syrup, which turns off the hormones responsible for releasing your body fat and instead turns on the hormones that store fat.

7. Are you planning and preparing your meals ahead of time? If you have not planned your meals, you are more likely to make bad feeding decisions and find yourself off track.

8. Are you drinking a proper recovery shake immediately post workout? If not, you're depriving your muscles the ingredients necessary for repair and growth, and thus compromising your me-

tabolism BIG TIME.

As you can see, fat loss takes some discipline. But make it an absolute, non-negotiable priority in your life and follow what I've listed above... and you'll have a fool-proof plan that guarantees your success!

I am offering a FREE health and fitness audit to the first 7 people who text "Fat Tax" to 305.393.1282.

Let me clear up all the confusion and help make this summer your best beach season ever!

FULL SERVICE HAIR SALON

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- Sunglasses
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- Beachwear
- Rentals

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

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

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



Open every day at 11, 850-433-6789, mcguiresirishpub.com

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.

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

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. Something's always shakin' - Monday half price BARE 10 a.m. til close; TX Hold'Em & Trivia at 7 p.m., Tuesday is Karaoke with Becky, 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



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.



Pensacola Beach, FL



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



Located at the Boardwalk. 850-916-9888. www.bamboowillies.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.



Luna, just east of the main parking lot and the traffic light. Kick off at 11 a.m. seven days a week. 934-3660.

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



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

This lovely home is a must see, so well maintained you can move in without doing a thing. 4BR/3BA. 2,659 SF. \$199,900. MLS 454942 Upon entering the wide foyer you will see the nice size dining room. The large eat-in kitchen is a cook's dream, featuring an island, breakfast bar, pantry and a built in desk, plus room for a kitchen table. Enjoy sitting outside in the 12x20 Florida room or grilling on the covered patio. Call Linda Murphy, Keller Williams Realty 850-748-0865



Two residential lots sold together for \$34,000. Well over a half acre lot. Located off Oriole Beach Road in Gulf Breeze, just blocks away from the public pier and boat launch. Build your dream home today! MLS 4456772 Call Linda Murphy, Keller Williams Realty 850-748-0865

MLS# 458584. Four Bedroom/Three Bath home in desirable Pensacola location. \$219,000. Enjoy swimming in the pool or watching the kids play in the large backyard. Call Linda Murphy, Keller Williams Realty 850-748-0865

\$890,000 Beauty on Bay Street. 3/4 3,097SF. 2759 Bay Street. Gulf Breeze. www.denrem.com Dennis Remesch, Re/Max on the Coast, 850-384-7607.



\$32,900. Gulf Breeze Lot .41 acre.

Real Estate For Sale

Check out my website for additional residential lot listings. www.denrem.com Dennis Remesch, Re/Max on the Coast, 850-384-7607. \$222,000. Navarre. 4/3 home on Soundhaven Court. New Construction. 1850 SF. Dennis Remesch, Re/Max on the Coast, 850-384-7607.

\$69,900 3/2 Manufactured Home in Navarre. 8430 Tortuga St. 1782 SF. www.denrem.com Dennis Remesch, Re/Max on the Coast, 850-384-7607.

Four Bedroom Gulf front Townhome. Great rental history. \$479,000.

Jeremy Johnson, Sales Manager, Levin Rinke Resort Realty. 850-377-3145



JeremyJohnsonRealtor.com

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.

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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.

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

Are you a dirty dog? Pensacola Humane Society Doggie Bathe In Schedule. Saturdays from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. on April 19, May 17, June 20, July 19, August 16, September 20, October 18. Bring your own towels. Prices start at \$7. 5 North Q St, Pensacola, 32505. Pensacola-Humane.org

WE LOVE LEASHED DOGS! Protect your pet, walk them daily on a leash. Pick up their waste and encourage good dog ownership. Woof!

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| C | A | T | E | N | A | R | A | I | D | | |
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| P | I | T | Y | D | N | A | R | E | S | T | |

Calendar

APRIL

- 1: RESTORE Public Input Meeting. Pensacola Beach Community Church, 6-7 pm
- 1: Bands on the Beach. Gulfside Pavilion. 7-9 pm www.visitpensacolabeach.com
- 4: PBES Bike Safety Rodeo
- 4: Gulf Coast Interstate Relay. Ends at the Beach VIC. Thru April 5.
- 4: Star Gaze. Gulfside Pavilion. Free. Dusk weather permitting.
- 5: Amazing Race Sea Turtle Conservancy, Navarre Beach. 8-5
- 5: History Presentation. Ft. Pickens Auditorium, 10 am.
- 5: Star Gaze. Gulfside Pavilion. Free. Dusk weather permitting.
- 6: Krewe of Bananimals Meeting, 3 p.m. Sabine Sandbar. Membership \$50. Request to join at meeting
- 6: Relay for Life lighted procession event at RedFish Blue Fish, 7 pm
- 8: Bands on the Beach. Gulfside Pavilion. 7-9 pm www.visitpensacolabeach.com
- 9: 26: Santa Rosa Island Authority Meeting, 5 pm. #1 Via de Luna, Open to the Public. www.sria-fla.com
- 11: Crawfish Festival, Bamboo Willes. Thru 14th
- 12: Tour de Cure Bike event. 850-492-6100 ext. 3131
- 13: Pensacola Beach Half Marathon. 7 am. Post run party at Flounder's.
- 15: Bands on the Beach. Gulfside Pavilion. 7-9 pm www.visitpensacolabeach.com
- 17: Sunset Tri, Portofino
- 17: Business After Hours, Sandshaker, 5:30 pm
- 19: Beach Church Easter Egg Hunt, 9 am. Open to the public

- 19: Hippity Hoppity Easter Eggstravaganza Party for Kids at Paradise. 10:30 to Noon. Free. Open to Every-bunny
- 19: Fee Free at Fort Pickens all weekend
- 20: Easter Sunrise Services at Gulfside Pavilion, Quietwater Amphitheatre
- 20: Cobia Phobia Weigh In, Paradise, 3-6
- 22: Bands on the Beach. Gulfside Pavilion. 7-9 pm www.visitpensacolabeach.com
- 23: Santa Rosa Island Authority Meeting, 5 pm. #1 Via de Luna, Open to the Public. www.sria-fla.com
- 25: Relay for Life Gulf Breeze High School Stadium.
- 26: Lakeview 5K at the Gulfside Pavilion. 8 a.m.
- 26: Paddle Out to support Organ Donations, Red Fish Blue Fish, 3 pm
- 28: Skills USA teams arrive
- 29: Bands on the Beach. Gulfside Pavilion. 7-9 pm www.visitpensacolabeach.com

MAY

- 1: Sunset Tri, Portofino
- 2: Star Gaze. Gulfside Pavilion. Free. Dusk weather permitting.
- 3: Earth Day Islandstyle. 8 am Gulfside Pavilion/Casino Beach Parking lot. Yard sale, contests, games, recycling, paper shredding, displays.
- 3: PB Optimists Run for the Roses.
- 3: Star Gaze. Gulfside Pavilion. Free. Dusk weather permitting.
-
- BEACH CHURCH BINGO
- 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Bingo \$20 at 7.



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

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Seeing Stars... this week's horoscopes



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A suggestion from a colleague on how to work out a problem might not sit too well with you. But before you suspect his or her motives, why not just accept it as a friendly gesture?

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) An associate might seek your counsel on a workplace dispute with another co-worker. Listen to what she or he has to say, but withhold advice until you've heard the other side of the story.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Use your Twin gifts for creativity and practicality to score points in landing an opportunity that could open doors to a new career. Someone returns after a long absence.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Although things are pretty hectic through much of the week, some quiet time with loved ones helps restore balance. An unexpected visitor brings welcome news about a mutual friend.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Getting used to change isn't

always easy for the Big Cat. But make the adjustments gradually, and soon you'll hardly remember when things were any different from how they are now.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Continue to stay the course you've chosen, and avoid distractions that could throw you off track. Some knowledgeable folks are happy to provide guidance if you need it.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Although you earned plaudits from most co-workers for your recent stand on a workplace situation, you also raised the envy quotient among others. Tread carefully for now.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You feel more positive about that delayed project, and you're ready to pick it up on a moment's notice. However, you might need to re-motivate those who have since lost interest.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Some welcome news should be coming your way. In the meantime, use

that Sagittarius charm to persuade some still-reluctant colleagues that your ideas have merit.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Don't wait for a misunderstanding to work itself out. Instead, ask for a chance to explain the circumstances before those bruised feelings lead to an irreversible break.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A physical problem should be checked out in order to avoid it going from just being a nuisance to something more serious. Your social life takes an unexpected but not unwelcome turn.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Yours might be the wisest sign in the Zodiac. But you still could benefit from the wisdom of a close friend who has suggestions on how to handle a perplexing personal problem.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your passion for doing the right thing inspires others to follow your well-trodden path toward justice.



The venerable cross atop a sand dune preserve on Fort Pickens Road commemorates the date of the first church service in the Pensacola area. Santa Rosa Island Authority's Buck Lee stands beside a newly designed historic marker. The previous one was destroyed by vandals.

BOATER'S PARADISE



Protected Canal Front Home with Boat Lift and Saltwater Pool. Minutes to Open Water and All the Fun in the Sun. Beautiful Interior with 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, Granite and Stainless in Kitchen. Gorgeous Views Throughout. Call the Island Realty Office for Your Private Tour 850-916-7188



Earth Day islandstyle

Junque in Your Trunque Community Yard Sale Application

Send today! Limit of 50 vendors

YES, I WANT TO PARTICIPATE! FREE To Pensacola Beach Advocates Members
\$20 to Non-Members. Check Payable to Pensacola Beach Advocates

Name: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

State: _____ **Zip:** _____

Check if you will need more than one parking place.

Mail to Pensacola Beach Advocates, PO Box 1262, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562 - OR - Drop off at the Pensacola Beach Visitors Center.

First come, first served. Your registration/payment must be received by April 29, 2014.

Confirmation will be sent by email or via phone call.

If you do not receive your confirmation prior to April 29, call 850-916-0276.

www.pbadvocates.org



What to sell: Yard sale/household type items only—no retail, arts/crafts, consumables, plants, animals or hazardous materials. All items sold must be items allowed by law.

Plan Ahead: You may keep 100% of your sales: One parking space per vendor, or note on application if more space is needed. Bring your own table/chairs. Bring cash for change and bags for items.

Setup: Check in PBA Volunteers. Sale site in parking lot near Ft. Pickens Rd entrance. Setup 7 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.

Disposal of Unsold Items: Items not sold must be removed no later than 12:45 p.m. Goodwill will be on site, for your convenience, to take any items you would like to donate.

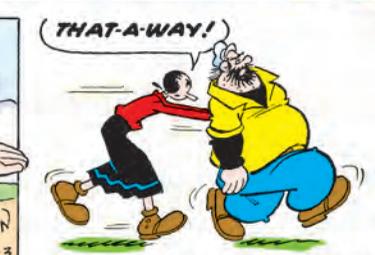
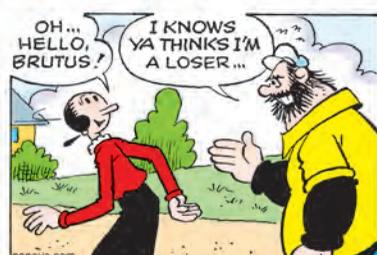
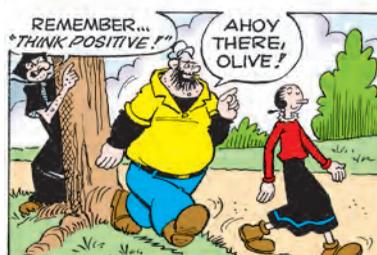
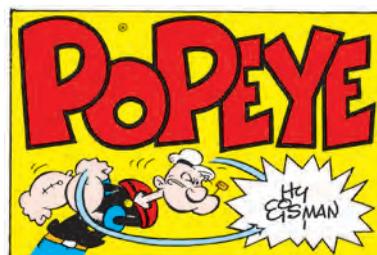
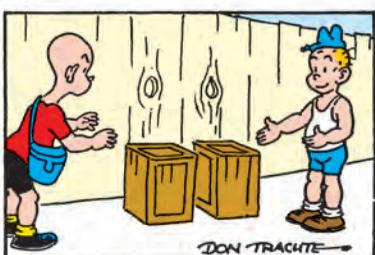
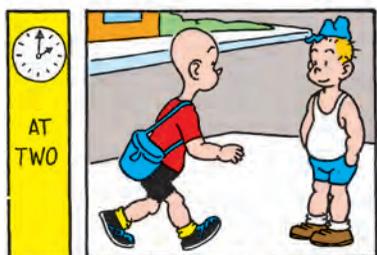
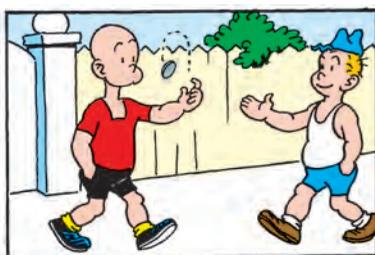
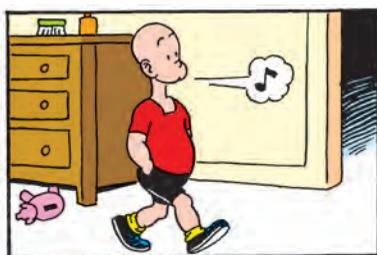
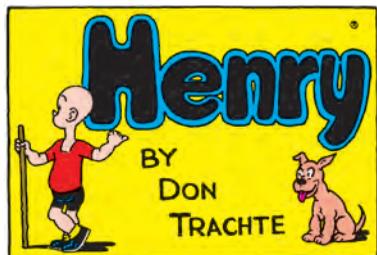
If we cancel: If we are forced to cancel due to the weather, the event will be rescheduled for a later date.

I will adhere to these rules. I also agree to hold the Pensacola Beach Advocates, its governing board, and the individual members thereof, free and harmless from any loss, damage, liability, cost or expense that may arise during or be caused in any way during my participation in the Yard Sale

Signature _____ Date _____

Hosted by Pensacola Beach Advocates Beachkeepers

SATURDAY MAY 3rd 8 to Noon Casino Beach

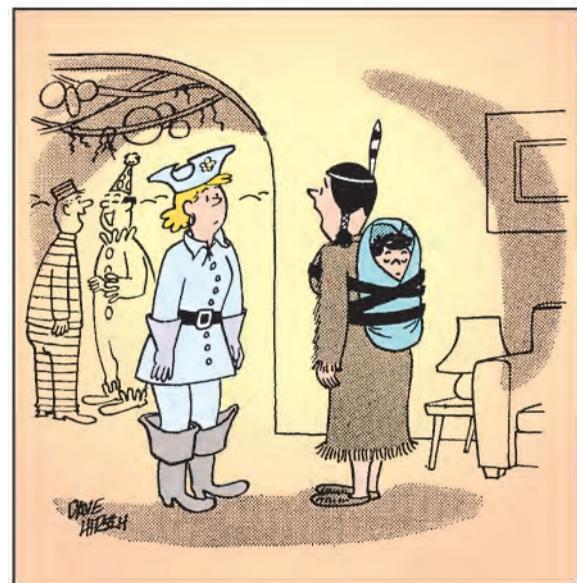


Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



LAFF - A - DAY



"I was coming as Cleopatra, but we couldn't get a sitter."

MISTER BREGER By Dave Breger



"Sorry, old man—I was showing them that this neighborhood's only a stone's throw from the station..."

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



Business Buzz

HOW GRAND

Don't all four-year-olds like chocolate? The Grand Marlin is celebrating its fourth anniversary; and is also a Chocolate Fest sponsor. The event, which heralds the art and beauty of the dark confection, will be Saturday, April 26 at Cordova Mall from noon to 3 p.m.

PICTURE PERFECT

White sand, clear water and your beautiful family. Deb Hayes at Salty Lens Photography makes that memory last a lifetime. It's her specialty but she'll snap photos of other occasions and settings, too. To chat with Deb, call 850-585-9809.

LIGHT MY FIRE

The romantic and graceful Japanese lanterns that are gaining popularity at weddings and special events can be a fire hazard and a danger to wildlife according to Beach Public Safety Director Bob West. The heat from a sterno or candle makes the lantern float and once it's launched it can end up anywhere. On a rooftop, in a stand of dry sea oats, or in the Gulf to entangle a turtle or other unsuspecting wildlife. Officials ask that residents and visitors consider alternatives for their celebrations.

BEST BAR

Pensacola Beach has made its mark in the Florida Beach Bar voting with Paradise Bar and Grill and the Sandshaker Lounge mak-

ing the list last year. The contest to name the best Florida Beach Bar is underway and the results will be announced May 5. Go to floridabeachbar.com to vote.

JUNQUE VENDORS

Do you want to re-home some of your stuff and have cash in your pocket? Be a Junque in Your Trunque yard seller. It's free for Pensacola Beach Advocates members and \$20 for non-members. Sign up and you get to back your car right into your assigned space. Sell your stuff from 8 until noon on May 3 at Casino Beach. The application is on page 15.

AD DIVAS

Robyn Patterson, who creates the visually stunning Resort Quest ads that you see in *Island Times* has been recognized by the Advertising Federation for her work. Patterson received two Gold, one Silver and Best of Show-Print honors at the 21st Annual American Advertising Federation (AAF) Emerald Coast chapter ADDY® Awards Gala. Romjue Ad exec Trudy Romjue, Premier Island Management's Craig Ferris and Lorraine Christen teamed up to capture an Addy for their online ad campaign for Portofino.

BAG IT

Island Times' eco-friendly reusable bags will be given to the first 200 guests at Earth Day Islandstyle, May 3, Casino Beach.

BYTES & BITS

By Joe Stukey,
Your Computer Pal

Q: "Is My Windows XP Computer Going to Explode On April 9?"

A: I have certainly had that question asked many times in the last few months, ever since Microsoft announced that the Windows XP software will not be supported after April 8.

Computer users envision several different scenarios. Will the computer fail to start up in the morning? Will there be a big puff of white smoke when it is powered on? Or, will the smoke be black? Will the computer fill up with viruses? Will all my files be gone?

The answer is --- none of the above. So, you can relax a bit. The computer will start up and run normally on April 9, just

like it always has. The fact that Microsoft is no longer automatically downloading changes to your XP software will not have any impact in the short term.

As I have noted before, Windows XP is a still a very popular version of the Microsoft Windows operating systems. It is still used in more than 30 percent of all Windows computers, despite the release of newer operating systems. In a news story last month, it was noted that 95 percent of all ATMs also use Windows XP. Should we be more worried about not being able to get our money out of the bank?

Microsoft is simply alerting their customers that they should upgrade to the latest release of XP (that is Service Pack 3) prior to April 8. After that date, free support is no longer provided. Microsoft is also saying that, if a customer wants continued support, it is available for \$200

per computer. To get Windows XP updates now, open Internet Explorer, go to the "Tools" tab, and select "Windows Updates".

In the long term, other manufacturers will eliminate XP as an option for using their products. It may become difficult to purchase new products, such as software, printers and webcams, that will work with your computer. Also, the computer manufacturers will eventually drop the downloadable hardware drivers for XP from their websites. For the long term, it might be best to start planning to get a new computer with Windows 7 on it. (Windows 8 isn't much fun). For example, go to amazon.com and search for "Windows 7 Computers". So, Microsoft's strategy is simple --- sell new software.

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

Are You Kidding?
Sandee Bredesen, a retired educator, has been chuckling for thirty years about the funny things kids say and do.

My youngest son is a mere 4 years older than my oldest grandson. When my eldest's first child was born, his little brother went to pre-school the next day and proclaimed to his teacher and four-year old friends, "Guess what...I am a grandpa!"

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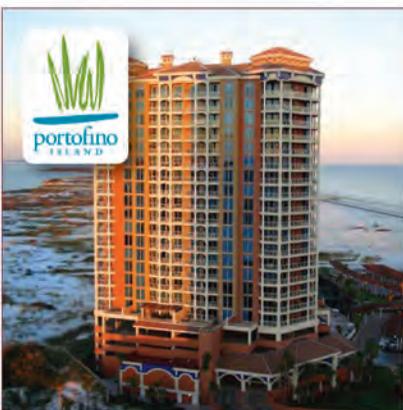
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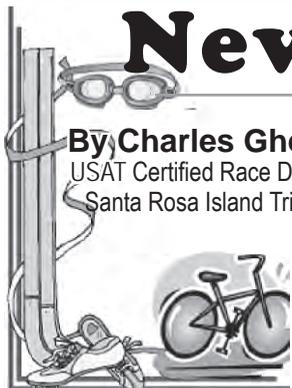
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Never Hurts To Tri



By Charles Gheen
USAT Certified Race Director
Santa Rosa Island Triathlon

Now You Tri

And so it begins again. We've been running all winter and eased into biking as it warmed up some. We've run a duathlon or two. We've done some (or a lot) of swimming in the pools. Some of us have been swimming in the Gulf of Mexico or Santa Rosa Sound in wetsuits. But now, it's really triathlon season. Now we are training specifically for an event (or five). Let's look at a few interesting area opportunities:

The Red Hills Triathlon in Tallahassee has been called "the toughest sprint triathlon in Florida". Set in scenic Maclay Gardens State Park, it begins with a 600-yard swim (it's longer than that) in Lake Hall. Lake Hall is cold. Let me say that again, cold! It will be a few degrees above 60 on race day and you will certainly wear a wetsuit. After exiting the chilly water, you face a rolling bike leg of 16 miles that includes some challenging hills. You finish up with a 5K run that also covers rolling terrain. The event is April 5 and race slots are still open. More information and registration can be found at www.redhillstri.com.

Why would you run this race? You can do a little chest thumping after you're done and the cold water will definitely give you something to talk about for months to come. Hard-core triathletes love it.

On April 19 you can run the Mullet Man Triathlon on Perdido Key at the Florabama. This race is somewhat "loosely organized", but, hey, they're not all the Santa Rosa Island Triathlon. Besides, it's a lot of fun and Perdido Key is a great setting. The race may be wetsuit-legal although I don't think anyone has ever been discouraged from wearing one. I've run this race 6 times and the water has been chilly each time. You swim about 450 yards in the Gulf of Mexico behind the Florabama and then bike west across the Perdido Pass Bridge (the view from the top is awesome) into Alabama. After 8.5 miles you bike back for a total of 17 miles. The race concludes with a four-mile run west to the bridge, under it and then return to the Finish line. www.florabama.com contains all the information you will need to register and participate - I'll be out there with you.

The following Saturday, April 26, I'm entered in the Beach Blast Triathlon/Duathlon in Mexico Beach. Mexico Beach is perhaps 30 minutes east of Panama City and is definitely "Old Florida". A lot of the town is composed of small, old school, block houses, a few motels and

some Mom and Pop businesses. It reminds me of when I did a driving trip around Florida with my parents as a kid. The race is really four races: sprint and Olympic triathlons and sprint and Olympic duathlons. I'll be running the sprint triathlon which includes a 600-yard swim, a 15-mile bike over a bridge and a 5K run. It was fun last year and neat to see this nostalgic side of Florida. You can get more information at www.beachblast-triathlon.com.

The Grandman Triathlon in Fairhope is always on my "must do" list of local triathlons. It's May 31 and is composed of a 600-yard swim, an 18-mile bike and a 5K run. That sounds pretty standard, but the race centers around the Fairhope Pier and you have a monstrous hill to bike up (and down) and you also have to start your run going up that same hill. Yes, both of those efforts will get your heart rate up. Two additional factors to be aware of are the swim is in Mobile Bay, not the most pristine body of water you'll encounter, and heat is a factor in late May. It's going to be warm on the run. Afterwards, there's a great party and, hey, you're in the charming little village of Fairhope. Go to www.thegrandman.com for more information and to register.

Those are some fun races to consider, there are many more, and they offer a great way to kick off your triathlon season.

NOW, what about that first Ironman race?



Getting ready to Tri - Kristin Langston of Pensacola will compete in the Red Hills Triathlon in Tallahassee. After a Tri Gulf Coast cycling workout on Pensacola Beach March 22, she took advantage of the wet suit fitting event. She jumped into the Xterra wetsuit, and took a quick swim in the Gulf.



It's a family affair - Theta Epsilon chapter of Kappa Delta Sorority sisters and extended family teamed up March 22 to present a Shamrock 5K run for charity on Pensacola Beach. Organizers and supporters included (L to R): Shea Steele, Elizabeth West, Natalie West, Taylor Morrison and Wallace West. Proceeds support the prevention of child abuse.



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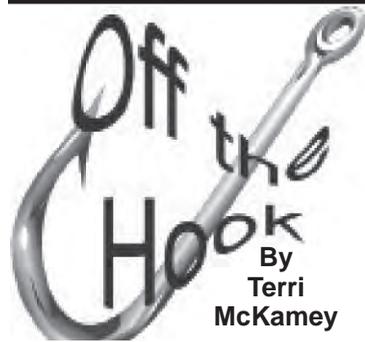


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So much going on right now - by the time this hits the news stands, I know the first Cobia will already have been caught. Cobia have been spotted and Derrick Wahl had one on his line Saturday but he lost it before he could bring it up. Don't worry there are plenty more out there and the action on the piers is already hot and heavy.

Most Florida Cobia spend winter down south or offshore, migrating northward in the Spring to cover both coasts. Dramatic runs occur along Panhandle beaches in April. Cobia love to hang around navigation markers, wrecks and artificial reefs, where they swim both at the surface and down deep. They also escort wandering Mantas and other large rays, and many are caught around those rays.

Paradise will host their Cobia Phobia Small Boat Tourney April 18-20. Local anglers can win big prizes and the weigh-in is a great spectator's event. Sign up or show up and expect a good time.

One of the best things about spring and fall on our beach is Pompano fishing. In March and April winds change direction, and the water heats us, bringing on the annual spring Pompano run. Pompano are a migratory species and they visit Gulf Coast waters in the spring and then again in the fall. It's a hard fighting fish and a local favorite.

They're a beautiful blueish green color. Their compressed body and a blunt snout enable them to glide into very shallow water and swim through the surf. Pompano's cruise the shallow

Get registered for Fishing Rodeo at Flounder's Beach

Mark your calendars for the Pensacola Bud Light Fishing Rodeo. It's set for June 21-22 with the weigh-in at Flounder's Beach. Registration is open and it's only \$25 to sign up. You can get all the details and forms online at <http://pensacolafishingrodeo.com>.

waters and gobble up sand fleas which are their favorite food. Most of the pompano caught in this area are in the two to four pound range, however, the Florida state record tops the scale at over eight pounds. Head on over to Gulf Breeze Bait and Tackle - twenty dollars gets you in the tournament and you get a really nice t-shirt, too.

Sheepshead can be found everywhere, but they aren't going to last too much longer. The bite will probably last another three weeks then taper off.

Hit the grass flats early, early in the mornings since the Speckled Trout are beginning to move. You will find Redfish there, too.

There's plenty of Whiting being caught in the surf.

Captain Rusty Smith aboard the Entertainer reports he's been killin' it offshore. Look for a detailed report in the next edition.

This has to be one of the most perfect times of year to be out on the water and such a variety of species just waiting on you to throw that rod out.

Baitfish are plentiful, so what on earth are you waiting for? Grab a kid and get fishing!

Sail, Stand Up or Cheer for Preemie Events

Attention sailing enthusiasts, stand-up paddleboard fans and landlubbers! The Preemie Cup Regatta events will be held in April to support the Neonatal Intensive Care Nursery at The Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart. Following is the schedule of activities on Pensacola Beach:

- The Third Annual Paddle for Preemies Paddle Board Fun Race will be Saturday, April 19,

from 9 a.m. to noon at the Fitness Onboard dock on Little Sabine across from the Margaritaville Beach Hotel. Early registration is \$35 until April 12, or \$40 on event day. A 3-mile fun race will begin at 9 a.m. for ages 13 and older, while a 1-mile rookie race will begin at 9 a.m. for ages 13 and older. The 1-mile kids' race will start at 10 a.m. for ages 12 and under. Register by April 17 at active.com or call 850-416-4660.

• The Preemie Cup Regatta will be Saturday, April 19, beginning at noon at the Pensacola Beach Yacht Club for PHRF Double-Handed Fleet only; Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker classes. Racing for Opti, Laser, 420 and Catamaran classes will begin at 11 a.m. at Key Sailing.

For more information about the regatta, contact Mark Smith, fleet captain, at 850-291-2545 or by e-mail at nacra20@cox.net.

Cobia Phobia Grips Small Boat Captains

Cobia anglers posted in towers bob along parallel to the beach looking for the next big fish. They are also readying their rigs for the Cobia Phobia Small Boat fishing tourney hosted by Paradise Bar and Grill. Entries are accepted right up to the Captains Meeting which will be at Paradise, Friday, April 18. The cost to enter is \$250.

Registration forms can be picked up at Paradise or can be requested via email at gtereseoverlade@yahoo.com. The tourney

has its own Facebook page.

Cash prizes will be awarded based on the number of boats that enter, but if the field is full, the winner earns \$2,500. Cash prizes are awarded through fifth place. Lady anglers can win a weekend stay at Paradise, and Junior anglers can net a Gulf Breeze Bait

and Tackle Gift Card.

The scales are open from 3 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, April 19 and 3 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 20.

"Everyone should come. T-shirts, good food and live music will make it as much a party as a fishing weigh-in," said Terese Overlade, tournament director.

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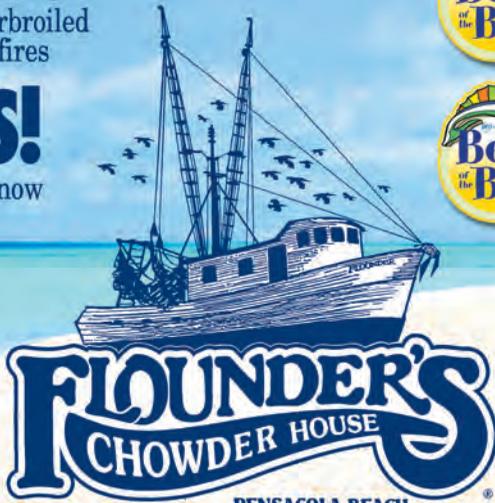
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