

Marine's mom: 'He died with honor'



LANCE CPL. CHARLES SHARP

By David Adlerstein
Times City Editor

In living up to the Marine Corps motto "First to Fight," Lance Cpl. Charles Seth Sharp was the first to die.

On July 2, in the opening hours of Operation Strike of the Sword into the Taliban-controlled heartland of southern Afghanistan, the 20-year-old former Alligator Point resident became its first casualty.

A member of Company E of the 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine

Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Seth, as he was known, suffered a fatal gunshot wound to the neck as his unit pushed into Garmsir district, the northern point of a 75-mile stretch of the Helmand River valley south of Lashkar Gah.

The assault is the largest military operation in Afghanistan since the fall of Taliban government in 2001.

Sharp's mother, Angela Sharp Preston, learned of his death that afternoon, after she

returned home from picking up her 15-month-old son Alexander from day care in Sopchoppy.

"I pulled up and I saw there was a strange van parked across the road from our house. My initial reaction was somebody might be robbing our house. I pulled on in, and I could see somebody in front of the van with a military hat," she said. "I knew right then."

The half-dozen men in the van approached her, and asked if she was the mother of Charles S. Sharp.

"The last person was in all white, and I knew that person was the chaplain. They asked if we could go inside and talk," said Preston. "I couldn't move. I thought 'how am I going to get out of this car?'"

The entourage entered her 637 Pine Street home. "We sat down and they asked if they could talk to me about something," she said. "The one person who was speaking he introduced himself, but I don't remember his name.

See 'HONOR' A5

A Warsaw WHOPPER



COURTESY OF BAY CITY LODGE

Pictured with their enormous Warsaw grouper, hanging from a backhoe, are, from left, Clint Haley, Shawn Daniels, who landed the fish, Billy Daniels and Ken Debrick.

Behemoth grouper could have been a record

By David Adlerstein
Times City Editor

It coulda been a world record. It woulda been among the biggest groupers ever landed. And it certainly shoulda been weighed. Four men fishing out of Bay City Lodge the morning of June 25 landed a leviathan-size Warsaw grouper that arguably eclipsed the world record of 436 pounds, 12 ounces, set by Capt. Steve Haeusler, fishing out of Destin on Dec. 22, 1985.

Based on its length of 82" long and girth of 66 inches, and using one of several conventional formulas designed to estimate weight, the behemoth grouper might well have tipped the scales at about 446 pounds had they tried to ascertain its poundage.

"No, we didn't weigh it," said the group's leader, Billy Daniels, from Moody, Ala. "We

wanted to go back out fishing."

The magnificent specimen of *Epinephelus nigritus* was landed about 15 miles southeast of St. George Island, off the artificial reef made from remnants of the old Apalachicola Bridge.

The four men were all aboard Daniels' 23-foot Polar Bay boat they had driven down from Birmingham on one of their twice-yearly trip to the legendary fish camp. "This is about our third year," said Daniels. "The last week of June we come down to Bay City for seven or eight days."

The men, Daniels' son-in-law Clint Haley and friend Ken Debrick, both from Paola, Kan., son Shawn Daniels, from Stanley, Kan.; and Billy Daniels had come prepared to outsmart the giant-sized groupers that bedeviled them in the past.

The men had fretted how they kept getting their lines snagged in the reef. "We kept

See WHOPPER A8

County's tax base drops 20 percent

By David Adlerstein
Times City Editor

The combined value of Franklin County property declined for the second consecutive year, although by less than county officials had earlier feared.

According to Property Appraiser Doris Pendleton, the county's preliminary certified taxable value for the 2009-10 budget year will be a little less than \$2.79 billion, nearly 20 percent below last year's valuation of \$3.45 billion.

This drop of nearly \$670 million in property valuation, or about 19.4 percent, brings the county's tax base down to a level last seen five years ago.

But the decline is not as severe as the 30 percent drop Pendleton forecast earlier this year.

"Whenever we went through our data and actually did all this looking at

all the records, there were a little more sales than we anticipated throughout the county that we could hang our hat on their values," said Pendleton.

"We had quite a few sales that were not foreclosures, that were arms length, and the state picked up on the same thing," she said.

Because this is Franklin County's year to have an in-depth audit of its appraisals by the Florida Department of Revenue, Pendleton and her staff have been working closely with outside appraisers throughout the process.

"This is something the Department of Revenue does every three years," she said. "They take random samples of properties throughout the county, contract out appraisers and go into counties and pull records and do their analysis. We sit down and

See TAX BASE A6

County looks for health care answers for Carrabelle

By Lois Swoboda
Times Staff Reporter

As debate intensifies, county commissioners have scheduled a June 21 workshop to discuss the future of primary health care in Carrabelle.

At Tuesday morning's meeting, Clerk of Courts Marcia Johnson defended her stance that a cost-effective solution needs to be reached regarding county-supported primary health care in Carrabelle.

County commissioners, led by Cheryl Sanders and Bevin Putnal, reiterated their position that the county health department's clinic must remain open.

During a heated exchange, Johnson expanded on June 16 statement that it makes better fiscal sense to locate the pro-

posed urgent care facility in the existing health department annex than for Weems to build a new facility next door with revenue from the one-cent sales tax.

"When I made my remarks, they were with the understanding that the health department was closing its operation and the building would be vacant. I am committed to all the citizens of this county and I care about the people of Carrabelle," she said.

"I said then and I stand by it now, that speaking from a financial standpoint, it would be more feasible to use that empty building to house the Weems Urgent Care facility than to construct a new building next door," Johnson said. "The health department

See CARRABELLE A7



MARCIA JOHNSON



CHERYL SANDERS



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Lights! Camera! Lanark!

Story and photos by Lois Swoboda
Times Staff Writer

The Lanark Village Mart became a little piece of tinsel town just for the day on July 3.

A group of 15 students from the Florida State University film school descended on the village to shoot a portion of "Forgotten Coast," the story of a runaway who finds happiness in Carrabelle.

Producer Mark Bendeck said the film, a joint senior thesis project for director David Leatherwood and production director Jason Ambler, is the culmination of over six months of planning and preparation. Ambler and Leatherwood



Production director Jason Ambler calibrates a camera. The equipment is provided to the student film crew by FSU. At right, Fran Weeks, manager of the Village Mart, right, and film producer Mark Bendeck, share a smile during the filming of "Forgotten Coast."



collaborated on the script.

The production crew was in the county from July 2 through 7. Other scenes were shot on Carrabelle Beach and at Harry's Bar in Carrabelle. The team used several locals as extras.

Fran Weeks, manager of the Lanark Mart, was on the set Friday. She

watched as the students shifted shelves and crammed the tight space inside the store with high tech equipment.

"It doesn't really look too different from the beginning of scallop season on a weekend, or maybe it's more like a rainstorm when the tarpon fishermen are

out and they converge in here to stay dry," she said.

Bendeck said the company has enjoyed working in the county. "People are almost always willing to help but we've never seen anything like Carrabelle," he said. "There's such a network. Everybody knows

everybody."

He smiled broadly as the film crew bustled about preparing for the shoot. "This is what makes it all worthwhile. We all work together many, many times in or out of school, so it's sort of like a family. There are very intense friendships that hopefully will last

forever. It's so much fun. When you get to the point where you want to quit, you think about all of the sound sets you've ever been on and how much fun they were."

Bendeck said the group had a budget of less than \$3,000 to make the film. Several members of the crew spent the week at the Moorings but most of the students commuted from Tallahassee and received compensation for their gas.

He said that FSU differs from most film schools because it provides equipment to students free of charge. Other universities require student film crews to rent gear. Much of the equipment available to the students is state of the art.

The film "Forgotten Coast" will eventually air on public TV.



ALI WILLIAMS | Special to the Times

Ed Tiley played a Russian general in the film "The Great One," made by a FSU graduate student.

Tiley acting mentor to FSU moviemakers

By David Adlerstein
Times Staff Writer

He's been shot through the gut in a Western and accidentally shot himself through the top of the head as a 19th century Russian general.

He's been drowned and he's died of a drug overdose.

He's veteran Apalachicola actor Ed Tiley, and in the last two years his comic

timing and dramatic acting skills have been in great demand by both film and communication students at Florida State University.

Ever since he began working with students in the school of communications in 2007, Tiley has appeared in more than 20 FSU student films, most made by film department students.

"They're a serious bunch of kids who appreciate the fact I'm really easy to work with," he said. "I really

like it because it's very different from live performance, although you don't necessarily get the immediate audience reaction.

"It's a highly collaborative way of working that seems to produce good results," he said. Tiley has nothing but respect for the work of the young filmmakers. "These kids are serious," he said. "There's almost never a faculty member on set. They may visit once or twice."

The young people

work well together in part because they exchange roles in one another's projects, with no one always the top dog. "The one directing today is likely to be on your crew tomorrow," said Tiley. "I've never seen anyone act up, act out, flake off, not do their job."

While Tiley's acting contribution to FSU filmmaking is entirely voluntary, with no monetary compensation, he did note one perk for his performers.

"They feed you good," he said.

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Brainstorming to buy bookcases for Eastpoint library



JOYCE ESTES | Special to The Times

The interior of the new library building needs to be finished and furnished.

By Lois Swoboda
Times Staff Writer

The new Eastpoint Library building is up but progress has stalled on completing the building.

The metal building that will house the Eastpoint branch and administrative offices for the Franklin County system is done, but Joyce Estes, chair of the board of the Friends of the Franklin County Library, said an additional \$150,000 is needed to complete the interior and outfit it with

furniture, and finish the parking lot.

The project has already received \$100,000 in grant money to buy the land and a \$5,000 grant from the Northwest Florida Water Management District to clear the property.

"We've hit an impasse and nobody has gotten onboard to help," she said. "We've had a tremendous amount of in-kind donations. Preble Rish and C.W. Roberts alone have donated at least \$100,000 each in services."

Estes said the project had lost two major supporters whose contributions would have totaled \$100,000.

She said the project started with pledged funds amounting to \$300,000 but wound up with only about \$200,000 to work with. "I'm hoping that, when they see what we've accomplished, they'll come back onboard," Estes said.

A meeting to discuss additional funding options for the new Eastpoint branch of the Franklin

County library is planned for Wednesday, July 15. Author Ellen Ashdown of St. George Island is organizing the meeting. She and artist Neil Smith-Willow have prepared a brochure explaining exactly what is needed to complete the library.

The "inside brainstorming team" will meet at Estes' home in Eastpoint. If you would like to attend the meeting or contribute ideas or help in any form, please contact Estes at 899-0866.

Stimulus dollars to complete fire station

By David Adlerstein
Times City Editor

Apalachicola City Administrator Betty Taylor-Webb said Tuesday that despite delays, the city is moving forward with plans to relocate the police and fire station, at a cost of more than \$900,000.

But Apalachicola firefighters are expressing concern that funding constraints will prevent the city from following through on a \$600,000 grant to buy a new pumper truck.

George Watkins, an officer with the volunteer fire department, appeared at Tuesday evening's meeting to ask what happened to a fire truck approved for purchase earlier in the year.

"We do not need to let our pumper trucks get behind," he said. "That's scary to be down to one truck."

City officials said following through on the \$600,000 grant for the truck has been put on hold until later in the month, after the monthly costs are determined for repaying a low-interest loan of \$506,500 earmarked to buy the new fire station.

Taylor-Webb said a purchase agreement with the owner of the lots on Avenue E, across from the Piggly Wiggly in the former



GEORGE WATKINS

Family Dollar store, expired July 1, but a 120-day extension has been signed that will run to the end of October.

The last piece of the funding puzzle was announced last week, when Congressman Allen Boyd (D-North Florida) said Apalachicola is scheduled to receive \$656,500 in federal stimulus dollars to help combine the city's police and fire stations into the new location. Funding was made available under the American Recovery and

Reinvestment Act, recently signed into law with Boyd's support.

Apalachicola will receive a stimulus grant of \$150,000 and a low-interest loan of \$506,500 to begin the project. In addition, a Community Development Block Grant of \$250,000 will go to fund the project, which includes making the building handicap accessible and compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, building a three-garage bay for parking trucks and doing additional renova-

tions and connections.

Repayment is planned using the receipts from MSBU (Municipal Service Benefit Units) collection, and from law enforcement fines and forfeitures, Taylor-Webb said.

Mayor Van Johnson told Watkins that tough choices will have to be made. "I'm telling you, as straight as I can, you can't afford both," he said, adding his view that private fundraising might be necessary to supplement government dollars.

"You need to help us help you," said the mayor. "You can not expect the government to do it all for you."

Taylor-Webb noted that the financing picture became complicated after citizens opposed putting the new station on city-owned property, prompting the land purchase.

State issues record number of oyster licenses

The state has issued 1,409 oyster harvesting licenses, a record number, for the upcoming season.

Joe Shields, environmental administrator for the division of aquaculture of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, said the number is about 300 more than last year.

"This follows a couple 1,100-plus years," he said.

"There are many theories as to why," said Shields. "I would venture to say that based on the current economic downturn that folks are buying them as a potential backup, if their current location goes south. I know people buy them just to have them."

Shields said his office issued more than 250 new licenses, to individuals who have never had one before.

"These are folks who are new to the game, so to speak," he said. "That probably contributed to the total number we got this year."

Shields said there is not too much concern about overharvesting.

"From our perspective we're looking for trends on a given reef," he said.

"Oystering itself is self-limiting; oystermen are not going to hang out on bars that aren't producing. When they do move it gives that particular reef that time to recover."

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Energy bill a bid to secure economic prosperity, energy independence

I approach the energy debate with the basic assumption that our current energy policy is not working. Nothing illustrated this more than the energy crisis of last summer when gas prices in Florida climbed to more than \$4 a gallon. This spike in energy prices was one of the major contributing factors of the current recession, making it clear that our dependence on foreign oil is inextricably linked to our economic future.

We are dangerously dependent on foreign sources of energy, and this dependence is expensive. Our country sends more than \$440 billion overseas each year to buy crude oil from foreign countries. If we continue this practice, we will forever be beholden to foreign countries for our energy needs and our economic well-being will be at risk. Now is the time to move to American-made energy.

To chart this path to energy independence, a new, balanced energy policy is needed — one that keeps costs low for North Florida families, invests in renewable and alternative energy sources, and promotes



REP. ALLEN BOYD

innovative energy technologies that will create new American jobs. I gave a lot of thought to the energy bill that the House of Representatives passed last week, and I am convinced that this bill does all of those things and is essential to our region's and our country's economic future.

One of the biggest misconceptions about the energy bill is that it would impose thousands of dollars in costs on the average household. This is simply not true. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office analyzed the bill and concluded it would cost 48 cents a day for families at its height in 2020, around the cost of a postage stamp per day. These estimates did not even include the savings that would come from upgrades to the energy grid, more efficient homes, and advanced appliance efficiency standards.

Many also complain about the costs associated with the cap and trade program in the bill that addresses carbon emissions. Those who do not believe in climate change or that the world population is affecting climate

change will disagree with me, but I believe that failure to begin reducing carbon emissions will leave a diminished, economically vulnerable world for our grandchildren. What is indisputable is that our future on the current path leaves us with zero control over energy prices. American-made energy will be critical to our country's economic future, to controlling energy costs, and to maintaining our quality of life.

The cap and trade program would require utility companies to reduce carbon emissions by 17 percent by 2020. Under this program, companies would be required to reduce their emissions or purchase allowances in order to exceed these caps. This will incentivize large utility companies to shift toward clean coal technologies and other renewable sources of energy. Rural electric cooperatives (co-ops) in North Florida would receive free allowances to help offset energy costs and keep prices affordable.

Another key component of the energy bill is the establishment of a reasonable new standard for utility companies. Under the bill, the major Florida utility providers would be required

to generate 20 percent of their energy from renewable sources by the year 2020, while co-ops, which serve many North Floridians, would be exempt from meeting this standard. The state of Florida could also lower the 20 percent threshold on large utility companies by requesting that 8 percent of the standard be met through conservation measures, such as energy efficiency improvements. These standards are designed so that the consumer benefits from the gradual incorporation of locally-derived energy and reasonable, corresponding rates.

For utility companies to meet the remaining 12 percent renewable energy requirement, the energy bill expands biomass and nuclear programs — both critical aspects of Florida's energy capabilities. I fought hard to make sure that biomass and nuclear programs were included and promoted in the energy bill. This is a significant win for our state and a large reason for my support of the bill. Both biomass and nuclear energy are a vital part of Florida's energy future, and investments in these areas will create new jobs and new industry in our state.

In addition to biomass and

nuclear, the energy bill invests in clean coal. Our country has approximately 27 percent of the world's coal supply. Any workable energy policy must recognize the substantial role that coal will play in creating new jobs and making our country energy independent, and the energy bill does this by investing in technologies that will help make coal cleaner.

We are a long way from enacting a new, national energy policy into law. The Senate also must draft an energy bill, and then the differences between the House and Senate bills must be reconciled. While the House-passed energy bill may not be perfect, it reflects our long-term energy needs and responds to our collective responsibility to ensure a better world for future generations.

As Congress continues to move forward and develop a national energy policy, I will be looking for a final bill that works for our state and sets the stage for long-term economic prosperity and a secure nation that is energy independent.

Congressman Allen Boyd is a Democrat representing the Second Congressional District.

Protecting your money

"If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is."

How many times have you heard that expression? Even in favorable economic times, otherwise cautious people can be duped by get-rich-quick schemes or investments that promise unrealistic returns. But when times get hard, folks increasingly fall for these scams in their quest to make ends meet.

Many people, feeling overwhelmed by the complexity of the subject matter, hire a financial planning professional for advice. However, as recent headlines have shown, even highly regarded investment experts sometimes turn out to be con artists simply peddling the latest Ponzi scheme.

So how can you protect and grow your assets and plan for your financial future?

First, educate yourself. There's a wealth of information available online, at libraries, bookstores or your local community college. Get grounded in basic financial concepts such as the importance of saving for short- and long-term goals, managing debt, creating



JASON ALDERMAN

and living within a budget, how banking, credit and loan products work, why credit scores are so important and planning for unexpected events

Helpful resources include:

- MyMoney.gov,

the U.S. government's Web site dedicated to teaching the basics about financial education

- JumpStart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, a clearinghouse of materials designed for children (www.jumpstartclearinghouse.org).

- AARP, which advises and advocates for people over 50 in all aspects of their personal and financial lives (www.aarp.org)

Don't go it alone. Why not form a book club/discussion group where you can share financial fears, missteps and success stories with mutually supportive friends? It's sometimes easier to digest information and make action plans together. A good place to start is by reading "The Difference: How Anyone Can Prosper in Even the Toughest Times," by best-selling author and "Today Show" finance editor Jean

Chatzky.

Finally, don't rule out consulting with a financial planner. Even if you can't afford ongoing money-management services, consider hiring a third party temporarily to help you crystallize your financial goals and trouble-shoot areas where you may be lacking, such as retirement savings, estate planning or having adequate insurance protection.

Many types of professionals call themselves financial planners but they don't all have the same training or specialties. Different groups that certify planners have their own credentialing requirements, regulators and ethical guidelines, but education and experience requirements vary.

If necessary, interview several candidates until you find someone you trust, who asks pertinent questions about your situation, and who won't try to sell you unneeded products or services.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To sign up for a free monthly personal finance e-Newsletter, go to www.practicalmoneyskills.com/newsletter.

Water management districts commit to transparency

On June 30, Governor Charlie Crist signed Senate Bill 2080, relating to water resources, into law. Although the bill is not perfect, it is my firm belief — a belief that I expressed to the Governor — that this bill should be signed for the many benefits it provides to both to the environment and the people of Florida.

Although the new law requires the governing boards of the state's five water management districts to delegate authority to approve permits to their executive directors, each of the water management districts have been — and will continue to be — committed to open government and transparency.

The simple fact is nothing in Senate Bill 2080 diminishes, alters, or limits the ability of the public from inquiring or obtaining information about a permit application or objecting to an application.

While much attention has focused on delegation, many other aspects of the bill offer greater protection for Florida's water resources that have gone largely unnoticed.

However, these changes will help ensure the protection and conservation of Florida's water resources. They include:

- Changes to Florida law regarding environmentally-friendly landscaping. The use of Florida-friendly landscaping and other measures by homeowners is an effort to conserve Florida's water resources, which is in the best interest of all Floridians.
- Expands lands eligible



MICHAEL W. SOLE

to receive compensation to local governments. This provision puts into Florida law a commitment of the South Florida Water Management District to ensure the smaller Glades communities are not adversely impacted by the U.S. Sugar land acquisition.

- Streamlines government and saves

taxpayer dollars — allowing meetings to be conducted via technology and authorizing the use of certain long-term permits.

- Provides fiscally sound policies that ensure the water management districts do not overextend their financial commitments.

Every drop of water makes a difference to Florida's future, and we must continue to protect and wisely manage our water resources. There is no doubt that Florida's environment is better protected when all stakeholders are involved in the decision-making process.

As a result, I am committed to preserving the public process throughout this next year. I will continue working with the executive directors of the state's five water management districts to ensure openness and transparency. In addition, I look forward to working with the 2010 Legislature to develop a process that sustains transparency and stakeholder participation.

Michael W. Sole is the secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Involvement, dedication keys to fixing education

By Rebecca Hurley

In his first Presidential speech broaching the topic of education, President Obama said, "Despite resources that are unmatched anywhere in the world, we've let our grades slip, our schools crumble, our teacher quality fall short, and other nations outpace us... What's at stake is nothing less than the American dream."

He wasn't exaggerating — in 2006, the Program for International Student Assessment found that 15-year-old American students place 25th out of 30 developed nations in mathematics, literacy, and problem-solving.

Many find comfort in the knowledge that \$1 billion from the economic stimulus package has been allocated to education, and that even in the midst of the economic downturn education is not being overlooked. Indeed, lack of funding and resources has long been used as an excuse for failing school systems. But more dollars can't buy the reform our schools need.

If money were the solution, then the Washington D.C. school system should far surpass most other public school systems in the nation. During this past year, DC schools spent \$13,848 per student, the third highest in the United States and more than

\$4,000 above the national average. The result was that only 14 percent of fourth graders scored at or above proficiency in mathematics and reading according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

In contrast, Minnesota spends \$9,180 per pupil, slightly less than the national average, but produced the best results of any state.

The results for all 50 states were analyzed in the American Legislative Exchange Council's (ALEC) publication, Report Card on American Education, which for 15 years has ranked states on test results, financial inputs, and other factors. This report also considers the correlations between student performance and such factors as teacher-pupil ratio and teacher salary. The result is that there is no consistent relationship between per-pupil expenditure, class size, or teacher salary and students actually being able to read or do math at grade level.

What does appear to produce results is parent involvement, teacher dedication, and school-by-school autonomy in setting curricula. Consider the American Indian Public Charter School (AIPCS). Once among the worst schools in Oakland, CA, it is now the highest-scoring middle school in

the city under the leadership of Ben Chavis. The transformation occurred despite spending \$2,000 less per pupil than the district (and no computers for the students). Charter schools, such as AIPCS, are free to select their own staff and are given more autonomy to tailor their style and curriculum to meet the needs of their students.

Subscribing to what has been coined the "money myth," the belief that more money will lead to better education, is a costly mistake. Taxpayers are forced to pay for something with little to no results. What is worse is that other solutions are avoided despite their promising potential. We cannot afford to keep overlooking these options while dumping more and more money into the current education system.

President Obama has clearly stated his support for greater accountability and flexibility, and called on states to open new, innovative charter schools. There is hope that our schools will take up this challenge. After all, it is the American dream that is at stake.

Rebecca Hurley is a research associate at the American Legislative Exchange Council in Washington, D.C.

Apalachicola
& Carrabelle
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'HONOR' from page A1

He said 'I am sorry to inform you that your son has suffered a serious injury in Afghanistan.'

"Just for a brief moment I felt a joy come over me, because he said injury. I'm thinking 'OK, we can handle whatever it takes,'" said Preston. "Seconds later, he said your son has succumbed to the injuries."

"I said 'You know this could be a mistake, there was a lot of young men out there, they look alike,'" she said. "He said 'No ma'am, it's not a mistake.'"

Preston asked if he could go over the details again. Seth had suffered a serious gunshot wound and they tried to treat him at the scene but weren't getting a response. They put him on a military helicopter to the nearest triage and he died en route.

At the same time Department of Defense representatives were visiting the Alligator Point home of Angela and Gus Preston, others were visiting Seth's dad and stepmom, Rick and Tiffany Sharp, in his boyhood hometown of Adairsville, Ga.

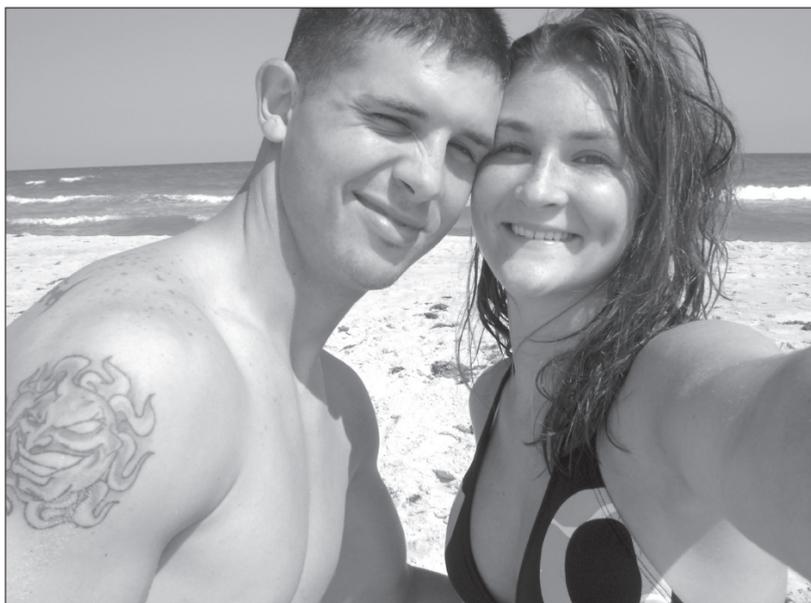
"Something Seth's dad told me, when I finally came out and asked him 'I want to know what happened.' Apparently they had told him that 'Let me assure you, the person or persons who did this, are no longer here to talk about it,'" said Preston.

Seth's large extended family, however, is around to talk about the boy, the young man, the friend, they loved, as they prepare for his final flight Thursday from Dover Air Force Base to Tom B. David Airport in Calhoun, Ga, the viewing at Dudley Barton & Son Funeral Home on Friday evening, and funeral services Saturday afternoon at Northpoint Church in Adairsville and burial at East View Cemetery.

Several hundred people are expected for the funeral, which is bringing in family from Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama and California.

"He was a great kid"

As per the family's request, no photographs were



SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Seth Sharp in happier times, with his fiancée, Katie McMahan.

allowed when Seth Sharp's body arrived on U.S. soil at 3:22 p.m. into Dover Air Force base on the Fourth of July.

"I told them no. I don't mind if we see a picture of him with us but not that way," said Preston, who is collaborating closely with her ex-husband on details of their son's memorial.

"We still remain very good friends. That's very helpful during this time," she said.

Preston is keeping a brave, stoic face, the same face she tried her best to show her son when he chose to become a Marine, despite her serious misgivings.

Without question, there is no hiding her pride, the same pride she felt when she named her son, Charles, after her grandfather, a World War II veteran, who died of a heart attack when she was six months pregnant with her son.

"He was so excited for me," she said.

Preston's father, Vietnam veteran David Story, came down this week to help his daughter with arrangements, but it turned out the support flowed both ways.

"He's lived through this, he's been there," she said. "Dad is 65, a big, gruff person and he never shows emotion. I've never seen a man in that shape before.

It was kind of like two lost souls trying to make a decision and nobody was any stronger than the other one.

"I don't think there's really words to describe it, an emotional roller coaster. Some minutes you think you're going to be fine and the next minute you're not," Preston said. "You never expect to lose a child. It's pain you can't describe."

Over the weekend, while the entire nation celebrated America's birthday in joyous abandon, Preston was having "a why day. Why my son? Why now? Those questions I'll probably never be able to answer. Seth would not talk about that stuff to me, knowing I would be upset."

"Ever since when he left, it was much, much harder," she said. "I had a bad, bad feeling, a night and day, constant feeling that something was going to happen."

"You try to shake yourself and say 'What's the worst thing that could happen?'" Preston said. "And the worse thing that could happen happened."

Seth Sharp's family back in Dalton, Ga., where he spent his boyhood, have shared memories of the young man, their feelings of pride at his toughness, compassion and willingness to sacrifice his life for another.

His father told the Rome News-Tribune of how his son asked for coloring books and crayons for Christmas, during his earlier nine-month deployment in Iraq.

"It wasn't a moment later that he said it wasn't for him, but for the children he'd met in Iraq," Rick Sharp said. "Something that seems so simple here is a luxury for them, and I made sure the coloring books got to him. He was just that kind of kid."

"He was proud to be a Marine and be called a Marine," he said. "It was a challenge that he wanted to face and see if he could succeed at."

"He was a great kid, and he was a hero, and we want everyone to know the sacrifices he laid out his life for," said his dad.

"I got him the dress blues"

When Seth was still in middle school, he came to Alligator Point to stay with his mom, and later attended Wakulla High School, as many students in that area often do.

His best friend was Chris Dolan, and the two spent a lot of time together, "always running around, messing with things."

"He was a great guy, a good friend, always positive

about everything, real easy going," said Dolan.

The two worked for a time for Thad Brett, who has a heavy equipment operations company on Alligator Point. "Thad had different projects and things and he would take the two boys with him," said Preston.

"It was tough yesterday when I saw Chris get out of the car and Seth wasn't with him," she said. "We used to kid the boys how the car wouldn't go into drive unless both of those boys were in it."

Seth Sharp had missed a lot of days of school at Wakulla, said his mom, and so when graduation neared, it looked like he wouldn't have the credits to graduate.

"And when he got so discouraged that he wasn't going to get to graduate, he went back to his dad briefly and that is when he came up with the idea of joining the Marines," said Preston. "His big dream was always to be an architect and that was my dream for him also."

Rick Sharp told his hometown newspaper that it wasn't easy giving his son permission to join the Marines at age 17. "We talked about it and talked about it and then I prayed about it," he said. "I always want to support my kids, and I knew he'd join when he turned 18 if I didn't sign

for him.

"But I asked him, 'Why the Marine Corps?' He said, 'Because it's the toughest, and I want to see if I can make it.' He told me he wanted to fight for those who couldn't fight for themselves," said his dad.

Preston has serious reservations about her son's decision. "I guess my strong opinion was I knew what would happen if he joined. It was going to be a given thing he was going to Iraq," she said. "That was definitely not what I wanted to happen."

"Seth really loved the water and the beach. I said 'You love the water. How about the Coast Guard?'" she recalled. "He was kind of headstrong about the Marine division."

With Preston's powerless against the Marine recruiter's persistence back in Georgia, she resigned herself to her son's choice.

"I tried to be supportive because I love Seth that much. If he asked for the moon I would have given it to him," she said. "I tried not to be too upset in front of him, and show how bad I did not support that decision. I didn't want him to feel like he couldn't talk to his mom if he knew how she really felt about it."

Preston drove together

See HONOR A6

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'HONOR' from page A5

with her ex-husband to watch their son graduate from Parris Island. "I was proud of him for going through it," she said. "It was a grueling process. He was so thin. They work them really hard."

Seth was in the top of his class in marksmanship, which came as no surprise to his mom. She knew the skills he had learned from his family hunting in the hills of Georgia, and that she witnessed as his Cub Scout leader growing up.

"He was so proud and I was proud for him," said Preston. "I asked him 'Son, you just let me know what you want for a gift for your hard work and effort.'"

Soon after, Seth had an answer for his mom. "I'm thinking he wants a motorcycle," Preston said. "But he said 'Momma, I know what I want. I would really like to have my dress blues.'"

"Son, are you sure that's what you want?" Preston asked him. He was sure.

"I got him the dress blues," she said. "He's got his pictures made with it on. When I talked to his dad yesterday, I told him I wanted him to be buried in it."

"I'm very proud Seth did what Seth felt he needed to do."

Angela Sharp Preston
mother of Seth Sharp

"I'm still very proud"

Preston said sending her son off to Iraq was not nearly so difficult as his deployment to Afghanistan, which began less than two months ago.

There had been a moments of joy and happiness right before that. Seth had returned from Iraq safely, and his mother had, to her surprise and amazement, given birth to a second son as she neared her 40th birthday.

"I guess it's kind of strange," she said. "We've been together 10 years and we just assumed we could not have children and I found out I was pregnant when Seth was in Iraq."

Seth and his fiancée Katie McMahan, a cheerleader for the University of Georgia, had come down to visit, and seen his new brother and outlined plans for when Seth would return

from Afghanistan Dec. 15.

"I'll only have four or five more months in my contract after that," he told his mom, a realtor by profession. "I want you to help me find a house and go to school."

"He was really excited. He talked about either going to Florida State or Daytona. At that point his fiancée was going to transfer here and start going to college here also," said Preston.

A month ago, Angela and Gus Preston opened Preston's Eatery, in Panama City, and the family had even talked about opening a branch on St. George Island.

"Seth, if you want to and we do that, you can manage the restaurant," Preston told her son, but then added "Well, I don't know about that. You might eat all the profits."

"That kid could eat," she

said. "Especially if we have Key Lime pie; that was his favorite."

Preston's protective feelings prompted her to want to step in and stop her son from going, a son she still called "Little Bubby" a name his younger sister, Jessica, coined.

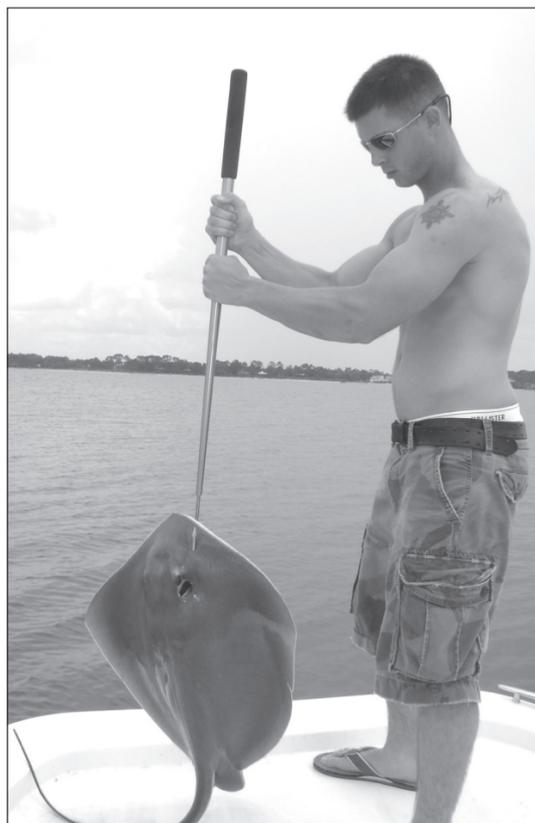
"There's this kid bigger than I am and I still referred to him as my 'little bubby' and he answered to that," said Preston.

His mom sensed her son's fears and concerns, as only moms can, but he wouldn't indulge them or let them sway him. He had a job to do and he was going to do it. And she did her best to cope with her feelings.

"I'm still very proud," said Preston. "I'm proud that he served his country and there's a lot of other parents that lost their children and probably look back and wish it hadn't been their choice."

"I'm very proud Seth did what Seth felt he needed to do," she said. "He died with honor."

Perhaps the depths of Seth's commitment can be illustrated by a story mom recalled after seeing a large tattoo of the Marine motto "Semper Paratus" that he had



SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Seth Sharp nailed a Stingray on one of his last fishing trips off Alligator Point.

emblazoned on his calf. "Don't you know that's permanent?" said Preston,

exasperated. "Momma, I'm permanent," Seth replied.

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TAX BASE from page A1

discuss the values."

The sharpest decline of evaluation in the county will be felt in Alligator Point, where the combined valuation dropped from about \$253 million to \$191 million, a decline of nearly \$52 million, or about 24.4 percent.

The next steepest decline will be felt on Dog Island, where property valuations dropped by nearly \$16 million, from \$79.6 million to about \$63.6 million, or nearly 20.1 percent.

Apalachicola's valuation, which includes all property within the city limits, tumbled by 19.7 percent, from nearly \$210 million last year to slightly more than \$168.5 million this year.

"I was pleasantly surprised we had 27 houses sold in Apalachicola from Jan. 2008 to Dec. 2008," said Pendleton. "And they were not bank foreclosures, they were actual sales."

State law does not allow property appraisers to factor in transactions that are not considered "arms length," such as foreclosures and short sales.

Carrabelle's decline was less severe, with that city's property values dropping by 15.2 percent, from \$275.1 million to \$233.2 million. One reason Carrabelle's tax base is larger than Apalachicola's is that the city has annexed numerous

pieces of adjacent properties in large subdivisions.

The Eastpoint portion of the county, which is defined by properties within the Eastpoint Water and Sewer District, declined in value by about 15.1 percent, from \$111.5 million last year to \$94.6 million for the upcoming budget year.

Because there are variations with the county as to the extent of allowable exemptions, the two other countywide taxing authorities, the school district and the Northwest Florida Water Management District, will draw on slightly different tax bases.

The water management district does not factor in an additional senior exemption that county and both cities adopted. The exemption allows for an additional \$50,000 off the taxable valuation of property for those seniors whose incomes fall below \$24,000.

The water management district's combined valuation is about \$2.2 million more than the counties, not enough to make a substantial difference in the tax base.

But the school district, which is not affected by the changes instituted with the passage of Amendment 1 or by the senior exemption, will see a valuation of \$2.84 billion, or about \$50 million

more than the county. This represents a decline of about \$669 million over last year, or a drop of about 19.1 percent.

County faces flat funding future

Pendleton said two factors have combined to further whittle down the tax base.

The rules of Amendment 1 will enable homeowners to exempt a larger amount of their property values from taxation. As has been the case since Florida's Save Our Homes law went into effect in 1992, each property owners will be able to exempt the first \$25,000 of their home's value.

All property owners will have to pay taxes on the next \$25,000, or portion thereof, of their home's value, but the next \$25,000 in value would be exempt from taxation.

In addition, for those who qualify for homestead exemptions, the Save Our Homes amendment places a cap of up to 3 percent, or the consumer price index (CPI), whichever is lower, on how much a person's property value can increase from one year to the next.

Complicating the decline in housing prices has been a sharp drop in the

CPI, which over the last 15 years has run between 1.6 and 4.1 percent annually, and usually in the 2 to 3 percent range.

But, in 2009, the CPI will be a minuscule one-tenth of 1 percent, which will dampen any increase in taxable value on those with a homestead exemption.

"This increase (in the CPI), no matter how large or how small, has still added value to the rolls each year as the amendment states that the taxable 'shall' increase 3 percent, or the CPI, until the appraised value and the assessed value equal," said Pendleton.

Last year, when the CPI was 4.1 percent, and the maximum 3 percent cap was used, nearly \$120 million in value was added to the 2008 tax rolls.

Once Pendleton's appraisal is approved by the Florida Department of Revenue, county taxpayers will receive the proposed valuations and millage rates, when the TRIM notices go out the third week of August.

Pendleton noted that Amendment One also calls for a 10 percent limitation on tax increases to non-homestead property, provided there are less than

See TAX BASE A8

WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	Temperature			% Precip
	High	Low		
Thu, July 9	89°	77°		40 %
Fri, July 10	90°	78°		40 %
Sat, July 11	92°	79°		30 %
Sun, July 12	92°	80°		30 %
Mon, July 13	93°	79°		10 %
Tue, July 14	93°	80°		10 %
Wed, July 15	93°	80°		10 %

TIDE TABLES MONTHLY AVERAGES

To find the tides of the following areas, subtract the indicated times from those given for APALACHICOLA:

	High	Low
Cat Point	Minus 0:40	Minus 1:17
East Pass	Minus 0:27	Minus 0:27a

To find the tides of the following areas, subtract the indicated times from those given for CARRABELLE:

	High	Low
Bald Point	Minus 9:15	Minus 0:03

APALACHICOLA

07/09 Thu	12:20AM -0.1 L	07:26AM 1.5 H	11:50AM 1.2 L	04:48PM 1.7 H
07/10 Fri	12:41AM 0.0 L	07:40AM 1.5 H	12:32PM 1.1 L	05:34PM 1.6 H
07/11 Sat	12:59AM 0.1 L	07:54AM 1.5 H	01:18PM 1.0 L	06:24PM 1.5 H
07/12 Sun	01:18AM 0.2 L	08:10AM 1.6 H	02:07PM 0.8 L	07:22PM 1.3 H
07/13 Mon	01:41AM 0.4 L	08:29AM 1.6 H	03:03PM 0.7 L	08:33PM 1.2 H
07/14 Tue	02:05AM 0.6 L	08:51AM 1.7 H	04:09PM 0.5 L	10:07PM 1.1 H
07/15 Wed	02:29AM 0.8 L	09:16AM 1.7 H	05:24PM 0.3 L	

CARRABELLE

07/09 Thu	06:01AM 2.4 H	09:37AM 1.9 L	03:23PM 2.7 H	10:28PM 0.0 L
07/10 Fri	06:15AM 2.4 H	10:19AM 1.8 L	04:09PM 2.6 H	10:46PM 0.2 L
07/11 Sat	06:29AM 2.4 H	11:05AM 1.6 L	04:59PM 2.4 H	11:05PM 0.3 L
07/12 Sun	06:45AM 2.6 H	11:54AM 1.3 L	05:57PM 2.1 H	11:28PM 0.6 L
07/13 Mon	07:04AM 2.6 H	12:50PM 1.1 L	07:08PM 1.9 H	11:52PM 1.0 L
07/14 Tue	07:26AM 2.7 H	01:56PM 0.8 L	08:42PM 1.8 H	
07/15 Wed	12:16AM 1.3 L	07:51AM 2.7 H	03:11PM 0.5 L	10:58PM 1.8 H

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Date	Day	AM	PM	Rise/Set	Moon
07/09	Thu	m 6:15	m 6:35	5:07AM	☉
		M 12:00	M 12:20	7:04PM	☉
07/10	Fri	m 6:55	m 7:20	5:07AM	☉
		M 12:45	M 1:05	7:03PM	☉
07/11	Sat	m 7:40	m 8:05	5:08AM	☉
		M 1:30	M 1:50	7:03PM	☉
07/12	Sun	m 8:25	m 8:50	5:08AM	☉
		M 2:15	M 2:35	7:03PM	☉
07/13	Mon	m 9:10	m 9:35	5:09AM	☉
		M 3:00	M 3:20	7:03PM	☉
07/14	Tue	m 9:55	m 10:25	5:09AM	☉
		M 3:40	M 4:10	7:02PM	☉
07/15	Wed	m 10:45	m 11:15	5:10AM	☉
		M 4:35	M 5:00	7:02PM	☉

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ZUMBA SWEEPS THE NATION



DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

NEW EXERCISE CRAZE IN TOWN: Zumba, the innovative and energetic dance and workout program sweeping the nation, has landed in Apalachicola. Led by certified instructor Jeannette Taylor, at left, Zumba combines dance and fitness, done to music, to help promote physical, mental and social balance. Zumba is free, and is held Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Fort Combos Armory at Sixth Street. Participants should wear comfortable clothing. The session is sponsored by Friends of the Franklin County Public Library. For more info, call 653-2784.

CARRABELLE from page A1

could be allocated several rooms to offer services which they perform that Weems doesn't.

"My suggestion would save the county money while allowing the health department to continue to provide services to Carrabelle," she said. "I can't see allocating additional funds to subsidize a non-county, state-operated facility at this time."

At the June 16 commission meeting, Wesley Tice, who oversees the county health department, said budget constraints might force the department to shut down its Carrabelle primary care clinic, which has served the east end of the county for the last two years.

Sanders insisted the commission had promised Carrabelle a new building for the urgent care facility, and that she was committed to getting Carrabelle a new building even if the money had to come out of the general fund.

"It seems like any time the budget gets cut, it's cut in Carrabelle," she said. "It's not the county's responsibility to do this, but we do a lot of things we don't have to that are needed."

Putnal said the clinic is "needed as badly as anything in this county." He said it has served 2,000 people so far this year, of all ages and from every part of the county including Apalachicola.

In Johnson's prepared remarks, she said the state, not the county, was primarily responsible for funding the health department.

She pointed out the county already budgets \$126,000 to the health department, or \$10 per citizen

annually, well in excess of neighboring counties. Liberty County budgets only about \$5.70 per person for its health department, while Gulf is around \$7.70, Gadsden about \$2 and Wakulla nothing at all, she said.

Johnson contended county money should be used to support Weems Memorial Hospital, which it owns and operates, and that Crooms Transportation, which receives a stipend from the commission, could transport patients from the eastern end to the Apalachicola clinic, if need be.

"I wasn't trying to create an east-west issue or diminish the needs for the citizens of the Carrabelle area," she said.

County Attorney Michael Shuler reported that the county had received a letter of concern from Carrabelle over the proposed shutdown of the clinic. In the letter, Carrabelle City Attorney Dan Hartman said Carrabelle "would vigorously oppose" closure of the health department's clinic.

"Alone the Weems clinic is not adequate to serve the entire eastern part of the county. We must exhaust all efforts to keep the county facility in operation," he wrote.

The commissioners invited the city of Carrabelle to send representatives to the workshop, which they voted unanimously to hold at 1:30 p.m. at the courthouse annex June 21.

At that time they plan to discuss providing health care for Carrabelle and the east end of the county, and the Weems Hospital governing board, officials from the county health department,

Shuler and Johnson will all be instructed to attend.

Sanders and Johnson differed Tuesday as to the meaning of statements of support made by an a Department of Health official in Tallahassee.

Sanders said she spoke to a state official in the department and he told her "whatever the board wants they can have. They said we didn't have to provide any funding. Marcia, we appreciate your getting this information (on health department funding) but we didn't ask you to get it."

But Johnson persisted in questioning where future funding would come from and whether commissioners were willing to raise millage for such a need. "Are you going to cut county departments to fund something you aren't mandated to do?" she asked.

"You will have to answer to the county employees. You are the decision makers. You've got to live with the decisions," Johnson said. "Who's going to pay for it?"

She said funding the clinic at the Carrabelle annex would be "a persistent expense" and that she feared other state agencies would soon come to the commission complaining of shortfalls.

Commissioner Noah Lockley emerged as a calming force amidst the heated give-and-take.

He said that after talking to Weems CEO Chuck Colvert, he believed that Weems could take care of both primary and urgent care needs for the Carrabelle community.

"Some of these issues can be worked out but we have to sit down and negotiate," he said.

NOTICE OF TRANSMITTAL OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS NOTICE OF LAND USE CHANGE

The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, to consider transmitting proposed changes to the Franklin County Comprehensive Plan and the Future Land Use Map Series to the Florida Department of Community Affairs for review. The proposed changes include:

Delete Policy 2.2(n) of the Future Land Use Element: Marina Village Center: The intent of the Marina Village Center Land Use category is to create a southern coastal fishing village focused on a marina that provides access to Ochlocknee Bay. In addition to the marina, the village may contain a mixture of related activities including retail, office, hotel, restaurant, entertainment and residential uses.

Allowable Uses within the Marina Village Center land use shall be limited to (1) Retail Commercial, (2) Hotel/motel, (3) Entertainment, (4) Restaurants, (5) Marina including: dry storage, marine fueling, and other uses necessary to support marina operations (6) Water dependent tourist commercial facilities, (7) Multifamily Residential; condominium; and private residence clubs; time share and other forms of fractional ownership, (8) Single Family Residential, (9) Office, (10) Recreation, (11) Public and Private Utilities, and (12) other similar or compatible uses.

The performance standards for the Marina Village Center are: non-Residential floor Area Ratio: .30, Residential Density: 2.0 Du/gross acres, Maximum ISR .80, Minimum common open space 25%, and all applicable provisions of Franklin County Zoning Code. The Marina Village Center shall be served by central water and wastewater. Developer shall provide central sewer and water unless the capital improvements element of a local government is amended to provide such service.

Clustering is allowed as provided by the Franklin County Zoning Code or by Planned Unit Development Ordinance (PUD). The minimum lot size that applies to the cluster development shall be determined at the time of zoning or PUD review. The total number of dwelling units allowed within a cluster development shall not exceed the number of dwelling units allowed under this land use category. Areas which are not included within lots or used for roads, accessways, bodies of water, common recreation facilities, service facilities or infrastructure shall be designated by the developer as common open space.

In conjunction with state and federal dredge and fill permit applications, the applicant shall survey the entire site for the presence of state and federally listed species. Such surveys shall be incorporated into the biological assessment portion of the dredge and fill permit application and be taken into consideration in clustering of development.

A stormwater management system will be designed to comply with the standards for Outstanding Florida Waters (OFW).

Delete Policy 2.2(o) of the Future Land Use Element: Carrabelle East Village: This category is generally intended to create a self-sustaining community with a mixture of functionally integrated land uses anchored by a Village Center. This category will complement the existing community of Carrabelle and create places to live, work and shop in the context of promoting moderately priced housing and economic development opportunities. Complementary activities for the enjoyment of village residents, including recreational, leisure, cultural, religious, and educational activities are also components of this district. The residential components of the village will include various density ranges and housing types, but the overall density in this category will be between 1 and 3 dwelling units per gross acre. Village residential, cottage residential, and estate/conservation residential opportunities will be created in a manner to maximize vehicular and pedestrian linkages to shopping, employment, recreational and other complementary activities while at the same time promoting compatibility among land uses. Clustering development on portions of a site that do not have high environmental sensitivity in order to minimize disturbance and preserving large open spaces in order to provide shared access are requirements of this category. Flexibility in design techniques is also promoted in order to achieve the goals and objectives of this category.

Allowable Uses within the Carrabelle East Village land use shall be limited to (1) Residential Single-family, (2) Residential Multi-family, (3) Retail Commercial, (4) Service-oriented Commercial, (5) Office, (6) Business and Industrial Park, (7) Passive and active recreational, (8) Schools and other Civic Facilities, (9) Public and Private Utilities, (10) Houses of Worship.

The performance standards for the Carrabelle East Village land use category are: Gross Residential Density: 1-3 du/gross acre, Maximum Non-Residential intensity of .25 Floor Area Ratio (FAR), Commercial and Business Park Intensity: .25 Floor Area Ratio (FAR), Minimum Common Open Space = 25%, Minimum Civic Space = 10%, and other Applicable Provisions of the Franklin County Zoning Code.

The Carrabelle East Village land use shall be served by central water and wastewater. Developer shall provide central sewer and water unless the capital improvements element of a local government is amended to provide such service.

Clustering is allowed as provided by the Franklin County Zoning Code or by Planned Unit Development Ordinance (PUD). The minimum lot size that applies to the cluster development shall be determined at the time of zoning or PUD review. The total number of dwelling units allowed within a cluster development shall not exceed the number of dwelling units allowed under this land use category. Areas which are not included within lots or used for roads, accessways, bodies of water, common recreation facilities, service facilities or infrastructure shall be designated by the developer as common open space.

A stormwater management system will be designed to comply with the standards for Outstanding Florida Waters (OFW).

Amend the Future Land Use Map for the following two parcels:

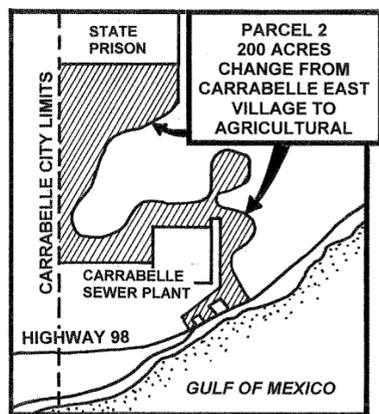
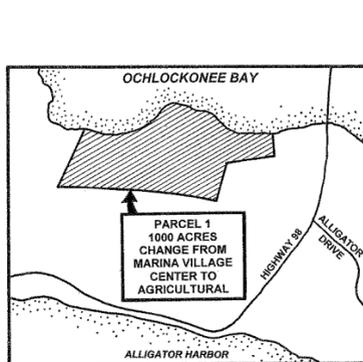
Parcel 1: Change 1000 acres on Ochlockonee Bay in Sections 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22 and 23, Township 6 South, Range 2 West, as shown in the attached map, from Marina Village Center to Agricultural.

Parcel 2: Change 200 acres east of Carrabelle in Sections 16, 21 and 28, Township 7 South, Range 4 West, as shown in the attached map, from Carrabelle East Village to Agricultural.

A public hearing on the proposed changes will be held on Tuesday, July 21st at 10:00 A.M. at the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse Annex at 34 Forbes Street in Apalachicola. More information can be obtained and the proposed changes may be inspected at the Franklin County Planning Department, 34 Forbes Street, Suite 1, Apalachicola, Florida (telephone 850-653-9783).

Persons wishing to comment may do so in person at the public hearing or in writing to the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners, 33 Market Street, Suite 203, Apalachicola, Florida 32320. Transactions of this public hearing will not be recorded. Persons who may wish to appeal any action resulting from this hearing should make the necessary arrangements to assure that a verbatim record is made, including testimony and evidence, if any, upon which the appeal is to be based.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Marcia Johnson, Clerk, Franklin County, Apalachicola, Florida 32320 or (850)653-8861, extension 100, within 2 working days of your receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired, call 1-800-955-8771



NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION FRANKLIN DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Purpose and Effect: The Franklin District School Board proposes to amend and adopt policies, as provided in the Administrative Procedures Act for the purpose of bringing said policies into compliance with Florida Statutes and State Board of Education Rules.

Summary: The following is a brief description of each proposal change:

Franklin County School District

- Student Progression Plan
- Code of Conduct
- School Board Policy Manual

Statutory Authority: Section 230.22(2), Florida Statutes

These proposed rules will be considered by the Franklin County School Board at a meeting publicly advertised and held in the Franklin County Willie Speed School Board meeting room at 85 School Road, Suite One, Eastpoint, Florida no earlier than 28 days after the original date of this notice.

The above Policy Manual, Code of Conduct and Student Progression Plan may be reviewed at the Franklin County School Board District Office, located at 85 School Road, Suite One, Eastpoint, Florida during the hours of 7:30 AM until 5:00 PM, Monday - Thursday.

WHOPPER from page A1

getting hung up, do two cranks on the reel and it would stop," he said. "We got back to Bay City and they told us 'You're not getting hung up. You're feeding the groupers.'"

So Daniels studied up on how these huge reef fish would watch to see the littler guys snagged on a hook, and then snack on them as they struggled against the tug. "This year I bought a real big pole just for that," said Daniels.

The crew outfitted the 100-pound rod, custom made in Texas, with an Okuma Titus Silver 50 Wide 2-Speed Trolling Reel, and 200-lb. Momoi Diamond monofilament leader.

"It's one of the best lines you can buy," said Daniels, noting the line has a tensile strength of up to twice that of stated line tests.

On the end was a 16/0 circle hook, among the largest out there, baited with croaker caught by Haley, the crew's "gruntmaster."

The crew got to the reef about 8 a.m., and got the anchor set about 8:20 a.m. They were ready.

"The day before we hooked another fish, my son fought the fish, and it had a 20-inch grouper unharmed in its mouth," said Daniels. "You put a really good tug on it and he tries to spit it out."

First to come up that Thursday morning was "a nice cobia" and then came the big one.

Shawn Daniels then caught "a nice black snapper," weighing about 10 pounds, with a different rod.

It was time for the big one.

Daniels said it took his son only about 15 minutes to bring the Warsaw to the surface from about 80 feet of water. "When we saw that thing coming up, I thought 'My goodness, that can't be real,'" he said.

Daniels said the crew at first prepared to release their catch, thinking it was a goliath grouper, the so-called jewfish, which is a prohibited species.

"You can't keep those,"

he said, recalling how he and his wife caught and released a 50-pound goliath grouper at Sikes Cut over Memorial Day weekend.

"But it's a complete different looking fish," Daniels said. "(Warsaw) has a square tail and doesn't have a banded stripe."

Once they got over their amazement, the men took another 15 minutes to figure out how to get the enormous fish into the boat.

"We all got to a corner of the back of boat, and once we got his head on to the boat, the boat kind of leaned over and we backed up and pulled him back in," said Daniels. "There was no way we can lift him, we just had to slide him."

Whatever it was that attracted the attention of the Warsaw's appetite will never be known. "The hook was in his lip but whatever was on there was gone," said Daniels. "We don't know."

With the fish crowding them on the 23-foot boat, the crew headed back to Bay City, and pulled in a little before 10:30 a.m.

"I went into the office and I said 'We got a problem. We have a fish we can't get out of the boat,'" Daniels said.

When Bay City manager Buddy Renfro went out to see it, he was flabbergasted. "He thought I was joking with him," said Daniels.

"It had eight big old hooks in its mouth," said Renfro.

He said the men told him, before realizing it was a Warsaw, "the first thing they were fixing to let him go. They done unhooked him and they gaffed him back."

Renfro's son got a backhoe to lift the fish out of the boat, and then suspended it overhead as the men posed with their catch.

Unable to find a suitable scale, and unwilling to transport it to a second location to have it weighed, the men proceeded to clean it right on the Bay City dock.

"It took about three-and-a-half hours," said Daniels. "There was about 20 people who came over and looked at it."

The fish yielded six five-gallon buckets of filleted meat, which was then vacuum-packed. "They took about 80 pounds of meat back to Kansas City," aid Daniels. "We took the rest back to Birmingham."

A vice president of engineering for Precision Husky, a Leeds, Ala. firm that specializes in building heavy equipment, Daniels was off the next week to Vancouver, British Columbia.

He had high hopes, but a radiator leak on a track machine that grinds material for biomass, forced cancellation of Daniels' plans to fish for trout in one of glorious Canadian lakes nearby.

Meanwhile, a digital picture of his crew now graces the walls of Bay City, near the black-and-white snapshots of decades ago, when Milton Houseman, Louis Roux and other local fishermen can be seen with massive catches of their own.

"I figure that fish was about 25 years old," said Roux, adding what may be a world-record understatement:

"They're kind of rare," he said. "You don't catch them every day."

Bay City owner Jimmy Mosconis, who was out fishing the morning the fish came in, said in 35 years as the fish camp's owner "I have never seen a fish that was remotely close to that size."

Haeusler, the world record holder, said he heard rumors of a Louisiana fish that may have rivaled that state's 359-pound record, and of the Bay City catch. He said he didn't recall the dimensions of his 436-pound record breaker, but that "when it laid in the back of a pickup, it filled it up."

"I wish they had weighed it," he said. "That's a pretty good fish right there."

McDearis relishes role as Weems lab sleuth



CHARLES MCDEARIS

At Weems Memorial Hospital's open house last November, hospital staff took visitors by Weems' own CSI-like area: its clinical laboratory.

Charles McDearis, department manager of the laboratory, gave each one who stopped by the lab a printed list of over 60 different tests the lab can perform. And, if anyone engaged him in further conversation, he was sure to tell how he considers his work as a medical technologist for the last 45 years like the work of a detective - helping a physician scout out clues for a patient's diagnosis.

"Physicians request a medical technologist to perform a large volume of varied tests on blood and other substances, and we give them the results to tell them what to suspect is going on with a patient," McDearis said, adding that "they want the results right now!" Clearly, he relishes his role as a medical sleuth, a field relatively unknown to most people.

At one time the field was very unfamiliar even to him. McDearis was a high school teacher in Georgia when one of his students who was exploring careers came to him to ask what a medical technologist did. He says he told the student he had no idea, but he would research it.

After a trip to the nearby Veterans Administration hospital and some library exploration, he was able to describe the profession to the student. Within two years, McDearis himself was in medical technology school.

McDearis already had earned a master's at the University of Florida when he discovered medical technology. After completing his medical training at Georgia Baptist Hospital, he had to obtain state and national licenses to practice as a medical technologist, and he is registered with the American Society of Clinical Pathologists.

A hospital's medical technologist must be associated with a clinical pathologist. Dr. Steven Saul, out of Panama City, is the clinical pathologist who is associated with Weems.

McDearis has been at Weems for 15 years, with a short break from 2000 to 2002. He has seen the lab evolve into one with unexpected capabilities for the hospital's size. He says when he first came to Weems, only six chemical tests, such as finding the levels of glucose, sodium, and potassium in

a patient's blood, were performed. He knew the hospital needed more diagnostic tools for its physicians.

Today, with the capability to perform many more chemical tests - as well as tests under the headings of hematology, coagulation, and urinalysis - McDearis says Weems far exceeds what other rural hospitals and many bigger city hospitals can do.

But, he admits, a lot of area residents don't know about the lab. One family, winter visitors to the area, came to the November Open House and discovered they could have a test done at Weems that they had been driving each month to Panama City to do.

"When people find they can have certain laboratory tests run here, they are surprised," said McDearis.

Three other staffers help McDearis in the department: Meloney Chambers, Carol Jean Roberts, and Donna Taratoot.

Outpatient laboratory hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. If you are unsure if Weems can perform the laboratory test you need, please call the lab at 653-8853, but don't be surprised if it can.

And, if you are thinking about a new career, Charles McDearis is always glad to tell you about his.

TAX BASE from page A6

nine units per parcel and there are no changes to the land's status.

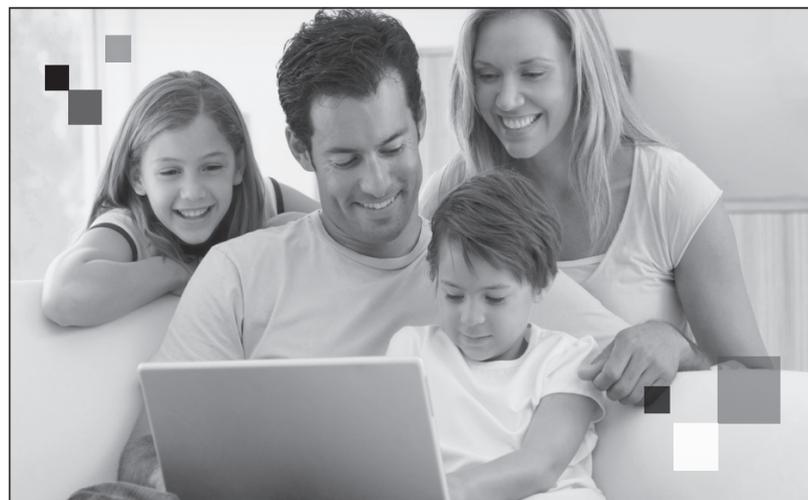
Since valuations held steady or went down, this provision won't have much effect this year, she said. "But it sets the benchmark on what each taxing district has to face (in years to come)," said Pendleton.

Last year's county millage of 3.3149 mills brought in about \$11.4 million. If there is no increase or decrease in millage rate, then the county will collect more than \$2 million less, or about \$9.25 million in ad valorem tax revenue.

Pendleton's chief deputy, Rhonda Skipper, reminded property own-

ers that "they can come in and talk with us and if they have any evidence they can present to us that we were unaware of, then that can change the appraisal. If they have any questions or concerns, call us right away."

The property appraiser's office can be reached at 653-9236.



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CITY OF APALACHICOLA MAYOR'S ELECTION PROCLAMATION

I, the undersigned, VAN W. JOHNSON, SR., Mayor of the City of Apalachicola, by authority of law and pursuant to City Ordinance No. 91-4, do hereby proclaim that on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 an election will be held to fill the offices as follows: City Commissioner for Seat 3 for a term of four years and City Commissioner for Seat 4 for a term of four years, and a Run-Off Election, if necessary, will be held on Tuesday, September 22, 2009.

Candidates wishing to qualify may do so at the City Office from 12 Noon Monday, July 20, 2009 until 12 Noon Friday, July 24, 2009. City Office is located at #1 Bay Avenue, and regular office hours are from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday-Friday. Each Candidate must pay to the City Clerk at the time of qualifying a qualifying fee of 4.5% of the first year's salary, must be a resident of the City of Apalachicola, and must also be a qualified voter of the State of Florida, County of Franklin, and the City of Apalachicola.

All persons not previously registered to vote may register to vote anytime from now up to 4:30 PM on Monday, August 10, 2009 for the General Election, and Monday, August 24, 2009 for the Run-Off Election at the Office of the Franklin County Supervisor of Elections located at 47 Avenue F, Apalachicola, Florida, hours 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday - Friday.

The polling place will be at the National Guard Armory located at 66 4th Street in the City of Apalachicola and will be open at 7:00 AM and will close at 7:00 PM. Absentee ballots may be obtained by contacting the Office of the Franklin County Supervisor of Elections at place and time noted previously. Only qualified electors will be permitted to vote. Early voting will be conducted from August 31, 2009 to September 4, 2009 (5 days only) at the Supervisor of Elections Office, 47 Avenue F, Apalachicola, Florida from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

All residents of the City of Apalachicola not currently registered to vote are urged to register and take part in this election.

Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor
City of Apalachicola, Florida

Schools seek volunteer middle school coaches

The Franklin County schools are looking for volunteer middle school coaches for some of the sports for the upcoming year.

Athletic Director Mike Todd said individuals who wish to be a volunteer middle school coach must have themselves fingerprinted and pass a background check.

In addition, they must either take and pass the Athletic Coaching Test given by the Florida Department of Education or take and pass three online courses given by PAEC (Panhandle Area Education Consortium).

Anyone who is interested can contact Todd at 227-6557, or Coach Josh Wright at 850-303-9038 for more information.

ALL-STARS HEAD TO MULBERRY



Dixie Youth Majors Baseball is going to the State Championship Tournament in Mulberry on Saturday, July 18. Top row, from left, are coaches Gene McLeod, Fred Babb and Michael Gilbert. Middle row, from left, are Tyler Cash, Jared Zingarelli, Nicholas Barnes, Kaden Crum, Logan McLeod and Ryan Babb. Front row, from left, are Marcus Lattimore, Jonny Riley, James Harris, Ricky Smith, Lett Smith and Matt Murray.

SEAHAWKS NAMED TO ALL-STATE HOOP SQUADS



Two Seahawks from the 2008-09 varsity squad have earned All-State honors for Class 2A, as compiled from votes by Florida sportswriters and members of the Florida Association of Basketball Coaches.

Named to the first team was 6-foot-4-inch senior Deshaun Winfield, above left. He was joined on the first team by Jacksonville Arlington Country Day seniors Wallace Judge and Rodney McGruder, Jacksonville Providence Christian senior J.P. Kuhlman and Melbourne Florida Air Academy junior Kuamaine Osborne.

Named to the third team was 6-foot-6-inch freshman Carlos Morris, above right, the only freshman to be named to any Class 2A All-State squad.

Shoreline anglers license deadline Aug. 1

Florida's resident saltwater anglers who fish from shore or a structure affixed to shore will need to buy a \$7.50 (plus administrative and handling fees) shoreline fishing license by Aug. 1 unless they have a regular resident saltwater fishing license.

The new license applies only to Florida residents. Resident anglers may prefer to purchase the regular recreational saltwater license that covers them no matter where they fish for saltwater species in Florida.

Florida has always required nonresidents to

have a license when fishing from shore, and they will still need to purchase a regular nonresident saltwater fishing license.

The new shoreline saltwater fishing license for residents goes on sale July 15. It provides all of the same exemptions as a regular license, including senior citizens, children, disabled people who meet certain qualifications, active-duty military personnel while home on leave and anglers who fish from a licensed pier. The shoreline license requirement also includes two new exemptions: anglers drawing food stamps,

temporary cash assistance or Medicaid; and anglers fishing in their home counties who use cane poles or other gear that does not depend on mechanical retrieval.

At the request of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Florida Legislature passed the new license requirement to head off a federal license requirement that will go into effect Jan. 1, 2010, and will have a \$15-\$25 fee beginning in 2011. Florida's new shoreline license exempts this state's anglers from the federal license requirement.

Sizzling at the SIZZLER

The following are the times, ages and overall finishes for the local runners who ran in the St. George Island Sizzler 5K on June 27.

37) Michael Shuler, Apalachicola, 44, 23:44

59) Larry Miller, Carrabelle, 64, 25:35
73) Kelsey Kilinski, St. Marks, 23, 26:34
80) John Shelby, Eastpoint, 55, 26:59
81) J. Gordon Shuler,

Apalachicola, 47 27:10
134) Shaun Donahoe, Apalachicola, 65, 32:05
153) Tress Anderson, Carrabelle, 33, 34:42
194) Barbara Sanders, Eastpoint, 54, 43:34

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26th Annual Bay Point Invitational Billfish Tournament

July 16-19, 2009 • 5 P.M. - 11 P.M.
Hosted By the ST. JOE Company and Bay Point Marina

- Family Friendly
- Great Food
- Fantastic Music
- Boat Show

BAY POINT INVITATIONAL

THURSDAY, JULY 16

- World famous Dock Walk & Boat Show - 5 P.M.
- Live Entertainment Featuring: Rock Lobster - 6 P.M. & Nashville's rising star Joanna Smith - 10 P.M.
- Taste of the Town, Artist Colony, & Tournament Village
- Firing of the Cannon leading to the boat parade - 9:30 P.M.

FRIDAY, JULY 17

- The Al Hubbard Kids Fishing Experience - 11:30 A.M - 6:00 P.M.
- Boat Show & Festival on the Docks - 5 P.M.
- Weigh-Ins begin with the new 40/40 Shootout as well as the Invitational weigh-in! - 6 P.M.
- Kids come out and meet Patrick from Sponge Bob LIVE presented by Knology

SATURDAY, JULY 18

- Visit the Tournament Village and get ready for THE BIG SHOW!
- Live Weigh-Ins for the Invitational Fleet and the return of Big Blue! - 6 P.M.
- Kids come out and meet Patrick from Sponge Bob LIVE presented by Knology

PRESENTED BY:	MEDIA PARTNERS:
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Galati Yacht Sales & Viking Yachts	The News Herald
Ample Energy	WJHG & My 7
Yamaha & Century Boats	
Hart's Marine	
Local Edge	
Panama City Beach CVB	
Phillips Oil/ Fill Ups Convenience	
Coastal Marina Management	
Miller & Coors	
MTU & Florida Detroit Diesel	

CHARITIES SUPPORTED:

- Anchorage Children's Home
- Boys & Girls Club of Bay County
- Gulf Coast Children's Advocacy Center

TASTE OF THE TOWN:

- Guy Harvey's Island Grill
- Hammerhead Fred's
- Hottie Hawgs BBQ
- Shipwreck Island

Strikers to highlight complex grand opening

The FAMU Strikers will highlight the grand opening of the City of Apalachicola Recreation and Community Service Complex on Friday, July 17. The park opens at 3 p.m. and will feature a water slide, games, prizes contests, basketball, karaoke, art activities, music and more. Following free food at 5 p.m. the Strikers, the premiere dance organization of Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University, will take the stage at 6 p.m.

Founded on Feb. 25, 1989 on the campus of Florida A&M University by Shepiro Hardemon, the Strikers are devoted to unite

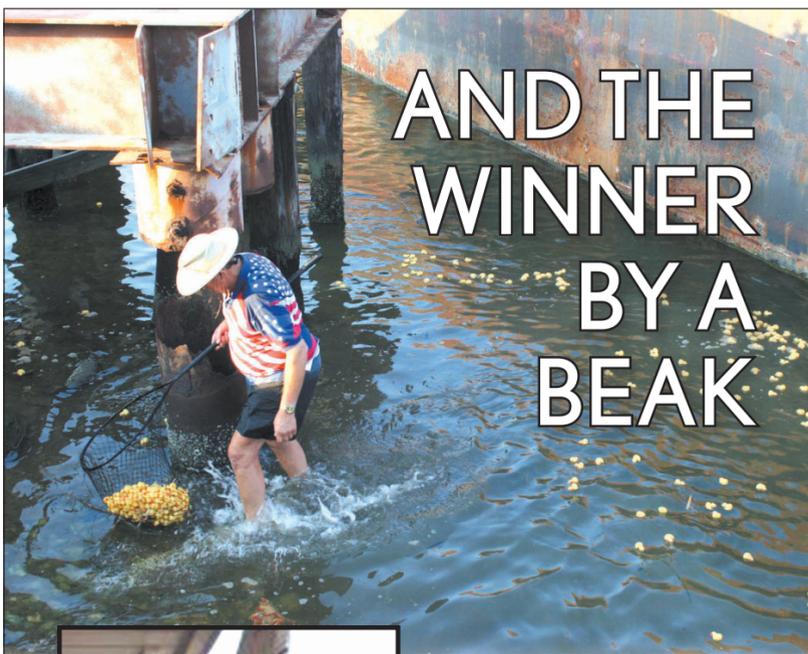
The Strikers were founded on Feb. 25, 1989 on the campus of Florida A&M University to unite and uplift brotherhood to African-American males.

and uplift brotherhood to African-American males, while promoting self-confidence and a positive image through dance and comedy routines. The group has toured throughout the U.S. and in 2007, was invited to travel abroad for a 10-day tour in Japan.

The Strikers have displayed their eclectic style of dancing on every major television network. At the

2006 Grammy awards, five of the 16 performers with Jamie Foxx and Kanye West were Strikers. With their passion and precision, they have utterly reached perfection, from having "standing room only" concerts, to being the most requested dancers in the South.

The event is sponsored in collaboration with Project Impact, the City of Apalachicola, the Anti-Tobacco Program, and the county health department. For more information, call 653-9319.



AND THE WINNER BY A BEAK



There's a winner in Friday's Rubber Ducky race in Apalachicola. Sponsored by the Apalachicola Bay Rotary Club to raise money in the worldwide fight against polio, the race featured hundreds of rubber ducks tossed off the Apalachicola bridge. The ducks then floated to the dock at 10-Foot Hole, where the first to cross the line, and win the \$500 top prize, was one bought by Chuck Ponder, from Atlanta, son of CT and Myra Ponder, of Apalachicola. In photo above, Duane Roberts helps scoop up the racing ducks from the water. Finishing in second, and winning \$300, was the duck racing for Scott Luke, of Carrabelle, with the duck finishing third, and winning \$200, floating on behalf of Jerry Hall, of Apalachicola. At left, Jim Miller, past president of rotary club, and seen here in a duck suit, said the project raised about \$600, which means that with Bill and Melinda Gates' matching money, there will be about \$1,600 going towards the fight against polio.

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Cozy 2BR/2BA Florida cottage in the heart of Apalach's South Historic district! This home underwent complete renovation in 1995. Open floor plan w/ large kitchen. Roomy loft offers additional storage/office. Overlooks Battery Park! **MLS# 236170\$275,000**

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Historic Apalach - 3BR/2Bath totally renovated cottage w/ all the best of the original features: high ceilings, crown moulding, all heart pine floors, walls and ceilings. Lovely front porch and back patio w/ shed! **MLS# 235898\$199,000**

BANK OWNED! Three contiguous lots in Eastpoint total 1 acre. Zoned C-4 there are many opportunities - located between Ave D and Patton Dr. Bank will consider financing! **MLS# 235686\$30,000**

New LOWER PRICE! 4BR/4.5BA Bright airy Gulf view home on St. George Island! Newly updated interior makes this house a popular rental! Heated and landscaped pool. Enjoy your morning coffee or happy hour from one of the many decks! **MLS# 207288\$599,000**

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YANKEE DOODLE DANDIES



Photos by DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

These four grandchildren of Charlotte and Wally Taylor, from Astatula, marked Independence Day on St. George Island with a tribute to Anglo-American relations. An American, Charlotte met her first husband, an Englishman, in 1963 when he was at Fort Bragg and she was in the Women's Air Corps, and they played lead roles in a production of "My Fair Lady." Now married to retired Navy supply officer Wally Taylor, Charlotte sewed all the red, white and blue outfits, featuring both the Star-Spangled Banner and the Union Jack, for her grandchildren, pictured above, from left, Alexander and Gracie Hearn, and Thomas, in back, and Daniel Ambrose. Charlotte's daughter, Heather and son-in-law Shawn Ambrose, moved their family from England to Howie in the Hills last July, while her son, Andy Hearn, a former Marine, and his wife, Lisa, and family live in Astatula. Pictured below is Charlotte, right, showing off a shirt she made for her husband, Wally.



Uncle Sam, portrayed by Neil Smith-Willow, waves from the St. George Island Independence Day parade. Below, Clerk of Courts Marcia Johnson, left, grand marshal of the St. George Island Independence Day parade, rides along with Kim Davis, president of the island's business association.



THOMAS GRANING | Special to the Times

Alexandra Dawson, Miss Liberty 2009, helps to lead the St. George Island Independence Day parade from high atop a fire truck.



Above, parade participants wear red, white and blue. At left, County Commissioner Smokey Parrish enjoys the parade with wife Angie.

Retirement



Lane completes 22 years of Army active duty

Master Sergeant Lorene Christopher "Chris" Lane Sr. retired from the U.S. Army on March 31, 2009, after completing 22 years of military active duty service. He is the grandson of the late Willie and Freeda Lane, of Apalachicola. Chris has served a total of 39 months in combat operations, where he has received several awards including two Bronze Stars, and two Meritorious Service medals for exceptionally meritorious service. He resides in Columbus, GA, where he will retire and join the team of Lockheed Martin Information Technologies as a senior network data communications analyst.

Birthdays



Emmanuel Marcum turns 2

Dolores Marie Marcum and Ernest Marco Paul are the proud parents of Emmanuel "Eman" Lewis James Marcum (Paul), who turned 2 years old on Thursday, April 23, 2009. Grandparents are Rena Kay Enfinger, of Apalachicola; Rush Farly Marcum, of Carrabelle; Ernest "Buddy" Paul and the late Francise Paul, of Apalachicola; and Deanna and Wally Nevarez, of Texas. Great grandparents are Henrietta L. "Boots" Cassell and Thomas J. Chumney, of Eastpoint.



Daddy's Cutie turns 3

Hope Nicole Salter turned 3 on Tuesday, June 30, 2009. She is the daughter of Britany and Albert "BoBaby" Salter, Jr., and the little sister of Braydon. Happy birthday, Little Miss Coconut. We love you!

Birth

Ryan Hutchins born

Cynthia Renae Hutchins and Joseph Adam Fuller would like to announce the birth of their son, Ryan Adam Landon Hutchins, born Tuesday, April 14, 2009, at 10:42 p.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 9 ozs. and was 20.9 inches. Grandparent is Rena Kay Enfinger, of Apalachicola. Great-grandparents are Henrietta L. Cassell and Thomas J. Chumney, of Eastpoint.



Shower

It's a girl!

A baby shower will be held for Ashley Creamer on Saturday, July 11. The shower will be held at 4 p.m. at the Apalachicola Masonic Lodge #76, at 1 Center Street, located behind the Red Top restaurant. All family and friends are invited.

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PET OF THE WEEK



Lacey

Lacey, a 4 1/2 month old chocolate lab mix, arrived at the Adoption Center two months ago. She and her sister Daisy are sweet, playful, adorable girls waiting patiently for a loving home. They are current on their shots, on heartworm prevention and have been spayed.

Call Kam at 670-8417 for more details or visit the Franklin County Humane Society at 244 State Route 65 in Eastpoint. You may log onto the website at www.forgottenpets.org to see more of our adoptable pets.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Miss Karen's Adventure Kamp for Kids for their visit last week. All the kids brought donations and treats and toys for the animals. All the attention the cats and dogs received that day was priceless. Thank you so much for thinking of us.

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DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

Sara Ward, the 2008 Florida Seafood Festival queen, waves from her convertible at the St. George Island Fourth of July parade.

Seafood Festival plans pageant meeting

The Florida Seafood Festival board of directors is seeking all young ladies interested in vying for the prestigious title of Ms. Florida Seafood 2009-10. Contestants must meet the following criteria: A Franklin County resident, age 16-18, a junior or senior for the 2009-10 school year, never been married and have no children nor

be pregnant. Please go to www.floridaseafoodfestival.com under "Royalty" for a pageant application. A pageant meeting will be held on Friday, July 17, at Pam Nobles Studios in Apalachicola to begin pageant preparation. For more information, please contact Monica Moron at 850-323-0099 or monicalane65@yahoo.com.



BILL BASSETT

Eastpoint entrepreneur impresses

When Mary Lou and Bill Bassett of St. George Island stopped for lemonade at a stand in Eastpoint, near the intersection of U.S. 98 and Island drive, they were charmed by a sign announcing the business was "Kid Owned and Operated."

Bill Bassett asked the young entrepreneur if the lemonade was also "kid made," and the boy responded that it was canned because the health department had a rule against preparing beverages on site. "What would Norman Rockwell say to all this 'progress'?" thought Bassett.

Could it be true that kids can't ply this all-American trade the old-fashioned way? Not according to the Franklin County Health Department.

"Generally speaking, we don't regulate lemonade stands, and we certainly don't drive around looking for kids to shut down," said Beth Robertson, staffer with the environmental health division.

She said a stand on public property, say, at a school, might be subject to regulation. Robertson said it was possible the young businessman had gotten the wrong impression after asking general questions about food service.

— By Lois Swoboda

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Lanark News

Was talking with Vivian Armistead last week, and she told me she had received a scam call. The man said she had won a million and a half dollars. He told her they would bring the money, but would also have a person from the FBI with them. He would need to get a check from Vivian for \$20 to pay the FBI person.

Well, in the first place,



LANARK NEWS
Jim Welsh

Blessed are those of us who have a telemarketing block.

if anyone came with them, it would be someone from the IRS, and secondly, how did this person get her cell number?

Vivian and I didn't think cell numbers were public records.

Did you have a great weekend? Great fireworks display, all that food, and fun, fun, fun.

Congrats to E.B. Jordan for winning the car at the Legion. Everyone had a good time, the place was packed!

Come on down to the Senior Center, in

Carrabelle, on Tuesday mornings, for breakfast. You can enjoy a full breakfast and fellowship from 8 to 10 a.m., for a donation of \$3. On Thursdays, lunch is served at noon for a donation of \$3. See ya there!

Be kind to one another and check in on the sick and housebound. Until next time, God Bless America, our troops, the poor, homeless and hungry.

Church Briefs

St. Paul AME to host Women's Day

The St. Paul A.M.E. Church, at 81 Avenue I in Apalachicola, will host its annual Woman's Day program on Sunday, July 12 at 4 p.m.

Please come join us in celebrating this occasion.

For more information, call 653-9164 or 653-9454.

Hospice hosts clergy gathering

Big Bend Hospice Chaplains invite area clergy to attend a special luncheon at noon on Thursday, July 23 at Big Bend Hospice, 1723 Mahan Center Blvd., Tallahassee. Come enjoy a complimentary meal and fellowship with community clergy.

"We have planned a very special time for our clergy to gather, fellowship and to discuss issues that impact them in ministering to those who are dying," said Rev. Candace McKibben, Big Bend Hospice Pastoral Care Manager. "At this quarterly meeting Jennifer Haskins, MT-BC,

Big Bend Hospice music therapy department manager, will share information about the power of music in spiritual healing."

The meeting is open to all clergy in Leon, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla, Franklin, Liberty and Gadsden counties. Please RSVP to McKibben if possible by July 21 at 878-5310, X250 or candace@bigbendhospice.org. One CEU will be offered.

First Baptist hosts revival in Eastpoint

First Baptist Church of Eastpoint will host revival services from Friday, July 24 through Sunday, July 26 at the church at 447 Avenue A in Eastpoint.

Everyone is invited to come and hear Dr. Jerry Moore, a dynamic 78-year-old evangelist who retired from the pulpit last year after a 60-year career in ministry and 31 years with Northside Baptist Church in Panama City. Moore will speak nightly at 6 p.m..

Moore's successful career came despite facing blindness at age 8,

and five years of missing schooling because of hospitalizations. At age 13, Moore moved from his native Birmingham to the Alabama School for the Blind in Talladega, where he learned Braille.

Moore first sensed God's calling to preach in Talladega when he was 17 and began sharing God's Word with his fellow students. Eventually, Moore accepted his blindness, and made his peace with God on the issue.

When Moore was 18, God "miraculously restored" his sight in a sudden and instantaneous act. Preparation for ministry at Samford University in Birmingham and at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, was made easier with good vision.

He also was able to see the sights of Europe and North America while serving as an evangelist. For 19 years, Moore served as the staff evangelist at Northside Baptist.

He and his wife, Amy, maintain a home base in Lynn Haven within

driving distance of their daughters in Montgomery and Birmingham, Ala., and their son in Bay County, and their six grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

For more information, call Pastor Gerry W. Kent at 670-8468.

Love Center debuts new Social Time

Love Center Ministries offers friendly companionship, food and fellowship and a great chance to socialize at its new Social Time activity, on Tuesday and Thursdays.

Coffee time begins at 7:30 a.m., with breakfast at 8:30 a.m., through 10 a.m. Following Bible study at 10:15 a.m., there will be a great chance to connect with friends throughout the morning.

Lunch will be featured from noon to 2 p.m., followed by such activities as bingo, movies, sing-alongs and more. The day's activities will close at 4 p.m.

Donations are accepted. For more info, call 653-2203.

Card of Thanks — Bay Medical Blood Center

The Bay Medical Blood Center would like to say a special thank you to everyone who donated blood June 29 in Apalachicola and July 1 in Carrabelle. We signed in 68 people and received 65 units in Apalachicola, and we saw 27 and collected 25 units in Carrabelle, which ties our best ever day there.

Thanks to Susan Richardson for collecting gifts from the local merchants and for her countless hours getting the word out and rounding up donors.

Three dozen fresh Subway cookies were devoured by donors during

this enormously successful drive and the fish bowl is empty. Please contact Susan to restock the fish-bowl for our next blood drive Sept. 16.

We would also like to thank Beverly Connors for her e-mails; 42 people donated in honor of Wallace Hill. Best wishes once again for a full and speedy recovery, Wallace.

As always we could like to thank the Natural Medicine Shoppe for providing health snacks and allowing us to use their parking lot, Michael Allen, at Oyster Radio, and Royce Rolstad, at Forgotten Coast TV for

helping to get the word out, and Lois Swoboda for writing such great articles in the Times about blood donation.

Thanks again to the local businesses who generously donated thank you gifts: Ace Hardware, All that Jazz, Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce, Apalachicola Fitness Center, Apalachicola Riverkeeper, Apalachicola State Bank, Artemis Gallery, Avenue E, Blue, Burger King, CVS, Café Con Leche, Café Momi, Debbie Hooper Photography, Downtown Books, Forgotten Coast Outfitters, Frame Shop,

Gardens, Inc., Grady Market, The Grill, Harry A's, Honey Hole Liquors, IGA, Island Adventures, Ivanova's Pizzeria, Lane and Company, Lifeline Screenings, Magnolia Grill, Natural Medicine Shoppe, Oasis, Persnickety, Pesky Pelican, Piggly Wiggly, Retsyo, Richard Bickel Photography, River City Trading, Riverlily, Seahorse Gifts & Florist, Soothing Souls Massage Therapy, Stuffed Owl, Subway, Tamara's, That's a Moray, That Place in Apalach, Up The Creek Raw Bar, Veranda's, Windcatcher Charters and Dr. Zoe Segree.

Card of Thanks — Dorothy Brown families

We would like to thank everyone who played an important part during the passing of Dorothy Brown. Thank you for all the food, flowers, prayers, cards, words of encouragement, and monetary gifts that you gave us in our time of need. Thank you from our hearts and may the Lord continue to bless you.

The Robinson and Brown Families

Emergency management seeks ham radio enthusiasts

Franklin County Emergency Management, in conjunction with the American Radio Relay League, is looking for individuals interested in ham radio operations.

No matter your age, we are seriously looking for those who don't have a license, but who would like to study and obtain one; who

presently hold a license and wish to upgrade or renew it; or who hold a General license or better who wish to instruct and train new students.

We also invite any "old timers" who would be willing to share their time, knowledge and experience with a new generation of amateur radio operators.

Hams range in age from 6 to more than 100 years old.

While some are technically skilled, holding positions as scientists or technicians, all walks of life are represented on the airwaves. Musicians such as country music superstar Patti Loveless, Eagles guitarist Joe Walsh, retired major league outfielder and MVP Joe

Rudi, and more are all ham radio enthusiasts.

It's not only a fun hobby, but when the chips are down, ham radio is looked to for emergency communications and public service.

Anyone interested should contact Mike Rundel or Ron Page at the Franklin County Emergency Operations Center at 653-8977.

Obituaries

Jane Power Marshall

Jane Power Marshall, 92, of Pensacola, passed away on Thursday, June 18, 2009.

One of 10 children, she was born in Columbus, GA on Dec. 26, 1916 to John and Hattie Power. As a teenager, she moved with her family to Apalachicola, where she met her future husband of 67 years, Earl Rudolph Marshall.

They raised their family in Pensacola, running the family business, Marshall Boat Works and the Anchorage Marina on Bayou Chico. Mrs. Marshall was very active in the life of St. John's Episcopal Church, being Altar Guild chair for many years.

She is preceded in death by her parents, eight siblings, and her beloved husband Earl.

Jane is survived by one son, Earl Rudolph Marshall, Jr. and his wife Jannette; three daughters, Beverly and her husband Don Beaumont, Carolyn

and her husband Patrick Byrne, and Judy Lenderman and her friend Dan Malinsky; her sister, Julia Anthony, of Apalachicola; her sister-in-law, Margie Keith, of Tallahassee; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were Wednesday morning, June 24 at St. John's Episcopal Church in Warrington, the Reverend David Powell officiating, assisted by the Rev. Thomas K. Frizzell, Jr. and Rev. Michael Moore. Interment followed at Barrancas National Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Jim Beaumont, Greg Daniel, Donald Beaumont, Jr., Earl R. Marshall III, Ronald Stafford, and Robert Barrington.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials be made to the Memorial Fund of St. John's Episcopal Church. Oak Lawn Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Arvilla Irene Tillman

Arvilla Irene Tillman, born Feb. 12, 1920, passed away on Monday, June 29, 2009.

One of Jehovah's Witnesses since 1935, Arvilla was a familiar face to many, having been a Kingdom Proclaimer in her door-to-door ministry for 74 years, 34 of them in Franklin County.

As a Christian, the ministry was foremost in her life. Out of her love

for Jehovah God and her neighbors she wanted all to know about his purpose in restoring man to perfection on a paradise earth following His Great Day of Armageddon.

Arvilla is survived by a niece living in Seattle and two sisters in Kansas.

A memorial service was held Monday evening, July 6, at the Kingdom Hall, located at 2501 Bluff Rd, Apalachicola.

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SUNDAY 8:30 AM

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Worship Service 11:00 a.m. every Sunday
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
75 5th St. Apalachicola - 653-9530 - fumcapalach@gtcom.net
Pastor: Rev. Themo Patriotis

Carrabelle United Methodist Church
Worship Services 10:45 a.m. - Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
"Celebrate Recovery" Mondays 7-9 p.m.
Healing service first Tuesday each month-7 p.m.
102 NE Ave. B Carrabelle - 697-3672
Pastor: Julie Stephens

Eastpoint United Methodist Church
Worship Service 10:00 a.m. every Sunday
Prayer 9:15 a.m. Waffles & Wisdom 11:15 a.m.
Healing Service every first Fridays of the Month at 6:30 p.m.
317 Patton Dr. (corner of David St.) - 670-8825
Pastor: Rev. Beth White

St. George Island United Methodist Church
9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
201 E. Gulf Beach Dr. 927- 4635 www.sgiumc.org
Pastor: Rev. Themo Patriotis

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Sunday Morning Worship	10:45 am
Sunday Evening Service	6:00 pm
Monday, Youth Group	6:30 pm
Wednesday, Royal Rangers, G.A.P.	7:00 pm
Wednesday Worship & Word	7:30 pm

Nursery Provided during regular church services

Florida Wildlife Federation honors FWC officer

The Florida Wildlife Federation has honored a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission law enforcement officer for his conservation efforts.

The federation, meeting for its 72nd annual conservation awards banquet and benefit in St. Augustine, announced its awards June 20.

The federation chose FWC Investigator Steven E. Thomas as its Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Thomas, who has been a conservation-related law enforcement officer since 1992, works in Franklin County. He focuses on cases involving commercialization of wildlife and fish, boating fatalities, under-cover operations and long-term investigations.

The federation also honored two FWC commissioners with Wildlife Conservationist of the Year awards.

Commissioner Brian Yablonski of Tallahassee was cited for his role in leading efforts to place Amendment 4 on the 2008 ballot and helping to ensure its passage by Florida voters last November.

Amendment 4 provides property tax incentives for land and wildlife conservation. "Private land stewardship is the next frontier for preserving critical wildlife habitats," Yablonski said. "Amendment 4 moves Florida into a national leadership position on state incentives for private land conservation. My sincerest gratitude to the federation, not only for this recognition, but for its leadership in this important endeavor."

Commissioner Dick Corbett of Tampa also took home an award from the event for his contributions to Amendment 4 passage.

The event's program noted that Corbett earned

the award for his continuous efforts on behalf of Florida's environment, traditional recreation and natural-resource protection, and especially for his superlative assistance on Amendment 4.

The commissioners' work is not over. Corbett said he and the six other FWC commissioners' new high priority is introducing children to their natural heritage.

"We want to establish a network of youth conservation centers — similar to the Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center near Monticello — across the state," Corbett said. "We are going to create a national model for other states to follow to get youths back out into the wild, on the water and on land. That's critical to the conservation of natural resources for generations to come, all across the country."

Sheriff's Report

The following report is provided by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. Arrests are made by officers from the following city, county, and state law enforcement agencies: Apalachicola (APD), Carrabelle (CPD), Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO), Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Florida Division of Insurance Fraud (DIF) and Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FLDOACS).

All defendants are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

June 29

Alvin Glenn Martina, Jr., 25, Apalachicola, violation of probation (FCSO)

Tracey L. Carroll, 39, Eastpoint, driving while

licenses suspended or revoked (FDEP)

June 30

Jewayne M. O'Neal, 31, Apalachicola, criminal mischief, violation of injunction, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and violation of probation (FCSO)

July 1

Andrea D. McCoy, 25, Lanark Village, violation of probation (FCSO)
Christopher G. Proctor, 23, Apalachicola, violation of probation (FCSO)

July 2

Alex P. Ramirez, 20, Apalachicola, DUI and no valid driver's license (FCSO)

James K. Golden, 30, Carrabelle, Calhoun County warrant for failure to appear (CPD)

July 3

Vincent E. Workman,

43, Knoxville, TN, driving while license suspended or revoked (FDEP)

July 4

David D. Childress, 47, Port St. Joe, leaving the scene of an accident (APD); and DUI and introduction of contraband into a correctional facility (FCSO)

July 5

Marvin B. Campbell, 49, Apalachicola, battery by an inmate (FCSO)
Celestino Morales, 26, Apalachicola, no valid drivers license, reckless driving and giving a false name or identification to a law enforcement officer (APD)

July 6

David B. Coppedge, 34, Tallahassee, failure to appear (FCSO)
Alex Blas, 21, Tallahassee, failure to appear (FCSO)

FWC officer helps rescue capsized oystermen

An officer with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Division of Law Enforcement helped rescue five oystermen from Apalachicola Bay last week.

Officer Travis Huckeba responded to a capsized commercial oyster vessel just south of the Apalachicola Bay Bridge. He arrived on scene to find the five occupants of the vessel all clinging to the side of the overturned vessel. Huckeba, along with another commercial harvester, helped retrieve the individuals from the water.

According to the operator of the capsized vessel, he attempted to leave the oyster bar before the approach of a thunderstorm but the vessel was swamped by waves causing it to sink and eventually capsize.

No one was injured as a result of the accident and the commercial oyster vessel was recovered.

Movies in the Park continue July 9

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office's S.A.F.E. Program (Student And Family Events) would like to invite all students and families to come and enjoy "Movies in the Park."

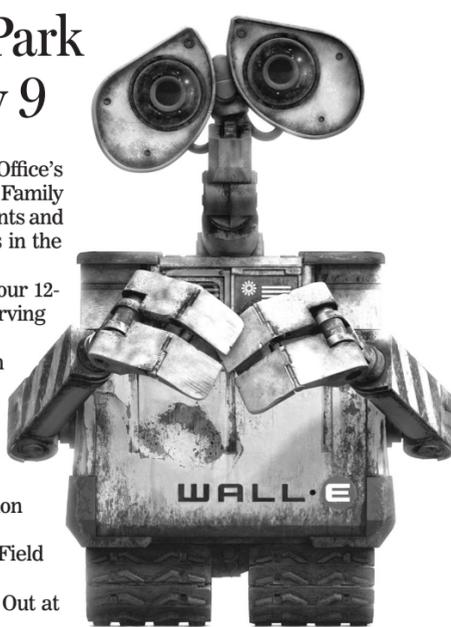
Enjoy a FREE family movie on our 12-foot movie screen. We will also be serving FREE popcorn.

The following is the schedule, with all events beginning at 8:30 p.m.

- Thursday, July 9 at Lighthouse Park on St. George Island, will feature "WALL-E," a 2008 computer-animated science fiction film produced by Pixar Animation Studios.

- Thursday, July 30 at Kendrick Field in Carrabelle

- Tuesday, Aug. 4 National Night Out at Vrooman Park in Eastpoint



How to live in bear country

A guest lecture on "Living in Bear Country" will be presented Tuesday, July 14 from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve, 261 7th Street, in Apalachicola.

Maria Williams with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission's Bear Management Program invites you to come learn about bear safety and management.

Since 1980 the black bear population has been steadily expanding in Florida — along with the human population. As a result bears and humans are encountering one another more than ever.

There are benefits to living in harmony with bears. Natural areas that support bears are home to many other animal species. Learn how to prevent conflicts with bears. These same steps help to prevent other animals from becoming problems.

The talk is free and open to the public. For more information contact the reserve at 653-8063.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

CORPORATE HANGAR DEVELOPMENT
at
APALACHICOLA REGIONAL AIRPORT
FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

Notice is hereby given that the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners will receive sealed bids at the Franklin County Office of the Clerk of Court, 33 Market Street, Suite 203, Apalachicola, Florida 32320 (office: 850-653-8861) until 3:00 PM local time on Monday, August 3, 2009, for the Corporate Hangar Development project at Apalachicola Regional Airport. All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, August 4, 2009. Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked "BID ENCLOSED: CORPORATE HANGAR DEVELOPMENT, Apalachicola Regional Airport."

The project generally includes, but is not necessarily limited to: furnishing and installing a 140 ft x 80 ft pre-engineered metal hangar facility, including all sitework, foundations, floor drains, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing improvements necessary to complete the facility in accordance with the project specifications. The project will include the development of paved access drive and parking facility as well as associated drainage improvements. If beneficial to the Owner, the project may include a small office space or a commercial-use ("shamrock" style) paint booth insert with inner dimensions of 60 ft width x 60 ft depth x 18 ft height. The paint booth will include two make-up air units providing 100% replacement air and a double-skinned, 18 gauge steel product door equipped with filter racks and an airtight seal. The facility will be equipped with one restroom and a water-sprinkler fire protection system.

Beginning on Wednesday, July 8, 2009, drawings, specifications, and bidding documents may be examined at the Franklin County Office of Administrative Services, 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, Florida 32329 (office: 850-653-9783). Copies of the above documents may be obtained from the offices of AVCON, INC., 320 Bayshore Drive, Suite A, Niceville, Florida 32578 (office: 850-678-0050) upon payment of a non-refundable fee of One-Hundred dollars (\$100.00) payable to AVCON, INC. for each set of bidding documents obtained. Questions relating to the Bid Documents shall be submitted to the Engineer.

Bid security in the amount of at least five percent (5%) of the total bid must be submitted with the bid. The bid security may be either a certified check or a proposal guaranty bond executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Florida. Bid security shall be made payable to the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners. The successful bidder must be able to furnish a 100% Performance Bond and a 100% Labor and Materials Payment Bond, and begin execution of this contract within five (5) calendar days following the date of the Notice to Proceed.

Franklin County has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal for this project that the successful bidder must comply with. The DBE participation goal for this project is 6.96% and compliance requirements are listed in the bidding documents.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be conducted at the Franklin County Annex at 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, Florida 32320 on Monday, July 20 at 4:00 pm local time (EDT). Questions related to the Bid Documents will be answered at that time. Attendance by prime contractors is required.

OWNER'S CONTACT:

Alan Pierce, Director
Administrative Services
Franklin County
33 Market Street
Apalachicola, Florida 32329
Tel: 850-653-9783
Fax: 850-653-9799

ENGINEER'S CONTACT

Virgil C. "Lee" Lewis, P.E.
Regional Manager
AVCON, INC.
320 Bayshore Drive, Suite "A"
Niceville, Florida 32578
Tel: 850-678-0050
Fax: 850-678-0040

All bids shall be sealed and shall be addressed as follows:

"Franklin County Office of the Clerk of Court
33 Market Street, Suite 203
Apalachicola, Florida 32329

BID ENCLOSED: CORPORATE HANGAR DEVELOPMENT,
Apalachicola Regional Airport"

Funding for this project is being provided by the Florida Department of Transportation. Franklin County reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any technical or legal deficiencies and to accept any bid that it may deem to be in the best interest of the Authority. No bidder may withdraw his/her bid for a period of 120 calendar days following the bid opening.

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners requests proposals from qualified, licensed professionals for constructing restrooms and a handicapped ramp, and reroofing an existing building at the Franklin County Seafood Landing Park (Lombardi's) located at 628 Highway 98, Apalachicola. There will be a mandatory pre-bid meeting on Monday, July 20, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. at the Franklin County Seafood Landing Park to discuss the project. Further information can be obtained by contacting Nikki Millender, Community Program Coordinator, at (850) 653-8277 or fax (850) 653-8279.

Funding is presently available for construction of the restrooms and handicapped ramp only. Persons responding to this advertisement shall submit two proposals. One proposal shall be for the construction of the restrooms and handicapped ramp only. The second proposal shall be for the construction of the restrooms, handicapped ramp and reroofing an existing building.

Proposals will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on Monday, August 3, 2009, at the County Clerk's Office, 33 Market Street, Suite 203, Apalachicola, Florida 32320. The proposals will be opened at the County Commission meeting on Tuesday, August 4, 2009, at 9:45 a.m.

Franklin County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug-Free Workplace.

Franklin County reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. Franklin County also reserves the right to award all, none, or part, of the proposal for construction of the restrooms, handicapped ramp and reroofing an existing building.

County Calendar

Thursday, July 9

Apalachicola Business After Hours from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Water Street Hotel. For more info call 653-9419.

Apalachicola Library summer reading program, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. For more info, call 653-8436.

Carrabelle Public Library, 311 St. James Ave. offers film from 9 to 11 a.m. Yoga at 4:30 p.m. For more info, call 697-2366.

Eastpoint Public Library offers Story Hour at 10 a.m., and individual computer instruction from 10 a.m. to noon. For more info, call 670-8151.

Wandering Star Quilting Club. Chillias Hall Lanark Village. 1 to 3 p.m. Call Christine Hinton 697-2551.

Community Luncheon and Information Specials at the Franklin County Senior Center in Carrabelle. Noon.

\$3 donation. Call 697-3760.

Friday, July 10

Apalachicola History, Culture and Arts board will meet at 8:30 a.m. at City Hall. For more info, call 653-8715.

Exercise class at Chillias Hall in Lanark Village. 9 to 10 a.m. Open to all and free.

Summer reading at Eastpoint and Carrabelle libraries, from 10 a.m. to noon.

The new Carrabelle History Museum, at 106 B Street, SE (Old City Hall) will be open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info, call Tamara Allen at the Carrabelle Historical Society 697-2141.

Saturday, July 11

The new Carrabelle History Museum, at 106 B Street, SE (Old City Hall) will be open from 10 a.m. to

4 p.m. For more info contact Tamara Allen at 697-2141.

Monday, July 13

Apalachicola Planning and Zoning meets at 6 p.m. at City Hall. For more info, call 653-8715.

Franklin Cultural Arts Council will meet at 6 p.m. at the Carrabelle City Hall Complex 1001 Gray Ave.. Come join us in forming the Franklin Cultural Arts Council to enhance the county's cultural environment and economy through development and promotion of the arts and cultural tourism.

Exercise class at Chillias Hall in Lanark Village. 9 to 10 a.m. Open to all and free.

Carrabelle Public Library yoga at 4:30 p.m. For more info, call 697-2366.

Bingo at the Franklin County Senior Center in

Carrabelle. Early bird at 6 p.m., regular bingo at 7 p.m. Cards begin at \$4. Call 697-3760.

Tuesday, July 14

Apalachicola Community Gardens will meet at 5 p.m. at the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce. For more info, call 653-9419.

Apalachicola Library summer reading program, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. For more info, call 653-8436.

Carrabelle Historical Society will meet at 6 p.m. at the Carrabelle Library. Public is welcome. Come listen to friends and neighbors share stories about growing up in Carrabelle. For info, call 697-2141

Carrabelle Public Library story time at 2 p.m. For more info, call 697-2366. Breakfast at the

Franklin County Senior Center in Carrabelle. Coffee at 7:30 a.m., meal at 8 a.m. \$2 suggested donation. Call 697-3760.

Bingo 7 p.m. St. George Island Fire Dept. 25 cents per card. Families welcome. Proceeds go to St. George Island Civic Club. Call 927-4654.

Wednesday, July 15

Apalachicola Traffic Safety committee will meet at noon at City Hall. For more info, call 653-8715.

Sea Oats Garden Club will meet at 11:30 a.m. at the Carrabelle Library. For more info, call 697-9790.

Exercise class at Chillias Hall in Lanark Village. 9 to 10 a.m. Open to all and free.

Carrabelle Public Library offers Kids Wii from 9 to 11 a.m. For more info, call 697-2366.

Thursday, July 16

Franklin County School Board regular monthly meeting at 6 p.m. in the Willie Speed board room at the district offices in Eastpoint. Call 670-2810.

Apalachicola Community Pride will meet at 6 p.m. at City Hall. Call 653-8715.

Carrabelle Public Library, 311 St. James Ave. offers Adults Wii from 9 to 11 a.m. Yoga at 4:30 p.m. For more info, call 697-2366.

Eastpoint Public Library offers Story Hour at 10 a.m., and individual computer instruction from 10 a.m. to noon. Call 670-8151.

Wandering Star Quilting Club. Chillias Hall Lanark Village. 1 to 3 p.m. Call Christine Hinton 697-2551.

Community Luncheon and Information Specials at the Franklin County Senior Center in Carrabelle. Noon. \$3 donation. Call 697-3760.

News Briefs

Second oyster relay postponed

Due to the possibility of Red Tide moving in the area, and the testing of waters to make certain the red tide is not already here, the Florida Department of Aquaculture, Shellfish Center, has advised the Franklin County Seafood Workers that it would be better to continue the Oyster Relay on July 17.

While there is no positive proof at this time that Red Tide has entered Apalachicola Bay, an orange water has been reported in Gulf County and in a precautionary measure the FCSWA, in cooperation with the department, has agreed to delay the relay until July 17.

For more information call John Richards, president of FCSWA, at 370-6243

LMS prior to being submitted to the State of Florida Department of Community Affairs for their review and approval.

Over the past few months Franklin County in coordination with the City of Apalachicola, the City of Carrabelle and other members of the LMS Task Force have been working to review and up-date the county's strategy to meet the current guidelines as set forth by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

If you are unable to participate in the Public Hearing the general public can still access, review and comment on the strategy by accessing the following web site www.drc-group.com/lms/florida/franklin

Agents launch Back-To-School drive

The Florida Association of Insurance Agents (FAIA) has launched its second year of SmartStart4Kids, a month long, statewide back-to-school project to collect school supplies for students in need.

Throughout the drive, from July 1 to August 1, insurance agents and agency offices across the state will collect and accept donations at various drop-off locations. In the Tallahassee area, United Way of the Big Bend is partnering with FAIA to be the local donation recipient.

Local donations can be dropped off at Cook Insurance Agency, Inc., 205 NW Avenue A, in Carrabelle, and at 2190 Crawfordville Hwy, Crawfordville.

SmartStart4Kids is a program of FAIA's Young Agents Council, a community for young agents that provides leadership tools and resources, such as participation in legislative issues and training for sales and management needs.

For more information, visit www.faia.com.

Schools seek input on new uniform policy

The Franklin County Schools Code of Conduct Committee is proposing to add khaki, black or blue pants, shorts, or skirts (no jeans) to the school uniform for the 2009-210 school year.

Pants and shorts must be worn with a belt. Shorts and skirts must not be more than 3 inches above the knee. The committee is seeking input from parents regarding this proposal.

You may contact Mr. George Oehlert, principal, Franklin County School, by emailing gjoehlert@frn.edu to provide input.

Task force to hold public hearing

The Franklin County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Task Force will hold a public hearing beginning at 6 p.m. on Monday, July 20 at the Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department located at 24 6th Street in Eastpoint.

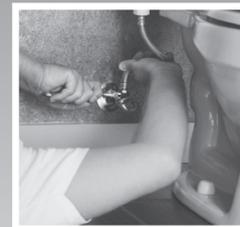
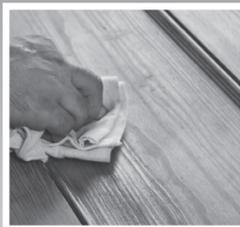
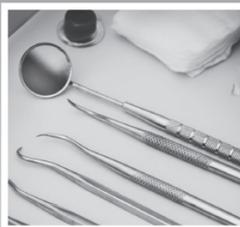
The purpose of this meeting is to gain public input regarding the Franklin County

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING APALACHICOLA BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT BOARD

The Apalachicola Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Monday July 20, 2009 at 6:00 PM at the Community Center, 1 Bay Avenue, Apalachicola, FL to discuss the following variance request.

The Property owner of Block 67 Lot 1 (101 Avenue H) is requesting a variance on the front and rear setbacks and to exceed the allowable 40% lot coverage. The Apalachicola Land Development Code allows for the granting of a variance if adhering to the current codes and regulations will result in an undue hardship upon the property owners and after proper public notice and public hearing. Any questions should be directed to Cindi Giametta at Apalachicola City Hall, 1 Bay Avenue, Apalachicola Florida.

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LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
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1160 - Lost
1170 - Found

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
2853T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

GULF STATE COMMUNITY BANK,
Plaintiff,
vs.
THOMAS L. BRANNAN and IDA RENEE BRANNAN, husband and wife,
Defendant(s).

CASE NO.: 09-000148-CA

NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE is hereby given that, pursuant to the Order of Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure in this cause, in the Circuit Court of Franklin County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Franklin County, Florida described as:

Lots Fourteen (14) Fifteen (15) and Sixteen (16), of Block Seven (7) (New Block 191), of KEOUGH'S SECOND ADDITION,

a/k/a 312 NE Avenue H, Carrabelle, Florida.

at Public Sale, to the highest bidder for cash, at the steps of the Franklin County Courthouse, Apalachicola, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on August 6, 2009.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 22nd day of June, 2009.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: Michele Maxwell
Deputy Clerk

Steve M. Watkins, III
FBN: 0794996
41 Commerce Street
Apalachicola, FL 32320
(850) 653-1949
July 2, 9, 2009

2858T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: FORFEITURE of 1996 Suzuki SUV #2S3TA02C9T6402906

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS

TO: JESSICA M. VANDERFORD, and any other person claiming an interest in the described property:

The Sheriff of Franklin County has filed a Complaint of Judgment of Forfeiture with the Clerk of Court in Franklin County, Florida, seeking forfeiture of the following property:

1996 Suzuki SUV (Green)
Tag No. 636JZP
#2S3TA02C9T6402906

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office seized the above property on March 24, 2009, in Franklin County, Florida. The prop-

erty is presently in the custody of the Sheriff of Franklin County.

An Order finding probable cause and Directing Claimant to Respond has been issued by the Court. You are required to file a copy of your written defenses with the Clerk of Court and to serve a copy of your written defenses on or before 30 days from the first date of publication, on J. Patrick Floyd, Esquire, Counsel for Franklin County Sheriff's Office, 20 Avenue D, Apalachicola, Florida 32320. Failure to file your defenses will result in a default judgment being entered against you.

WITNESS my hand and the Seal of the Court this 14th day of May, 2009.

Marcia Johnson
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: Michele Maxwell
Deputy Clerk
July 2, 9, 2009

2884T
IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

SUPERIOR BANK, Plaintiff,
vs.
O. LEE MULLIS and CHARLOTTE S. MULLIS, Defendants.

CASE NO. 09-000009-CA

NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated June 22, 2009, and entered in Civil Action No. 09-000009-CA, of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Franklin County, Florida, wherein the parties were the Plaintiff, SUPERIOR BANK, and the Defendants, O. LEE MULLIS and CHARLOTTE S. MULLIS, I will sell to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at 11:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) on the 6th day of August, 2009, at the front steps of the Franklin County Courthouse, Apalachicola, Florida, the following-described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

That certain condominium unit of Water Street Hotel, a hotel condominium, composed of Unit Number 303, and the undivided 1/30 interest in the common elements appurtenant thereto, in accordance with and subject to the Declaration of Condominium establishing of Water Street Hotel, A Hotel Condominium, recorded in Official Records Vol. 943, pp. 84-233, public records of Franklin County, Florida.

The successful bidder at the sale will be required to place the requisite state documentary stamps on the Certificate of Title.

DATED this 23rd day of June, 2009.

Hon. MARCIA JOHNSON
Clerk of the Court
Franklin County, Florida
By: Michele Maxwell
As Deputy Clerk
July 2, 9, 2009

2913T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

GULF STATE COMMUNITY BANK
Plaintiff,
vs.
LANARK MARKET, LLC; ARVAH B. HOPKINS, Managing Member and Individually; WICKI HOPKINS f/k/a

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
VICTORIA H. HALEY, Managing Member and Individually; and FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, Defendant(s)

CASE NO.: 09-000072-CA

NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE is hereby given that, pursuant to the Order of Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure in this cause, in the Circuit Court of Franklin County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Franklin County, Florida described as:

EXHIBIT "A"
Commence at the Northwest corner of the South half of Section 12; Township 7 South, Range 4 West, Franklin County, Florida and extend a line South along the West line of said Section 12 for a distance of 2200 feet; then turn 129 degrees 30 minutes 00 seconds left for 253.04 feet; then turn 07 degrees 19 minutes 00 seconds left for 601.35 feet; then turn 98 degrees 58 minutes 30 seconds right for 1279.62 feet; then turn 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds left for 30.00 feet to a concrete monument on the Southern right-of-way line of U.S. Highway No. 98-319 for a POINT OF BEGINNING. From this POINT OF BEGINNING turn right 08 degrees 52 minutes 00 seconds and extend a line North 61 degrees 00 minutes 40 seconds East magnetic along the Southern right-of-way line of U.S. Highway No. 98-319 for 150.0 feet; then turn right 81 degrees 08 minutes 00 seconds and extend a line North 37 degrees 51 minutes 20 seconds East for 78.60 feet; then turn right 97 degrees 23 minutes 00 seconds and extend a line South 59 degrees 32 minutes 00 seconds West for 149.49 feet; then turn right 82 degrees 37 minutes 00 seconds and extend a line North 37 degrees 51 minutes 20 seconds West for 82.50 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

This parcel of land is in Section 12, Township 7 South, Range 4 West, Franklin County, Florida.

a/k/a 2348 Highway 98, Lanark Village, Florida 32323

at Public Sale, to the highest bidder, for cash, at the steps of the Franklin County Courthouse, Apalachicola, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on August 6, 2009.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 26th day of June, 2009.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: Michele Maxwell
Deputy Clerk

Steve M. Watkins, III
FBN: 0794996
41 Commerce Street
Apalachicola, FL 32320
(850) 653-1949
July 9, 16, 2009

2917T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY

PEOPLES FIRST COMMUNITY BANK, Plaintiff,
vs.

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
JOHN A. SCHRADER, CRAIG A. ROBERTSON, and KAREN ROBERTSON, Defendants.

CASE NO. 07-418CA

NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated June 23, 2009, entered in Case Number 07-CA-418 of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Franklin County, Florida, wherein PEOPLES FIRST COMMUNITY BANK is the Plaintiff and JOHN A. SCHRADER, CRAIG A. ROBERTSON and KAREN ROBERTSON, are the Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Franklin County Courthouse, 33 Market Street, Apalachicola, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time, on the 6th day of August, 2009, the following described property situated in Franklin County, Florida, and set forth in the Order or Final Judgment, to-wit:

Lot 3, THE BLUFFS Phase 1, a subdivision as per map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 5 at Page 42 of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida

In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Court Administrator's Office no later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding at 300 East Fourth Street, Panama City, Florida 32401; Telephone: (850) 763-9061, ext. 327; 1-800-955-8771 (TDD); or 1-800-955-8770 (V), via Florida Relay Service.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

WITNESS my hand and the official seal of this Honorable Court, on this 25th day of June, 2009.

MARCIA M. JOHNSON
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
FRANKLIN COUNTY
By: Michele Maxwell
Deputy Clerk
July 9, 16, 2009

2918T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

CAPITAL CITY BANK, Plaintiff,
vs.
LEE W. GLASSER, MELANIE K. GLASSER F/K/A MELANIE KELL, ET AL., Defendants.

CASE NO. 09-000019-CA

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45
NOTICE is given pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated June 1, 2009, in Case No. 09-000019-CA, of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit, in and for Franklin County, Florida, in which CAPITAL CITY BANK, is the Plaintiff and LEE W. GLASSER, MELANIE K. GLASSER F/K/A MELANIE KELL, ET AL. are the Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the front door of the Franklin County Courthouse in Apalachicola, Franklin County, Florida at 11:00 a.m. on August 6, 2009,

Subject to a roadway and utility easement lying over and across the Northerly 30 feet described thereof.

Lot 9, Block B, MAGNOLIA RIDGE, PHASE I, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 7, Page(s) 26, Public Records of Franklin County, Florida

AND
Lot 4, Block "A", MAGNOLIA RIDGE, PHASE I, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 7, Page(s) 26, Public Records of Franklin County, Florida.

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
the property set forth in the Final Judgment of Foreclosure, including property located in both Franklin County, Florida and Liberty County, Florida, and more particularly described as follows:

Lot 14: Commence at a rod and cap marking the Southwest corner of Block "34" of the Town of Sumatra lying in Section 30, Township 5 South, Range 7 West, Liberty County, Florida, said point also lying on the Northerly right of way of State Road Number 22 (right of way varies); thence run South 05 degrees 08 minutes 10 seconds East 80.00 feet to a point lying on the Southerly right of way of said State Road Number 22; thence run along said right of way as follows: North 84 degrees 51 minutes 50 seconds East 1900.00 feet; thence South 05 degrees 08 minutes 10 seconds East 92.00 feet; thence North 84 degrees 51 minutes 50 seconds East 978.49 feet; thence South 09 degrees 54 minutes 18 seconds West 3.88 feet to a concrete monument; thence South 00 degrees 47 minutes 50 seconds West 268.96 feet to a point lying on the centerline of a 60 foot wide roadway and utility easement; thence run South 05 degrees 47 minutes 49 seconds West 5.18 feet; thence South 73 degrees 06 minutes 50 seconds West 148.06 feet; thence South 70 degrees 15 minutes 40 seconds West 465.78 feet; thence South 76 degrees 59 minutes 59 seconds West 65.26 feet; thence South 76 degrees 59 minutes 59 seconds West 37.74 feet; thence South 81 degrees 00 minutes 49 seconds West 132.88 feet to a point lying on the centerline of a 60 foot wide roadway easement; thence leaving said centerline run North 05 degrees 15 minutes 46 seconds East 679.23 feet; thence leaving said centerline run North 84 degrees 51 minutes 50 seconds East 420 feet to a rod and cap for the Point of Beginning; thence from said Point of Beginning run North 05 degrees 15 minutes 46 seconds West 210.00 feet to a rod and cap lying on the centerline of a 60 foot wide roadway easement; thence run along said centerline North 84 degrees 51 minutes 50 seconds East 210.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

DEBORAH L. VAN ZANT, ET AL.
DEFENDANTS

CASE NO. 08-000483-CA

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered June 22, 2009 entered in Civil Case No. 08-000483-CA of the Circuit Court in and for FRANKLIN COUNTY, Florida, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at FRONT STEPS OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 33 MARKET STREET, APALACHICOLA, FLORIDA, at 11:00 a.m. on the 6th day of August, 2009 the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOT 42 OF BLOCK S, ST. JAMES BAY SUBDIVISION, PHASE II, A SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGES 23-29, PUBLIC RECORDS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

Dated this 23rd day of June, 2009.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Marcia M. Johnson
Clerk of Court
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: Michele Maxwell
Deputy Clerk

THE LAW OFFICES OF BAKALAR & TOUPOUZIS, PA.
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF
450 N. PARK ROAD, SUITE 410
HOLLYWOOD, FL 33021
(954) 965-9101

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the office of the Court Administrator, FRANKLIN County Courthouse, at within two (2) working days of your receipt of this Notice of Sale; 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) for hearing impaired or 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service. July 9, 16, 2009

2921T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.

DATED: June 25, 2009

MARCIA M. JOHNSON
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: Michele Maxwell
Deputy Clerk

Garvin B. Bowden, Esq., Gardner, Bist, Wiener, Wadsworth & Bowden PA. 1300 Thomaswood Drive Tallahassee, Florida 32308 July 9, 16, 2009

2919T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION

RBC CENTURA BANK
PLAINTIFF
vs.

DEBORAH L. VAN ZANT, ET AL.
DEFENDANTS

CASE NO. 08-000483-CA

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered June 22, 2009 entered in Civil Case No. 08-000483-CA of the Circuit Court in and for FRANKLIN COUNTY, Florida, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at FRONT STEPS OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 33 MARKET STREET, APALACHICOLA, FLORIDA, at 11:00 a.m. on the 6th day of August, 2009 the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOT 42 OF BLOCK S, ST. JAMES BAY SUBDIVISION, PHASE II, A SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGES 23-29, PUBLIC RECORDS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

Dated this 23rd day of June, 2009.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

MARCIA M. JOHNSON, CLERK
Michel Maxwell
As Deputy Clerk

Jeffrey P. Whitton
P.O. Box 1956
Panama City, Florida 32403

2924T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION

FIRST CHARTER BANK, as assignee of Homebanc Mortgage Corporation, Plaintiff,
vs.

JAMES F. HUGGINS a/k/a James F. Huggins, II, ANGELA D. HUGGINS; COVE BUILDING & DESIGN, INC., a Florida corporation and JOHN/JANE DOE, Fictitious names representing tenants in possession, Defendants.

Case No. 2008-CA-0284-CAXXXX

AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45
Notice is give that pursuant to a Consent Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated April 30, 2009 and an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated June 22, 2009, entered in Case No. 2008-CA-000284-CA-XXXX of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Franklin County, Florida, in which FIFTH THIRD BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, successor by merger to First Charter Bank, as assignee of Homebanc Mortgage Corporation, is the Plaintiff, and JAMES F. HUGGINS, II, ANGELA D. HUGGINS; COVE BUILDING & DESIGN, INC., a Florida cor-

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
VISION BANK, Plaintiff,
vs.

KAY W. EUBANKS, STEPHEN K. MCDANIEL AS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ESTATE OF CLAYTON T. EUBANKS, LINDA L. PALMER, RYLAND PALMER MUSIK, EUBANKS-SANDERS MUSIK, NW FL LAND DEVELOPMENT, LLC, JEFFREY SCOTT SANDERS, and DUANE PANKRATZ, Defendants.

Case No. 08-404-CA

NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Clerk of the Circuit Court of Franklin County, pursuant to a Final Judgment entered in this cause, will on the 6th day of August, 2009, at 11:00 o'clock A.M., at the front steps of the Franklin County Courthouse, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property located in Franklin County, Florida:

Lots 8, 9, and 10, in Block 77, of the City of Apalachicola, Florida, according to the map thereof on record in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in and for Franklin County, Florida.

Together with all the appurtenances thereto belonging and appertaining.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

MARICA M. JOHNSON, CLERK
Michel Maxwell
As Deputy Clerk

Jeffrey P. Whitton
P.O. Box 1956
Panama City, Florida 32403

2924T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION

FIRST CHARTER BANK, as assignee of Homebanc Mortgage Corporation, Plaintiff,
vs.

JAMES F. HUGGINS a/k/a James F. Huggins, II, ANGELA D. HUGGINS; COVE BUILDING & DESIGN, INC., a Florida corporation and JOHN/JANE DOE, Fictitious names representing tenants in possession, Defendants.

Case No. 2008-CA-0284-CAXXXX

AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45
Notice is give that pursuant to a Consent Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated April 30, 2009 and an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated June 22, 2009, entered in Case No. 2008-CA-000284-CA-XXXX of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Franklin County, Florida, in which FIFTH THIRD BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, successor by merger to First Charter Bank, as assignee of Homebanc Mortgage Corporation, is the Plaintiff, and JAMES F. HUGGINS, II, ANGELA D. HUGGINS; COVE BUILDING & DESIGN, INC., a Florida cor-

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
poration, and ST. JAMES BAY PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC., are the Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder on the courthouse steps of the Franklin County Courthouse, 33 Market Street, Apalachicola, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on the 6th day of August, 2009, the following-described property set forth in said Consent Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

Lot 21, Block E, ST. JAMES BAY SUBDIVISION, PHASE II, a subdivision as per map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 8, Pp. 23-29, Public Records of Franklin County, Florida.

Dated this 24th day of June, 2009.

MARCIA M. JOHNSON
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: Michele Maxwell

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS.

July 9, 16, 2009

2925T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Plaintiff,
vs.

NOLAN M. LASSITER, et al,
Defendant(s).

CASE NO. 192008 CA 000350 DIVISION

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure entered June 23, 2009 and entered in Case No. 19 2008 CA 000350 of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for FRANKLIN COUNTY, Florida wherein BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., is the Plaintiff and NOLAN M. LASSITER; MELINDA B. LASSITER; are Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at FRONT DOOR OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 33 MARKET STREET, APALACHICOLA, FLORIDA at 11:00AM, on the 6th day of August, 2009, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

COMMENCE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 78 SOUTH RANGE 1 WEST, RUN THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE SECTION LINE 1320 FEET, THENCE WEST PARALLEL TO THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 5 A DISTANCE OF 2503 FEET TO THE POINT WHERE SUCH LINE INTERSECTS THE SHORE OF ALLIGATOR BAY, THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG SAID SHORE LINE 118.3 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH-EASTERLY AT A RIGHT ANGLE TO THE ALLIGATOR POINT ROAD A DISTANCE OF 320.6 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH BOUNDARY OF THE 100 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY OF SAID ROAD, THENCE RUN NORTHWESTERLY ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY BOUNDARY 160 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTHWESTERLY AT A RIGHT ANGLE TO SAID ROAD TO THE SHORE OF

ALLIGATOR BAY, WHICH POINT IS POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE LAND HEREIN CONVEYED; FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING RUN NORTHEASTERLY AT A RIGHT ANGLE TO THE ALLIGATOR POINT ROAD TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH BOUNDARY OF THE 100 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY OF SAID ROAD, THENCE RUN NORTHWEST

LEGAL ADVERTISING
1100

THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE(S) 16-17, PUBLIC RECORDS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA A/K/A 708 WEST BAYSHORE DRIVE, ST GEORGE ISLAND, FL 32328

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of this Court on June 23, 2009.

Marcia M. Johnson
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: Michele Maxwell
Deputy Clerk

Florida Default Law group, P.L.
P.O. Box 25018
Tampa, Florida
33622-5018
F08071290
July 9, 16, 2009

2928T NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR WATER USE PERMIT

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, the following application(s) for water use permit(s) has (have) been received by the Northwest Florida Water Management District:

Application number: 1 07038 filed 06/24/2009
Fickling and Company Inc., 577 Mulberry Street, Suite 1100, Macon, GA 31202
Requesting a maximum withdrawal of 4,790 gallons per day from the Surficial Aquifer System for Landscape Irrigation use by a proposed facility.
General withdrawal location(s) in Franklin County: T09S, R06W, Sec. 29

Interested persons may object to or comment upon the applications or submit a written request for a copy of the staff report(s) containing proposed agency action regarding the application(s) by writing to the Division of Resource Regulation of the Northwest Florida Water Management District, attention Terri Peterson, 152 Water Management Drive, Havana, Florida 32333-9700, but such comments or requests must be received by 5 o'clock p.m. on July 22, 2009.

No further public notice will be provided regarding this (these) application(s). Publication of this notice constitutes constructive notice of this permit application to all substantially affected persons. A copy of the staff report(s) must be requested in order to remain advised of further proceedings and any public hearing date. Substantially affected persons are entitled to request an administrative hearing regarding the proposed agency action by submitting a written request according to the provisions of 28-601.201, Florida Administrative Code. Notices of Proposed Agency Action will be mailed only to persons who have filed such requests.
July 9, 2009

2956T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: ESTATE OF John D. Blair, Sr., Deceased.

File Number 09-28-PR

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the estate of John D. Blair, deceased, is pending in the Circuit Court for Franklin County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is the Franklin County Courthouse, 33 Market Street, Suite 203, Apalachicola, Franklin County, Florida 32320.

The estate is testate and the date of the will is August 25, 1995. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's Attorney are set forth below.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All persons on whom this notice is served who have objections that challenge the validity of the will, the qualifications of the personal representative, venue, or jurisdiction of this Court are required to file their objections with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is served within three months after the date of the first publication of this notice must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF

LEGAL ADVERTISING
1100

THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

Any person entitled to exempt property is required to file a petition for determination of exempt property with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF FOUR MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR WITHIN FORTY DAYS FROM THE DATE OF TERMINATION OF ANY PROCEEDING INVOLVING THE CONSTRUCTION, ADMISSION TO PROBATE, OR VALIDITY OF THE WILL OR INVOLVING ANY OTHER MATTER AFFECTING ANY PART OF THE ESTATE SUBJECT TO SECTION 732.402, FLORIDA STATUTES.

A surviving spouse seeking an elective share must file an election to take elective share within the time provided by law.

All other creditors of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS AND OBJECTIONS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. The date of the first publication of this Notice is July 9, 2009.

Personal Representative:
A. Curtis Blair
184 Avenue E
Apalachicola, Florida 32320
THOMAS M. SHULER OF SHULER AND SHULER ATTORNEYS
Post Office Drawer 850
Apalachicola, Florida 32329
(850) 653-9226
Florida Bar Number 0947891
Attorney for Personal Representative
July 9, 16, 2009

2970T
IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

SUPERIOR BANK, Plaintiff,
vs.
ROBIN COMBS and BRAD HEARD, JR., Defendants.

CASE NO. 08-524-CA

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated June 22, 2009, and entered in Civil Action No. 08-524-CA of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Franklin County, Florida, wherein the parties were the Plaintiff, SUPERIOR BANK, and the Defendants, ROBIN COMBS and BRAD HEARD, JR., I will sell to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at 11:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) on the 6th day of August, 2009, at the front steps of the Franklin County Courthouse, Apalachicola, Florida, the following-described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

Lots 1, 2, 3, 9 & 10, Coastal Village of Carrabelle, according to the plat filed in the Public records of Franklin County, Florida, in Plat Book 10, page 19; TOGETHER WITH all rights of Robin K. Combs and Brad Heard, Jr., under that assignment recorded February 26, 2007, at OR Book 928, page 789, and that non-exclusive easement recorded February 26, 2007, at OR Book 928, page 795, each in the public records of Franklin County, Florida; and subject to the amended restrictions recorded February 26, 2007, at OR Book 928, page 791, public records of Franklin County, Florida.

The successful bidder at the sale will be required to place the requisite state documentary stamps on the Certificate of Title.

DATED this 25th day of June, 2009

Hon. MARCIA JOHNSON
Clerk of the Court
Franklin County, Florida
By: Michele Maxwell
As Deputy Clerk
July 9, 16, 2009

2992T PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of The Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority will be held on Thursday, July 16th, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. EDT located in Gulf County at the Emergency Operations Center, Building 500, behind the Robert Moore Administration Building located at 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida. Any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting is asked to advise the Corridor Authority at least 48 hours prior to the meeting by contacting Amber Perryman at 850-215-4081 or by email at Amber.Perryman@htrinc.com.
July 9, 2009

LEGAL ADVERTISING
1100

3002T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY

SUNTRUST BANK, Plaintiff, et al.,

vs.

JORGE LUIS RODRIGUEZ; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JORGE LUIS RODRIGUEZ; SUNTRUST BANK; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2; Defendants.

CASE NO. 08-000334 CA

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure dated June 8th, and entered in Case No. 08-000334 CA, of the Circuit Court of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit in and for FRANKLIN County, Florida, wherein SUNTRUST BANK, is a Plaintiff and JORGE LUIS RODRIGUEZ; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JORGE LUIS RODRIGUEZ; SUNTRUST BANK; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2 are the Defendants. I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at, at 11:00 AM on July 22, 2009, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 2, BLOCK K, ST. GEORGE ISLAND GULF BEACHES, UNIT NO. 3, A SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 16, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim with 60 days after the sale.

MARCIA M. JOHNSON
As Clerk of the Court
By: Michele Maxwell
As Deputy Clerk

Dated this 9th day of June, 2009.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a reasonable accommodation to participate in this proceeding should, no later than seven (7) days prior, contact the Clerk of the Court's disability coordinator at 8506972112, P.O. BOX 340, APALACHICOLA, FL, 32320, if hearing impaired, contact (TDD) 8009558771 via Florida Relay System.

Attorneys for Plaintiff Ben-Ezra & Katz, P.A.
2901 Stirling Road, Suite 300
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312
Telephone: (305) 770-4100
Fax: (305) 653-2329
July 9, 16, 2009

Fill Dirt For Sale CHEAP
850-653-5619



3100-3350 MERCHANDISE



3100 - Antiques
3110 - Appliances
3120 - Arts & Crafts
3130 - Auctions
3140 - Baby Items
3150 - Building Supplies
3160 - Business Equipment
3170 - Collectibles
3180 - Computers
3190 - Electronics
3200 - Firewood
3210 - Free Pass It On
3220 - Furniture
3230 - Garage/Yard Sales
3240 - Guns
3250 - Good Things to Eat
3260 - Health & Fitness
3270 - Jewelry/Clothing
3280 - Machinery/Equipment
3290 - Medical Equipment
3300 - Miscellaneous
3310 - Musical Instruments
3320 - Plants & Shrubs/Supplies
3330 - Restaurant/Hotel
3340 - Sporting Goods
3350 - Tickets (Buy & Sell)

APPLIANCES
3110

Used Washers \$150.00
Used Dryers \$100.00
Please Call 850-653-5307

FURNITURE
3220

2 Piece Living Room Set.
New, hardwood foundation w/lifetime warranty, sacrifice \$649. (delivery avail) 222-9879

FURNITURE
3220

\$149 Queen mattress set.
Brand New in plastic w/warranty. Can Deliver 545-7112

100% Leather Living Room Set.
New, hardwood foundation w/lifetime warranty, sacrifice \$649. (delivery avail) 222-9879

\$289- Brand new Pillowtop King Mattress Set.
Still in plastic w/ Warranty. 425-8374 Can deliver

5pc Pub Set
solid wood Brand New \$249. Can deliver. 545-7112

ALL NEW Full Orthopedic Mattress Set in Sealed Plastic \$199. Warranty. Can Deliver 425-8374

Beautiful 6 piece Queen Solid Wood Bedroom Set w/dovetail drawers.
Still in boxes. \$2400 value, must sacrifice \$799 222-9879. Can Deliver

Bookshelf or TV/VCR stand, 3 pc coffee table set.
All Brand new in box. \$99 ea. set. 545-7112 Can deliver 850-222-7783

Cherry Solid Wood Sleigh Bed.
\$249. New in box. \$250 425-8374.

FURNITURE
3220

NEW TODAY
Comfortable Recliner brand New, 100% Micro-fiber \$199. 222-9879 Delivery Available

NEW TODAY
Dinette set w/4 chairs \$199 New. Solid wood. Still in boxes. 222-7783. Can deliver.

GARAGE/YARD SALES
3230

NEW TODAY
Apalachicola Front porch sale. July 10th & 11th. 9am to 3pm. Boat/marine stuff, tools, laptop, motorcycle stuff, digital camera, Pulsion chainsaw, live-well, lots of stuff. 237 8th St.

Yard Sale
1049 Cypress St Sat. 8am Until.

MISCELLANEOUS
3300

STEEL BUILDINGS
Summer Specials! Wholesale Prices on 25x30, 30x40,45x72, 50x96. Factory Direct. Free Delivery! Call Now! 1-800-462-7930 Ext. 55

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
3310

Baldwin Baby Grand.
Ideal for church or home. \$3600. Living Waters Assembly of God in Apalachicola. Call 653-8015 or 323-0219

Very clean 3 br, 1 ba, 2 screened porches, yard, driveway, W/D hookup, Lanark Village.
Call for more info. Avail now!!! Call Ph. 850-926-2032.

APARTMENT RENTALS
6110

257 Prado 3 br, 1 ba, apt W/S/G incl. \$575 month, + \$300 deposit, Call 850-653-6735

Heritage Villas Apartments
Accepting Applications for 1, 2 & 3 Bdrms, HC & Non HC accessible units. Some rental assistance may be available. Hud Vouchers accepted. Call 850-653-9277. TDT/TTY 711. Equal Housing Opportunity

Lanark Village
1 br, 1 ba, Renovated/ furnished end unit, new kitchen & bath, minimum 4 month lease \$495/mo + dep., no smoking, pet considered. (850) 653-3838

Studio Apt. Furnished Upstairs studio
Quiet location, water & electric incl'd. Walk to downtown. \$700 mo. plus deposit 850-653-9116 or 850-774-7178 for appt.

Pre-K Teacher
Teacher need for Bay Community School in Apalachicola. Full time position available starting in August 2009. Interested? Please call (850) 323-0385 to set up an interview.

MAINTENANCE PERSON HV & SV OF APALACHICOLA APARTMENTS
Immediate opening for maintenance person. 40 hrs per week with benefits. Experience in plumbing, SR, painting, electrical, and carpentry needed. Drug free workplace. Valid dr license & transportation required. Some travel required. Equal Opportunity Employer. Call 850-653-9277

Heritage Villas Apartments
Accepting Applications for 1, 2 & 3 Bdrms, HC & Non HC accessible units. Some rental assistance may be available. Hud Vouchers accepted. Call 850-653-9277. TDT/TTY 711. Equal Housing Opportunity

Lanark Village
1 br, 1 ba, Renovated/ furnished end unit, new kitchen & bath, minimum 4 month lease \$495/mo + dep., no smoking, pet considered. (850) 653-3838

Studio Apt. Furnished Upstairs studio
Quiet location, water & electric incl'd. Walk to downtown. \$700 mo. plus deposit 850-653-9116 or 850-774-7178 for appt.

Pre-K Teacher
Teacher need for Bay Community School in Apalachicola. Full time position available starting in August 2009. Interested? Please call (850) 323-0385 to set up an interview.

MAINTENANCE PERSON HV & SV OF APALACHICOLA APARTMENTS
Immediate opening for maintenance person. 40 hrs per week with benefits. Experience in plumbing, SR, painting, electrical, and carpentry needed. Drug free workplace. Valid dr license & transportation required. Some travel required. Equal Opportunity Employer. Call 850-653-9277

Lanark Village
1 br, 1 ba, Renovated/ furnished end unit, new kitchen & bath, minimum 4 month lease \$495/mo + dep., no smoking, pet considered. (850) 653-3838

Studio Apt. Furnished Upstairs studio
Quiet location, water & electric incl'd. Walk to downtown. \$700 mo. plus deposit 850-653-9116 or 850-774-7178 for appt.

Pre-K Teacher
Teacher need for Bay Community School in Apalachicola. Full time position available starting in August 2009. Interested? Please call (850) 323-0385 to set up an interview.

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Immediate opening for maintenance person. 40 hrs per week with benefits. Experience in plumbing, SR, painting, electrical, and carpentry needed. Drug free workplace. Valid dr license & transportation required. Some travel required. Equal Opportunity Employer. Call 850-653-9277

Lanark Village
1 br, 1 ba, Renovated/ furnished end unit, new kitchen & bath, minimum 4 month lease \$495/mo + dep., no smoking, pet considered. (850) 653-3838

Studio Apt. Furnished Upstairs studio
Quiet location, water & electric incl'd. Walk to downtown. \$700 mo. plus deposit 850-653-9116 or 850-774-7178 for appt.

Pre-K Teacher
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Carrabelle sparkles on Independence Day



Library HAPPENING

Free computer classes resume Friday, July 17, at the Carrabelle branch from 3 to 5 p.m. Instructor Charles Sawyer will be teaching Microsoft PowerPoint 2007. Students will learn how to create professional presentations, using text, clipart, pictures and other strategies.

On Saturday, July 18, from 10 a.m. to noon, Sawyer will teach Computer Basics II. Students will learn to search, manage and organize files using Windows Explorer. This class is for intermediate computer users.

Three more computer sessions will be offered in August; to take advantage of each and every computer class, call the Carrabelle library at 697-2366 to sign up.

Being Creative @ Your Public Library, a summer reading program, continues each Friday from 10 a.m. to noon at the Carrabelle and Eastpoint Library until Friday, July 31. This week's theme is Colorful Science, with games, science demonstrations and stories.

Check out the great beach reads at both libraries. This summer's bestselling authors have published a wide variety of literature, including mystery, romance, action adventure and more. If your favorite selection is already checked out, we can place a hold for you in person or over the phone. Don't miss out on this summer's great reads.

For more information about any library program, contact the Carrabelle branch at 697-2366 or the Eastpoint branch at 670-8151.

By Lois Swoboda
Times Staff Writer

July 4 in Carrabelle was marked by a series of celebrations as local government and not-for-profits gave back to the community.

On Saturday, Carrabelle celebrated not only Independence Day, but also the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Carrabelle Lighthouse Society. The lighthouse was open in the afternoon to the public at no charge.

Society President Arlene Oehler said people were lined up waiting to get into both the lighthouse and the gift shop when they opened for business. The lighthouse raised nearly \$600 in donations and gift shop sales on Saturday afternoon, she said.

"We allowed people to go up five at a time, and it was constant all day long. There was no lull," Oehler said.

Lighthouse enthusiasts also enjoyed a 10th anniversary cake and low country boil prepared by Gus and Ruth Winchester, authors of a seafood cookbook available at the gift shop.

Society founders Barbara Revel and Mary Ann Shields were on hand as volunteers for the big day along with about a dozen other helpers.

"It was a marvelous 10th anniversary celebration. We could not have had better community participation," said Oehler.

The new Carrabelle History Museum also was open all day on the Fourth, and hostess Tamara Allen said many local people visited it for the first time.

Later in the afternoon, locals gathered at Tilly Miller Park for a home town celebration featuring games and goodies. A cake walk and pie contest raised nearly \$100 for the Franklin County Senior Center.

Librarian Annie Birchwell's apple pie took first place.

The city treated residents to 30 free watermelons to the delight of young and old. Later there were relay races and a water balloon contest with prizes donated by local businesses.

Allen said about 100 people attended. "For a first-time event, we feel it was very successful," she said.

A traditional fireworks display marked the perfect end of a perfect day in the best little city in Florida.



PHOTO BY ROD GASCHE

At top, youngsters and oldsters alike joined in the relay races at Tilly Miller Park on Saturday afternoon.

Above, picnic organizer Steve Allen portioned out watermelons donated by the city at Carrabelle's Independence Day celebration in Tilly Miller Park.

Above left, President Arlene Oehler and friends enjoy the view from the top of the Crooked River Light at the 10th anniversary celebration. **At left**, Gus Winchester and wife, Ruth, prepared a low country boil at the Carrabelle Lighthouse Society's July 4 celebration.

Real Estate Picks

Best Values on the Forgotten Coast

Our local real estate experts have identified what they feel are the best values around and are offering them to you in Real Estate Picks! (In this section), Discover the best real estate values in Mexico Beach, Port St. Joe, Apalachicola, Cape San Blas, St. George Island, Carrabelle and surrounding areas.

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