



APALACHICOLA & CARRABELLE

THE TIMES

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Welcome home soldier, **A12**

Thursday, December 29, 2011

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VOL. 126 ISSUE 35

50¢

Out to see

Government offices to close

Franklin County offices and the courthouse will be closed Monday Jan. 2. Apalachicola city offices will close Jan. 21. City of Carrabelle offices will close noon on Friday, Dec. 30 and reopen Tuesday, Jan. 3 for the new year. Franklin County libraries will close Monday, Jan 2. The Apalachicola Municipal Library will be open for regular business hours throughout the holidays.

Christmas break for schools

Students in the Franklin County Schools will be on Christmas break through Monday, Jan. 2, with their first day back on Tuesday, Jan. 3. Please drive carefully.

Beach blanket bonfire

On Saturday, Dec. 31 come celebrate with a New Year's Eve Beach Bonfire on the beach at Lighthouse Park on St. George Island, hosted by the St. George Island Civic Club. The bonfire will be lit at 8 p.m. There will be musical entertainment. For info call 653-6734.

New Year's at Chillas Hall

The Lanark Village Association (LVA) will be hosting a New Year's Eve Dance Party begins at 7 p.m., for both LVA members and the general public at Chillas Hall in Lanark Village.

DJ/Vocalist Greg K. will provide the full gamut of music and dance numbers ranging from Waltz to Boot Scootin Boogie.

Several guest vocalists will also be performing including Chuck Spicer, Evelyn McAnally, Ann Merrel, Shirley Cox & Brenda LaPaz. A packed house is anticipated for the fun filled evening

A \$5 donation per person at the door is requested and many guests will be bringing along a cover dish or snacks to share. And don't forget to bring your own beverage.

Florida Girls at the Dixie

The Dixie Theatre in Apalachicola will present "Florida Girls" by Nancy Hasty on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 6 and 7 at 8 p.m. and a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday Jan. 9. In the tradition of Lily Tomlin, Nancy Hasty brings her one-woman show with 15 hilarious true-to-life characters to the Forgotten Coast of Florida... you'll laugh yourself silly.

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DEADLINES FOR NEXT WEEK:
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Legal Ads: 11 a.m. Friday
Classified Display Ads: 11 a.m. Friday
Classified Line Ads: 5 p.m. Monday

Top 10 stories of 2010



New ANERR headquarters opens in Eastpoint

By Lois Swoboda
Times Staff Writer

On Feb. 26, the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve (ANERR) opened the doors of a new research and outreach facility to over 400 visitors for a grand tour.

The one-story building, built high off the ground, was constructed by GAC out of Panama City beginning in June 2008. Larry Nall, an environmental administrator with the Florida DEP said two years ago the construction cost would be about \$6.3 million, with an additional cost of \$1 million for the displays. Nall said the state would cover about 54 percent of the cost, with the remaining federal funds provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The facility houses about two dozen staffers associated with administrative functions, research, education, coastal training programs and stewardship activities for the research reserve, one of 28 sites so designated by NOAA.

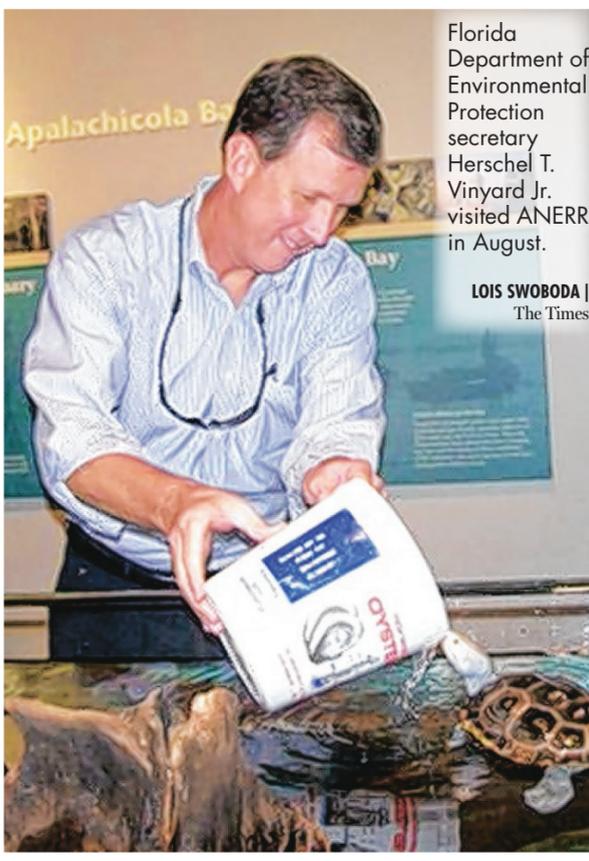
The Florida DEP serves as the state program administrator. Offices for the Central Panhandle Aquatic Preserves — Apalachicola, Alligator Harbor and St. Joseph's Bay — also are housed here.



DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times
Model oysterboats handcrafted by John Ficklen of St. George Island on display with an exhibit of the history of the marine trades.

The 18,000-square-foot center directs the research and water monitoring work of the Apalachicola reserve (ANERR), which encompasses about 246,000 acres in Franklin, Gulf and Liberty counties and is one of a nationwide network of 28 research reserves overseen by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Highlighting the facility is a 5,000-squarefoot visitor's center, which features five separate aquariums housing native plant life and creatures — two 1,500-gallon tanks devoted to the freshwater river and brackish bay systems and a 2,000-gallon unit focusing on the saltwater Gulf system.



Florida Department of Environmental Protection secretary Herschel T. Vinyard Jr. visited ANERR in August.

LOIS SWOBODA | The Times



Fire destroys Love Center church

By David Adlerstein
Times City Editor

It destroyed an iconic Apalachicola house of worship, but not the congregation's faith, when an early morning fire May 16 consumed the Love Center Church, at 151 10th St.

No injuries were reported, and no one was inside the church, which houses one of the city's largest and most active African-American congregations.

Apalachicola Fire Chief George Watkins said that after he received the page about 4:20 a.m., he could smell the smoke and see the glow from his home about 10 blocks away. "I knew it was bad then," he said.

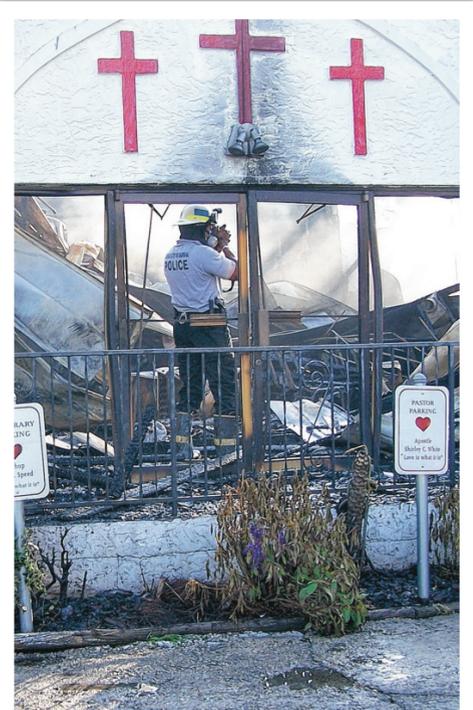
By 4:30 a.m. the Apalachicola Volunteer Fire Department, housed only five blocks from the fire, arrived and set to work. Black smoke and flames belched from the roof over the main entry of the sanctuary, but the scene was quiet. The Martin House, the nuns' residence next door to the Love Cen-

ter, were evacuated by police at 4:30 a.m. Around 5 a.m., the roof of the building began to collapse

Investigator Eric Bryant of the State Fire Marshall's office said his initial observation was the fire appeared to have started in the left-front section of the building.

Following a June 1 interview with Bryant, Dustin S. Godwin, 17, of Jakin, Ga. admitted to making phone calls from inside The Love Center on the morning of the fire and taking both money and a flat screen television from inside the church.

He was booked into the Franklin County jail June 29, and charged with burglary of a structure and grand theft. But prosecutors decided not to pursue an arson charge, even after Bryant said he examined the electrical receptacles, wiring and electrical components in the pastor's office study, thought to be where the fire began, and they "showed no signs of malfunction. All accidental fire causes were eliminated and the cause of the fire is incendiary."



See **TOP 10 A5**



SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Fruit donated to Harbor Breeze Nursing Home.

Carrabelle Lion's Club donates to the community

By Tony Minichiello
Special to the Times

The Carrabelle Lion's Club, whose motto is "We Serve," made a decision at its last meeting: Take money from its treasury to "serve" the community. All funds from the club normally go toward buying glasses, hearing aids and diabetes testing. Because of the success in fundraising this year, members made the decision to serve in other ways as well for those who cannot afford to pay for these services.

The club donated \$1,000 to the Carrabelle Food Pantry and funds used to purchase 190 hams for Christmas dinners. The Nelson Woods family re-

ceived \$250 as did the Carrabelle family whose house recently was destroyed by fire. Another \$250 was given to Jennifer Wilson Bairefoot in Eastpoint, a single mom with two children, who also lost her home to fire. Hog Wild BBQ received \$450, which will be used to furnish ten more families with Christmas dinners. Finally, \$250 went to buy fruit baskets and goody bags for Harbor Breeze nursing home, and a fruit basket also was given to St. James Nursing Home.

All funds from the Lions Club are used in the community. This holiday season, the club has truly lived up to its motto. It will continue to serve the community throughout the year.

Cops 4 Kids treats county youngsters

By Lois Swoboda

For the 12th consecutive year, Cops 4 Kids has provided Franklin County kids aged 2 to 17 with healthy transportation and lots of fun.

This Christmas, Cops 4 Kids distributed 125 bikes and helmets in Carrabelle, Eastpoint and Apalachicola.

The program is part of a national initiative to build strong friendly relationships between youngsters and law enforcement.

This year's Toys for Tots organizers were Mark Creamer, Apalachicola Fire Dept.; AJ Smith; Anthony Croom Jr., Apalachicola Police Department; Jay Etheridge, Florida Department of Law Enforcement; Dave Ferrell, Tallahassee Police Dept.; Circuit Court Judge Angela Dempsey and Beth Brinkley of Resort Vacation Properties.

"We want to thank everyone that gave



LOIS SWOBODA | The Times

Amber and Angel Henning and mom Lisa Dunkley thank Cops 4 Kids organizer AJ Smith for their new bikes.

to our donation buckets because without you it would not have been possible," said Spokesman Anthony Croom. "A special thanks to Sharon Crum, Sharon and Joe Jeanmarie, John Carpenter, Steve Rash and Franklin County Toy Project."



LOIS SWOBODA | The Times

The Skycrane deconstructing old power poles in Franklin County.

Heavy lifting in progress

By Lois Swoboda

Earlier this month, Franklin County received a visit from a gentle giant.

This Sikorsky-64 Skycrane was contracted by Progress Energy to de-

construct old power poles crossing the river.

The Skycrane, manufactured by the Erickson Air-Crane company, can lift 10 tons.

The airships are used for fire suppression, civil pro-

tection, heavy lift construction, timber harvesting and emergency response duties.

The Skycrane that worked with Progress Energy is owned and operated by Siller Helicopters Inc. of Yuba City, Calif.

Camp Gordon Johnston vet reunited with dog tag

By Lois Swoboda

At the Camp Gordon Johnson Golf Tournament, held Nov. 19, each of the players was given a bag of treats. Each bag contained a dog tag that had been found around the grounds of Camp Gordon Johnston.

Linda Minichiello said hundreds of these have been recovered. The tags were produced by stamping information onto a metal plate. However, tags that were flawed were simply discarded.

Robert Elvis "Sonny" Rich received tag bearing the name Orland Wallenberg.

Rich and Mary Kelly, administrative secretary to the Board of Directors for the St. Joseph Golf Club where the tournament was held, wondered if Wallenberg was still around. Kelly checked on Google and discovered somebody with that name was living in Sioux Falls, S.D.

A quick 411 call and she was talking with "Wally" Wallenberg, who is 88 years young and was really happy to hear about this missing dog tag.

He told her he was at Camp Gordon Johnson for one winter training on those "ducks" for the planned European landing. He remembered going into Tallahassee with "my 45 on my hip." He was sent to Europe, aboard the Queen Mary no less, and landed there on D-Day, so he missed the battle.

His outfit was then being trained for the Pacific theatre, but the war ended before he was shipped out.

Kelly and Rich shipped him the tag.

He replied with the

following letter:

"First, a big thank you for your endeavors in my lost dog tag. Now, a big apology for taking so long to answer. Things have been hectic around here because of the season.

You folks really went the extra mile in locating me and then sending the tag. Again, thank you. After all those years, it is still in pretty good shape.

I remember the name Carrabelle and also Apalachicola. Some of the troops lived there with their wives. The folder (containing the dog tag) is special because I did not have anything to remind me of Camp Gordon Johnston.

I remember the floors in the barracks were sand. We had a wooden platform between bunks to stand on.

I found St. Joe on the map so I can see where you are located. It would appear you have a lovely view around you.

Again, thanks for your very special gift. God Bless. Lily and "Wally" Wallenberg.

P.S. feel free to write again.

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Coastal Foot and Ankle Clinic

is proud to announce the

11th Annual Shoe Drive

is now underway.

Help those in need!

It's time to go through your closets for those unwanted pairs of shoes, in reasonable condition. You can bring the shoes to Coastal Foot and Ankle Clinic located at 221 HWY 98. Donations will go to Franklin's Promise and will be distributed at The community service center (old Apalachicola high school) at 192 14th street in Apalachicola. Distribution will be December 6th and 20th from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

You can call 653-FEET (3338) for more information.

Happy

NEW YEAR

Everyone!

TOP 10 from page A1



Oyster recall rattles fragile industry

By David Adlerstein
Times City Editor

With Apalachicola Bay rebounding well from what proved to be only a scare from the BP oil spill that fortunately never materialized, the county's oyster industry started the year on a strong note.

A newly-created fundraiser for the Apalachicola Volunteer Fire Department, an oyster cook-off in January, proved to be a huge success, with a second one planned for Jan. 14, 2012.

An energetic new president, Shannon Hartsfield, was elected in May to head the Franklin County Seafood Workers Association. Summer oystering rules were tweaked by the state, and the men and women who harvest oysters, and those who process them, said they were confident the changes would not devastate their livelihoods, that they could live with them.

But in late April, one of Apalachicola Bay's most productive oyster bars, was

ordered closed after an unusual, but fortunately mild, strain of cholera sickened at least 11 people and forced its closure for two weeks.

In addition, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services ordered a recall of all oysters harvested in the 1642 Harvesting Area, commonly known as Cat Point, located off the Eastpoint coast, between March 21 and April 30, costing the local industry tens of thousands of dollars.



MAYOR WILBURN 'CURLEY' MESSER



MAYOR VAN JOHNSON

Johnson, Messer remain in office

By Lois Swoboda
Times Staff Writer

The mayors of both Apalachicola and Carrabelle both faced competition in the Sept. 6 election but in the end, both prevailed.

Voters in Franklin County's two cities returned their mayors to office. Incumbent Apalachicola Mayor Van

Johnson, 51, swept to victory over challenger retired banker, Tom Daly, 59, by a nearly two-to-one margin, winning with 489 votes (62.4 percent)

to 295 (37.6 percent).

In Carrabelle, Mayor Wilburn "Curley" Messer's margin was far thinner in a three-way race, as he gathered 186 votes (45.2 percent) to top challengers Charles "Shawn" Oxendine, 52, who professed a strong religious basis for his candidacy with 145 votes (35.3 percent) and the youngest candidate, Christopher "Massey" Rose, 29, with 80 votes (19.5 percent).

This will be 87 year old Messer's sixth term as mayor.

See TOP 10 A5

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Weems Memorial Healthcare Foundation

2nd Annual Roast and Toast

January 7, 2012
From Noon - 5pm at the
Water Street Hotel & Marina

Celebrate the New Year!
Enjoy expertly prepared pork roast sandwich or dinner. Plus live music, a silent auction and the first annual pork & chicken cooking competition!

Donations requested. Cash bar available.
All proceeds benefit Weems Memorial Healthcare Foundation, a 501C3 non-profit organization.

For more information, visit weemsmemorial.com or call 653-8853 ext. 101

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Foreclosure cases keep pace with last year

Q. Can you tell me if foreclosure filings have gone down this year?

A. The number of foreclosures filed in Franklin County have decreased very little this year, and the workload to my office from foreclosure cases has remained steady.

In 2005, the records in this office reflect that 21 foreclosures were filed in Circuit Court. In 2006, that number increased to 44 cases. In 2007, 133 cases were filed and in 2008, 264 cases were filed. In 2009, we filed the greatest number: 414 foreclosure cases in Circuit Court. In 2010, we



YOUR PUBLIC TRUSTEE
Marcia Johnson

filed 191. For 2011, as of Dec. 22, we'd filed 183 foreclosure cases, so we could easily match last year's figures by the end of the week.

My office has held 175 sales this year. Foreclosure cases are traditionally remaining within

the system for some time before they are set for sale or otherwise closed, so many of the sales held are a result of cases filed from earlier years. My office handles a huge amount of paperwork from new and old foreclosure filings. There was a statewide program in place which required the referral of mortgage foreclosure

cases involving homestead residences to mediation, but that program has recently been suspended, due in part to low success rates. Most cases sent to mediation did not result in any sort of agreement between borrowers and lenders.

On my website, www.franklinclerk.com I provide a list of foreclosure sales scheduled. Under the main menu, click on Foreclosure Sales under Quick Links.

If you have any questions or comments about this column, please forward them to: Marcia Johnson, Clerk of the Court, 33 Market Street, Ste 203, Apalachicola, FL 32320, or by email to: mmjohnson@franklin.clerk.com.

Nordic Noir growing in popularity

By **Caty Greene**
Special to the Times

With the release of the American film version of "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" it seems appropriate to explore the amazingly popular fiction known as Nordic Noir. USA Today said back in March "There are a slew of books to check out now that you're done with Stieg Larsson."

To explore Nordic Noir it seems appropriate to start with award-winning Swedish author, Henning Mankell whose books date back to the 1970s. His Kurt Wallander mysteries are global bestsellers. The word is that he has finished his Wallander series with "The Troubled Man" (on order), and the heir apparent is Norwegian Jo Nesbo.

Nesbo is a "musician, songwriter, economist, and author" according to his profile on Amazon. His Harry Hole series, started in 1997, includes "The Snowman," the most recent in the Apalachicola Municipal Library collection, with "The Leopard" on order. His next book in the series with be "The Phantom" due out in English in 2012.

Arnaldur Indridason, from Iceland, is another author of Nordic Fiction. The library recently bought "Jar City" and "Silence of the Grave". He is the only author to win the Glass Key Award for Best Nordic Crime Novel two years in a row. The film of "Jar City", now available on DVD, was Iceland's entry for the 2008 Academy Award for Best Foreign Film, and the film of "Silence of the Grave" is in production with the same director.

The newest book to be added to this collection by the library is "The Keeper of Lost Causes" by Jussi Adler-Olsen, one of Denmark's premier crime writers. His books routinely top the bestseller lists in northern Europe, and he has won almost every Nordic crime-writing award.



THE LIBRARY
Caty Greene

This first installment of his Department Q series, features a deeply flawed detective named Carl Morck, who used to be a good at it, until a bullet almost took his life. Two of his colleagues weren't so lucky, and Carl, who didn't draw his weapon, blames himself.

I don't know what it is about this genre, but the patrons keep clamoring for more. One of my theories is that transplanted "Yankees" miss the sound of snow crunching under their boots, or maybe it's just those cold, seasonally dark climates make murders more gruesome. Whatever the reason, the Apalachicola Municipal Library will consider expanding this collection and will accept additional titles donated by patrons.

While writing this another author, Liza Marklund, has jumped up on my radar. Her 2011 "Red Wolf" is reviewed highly by popular Atlanta crime writer, Karen Slaughter, who says "I am but one member of the international groundswell. I can't wait for American readers to catch the wave!" In 2010 she co-wrote "The Postcard Killers" with James Patterson which became a bestseller in her homeland of Sweden and also in America.

Caty Greene is librarian for Apalachicola Municipal Library. To reach her, call 653-8436.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unsung heroes helping bring new library

We have many unsung heroes in our community. Sometimes their efforts do not get the recognition that is due them. Hours upon hours of work are spent to make our community a better place to live, work and play in.

In 2012, the Franklin County Public Library will celebrate 20 years of serving Franklin County. Anyone who visits our libraries knows they are hubs of activity for people in all walks of life, residents and visitors, young and old. Libraries are a benchmark of a healthy community.

The Friends of the Franklin County Public Library began a building project despite the economic outlook of our county at the time. It has had many ups and downs but Joyce Estes has hung in there when many would have thrown in the towel. With a USDA grant, hard work by many and Joyce's leadership, it is my hope and dream that Eastpoint will finally have a library building in our 20th anniversary year. Joyce and the Friends of the Franklin County Library will have given us a gift that will benefit many for years to come.

Thank you Joyce for not giving up on that project and for believing that God blesses this important endeavor. The library building will help us to continue to enrich lives.

Denise Butler
Chairman Franklin County Public Library Advisory Board

Holiday is a festival

To Times editor and readers;

The definition of "holiday" includes the celebration of a "festival."

When the 2005-2007 City Commission of Carrabelle created the "Holiday on the Harbor" event, it was intended as a gift from the city to encourage

all to join together in commemoration of the holidays ahead. City employees and Commissioners prepared and helped with the traditional burgers and hot dogs, greeting city residents with "Merry Christmas" wishes, and even an occasional spontaneous Christmas song.

Several enthusiastic city employees and special friends participated with model train layouts to delight the young and old alike. With much hard work, inspiration and cooperation, the languishing Boat Parade was re-invigorated and included as a special focus of the December community celebration. Holiday on the Harbor became a true community-wide festival with food, non-profit vendor opportunities and entertainment.

The local event has now been expanded in conjunction with the prestigious Carrabelle Waterfront Partnership program. In addition, the Carrabelle Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with the Franklin County Tourism Development Commission, helps to sponsor and fund advertising and promotion to invite everybody in the area to join in the holiday festival.

County-wide "bed tax" money, which comes exclusively from overnight and property-rental visitors, funds such promotional expenses. The City of Carrabelle still budgets our small public fund identified for "Celebrations" which, together with private donations, helps to support food and fireworks several times a year. Such special events, like Holiday on the Harbor and the City-sponsored Camp Gordon Johnston veterans' reunion luncheon, are highlights of our small town hospitality.

We continue to work toward improving those community events and waterfront viewing areas.

We are glad to share them with all.

Mel Kelly
Proud Mayor of Carrabelle

Are the Republicans doing you a favor?

Franklin County Democrats, be very careful about what Ned Pooser (letter in The Times, Dec. 22, 2011) calls "doing yourself a favor" and registering to vote Republican. Remember just a few days ago, the Republicans in the House of Representatives refused to pass legislation which would have authorized the following:

1. The continuation of a lower payroll tax rate which was projected to cost working middle class citizens at least \$1,000 each;

2. The refusal of an extension of unemployment benefits for many Americans.

It was a massive public outcry supporting the two measures that caused the Republican representatives to finally agree to pass the legislation on Dec. 23. Do you really want to be party to such actions? What if it were your unemployment or your payroll taxes?

Be very clear that your vote will count in the general election regardless of your party registration. Most of us are registered Democrats for a reason and before you change your registration, ask what your real reason for becoming a Republican is. Do not believe for a moment that the only way to prevent the election of President Obama is to register as a Republican. You can certainly vote your preference for President regardless of your voter registration.

Martha Hodge
St. George Island (a registered Democrat for years in Franklin County and now in Hillsborough County)

Florida consumer confidence jumps in December

By **John Dunn**
Special to the Times
Consumer confidence among Floridians rose

three points to 69 in December, reflecting a cautious optimism in the economy, according to a recent University of

Florida survey. Though the latest figure is only one point below the level set in December 2010, it also marks the highest rank in the past nine months.

The index used by UF researchers in the survey is benchmarked to 1966, which means a value of 100 represents the same level of confidence for that year. The lowest index possible is a 2; the highest is 150.

Consumer confidence in December shot up in four of the five indexes used by survey takers, and declined in only one. The index that reveals whether Floridians think their personal finances have improved from a year ago rose one point to 53. Another showed their overall expectations in the soundness of the U.S. economy jumped six points to 59. Confidence in the economy's performance over the next five years also rose — this time three points to 71.

Finally, the overall perception of survey takers that the present is a good time to buy "big ticket" items, such as washing machines and laptops — went up sharply by seven points to 85.

The only index to show dropping confidence was an expectation of a drop in

personal finances a year from now, declining two points to 78.

Taken as a whole, the UF survey reflects a changing mood that matches growing confidence across the nation, said Chris McCarty, director of UF's Survey Research Center in the Bureau of Economic and Business Research.

"Floridians are most likely optimistic about continued improvement in the employment situation," McCarty said. The decline in unemployment in November was 0.4 percent to 10 percent. The drop marked the first time in many months that economic sectors other than tourism led the way in employment increases. McCarty noted that employers in trade, transportation and utilities employed 34,800 more workers from October to November. However, he cautioned that many of these new jobs were in retail trade and might only reflect holiday seasonal hiring, which could disappear in early 2012.

McCarty also cited several other reasons for the change in mood. Retailers are offering big seasonal discounts to shoppers and mortgage

"Contrary to our prediction, the impasse of the Super Commission regarding deficit reductions came and went with very little concern from consumers."

Chris McCarty

Director of UF Survey Research Center

interest rates are low. Housing prices may have "bottomed out" for a while, he said, hovering about around \$130,100 for a single-family home. Gas prices are down, too. A gallon cost about 15 cents less than it did in November, though prices are expected to rise in 2012.

Stock prices were unsteady but did not sink in the wake of bad economic news coming from Europe, as some economists expected. Media reports about the U.S. Congress' wrangling over debt and spending issues also didn't sour consumer confidence. "Contrary to our prediction, the impasse of the Super Commission regarding deficit reductions came and went with very little concern from consumers," McCarty

said.

Overall, the mood for December is modestly upbeat. But McCarty cautioned that Floridians might find it hard to remain optimistic in the coming year, if Congress carries through with \$1.2 trillion in mandatory spending cuts required by the debt ceiling deal in 2011.

The University of Florida is one of the nation's largest public universities. Through its research and other activities, UF contributes more than \$8.76 billion a year to Florida's economy and has a total employment impact of more than 100,000 jobs statewide.

John Dunn is a writer for the University of Florida's news bureau. He can be reached at dunnj@embarqmail.com.

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TOP 10 from page A3



LOIS SWOBODA | The Times

A citizen expresses her protest against Progress Energy.

Progress sparks protests

By Lois Swoboda
Times Staff Writer

This was a tempestuous year for Progress Energy in Franklin County.

In October, following a five month moratorium on pruning beginning in December 2010, meetings with city officials and the creation of an Apalachicola tree committee, an Asplundh tree crew, hired by Progress, began pruning along Avenue F.

City employees asked the workers to stop after examining trees pruned near the community garden and the House of Tartts.

City Administrator Betty Taylor Webb asked Asplundh to leave town, which they did.

Progress said they will resume pruning activities early in 2012.

In November and December residents, spearheaded by the Apalachicola Historical Society, protested the installation of massive power poles carrying transmission lines through the city's residential district.

During Seafood Festival, a skywriter circled the town encouraging visitors to oppose the installation of the power lines.

Fernandina Beach attorney Arthur "Buddy" Jacobs worked pro bono on behalf of the historical society and a group of private citizens and filed an injunction to stop the construction citing a possible negative effect on tourism.



DR. KAREN CHAPMAN



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DR. LIONEL CATLIN

Health care: A year of tumultuous changes

By David Adlerstein
Times City Editor

Even considering the typical ups and downs faced by Franklin County's limited health care providers, 2011 was an exceptionally bumpy ride.

The first shock came in the spring, when Chuck Colvert, chief executive officer of Weems Memorial Hospital, stepped down to pursue other health care options.

A nationwide search for his replacement, conducted by Weems' partner Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare, yielded a handful of finalists, with TMH and the Weems board ultimately agreeing on the hiring of Davie Lloyd, 39, to assume the hospital's reins.

But by November, Lloyd was let go after county commissioners said she was not a good fit for the county. Lloyd is now seeking a severance package for the remainder of her first year's pay, about \$145,000. Chief Nursing Officer Cindy Drapal now serves as the interim hospital chief.

In late June, another leading health care executive, Wesley Tice, director of the county health department, stepped down, also under pressure from the county commission. He retired quietly after completing 32 years with the state agency.

Florida Surgeon General Dr. Frank Farmer quickly found an interim replacement in Dr. Karen Chapman, director of the Okaloosa County Health Department. But Chapman's move to temporarily close the health department's Carrabelle clinic prompted commissioners to freeze the \$146,000 they have allocated to fund the facility.

The clinic eventually reopened, and balance was restored, but changes continued inside of the Weems system.

Dr. Lionel Catlin was let go of his post staffing Weems Medical Center East, and he has opened in private practice in Carrabelle.

Last month, both Paul Marxsen, who chairs the all-volunteer Weems board, and Gayle Dodds, a longtime member, resigned.

See TOP 10 A9

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The first lecture will be on January 6, 2012 at 5:30pm.
David Dixon, DO of North Fl Womens Care will be discussing **Abnormal Menstrual Bleeding: A Review of the Causes and a Discussion of New Minimally Invasive Therapies**

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Birthday

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MITCHELL!



Mitchell Lee Monroe Jr. turns 12 on New Years Eve, Dec. 31.

His father, Mitchell Monroe Sr., sisters B.B., Hannah, Farrah and Maranda; and stepmother, Shary; wish him the very best for the next year, and we are so proud of the young man he is turning out to be.

New Years promises lots of fun events

Boogie! Come join in the fun, Saturday, Dec. 31. The time for the golf tournament is 1 p.m., at Lanark Village Golf Course. Five dollars per person. Following the tournament there will be a shoot out. You can call 697-4021 and get more information from Jim.

The DJ for the New Year's Eve dance at Chillas Hall has been changed. Gary K will be providing the music. Door opens at 7 p.m., and a donation of \$5 per person will be collected at the door. Don't forget your dancing shoes, favorite snack, favorite beverage and your main squeeze. See ya there!

DJ Ron Vice will provide the

music for the New Year's Eve dance at the Senior Center, 201 Ave. F, Carrabelle. Doors open at 7 p.m.



LANARK NEWS
Jim Welsh

Members of the Camp Gordon Johnston American Legion Post 82 on Oak Street, here in the village have put together a nice celebration for New Year's Eve. The Dwellers will play your favorites, there will be finger food and Debbie and Kathy will serve up your favorite drinks. There will be Champagne at midnight. A donation of \$5 is required. See ya there!

Although I was unable to attend the service at the Lanark Village Boat Club for our departed friend Marshall Foster, I am sure it was

awesome. Pastor Julie Stevens officiated. Pray for Marshall's eternal peace and keep Sheila and the family in your prayers for their comfort and strength.

The annual Black Eyed Pea Lunch will start at 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 1, at the Lanark Village Boat Club. See ya there!

Be kind to one another; check in on the sick and the housebound and smile, Jesus loves you.

Until next time, God bless America, our troops, the poor, homeless and hungry.

And the winner is ... our long-time friend Jenny Kennedy won the \$100 worth of liquid refreshments at Harry's Bar. The Sons of Legionnaires sponsored the raffle. Way to go, Jenny!

Pre-k enjoys winter wonderland

By Kay Cadwaller
Special to The Times

The Learning Center pre-kindergarten presented a play written by Mary Williams and narrated by Marcia Thomas. The pre-kindergarten classes performed for family, relatives and friends. Sharon Solomon opened the performance with a beautiful Christmas song, "The King." Ann Birchwell, from the Franklin County Library,

played guitar for the children. As Thomas narrated the story, Tammy Sasnett's class sang "Jingle Bells," Williams' class sang "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Me," Valerie Miller's class sang and danced "The Reindeer Pokey" and Cathy Wood's class sang "Feliz Navidad" and "Cookies for Santa."

A parent from Williams' class, Michelle Creek, read "The Night Before Christmas" to all of the children, who watched fascinated as she carefully

opened each page of the pop-up book. Then we heard bells and "ho, ho, ho" when Santa arrived. The children were so excited. Santa visited with each and every child and handed them a copy of "The Night Before Christmas." The Christmas celebration ended with everyone singing "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

The pre-kindergarten staff at The Learning Center would like to thank the Bring Me A Book

Franklin program for providing each child with a book. The books were beautiful and will bring the children a memory they will never forget. Thank you, Michaelin Watts, David Watts and Marie Marshall for the fabulous books, kindness and thoughtfulness in participating in our school program. Bring Me A Book Franklin has provided books for many of our pre-kindergarten events. We appreciate their support.

NOEL NEEDS A HOME

Please help Noel find a home. This Christmas pup was spotted in the Bowery district of Apalachicola on Dec. 23. She is a female lab mix less than a year old. She is very friendly and gentle. Noel was taken to the Franklin County Animal Shelter on CR 65 north of Eastpoint. If she is yours, you can claim her there. If you have been looking for love, she could be the girl for you. For more information, call 670-8417.

ROBIN VROEGOP |
Special to The Times



PET OF THE WEEK

Franklin County Humane Society

Meet Channel

Channel is a 10-month-old female kitten. With her round face and huge eyes she is beautiful to look at. Channel does everything on her own schedule and isn't overly interested in people. She will allow you to pet her and hold her briefly but she realizes that with her incredible beauty, being admired is what she enjoys best! If you would like an independent beauty gracing your home, please come meet Channel, she is a real stunner!

Volunteers are desperately needed to socialize Channel and all of the other dogs and cats. We are always looking for people willing to bring one of our animals into their home to be fostered for various needs. Any time you can spare would be greatly appreciated.

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

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Arrest 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

Dec. 20
Brittney C. Herndon, 26, Apalachicola, domestic battery (APD)

Dec. 21
Keenen I. Turrell, 21, Apalachicola, sale or possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell within 1,000 feet of a church (FCSO)

Dec. 22
Gary M. Faulkner, 62, Carrabelle, DUI, reckless driving and Monroe County violation of probation. (FHP)
Meagan V. Polous, 24, Apalachicola, driving with expired license more than four months and passing worthless bank checks (FHP and FCSO)

Dec. 23
Matthew R. Simmons, 25, Marianna, sale or possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell within 1,000 feet of a church, possession of cannabis and possession of paraphernalia (FCSO)
David F. Daniels, 27, Carrabelle, disorderly intoxication (CPD)

Dec. 26
Johnny L. Williams, III, 36, Apalachicola, Gulf County warrant for two counts of withholding child support (FCSO)

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Tap your child's spiritual resources



YOUTH MATTERS
Scott and Pamela Shiver

Special to the Times

I have read in the Bible that life and death are in the power of the tongue but I never really grasped its potential until recent years. I have seen healing take place when someone claimed God's power for their life. I have seen people proclaim that money is on its way shortly before they received an unexpected check in the mail. On several occasions I have observed as people prophesy of what they expect God to do and He

does exactly what they foretold.

Hebrews 2:6-8 says, "What is mankind that you are mindful of them... you crowned them with glory and honor and put everything under their feet. In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them."

We have untapped spiritual resources that are available to us if we only knew how to use them. We often leave things to chance when we have the power to declare and receive.

In the Old Testament you will read of fathers who spoke words of blessing, in some cases curses over their children and everything they stated came to pass. When children were born, they were given a name with meaning, some good and

some bad and it would fit their character. One might wonder how a child whose personality has not yet developed can live up to their name.

Imagine if you were named Ichabod which means "no honor" or "the glory had departed." A child comes to your door and inquires if "no honor" can come out to play. At dinnertime mother calls "no honor" to come home. Father tells "no honor" to take out the garbage. After a period of time the child will believe that he is exactly who everyone says he is and live up to that name. If you call a child stupid, he will believe he is stupid. If you call a child mean, ugly or fat, he will believe he is mean, ugly or fat. Whatever limits you place on a child, they most likely will not exceed your expectation of them.

Whoever said "sticks and stones may break my

bones but words can never hurt me" must have never been on the receiving end of the verbal abuse. Words do more than hurt; they shape and mold the person's perception of themselves. They limit their ability to achieve and imprison them to the opinion of others. The scars that are left are deep and tend to surface long after the tongue lashing is over through relationships and child rearing.

In the movie "The Help," the nanny would take the child she cared for in her lap, look her in the eyes and say, "you is smart, you is kind and you is important." The nanny was planting vital seeds in the child who was at the mercy of a self-absorbed, social status-seeking mother. The nanny believed her words had the power to mold the child's self-assurance and counteract the negative

things her mother was instilling in her.

If we possess the power to shape our children through the words we speak over them, we should tell them they are smart, kind, important, compassionate, loving, and pure everyday until they believe it themselves.

Building self-confidence will not produce arrogance if kids are properly taught. To avoid arrogance we should applaud our children for who they are, not by making others look bad, making the best grades, or scoring the most runs. Teaching them to serve others, including their own family, not only teaches them humility but also develops compassion. Children should be coached on how to respond when complimented and give thanks when esteemed. Apologizing is one of the most humbling and challenging acts for

an individual. Children can be taught at a young age that apologizing promotes reconciliation if we quickly forgive. The most effective way to teach children humility is through our actions. They will model our behavior as we lead by example.

We have the power to bring down the blessings of heaven to earth. Speak positive words over your child for the way you desire them to turn out, not for the way they act now. Take their chubby little cheeks in your hands and look them in the eyes as you proclaim good things into their life. On a final note, before you name your child, be sure you are aware of its meaning.

We welcome all suggestions and hope you enjoy this weekly column. Please send all emails to ScottShiver@frontline247.com

MT. ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PERFORMANCE



LOIS SWOBODA | The Times

Earlier this month, Pastor Barry Hand and the choir from the Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church gave an inspiring performance in "A River Christmas" written and directed by April Patriots.



LOIS SWOBODA | The Times

Sally Williamson, left, consults with Susan Gary on portion size as Dan Garlick carves a man-sized ham.

Owl Café serves up a Christmas tradition

By Lois Swoboda

For many years, Restaurants generously donating holiday meals to the needy has been a custom in Franklin County. On Thanksgiving and again on Christmas this year, the Owl Café provided a holiday meal to elders and shut-ins who regularly receive Meals on Wheels. Christmas dinner was ham, rolls and vegetables in a mushroom sauce served with a baked potato.

Restaurateur Susan Gary said the number of meals served was way down from last year's holiday season. This year, only 36 received the holiday fare. Last year, there were over 60 names on the list for Meals on Wheels.

TIGERS CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS



PHOTOS BY DAVID ADLERSTEIN

Participants in the Franklin County Public Library's TIGERS program gathered at the Eastpoint firehouse Dec. 9 to celebrate Christmas with a festive potluck dinner.

Eileen Annie Ball, the former county librarian whose grant-writing efforts several years ago first got the after-school youth program off the ground, served as emcee and read a story she had written, a variation on "Jack on the Beanstalk. Among those honored for their volunteer work were Jennifer and Jesse Daniels, faithful supporters of the program, above. The festivities also featured the singing of Christmas carols, as shown at top. Among the singers were, from left, Abigail Harris, from the Eastpoint site, and Jennifer Carroll, Alissia Dempsey, and Kelly Pilger, all from the Carrabelle site.



Obituary

Alice Jewell Hicks

Alice Jewell Hicks was born Sept. 28, 1946 in Carrabelle. She passed away Monday, Dec. 19, 2011 in Apalachicola.

She was a seafood worker and a life-long resident of Eastpoint.

She is survived by her daughter, Melissa "Missy" McClain (Scotty); siblings, Wayne Hicks, Jerry Hicks, Margaret Reeder, Marlene Hicks,

and Milan Hicks; and one grandchild, Megan McClain.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Edna and Cecil Hicks.

Funeral services were held Thursday, Dec. 22 at 3 p.m. at Deliverance Tabernacle in Eastpoint with burial in Eastpoint Cemetery.

Kelley Funeral Home handled all arrangements.

MORE ONLINE



View more faith news and obituaries at apalachtimes.com.

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"Celebrate Recovery" Mondays 7-9 p.m.
Healing service first Tuesday each month-7 p.m.
102 NE Ave. B Carrabelle - 697-3672
Pastor: Aaron Batey

Eastpoint United Methodist Church
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Sunday Brunch 10 a.m.
Youth Group Tuesdays 6 p.m.
317 Patton Dr. (corner of David St.)
Pastor: Aaron Batey

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Worship Praise	11:00am
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BUDS 'N' BUGS: WILD SUNFLOWERS

By Lois Swoboda
Times Staff Writer

A number of different plants, most in the aster family, are commonly referred to as sunflowers.

Helianthus is a genus of plants with over 50 species, all of which are native to North America.

The well known cultivated sunflower is *Helianthus annuus*. *H. tuberosus* is commonly known as Jerusalem artichoke. Both of these plants are cultivated as food crops and ornamentals.

A number of *helianthus* species can be found in the Florida Panhandle.

One of the most common wildflowers here is *Helianthus angustifolius*, commonly called the swamp sunflower or narrowleaf sunflower. It is a wetland species and grows in sunny, wet locations. It often forms massive colonies in roadside ditches. It blooms in the fall, and during its peak of bloom, October to November, produces huge stunning displays of yellow flowers with a dark "eye." It is sometimes referred to a "brown-



LOIS SWOBODA | The Times

Above is the swamp sunflower, and at right the rayless sunflower.



eyed Susan."

The eye is actually a cluster of flowers, and the "petals" are modified leaves directing the attention of pollinating insects to the bloom.

Swamp sunflower dies back to the roots in winter but grows rapidly in the spring. By late summer, plants may be 6 feet tall.

Swamp sunflower is widely available in nurseries and is fairly easy to maintain in the home landscape as long as its

moisture requirements are met.

It is a wonderful addition to larger-scale settings and in more naturalized plantings. It is also exceptional as a wildflower along the shoreline of a pond.

A close relative is *Helianthus radula* the rayless sunflower.

Rayless sunflowers lack the yellow "petals" or rays most people associate with *Helianthus*. Like most other members of the genus, this flower dies back to the ground in winter. Its basal leaves are

rounded, thick and rough, and held tightly against the ground surface so, without foliage, the rough brown flower heads on straight brown stems are strange and dramatic.

Rayless sunflowers have the same requirements as swamp sunflowers and, while they might not be to everyone's taste, they are extremely attractive to butterflies.

In late summer, huge colonies form in roadside ditches often

growing side by side with swamp sunflowers although they are rarely if ever intermingled.

Masses of butterflies feeding on the stark blooms often present a dazzling display.

Rayless sunflower is found almost statewide in Florida and occurs in habitats from well-drained sandy uplands to seasonally wet pine flatwoods and savannahs. The common denominator seems to be its need for openness and sunlight.

WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, Dec 29	64°	50°	0 %
Fri, Dec 30	70°	53°	10 %
Sat, Dec 31	69°	51°	0 %
Sun, Jan 1	68°	48°	10 %
Mon, Jan 2	62°	33°	10 %
Tues, Jan 3	54°	39°	10 %
Wed, Jan 4	57°	41°	0 %

TIDE TABLES MONTHLY AVERAGES

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

Cat Point	HIGH	LOW
	Minus 0:40	Minus 1:17
East Pass	Minus 0:27	Minus 0:27

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

Bald Point	HIGH	LOW
	Minus 9:16	Minus 0:03

APALACHICOLA

12/29 Thu	12:37AM	0.6	L	05:45AM	1.1	H
	01:02PM	-0.1	L	07:37PM	1.1	H
12/30 Fri	01:38AM	0.4	L	06:48AM	1.0	H
	01:26PM	0.1	L	07:58PM	1.2	H
12/31 Sat	02:47AM	0.3	L	08:04AM	0.8	H
	01:49PM	0.3	L	08:22PM	1.2	H

(2012 TIDES NOT AVAILABLE AT PRESS TIME)

CARRABELLE

12/29 Thu	04:20AM	1.8	H	10:49AM	-0.2	L
	06:12PM	1.8	H	11:25PM	0.6	L
12/30 Fri	05:23AM	1.6	H	11:13AM	0.2	L
	06:33PM	1.9	H			
12/31 Sat	12:34AM	0.5	L	06:39AM	1.3	H
	11:36AM	0.5	L	06:57PM	1.9	H

(2012 TIDES NOT AVAILABLE AT PRESS TIME)

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FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



Freshwater

All is quiet on the water after Christmas. Very few reports have come in this week, though more might come in after the new year. Some redbass and striped bass are being caught near the White City Bridge on artificial baits. Good-sized crappie are being caught in Depot Creek along with some nice-sized channel cats.

Inshore

Most of all fishing action is in the I.C.W. canal still. Good numbers of trout are still at the "T" and under the power lines in the canal. Most are still using live shrimp. Some whiting are being caught on Cape San Blas and at the Mexico beach Pier on cut bait, but no real big ones just yet.

Antlerless deer season at hand

By Stan Kirkland
Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission

Back in the 1960s and 1970s, the idea of an antlerless deer season in Florida would have been met with skepticism. After all, it was during that time when deer were being released in different areas around the state in an effort to rebuild populations.

Hunters know this better than anyone, but the recovery is long since complete, and antlerless deer hunting is now an accepted and necessary deer management practice.

From now through Jan. 1, 2012, gun hunters who hunt private lands can take deer of either sex, except spotted fawns, in Zones B and D. The seven-day antlerless deer season comes on the heels of a month-long archery and crossbow season, when both bucks and does were legal.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) divides Florida into Zones A-D for setting deer seasons. Zone D includes most of the Florida Panhandle. Zone B is a multicounty swath of land in west-central Florida near Tampa.

"The antlerless deer season gives people with small pieces of land the opportunity to hunt deer of either sex on their property, and manage their deer, just like landowners with abundant acreage who qualify for antlerless deer permits," said Cory Morea, the FWC's deer management program coordinator.

He said that when deer become too plentiful, there can be problems. Most often, deer numbers exceed the social carrying capacity — the number of deer people will tolerate — long before they exceed the biological carrying capacity of the land, Morea said.

Like most states, he said, Florida estimates how many deer are killed each season. For the 2010-11 hunting season, Florida hunters reported taking approximately 103,000 bucks and 75,700 does.

While accurate numbers of Florida's deer population aren't known, Morea said, "It's fair to say the population is healthy and in good shape."

The antlerless deer season is a good time to introduce a young hunter to deer hunting. A few years ago, my friend, John, invited Sarah,



SPECIAL TO FLORIDA FREEDOM

Sarah Kirkland with her 100-pound unantlered buck.

my 16-year-old daughter, and me to his place in north Bay County for a hunt, in the hopes Sarah could get a doe. He and the other owner like to remove 20-25 does each year off their tract.

The morning of our hunt, it was 18 degrees when we pulled into the property. Thankfully, there was no wind. Sarah and I positioned ourselves in a small, elevated, enclosed stand, about midway on a green food plot.

We saw five beautifully antlered bucks before a doe ever made her way into the plot. When the "doe" got within 40 yards, Sarah made

a perfect shot with her .45-caliber muzzleloader.

It wasn't until we got a close look at her deer that we discovered her doe was actually a 6-month-old buck without antlers. Her buck weighed 100 pounds and became sausage, hamburger and steak.

Even though her deer wasn't a doe, the landowners were happy for her. Also, her deer, which falls under the antlerless deer category, helped them accomplish their management goals.

Like many kids, Sarah had a good experience and still hunts with me today.

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TOP 10 from page A5



Cleve Randolph on his seaplane

Airport named for local hero

By Lois Swoboda
Times Staff Writer

At their first meeting of 2011 held Jan. 4, the county commission voted unanimously to add the name of a famous local flyer to the official designation of the Apalachicola Regional Airport.

The airport is now known as the Franklin County Apalachicola Regional Airport - Cleve Randolph

Field in recognition of Randolph's significant contribution to aviation here.

Local aviators Pal Rivers and Ken Tucker were on hand to promote the change.

Rivers recounted Randolph's career to the assembly.

Randolph is credited with saving the airport, built in 1942 during World War II, from falling into disrepair after the military abandoned it.



Sexual predator flees woods in Eastpoint

By David Adlerstein
Times City Editor



NORMAN BILL WILLIAMS

In what had to be one of the most unusual stories of the year, a 56-year-old ex-con, classified as a sexual predator, fled Eastpoint after state probation officials released him from prison on conditional supervision to live in the woods.

Norman Bill Williams, left Sept. 24 to camp on government land off Bear Creek Road, slipped off his ankle bracelet and absconded, until he was apprehended Oct. 10 at a fuel dock in Leeville, La., about 19 miles from Grand Isle.

"While it is not known how long Williams has been in the area, it is estimated he has likely been in Lafourche Parish for about two

weeks," said the office of Lafourche Parish Sheriff Craig Webre, which referred in a news release to Williams' "extensive criminal history, with numerous arrests stretching over several counties in Florida, Alabama, Texas and Louisiana. Prior arrests were for such crimes as armed robbery, kidnapping, aggravated assault, larceny, burglary, grand theft auto and drug possession."

An alert employee at the Leeville store had seen through Williams' clumsy disguise, and soon he was extradited back to Franklin County, to appear Oct. 20, in front of County Judge Van Russell, who placed him on a \$25,000 bond for failing to register as a sexual predator. He was also held without bond on the absconding charge, a third-degree felony that holds a maximum penalty of five years in state prison.



New bank opens; old branches close

By David Adlerstein
Times City Editor

A combination of both sobering and inspiring changes in the county's banking industry marked 2011, with the opening of a new Centennial Bank location in the heart of downtown Apalachicola, as well as the closure and sell-off of the remaining branches of the former Gulf State Community Bank.

On May 1, the county's new two-story, 6,400-square foot Centennial Bank building opened for business, nearly two-and-a-half years since flames destroyed the Apalachicola State Bank building, at the same corner of Avenue E and Market Street where it stood for nearly a century.

After a brief ribbon cutting, a flag-raising by Donnie Gay, Centennial's market president, and City Commissioner Frank Cook, and a blessing from the Rev. John Sink, the bank's doors swung open and customers slowly streamed in to admire the lobby's naturally lit, atrium space, and enjoy coffee and pastries.

The new bank, built for a total of about \$1.5 million, established a flagship presence in the county for Centennial, the Arkansas-based bank that over the course of the last 10 months acquired from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation assets of the county's two failed banks. In July 2010, Centennial bought Coastal Community Bank, and in Nov. 2010, acquired Gulf State Community Bank, the county's last locally owned bank.



Photos by DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

Workers put finishing touches on Centennial Bank. Left, Deltona has yet to announce plans for what will go into the former Gulf State Community Bank, in Apalachicola.



FRANKLIN COUNTY, FL

We're salty!

BP money infuses new marketing campaign

By David Adlerstein
Times City Editor

With the crisis of a BP oil spill receding into memory, an influx of \$1.67 million from the oil giant to the Tourist Development Council led to a fresh marketing campaign and a slew of new events to keep tourists flocking to the county.

In April, nearly a year after the Deepwater Horizon oil rig explosion and summer-long oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, the TDC received an infusion of \$1.67 million from BP; the county's share of a \$30 million marketing grant to the seven Panhandle coastline counties most impacted by the spill.

The TDC also voted to select John Hosford, director of marketing for St. James Bay Golf & Country Club for a seat on the council, replacing Joe Taylor, who was removed by the county

commission earlier in year amidst allegations he was overzealous in steering grants towards non-profits that competed with existing businesses. Taylor denied any impropriety.

In May, some controversy emerged when county commissioners Tuesday morning approved a one-year contract with Forgotten Coast TV, Inc. to be the TDC's exclusive marketing agency for the \$1.67 million in BP money.

With Commissioner Smokey Parrish strongly opposed to the unbidded contract, commissioners voted 4-1 to uphold the unanimous contracting decision made by the TDC. The county commissioner's motion also called for Sheila Hauser, an FCTV employee, to resign from the TDC. Capt. Chester Reese of Carrabelle was later approved by the county commission to replace Hauser.

At the June 7 meeting of the county

commission, Helen Spohrer, of Forgotten Coast TV, unveiled the marketing company's plans, built around the catchy slogan, "We're salty!"

Excitement grew after Dr. Julian Bruce St. George Island State Park was named to the 2011 list of the Ten Best beaches in the U.S., by Dr. Stephen Leatherman, the University of Florida's "Dr. Beach."

Forgotten Coast also commissioned Nashville songwriter and part-time Carrabelle resident John Paul "Bebo" Daniel to compose original theme music for use in television and radio broadcasts.

The year also included a March presentation to the Apalachicola Riverkeeper meeting by Florida State University oceanographer Ian R. MacDonald, who called for stepped-up research on the lasting impact on marine life from the spill.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS LEASE OF COMMERCIAL-USE AIRCRAFT HANGAR/OFFICE FACILITY And FBO OPERATION

The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners is requesting proposals from firms interested in entering into long-term leases of Business opportunities at FRANKLIN COUNTY/APALACHICOLA REGIONAL AIRPORT.

The Board is soliciting proposals for two items.
Item #1- FBO facility - maintenance hanger, shops, office, fuel farm, 5 "T" hanger buildings with each building containing 6 or 7 individual "T" hangers, and a secured fenced parking area (approximately 130'x180'). The FBO should expect to provide typical FBO services--including, hangar space, fueling services, ground handling, aircraft and equipment maintenance, rental cars and other aviation related services.

Item #2- New commercial use hanger (11,489 square foot hanger) with 1600 square feet of office space. The hanger has been designed so that a paint hanger could be inserted into one part of the hanger.

Proposals should include a detailed Business Plan of proposed use, job creation, and financial responsibility. Proposals shall be sealed and sent to the following address by 4:00 PM (Eastern) Monday, January 16, 2012:

Franklin County Clerk of Court
Attn: Michael Moron, Board Secretary
33 Market St, Suite 203
Apalachicola, FL 32320

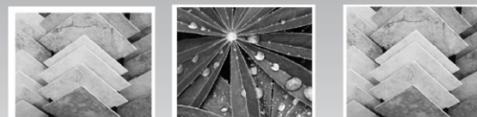
Proposals will be opened at the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners' meeting on January 17, 2012. Please submit seven (7) copies. Meeting identify on the exterior of the sealed envelope whether the proposal is for Item #1 or Item #2. Additional information is available at the Franklin County Planning Office, 34 Forbes St. Apalachicola, FL, or contact Mr. Alan C. Pierce, Director of Administrative Services, at 850-653-9783, ext. 161.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all Proposals.
Publish: December 29 and January 5

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36358T IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO: 11-00061-CA

CENTENNIAL BANK, successor in interest to Coastal Community Bank, Plaintiff,

vs.

ANTHONY WILLIAM SAPP and AIMEE DORIS DIPALMA SAPP, Defendants.

CLERK'S NOTICE OF SALE UNDER F.S. CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, in accordance with the Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated October 24th, 2011, and the amended final judgment dated December 13, 2011, in the above-styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Front Door of the Franklin County Courthouse, 33 Market St., Apalachicola, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on January 11, 2012, the following described property:

Lot 3, Lighthouse Pointe Estates (Unrecorded) Commence at an old terra cotta monument marking the Southwest corner of Section 35, Township 7 South, Range 5 West, Franklin County, Florida and thence run South 00 degrees 02 minutes 21 seconds West along the Section line 312.66 feet to a re-rod; thence run North 57 degrees 32 minutes 03 seconds East 97.34 feet to a point lying on the Northerly right of way of U. S. Highway No. 98, said point being the point of curve to the left having a radius of 1845.55 feet; thence Northeasterly along said curve and said right of way for 60.60 feet, thru a central angle of 01 degrees 52 minutes 53 seconds for an arc distance of 60.60 feet, the chord of said arc being North 47 degrees 33 minutes 48 seconds East 60.60 feet to an iron pipe; thence run North 33 degrees 02 minutes 38 seconds West along the Easterly right-of-way boundary of a 60.00 foot roadway 218.00 feet to a point of curve the right; thence run Northeasterly along said right-of-way boundary and along said curve with a radius of 172.00 feet, thru a central angle of 45 degrees 08 minutes 51 seconds for an arc distance of 135.53 feet; thence run North 12 degrees 06 minutes 13 seconds East along said right-of-way boundary 1413.33 feet to the Point of Beginning. From said Point of Beginning continue North 12 degrees 06 minutes 13 seconds East along said right-of-way boundary 194.83 feet; thence run South 57 degrees 29 minutes 17 seconds East 543.55 feet; thence run South 32 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds East 407.44 feet; thence run South 57 degrees 03 minutes 59 seconds West 247.82 feet; thence run North 41 degrees 35 minutes 38 seconds West 772.65 feet to the Point of Beginning.

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run Northeasterly along said right-of-way boundary and along said curve with a radius of 1845.55 feet, thru a central angle of 01 degrees 52 minutes 53 seconds for an arc distance of 60.60 feet, the chord of said arc being North 47 degrees 33 minutes 48 seconds East 60.60 feet to an iron pipe; thence run North 33 degrees 02 minutes 38 seconds West along the Easterly right-of-way boundary of a 60.00 foot roadway 218.00 feet to a point of curve the right; thence run Northeasterly along said right-of-way boundary and along said curve with a radius of 172.00 feet, thru a central angle of 45 degrees 08 minutes 51 seconds for an arc distance of 135.53 feet; thence run North 12 degrees 06 minutes 13 seconds East along said right-of-way boundary 1413.33 feet to the Point of Beginning. From said Point of Beginning continue North 12 degrees 06 minutes 13 seconds East along said right-of-way boundary 194.83 feet; thence run South 57 degrees 29 minutes 17 seconds East 543.55 feet; thence run South 32 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds East 407.44 feet; thence run South 57 degrees 03 minutes 59 seconds West 247.82 feet; thence run North 41 degrees 35 minutes 38 seconds West 772.65 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Less and Except: Commence at an old terra cotta monument marking the Southwest corner of Section 35, Township 7 South, Range 5 West, Franklin County, Florida; thence run South 00 degrees 02 minutes 21 seconds West 312.66 feet; thence North 57 degrees 32 minutes 03 seconds East 97.34 feet; thence South 33 degrees 02 minutes 38 seconds East 399.21 feet to a point lying on the Northerly right of way of U. S. Highway No. 98, said point being the point of curve to the left having a radius of 1845.55 feet; thence Northeasterly along said curve and said right of way for 60.60 feet, thru a central angle of 01 degrees 52 minutes 53 seconds,

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chord of said arc being North 47 degrees 33 minutes 48 seconds East 60.60 feet to a point marking the intersection of said Northerly right of way with the Easterly right of way of a 60 foot wide roadway; thence leaving said right of way, run along said Easterly right of way as follows: North 33 degrees 02 minutes 38 seconds West 218.00 feet to a point of curve to the right having a radius of 172.00 feet; thence Northeasterly along said curve for 135.53 feet, thru a central angle of 45 degrees 08 minutes 51 seconds; thence North 12 degrees 06 minutes 13 seconds East 1443.33 feet to a concrete monument marking the Northwesterly corner of Lot 3 of Lighthouse Pointe Estates (unrecorded); thence run along said Northerly boundary line of Lot 3, North 12 degrees 05 minutes 27 seconds East 194.83 feet to a concrete monument marking the Northeast corner of said Lot 3; thence leaving said 60 foot wide roadway run along the Easterly boundary line of said Lot 3, South 57 degrees 30 minutes 41 seconds East 543.06 feet to a concrete monument marking the Southwesterly corner of Lot 4 of Lighthouse Pointe Estates (unrecorded); thence continue along said Easterly boundary line South 32 degrees 57 minutes 55 seconds East 35.27 feet to a point lying on the Northerly boundary line of property described in O. R. Book 249, Page 340 of the Official Records of Franklin County, Florida; thence leaving said boundary line run South 56 degrees 49 minutes 54 seconds West 177.50 feet to a concrete monument; thence South 33 degrees 06 minutes 51 seconds East 86.71 feet to a rod and cap for the Point of Beginning; thence from said Point of Beginning South 57 degrees 05 minutes 12 seconds West 113.56 feet to a rod and cap lying on the Westerly boundary line of Lot 3 of said Lighthouse Pointe Estates (unrecorded); thence run along said boundary line South 41

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degrees 35 minutes 38 seconds East 287.08 feet to a concrete monument; thence leaving said boundary line run North 57 degrees 09 minutes 16 seconds East 71.23 feet to a rod and cap; thence North 33 degrees 06 minutes 51 seconds West 283.88 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Also Less and Except: Start at the intersection of Sections 2 and 3 of Township 8 South, Range 5 West, Sections 34 and 35 of Township 7 South, Range 5 West and travel Easterly along the section line a distance of 1086.1 feet to concrete monument on the Southerly boundary line of State Road Number 30 right-of-way; thence turn an angle of 33 degrees to the left and go a distance of 250 feet to a point on the southerly boundary line of said State Road right-of-way, now turn an angle of 90 degrees to the left and go to a point on the Northerly boundary of said State Road Number 30 right-of-way; thence in an Easterly or North-easterly direction (50 feet from the center of said road) go a distance of 70 feet to an iron stake; thence turn to the left and along the Western boundary line of property previously sold to Walker D. Oliver on the 6th day of February 1959 by McKissack Properties, Inc., go a distance of 210 feet to an iron stake. Call this the place of beginning of the herein property to be described. Now in the same direction go a distance of 580 feet to a concrete monument; thence turn 90 degrees to the right and go a distance of 300 feet to a concrete monument; thence turn an angle of 90 degrees and go a distance of 580 feet to an iron stake which is the Northeasterly corner of property sold to Nathan L. Autrey on the 3rd day of February 1959 by McKissack Properties, Inc.; thence Westerly along the Northern boundary of the said Nathan L. Autrey property and the Northerly boundary of the aforesaid Walker D. Oliver Properties and go a distance of 300

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feet to the Point of Beginning.
TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 1991 "HOME" Mobile Home bearing Title Number 62587202 and Vehicle Identification Number HMST634GA.
Dated: December 14, 2011.
Marcia Johnson
Clerk of the Court

By: Michele Maxwell
Deputy Clerk
Dec 22, 2011

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36360T IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO: 11-000131-CA

CENTENNIAL BANK, an Arkansas banking corporation, as successor in interest to Coastal Community Bank and Gulf State Community Bank, Plaintiff,

vs.

William J. Luberto, Jr., Defendant.

CLERK'S NOTICE OF SALE UNDER F.S. CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, in accordance with the Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated October 24th, 2011, and amended final judgment dated December 13, 2011, in the above-styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Front Door of the Franklin County Courthouse, 33 Market St., Apalachicola, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on January 11, 2012, the following described property in three separate units, as follows:

UNIT 1: Commence at a concrete monument at the point of intersection of the North right-of-way line of U. S. Highway 319 and the East boundary line of the Northeast Quarter of Section 36, Township 8 South, Range 7 West, and extend a line Westerly along the North right-of-way line of said U.S. Highway 319 for 1942.94 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. From this Point of

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Beginning, continue Westerly along said right-of-way line for 200.00 feet; then turn 93 degrees 06' - 30" right for 200.00 feet; thence turn 86 degrees 53' - 30" right for 200.00 feet; then turn 93 degrees 06' - 30" right for 200.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.

UNIT 2: Lot 6: Commence at a concrete monument marking the Northeast corner of Section 30, Township 8 South, Range 6 West, Franklin County, Florida, and thence run South 65.64 feet, thence run North 89 degrees 55 minutes 30 seconds West 1650.00 feet to a re-rod, thence run South 00 degrees 03 minutes 35 seconds West 330.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. From said POINT OF BEGINNING continue South 00 degrees 03 minutes 35 seconds West 659.85 feet to an iron pipe, thence run North 89 degrees 55 minutes 47 seconds West 660.00 feet, thence run North 00 degrees 03 minutes 33 seconds East 659.91 feet, thence run South 89 degrees 55 minutes 30 seconds East 660.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

UNIT 3: Lots 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63 and 64, Block "A", of Lanark Beach Subdivision, Unit One (1), as the same is recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 13 of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida.

Dated: December 14, 2011.
Marcia Johnson
Clerk of Court

By: Michele Maxwell
Deputy Clerk
Dec 29, 2011
Jan 5, 2012

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

36362T REVISED INVITATION TO BID: Franklin County Library Build-out

The Friends of the Franklin County Library as funded by USDA through a rural development grant requests bids from State of Florida registered licensed General and/or Building Contractors (as required by Florida Law) for the following project site located on Bayshore Drive with access on Hickory Dip Drive, Eastpoint, Florida.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Franklin County Library Build-Out. The 5,000 SF building shell is a pre-engineered steel frame built on a concrete slab on grade. The building shell has a steel roof and siding, with "storefront" doors and windows. Electrical service, in-slab plumbing and conduit is in place. The scope of work required under this bid includes the finishing of the building and site. Plans completed by Johnson Peterson Architects and Prebbie-Rish Engineering include but are not limited to the following: The building interior will feature steel stud and drywall partitions with the required insulation in exterior walls. Doors will be solid core wood in hollow metal frames. Cabinets and countertops are plastic laminate. Floor covering will be either vinyl tile or commercial carpet. Ceilings will be lay-in acoustical tile. Lighting and plumbing fixtures will be commercial grade for low maintenance and durability. Stormwater ponds are in place and working. Although the entry drive is graded, final grading, topsoil, sod and landscaping, limestone base and asphalt paving will be required to finish the site work.

BID OPENING DATE: January 31st at 10am at Johnson Peterson Architects located at 930 Thomasville Road Suite 100 Tallahassee FL 32303 (850) 224-9700

MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING: Tuesday January 10th, 2012 at 10am at the project site.

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ANTICIPATED PROJECT BUDGET: \$325,000

Questions to the architect/engineer must be received not later than January 24, 2012. For purchasing of bid documents and submittal requirements, you must contact Seminole Blueprint at (850) 671-2714.

USDA and the Friends of the Franklin County Library reserve the right to reject any and all submissions, or accept minor irregularities in the best interest of the library.

POINT OF CONTACT: John Lane, Project Manager, Johnson Peterson Architects (850) 224-9700 jlane@jparchitects.com Dec 29, 2011

36196T 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
*Policy Manual
*Code of Conduct
*Learning Center Handbook

Statutory Authority: Section 230.22(2), Florida Statutes The entire text of the proposed rules will be considered by the Franklin County School Board at a meeting publicly advertised and held in the Willie Speed School Board meeting room in Eastpoint, Florida no earlier than January 05, 2012. Documents may be reviewed at the Franklin County School Board District Office, at 85 School Road, Suite One, Eastpoint, Florida during the hours of 7:30 am until 5:00 PM, Monday - Thursday, Dec 8, 15, 22, 29, 2011

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36444T IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 2nd JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY Case No.: 2009-CA-000703

BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP f/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, L.P. Plaintiff,

vs.

Judy W. Rhodes; Riverside Associates Homeowners Association, Inc.; Defendant(s).

AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order rescheduling foreclosure sale dated December 7, 2011, entered in Civil Case No. 2009-CA-000703 of the Circuit Court of the 2nd Judicial Circuit in and for Franklin County, Florida wherein BAC Home Loans Servicing, L.P. f/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, L.P. is the Plaintiff and Judy W. Rhodes; are the Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at WEST FRONT DOOR OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LOCATED ON HWY 98, IN APALACHICOLA, FLORIDA, AT 11:00AM January 13, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOT 12, RIVERSIDE AT CARABELLE, A SUBDIVISION, AS PER PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 36, 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 WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.

DATED at Apalachicola, Florida, this 13th day of December, 2011.

Marcia M. Johnson
Clerk of Court
Michele Maxwell

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Deputy Clerk

Submitted By:
ATTORNEY FOR
PLAINTIFF:
SHAPIO, FISHMAN &
GACHE, LLP
4630 Woodland
Corporate Blvd.
Suite 100
Tampa, FL 33614
(813) 880-8888
(813) 880-8800
Dec 29, 5, 2011

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est bidder for cash, at
the door of the Franklin
County Courthouse,
Apalachicola, Florida,
in accordance with
Section 45.031, Florida
Statutes.

Any person claiming an
interest in the surplus
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7160 - Mobile Homes/Lots
7170 - Waterfront
7180 - Investment
Property
7190 - Out-of-Town
Real Estate
7200 - Timeshare

36857T
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE SEC-
OND JUDICIAL CIR-
CUIT IN AND FOR
FRANKLIN COUNTY,
FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2010-71-CA

Dated November 29,
2011.

MARCIA JOHNSON
Franklin County Clerk
of Court

Michele Maxwell
Deputy Clerk
Dec 29, Jan 5, 2011

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6130 - Condo/Townhouse
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6170 - Mobile Home/Lot
6180 - Out-of-Town Rentals
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JPE3A, LLC, a Florida
limited liability com-
pany, J. PERRY ER-
WIN, III, SIDNEY E.
GRAY, PAUL OSTER-
BYE, LORNA OSTER-
BYE, and S.&P.N.B,
LLC, a Florida limited li-
ability company,
Defendants.

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TO WHOM IT MAY
CONCERN:

Notice is hereby given
that pursuant to the Fi-
nal Judgment of Fore-
closure entered on No-
vember 29, 2011, in
Case No. 2010-71-CA,
of the Circuit Court of
the Second Judicial
Circuit for Franklin
County, Florida, in
which PREMIER BANK
is the Plaintiff, and
JPE3A, LLC, a Florida
limited liability com-
pany, J. PERRY ER-
WIN, III, SIDNEY E.
GRAY, PAUL OSTER-
BYE, LORNA OSTER-
BYE, and S.&P.N.B,
LLC, a Florida limited li-
ability company, are
the Defendants, that
the undersigned, Clerk
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Lot 45, Carrabelle
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the Declaration of Con-
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O.R. Book 966, Page
33, Public Records of
Franklin County, Flor-
ida.

The sale will be held on
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Sgt. Taylor returns home from Iraq

By S.L. Standifird
Special to The Times

Air Force Tech. Sgt. Shavonne L. Taylor has returned to her home unit at Joint base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska after being deployed to Iraq serving in support of Operation New Dawn, formerly called Operation Iraqi Freedom.

She was one of more than 200 members of the Air Force who returned Dec. 20 to Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport, and was part of the last Air Force unit to leave Iraq.

Taylor is a personnelist with 673rd Force Support Squadron.

She is the daughter of Gary and Loretta Meyers of Avenue M, Apalachicola. Taylor is a 1998 graduate of Apalachicola High School.

New Dawn signified a formal end to U.S. military combat operations in Iraq. The transition shifts the U.S. emphasis from predominantly military to predominantly civilian as U.S. officials assist Iraqis in accordance with the Strategic Framework Agreement.

Members from all branches of the U.S. military and multinational forces were also assisting in rebuilding Iraq's economic and governmental



Photos by MARV LYNCHARD | Special to The Times

Air Force Tech. Sgt. Shavonne L. Taylor has returned to her home unit at Joint base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska after being deployed to Iraq.

infrastructure, and training and preparing Iraqi military and security forces to assume full authority and responsibility in defending and preserving Iraq's sovereignty and independence as a democracy.

Operation New Dawn officially came to an end Dec. 15, 2011. They were home in time for the winter

holidays as stated by President Obama.

Major Gen. Anthony Rock, director of Iraqi Training and Advisory Mission - Air Force, U.S. Forces - Iraq, U.S. Central Command, also returned home on the flight with airmen who were under his command in Iraq.

"This represents the final chapter in Operation



New Dawn, but I think the important thing to remember is this is not just the end of eight years of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn," Rock said. "This is the end of 21 years of Air Force and U.S. military involvement in and around Iraq."

A crowd of family members, USO volunteers, co-workers and well-wishers greeted the airmen as they made their way through customs and into the lobby of the airport.

S.L. Standifird is a writer with the Joint Hometown News Service.

Members of the local media, USO, and families cheer arriving U.S. Air Force personnel at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport.



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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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