



CHS alumni pride, A2

Thursday, May 3, 2012

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VOL. 127 ISSUE 1

50¢

Out to see

Spring Ghost Walk to be Saturday

From 7-9 p.m. Saturday, May 5, the Apalachicola Area Historical Society will stage a ghost walk at the Chestnut Street Cemetery...

Scout Regatta Saturday on island

At 11 a.m. Saturday, May 5, come to the Scout Regatta at the new county park on West Bayshore Drive near Ninth Street on St. George Island.

Cinco de Mayo benefit Saturday

This Saturday, May 5, come to the Cinco de Mayo benefit at Sometimes It's Hotter Seasoning Company, 112 E. Gulf Beach Drive on St. George Island...

Plein Air Paint-out begins today

More than 20 nationally acclaimed artists are gathering on the Forgotten Coast to participate in the 7th annual Forgotten Coast Plein Air Invitational...

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DEADLINES FOR NEXT WEEK:
School News & Society: 11 a.m. Friday
Real Estate Ads: 11 a.m. Thursday
Legal Ads: 11 a.m. Friday
Classified Display Ads: 11 a.m. Friday
Classified Line Ads: 5 p.m. Monday

Service stalls at regional airport

By LOIS SWOBODA
653-1819 | @ApalachTimes
lswoboda@starfl.com

Operations at the Apalachicola Regional Airport have ground to a halt. At their Tuesday morning meeting, county commissioners learned the telephone at the airport had been disconnected...

Several private citizens appeared at the meeting to comment on the situation.

"With no fuel and no services, we are wiped off the map," said realtor Kathy Robinson. "We have a hangar out there and I don't know who to pay rent to."

The county's 20-year contract with Bill Ruic, the former fixed base operator (FBO), expired in February, but the county extended three more months. Ruic is president of the Apalachicola International Airport Center.

Ted Mosteller, chairman of the airport advisory board, said the



KATHY ROBINSON



GARY SETTLE



CHUCK MARKS



RUSSELL CROFTON

airport ran out off fuel about two weeks ago and Ruic did not order more. Ruic and his wife Pat, who lived in a mobile home at the airport, have sold it and now live inside the FBO hangar.

Mosteller said that until Ruic's lease runs out on Friday, May 4, the airport can't take action to bring fuel to the airport. Ruic said Tuesday afternoon that air traffic has been affected by the lack of fuel,

and he has received telephone calls constantly from pilots impacted by the situation.

Also in February, commissioners voted to enter negotiations with Fly High of Lexington, N.C., to assume the duties of FBO.

At Tuesday's meeting, County Attorney Michael Shuler said negotiations with Fly High have stalled after he presented them with an amended contract last week.

See AIRPORT A5



Down by the riverfront

Sunshine reigns over Carrabelle festival

By DAVID ADLERSTEIN
653-8894 | @ApalachTimes
Dadlerstein@starfl.com

A hot afternoon, a new stage, dueling pirates strolling down Marine Street, and a nice array of vendors and volunteers all spelled success for last weekend's 22nd annual Carrabelle Riverfront Festival.

"We were packed at capacity in our current layout," said Steve Allen, coordinator of the festival on behalf of Carrabelle Cares. "We had over 120 registrations and after some of those cancelled, with all the non-profits and groups and attractions, we had at least 90."

The festival was the picture of order and coordination, topped-off with a healthy dose of brilliant, even hot, spring weather. The Saturday afternoon



Photos by DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

The "Pirates of the Carrabellian" duel along Marine Street. At top, Josh Childs, as the Sea Tramp Groom, smooches Ashlyn Mitchell, as the Bayside Bride.

crowd grew to a solid size, but Sunday proved to be far less robust, which was not unexpected.

"Sunday has always been dead, but we had as good as any Sunday we've ever had," Allen said. "We had a bigger audience this year from out-

of-town than we did from locals."

New this year was a permanent addition to the festival and the community, a stage built by Allen and his crew.

See RIVERFRONT A10



Pam Shiver to run for school board

Special to the Times

Pamela Shiver has filed her letter of intent to seek election to the office of District 5 school board member.

Shiver, 41, of 64 Brian St., in Eastpoint, has filed as no party affiliation, since the seat is non-partisan. She now is legally entitled to begin the process of getting petitions signed, with signatures due to the Supervisor of Elections office by May 7. Her name would then appear on the Nov. 6 general election ballot, provided she officially qualifies during the June 4-8 qualifying period.

The following is a statement issued by the candidate:



PAM SHIVER

My name is Pamela Watson Shiver, and I have been married to my best friend, Scott Shiver, for 19 years. Between the two of us, we have five children: Brandon Shiver, Nicole Shiver, A.J. Doll, Lindsey Doll and Natasha Shiver, foster son, Kruiz Dickerson, and six grandchildren. We have enjoyed raising our children in the same great community as my maternal great-grandmother (Ola Shiver),

See SHIVER A5

Tour of Homes expands 20th anniversary features all-day symposium



LANE AUTREY | Special to the Times

The home of Olivier Monod, at 79 Ave. G.

By DAVID ADLERSTEIN
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Dadlerstein@starfl.com

The 20th annual Historic Apalachicola Home & Garden Tour this Saturday is both like and unlike its predecessors.

As in year's past, this year's theme, "A Passion for Preservation," will spotlight the city's historic century-old homes, with hundreds of visitors taking a walking tour of a dozen of the finest examples of what

homeowners are capable of, with vision, resources and taste.

Again there will be a lunch prepared by the ladies of Trinity Episcopal Church, whose aging structure, floated down from New York in 1839, is the beneficiary of restoration funds raised on the tour.

And once again there will be a sealed bid auction, offering more than 50 unusual items that include a sublime 50-year-old movie poster from Elvis Presley's "Roust-

about," an exquisite 47-year-old Raggedy Ann doll in near perfect condition, a display of two mirrors from the oldest barber shop in town, and an entertaining 12-DVD collection from Johnny Carson's Tonight Show.

Unique this year is the day-long guided tour Friday focusing on the varied architectural styles that mark Apalachicola's remarkable record of historical preservation.

See HOMES A5

Mullets swim through high school memories

By DAVID ADLERSTEIN
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Ruth Massey Varner's smile shone just like the one she wore 75 years ago, when she was forward on an undefeated Mullet girls basketball team that ruled as champions throughout North Florida.

At age 95, still comfortable on her feet, Varner, alongside her daughter Jennie Sanborn, met and greeted adoring friends, all younger than she, scooting around the old Carrabelle High School auditorium Saturday night like she was doing layups for coach Mamie Lee and coach Lorraine Tucker back in the day.

Jennifer Worthy, probably not even 30, was happy to introduce herself to the venerable neighbor lady whose pretty flowers used to attract her when she was a young girl. "I've been thrown out of her lawn so many times for picking her plants," she said.

Varner was the high school's valedictorian in 1937, one of six guys and seven girls in the class. The family didn't have much money, and anyway girls didn't go to college like they do today. So she went to work at the Kilbourn Fish and Ice Company, and when the war broke out, at Camp Gordon Johnston.

For 85-year-old Rex Massey, the war meant leaving the comforting confines of Carrabelle High in 1943, at age 17, to join the Navy. After signing up in Tallahassee, Massey's service led to an assignment on LST 1024, a landing ship tank that saw action in the Leyte in the Philippines among its South Pacific duties.



Former Mullets pose for a picture



Catherine Scott, seated, shares memories triggered by an old CHS yearbook.

Massey joked with Harry Gray, a Carrabelle alumnus a good 25 years younger, that the initials LST for the 351 feet long by 50 feet wide watercraft stood for "long slow target."

Massey did nine more years in the Navy, also serving in the Korean War before leaving the service in 1952, but he never did get that Carrabelle diploma. He still managed a successful career working oil rigs throughout the South, and now is among fewer than a half-dozen of his 128 shipmates still around to attend the upcoming reunion in Missouri.

In addition to a dazzling buffet meal, complete with everything from BBQ, fried chicken and crawfish to homemade cupcakes



Buz Putnal recites a poem he had written.

topped with "CHS," the reunion featured a chance for alums to pore over old yearbooks, see old friends and even join in the singing of the alma mater, led by Willard Vinson, class of '55, Genevieve Putnal, '57 and Babs Bailey, '58, and Annette Vinson, both '58. At another poignant moment, Buz Putnal went to the middle of the stage to



Photos by DAVID ADLERSTEIN | the Times

Ruth Massey Varner, left, greets Jennifer Worthy, right, while Varner's daughter Jennie Sanborn stands at center.



Singing the CHS alma mater are, from left, Willard Vinson, '55, Babs Bailey, '58, Genevieve Putnal, '57 and Annette Vinson '58. Visit www.apalachtimes.com to view a photo gallery of the reunion

recite a poem he had written to capture his feelings when CHS closed down for good a few years ago.

Pam McKenzie '74, and her brother Doug Young '71, children of the school's famed coach Tex Young, worked to organize this third annual gathering of

former Mullets and Green Devils and Pirates, alumni of a school that served the community for more than a century. McKenzie said that after their old high school was closed, and some of the school's memorabilia was lost, friends decided to do a re-

union every year. "to save the memory of Carrabelle High School alive."

She said that if anyone has memorabilia that can help in their effort, they ask only to borrow it for a short while so they can make copies and return it.

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Southerland decries federal government's drift

By LOIS SWOBODA
653-1819 | @ApalachiTimes
Lswoboda@starfl.com

On April 9, Rep. Steve Southerland held a town hall meeting in Apalachicola.

The Panama City Republican described the federal government as "a raging river that has overflowed the banks it was designed to run through." "Washington in many ways has drifted so far from the people," he said. "It is not a reflection of the people any more."

Southerland said the \$16 trillion national debt is the greatest challenge faced by the country in recent history.

He said he is holding town hall meetings to develop communication with his constituents. "The best ideas come from the American people," he said.

Touching on immigration reform, Southerland

defended manual laborers in low-income jobs. "There's a lot of people I would send out of this country before I send people with calluses on their hands," he said.

Tax Collector Jimmy Harris questioned Southerland on increasing the county tax base.

He said the large untaxed government land holdings, and large area of agricultural land belonging to The St. Joe Co., reduce the county's revenue.

"Is there something that can be done for our county to compensate us for what comes off our tax rolls?" Harris asked.

Southerland answered that the problem was complex, and that government rules and trade agreements with Canada have hampered the timber in-



REP. STEVE SOUTHERLAND

dustry in the United States.

He said a national forest is not a national park, and that timber should be harvested to generate revenue.

He said he is fighting for county water rights and to have the Army Corps of Engineers dredge the Eastpoint Channel.

He complimented the county on environmental awareness. "I am amazed at how the business community and environmentalists realized that if the bay isn't taken care of, then nobody wins," he said. "So you've got a partnership that you don't often see in other places."

In answer to a question posed by Veteran's Service Officer William Scott, Southerland said the solution to providing better health care for veterans is

to bring the cost of health care down for everyone.

Southerland, a staunch opponent of the Affordable Care Act, said practical steps to decreasing health care costs include tort reform, encouraging competition among medical providers, making private health insurance premiums deductible on federal income tax and allowing physicians a deduction for "benevolent services" provided to low-income patients.

About 20 people attended the town hall meeting. In his first bid for public office, Southerland was elected in 2010 to the 2nd Congressional District, which includes Franklin County.

He is seeking re-election this year to the seat, which geographical boundaries still include the entire county, but have been moved eastward following redistricting.

Arrest REPORT

The following report is provided by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. This report was made by officers from the Apalachicola Police Department (APD), Carrabelle Police Department (CPD) and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO). All defendants are to be considered innocent until proven guilty.

April 17
Tyler M. Hollon, 22, Lanark Village, domestic battery (FCSO)

April 24
Robert L. Smith, 53, Apalachicola, violation of probation (FCSO)

Jeremy J. Turrell, 24, Apalachicola, failure to appear, possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell, possession of cannabis, and attaching improper license plate (FCSO)

April 25
Damon B. Walker, 35, Apalachicola, driving while license suspended or revoked, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, fleeing or attempting to elude a law enforcement officer and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon (APD)

April 26
Lorne H. Hicks, Jr., 21, Wewahatchka, domestic battery (APD)
Jaime D. Guthrie, 43, Eastpoint, Leon County warrant for withholding child support (FCSO)

April 27
Marquez Williams, 19,

Apalachicola, battery (FCSO)

Roy M. Williams, Jr., 18, Apalachicola, battery (FCSO)

James D. Creamer, 30, Apalachicola, uttering and violation of probation (FCSO)

George R. Needer, 53, Eastpoint, violation of probation (FCSO)

Thomas C. Calhoun, 41, Eastpoint, trafficking in a controlled substance, sale of a controlled substance and violation of probation (FCSO)

Mark W. Boyd, 39, Shelby, NC, 13 counts of grand theft (FCSO)

Allen J. McDuffie, 51, Shelby, NC, 13 counts of grand theft (FCSO)

Heather L. Hicks, 24, Apalachicola, failure to appear (APD)

April 28
Jewayne M. O'Neal, 34, Apalachicola, possession of less than 20 grams of cannabis (APD)

Candace R. Hill, 40, Apalachicola, violation of probation (APD)

April 29
Michael E. Jordan, 21, Lake City, resisting officer without violence and disorderly intoxication (FCSO)

Justin D. Massey, 21, Carrabelle, violation of probation (CPD)

Bradley R. Cardin, 19, Eastpoint, driving while license suspended or revoked and violation of probation (FCSO)

Jamil P. Knight, 29, Tallahassee, DUI (FCSO)

Joshua R. Collins, 28, Carrabelle, violation of probation (FCSO)

News BRIEFS

Free film Saturday at Crooked River Light

On Saturday, May 5 there will be a full moon climb at the Crooked River Lighthouse and a free outdoor movie. This month's vintage flick is the 1958 version of "The Old Man and the Sea," starring Spencer Tracy.

The film starts at 7:45 p.m. Bring a chair. You can watch the movie from the deck of the pirate ship Carrabella, if you'd like.

Climb the tower for \$10 and get a tasty beverage and a delicious treat from outstanding pastry chef Sally Crown. Please help to support this important maritime landmark. For more information, call 697-2732.

Seahawk Showcase offers campus tours May 11

Franklin County School's Seahawk Showcase from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, May 11. All parents and community are invited to attend. During the showcase, parents and community will have an opportunity to take a tour of the campus to see all the wonderful things our students and teachers are doing and visit various special programs, such as culinary arts and wood shop. Stay tuned for more information.

FCSWA to meet May 14 in Eastpoint

The Franklin County

Seafood Workers Association will meet at 5 p.m. on Monday, May 14, at the Eastpoint firehouse house. They will be discussing relaying and shelling, and will still be doing sign-ups. They will also be asking for board member sign-ups and are still seeking a treasurer. The FCSWA will be discussing possible grant funding that may be available. Please attend.

If any questions, call Shannon Hartsfield, president, or Jennifer Millender, secretary, at (850) 597-0787

Putt Putters sought for May 19 tourney

The second annual miniature golf tournament to benefit the

Franklin County Library will be Saturday, May 19, at the Red Pirate Family Grill. Last year 19 teams vied for the trophy and green jackets, and more are expected this year. For more information or to sponsor a team, contact Anna Carmichael 370-6763 or anna.carmichael@yahoo.com.

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INVITATION TO BID

The FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS are requesting sealed bids from any qualified individuals or firms to perform the:

ALLIGATOR POINT DEBRIS OR COMPLETE REVETMENT REMOVAL PROJECT

BIDS will be received until **4:00 p.m., E.T., on Monday, May 14, 2012** at the office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, 33 Market Street, Suite 203, Apalachicola, FL 32320, and the bids will be opened in the Commission Chambers at the Courthouse Annex, 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola on **Tuesday, May 15, 2012 during the regularly scheduled county commission meeting which starts at 9:00 a.m.** The public is invited to attend.

A MANDATORY Pre-BID Meeting will be held on **Monday, May 7, 2012 at 1:30 p.m., E.T.**, at the site on Alligator Point - weather dependent. Point of Contact will be Michael Dombrowski, P.E. at 850-654-1555. BIDS will only be accepted from firms in attendance at this pre-BID meeting.

The WORK consists of the removal of unsuitable rock, concrete, and wood materials and other identified debris located along the existing granite revetment between DEP Reference Monument R-211.4 and R-213.1. FRANKLIN COUNTY will also consider alternate BIDS for the complete removal of the existing granite rock revetment in addition to the debris previously defined. The SUCCESSFUL BIDDER shall properly dispose of the materials as indicated in the BIDDING and CONTRACT DOCUMENTS. The date for the FINAL COMPLETION of the Work shall be 60 days from the date on the NOTICE TO PROCEED presented to the SUCCESSFUL BIDDER. Liquidated damages for failure to complete the WORK within the specified time frame shall be \$1,000.00 per day.

All BIDS must be made on the required BID Forms. **FRANKLIN COUNTY requires that all responses include a BID for removal of debris only and an ALTERNATE BID for complete removal of the revetment.** All blank spaces for BID prices must be filled in, in ink or typewritten, and the BID Form must be fully completed and executed when submitted. Please place "SEALED BID," YOUR COMPANY NAME, PROJECT NAME, and the BID NUMBER on the outside of the submitted envelope, and include the original bid, plus six (6) copies. The original bid plus six (6) copies should be included. The BID must conform to Section 287.133(3) Florida Statutes, on public entity crimes.

BIDDING and CONTRACT DOCUMENTS can be obtained from MRD ASSOCIATES, INC., 543 Harbor Boulevard, Suite 204, Destin, Florida 32541, (850) 654-1555. Cost for Plans and Specifications will be \$25.00 per set if sent via mail and is non-refundable, or no cost if sent via email. Checks shall be made out to MRD ASSOCIATES, INC.

FRANKLIN COUNTY reserves the right to accept or reject any and all BIDS in whole or in part, to waive informalities in the BIDDING or BIDDING AND CONTRACT documents, to obtain new BIDS, or to postpone the BID opening. Un-successful BIDS shall be valid for 90 days after the BID opening. FRANKLIN COUNTY is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Thursday, May 10th

5:00 p.m. EST

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Prenatal Sponsors - GCHD Women's Center, United Way of NWFL, North Florida Child Development, Franklin County Literacy, Bay County WIC, Sacred Heart Pediatrics, George E. Weems Memorial Hospital, Children's Home Society - Early Steps, Anchorage Children's Home and Healthy Families.

Time to move forward on countywide voting

By MEL KELLY
Special to the Times

Do you know what are the responsibilities and duties of our county commissioners?

According to Chapter 125 of Florida statutes, those responsibilities and duties include; prosecution and defense of legal causes in behalf of the county, they are to provide and maintain county building, they are to provide fire protection, provide hospitals, ambulance, health and welfare programs, provide parks, preserves, playgrounds, recreation areas, libraries, museums, historical commissions and other recreational and cultural facilities and programs.

County commissioners have the responsibility to prepare and enforce comprehensive plans for the development of the county. They are to establish, coordinate and enforce zoning and such business regulations as

are necessary for the protection of the public. They are to adopt and enforce housing and related technical codes and regulations. They are to enforce the Florida Building Code.

County commissioners shall establish and administer programs of housing, slum clearance, community redevelopment, conservation, flood and beach erosion control, air pollution control and navigation and drainage ... and cooperate in the development and operation of such programs. They shall provide and regulate waste and sewage collection and disposal, water and alternative water supplies.

The county commission shall provide and operate air; water, rail and bus terminals, port facilities and public transportation systems. They shall provide and regulate arterial, toll and other roads, bridges, tunnels,

regulate placement of signs, lights and other structures within the right-of-way of the county road system; provide and regulate parking facilities and develop and enforce plans for the control of parking. They will license and regulate taxis and jitneys and limousines for hire, rental cars and other passenger vehicles for hire...

County commissioners shall establish and enforce regulations for the sale of alcoholic beverages in the unincorporated areas of the county...

The county commission shall levy and collect taxes...borrow and expend money, issue bonds...create civil service systems and boards...employ an independent certified accounting firm to audit any funds, accounts and financial records of the county and its agencies, make investigations of county affairs; inquire into accounts, records and



THOUGHTS FOR THE TIMES
Mel Kelly

transactions of any county department, office or officer...

They shall place questions on the ballot... approve or disapprove issuance of industrial development bonds...use ad valorem tax revenues to purchase...land for the protection of natural floodplains, marshes, or estuaries; for use as wilderness or wildlife management areas...for preservation of significant archeological or historic sites.

Florida statutes clearly explain and direct that each county commissioner is to act and govern on behalf of the entire county and its population, not just for their own individual districts and voters.

A candidate commissioner would be required to live in their representative district, as now, but each voter would

have the new responsibility to choose a candidate based on the best interests of the whole county, as Florida Statutes direct.

So why have we allowed our Franklin County commissioners to ignore the will of their own county residents that was clearly demonstrated in a 2006 non-binding referendum? Sixty-nine percent of those voters approved a proposal for countywide voting to elect each commissioner, rather than the current district-by-district voting for special interests. The proposal passed in every precinct in the county. The people were clearly in favor of countywide voting. But nothing was changed.

It is time for our county to move forward on this popular mandate, and to take long-overdue action for Commissioners to accept their responsibilities as true, countywide representatives. Let's insist the voters be allowed to "git'r'dun" this time for real! Sign

a petition to require that the Supervisor of Elections holds a binding referendum election to determine whether the five county commissioners shall be elected by all county electors within the county at large. Contact Cora Russ immediately at Franklin County Voters' PAC, 198 Fifth St., Apalachicola, FL 32320. A time limit grows short for the collection of signatures. Without sufficient names on this round of referendum petitions, commissioners can continue to ignore the wishes of the voters.

With your petition signature and approval of countywide voting, each Franklin County voter - together with all the commissioners - can have a positive impact on the overall business and success of our entire county.

Mel Kelly is a frequent contributor to the Apalachicola and Carrabelle Times

It's time we know who has money in Florida's banks

By BRAD ASHWELL
Special to the Times

Believe it or not, the U.S. government doesn't currently know the identity of foreign citizens who have money in U.S. banks. Thankfully, that is about to change.

Thursday, the Treasury Department finalized a rule requiring U.S. banks to report information to the I.R.S. on deposit accounts held by nonresident aliens, as they have been required to do for U.S. citizen, resident and Canadian accounts. This is long overdue.

The U.S. Senate estimates tax haven abuses cost the I.R.S. some \$100 billion annually. As budget deficits soared after the financial crisis, the U.S. rightfully ramped up efforts to catch Americans evading taxes through secret offshore bank accounts. Uncle Sam has demanded

that foreign banks and governments hand over the names of U.S. citizens who have bank accounts in their countries in order to catch these tax-cheats and recover the lost tax revenue. Understandably, other governments have begun to demand the same from us, that we should share the names of their citizens who have accounts in the U.S.

The problem is the U.S. government doesn't collect information about deposit accounts held by foreigners within the U.S. because we don't tax them - making us a kind of tax haven for foreigners. Naturally, not having the information, it is very difficult for us to share with foreign governments.

Following a long consultation period, Treasury adopted the regulation this week which will simply provide the I.R.S. with this

necessary data: not to tax the accounts, merely to have the information should we need to share it with a foreign government, giving us the leverage needed to request the same from our diplomatic peers.

Surprisingly, this relatively straightforward proposal has garnered vocal opposition from Florida politicians.

Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) blasted the new rule as "disastrous" and claimed that of the roughly \$14 billion of foreign deposits held in Floridian banks, it would "encourage billions of dollars to flee Florida's economy."

Rep. Bill Posey (R-Fla.) went further, claiming the regulation would "cause irreparable harm to the

U.S. economy."

As a long-time Floridian, who cares significantly about the state and nation's economy, I can safely tell you that the sky is not falling. Quite the contrary.

Foreigners deposit money in the U.S. for a variety of reasons: Foreign companies doing business in America, foreigners supporting children as they attend American universities, foreigners paying taxes on real-estate and other U.S. assets, or simply foreigners wishing to take advantage of the stability of the American financial system. That is the bulk of the foreign money deposited in the U.S., and none of that money is going to go anywhere.

A small amount of

money will flee, no doubt, but it will be money that should not be propping up U.S. banks: money that is specifically tax evading in other countries, or that is the proceeds of crime such as drug smuggling, human trafficking, etc.

Rather, the information generated by this new regulation will strengthen the Floridian and American economies.

While tax dodging in Greece, Italy and elsewhere exacerbates the European debt crisis, further destabilizing the Europe, we have a vested interest - as Europe's largest trading partner - in helping our Mediterranean friends curtail tax evasion and stabilize their economies.

Moreover, if we are going to have any chance persuading foreign countries, like Switzerland, to provide us with information on

U.S. tax-cheats, we need to be able to reciprocate the favor. The new regulation will put us in that position.

Finally, Florida banks should not be handling criminal proceeds, the money that we believe will flee, especially given the state's problems with drug cartels and violent, organized crime. Florida banks should be doing everything they can to get rid of the money financing crime.

Despite the "Chicken Little" cries of the Florida Bankers Association, Sen. Rubio and Rep. Posey, the Treasury Department made a big step toward stabilizing and strengthening the Floridian, American and global financial systems.

Brad Ashwell is legislative advocate for the Florida Public Interest Research Group.

Audubon Florida savors top legislative priority

Gov. Rick Scott last month signed into law SB 1986 repealing water management district spending limits. The bill was Audubon Florida's top legislative priority.

"Repealing the previous year's cuts to water management district budgets is essential to financing Everglades restoration and other water resource programs," said Eric

Draper, Audubon Florida executive director. "This bill reflects growing consensus that protecting our water supplies requires public funds."

In 2011, SB 2142 forced Florida's five water management districts into severe staff cuts along with scaling back science, education, water supply,

and resource protection programs. The deep cuts to the water management agencies led legislative leaders and Governor Rick Scott to acknowledge the need to repeal spending limits.

"It is a sign of maturity when legislative leaders acknowledge they went too far and reverse direction,"

Draper said.

The bill also reestablishes a balanced review and approval process by the legislative and executive branches as the citizen appointed boards of the regional agencies put together annual budgets and set property tax limits as allowed by the Florida Constitution and state law.

Draper called on Scott to allow the water management districts to now raise and spend the funds necessary to steward's Florida's dwindling freshwater resources. "It makes sense to use property taxes to provide water for people and the economy while protecting our environment," he said.



THE TIMES

USPS 027-600
Published every Thursday at 129 Commerce St.
Apalachicola, FL 32329

Publisher: Rick Martin

POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Apalachicola Times
P.O. Box 820
Apalachicola, FL 32329
Phone 850-653-8868

PERIODICAL RATE POSTAGE PAID AT
APALACHICOLA, FL 32329
WEEKLY PUBLISHING
Circulation:
1-800-345-8688

Formerly The Apalachicola Times

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Speeding through the village must stop



DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

Jim Welsh raised money for the Knights of Columbus at Sunday's Riverfront Festival.

Good grief! It's May already. Time flies even if you're not having fun! Get the grills ready, and don't forget to buy a card and some flowers for Mom.

Had a great time at the Riverfront Festival. My Brother Knights and I thank you for your support and thanks to Steve Allen and crew for all their help. Mike Mock and his mom and dad stopped by to say hello. Cliff Carroll also stopped by. Mike and Cliff both are candidates for sheriff of Franklin County. Saw Bevin Putnal who is running for commissioner in District 5, which is Carrabelle's district.

Also saw a lot of friends and neighbors. See you same time next year! Most of my friends and neighbors were volunteers in the



LANARK NEWS
Jim Welsh

booths.

The ripping through the village is going to have to stop. Speed limit signs and stop signs are put up to be obeyed.

This Saturday night, May 5, is the Over 50 dance at the Franklin County Senior Center, 201 Avenue F in Carrabelle. Dust off, grab your main squeeze and come down and enjoy the evening with deejay Ron Vice.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 12. Members of the Lanark Village Boat Club will host a Mother's Day luncheon. Serving begins at noon, and mothers get their lunch free. A donation of \$5 will be collected from those attending.

Be kind to one another. Check in on the sick and house bound. God only gave you one mother; treat her with love and respect.

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

AIRPORT from page A1

Shuler said Karel Van Der Linden, Fly High president, told him the company would not sign the amended lease.

"They are going to send me a written reply, but he told me on the phone that the changes are unexpected by him and are too one-sided and create too much risk for him," Shuler told commissioners. "I disagree with him, but I cannot comment on the substance of his complaints because I have not received from him any indication what it is that he considers too one-sided and too risky."

Shuler said Van Der Linden indicated Friday he had 17 issues with the new contract and his attorney an additional 10.

"Over last 20 years, there's been a lot of issues at airport as far as the former FBO operator," said Commissioner Smokey. "The new operator wants same type of lease. I feel like we're being pushed around because of that time issue. All we want to do is make sure we provide a good service at that airport. With a blank 20-year lease you're not going to get that."

Chairwoman Pinki Jackel said, "We certainly dragged this out to the last minute and beyond the last minute. We knew in February we had extended this for 90 days."

Chuck Marks, a member of the airport board, agreed. "I don't understand why this has taken so long. I don't think it's that

complicated," he said, suggesting the commission appoint a committee to negotiate with Fly High.

"I'd like to see this get solved," said Airport Board Member Russell Crofton. "I'll call him (Van Der Linden) myself and ask him 'Do you want to do it or not?' At least then we'd know."

Jackel said she felt the county was negotiating from a strong position. "It's just a matter of getting to a point of commitment by both parties," she said.

"It's not a failure of this board or its attorney that he's not interacting with us," Parrish said. "The ball is in his court. He should have emailed Mr. Shuler and told him what the problems are."

Pilot Gary Settle, who Robinson introduced as a real estate colleague, told commissioners the airport generates tremendous income for the county, and that getting an FBO in place is key to operating the airport. He asked about installing self-serve equipment, noting that self-serve fuel is an important amenity at a small airport, especially at night when the field may be unattended.

County Planner Alan Pierce said self-serve equipment was purchased several years ago and is stored onsite but has not been installed at the airport after Ruic objected.

Mosteller said Tuesday afternoon that installation also was paid

for when the self serve equipment was purchased. He said telephone service must be reestablished and credit card processing equipment installed before any fuel sales are a possibility. He also noted Ruic has discontinued the car rental service that he owns and operates at the airport.

Shuler said he was investigating alternatives for temporary fuel service until a new FBO is hired. Robinson volunteered to pump gas until the problem could be solved.

"There has to be some kind of security out there. Airplanes are worth a lot of money. Ruic provided some security because he stayed on the airport." Crofton said.

SHIVER from page A1

grandmother (Selma Braswell Roberts), and mother (Connie Braswell Cooper) brought up their children. My paternal grandparents, Herbert and Sarah Watson, dwelled in Carrabelle where they raised my father, Steve Watson. Many Carrabellians remember my grandmother Sarah who served the public for many years as a nurse at the Carrabelle hospital.

As a 14-year retail associate of the U.S. Postal Service, I have considerable experience in public relations, problem solving, and accountability. I have also been in youth ministry with my husband for more than 16 years where I have cultivated skills in coordinating, budgeting, and planning. Prior to working for USPS, I worked five years as a correctional officer at Franklin Work Camp where supervision and behavioral management were my primary duties.

I attended Carrabelle High School from 1982-85 and transferred to Apalachicola High School where I graduated in 1988. Many transitions have taken place in the Franklin County school system from the time I attended school to the years of raising my children. Location, administration, and cultural changes have catapulted the need for strong leadership and sound choices. Many hurdles have been conquered through consolidation of the schools, yet there is a continual need for improvement.

Franklin County School has the potential to be an "A" school that parents will feel confident to send their child to receive the best possible education. To make that possible, educators need to remain relevant through training, students need adequate learning resources and our school administration needs to maintain a level of consistency.

Public schools have a responsibility to promote structure for a safe and positive atmosphere of learning. I resolve to seek out

innovative programs that will take a proactive approach to discipline so that classroom control is maintained. I would also like to see practical measures used to alleviate attendance issues. I believe open communication between administration, faculty, parents and students is the most effective way to prevent misbehavior and misunderstandings.

While education is the priority of the school system, athletics, the arts and non-athletic clubs are also essential and proven to teach discipline and culture. Courses that promote character development, skill training and life skills produce adolescents who are prepared for adulthood and the work force; this includes students with special needs. Preparing our children for self-sufficiency will ensure their contribution to the economics of our county. Academically gifted children are oftentimes under-challenged due to insufficient curriculum. No child should ever be limited because we are not willing to meet their needs and rise to their challenges. Responsible budgeting, "plugging holes in the bucket," and aggressive grant searching will ensure that these programs are sufficiently funded and retained.

The youth of today are the leaders of our county for tomorrow. It takes a village to raise a child and the values that we instill in them determine our own future. We only have one chance to get it right. If elected as your school board member for District 5, I will work diligently to uphold the code of conduct, remain accountable and responsible in spending and be available for your concerns and questions.

Please feel free to contact me at 670-8526 or via email Pamela.shiver@yahoo.com.

HOMES from page A1

With admission through a separate \$75 ticket for Friday's symposium, the day opens with a cocktail reception at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 3, at Apalachicola's Cotton Warehouse. Those who do not plan to take in all of the symposium events can purchase reception-only tickets for \$25 each, either at the door or online.

Friday opens with a breakfast in the church's rectory, followed by a lecture and tour at the Apalachicola Museum of Art by architect Willoughby Marshall, who restored the structure a few years ago to its present glory.

Moving through town on golf carts, participants next will attend, beginning at 10:45 a.m., a panel discussion at the newly restored Holy Family School, at Franklin Square on Sixth Street. Panelists include Warren Emo, a Tallahassee architect whose Chestnut House is on this year's tour; Beth LaCivita, who guided the project that produced the Apalachicola design guidelines; and Charles Olson, a Thomasville, Ga., architect active in preservation on a state level.

Lunch follows at the Owl Café, featuring a talk by Debbie Beard on Florida cracker homes, an architecture characterized by metal roofs, raised floors, large porch areas and straight central hallways from the front to the back of the home.

Owners of three of the city's historic renovations, the Nichols Building, the Chapman House and the Gibbon Inn., will provide tours of their buildings throughout the afternoon.

The traditional Home & Garden Tour gets underway at 5:30 p.m. Friday, with an Evensong service and wel-



DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

A look at some of the many items in Saturday's sealed bid auction.

come reception, along with a free lecture on the history and future of the Fort Coombs Armory, at that location at 6:30 p.m.

The tour commences Saturday at 10 a.m. and runs through 4 p.m. Featured this year is the home of famed photojournalist Richard Bickel, a Prairie-shingle style house from around 1909 once owned by the Whitesides, owners of the Apalachicola Ice Company.

The house at 96 6th St. features broad windows, board and batten wainscoting and other classic Craftsman features including built-in cabinets and period staircase. Bickel also has on display heirlooms and objects d'art from his many travels in Asia, the Middle East, Burma and India.

Tickets are available for \$15 each until the day of the tour, when sales begin at 9:30 a.m. for \$20 each. The lunch

of shrimp or chicken salad, together with fruit salad, broccoli cauliflower salad, roll, dessert and drink will be served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Trinity's parish hall at a cost of \$12 each. The sealed bid auction will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For complete information on the many aspects of this year's tour, visit www.apalachicolahistorichome-tour.org, or call the church at 653-9550 or the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce at 653-9419.

WHO'S ON THE TOUR

In addition to the Bickel home at the 96 Sixth St., this year's tour includes this array of homes and gardens, as well as access to the city's many historical buildings and churches, museums, inns, parks and assorted shops:

- The Tarrt Home (25 Fifth Ave.)
- The Marks / Clark Home (65 Ave. E)
- The Martin House (29 Fifth Ave.)
- The Seaton - Schley Home (50 Fifth St.)
- The Monod Home (79 Ave. G)
- The Smith-McCoy Home (76 Ave. G)
- The Jones Home (121 Ave. B)
- The Emo Home (67 Ave. C)
- The Trinity Church Memorial Garden
- The Williar Garden (31 Ninth St.)
- The Suarez Garden (59 Ave. G)
- The Vogt Garden (87 Ave. D)

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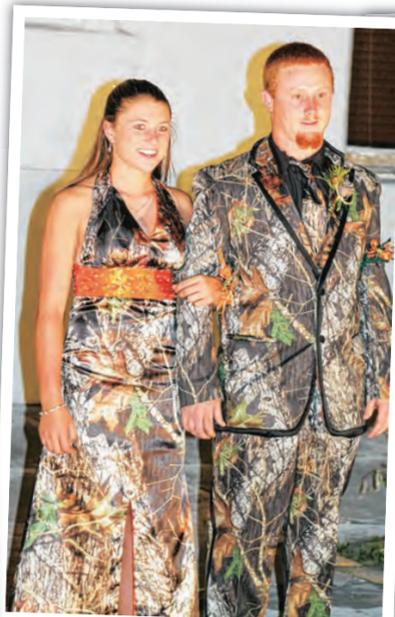
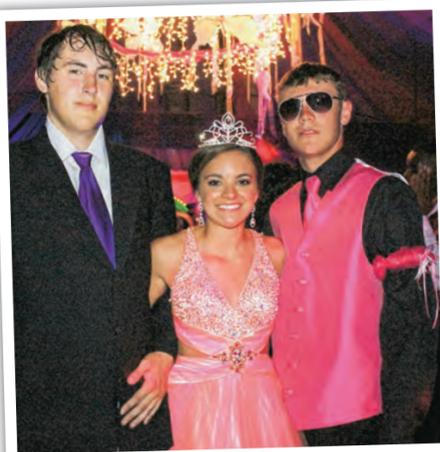
A mesmerizing affair

Franklin County High School's juniors and seniors stepped out in fine style Saturday night for the prom, a dazzling affair at the Fort Coombs Armory complete with jamming music and delicious food and all topped off with the performance of a hypnotist.

Named prom queen was senior Maegan Andrews, while seniors Stephen Jackson and Zach Armistead shared the honor of being named prom king.

Attending in formal attire were 140 students, with 20 chaperones on hand to ensure the prom ran smoothly. At the stroke of 11 p.m., Apalachicola presented the closest thing to an Academy Awards red carpet stroll, as the couples took part in the Grand March while scores of parents lined the corner of Fourth Street and Avenue D.

— By David Adlerstein



Photos by DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

Bestowed the prom queen tiara was senior Maegan Andrews, while seniors Stephen Jackson, left, and Zach Armistead shared the honor of prom king. Junior Morgan Mock and senior Marcus Dalton were resplendent in camouflage formal wear. Juniors Yvonne Mitchell and Jahrel Turner, from Panama City, step out in the Grand March. For a complete gallery of prom photos, visit www.apalachtimes.com or check out our Facebook page for the Apalachicola and Carrabelle Times.

Happy BIRTHDAY



Kaia Hathcock turns 1

Kaia Cates Hathcock celebrated her 1st birthday on Saturday, March 10, 2012, with family and friends. Kaia's party theme was zoo animals. Her 1st birthday cake had a zoo animal theme, which she enjoyed enthusiastically. The guest enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs and birthday cake. Toddler friends took home personalized hats filled with zoo animal toys and animal crackers.

Kaia is the daughter of Ricky and Kati Morgan Hathcock.

Maternal grandparents are Darren and Chimene Johnson of Eastpoint. Paternal grandparents are Ricky Hathcock and Cindy Summerhill of Eastpoint.



LOIS SWOBODA | The Times

The Southern Builders Association has held their annual meeting at Bay City Lodge for over a decade.

Builders' bash helps out Veterans Plaza

By LOIS SWOBODA
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lswoboda@starfl.com

The Southern Builders' Association performs good works without fanfare, as on Saturday, when a couple hundred people attended a cookout that raised more than \$3,000 for the Three Servicemen Detail South.

The benefit was hosted by the little-known benevolent organization, founded in 1916 and continually active as a business organization to this day, according to historian Merle Weaver.

In the early days of the building industry, all building supply companies were family-owned. During the first half of the 20th century, the SBA held an annual meeting, hosted at the homes of its members, to set prices for the upcoming season, an illegal practice. Over time, the family firms were replaced by companies like Lowe's and Home Depot, but a generation of young men who had attended the meetings since childhood didn't want to see the annual get-together die. So they continued the meetings as a social event, an opportunity to touch base with friends.

One major component of the meetings was food. The builders often cooked big communal meals to share around a common table.

Because many members were based in New Orleans, Cajun food was standard fare.

Atlanta's Joel Hammond, a former president of the association, said SBA members decided about 10 years ago to use their network and talents to raise funds for needy causes. What they knew best was cooking, so they began holding big cookouts for charity.

The organization took on juvenile diabetes as its special cause and has raised more than \$250,000 for research, about \$100,000 last year alone.

While Hammond was president, he moved the annual meeting to Bay City Lodge here in Franklin County, where it has been held for more than a decade.

When the group heard about plans to build a recreation area in Battery Park, they held a family day and raised money to purchase playground equipment. They also have made several substantial donations to the Three Servicemen Detail in the past, but this year they decided to do even more.

When the builders found out funding for maintenance of the monument was sparse (on occasion, the balance in the trust for the account has fallen below \$100), they told plaza founder Jimmy Mosconis they would host a fundraiser during

their annual visit.

On Saturday, with the support of several dozen local volunteers, the Patriots Day fundraiser became a reality, opening with a patriotic ceremony featuring speakers Col John House of Thomasville, Ga., who is running for Congress, and Col. John Baker of Carrabelle.

Angelina Stanley sang the National Anthem. Scout Troop 22 provided the color guard and several dozen motorcyclists provided a flag line. Ouida Sack created a lovely wreath that Jimmy Elliott and Al Mirabella laid at the base of the monument.

The lunch of jambalaya, white beans, cole slaw and lemonade, all donated by the SBA, sold for \$10 per plate. They raised additional funds raffling off a gift certificate among their membership. In addition, two anonymous members each donated \$500 to the upkeep of the Veteran's Plaza.

More than 200 people joined the celebration including Dan Sangaree, the county's oldest veteran at 100; and two World War II nurses. Mary Britz served with the Navy on West Coast helping injured warriors to return home and Ann Pillet, an Army nurse in North Africa.

Remaining food was donated to the new senior center at the Holy Family Center.

PET OF THE WEEK

Franklin County Humane Society

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Volunteers are desperately needed to socialize all of our 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. Anytime 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 logon to the website at www.forgottenpets.org to see more of our adoptable pets.

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Obituaries

Judy Talley Parks

Judy Talley Parks, of Apalachicola, died Saturday, Dec. 17, 2011, at home of natural causes. She was 61 years of age.



JUDY TALLEY PARKS

A family memorial service was Sunday, April 29, 2012, near Eastpoint where her ashes were spread on the sea.

She was born July 30, 1950, in Fairbury, Ill., the daughter of Francis M. (Bill) and Patricia Haner Ireland.

Judy was born in the heart of Midwest farm country, but her heart belonged to the South and the sea. As a young girl she left Illinois, moving to the coastal Mississippi area near Pass Christian and Bay Saint Louis where she graduated from high school. She later moved to the Fort Lauderdale area where she learned to enjoy diving. Years later she returned to the Midwest for a time, but eventually returned to the South and settled on the Gulf Coast in Eastpoint. Her Midwestern family members enjoyed numerous trips to visit and enjoy the Forgotten Coast.

Judy loved the sea and especially fishing. She was known to fish for everything from freshwater panfish to shrimp in the Gulf and oysters in the bay. She was never more at peace than when she had a pole in her hand.

She is survived by her mother, Patricia H. Waggoner of Pontiac, Ill., three sons; Rick Harper of Panama City, Dan Harper (Jenna) of Apalachicola, and Anthony McGavock (Julia) of Fort Bragg, NC; four grandsons Cameron Harper, Tanner Harper, Egan and Toryn McGavock; three siblings; Kay Slowen (Sam) and Jeff Ireland of Pontiac, Ill. as well as Susan Wikner (Aaron) of Cedar Falls, Iowa; eight nieces and nephews and seven great-nieces and nephews. One great niece, Kayla Mahon, whom Judy raised until the age of four, was especially dear to her.

Judy was preceded in death by her father, Bill Ireland, her maternal and paternal grandparents and an infant son, Christian.

Mary Whitesides Mann

Mary Whitesides Mann, of Eastpoint, passed away Tuesday, April 24, 2012, at the age of 87.

Mary was born in Hickory Grove, S.C., moved to Port St. Joe in 1990, and moved to Eastpoint last year to be with her daughter. She earned a doctorate degree and was a daycare operator for Nanny's Daycare in Port St. Joe for 17 years.

She was a member of Oak Grove Assembly of God Church in Port St. Joe where she taught Missionettes and was a Sunday school teacher for many years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Johnnie Watt Mann, Jr.; her parents, Horace Madison and

Bessie Blanche (Pratt) Whitesides; and a son-in-law, Don Adkison.

She is survived by a son, John Mann and his wife, Cindy, of Wewahitchka; two daughters, Sylvia Adkison, of Eastpoint, and Sandra Hanna and her husband, Dannie, of Blythewood, South Carolina; eight grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Friday afternoon, April 27, at Oak Grove Assembly of God Church in Port St. Joe with the Rev. Dave Fernandez and the Rev. James Wiley officiating.

Adams Funeral Home in Blountstown is in charge of the arrangements. Online condolences may be made at adamsfh.com.

Charles Ray Tucker

Charles Ray Tucker was born Dec. 19, 1941, in Eastpoint to Rose and Jake Tucker. He passed away at his home Thursday, April 26, 2012.

Charles Ray was a commercial fisherman and lifelong resident of Eastpoint.

He is survived by his children, Jake Stevenson Tucker and Charles Scott Tucker; siblings, Robert Tucker and Winnie James; stepchildren,

Carol Nichols, Georgette Colson, Eric Evans, Cheryl Evans, John Evans, and Alicia Odom; 16 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were Wednesday afternoon, May 2 at the Eastpoint Church of God with burial in Eastpoint Cemetery. Viewing was from noon to 1 p.m., immediately prior to funeral services.

Kelley Funeral Home is handling all arrangements.

Feather in your CAP

The Times is pleased to introduce a new feature to the paper, "Feather in your Cap." It's not a thank-you, but an expression of pride in someone's achievement, in their dedication, in their effort. It isn't limited to school things, either: It can be for anyone, young and old.

Good job studying for the FCAT

We are VERY PROUD of our two fifth-graders, Mitchell Monroe Jr., and Brindlin Monroe, for persisting through months of Saturday School FCAT Camp and the weeklong FCAT tests!

Your hard work will pay off! We love you so much and cannot tell you how proud we are of you!

Love, Daddy and Shary



MITCHELL MONROE



BRINDLIN MONROE

Looking forward: A break, but not a finale

By Pamela and Scott Shiver
Special to the Times

As the readers of our "Youth Matters" column now know, I will be running for school board in District

5 this year. Scott and I feel that in fairness we should "postpone" our weekly column until the election process is over to maintain political etiquette. We have full intentions of continuing the article when the

election is over if all goes as planned. God bless each of you.

We welcome all suggestions and hope you have enjoyed this column. Please send all emails to Scott Shiver at frontline247@mac.com.

Cards of THANKS

The Tucker Family

I would like to thank the friends and family who came for Rod's funeral services and burial, especially the Rev. Donnie and Jean Crum for the beautiful service and beautiful song, Mr. Charles Thompson and wife Faye for my special song, Kelley Funeral home for their services, and for all the beautiful flowers.

Thanks and God bless,
Wynette Tucker, mother
Nicole Tucker, niece

St. Augustine Trip

I would like to thank Ms. Donna Barber and the fourth-grade parents at Franklin County School for their dedication and hard work with many fund-raisers to make the money for our annual trip to St. Augustine. This will be a trip of a life-time and a wonderful learning experience for our students, parents and teachers. Thanks for sharing your children with us. This has been a fantastic school year.

Sincerely,
Laura King

Big Bend Hospice

A Big Bend Hospice family member calls to have someone come sit with their mother so they can go to a graduation ceremony. A grieving husband receives a phone call from a volunteer checking in to see how he is holding up. A patient in his last days receives honor and thanks from a team of volunteers who are also veterans. These caring people live and work right here in Franklin County and share their time and energy as Big Bend Hospice volunteers.

Big Bend Hospice was founded by volunteers 29 years ago to provide a different, more compassionate way to finish life's journey. Today we serve more than 71 patients each year in Franklin County and within our eight-county service area we served 1,741 patients last year.

Volunteering does not necessarily mean working directly with patients. Although all our patients and their families are offered a volunteer to help with errands, provide transportation and offer companionship, there are other opportunities to volunteer. Advisory Council members, for

example, meet monthly and act as ambassadors in their community, advising Big Bend Hospice on issues in their county and helping to increase awareness of hospice services.

"I've been fortunate to have enjoyed a fulfilling career and be able to retire at a relatively young age. I wanted to change my focus and start by giving back to the community, and Big Bend Hospice seemed to be a natural fit," said Karla Ambos, a volunteer with the Franklin County Advisory Council. These sentiments are echoed by A.J. Smith another council volunteer, "It means giving pieces of the good parts of yourself to others."

During National Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 15 - 21, Big Bend Hospice saluted the caring men and women who volunteer in Franklin County. Currently serving as Big Bend Hospice volunteers are Ambos, Smith, Jerry Butterfield, Judy Cook, Bobbie Dees, Donnie Gay, Sandi Hengle, Beverly Hewitt, Pam Mahr, and Joe and Jeanette Taylor.

If you are interested in becoming a Big Bend Hospice volunteer please call 850-926-9308 for more information.

Faith BRIEFS

Baptist school hosts Saturday yard sale

The First Baptist Christian School will hold a fundraiser yard sale this Saturday, May 5, at the church, 46 9th St. in Apalachicola, starting at 8 a.m. We had some things left over from the last one and in the meantime we have accumulated a lot more good stuff. For more info, call 670-8799.

Apalachicola reunion organizers to meet Saturday

There will be a meeting of organizers for this year's Apalachicola Reunion on Saturday, May 5 at 11 a.m. The meeting will be at the Franklin Square Recreation Center on Sixth Street. Anyone interested in helping with this year's reunion please join us. You may also email inquiries to apalachreunion12@yahoo.com.

Housing Fair in Eastpoint May 12

The non-profit Franklin County Community Development & Land Trust Corporation will present a free Housing Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 12 at the Eastpoint fire house, 26 Sixth St. The fair offers an opportunity to answer housing questions with several knowledgeable experts. Free hotdogs and drinks will be served.

In addition to the community development corporation, the following organizations will have expert representatives ready to answer housing questions: The Realtors Association of Franklin and Gulf Counties; Forgotten Coast Builders Association; Franklin County SHIP Program (offering down payment and closing cost assistance, and renovation loans; USDA Rural Development (offering federal

government direct and insured mortgage loans; Florida Housing Finance Corporation; the Capital Area Community Action Agency; Habitat For Humanity of Franklin County; Franklin's Promise Coalition; and Big Bend Homeless Coalition.

For more information, call Randall Webster at 850-933-3355 or email email@randallwebster.com.

Fireworks planned for Independence Day in Apalachicola

The Apalachicola Independence Day celebration is currently in the final planning stage. Apalachicola Main Street will host the festivities with food, music, beverages and a professional fireworks display.

The party is planned for Tuesday, July 3 to avoid conflict with the traditional July 4 fireworks display on St. George Island. Fireworks will be launched from a barge anchored in front of Riverfront Park on the Apalachicola River.

Main Street is seeking funding for the event from local businesses and private citizens. All signs indicate that this type of celebration has tremendous support and has excited everyone.

Main Street appreciates all those who have already contributed funds for the celebration. We still need funds to cover the cost of fireworks.

To donate to this event, contact Harry Arnold at 524-0770 or Jim Bachrach at 653-8520. All contributors will be recognized at Apalachicola's Independence Day celebration. Let's make this a day to remember for our town.

The Main Street program's mission is to involve the community in the preservation and enhancement of our downtown business district.

Trinity Episcopal Church

est. 1836



Welcomes You

Hwy. 98 & 6th St.
Apalachicola
850-653-9550

Sunday Worship Services
8 & 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays
Healing Service 11 a.m.
Centering Prayer 4 p.m.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH



WELCOMES YOU

Church of the Ascension

101 NE First Street
Carrabelle
SUNDAY
10:00 AM

(850) 545-2578

The United Methodist Churches of Franklin County Welcome You

First United Methodist Church of Apalachicola

Worship Service 11:00 a.m. every Sunday
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

75 5th St. Apalachicola - 653-9530 - fumcapalach@tcom.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: Aaron Batey

Eastpoint United Methodist Church

Worship Service 9:00 a.m. every Sunday
Sunday Brunch 10 a.m.

Youth Group Tuesdays 6 p.m.
317 Patton Dr. (corner of David St.)
Pastor: Aaron Batey

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.sgiuimc.org
Pastor: Rev. Themo Patriotis

First Baptist Church

St. George Island
501 E. Bayshore Drive
927-2257

R. Michael Whaley, Pastor
Join us as we praise and worship the living Christ.
"Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise." Psalm 145:3

Sunday Bible Study 10:00am
Worship Praise 11:00am
Sunday Night 7:00pm
Wednesday - "Power Hour" 7:00pm
Wednesday - "Youth at S.P.L.A.S.H." 7:00pm
"Walking in Christ"

First Pentecostal Holiness Church

379 Brownsville Road • Apalachicola

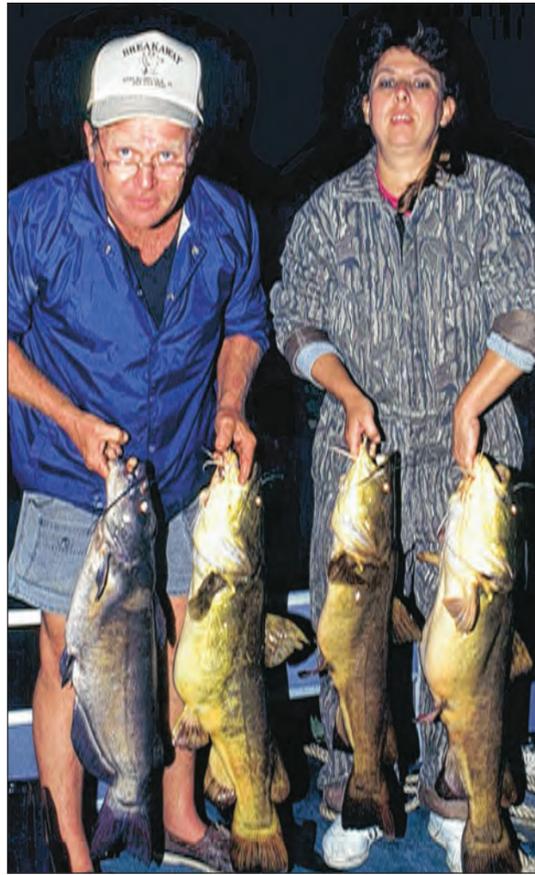
We're excited about what God's doing!!!

Sunday School	9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship	10:45 am
Sunday Evening Service	6:00 pm
Monday, Youth Group	7:00 pm
Wednesday, Royal Rangers, G.A.P.	7:00 pm
Wednesday Worship & Word	7:00 pm

Nursery Provided during regular church services

STRANGE CATS

Flatheads common in local rivers



FWC | Florida Freedom Newspaper

Wayne Porter and Lucretia Leath of Blountstown caught a big channel cat and three nice flatheads while fishing at night in the Apalachicola River.

By **STAN KIRKLAND**
Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission

A Jackson County man fishing in the Apalachicola River near Chattahoochee in 1982 landed the strangest catfish he had seen. It turned out he had a flathead catfish, a species of catfish not native to the southeastern U.S.

Now, three decades later, flatheads are in every river in the Florida Panhandle from the Ochlockonee River west to the Escambia River. They are in the rivers by the thousands, a testament to their ability to thrive outside their native range.

Sometimes called shoeheds or Apalooosa cats, because of their flattened heads and mottled color, they are native to lakes and rivers of the Midwestern U.S. In fact, some anglers go after flatheads in the shallower waters of their native range by using their hands

to grab the fish during spawning, a type of fishing called "noodling."

The spread of flatheads to our local rivers has had an effect on other fish populations, according to Chris Paxton, regional fisheries biologist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

"Smaller flatheads will go after crayfish, but as these fish get up to several pounds they become live fish eaters," he said. "They will literally eat anything smaller than they are that happens to swim by them. Species like bullheads and river redbreast bream are two species that have certainly been impacted."

Paxton said some anglers are hoping the FWC will come up with a "silver bullet" to reduce or eliminate flatheads. He said study projects in other states in the Southeast indicate once flatheads are found in a waterway, they are there

to stay.

If there is a silver lining to the flathead saga, Paxton said it's that the fish is good to eat. He said most anglers catch them using small live bream and fish when flatheads are actively feeding around daybreak, late in the day or at night.

Some communities on the Apalachicola River even have figured how to cash in on the flathead expansion by holding flathead fishing tournaments, offering cash money and trophies to the top participants.

Just how big flatheads will get in Florida waters is up for debate. In October 2011 Milton angler Eric Auston Jr. caught a 55.05 pound fish from the Yellow River and set a new Florida record in the process. In their native range they grow to more than 100 pounds. Fisheries biologists say they likely will reach similar weights here.

The mystery of the Wisconsin

By **LOIS SWOBODA**
653-1819 | @ApalachTimes
lswoboda@starfl.com

How did the model of a battleship built in Los Angeles end up in a Wakulla County landfill?

Several years ago, Alan Ritchie, a park ranger at who operates tour boats at Wakulla Springs State Park, was contacted by a friend who had found an unusual boat about to be destroyed at the Wakulla County landfill. Ritchie's friend rescued the boat but had no idea how to repair her.

Because Ritchie is skilled in boat repair his friend offered the Wisconsin to him. "I grew up on the water; my first car was a sailboat and when it got a hole, I had to fix it," Ritchie said.

Intrigued by the project, Ritchie went to check it out, and what he found surprised him. The boat was an 18-foot fiberglass model of the battleship Wisconsin.

Ritchie spent two years restoring the battleship to her former glory inside and out. While he worked, he tried to research the origin of his strange find and came upon the story of Cecil Gates. The son of an engineer and a school teacher, Gates was born in Kauai, in what is now the state of Hawaii, and spent most of his childhood there.

It was there that he built his first boat, the "Flying Cloud." As a teenager, he moved to Honolulu with his family and he was 17 when Pearl Harbor was attacked.

That morning, he was building an outrigger canoe in his backyard when he saw the war planes overhead. Gates watched the Navy ship Arizona burn. He later said the experience changed his life.

After serving in Gen. George Patton's Third Army during World War II, Gates completed his college de-

gree and taught industrial arts for 35 years before retiring.

In 1972, he undertook a new hobby: model ship construction. Always one to think big, Gates constructed his first model battleship the 18-foot, seaworthy USS Indiana.

The Indiana was navigable from within. He and wife Pat, also a retired teacher, began traveling with the boat with the goal of teaching kids about the heroism and sacrifice of the Navy.

He went on to construct three more 18-foot battleships for the Navy; the Wisconsin was one of these. In addition, he constructed a 23-foot aircraft carrier and a 23-foot model of the Titanic.

In 1982, Gates met a new challenge. An acquaintance offered him two 18-foot hull sections of fiberglass that were used as props representing the USS Arizona and the USS Pennsylvania in the 1970 movie "Tora! Tora! Tora!" The hulls had been stored for a while on the back lot of 20th Century Fox Studios before being publicly auctioned. After purchase, they sat deteriorating in a shed in Pasadena until they were given to Gates. He used the fiberglass to construct his final model, a 36-foot, 1:20 replica of the USS Arizona that the Gates' nicknamed ZOE.

The completed miniature gray lady was launched on Lake Almanor at the Gates' home on July 3, 1984. At her launching, Pat read to the waiting crowd, "This ship is to honor the 1,102 men entombed in the Pearl Harbor Arizona since Dec. 7, 1941. May all Americans who see this ship remember the sacrifice of these men who gave their lives that we may enjoy the freedoms we have today. I christen you the image, the reflection, the likeness, the replica of the original USS Arizona.



LOIS SWOBODA | The Times

Restorer Alan Ritchie poses with the Wisconsin, a navigable craft.

Godspeed you on your way to honor the brave men enshrined in the Pearl Harbor Arizona."

This largest member of Gate's little fleet has seats for two passengers.

He and Pat, with Capts. Bill Brockett and Skip Crabtree made eight river trips with the Friendship Fleet over the years logging more than 6,000 miles. In addition the Friendship Fleet made numerous celebrity appearances and the ships toured the coast of the eastern U.S. and the Gulf of Mexico.

The Arizona's last appearance with Cecil and Pat was in December 1991 in the lobby of Hawaii's Sheraton Waikiki Hotel as a part of the 50th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack.

The experience there with the remaining survivors of the Arizona was the apex of all their journeys. For nine days of a continuous flow of onlookers passed the ship and she was paraded through the streets.

In 2002, Pat Gates published a book recounting their maritime adventures entitled "You Can't Go In-cognito in a Battleship."

The Gateses retired to Costa Rica and Cecil passed away in 2011.

Ritchie is in contact with Pat Gates who told him one of the battleships, the USS Alabama is in Mobile, The USS Arizona is at a VFW post in Arizona and the aircraft carrier is in Texas but she has no idea how the Wisconsin wound up here.

WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, May 3	79°	68°	30 %
Fri, May 4	80°	66°	20 %
Sat, May 5	83°	67°	0 %
Sun, May 6	84°	69°	0 %
Mon, May 7	84°	69°	0 %
Tues, May 8	82°	67°	0 %
Wed, May 9	82°	69°	30 %

TIDE TABLES MONTHLY AVERAGES

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

	HIGH	LOW
Cat Point	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:

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

APALACHICOLA

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
3	Th	2:47am 1.3	1:52pm 1.5	8:22am 0.8	9:19pm 0.0
4	Fr	4:04am 1.4	2:20pm 1.6	9:08am 0.9	10:06pm -0.2
5	Sa	5:13am 1.5	2:51pm 1.7	9:51am 1.1	10:53pm -0.3
6	Su	6:15am 1.5	3:26pm 1.8	10:30am 1.2	11:42pm -0.4
7	Mo	7:14am 1.5	4:06pm 1.8	11:09am 1.3	
8	Tu	8:10am 1.5	4:51pm 1.8	12:32am -0.4	11:50am 1.3
9	We	9:02am 1.4	5:41pm 1.7	1:24am -0.3	12:40pm 1.3
10	Th	9:50am 1.4	6:37pm 1.6	2:18am -0.2	1:43pm 1.2
11	Fr	10:33am 1.4	7:43pm 1.4	3:14am 0.0	3:04pm 1.1
12	Sa	11:10am 1.4	9:06pm 1.3	4:09am 0.1	4:34pm 1.0
13	Su	11:43am 1.4	10:52pm 1.1	5:04am 0.3	5:58pm 0.8
14	Mo	12:12pm 1.4		5:57am 0.5	7:07pm 0.5
15	Tu	12:52am 1.1	12:39pm 1.5	6:47am 0.7	8:03pm 0.3
16	We	2:35am 1.2	1:04pm 1.5	7:33am 0.9	8:51pm 0.1

CARRABELLE

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
3	Th	1:22am 2.1	12:27pm 2.4	6:09am 1.3	7:06pm 0.0
4	Fr	2:39am 2.2	1:25pm 2.6	6:55am 1.4	7:53pm -0.3
5	Sa	3:48am 2.4	1:26pm 2.7	7:38am 1.8	8:40pm -0.5
6	Su	4:50am 2.4	2:01pm 2.9	8:17am 1.9	9:29pm -0.6
7	Mo	5:49am 2.4	2:41pm 2.9	8:56am 2.1	10:19pm -0.6
8	Tu	6:45am 2.4	3:26pm 2.9	9:37am 2.1	11:11pm -0.5
9	We	7:37am 2.2	4:16pm 2.7	10:27am 2.1	
10	Th	8:25am 2.2	5:12pm 2.6	12:05am -0.3	11:30am 1.9
11	Fr	9:08am 2.2	6:18pm 2.2	1:01am 0.0	12:51pm 1.8
12	Sa	9:45am 2.2	7:41pm 2.1	1:56am 0.2	2:21pm 1.6
13	Su	10:18am 2.2	9:27pm 1.8	2:51am 0.5	3:45pm 1.3
14	Mo	10:47am 2.2	11:27pm 1.8	3:44am 0.8	4:54pm 0.8
15	Tu	11:14am 2.4		4:34am 1.1	5:50pm 0.5
16	We	11:0am 1.9	11:39am 2.4	5:20am 1.4	6:38pm 0.2

Sponsor the WEEKLY ALMANAC
Call Today! **653-8868**

FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



Freshwater

• Good reports from the Howard Creek area have been that of plenty of channel cats and keeper bass. Bream and shellcraker are holding in good numbers on Depot Creek, and sheepshead are in the Brothers and into the main channels on the Apalachicola River.

Inshore

• St. Joe Bay is producing great trout this week. We have had several reports from Black's Island and around Pig Island with great sized flounder and big trophy trout. Some red fish are hanging around the Eagle Harbor and Pomano Point area.

Offshore

• As the springtime weather comes to a close, summer time conditions will soon be upon us. Offshore water temps are getting close to the 80 degree mark, and soon we will see the return of king fish, mahi-mahi, and wahoo.

2012 BWO ONLINE FISHING RODEO

SPONSORED BY CALCAUTTA AND WRIGHT MCGILL

This month's grand prize: Calcutta prize pack includes, gear bag, T-shirt, a pair of sunglasses, decals, visor and drink coozie \$129.99 value Wright McGill Blair Wiggins S-curve rod with a Sabalos SAB 30 reel combo, \$100.00 gift card for online shopping at Bluewater

MAY FEATURED FISH: SPANISH MACKEREL

BLUEWATER OUTRIGGERS

"Your Hunting Headquarters"

Corner of Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, FL (next to Piggly Wiggly) www.BWOfish.com

Seahawks fall in playoff cliffhanger

By **DAVID ADLERSTEIN**
 653-8894 | @ApalachTimes
 Dadlerstein@starfl.com

The Franklin County Seahawks varsity baseball team closed out the 2012 season last month in the opening game of the district playoffs, losing an 8-7 nail-biter against South Walton on April 23 at Bozeman.

The Seahawks, who finished 3-9 in district play and 6-19 overall, jumped

ahead 6-1, after exploding for four runs in the top of the second.

In their opening at-bats, the Seahawks took a 2-0 lead, after Austin Larkin reached first on a fielder's choice, advanced to third on a Skyler Hutchinson single and scored when Brennan Walden singled to left field. Hutchinson scored when James Newell slammed a line drive single to center.

In the top of the second,

Seth Rogers got the rally going when he led off with a double, and then advanced to third on a sacrifice by Logan McLeod. Rogers and McLeod scored when Zach Armistead singled to center. After Buffkin sacrificed and Larkin walked, Buffkin and Armistead scored when Walden smacked a single to center.

South Walton, which managed only two hits, one each given up by pitchers Hutchinson and Armistead, fought their way back in the game, and tied it up 6-6 after four innings.

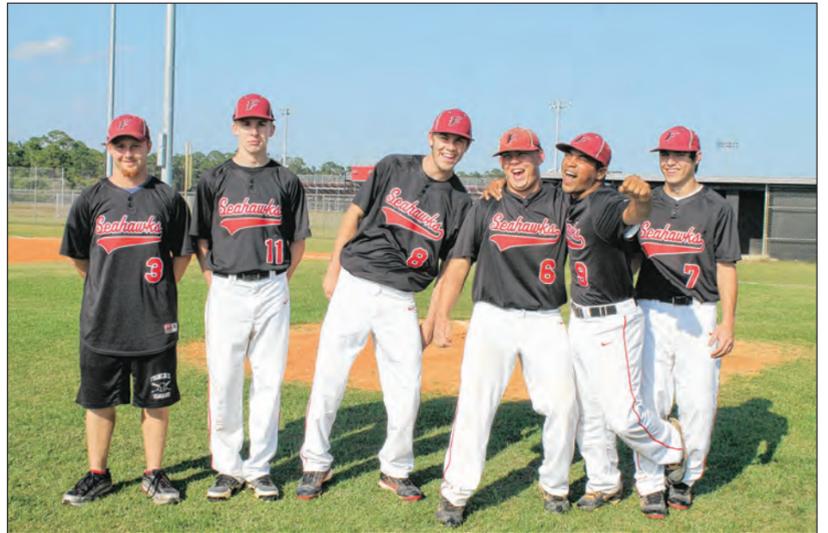
In the top of the fifth, Buffkin reached on a fielder's choice and then advanced when Larkin singled. A Hutchinson walk loaded the bases, which led to a Buffkin score when Walden singled to center.

Clinging to a thin 7-6 lead, the Seahawks, who had banged out 11 hits on the day, gave up a pair of runs in the bottom of the sixth to endure the loss.

Walden shone at the plate, going 4-for-5 and tallying four RBIs. Armistead added a pair of RBIs, while he went 1-for-3 at the plate.

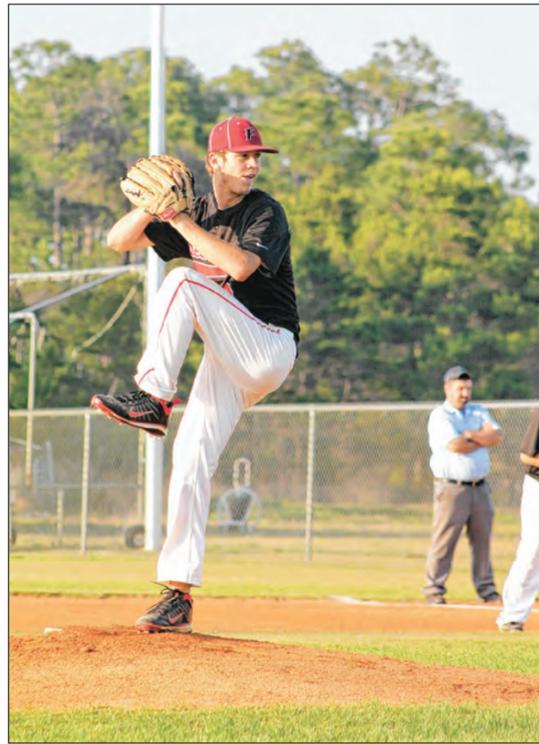
On the mound, Hutchinson walked four and struck out one, while giving up six runs, while Armistead in relief walked two, struck out two and gave up two runs.

In their last three outings, the Seahawks were shelled 10-0 by Aucilla Christina, while losing



Photos by **DAVID ADLERSTEIN** | The Times

Players honored on Senior Night are, from left, Marcus Dalton, Chance Buffkin, Zach Armistead, Colton Sheridan, Brennan Walden and Austin Larkin.



Zach Armistead on the mound

close ones, both 5-2, to Bozeman and Arnold.

On April 10 at home against Bozeman, the Seahawks fell behind 2-0 and then tied it up in the bottom of the fifth when Buffkin singled, and advanced when both Walden and Hutchinson were hit by pitches. Buffkin and Hutchinson both scored on a Newell double to left.

Three runs by Bozeman in the top of the seventh spelled defeat for Franklin County. Newell went the distance on the mound, striking out four, walking three and giving up just one earned run on nine hits.

On April 17 at Aucilla,

the Seahawks managed only two hits, a Larkin single in the first and a Buffkin single in the sixth. Hutchinson and Walden shared pitching duties in the 10-0 loss, as Hutchinson struck out three and walked three while giving up eight runs, and Walden struck out two and walked one while giving up two runs.

On April 19 at Arnold, the Seahawks spotted Arnold a pair of runs, and then tied it up in the top of the fourth. After Hutchinson reached on an error, Walden singled to advance him, and Newell sacrificed to advance both runners. Hutchinson scored after Rogers reached on

an error, and then Walden scored on an Armistead single to left.

Arnold added three more runs to ensure their win. Armistead went the distance for the hawks, striking out eight, walking three and giving up three earned runs on nine hits over six innings.

At Senior Night at The Nest April 13, Armistead was honored along with fellow seniors Marcus Dalton, Chance Buffkin, Brennan Walden, Austin Larkin and Colton Sheridan. Escorted by their parents, each was presented with a large framed photograph of them playing.



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Former Camp Gordon Johnston

US Army Corps of Engineers

The US Army Corps of Engineers is conducting a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) at the former Camp Gordon Johnston, a Formerly Used Defense Site in Franklin County. During World War II, the military used over 159,000 acres for an Army Amphibious Training Center. The site surrounds (but does not include) the Town of Carrabelle and is bounded to the north by the Apalachicola National Forest, the Gulf of Mexico to the south and east and Tate's Hell Swamp to the west. It also includes Dog Island. The purpose of the study is to determine what type of contamination may be present as a result of past military activities and where it might be. This notice is to let you know we are:

- ▶ Conducting a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study.
- ▶ Soliciting interest in a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB).
- ▶ Holding a community meeting.

It is important for the public to participate in the remedial process, so the Corps is considering establishing a RAB. RABs include people from the community, government, environmental regulators and the Corps. Members review and comment on materials related to restoration activities and serve as voluntary liaisons between the community and the Corps. They receive no compensation. Call 866.279.4880 or email FUDS.Florida@usace.army.mil if you are interested in serving.

We are holding a community meeting on May 10, 2012 at 6:30 pm at Chillas Hall in Lanark Village. We will describe how the military used the site and explain previous and current investigations.

Project documents are available for review at the Franklin County Public Library, Carrabelle Branch located at 311 St. James Avenue, Carrabelle, Florida 32322.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL For AUDITING SERVICES

The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners (the "County") is requesting proposals from firms or individuals for the provision of professional Audit Services.

Late submittals received after the deadline date, either by Mail, or otherwise, will not be considered and returned unopened. The time of receipt will be determined by the time received in the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioner's office. It is the sole responsibility of the firm for assuring that the RFP is received in the clerk's office by the designated date and time. No faxed, electronic or oral RFP will be accepted.

To be considered, Firm/Team must submit an original and ten (10) copies of RFP in a sealed envelope or package, clearly marked with the Firm/Team's name and address, and the words "Audit Services: RFP" addressed to: Franklin County Board of County Commissioners, Franklin County Clerk of Court, 33 Market Street, Suite 203, Apalachicola, FL 32320. RFP's will be received until 4:30 p.m., Local Time, on Monday, May 14, 2012. RFP's will be opened at the Franklin County Board of County Commission Meeting Tuesday, May 15, 2012, at the Franklin County Courthouse Annex Board Room.

Copies of required information for the RFP, Financial Statements and Budgets are available in the Franklin County Clerk of Court's office, 33 Market Street, Suite 203, Apalachicola, FL 32320, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., E.T., as well as the county website at www.franklincountyflorida.com

The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids deemed in the best interest of the County.

Attend: Community Meeting, May 10, 2012
 at 6:30 pm
 Chillas Hall, 156 Heffernan Drive, Lanark Village

Visit: <http://fuds.saj.usace.army.mil>
 Franklin County Public Library
 Carrabelle Branch

Call: 866.279.4880

Email: FUDS.Florida@usace.army.mil

The Fish Fashion Show's Water Dragon, brought to life by Miranda and Kayla Pilger. **Far right**, Cayce Daniels was delightful as the Estuary Fairy



Photos by DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

Your County Library

Before celebrating Cinco de Mayo, there was a Cinco de Mayo Storytime in Carrabelle on Tuesday afternoon, May 1. Don't forget to visit Franklin County Public Library in Eastpoint this Friday, May 4 at 3:30 p.m. for "El Dia De Los Niños and Los Libros," which translated means the "Day of the Children and the Books."

This celebration of books is celebrated at libraries all around the United States. It promotes awareness of the children who have the ability to speak and understand more than the English language. This is the sixth annual celebration at the Eastpoint Branch offering bi-lingual activities for children of all ages. There will be a puppet show featuring puppeteer Ed Aguiar and library volunteer Kate Aguiar acting as narrator for the featured "Chicks and Salsa" book.

Other activities for this event are derived from other cultures since there are families from diverse populations that live here in Franklin County. The library offers bilingual materials for these families including adult and children's books, audios, and DVDs.

New families to this region may not know of the assistance offered at the library and other county agencies. Please call for more details at the Eastpoint branch, 670-8151 or 697-2366 at the Carrabelle branch.

RIVERFRONT from page A1

The new set created a new focal point for the festival, away from the pavilion which now was entirely under the direction of the Carrabelle senior citizens. As permanent hosts, the seniors raised more than \$700, offering lunches and dinners and Miss Merle's pies, providing courtesy limo rides and socializing with guests, meeting and greeting everyone with small-town warmth.

Back at the stage, musicians Debi Jordan and Kimberly Harrington warmed up for the afternoon's main attraction, the ever-popular Fishy Fashion Show, hosted by Joan Matey, who co-created the event some years back with Jan Neshat.

"I have learned that I have to take extra care that the outfits fit the models, and they have to look good in them. The costumes look great on a hanger, but it's a big challenge to make them fit whichever volunteers are in them," said Matey, whose narration describing the various detritus that formed the outfits was as funny as the clothes themselves.

With a nice painted backdrop by Christopher Massey, and easy access to the stage from the former Riverview Restaurant, the show opened with a wedding ceremony conducted by "Captain" Chuck Spicer, of Ashlyn Mitchell, as the Bayside Bride, and Josh Childs, as the Sea Tramp Groom.

Following the imaginary nuptials



John Hosford as the Maritime Marshal works to rustle up buyers of duck race tickets.

were, in order: Sponge Bonnet Sue (Chelsie Woods), Crabbin' Belle (Alice Mathis), Red Tide She-Devil (City Commissioner Charlotte Schneider), Cabana Gal (Brandy Strops), Ann-net (Stephanie Provenzano), Maritime Marshal (John Hosford), Estuary Fairy (Cayce Daniels), Sea Vamp (Lesley Cox), Defender of the Deep (Dan Cox), Princess of the Sea (Samantha Emswiler), Beach Bandito (Christopher Massey) and an enormous Water Dragon, brought to life by Miranda and Kayla Pilger.

An huge plastic duck that sat in the middle of the grounds touted the Carrabelle Lions Club duck

race, which ended up raising more than \$1,100 as ticketholders watched to see if their numbered ducky would be first down the river. The winner of the \$750 prize went to John Posey.

Musical storytellers Ken Horne and Howard Pardue were joined in part by banjo player Frank Lindamood as they performed bluegrass and folk songs to an audience lounging on hay bales.

The national historic landmark the "Governor Stone," a 65-foot two-mast schooner built in 1877, took visitors out on a couple trips during the day, but mainly it was for boarding and picture taking.

Mimi Shaw of, BJ's s Party House Klown Kapers, brought down a troupe of about two dozen swashbuckling pirates, actors who performed skits and sword fights as impromptu "performance art" in keeping with the theme of "Pirates of the Carrabellian."

"We do this four or five years and we'll become the pirate festival for the region," Allen said. "There's a whole group of people who love pirates."

The sand sculpture was gone this year, with those funds going to children's activities that included a kidZONE, a pirate's treasure hunt for toddlers, and plenty of arts and crafts.

Allen said thought is being given to turning the event, which receives support from the Tourist Development Council, into a Friday

and Saturday show, with Friday evening catering to adults, but no alcohol, and "a really wholesome kid friendly thing on Saturday," Allen said.

"Now that we have a stage we already have people calling us and wanting to play," he said. "We've created something that's a venue now. It's a matter of ramping that up and doing more along those lines."

The stage has been stored at City Hall and is available for others in the community to use, Allen said.

He said he was pleased the festival featured only local food vendors, who served fresh seafood. "Every one of them had some local connection," Allen said. "All the money that came through this town is staying in local economy. You know how proud I am of that?"

He said he had received good reviews from the vendors, some of whom had gangbuster sales, while others were more modest. But the main thing they appreciate is the hospitality, beginning with a buffet thrown on their behalf Friday evening in Harry's courtyard.

"They come down not because they know they're going to rake it in. They just enjoy it because of the way we treat them," Allen said. "They tell me they've never had that done for them at any other festival."

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LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

76996T IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA PENSACOLA DIVISION IN ADMIRALTY Case No. 3:11cv549/MCR/CJK

SE PROPERTY HOLDINGS, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs. M/V PLAYFUL SEAS (In Rem); EMERALD COAST TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, INC., a Florida corporation (In Personam); etc. Defendants.

NOTICE OF UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S SALE

By virtue of an Order granting Plaintiff's Mo-

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

tion For Default Final Judgment issued by this Court in this action on April 3, 2012, notice is hereby given that Plaintiff will sell at public auction on an "AS IS, WHERE IS" basis, for cashier's check, or certified check, on May 24, 2012, at 12:00 p.m. C.T. at Miller Marine Yacht Service, Inc., 7141 Grassy Point Road, Panama City, FL 32409, the following vessel:

M/V Playful Seas, Official Number #1064850, Hull ID Number ETL38501C898, together with the following property, whether or not removed from the Vessel, all of which shall also be deemed to be included within the meaning of the term "Vessel," as used herein: all hire, freight, masts, cables, engines, machinery, bowsprits, rigging, boats, anchors, chains, tackle, apparel, furniture, fittings, tools, pumps, equipment supplies, etc., and all replacements thereof, now or hereafter belonging to or attached to and forming part of or used in connection with the Vessel; and all appurtenances and accessories now or hereafter belonging to the Vessel; and all additions and improvements now or hereafter made to

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

the Vessel The vessel will be sold to the highest and best bidder. Said sale will be subject to the confirmation of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida.

With the exception of the Plaintiff, the highest and best bidder will be required to deliver to the Marshal at the close of auction a non-refundable deposit of at least ten (10%) percent of the bid price in cashier's check, or certified check, with the remaining balance thereof to be paid by cashier's check, or certified check, payable to the U.S. Marshal within three (3) working days after sale.

For all parties interested in the vessel, please contact: Jeffrey P. Whitton Post Office Box 1956 Panama City, FL 32402 Telephone: (850) 769-7040 Facsimile: (850) 769-3014

Dated this 13th day of April, 2012. ED SPOONER UNITED STATES MARSHAL April, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 2012

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

86997T IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 11-310-CA

PREMIER BANK, a Florida banking corporation, Plaintiff,

vs. ALBERT A. SIMPLER a/k/a ALBERT A. SIMPLER, III, and OSPREY PORTFOLIO, LLC, Defendants.

NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE PURSUANT TO SECTION 45.031(1) OF THE FLORIDA STATUTES

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on March 27, 2012, in Case No. 2011-310-CA, of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit for Franklin County, Florida, in which PREMIER BANK is the Plaintiff, and ALBERT A. SIMPLER a/k/a ALBERT A. SIMPLER, III, and OSPREY PORTFOLIO, LLC, are the Defendants, that the undersigned, Clerk of Circuit Court, Franklin County, Florida, will

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

sell at public sale the following described real property:

LOT 8, Breezy Point, (Unrecorded) Commence at the Begin at the Northeast corner of Lot 7 of Breezy Point a subdivision as per map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 7, Page 15 of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida, From said POINT OF BEGINNING run North 73 degrees 40 minutes 25 seconds East 100.00 feet, thence run South 06 degrees 18 minutes 56 seconds West 449.79 feet, thence run South 50 degrees 49 minutes 43 seconds West 101.43 feet to a point lying on the Northeastly right-of-way boundary of Five Points Road, said point also lying on a curve concave to the Southwest, thence run Northwesterly along said right-of-way boundary and said curve having a radius of 2039.70 feet, through a central angle of 01 degrees 26 minutes 16 seconds, for an arc distance of 51.18 feet, chord being North 38 degrees 26 minutes 46 seconds West 51.18 feet, thence leaving said right-of-way boundary and said curve run North 06 degrees 18 minutes 56 seconds East 463.09 feet to the POINT OF

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BEGINNING.

And LOT 9 (Unrecorded) Commence at the Northeast corner of Lot 7 of Breezy Point a subdivision as per map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 7, Page 15 of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida and run North 73 degrees 40 minutes 25 seconds East 100.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, From said POINT OF BEGINNING continue North 73 degrees 40 minutes 25 seconds East 100.00 feet, thence run South 06 degrees 18 minutes 56 seconds West 425.90 feet, thence run South 51 degrees 23 minutes 26 seconds West 210.73 feet to a point lying on the Northeastly right-of-way boundary of Five Points Road said point also lying on a curve concave to the Southwest, thence run Northwesterly along said right-of-way boundary and said curve having a radius of 2039.70 feet, through a central angle of 00 degrees 33 minutes 43 seconds, for an arc distance of 20.01 feet, chord being North 38 degrees 53 minutes 24 seconds West 20.01 feet, thence leaving said right-of-way boundary

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

and said curve run North 50 degrees 49 minutes 43 seconds East 101.43 feet, thence run North 06 degrees 18 minutes 56 seconds East 449.79 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

The sale will be held on Wednesday, May 16, 2012, at 11:00 a.m., to the highest 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 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 April 2, 2012. MARCIA JOHNSON Deputy Clerk April 26, May 3, 2012

Michele Maxwell Deputy Clerk April 26, May 3, 2012

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

to Wakulla Bank, Plaintiff,

vs. THE SQUARE GROUP, LLC, JOHN P. DANIEL, BETTY BLAIR DANIEL, JANICE MCFARLAND, ALAINE SOLBURG, as Personal Representative of the Estate of WILLIAM SOLBURG, and UNKNOWN TENANTS, Defendants,

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to a Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated April 10, 2012, entered in Case No. 11-188-CA of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Franklin County, Florida, wherein CENTENNIAL BANK, as successor in interest to Wakulla Bank, a Florida banking corporation, is the Plaintiff, and THE SQUARE GROUP, LLC, JOHN P. DANIEL, BETTY BLAIR DANIEL, JANICE MCFARLAND, ALAINE SOLBURG, as Personal Representative of the Estate of WILLIAM SOLBURG, and UNKNOWN TENANTS are the Defendants, the undersigned will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the front steps

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

of the Franklin County Courthouse, 33 Market Street, Apalachicola, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on May 16, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure to-wit:

EXHIBIT "A" Begin at a nail and cap (marked #2919) marking the Southeast corner of Lot 10, Block "2" of Coombs Addition to Carrabelle, Florida as per map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 11 of the public records of Franklin County, Florida, said point lying on the intersection of the Northerly right of way boundary of U.S. Highway No. 98 with the Westerly right of way boundary of Tallahassee Street. From said Point of Beginning run North 58 degrees 58 minutes 40 seconds West along said Northerly right of way boundary 39.90 feet to a "X" scribed in concrete, thence leaving said right of way boundary run North 01 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds East 28.50 feet to an "X" scribed in concrete, thence run North 77 degrees 31 minutes 50 seconds West 19.32 feet to an "X" scribed in concrete, thence run North 66 degrees 31 minutes, 55 seconds

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1100
West 18.51 feet to a re-rod (marked #4261), thence run North 00 degrees 07 minutes 34 seconds West 13.86 feet to a re-rod, thence run South 88 degrees 59 minutes 25 seconds East 70.17 feet to a re-rod (marked #4261) lying on the Westerly right of way boundary of Tallahassee Street, thence run South 00 degrees, 45 minutes 15 seconds West along said right of way boundary 73.23 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 sale.

DATED this 19th day of April, 2012.

MARCIA JOHNSON
Clerk of Circuit Court

Michele Maxwell
Deputy Clerk
April 26, May 3, 2012

87087T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION
Case No.: 2010-CA-000518

CitiMortgage, Inc.
Plaintiff,
vs.

Timothy Ray Davis a/k/a Timothy R. Davis a/k/a Timothy Davis and Loretta S. Davis a/k/a Loretta Davis, Husband and Wife; Atlantic Credit & Finance Inc., as Assignee of HSBC Card Services; Franklin County, Florida; Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order of Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated April 12, 2012, entered in Civil Case No. 2010-CA-000518 of the Circuit Court of the 2nd Judicial Circuit in and for Franklin County, Florida, where-in CitiMortgage, Inc., Plaintiff and Timothy Ray Davis a/k/a Timothy R. Davis a/k/a Timothy Davis and Loretta S. Davis a/k/a Loretta Davis, Husband and Wife are defendant(s), I will sell to the highest and best bidder or cash at THE WEST FRONT DOOR OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY COURT HOUSE, LOCATED ON HWY 98, IN APALACHICOLA, FLORIDA, AT 11:00 A.M. on June 5, 2012,

LEGAL ADVERTISING
1100
the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit:

ALL OF LOTS 19, 20, AND 21, OF BLOCK 243, IN GREATER APALACHICOLA, IN THE CITY OF APALACHICOLA, FLORIDA, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, IN COMMON USE.

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.

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 ADA Coordinator; 301 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301; (850) 577-4430 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification of the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

KENDALL WADE
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Franklin County, FL

Terry E. Creamer
Deputy Clerk

Submitted By:
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:
SHAPIRO, FISHERMAN & GACHE, LLP
4630 Woodland Corporate Blvd.
Suite 100
Tampa, FL 33614
(813) 880-8888
(813) 880-8800
April 26, May 3, 2012

87117T
NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW PURSUANT TO SECTION 865.09, FLORIDA STATUTES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of H'COLA located at 297-23rd Avenue, in the County of FRANKLIN, in the City of Apalachicola, Florida, 32320 intends to register the said name with the Divisions of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.

Dated at Apalachicola Florida, this 24th day of April, 2012.

LEGAL ADVERTISING
1100
Hillside Coalition of Laborers for Apalachicola, Inc. May 3, 2012

87171T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 07-000295-CA

CENTENNIAL BANK, successor in interest to Coastal Community Bank, d/b/a Coastal Community Mortgage, Plaintiff,

vs.
RUBY J. LITTON and DANNY J. LITTON
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, in accordance with the Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated April 23, 2012, in the above-styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Front Door of the Franklin County Court-house, 33 Market St., the following described property:

Lot 3, of Block I, St. James Bay Subdivision, a subdivision as per map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 7, Pages 39-46, Public Records of Franklin County, Florida.

Dated: April 24, 2012.

Marcia Johnson
Clerk of Court

By: Terry E. Creamer
Deputy Clerk
May 3, 10, 2012

87175T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 11-000326-CA

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

vs.
DUSTIN COOK, a/k/a DUSTIN K. COOK
Defendant.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, in accordance with the Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated April 24, 2012, in the above-styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Front Door of the Franklin County Court-house, 33 Market St., Apalachicola, FL 32320

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at 11:00 a.m. on June 5, 2012, the following described property:

Lots 1 and 2, Block 235 (56), Keough's Second Addition to the Town of Carrabelle, a subdivision as per map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 at Page 20 of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida.

DATED: April 24, 2012.

Marcia Johnson
Clerk of Court

By: Terry E. Creamer
Deputy Clerk
May 3, 10, 2012

87177T
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 11-000233-CA

CENTENNIAL BANK, an Arkansas banking corporation, as successor in interest to Wakulla Bank, Plaintiff,

vs.
Dennett I. Rainey, a/k/a Dennett Rainey, The Palms & Bluffs at St. Teresa Owners Association, Inc., and Tallahassee State Bank, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, in accordance with the Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated April 24, 2012, in the above-styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Front Door of the Franklin County Court-house, 33 Market St., Apalachicola, FL 32320 at 11:00 a.m. on June 5, 2012, the following described property:

Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the PALMS AT ST. TERESA, a subdivision as per map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 10, Page 40, of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida.

AND

Lots 1, 2 and 3 of the BLUFF AT ST. TERESA, a subdivision as per map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 10, Page 41, of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida

AND

Lots 1, 2, and 3, Mossy Oak Preserve, a subdivision as per map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 99, of the Public

LEGAL ADVERTISING
1100
Records of Wakulla County, Florida.

AND

Lot B, Mossy Oak Preserve Phase 2, a re-plat of Lot 4, Mossy Oak Preserve, a subdivision as per map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 15, of the Public Records of Wakulla County, Florida.

DATED: April 24, 2012.

Marcia Johnson
Clerk of Court

By: Terry E. Creamer
Deputy Clerk
May 3, 10, 2012

CLASSIFIED NOTICES
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The Port Inn/Thirsty Goat is now accepting applications for a part time bartender. The ideal candidate will have a thorough knowledge of liquors, beers, wines, and mixology techniques, but we are willing to train the right person. If you have an eye for detail, the highest desire to deliver superior service, and can play well with others, we would love to hear from you! Apply in person at the address below. E.O.E. DFWP Port Inn 501 Monument Ave. Port St. Joe, FL 32456

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To Benefit First Baptist Church Christian School We have a variety of good items too choose from!
Text FL07812 to 56654

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Text FL07688 to 56654

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HELP WANTED
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Food Svs/Hospitality

Bartender / Therapist Needed
The Port Inn/Thirsty Goat is now accepting applications for a part time bartender. The ideal candidate will have a thorough knowledge of liquors, beers, wines, and mixology techniques, but we are willing to train the right person. If you have an eye for detail, the highest desire to deliver superior service, and can play well with others, we would love to hear from you! Apply in person at the address below. E.O.E. DFWP Port Inn 501 Monument Ave. Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Evening Cook Needed

The Thirsty Goat is now accepting applications for an evening cook. The ideal candidate will have restaurant experience, but we are willing to train the right person. Applicants must have the ability to function in a fast paced environment while remaining professional and friendly. Candidates must be able to work weekends and holidays, dependability is a must! If you have an eye for detail, the highest desire to deliver superior service, and can play well with others, we would love to hear from you! Apply in person at the address below. E.O.E. DFWP Port Inn 501 Monument Ave. Port St. Joe, FL 32456

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8110

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News BRIEFS

Carrabelle seniors host Saturday night dance

The Carrabelle Senior Center, at 201 NW Avenue F, on the corner of 1st Street and NW Avenue F, will host a dance this Saturday evening, May 5, starting at 7 p.m. Admission is free. Music will be provided by local disc jockey Ron Vice, serving up a lively mix of Big Band dance tunes and mellow pop hits. Come down to the Senior Center to dance ... or just to listen to the music.

For more information on the dance and other activities at the Senior Center visit www.CarrabelleSeniorCenter.com.

Franklin Neighborhood Association to meet Saturday

Cone out and join

the newly organized Franklin neighborhood Association. A meeting will be held Saturday, May 5 at 1 p.m. at the Franklin Square Recreation Center on Sixth Street in Apalachicola. It's your community; come out and get involved. For further info call Myrtis Wynn-Williams at 774-8844 or email wynnm@yahoo.com

Dems to select state delegates Saturday

The Democratic Party of Franklin County will hold their caucus to select delegates to the state convention on Saturday, May 5 at the Water Street Hotel, 329 Water Street, Apalachicola. Voting will take place between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Any Democrat registered to vote in Franklin County can vote in the caucus.

Skate park plans Saturday 'Rockfest'

The Justin Brice Griffin Memorial Skate Park has worked out an all-star music lineup for the upcoming Saturday, May 5 "Rockfest" benefit, slated for Battery Park in downtown Apalachicola.

Here is a preliminary list of who will be playing, and when: Sliver of Hope 10 - 10:25 a.m.; Vices and Virtues 10:40 - 11:05 a.m.; Chris Ruiz 11:20 - 11:45 a.m.; Donovan Chapman Noon to - 12:25 p.m.; Andre Lukiss 12:40 - 1:05 p.m.; Own Up 1:20 - 1:45 p.m.; Nothing Without Heart 2: - 2:25 p.m.; Your Last Memory 2:40 - 3:05 p.m.; Our Last Days 3:20 - 3:45 p.m.; 5 Cent Shy 4 - 4:25 p.m.; 90 Proof 4:40 - 5:05 p.m.; The Stronghold 5:20 - 5:45 p.m.; Omen 6 - 6:25 p.m.; Geezus Chrysler 6:40 - 7:05 p.m.; SOL 7:20 - 8:05 p.m.; Hell Bottoms 8:15 - 9 p.m.; and Forever We Were 9:15 - 10 p.m.

Come enjoy a day full of music. \$10 at the gate. Bring your chairs and coolers. Food booths.

Rockfest Memorabilia. Raffles. You don't want to miss this. Lots of fun for a great cause, to maintain and improve the skate park.

Full moon climb Sunday at St. George Light

The May Full Moon Climb at the Cape St. George Lighthouse on St. George Island will be held Sunday, May 6. The sunset climb will take place from 8 to 9:30 p.m. and will include light hors d'oeuvres and a sparkling cider toast to the full moon. Cost is \$15 for the general public and \$10 for members of the St. George Lighthouse Association.

The sun will set at 8:20 p.m. and the moon will rise at 9:19 p.m. After sunset, people are invited to climb to the top of the lighthouse for a breathtaking view of the full moon, as space and time permit. Cost is \$10

for the general public and \$5 for SGLA members.

The lighthouse is at the center of St. George Island, where Island Drive (the road off the bridge) ends at Gulf Beach Drive. Parking is available in lots at either side of the park. Because space is limited, reservations are recommended, so to make them, or for more information, please contact the St. George Island Visitor Center at 927-7744 or toll free at 888-927-7744.

Vet center to visit CGJ museum Tuesday

On Tuesday, May 8, the Tallahassee Vet Center will be at the Camp Gordon Johnston World War II Museum in the Carrabelle Municipal Complex to counsel veterans concerning their VA benefits. A private confidential room for this service is being provided by the museum.

You might be eligible for VA benefits if you are a veteran or veteran's dependent; surviving spouse, child or parent of a deceased veteran; uniformed service member; or present or former reservist or National Guard member.

Eligibility for most VA benefits is based upon discharge from active duty military service under other than dishonorable conditions and certain benefits require service during wartime. The Tallahassee Vet Center will have staff personnel available to inform veterans of benefits available through the Veterans Administration.

No appointment is necessary, however if you wish to call or visit the Center in Tallahassee they are located at 548 Bradford Road. The phone is 942-8810 or toll free 877-927-8387. You may also learn more about VA benefits and services at: www.va.gov

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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