



THE TIMES

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Thursday, December 27, 2012

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50¢

Out to see

'Battle on the Gulf' starts today

The 'Battle on the Gulf' will get into full swing at Franklin County High School today...

Lighthouse climb Friday to help food pantry

Climb the Cape St. George Lighthouse on Friday, and you help feed the hungry in Franklin County.

The lighthouse will be open for climbing from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Climbing fees are \$5 for adults and \$3 for youth age 16 or younger.

The Sunset / Full Moon Climb will be from 5 to 7 p.m. and includes light snacks and a sparkling cider toast to the full moon.

Reservations for the climb can be made by calling the Lighthouse Gift Shop at 927-7745.

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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

Schools debate security measures

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

In the wake of the horrific school shooting in Newtown, Connecticut, where 20 young students and six adults were shot dead...

"I really don't want to talk about this but we don't have a choice, said Superintendent Nina Marks...

INSIDE
Read a letter from the principal and CEO of the Apalachicola Bay Charter School about instituting practice drills, A12

introducing the subject to the school board at the

Dec. 20 regular meeting in the Willie Speed board room in Eastpoint.

"The incident has impacted every school district I can think of," she said. "Different superintendents are now sending letters to the governor..."

To provide the school board with relevant background, Marks cited find-

ings of the 2012 Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, a survey that students fill out anonymously to gauge the extent that they have reported engaging in delinquent behaviors over the past 12 months.

"I think as we start the first part of the new year we have to pay attention and listen to the students," she said. "Their feelings actually come out in this survey."

Marks asked the county health department's David Walker to come forward

and talk about the survey, which is a joint effort of the state departments of education and health. He said 90 percent of Franklin County High School students took part in the survey.

The survey showed that local middle and high school students reported a higher percentage than the state average of such behaviors as being drunk or high at school, getting suspended, attacking

See SCHOOLS A12

A good Egg

Herbert Brown, born on Christmas, helped found Eastpoint

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

Herbert Gardner "Egg" Brown was a founding father of Eastpoint.

Born on Christmas day 1883 near Winchester, Virginia, he was 14 years old when his family traveled down the Chattahoochee River in 1898 to settle in Franklin County.

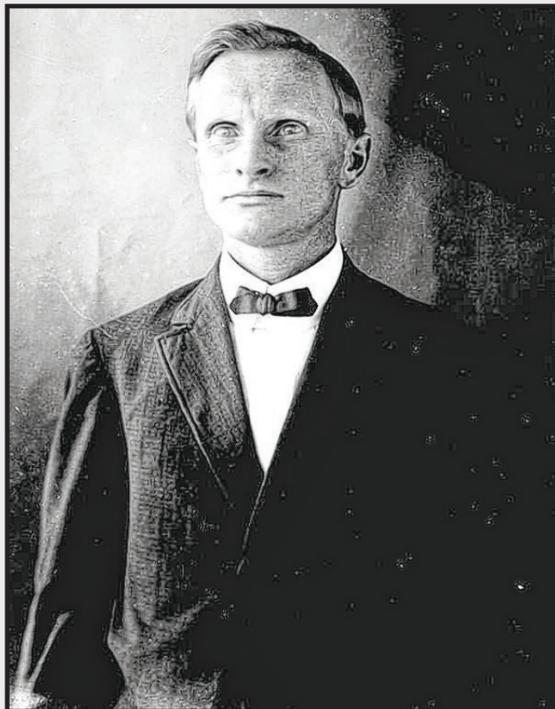
Egg Brown's parents, Quakers David H. Brown and his wife Rebecca Wood Brown, migrated to Nebraska with 3-month-old Herbert in 1884. In 1896, they traveled by mule drawn wagon to Muscogee County, Georgia...

Social reformers, the colony sought to form a cooperative and share the wealth among its members. Two years later, discouraged and disillusioned, the Browns and five other families left Georgia and traveled down the Chattahoochee River to Apalachicola where they settled across the Apalachicola Bay on the strip of land called Eastpoint.

See EGG A2

Top: Herbert "Egg" Brown
Bottom: Egg Brown on the violin with Tonner Segree and Tabor Williams.

FLORIDA MEMORY PROJECT |
Special to The Times



Unemployment for county rises a bit, report says

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

Franklin County lost a little ground in its unemployment rate for November, as it ticked up to the 6.2 percent level.

According to preliminary numbers released Friday by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, the county's jobless rate last month rose from 6.0 to 6.3 percent.

Last month, six people were added to the unemployment rolls, growing them from 338 to 344 people in search of work. The workforce also shrank by 75 workers, from 5,609 to 5,533, but remained larger than one year ago...

Franklin County's jobless picture placed it at fifth best in Florida. Monroe County, at 4.7 percent, had the state's lowest unemployment rate, followed by Walton County (5.5 percent), Okaloosa County (5.9 percent) and Wakulla County (6.1 percent).

The unemployment rate in the Gulf Coast Workforce region (Bay, Franklin, and Gulf counties) was 8.1 percent in November, up 0.4 percentage point from October. The November 2012 rate was 1.8 percentage points lower than the region's year ago rate of 9.9 percent...

The county's unemployment numbers continue to run better than the two nearby counties, Bay and Gulf, which also are part of the Gulf Coast Workforce Region. Bay rose from 8.8 to 8.2 percent, and Gulf declined from 8.1 to 8.0 percent.

"Traditionally the unemployment rate for our region raises slightly at this time of year due to the slowdown of our tourist season," said Kim Bodine, executive director for the Gulf Coast Workforce Board. "We don't typically have enough seasonal holiday jobs to compensate for the draw-down associated with the tourist season, but we are almost 2 percent better off than we were one year ago."

Oyster Recovery Team begins work

By TOM NORDLIE
Special to the Times

Apalachicola-area oystermen and community leaders received a progress report Dec. 6 from University of Florida scientists working to remediate the area's oyster population collapse.

Karl Havens, director of Florida Sea Grant and leader of the UF Oyster Recovery Team, told a crowd of about 75 in Apalachicola that data being developed will help local industry representatives make management decisions to protect the area's world-famous shellfish.

"A good path forward will be one where scientists like us can give the community information to empower them to participate in the protection of the Apalachicola Bay system and its fisheries," Havens said.

At the meeting, members of the locally based seafood industry self-help organization Seafood Management Assistance Resource & Recovery Team, or SMARRT, announced plans for a stakeholders' group. Made up of oystermen, shrimpers, crabbers, guides, dealers and other industry personnel, the 15-member group would enable the local seafood community

to "speak with one voice" in communications with management agencies and research teams.

Chris Millender, a SMARRT ad hoc committee member and chairperson of the Franklin County Seafood Workers' Association, said he hopes that with local expertise and scientific support, Apalachicola Bay can be managed sustainably and the oyster fishery collapse won't be repeated.

In early September, Gov. Rick Scott requested federal assistance to mitigate an expected decline in the area's fall and winter oyster harvest, which began Sept. 1.

Shortly after, UF Senior Vice

President for Agriculture and Natural Resources Jack Payne announced formation of the interdisciplinary oyster recovery team. The team includes experts from such disciplines as mollusk biology, aquaculture, commercial seafood processing, food and resource economics, water chemistry, environmental toxins, marine ecology, public health and community resiliency. Though based in UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, the team includes representatives from Florida State University and state agencies.

See OYSTER A5

# EGG from page A1

Herbert Brown spent his life in Eastpoint where he became a revered and beloved member of the community. In 1983, the former Brown Elementary School was named for him at the request of the Eastpoint Lions Club. Brown died a year later, August 1, 1984, at 100 years of age.

Over the years, Brown was a farmer, school board member, water and soil conservation district member, prison mail clerk and school teacher.

He shared the job of postmaster with his sister Elizabeth, with the two siblings having inherited the position from their mother, Eastpoint's first postmaster. When she died in 1938, Brown took on the task of sorting mail unofficially.

"It was kind of peculiar," he later said. "I was the oldest child and I didn't know what else to do."

Around 1940, the postal service appointed him fourth class postmaster. After his father's death the same year, Brown remodeled the post office adding a separate entrance and lock boxes. Prior to the change, people walked through the living room to pick up mail.

In the late 1940s, when the growing seafood industry necessitated a bigger space for handling mail, Brown built a block house east of his home. He worked there until his retirement in 1954 at age 70.

Brown earned the nickname Egg for peddling eggs in Eastpoint and Apalachicola.

Every Friday, first by ferry and later by bridge, Brown crossed the river to Apalachicola in a canopied truck, loaded with eggs. Before leaving Eastpoint, he would collect shopping lists from his neighbors. He carried his eggs door-to-door in Apalachicola. Delores Roux remembers her mother bought two dozen each week. When the eggs were sold, Brown picked up the items on his shopping lists and carried them home.

Preshia Crum, another Eastpoint centenarian who is currently the community's oldest resident, said Brown owned the first car in Eastpoint and his car was the first to cross the Gorrie Bridge from Eastpoint to Apalachicola at the grand opening celebration.

The evening of her wedding in Apalachicola, Brown met Miss Preshia and husband Lucius at the ferry and gave them a ride part way home.

Charles Moore remembers Brown's chicken farm on what is now Patton Drive. He said Brown kept a flock of several hundred white leghorns, and often took area children on tours of his chicken house. He had a croquet set, which he shared with the children of the community. Fond of youngsters, Brown founded Eastpoint's first Boy Scout troop and a scoutmaster for many years.

Moore later knew Brown when they were both members of the Lions Club. Together they traveled to meetings as far away as Pensacola. Brown was proud of his record of perfect attendance at Eastpoint Lions Club meetings.

When he celebrated his 100th birthday, he was the second oldest member of Lions Club International.

Brown was a diminutive man with brown hair and blue eyes. He was intelligent, a musician and an avid reader. He was fond of studying foreign languages and often corresponded with his family in Esperanto, the "hoping language," constructed for international use in 1887 but never officially adopted by any country.

Brown clearly remembered his family's journey to Florida and, in 1962, wrote an account that was published in the Times.

The story began, "In the spring of 1898 my father, David H. Brown, with family of five boys and three girls, ranging in age from 14 years down to five months, led a band of settlers from Georgia to Florida and founded the settlement of Eastpoint."

Traveling with the Browns were John and Lottie Griswold with two boys and two girls; The Andrew Allens with three boys and one girl, the Mackenzies with a son and daughter and the Earnest Thompsons with one son. There was also a civil war veteran Grandpa Wells and a man named John Sarsfield. David Brown had already made a trip to Franklin County to purchase land for a settlement from Captain S. E. Rice.

The group planned to earn



The one-room school house where Brown taught. He is standing to the right of his students.

FLORIDA MEMORY PROJECT | Special to The Times

a living farming and harvesting seafood. They traveled south on three barges lashed together; one they purchased and two 30-foot house barges they constructed from wood. The contraption was steered by two long oars one on each end. The cries "Georgia" or "Alabama" indicated which bank to steer towards.

The barges were loaded with chickens, ducks, turkeys, two farm horses, a pony and farm machinery as well as household goods. The fowl were actually transported on a sort of floating coop attached to one side of the rafts.

The travelers set off on April 4, 1898, at probably the worst possible time, when the river was running very high after heavy rains. In his account, Brown commented that, if they had had any experience with the river, they would have waited.

"Everything went well that day," he wrote, "until late in the afternoon when the high wind carried the boats to the shore where overhanging branches tore a corner of the roof off of the smaller boat of the Brown's right over the stove where their supper was cooking, and the boat with the poultry was overturned, drowning most of the chickens and the turkeys. Tom Allen finally managed to get a line ashore but was unable to stop the boats in the strong current, and was left to catch up as best he could. Considering the situation dangerous, Mr. Griswold with the large skiff took the women and children ashore on the Georgia side where they spent a cold quite uncomfortable night in a Negro's cabin."

Will Frye of Apalachicola, an officer on the steamboat Queen City, put out a bateau with a couple of roustabouts and a heavy

cable and finally got the boats tied up a short distance from a railroad bridge.

The travelers spent April 6 getting reorganized. The next day, a market trip was made to Eufaula to purchase lumber to replace the oars, which had been broken during the mishap. While there, they hired an African American pilot to join them on rest of the trip. Over the next four days, little progress was made.

"On April 12," wrote Brown, "River Junction was passed and as they were in a safe part of the river, they kept on all night, only stopping the next day on account of wind. As usual, when tied up during the day, someone went fishing. When the wind abated later they went on until after dark, passing Devil's Elbow, a great bend in the river."

See EGG A5





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**LOCATION:**

**George E. Weems Memorial Hospital  
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All classes begin at 5:30 P.M.

Free nicotine patches and gum will be provided to participants who complete each class while supplies last.

Each class is a 2 hour (one time) session.

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- Thursday, January 3, 2013
- Thursday, January 17, 2013
- Thursday, February 21, 2013
- Thursday, March 14, 2013
- Thursday, April 11, 2013
- Thursday, April 25, 2013
- Thursday, May 30, 2013
- Thursday, June 20, 2013

Please visit the following websites to view a current schedule of tobacco cessation classes that are being held in Franklin County at [www.bigbendahec.org/quit-now](http://www.bigbendahec.org/quit-now) and [www.ahectobacco.com](http://www.ahectobacco.com)

For additional information, please contact Big Bend AHEC at 850-224-1177.



**Holiday Advertising Deadlines**

Christmas Issue - December 20th, 2012

DEADLINE TO RESERVE SPACE:

**December 14th, 2012 3pm**

Now accepting Christmas Greetings to be placed alongside the Children's Letters to Santa.

December 27th, 2012

DEADLINE TO RESERVE SPACE:

**December 19th, 2012**

\*\*ALL AD COPY MUST BE APPROVED BY

December 21st, 2012 4:30pm\*\*

January 3rd, 2012

DEADLINE TO RESERVE SPACE:

**December 27th, 2012**

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December 31st 3pm\*\*

**To Schedule Your Advertisement TODAY!**

**Contact:**

Joel Reed -OR- Kari Fortune  
(850) 814-7377 (850) 227-7847  
JReed@Starfl.com KFortune@Starfl.com

## Arrest REPORT

The following report is provided by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. Arrests in this week's report were made by officers from the Carrabelle Police Department (CPD) and Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO).

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

### Dec. 19

Michelle Holmes, 37, Cecil, Ala., two counts of grand theft (FCSO)

Ronald H. Burris, 66, Carrabelle, domestic battery (FCSO)

Donna J. Brandon, 48, Carrabelle, domestic battery (FCSO)

### Dec. 20

Shirl E. Whiddon, 47, Carrabelle, false report to a law officer (CPD)



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### Notice of Vacancy Franklin County Tourist Development Council Board Member

The Franklin County Tourist Development Council is composed of nine members appointed by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners. Anyone interested in being considered for this volunteer position is encouraged to send a letter of interest and qualifying resume to the FCTDC at the address below.

This is a volunteer position with no financial compensation. Board members are required to attend regular board meetings and are expected to participate in the Committee activities of the Board.

Prospective applicants must be engaged in a tourist-related business and must be a resident of Franklin County. All members of the council shall be electors of the county. Interested persons should reply no later than February 1, 2013. A recommendation will be forwarded to the Franklin County Commission for their consideration. Applications may be submitted to:

**Franklin County Tourist Development Council**  
P O Box 819  
Apalachicola, Florida 32329  
or via email attachment to  
[fran@anaturalescape.com](mailto:fran@anaturalescape.com)  
For further information, please call Fran Edwards  
at the FCTDC office at **850-653-8678**.

## FWC REPORT

# Officers issue citations, monitor harvesting

Officers with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission were busy during the first two weeks of December, working tirelessly to prevent the illegal harvest of oysters from closed waters in the Apalachicola Bay.

Officers John Allen and Matt Gore, along with assistance from FWC's aviation wing, issued nine misdemeanor citations for the

harvest of oysters from conditionally restricted waters, unshaded oysters, and untagged bags of oysters.

The 11 bags of oysters seized during these efforts were returned to the restricted waters alive, thus keeping them from the consumer shellfish market and preventing the health-related issues that can arise from ingesting tainted shellfish.

Allen conducted a

fisheries inspection on a few anglers on the St. George Island Fishing Pier. His inspection revealed an undersized sea bass and an oversized red drum. The officer issued a misdemeanor citation for the red drum and a warning for the sea bass.

Officers continue to monitor shellfish harvesting in Apalachicola and Apalachee Bay. During the past seven days,

Officers Jason Carroll and Steven Cook observed two subjects harvesting oysters in conditionally closed waters.

Officers set up surveillance, and after gathering enough evidence conducted a vessel stop on the oyster boat. The subjects were charged for oystering in conditionally closed waters, and the oysters were seized and returned back to the bay.

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Denise Butler  
Agent



## Franklin County Health Department is pleased to provide the following medical services:

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- Preconception Counseling
- Pregnancy Testing
- Limited Prenatal Care
- Yearly Well-Woman Exams
- Hormone Replacement Therapy
- Menopause Management
- Breast Exams
- Florida Breast & Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program
- Endometrial Biopsy
- Abnormal Pap Smear Management
  - Colposcopy
  - Cryo-therapy
  - LEEP

### MEN'S HEALTH

- Family Planning - referral for Vasectomy, condoms
- Androscopy
- Yearly Physical exams

### STD PROGRAM

- Testing
- Treatment
- Prevention

### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

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- Education
- Treatment
- Case Management / Follow-up

### INSULIN & EPILEPSY MEDICATION PROGRAMS\*

\*MUST MEET ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

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8am – 5pm

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8am – 5pm

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### QUEST DIAGNOSTICS COLLECTION SITE

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- Adult Immunizations

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- School & Sports Physicals
- Well Child Check-Ups (Age 4 & Up)
- DOT Physicals

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ON THESE PROGRAMS,  
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# Opinion

## COLUMN

### How we elect the president

**Q:** Can you explain the procedure on how our President is elected? We vote for our President, yet the election is contingent on electoral votes. How does that work?

**A:** I'm not an expert on election procedures, but here's some useful information. Under our country's Constitution, our founding fathers established a compromise between election of the President by a vote in Congress and election of the President by a popular vote of qualified citizens. There is a process called the "Electoral College." American voters do not directly elect the President of the United States. Rather, as set up in the Constitution, electors from each individual state cast ballots for the president and vice-president in the electoral college. Every state and the District of Columbia has a number of electoral college members equal to the number of congressional representatives and senators in that state. There is a minimum of 3 members in some states and the numbers go up to 55 in the State of California. Texas has 38, New York and Florida both have 29, and all others have lower numbers.

There are a total of 538 electors and a majority of 270 electoral votes is required to elect the President. The presidential election is held every four years. Before the election, national conventions are held and the candidates from the political parties are nominated and chosen. There are also independent candidates who run without being affiliated with a political party.

Most states have a "winner-take-all" system that awards all electors to the winning presidential candidate. Florida follows the "winner-take-all" system, so whichever candidate receives the majority of the popular vote at the November election, or a plurality of the popular vote (less than 50 percent but more than any other candidate), takes all of the state's Electoral votes. After elections, the electors of each state meet and cast their votes which are then recorded on a Certificate of Votes which is sent to the Congress. The electors' votes for a state cannot be split and must go to the same candidate except for Maine and Nebraska.

It is important to remember that the President is not chosen by a nation-wide popular vote. The Electoral College vote totals determine the winner, not the statistical plurality or majority a candidate may have in the nation-wide popular vote totals at the election polls. In the 2000 presidential election, George W. Bush received fewer popular votes than Albert Gore, Jr, yet he received the majority of electoral votes.

As a matter of record, the State of Florida's 29 electoral votes this year were officially cast for President Barack Obama. Obama, who also prevailed in Florida in 2008, was the first Democrat to carry Florida twice since Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Electoral votes will officially be counted January 6, 2013 in Washington, D.C., with Obama's inauguration following two weeks later.

If you have any questions or comments about this column, please forward them to: Marcia Johnson, Clerk of the Court, 33 Market Street, Ste. 203, Apalachicola, Florida, 32320 or by email to: mmjohnson@franklinclerk.com. Visit the Clerk's website at www.franklinclerk.com.



**YOUR PUBLIC TRUSTEE**  
Marcia Johnson

*Under our country's Constitution, our founding fathers established a compromise between election of the President by a vote in Congress and election of the President by a popular vote of qualified citizens.*

## Understanding 401(k) fees

If you're like many Americans — 71 percent, according to an AARP survey — you might be under the impression that your 401(k) plan administrator doesn't charge you anything to maintain your account. You'd be wrong.

In fact, these companies typically charge fees equivalent to 0.5 to 2 percent of your account balance each year — sometimes as high as 5 percent. In addition to ongoing tariffs for managing your investment options, plan administrators often deduct numerous other fees from individuals' accounts, including charges for administrative costs, sales commissions, advertising, insurance, and trading expenses.

Perhaps equally disturbing is that many employers — which have a fiduciary responsibility to ensure the retirement plans they sponsor have reasonable fees and expenses — often don't know what fees their employees are being charged either.

Over time, out-of-

control fees can take a serious toll. The Department of Labor



**JASON ALDERMAN**

estimates that paying just 1 percent in extraneous fees each year could reduce your account balance by 28 percent during an average working career.

Finding — let alone understanding — such fee disclosures can be time-consuming and often involves wading through complex plan documents. That's why last year, the Labor Department issued regulations requiring fund administrators to provide a more transparent breakdown of their fees to employers, which in turn must pass the information along to employees.

During the first disclosure phase, investment companies were required to send a detailed statement about their plan's investment options, including fund performance and fees. You should have received this information from your employer by August 31, 2012. This statement, which will hereafter be sent annually, should include:

- An explanation of any fees and expenses for general plan administration, such as legal, accounting and recordkeeping services.

- Total annual operating expenses expressed as a percentage of account assets and a dollar amount per \$1,000 invested.

- An explanation of fees and expenses incurred based on your actions (e.g., trading fees, loans, service charges for low balances, hardship withdrawals, processing divorce decrees or qualified domestic relations orders, etc.)

- The historical performance of each fund in which you invest (at 1, 5 and 10 years, and since the fund's inception.)

- Benchmark performance — for example, if you invest in an S&P index fund, it should be compared to the average expense ratios for the S&P 500 over the same periods.

The second phase of fund disclosure was the release of quarterly performance statements tied to your particular investment accounts. The first of these statements was for July 1 – Sept. 30,

2012, and most people should have received theirs by mid-November. It should include specific dollar amounts of plan-related expenses or fees charged to or deducted from your accounts that quarter, along with a detailed description of the related services.

For many, these statements are a wake-up call for why they need to choose investment options more carefully. They won't do all the work: You'll still need to crunch the numbers on how your current investment choices stack up against other funds. And no piece of paper can determine your appetite for risk vs. reward. But they're a start.

The DOL hopes that by shining daylight on 401(k) plan costs, employers will be motivated to rein in costs and seek better investment options for employees — and that employees will be more inclined to seek out the most cost-effective funds for their retirement savings.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney](http://www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney).

## A tortoise in the offering plate

The Moss Hill Church is actually in an area that is about three miles southeast of Vernon. It is in an area once known for its Indian population.

The Holmes Valley Methodist Mission was responsible for the church, and its origination was between 1821 and 1825. The building standing today was built in 1857. The Moss Hill Methodist Church has been refurbished over the years, but still has a rustic feel. It is truly beautiful and a site that is worth going out of your way to see.

The sign out front notes services are on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 2 p.m. The time of the service seems to corroborate what my Grandmama said about "those Methodists." She said they like to stay out late on Saturday night and to watch out not to let children take communion because the grape juice they dole out is the "real stuff."

I'm sure they share a minister with at least one other church.

It's easy to think about all of the folks that have worshipped there, been married there and had funeral services and been buried in the cemetery on the grounds.

The graveyard has a number of Civil War soldiers in it and their service will forever be lauded. War is a terrible thing, no matter when, where or how, but those who gave the ultimate sacrifice should never be forgotten.

An interesting tidbit about the

land around the Moss Hill Church, a fellow by the name of Igdaliah Wood requested and was granted title to the land in 1861 after the beginning of the War Between the States. Union President Abraham Lincoln granted the request on December 5, 1861, almost a year after Florida seceded.



**CRANKS MY TRACTOR**  
BN Heard

"Igdaliah" is not a name you hear much anymore. It is pronounced "ig-dal-yaw," probably "ig-dahl-yah" in the heart of the Panhandle when folks dropped everything to build a church for everybody to use.

From a Southern point of view, the name Igdaliah means "God is great."

The Moss Hill Methodist Church is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Due to the type of wood used to construct the church, hand and footprints can be seen on the ceiling. The church was built of lumber from pine heartwood, also known as lighter or fatwood. As this wood gets older, it gets stronger and becomes immune to water and termites.

Those Methodists were pretty smart.

This type of wood is very sticky and usually oozing a resin, which captured the hand, finger and foot prints of those doing the work. So if you go to the Moss Hill Church, look up!

During this holiday season, it's a good time to look up everywhere.

After I looked closely at the pictures I made, I realized I had captured some of the children's and carpenters handprints and footprints without even knowing it.

Vernon, at one time was known as the "World's Leading Gopher-Shipping Port." That's right, Vernon was a "World Leader" in shipping out gophers. On my trip to the Vernon Historical Society's Archives, I found it in a book.

You need to understand what a gopher is. The type of gophers they were shipping out were not animals. These gophers were tortoises.

Gopher tortoises were shipped by steamboat to Pensacola every week between 1885 and 1930 by the hundreds. Not only were they considered a delicacy for the gourmets in Pensacola, but they were carried out to sea by the sailors and fishermen to provide fresh meat and supplement their menus.

Gopher tortoises were pretty easy to keep alive until you were ready to put them on the table.

If you didn't have money and needed something in Vernon, the stores would take "gophers" instead of cash.

I had read about Moss Hill Church still being without electricity. I saw blankets and church fans on the pews. I can only speculate the congregation didn't want the preacher to pass out in the middle of a sermon on the second Sunday in August.

This beautiful church filled with history and the story of how gopher tortoises were used as cash in Vernon, just makes me wonder, "Do you think anyone ever put a tortoise in the offering plate?"

For more stories and pictures of my trip to Vernon, visit me at [www.CranksMyTractor.com](http://www.CranksMyTractor.com).

## '...for such is the Kingdom of Heaven'

No attempt at humor today. I can't get those school kids off my mind. Six and seven year olds! Can you imagine the laughter and joy that lay ahead of them? Can you imagine a more innocent group? I think of touchdowns not scored. Proms not attended. Hugs forever snuffed out.

I love young people ten hundred per cent more than I do old folks. I enjoy the laughter, the spontaneity and the wide openness of their little eyes. I like that they don't complain or make excuses. I like that they don't step gingerly around the mud puddle, they jump right in with both feet. If you "make a face" at them they don't get mad or think you are an idiot — they "make a face" right back at you!

It is incomprehensible what happened at Newtown, Connecticut. And I'm mad and my heart hurts and I'm lost as all get out here to understand how we could reach such a place in our society.

I thought we lived in the home of the brave and the land of the free. When did "things" get so far off track? Did it start with Halloween? Remember when you could go trick or treating without your mom? Nobody was going to harm a group of little kids walking up and down the streets collecting candy. Cars stopped a half a block away to let them pass. Porch lights were on all over town to light the way. There was no danger of a razor blade in the Baby Ruth or arsenic in the

Milk Duds.

Now, for Halloween, we rope off a section down town and have a "controlled" candy hunt. It's safe and I appreciate that. But isn't it also a statement about where we are in this country today?

I do find it a bit ironic that some of the most out spoken proponents for gun control are also just as out spoken for abortion rights.

I don't believe our society is sick. I believe we have some sick people in our society. And listen closely here, we must all except some of the blame for the way things are in America today. Maybe we should have spoken up more, or at least questioned, some of the violent movies, videos

and television shows. We should demand that media of all shapes, forms, fashion and kinds spend their air time glorifying family life, presenting decent rules for living and simple civilities among human beings.

I have a 7-year-old grandson. He is a first grader. If I thought it would help, I'd pull that Remington out from under the bed and follow him every where he goes. But that is not feasible....or even sensible. I'm trusting lots of folks to help me raise little Luke safely and soundly.

We didn't do that for Newtown. Let's wise up America. Please.

Respectfully,  
Kesley Colbert



**THE TIMES**

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### TO ALL ADVERTISERS

In case of error or omissions in advertisements, the publishers do not hold themselves liable for damage further than the amount received for such advertisement.

The spoken word is given scant attention; the printed word is thoughtfully weighed. The spoken word barely asserts; the printed word thoroughly convinces. The spoken word is lost; the printed word remains.

Egg Brown's house on Patton Drive is one of the oldest in Eastpoint.



LOIS SWOBODA | The Times

**EGG** from page A2

Below Brick Yard, they were met by Capt. Rice, with a small tug. He towed them to the bay where the tug left them because it didn't operate in saltwater. On April 16, they poled and paddled the flotilla across the bay with some help from a small sailboat belonging to Rice.

The lumber from the barges was used to build

the first houses in Eastpoint. The Browns at first lived in a little house near the site of the old toll booth. A few years later, they built the wooden house where Egg Brown spent his life.

On July 16, 1898, the first mail was delivered to Eastpoint by Capt. Andy Wing piloting the Crescent City. A schoolhouse was also erect-

ed that year, and a church was built soon afterwards.

Initially, the group had little success harvesting seafood because they were inexperienced. They experimented with growing crops including citrus, strawberries and sugar cane.

Egg Brown never married, although most of his siblings did. He remained in the house where he was born

with two unmarried sisters.

Brown lies at rest in the Eastpoint cemetery at the heart of the town he helped to found.

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- CITY - \$42,500

MIH - 2 CRNR LOTS - BLK. 5  
STORE - REDUCED \$49,500

2 AC-AT RIVER  
UTIL. IN - \$39,500

**OYSTER** from page A1

In addition to looking for causes of the current oyster decline, the recovery team scientists hope to find ways the industry can move toward a more adaptive and resilient approach to oyster management.

They expect to deliver recommendations in early 2013, Havens said. The team has already met several times with residents to get input on recovery efforts and outline proposed recovery team activities.

At Thursday's meeting, team leaders presented information about the progress of the team's six major divisions: contaminants and pathogens, water flow and salinity, nutrient inputs, oyster population dynamics, fisheries modeling, and food safety.

Some highlights:  
• The ongoing drought in the Southeast has reduced flow in the Apalachicola River, which provides freshwater to Apalachicola Bay. This has increased the water salinity and cut nu-

trient availability, and most likely played a role in reducing oyster, shrimp and fish populations.

• Climate models predict more drought, meaning that the oyster industry must find ways to make production resilient to drought conditions.

• Scientists and producers discussed experiments that could help determine where oysters best survive under reduced water-flow conditions.

• One expert asserted that stricter policing of oyster size limits is needed to restore populations and ensure quality.

Havens noted that local involvement will continue to be critical in guiding scientific efforts.

"It may take us a long time to gather enough data to explain what happened," Havens said, "but the community is energized to work with the team and find ways to preserve this historic industry and the area's seafood resources."

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**3rd ANNUAL**

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Riverfront Park in Downtown Apalachicola  
**Saturday, January 5th 2013**  
**12pm to 4pm**

**Schedule of Events**

**12pm: Pulled Pork Dinners & Sandwiches**  
**1pm: Live Auction with Harry Arnold**  
**2pm: Judging for Cook-Off**  
**4pm: Awards for Cook-Off**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

NOTICE OF INTENT IS GIVEN THAT FRANKLIN COUNTY WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON JANUARY 15, 2013 AT 11:00 A.M. TO CONSIDER ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE EXISTING FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICES MUNICIPAL BENEFIT UNIT ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING SEVEN SEPARATE FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICES DISTRICTS IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA AND TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING BODY TO AUTHORIZE FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICE ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE DISTRICTS THAT MAY DIFFER FROM DISTRICT TO DISTRICT BASED ON THE COST OF PROVIDING FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICES WITHIN EACH DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that on January 15, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. (ET) at 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, Florida at the Courthouse Annex, the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing to consider adopting an ordinance captioned as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING

ORDINANCE 96-8 TO CREATE A MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT DISTRICT PURSUANT TO SECTION 125.01 OF THE FLORIDA STATUTE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICES, CREATING SEVEN FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICTS AND THEIR BOUNDARIES, PROVIDING A PURPOSE; PROVIDING A TERM OF THE UNIT, PROVIDING A GOVERNING BODY, PROVIDING FOR FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICE ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING THAT FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICE ASSESSMENTS MAY DIFFER AMONG THE DISTRICTS BASED ON THE REASONABLE COST OF PROVIDING FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICES WITHIN EACH FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT, COLLECTIONS AND FUND, PROVIDING FOR CONTRACTING FOR SERVICES, PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND AMENDING ORDINANCE 98-8 WHICH PROVIDED FOR EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL OF LIENS ASSESSED AGAINST PROPERTY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

A copy of the proposed ordinance is on file with the Clerk of Court, 33 Market Street, Apalachicola, Florida and may be viewed there.

Interested Persons may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance.

Any party who may wish to appeal the decision made at this public hearing is responsible for making a verbatim transcript of the hearing.

Those persons requiring assistance to attend the meeting must call deputy clerk Michael Moron at 850-653-8861 x100 at least three business days before the meeting to make arrangements.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT  
GTC, INC. D/B/A FAIRPOINT COMMUNICATIONS  
TELEPHONE SERVICE**

GTC, Inc. d/b/a FairPoint Communications provides a wide variety of products and services including the following basic service offerings in the Alligator Point (349) and Carrabelle (697) exchanges:

	Monthly Rates*	One-Time Charges*
Single Party Residential Service	\$12.12	\$30.25
Single Party Business Service	\$26.89	\$46.25
Single Party Lifeline Telephone Service*	\$5.87	\$30.25

\* Does not include applicable taxes, fees and surcharges

In addition to the above monthly rates, a \$6.50 Federal Subscriber Line Charge applies to business and residential single party lines and \$9.20 for a business with more than one line.

The above rates include the following:

- Voice grade access to the public switched network
- Local Usage
- Access to emergency 911 services
- Toll Limitation for qualified low income customers

As described above, FairPoint provides a Lifeline Program discount for residence service for eligible low income customers with federal monthly support of \$9.25 and state monthly support of \$3.50. In addition, Lifeline customers may also qualify for free toll blocking to help them control long-distance usage. Customers using this offering can still use pre-paid calling cards or dial-around services to place long-distance calls from their homes.

The Lifeline Program is a government benefit program which provides discounted service to low-income residential customers who meet eligibility rules. Only one Lifeline Program discount is available per household on either a wireless or wireline telephone service. The Lifeline Program benefit is non-transferable. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the discount can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the Lifeline Program.



# SCIENCE OF SOIL: Students work on 'real world problem solving'

By JESSICA MCCARTHY

747-5073 | @PCNHJessica  
jmcCarthy@pcnh.com

**PANAMA CITY** — Gifted high school students from Gulf and Franklin counties are spending time at Gulf Coast State College working on a potential wetland project for ZooWorld.

Linda Fitzhugh, biology professor, said application is the focus.

"This is real world problem solving and that's what they're going to have to do at some point, when they have jobs," Fitzhugh said. "They're being encouraged to do a lot of these STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) activities, so a lot of these kids might become our future engineers and biologists. So, we wanted a real world STEM experiment."

Antonio Adessi, coordinator of engineering technology at GCSC, said he hopes the project crosses subject matter lines for the students.

"As members of our future community, it's a matter of building that awareness at the citizen level, one by one," Adessi said. "We want to get them engaged in something that is

school related but is also everyday life."

Overall, the project will focus on water filtration so the zoo can reuse water for cleaning cages and watering plants. The students' first class covered water quality, how to test for it and how to improve it. The second class, held Wednesday, looked at soil.

The students learned the elements of soil, how it holds water and different types of soil protection methods. The next class will look at plants — how to use them appropriately to help stop erosion and increase the water filtration.

Maura Mahan, a 15-year-old Port St. Joe High School sophomore, said being raised by a scientist put the desire to learn in her blood.

"I'm learning how to design wetlands," Mahan said. "I'm planning on being a veterinarian and that would fall under a lot of categories here. I'm learning quite a bit."

Fitzhugh said she hopes to have the wetland design done in April or May; if the design is implemented, she hopes to have the students come back on work on the physical project.



ANDREW WARDLOW | Halifax Media Group

Franklin County's Ursula Countryman, 14, left, and Port St. Joe's Katie Nobles, 14, test soil at Gulf Coast State College.

## PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



### TINKER & BELLE!

These two six week old kittens are too cute for words! They are both female, both fuzzy and both social and playful. They have been fostered so they love interaction with people and will transition easily into a home environment. Start the New Year

off right with a warm fuzzy kitten or two!

**VOLUNTEERS ARE DESPERATELY NEEDED TO SOCIALIZE WITH 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](http://www.forgottenpets.org) to see more of our adoptable pets.

**NIP RODENTS IN THE BUD!**  
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## PUBLIC NOTICE

On December 4, 2012, 3G Broadcasting, Inc., filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission for consent to assign the broadcast license of radio station WOYS, operating on 100.5 mhz at Apalachicola, FL, to East Bay Broadcasting, Inc.

Bonnie and Kenneth Gomes are the officers, directors and shareholders of 3G Broadcasting, Inc.

Robert M. and Lena M. Allen are the officers, directors, and shareholders of East Bay Broadcasting, Inc

A complete copy of the application is available for public inspection during regular business hours at 35 Island Drive, Suite 16, Eastpoint, Florida 32328.

## Airman Lee attends Enterprise ceremony

Special to The Times

Navy Airman Jacob A. Lee, son of Melissa Shiver Lee, of Eastpoint, and Timothy O. Lee, of Eastpoint, along with the almost 12,000 past and current crewmembers, family and friends attended the inactivation of aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65).

Commissioned on Nov. 25, 1965, the Enterprise was the world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, and it recently completed its 25th and final deployment and returned to its



JACOB LEE

homeport of Naval Station Norfolk for a scheduled inactivation, held before the ship's terminal offload program and subsequent

decommissioning.

The inactivation ceremony was the last official public event for the ship and served as a celebration of life for the ship and the more than 100,000 sailors who served aboard.

The chief of naval operations, the commander of United States fleet forces, nine of 23 prior commanding officers, many decorated war heroes and thousands of Enterprise veterans attended the event.

A veteran of 25 deployments to the Mediterranean Sea, Pacific Ocean and the

Middle East, Enterprise has served in nearly every major conflict to take place during her history. From the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 to six deployments in support of the Vietnam conflict through the Cold War and the Gulf Wars, Enterprise was there.

Lee is a 2009 graduate of Franklin County High School, and he joined the Navy in April 2010.

For more information on USS Enterprise, her legendary history and Inactivation Week events, visit [enterprise.navy.mil](http://enterprise.navy.mil)

## Kerley wins Workforce Excellence Award

Special to The Times

Gulf Coast State College President Dr. Jim Kerley was recognized by the Florida Workforce Development Association in Orlando as the statewide recipient of the prestigious Barbara K. Griffin Workforce Excellence Award.

The purpose of the award is to celebrate workforce excellence through an award given to a workforce development professional or system partner who best exemplifies excellence through exceptional performance.

Kerley has 20-plus years of community college experience and became the presi-

dent of Gulf Coast State College in June 2007. Since that time, he has successfully added new degree programs to Gulf Coast State College and spearheaded the development of the state of the art Advanced Technology Center.

Kerley was also a founding partner, along with the Gulf Coast Workforce Board and Bay District Schools, of the Bay County Career and Technical Education Council, a program which integrates core academic knowledge with technical and occupational knowledge to provide students with a pathway to postsecondary education and careers.



SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

From left are Kim Bodine, Dr. Jim Kerley, Donna Kerley and Barbara Griffin.

He has fostered a strong and unique partnership with the Gulf Coast Workforce Board by having Gulf Coast State College serve as the Workforce Board's fiscal agent and operate the one-stop career center.

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## When It Comes to Women's Health... Image is Everything

The Women's Center at Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf is specifically designed with a woman's needs in mind. Mammograms. Bone Density Scans. Ultrasound Technology. When it comes to women's health, these images could save your life.

**Our new facility features:**

- A convenient, centralized location for mammograms, ultrasounds and bone-density scans
- A personal Women's Health Navigator to guide you through the process
- State-of-the-art equipment with sharper images, faster results
- Seamless care by a highly-trained, compassionate team

For more information or an appointment, call (850) 229-5802.

**Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf**

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

The Women's Center is a joint project between the Gulf County Health Department and Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf to promote improved health for the residents of this region.

[www.sacredheartonthegulf.org](http://www.sacredheartonthegulf.org)

# Lots to do New Year's Eve in Lanark

The season opener for Bingo at the Hall will be Wednesday night, Jan. 9. Doors at Chillas Hall open at 6 p.m., Bingo at 6:30. Last week I put in my column it would start on Jan. 2. What was I thinking? Come join us for a night of fun! Coffee, soft drinks and cookies. I enjoy cookies, but I really miss the gum drop cookies the late Betty Ferlin used to send over, and the sugar cookies the late Carol Dietz would bring.



**JIM WELSH**  
Lanark News

Saturday, Dec. 22, I went to the memorial service for my longtime friend and neighbor William Burns Miller IV. AKA Little Bill. The service was awesome. Little Bill will really be missed. Pray for his eternal rest, and for strength for his family.

Hope you had a great Christmas! You did remember to put out the cookies and milk, didn't you? Hope you got over to Chillas Hall Christmas morning and enjoyed the

*Down Oak Street at Camp Gordon Johnston American Legion Post 82, New Year's Eve party at 6 p.m. Rusty and Debbie's band will play from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.*

smoked turkey and the other goodies. Get your favorite snack or a dish to share, your favorite beverage, your dancing shoes and your main squeeze and come on over to Chillas Hall. Doors will open at 8:30 p.m. Ring in the new year with your friends and neighbors. Greg K will handle the music for your dancing and listening pleasure. Cover charge \$5.

Down Oak Street at Camp Gordon Johnston American Legion Post 82, New Year's Eve party at 6 p.m. Rusty and Debbie's band will

play from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. We will have food, party favors and champagne at midnight. There is a cover charge of \$5. Kim and Debbie will be on hand to serve your favorite beverage.

New Year's Day will find most of us at Chillas Hall enjoying shrimp and other delights. See you there!

Be kind to one another, check in on the sick and housebound and have a safe and happy new year!

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

## CHRISTMAS BIKES FOR KIDS



PHOTOS BY LOIS SWOBODA | The Times

Zella Smith poses with son Chris Baxley and Cops for Kids organizer A.J. Smith at the annual Christmas bicycle giveaway held this year in Apalachicola's Riverside Park.



On Christmas Eve, Cops for Kids gave away 250 new bikes and helmets to children in Eastpoint, Carrabelle and Apalachicola. The bikes were purchased with donations and eligible children were identified through community outreach in cooperation with the Franklin Toy Connection.

## YOUR COUNTY LIBRARY

# New activities planned for 2013

Break out your 2013 calendar and mark Franklin County Public Library, Eastpoint, as the place to be on Jan. 17th. Beginning at 1 p.m. until 5 p.m., teens will be involved with the first annual Game Day at the branch library in Eastpoint. There will be new games like Battleship, Clue, and Zombie Dice for the teens to play. Refreshments will be served and there will be door prizes for those who stay to the end. Library gaming programs encourage interaction between patrons of all ages

and cultures. Libraries still provide traditional services, but continue to change by offering new formats and programs. This event aims to connect communities through their libraries around the educational, recreational, and social value of all types of games.

Our "Teen Underground" has been a place for the teens to work on homework assignments, pick up a new book, or just quietly visit with their friends after school. The library also offers a unique opportunity for these

students to observe other library programs that take place and learn why libraries are such an important part of the community they live in.

Don't forget to smile when you visit Franklin County Public Library either in Carrabelle or Eastpoint, because someone might snap your picture! Florida Snapshot Day 2013 will be happening throughout the month of January at all participating libraries and concludes on Jan. 30th. Photos will

capture some of the daily activities and patrons who avail themselves to library services. Library programs including the many children who come in for Story time and other children's programs have the best smiles of all.

We look forward to seeing new and familiar faces coming to the library programs in 2013. For questions or information regarding library hours or services call 850-670-8151 in Eastpoint or 850-697-2366 in Carrabelle.

## Obituaries

### Cora Maxine Sanborn

Cora Maxine Sanborn, 85, of Carrabelle, passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2012, in Tallahassee.

She was born in Carrabelle on Nov. 16, 1927. She loved to hunt and fish, and she traveled the U.S. in her RV. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Graveside services were Friday afternoon, Dec. 21, at Evergreen Cemetery, Carrabelle. Bevis Funeral Home, Harvey-Young Chapel, Crawfordville, is assisting with arrangements.

She is survived by her three sons, Gary W. Beebe (Clemmie), Dennis J. Beebe (Stephanie) and Richard A. Beebe, all of

Carrabelle; sisters, Earline Bray, Carrabelle, and Betty J. Miller (Charlie), Perry; brother, Alton Starling (Alice), Daytona; six grandchildren, Steven W. Beebe (Alicia), Carrabelle; Evie Carroll (Curtis), Crawfordville; Brooke Millender, Carrabelle; Dennis Lake Beebe, Carrabelle; Richard A. Beebe Jr., Mo., and Sierra Messer, Eastpoint; 13 great-grandchildren, and special friend, Gary Cook of Carrabelle.

She was preceded in death by her parents; Alto and Mable Starling, of Carrabelle, and husband, Avery Sanborn, of Carrabelle.

### William Burns Miller IV

William Burns Miller IV, was born on Jan. 29, 1955, in Dallas, Texas.

He resided in Carrabelle since 1960, and graduated from Carrabelle High School. He was employed at Miller's Seahorse Antiques, with stints as lounge manager at American Legion Post 82, where he was a 30-year member of the Sons of American Legion.

He was also a very capable drummer, in several local bands, and also was a maintenance man at "Wicked Willies".

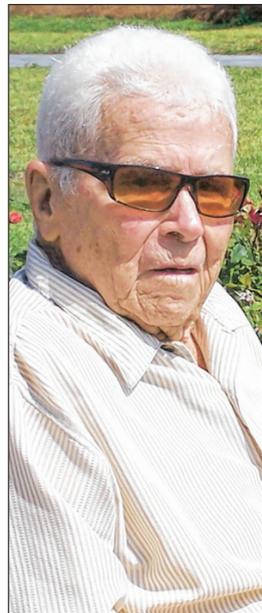
He is the son of William Burns Miller III and Judith M. Sands; sisters,

Melinda Carroll (Ronnie) and Vickie Williams (Charlie); stepbrothers, Tommy and Richard Sands; two nieces and two nephews.

Extended family members mother, Gloria Miller; brothers, Edward and Derrick Kennedy; sisters, Donna and Jenny Kennedy and Kim Crum; six nieces and nephews; and a companion, Melissa McKnight.

Bill had a great heart, and was an experienced caregiver with the disabled, homeless and helpless. He will be greatly missed by all of his family and friends.

## CARD OF THANKS



**DAN SANGAREE**

Thank you for the Christmas cheer. I want to thank Mullis Eye Institute in Panama City, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Senior Citizens Services of Franklin and Gulf County, Care Minders of Panama City and all my friends for holiday gifts and wish them health and happiness in the New Year.

**DAN SANGAREE**

## FRANKLIN COUNTY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO SALVAGE METAL FROM TWO FISHING PIERS

The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners hereby requests proposals for salvaging metal wire inside a conduit attached to the Eastpoint Fishing Pier and the St. George Island Fishing Pier.

Each person responding to this proposal ("the proposer") shall, at a minimum, submit a letter specifying their financial ability to perform the salvage operation in a safe manner, the equipment and personnel that the person intends to use in the salvage, together with information describing how that person intends to perform the salvage operation, such as, without limitation, reeling the wire onto a spool from the mainland, or salvaging from the water or the bridge, or some combination thereof. Furthermore, the proposer shall state the amount to be paid to Franklin County for the salvage rights.

The winning proposer shall be responsible for all permits, costs of salvage and insurance requirements. They also shall be required to repair any damage to the fishing piers that result from the salvaging operation. All debris or remnants from the salvaging operation shall be cleaned up and removed by the winning proposer before they complete the salvage operations.

Franklin County reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or withdraw the bid at anytime, and to waive technical defects. Franklin County reserves the right to impose insurance requirements, and to require a hold harmless and indemnification from the winning proposer.

All proposals shall be submitted in a sealed envelopes marked "Fishing Pier Salvage Proposal" and shall be delivered to the Franklin County Clerk of Court, Franklin County Courthouse, 33 Market Street, Apalachicola, Florida by 4:00 p.m. on December 31, 2012.

All proposals shall be opened at the Franklin County Board of County Commission meeting on January 2, 2013 at 9:45 a.m. at the Courthouse Annex, 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, Florida 32320. The bid will be awarded to the highest and best bid.

**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
est. 1836



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

Wednesdays  
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**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**



**WELCOMES YOU**

**Church of the Ascension**

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**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"

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**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

**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.  
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102 NE Ave. B Carrabelle - 697-3672  
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**Eastpoint United Methodist Church**  
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Sunday Brunch 10 a.m.  
Youth Group Tuesdays 6 p.m.  
317 Patton Dr. (corner of David St.)  
Pastor: Aaron Batey

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

Researchers Madan Oli, left, and Jeff Hostetler.



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

## PANTHERS ON PROWL

By MICKIE ANDERSON  
Special to the Times

When wildlife managers imported eight female Texas pumas in hopes they would mate with native Florida panthers, they knew they were taking a bit of a risk.

But a new University of Florida research study, published today in the *Journal of Animal Ecology*, suggests their gamble paid off.

Without those pumas, UF researchers Madan Oli and recent UF doctoral graduate Jeff Hostetler found that the probability of the Florida panther population falling below 10 panthers by 2010 was nearly 71 percent.

"We found that the Florida population would've declined, on average, by about 5 percent per year," said Oli, a UF population ecology professor and Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences faculty member. "And that's essentially telling us there was a high chance that the population would've eventually gone extinct."

There were an estimated 20 to 25 panthers left in the state when the Texas female cats were brought to Florida in 1995. Officials believe the population has since grown about 4 percent per year, and their estimate now ranges from 100 to 160, said Dave Onorato, a panther expert with the state Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Florida Panther Project.

Having a scientific study in hand that validates what conservation officials had believed would happen is helpful, Onorato said.

"It shows that the genetic restoration effort was effective at averting the loss of the Florida panther," he said.

The Florida panther had been listed as an endangered species since 1967, and although it was named the official state animal by 1982, it was in peril by the 1990s. The cats suffered from numerous inbreeding-related problems, including poor sperm quality and other reproductive abnormalities, kinked tails, heart defects and heavy parasite loads.

When the Texas cats were brought to Florida, officials weren't sure how they would fare or that the breeding effort would work, but with the success of the genetic restoration, Onorato said a similar effort could be initiated again in the future.

For now, however, there is no specific timetable for such an effort. He said the cats continue to face threats from loss of habitat, cars and inbreeding.

Although they sometimes roam far and wide, Florida panthers — the only puma population east of the Mississippi River — are primarily found in the Big Cypress National Preserve and Everglades ecosystem areas that include parts of Collier, Lee, Hendry, Monroe and Miami-Dade counties.

The recent UF study, which examined several decades' worth of field data and genetic information about the panther, found that the robust survival of the Florida-Texas hybrid kittens played a large role in the panther population being reeled back from the brink of extinction.

"I would say that at least in the short term, the outlook is good for the Florida panther," said Hostetler, who worked on the project for more than four years as part of his doctoral studies. "But there are still a lot of threats to their survival that could be important in the long run."



## Government says wood storks no longer endangered

WEST PALM BEACH (AP) — Federal officials say the population of wood storks has rebounded to the point that they can be classified as threatened instead of endangered, but some environmentalists object to the proposed new status.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plans to list its proposal for wood storks in the federal registry next week, pointing to marked improvement since the species was listed as endangered in 1984.

"This is a good day for the wood stork, and a good day for conservation," Dan Ashe, director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, said in a written statement. "Thanks to great efforts from our conservation partners, the species is making real progress toward recovery."

Changing the storks' status to threatened is largely a symbolic move. No conservation or protection measures for the species would be removed. But opponents of the change, who will be able to offer comments and data to support their case, say it is a step toward a full delisting.

No one doubts that biologists' counts of wood storks mean there has been a resurgence of the birds, which have white feathers and a long bill. In 1984, an estimated 4,742 pairs of the birds were counted; today the population range is believed to be 7,086 to 8,996 pairs. But much of the return of the birds has come outside South Florida, where they once thrived.

### WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, Dec. 27	55°	39°	10 %
Fri, Dec. 28	63°	47°	0 %
Sat, Dec. 29	68°	46°	60 %
Sun, Dec. 30	61°	45°	0 %
Mon, Dec. 31	58°	40°	0 %
Tues, Jan. 01	62°	35°	0 %
Wed, Jan. 02	56°	32°	0 %

### 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
27	Th	1247am 1.1	458pm 1.0	934am -0.5	855pm 0.9
28	Fr	132am 1.1	520pm 1.0	1005am -0.5	933pm 0.9
29	Sa	216am 1.1	541pm 1.0	1032am -0.5	1010pm 0.8
30	Su	300am 1.1	601pm 1.0	1056am -0.4	1048pm 0.7
31	Mo	345am 1.1	621pm 1.0	1118am -0.4	1131pm 0.7
1	Tu	336am 1.9	543pm 1.9	956am -0.5	1030pm 0.8
2	We	430am 1.8	608pm 1.9	1024am -0.2	1127pm 0.6
3	Th	534am 1.4	635pm 1.9	1056am 0.2	
4	Fr	656am 1.3	706pm 2.1	1236am 0.5	1131am 0.5
5	Sa	845am 1.1	741pm 2.1	157am 0.2	1209pm 0.8
6	Su	1109am 1.1	822pm 2.1	318am -0.2	1252pm 1.0
7	Mo	912pm 2.2		429am -0.5	
8	Tu	226pm 1.6	1009pm 2.2	530am -0.8	404pm 1.4

### CARRABELLE

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
27	Th	400pm 1.9		748am -0.8	709pm 1.4
28	Fr	1234am 2.1	422pm 1.9	819am -0.8	747pm 1.4
29	Sa	118am 2.1	443pm 1.9	846am -0.8	824pm 1.3
30	Su	202am 2.1	503pm 1.9	910am -0.6	902pm 1.1
31	Mo	247am 2.1	523pm 1.9	932am -0.6	945pm 1.1
1	Sa	205am 2.4	542pm 2.1	928am -0.5	913pm 1.6
2	Su	248am 2.2	612pm 2.1	956am -0.3	1001pm 1.6
3	Mo	335am 2.2	641pm 2.1	1026am -0.3	1058pm 1.4
4	Tu	429am 2.1	712pm 2.1	1101am -0.2	
5	We	534am 1.8	742pm 2.1	1206am 1.3	1141am 0.2
6	Th	658am 1.6	813pm 2.1	121am 1.0	1226pm 0.5
7	Fr	843am 1.4	844pm 2.2	236am 0.6	117pm 0.8
8	Sa	1042am 1.4	917pm 2.2	342am 0.3	218pm 1.1

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### FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



#### Freshwater

After much need rain, some creeks and the rivers are rising again. Good bream and crappie reports are still in Depot and Howard Creeks this week. With more rain on the way, we should have more water moving and the freshwater bite should improve.

#### Inshore

Most action is still in the I.C.W. in St. Joe and into White City. Anglers are reporting good trout and sheepshead catches, but very few red fish this week. Black drum and other bottom fish are around the White City Bridge and around creek mouths with good numbers.

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# Seahawks shock St. Joe, no Sweatt

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

Last week, on Friday night in Eastpoint, the Seahawks basketball team was hungry for more than Christmas dinner.

Because of a pair of technical fouls two Fridays ago at South Walton, Franklin County High School Coach Mike Sweatt had been fined and drew a heavy suspension, or was what assistant coach Jeremy Williams called “wrongfully suspended,” for six weeks by the Florida High School Athletic Association — an action that, unless overturned and so far it has not been, will mean Sweatt can only conduct practices and make no appearances at any games through the regular season.

The Seahawks’ appetites were whet because their bellies lacked anything resembling a lavish meal of victories so far this season, a mere two wins in their first 10 games, and neither of them in the district.

They were hungry, yes, but still Williams had concerns the Seahawks would do as they’ve done before: Build a lead, fail to hold it, then struggle, unsuccessfully, to get it back.

“We’ve been having a bad habit of letting teams come back on us,” said Williams, an Apalachicola Shark player under coach Joe Hayes who graduated in 2005. “This time we performed in the clutch.”

Lady Seahawk coach Carlos Hill sat quietly on the far end of the bench the entire game, didn’t get involved, so Williams’ first win as a varsity coach was entirely his own. And with Sweatt out of pocket, because a ref thought he had complained too much about the officiating, the Seahawks head coach had to learn of the win right after it happened, since his players insisted he be the first person they called.

Here’s what happened Friday night at Franklin County High School.

The Seahawks were up 14-11 after two quarters, and 26-23 at the half against Coach Derek Kurnitzky’s team from Gulf County. The Seahawks kept the pace up in the third quarter, and expanded the lead to six points, 39-33 going in to the final quarter.

Stepped-up Tiger Sharks’ play led to them knotting the score at 45 with a little more than four minutes left in the game.

After a loose ball tussle at mid-court, officials called a technical foul on Kelsey Jones, who had been expressing his disgust with facial expressions.

Port St Joe eighth grader Jacorian Callaway nailed a trey to increase his team’s lead to four, but the Hawks sliced it in half when Carza Harvey came back with a bucket.

The Sharks went into a stall, which led to Callaway going to the charity stripe, where he nailed one of two free throws for a 50-47 lead with two minutes left.

The Hawks’ Jones hit a free throw, which was nullified by a lane violation, and then he sunk a basket, but that was nullified by a traveling violation.

A St. Joe bucket gave them a five point lead, 52-47 with precious little time left on the clock.

“Then we started to foul and it worked out,” said Williams. “I had to calm them down. I told them go ahead and foul again but to go for the ball.”

Sharks senior Ramello Zaccaro missed a pair of free throws and after Jones hit one of his, to move the Hawks with four, Shark freshman Chad Quinn missed both of his from the charity stripe.

It was then, with 16 seconds left, the dinner hit the plate.

“I told them take the threes, I yelled it as loud as I could,” said Williams.

And that is what happened, first by Jones, from the corner baseline near the bench.

The crowd erupted in cheers. After Callaway hit only the



DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

Kelsey Jones led the Hawks with 17 points.

second of his free throws, the score stood 53-51, with the Hawks behind.

“I called timeout, and I told them to do the screen if you could pick and roll to the big, or shoot the mid-range shot. I told them whichever one of you all get it, try to get a screen at the middle of the court,” said Williams. “It didn’t go as planned.”

Instead, a swift pass to Harvey outside the arc gave him a clear shot at the basket, and with six-and-one-half seconds left, he nailed the trey to put the Hawks ahead 54-53.

St. Joe had a last chance.

“I told them don’t foul, and we went to a man-to-man press full court,” said Williams. “I said try to

slow them down.”

Port St. Joe managed to pass out of the trap, but the shot was off, and the crowd stormed the floor, lifting Harvey in the air.

Jones led the team with 17 points, including 5/8 from the field and 6/10 from the free throw line. Harvey was next with 13 points, going 5/10 from the field and 1/2 from the free throw line.

Ladarius Rhodes followed with a dozen points, with Skyler Hutchinson tallying six, Chase Golden four and David Butler two. In all the Hawks shot 17/47 two-pointers, under 40 percent, and 3/11 treys, under 30 percent. The Hawks were 11/27 from the free throw line, about 40 percent.

## Don’t miss ‘Battle on the Gulf’ tourney

The ‘Battle on the Gulf’ will get into full swing right after Christmas, as eight basketball squads — four boys and four girls — fight it out in post-holiday tournament action. All games will be played at Franklin County High School.

### Thursday, Dec. 27

(Home team, in white, is listed first)

Game 1 Girls @ 2:30 p.m. Franklin vs. Tallavana

Game 2 Boys @ 4 p.m. Wewahitchka vs. Madison

Game 3 Boys @ 6 p.m. Franklin vs. Tallavana

Game 4 Girls @ 8 p.m. Madison vs. Faith Baptist

### Friday, Dec. 28

Game 1 Girls @ 2:30 p.m. Tallavana vs. Madison

Game 2 Boys @ 4 p.m. Tallavana vs. Wewahitchka

Game 3 Girls @ 6 p.m. Faith Baptist vs. Franklin

Game 4 Boys @ 7:30 p.m. Madison vs. Franklin

### Saturday, Dec. 29

(Home team will be the higher seeded team by tournament record)

Girls @ 2:30 p.m. between third and fourth place

Boys @ 4 p.m. between third and fourth place

Girls @ 6 p.m. Championship Game

Boys @ 7:30 p.m. Championship Game

\*Best record championship for the boys and girls. Tie-breakers will be decided by total points difference in win/loss with a maximum of 13 (Example: Win by 6, lose by 5 = +1).

## Seahawks down Freeport, fall to PSJ

Special to The Times

The Franklin County Seahawks split a pair of games earlier this month.

On Tuesday Dec. 11, the Seahawks played Port St. Joe in what turned out to be a very physical game. The Seahawks came up a little short losing the game 3-1.

The Seahawks played tough throughout the game. Port St. Joe’s goals came on two corner kicks and one free kick just outside the 18-yard box.

Goalie Casey Sapp had five saves and Billy Harris had two saves in goal for the Seahawks. Coach Ramon Valenzuela said Josh Reeder did an excellent job moving from his normal position as forward to fullback marking Port St. Joe’s main scoring threat.

The Seahawks had a hard time penetrating the Port St. Joe defense. The Seahawks had only four shots on goal, one each by Graham Kirvin, Zach Howze, Dalyn Parrish and James Harris. The lone Seahawk goal came of the foot of midfielder James Harris.

On Friday Dec. 14, Freeport came to Mikel Clark stadium ready to play. The Seahawks had beaten Freeport 7-2 a few weeks earlier. Freeport immediately put pressure on the Seahawk defense and managed to net the first goal of the match on a rebound after Sapp had been knocked down.

The Seahawks answered quickly with a goal off of the foot of forward Graham Kirvin. Minutes later senior center midfielder Howze played a perfect chip pass

from 35 yards out to Kirvin who found the back of the net for the second Seahawk score of the game.

Early in the second half Freeport scored the equalizing goal off of a well-played corner kick. The Seahawks came back again with a perfect cross from wing Alex Causey to the foot of freshman Joshua Patriotis who calmly found the back of the net to put the Seahawks up 3-2.

Just after the last water break center midfielder Zach Howze once again played a perfect through ball to forward Graham Kirvin who outraced the Freeport fullbacks to the ball and beat the goalkeeper finding the back of the net again.

The Seahawks played very hard throughout the game erasing an early deficit and playing as a team.

### Gulfside IGA PLAYER OF THE WEEK SPONSOR



Seahawks sophomore guard Kelsey Jones led with 17 points, shooting better than 60 percent from both the field and the free throw line at home Friday night against district rival Port St. Joe. Jones nailed a crucial three-pointer with 16 seconds left to set up freshman guard Carza Harvey’s inning basket, for the 54-53 win.

**Congratulations, Kelsey!**



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**'Butts and Clucks' set for Jan. 5:** The Weems Memorial Healthcare Foundation will hold its annual "Butts and Clucks by the Bay" cook-off on Saturday, Jan. 5 from noon until 5 p.m. at Riverfront Park in downtown Apalachicola. The foundation is sponsoring a pork butt and chicken cooking contest. Local, state and out-of-state teams can participate in this contest. Awards are given for cooking, presentation of booth, presentation of food, etc. Dinner is served to the public, and an auction will be held with Harry Arnold as auctioneer. For more information or to enter call 670-8261.

**Apalachicola Oyster Cook-off Jan. 19:** The third annual Oyster Cook-Off to benefit the Apalachicola Volunteer Fire Department will be held Saturday, Jan. 19. On Friday evening will be a preview of the oyster-related silent auction items, along with a sampling of Apalachicola Bay's tasty bivalves. The cook-off on Saturday will start at 11 a.m. Contestants are

encouraged to enter with their favorite recipe. All forms of oysters will be available to taste - raw, steamed, fried. Other food items and refreshments will be available for purchase. The day's activities will include live music and dancing performances. More information will be posted soon at [www.oystercookoff.com](http://www.oystercookoff.com), and the event can be followed on Facebook.

**SGI Tour of Homes returns in 2013:** A second tour of St. George Island homes is planned for Feb. 9 and will feature eight beautiful island homes, along with the Lighthouse, Keeper's House and Plantation Club House. Tour proceeds benefit the upkeep of the Lighthouse, Keeper's House Museum and Lighthouse Park. The tour will showcase homes from beach to bay from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets will be available for \$15 in advance at the Lighthouse Gift Shop and for \$20 on tour day in Lighthouse Park or by phone with a credit card payment. There will be shuttle service to homes in the St. George Plantation. Tour weekend will kick off Friday evening, Feb. 8, with a free opening event from 6-8 p.m. at the Jay Abbott Firehouse, 324 East Pine Ave. Featured speaker will be Erik Lovstrand from the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve, who will talk about the ecology of the Apalachicola River, Bay and estuary and its impact on St. George Island. Refreshments will be served, and participants will be eligible for a number of festive door prizes.

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91443 IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA Case No.: 2012-172-CA

RIVERWALK CONDOMINIUM OWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida Non-Profit Corporation, Plaintiff,

vs. PAIGE F. KILLEEN, Defendant.

**NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to Plaintiff's Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above-captioned action, I will sell the property situated in Franklin County, Florida, described as follows, to wit:

Unit "K" of Riverwalk Condominiums, according to Declaration of Condominium, Covenants and Restrictions for Riverwalk Condominiums thereof recorded under Official Records Book 566, Page 220, of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida; as amended by that certain Amended Declaration of Condominium, Covenants and Restrictions for Riverwalk Condominiums thereof recorded under Official Records Book 584, Pages 1-78, of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida; and Amendment to Master Declaration of Condominium, Covenants and Restrictions for Riverwalk Condominiums thereof recorded under Official Records Book 628, Pages 81-99, of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida; and Amendment to Master Declaration of Condominium, Covenants and Restrictions for Riverwalk Condominiums thereof recorded under Official Records Book 635, Pages 548-552, of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida, together with all appurtenances thereto.

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Notice to Persons With Disabilities: 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 Court Administrator's office not later than seven days prior to the proceeding.

MARCIA M. JOHNSON Clerk of the Circuit Court

Michele Maxwell Deputy Clerk

Attorney for Plaintiff: Timothy D. Padgett, Esq., Timothy D. Padgett, P.A. 2878 Remington Green Circle, Tallahassee, FL 32308 Ph: (850) 422-2520 Fax: (850) 422-2567 December 20, 27, 2012

**91491T** IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 2ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 192009CA000061

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff,

vs. CHARLES B. MITCHELL, ET AL Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Summary Final Judgment in Foreclosure dated November 26, 2012 and entered in Case No. 192009CA000061 of the Circuit Court of the 2nd Judicial Circuit in and for FRANKLIN County, Florida, wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION is Plaintiff and CHARLES B. MITCHELL; THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF CHARLES B. MITCHELL, IF ANY, N/K/A PATTY MITCHELL; ST. GEORGE PLANTATION OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; all unknown parties claiming by, through, under or against the named de-

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fendants, whether living or not, and whether said unknown parties claims as heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, or in any other capacity, claiming by, through under or against the named Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the ON THE FRONT STEPS OF THE COURTHOUSE. of the FRANKLIN County Courthouse, in FRANKLIN County, Florida, at 11:00 AM, on the 16th day of January, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Order or Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 4, RESORT VILLAGE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 8 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Street Address: LOT 4 RESORT VILLAGE, SAINT GEORGE ISLAND, FLORIDA 32328

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

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the Court this 6th day of December, 2012

Marcia M. Johnson Clerk of Court

Michele Maxwell As Deputy Clerk

If you are an individual with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding or other court service, program, or activity, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to provisions of certain assistance. Request for accommodation may be presented on this form, in another written format, or orally. Please complete the attached form and return it to: Susan Wilson, ADA Coordinator 301 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32301 850.577.4430 as far in advance as possible, but preferably at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance or other court activity.

Submitted by: MOSKOWITZ, MANDELL, SALIM & SIMOWITZ, P.A. 800 Corporate Drive, Suite 500 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33334 December 20, 27, 2012

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91537T IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA Case No: 11-000004-CA

CENTENNIAL BANK, successor in interest to A P A L A C H I C O L A STATE BANK a division of COASTAL COMMUNITY BANK, Plaintiff,

vs. BRIAN E. SYSKA a/k/a BRIAN EMIL SYSKA a/k/a BRYAN E. SYSKA, et al, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated November 27, 2012, and entered in Civil Action No. 11-000004 CA of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Franklin County, Florida, wherein the parties were the Plaintiff, CENTENNIAL BANK, successor in interest to APALACHICOLA STATE BANK, a division of COASTAL COMMUNITY BANK, and the Defendants, BRIAN E. SYSKA a/k/a BRIAN EMIL SYSKA a/k/a BRYAN E. SYSKA; et al, I will sell to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at 11:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) on the 9th day of January, 2013, at the front door foyer on the second floor of the Franklin County Courthouse, Apalachicola, Florida, the following-described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

PARCEL I: Lot 45, Lakes on the Bluff, according to the plat thereof recorded in the public records of Franklin County, Florida, at Plat Book 8, Pages 33, 34 and 35

PARCEL II: Lot 46, Lakes on the Bluff, according to the plat thereof recorded in the public records of Franklin County, Florida, at Plat Book 8, Pages 33, 34 and 35

PARCEL III: Commence at the Southwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of Section 31, Township 8 South, Range 6 West, Franklin County, Florida and run North 00°06'01" East 445.75 feet to a concrete monument lying on the southerly right-of-way boundary of U.S. Highway No. 98, thence run North 87°14'07" East along said right-of-way boundary 104.09 feet to a re-rod (marked #4261) for the point of beginning. From said Point of Beginning continue North 87°14'07"

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East along said right-of-way boundary 124.30 feet to an iron pipe, thence leaving said right-of-way boundary run South 00°02'26" West 126.24 feet to an iron pipe lying on the northerly right-of-way boundary of State Road No. S-65, thence run South 60°46'22" West along said northerly right-of-way boundary 142.51 feet to a re-rod (marked #4261), thence leaving said right-of-way boundary run North 00°05'27" East 189.83 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 is pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

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

DATED this 13th day of December, 2012.

Honorable MARCIA JOHNSON Clerk of the Court Franklin County, FL

By: Michele M As Deputy Clerk December 20, 27, 2012

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**PETS & ANIMALS**

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**2110 - Pets: Free to Good Home**  
**2120 - Pet Supplies**  
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**6160 - Rooms for Rent**  
**6170 - Mobile Home/Lot**  
**6180 - Out-of-Town Rentals**  
**6190 - Timeshare Rentals**  
**6200 - Vacation Rentals**

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**HELP WANTED**  
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**APARTMENT RENTALS**  
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**Heritage Villas of Apalachicola Apartments**  
Now accepting applications for 2BR Handicap accessible unit. Some rental assistance may be available. Call 850-653-9277. TDD/TTY 711. This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer.

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**APARTMENT RENTALS**  
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3 BR 1 BA UNFURNISHED DUPLEX DOWN TOWN CARRABELLE.....\$600

2 OFFICE SPACES US 98 CARRABELLE.....\$300 BOTH

# SCHOOLS from page A1

someone with intent to harm, and selling drugs, with this latter category not limited to on-campus behaviors. Several others, such as attempting to steal a vehicle, were below state averages.

But the two line items that drew the most attention was the one for carrying a handgun, anywhere at any time, and the one for taking a handgun to school.

Students who reported taking a handgun to school was non-existent among middle schools, and nearly so among high schoolers.

But the number of students who reported carrying a handgun was noticeably higher than the state average, especially among male students, where one out of five students reported carrying a handgun. Among all students, one out of 10 middle and high school students reported carrying a handgun within the past 12 months.

Walker said he believed this was due to the county's lifestyle. "We're in a big hunting area," he said. "In many things it's like a cultural mindset. Here kids experience handguns earlier because they go hunting."

Board Member David Hinton said that "in our community it's easier and more common to carry guns. You can see a kid bringing a gun to school."

Board Member Pam Shiver asked about how to address the problem of drug sales. "Prevention always works, you got to start early," said Walker. "I don't think we have enough preventive programs for our youth. Also, there are prescription drugs. Most of our kids are getting into prescription drug selling."

Walker called for "a comprehensive policy with enforcement in it" that includes developing

## ABC School to institute practice drills

*The following is a letter sent out Dec. 18 by Chimene Johnson, principal and CEO of the Apalachicola Bay Charter School.*

Dear Parents,  
In light of the events of last week in Newtown, Connecticut, I want to assure you that we are doing everything we feasibly can to insure a safe and secure school for our students to learn and grow.  
Our administrative staff has an established emergency code red plan in the event someone tries to enter our campus. Our teachers are prepared to protect and safe guard our students while they are on our campus. We will be reviewing this plan with our law enforcement to have their input and advise us on any changes we should make to our plan.

After Christmas break, we will begin to practice this drill with our students. We want our staff and students to be as familiar in this procedure as they are with our fire and tornado drills. We will also have our substitutes participate in these drills to keep them abreast of emergency procedures. We have security equipment in place to protect our staff and students. We know at times it may seem to be an inconvenience to wait for entry onto our campus but your child's safety is of utmost importance to our staff.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sandy Hook Elementary School and the Newtown Community. If you or your child feel led to send a card or stuffed animal to the grieving students, we will send a package from our school the first of the year.

Last week's tragic event is a sobering reminder of how short life can be. May we all be more diligent in giving our time and attention to those we love. There is no greater gift we can give to our children and family. The staff of ABC School wish you all a safe and happy holiday season.

programs for youth and which contains "guidelines to look at hot button and hot issues."

Marks said school administrators have set about making corrections to how they handle security. "One gun is one gun too many. I want us to get together and pay attention to this immediately," she said.

"You can make all the plans you want to dig a trench but

someone got to get shovels to start slinging some dirt," said Board Member Jimmy Gander. "The buildings are supposed to be secure but they're not."

"We have to be careful not to overreact," he said, noting that one Texas school district has begun to arm teachers. "I'm not in any way advocating that, I'm just saying you can overreact."

School Board Member Teresa

Ann Martin offered a concrete suggestion. "I feel a school resource officer should be at front gate, just like on military bases. When you enter that gate you have an id badge. Maybe one at the front entrance and one at the back entrance."

Shiver called for a task force to create an immediate response team. "We need to do drills, we need to have a plan of action," she said. "We can't say 'We're a small town, it's not going to happen to us.' That's what they said too 'It's not going to happen to us.'"

Gander said that the school systems "needs to be careful the kind of people we bring in. I've had situations where I was not comfortable with the people we have. We need to know who we're bringing in on campus. Anyway I realize anyone can snap."

Walker told the board he believed that impromptu searches by law enforcement officials of cars on campus must be allowed. "We should be able to check any car on campus," he said.

Gander clarified his position on searches of individuals. "It would be hard to run everybody through a metal detector. I'm not for that," he said. "I don't know why we couldn't have a policy to allow the SRO (school resource officer) to randomly use a wand."

After Marks suggested that a task force be formed to study the results of the youth survey, Shiver volunteered, and martin said she would be available to serve if needed. Gander asked that Walker and a law enforcement person serve on the task force.

"That's about the only thing you can do is be diligent and pray a lot and thank the Lord we haven't had this," Gander said.

## County BRIEF

### Dees to file in zlocal court

The county commission has granted permission for consulting attorney Robert Dees to file a case in the local circuit court to determine the liability of Orion Marine Contractors, a subcontractor for Progress Energy, for damage to the St. George Island fishing pier caused by a barge belonging to Orion during Tropical Storm Debby.

A 165 foot gap rendered most of the pier unusable.

According to Director of Administrative Services Alan Pierce, Orion is denying liability for the damage, calling the storm an "act of God." The company maintains the barge was properly moored.

Orion Marine Group also filed an action in the Federal Northern District Court under the "Shipowner's Limitation of Liability Act," seeking to limit its liability for the damage its barge did to the county's fishing pier to the value of the vessel that did the damage.

According to their marine survey, their vessel is valued at \$105,000. Cost of repairing the pier has been estimated at \$600,000.

Once liability is determined in local court, a federal judge will determine the actual funds to be awarded for damage. County Attorney Michael Shuler said Dees is currently evaluating Progress Energy's liability for the accident.

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