

Remembering a hero, A5

Thursday, July 4, 2013

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50¢

Out to see

What if it rains on Independence Day?

Main Street Apalachicola has announced that in the event of inclement weather, all Independence Day celebration events will be moved to the posted times on Friday, July 5. The St. George Island holiday parade on the morning of July 4 will happen, rain or shine. The rain date for Independence Day fireworks in Carrabelle would be dark-thirty Friday.

Maritime museum debuts Paddling Rowing Center

From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, July 7, the Apalachicola Maritime Museum will host the grand opening of their Paddling and Rowing Center. Free trips will be available to museum members all day. The museum is at 103 Water St., Apalachicola. Call 653-2500 or visit www.ammfl.org.

St. George Plantation photo contest

Until Aug. 28, The St. George Island Plantation is asking photographers to submit photographs of St. George Island, Apalachicola or Franklin County, accompanied by a written release form granting St. George Plantation Owners' Association permission to publish your photos. You may submit up to two photographs in the competition with a required \$5 entry fee. Forms and guidelines are available at www.sgpoa.com.

Summer bingo on the island

Every Tuesday, enjoy Summer Bingo upstairs at the St. George island fire station, 324 E. Pine Ave. at 7 p.m. Cards are 25 cents. This event is sponsored by and benefits the St. George Island Civic Club. For information, call 927-2654. Everyone welcome.

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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

Feds want lights out for turtles

Island residents could face stiff fines

By LOIS SWOBODA
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Stiff penalties might be in store for as many as 140 St. George island property owners who fail to remedy problems with lighting that disorient sea turtles during nesting season.

At the June 18 county meeting, com-

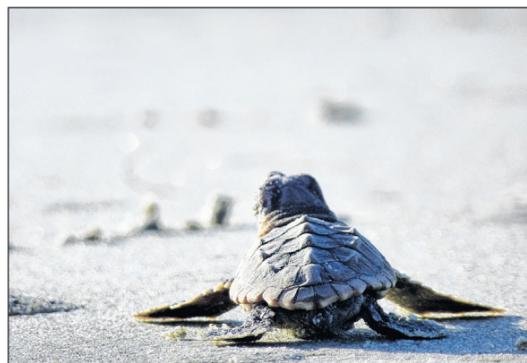
missioners were told the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may invoke the Endangered Species Act on St. George Island.

County Planner Alan Pierce said he received a letter from USFWS last month, asking the county to be "more diligent in protecting nesting sea turtles." The letter requests a meeting with commissioners to discuss sea turtle protection.

"Last year there were a number of sea turtle disorientations, and the USFWS wants the county to work to diminish those numbers," Pierce said.

Franklin County, with one of the

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JENNIFER STRICKLAND, USFWS | Special to the Times

STATE APPROVES OYSTER FARMING FOR ALLIGATOR HARBOR



NEW LEASE ON LIFE

By DAVID ADLERSTEIN
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In what is being heralded as an innovative step to help pep up the sagging oyster industry, the Florida cabinet last week gave the go-ahead for a Wakulla County family to farm oysters on their aquaculture leases in Alligator Harbor.

On June 25, Gov. Rick Scott and the Florida Cabinet approved an expansion of the use of two aquaculture leases in Alligator Harbor held by the Spring Creek Oyster Company, a Crawfordville-based company owned by the Lovels family.

The approval will allow Spring

Creek to modify two existing 1.5-acre leases to use the full water column for oyster harvesting in cages suspended above the bottom. The company had been using submerged land bottom to grow oysters in cages at the bottom of the waterbody, but was limited by its variance from the state Division of Aquaculture to no more than 6 inches from the bottom, the same vertical limit placed on the surrounding clam leases.

The Cabinet action enables the Lovels to take advantage of the top 2 feet of water, a space richer in nutrients, protected from predators and more easily accessible to the leaseholders.

"The floating cages may be

the initial step in a new aquaculture practice and may become a potential alternative economic stimulus for the eastern bounds of Apalachicola Bay," Scott said in a press release that followed the Cabinet decision.

The release said allowing use of the full water column is the only change to the two aquaculture leases, which both expire in 2022. It said Spring Creek is in compliance with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' aquaculture best management practices, and that the department, as well as the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, determined the

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CLAY LEVEL | Special to the Times

The Lovels farm oysters for their Spring Creek Restaurant.

Firefighters save Eastpoint home; shed destroyed

By LOIS SWOBODA
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Nobody was hurt in an Eastpoint fire last week that destroyed an RV and a storage shed.

About 2 p.m. June 25, the Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department responded to a 911 call from a home on Hickory Dip Road. Firefighters found a storage shed and recreational vehicle engulfed in flames behind the primary residence.

Although the RV and shed were a total loss, firemen were able to save the house with damage only to the vinyl siding. A nearby travel trailer escaped with relatively minor damage.

A thick plume of oily smoke was visible from Apalachicola and St. George Island for more

than 30 minutes.

The residents of the house declined to give their names, but Joseph Pumphrey said he owned the contents of the storage shed as well as the travel trailer that was damaged but not destroyed.

Pumphrey, a former volunteer fireman, said he believed the fire was electrical. Neighbors confirmed the blaze started near a fuse box on the side of the shed.

Pumphrey said the belongings destroyed — several large appliances, an air conditioner and family pictures and mementos — were in storage. He said he resides in a home on Ridge Road.

"I had just come in from oyster-ing, and I was at the oyster house when I heard the fire trucks," Pumphrey said. "I jumped in my truck and put it to the floor to get



LOIS SWOBODA | The Times

Firefighters extinguish a blaze behind an Eastpoint home June 25.

over here. I was pulling my boat. I'm heartbroke because everything I own and I've worked for over the last 10 years was in that shed. What I've worked for since I

was 15 or 16 years old."

Pumphrey said he lost 90 percent of his belongings and had no insurance. "I'm just glad everybody is all right," he said.

Schools look to shore up finances

By DAVID ADLERSTEIN
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As the Franklin County School District looks towards the 2013-14 fiscal year, the school board has agreed on a staffing plan for next year based on a budget expected to raise about \$150,000 more than came in this year, and to spend about \$50,000 less.

At their June 25 special meeting, the school board voted unanimously to approve 59 instructional positions, with three additional teaching positions — an elementary school teacher and middle school math and physical education teachers — as well as an information technology coordinator to be hired. The board earlier this month approved the re-hiring of five teachers who are on assignment, serving as deans, guidance counselors or in other non-instructional posts, so it appears the district will have five fewer teachers on staff than the 73 this year.

The district plans to next year hire a foreign language instructor to teach Spanish, after having eliminated the position a year ago as a cost-cutting move. Students this past year who took Spanish did so through Florida Virtual School, which involved

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online learning. "They did a survey with students before school was out, and our students responded very favorably to having an instructor, and we feel we have to address it," Superintendent Nina Marks said.

Director of Financial Services Shannon Venable said about 60 students indicated they wished to sign up for a foreign language class. She said hiring a beginning teacher would cost about \$44,000 including benefits, and all but about \$7,000 of this expense would be reimbursed by the state.

Before approving the staffing plan, the school board heard a report from Venable, who told the board she forecast revenues next year to be roughly \$10.97 million, about \$150,000 more than this year's \$10.82 million. This is in part because the district's combined property tax valuation will rise from \$1.696 billion to \$1.715 billion next year, by about \$19 million, or roughly 1.1 percent.

Venable said the district will carry over a balance of about \$400,000 from the current fiscal year and will have about \$600,000 in revenue in June 2014 at the end of the next fiscal year. Of this, about \$371,000 will be in unrestricted funds, which is about 3.74 percent of the overall budget, considered an acceptable cushion by the Florida Department of Education.

"We're continuing to update that as we make changes," she said.

One cost-cutting move that won't be made next year will be to privatize the district's custodial and lawn care services. The school board decided unanimously to postpone talk of a plan first presented by Marks about a month ago, which would save the district anywhere from about \$68,000 to \$113,000 in custodial costs. They decided it should not go the bargaining table for this year but that chief negotiator Leonard Dietzen should open discussions on the matter for the 2014-15

fiscal year.

The school district spends about \$350,000 annually on its custodial needs, including supplies and lawn care. A proposed by GCA Services Group would have trimmed those costs back to \$235,000, an annual savings of a little more than \$113,000.

At the time they first reviewed the plan early last month, school board members asked for a second quote that would have retained three existing custodial employees who were nearing retirement. Keeping those three on staff would have meant only the main campus custodial staff would be privatized and would have saved the district about \$68,000 over this year's costs.

The school board decided June 25 that rather than make a decision now, they would keep the idea on the backburner for discussion with the union for the following fiscal year.

The current custodial staff "can't order supplies.

Everything's kind of in limbo," School Board Member Teresa Ann Martin said. "I'm not saying we can't revisit it in the future. I think we should come to a decision tonight as a board as to what we're going to do. I don't think it's fair to keep them in limbo."

Board Chairman Jimmy Gander pushed for a decision on privatization that would apply for the entire fiscal year.

"I know these employees back here; they want to know where they stand," he said. "I just put myself in the place of employees. It we hire them tonight, we need to hire them for 12 months and be done."

Ultimately, Marks agreed to postpone any move toward privatization. "I think with the financial difficulties that we have, it's something we need to be looking at," she said. "I also think they need to get on with the summer and get the school prepared. You need to hire them tonight and let's revisit it at a later date."

cost increase was because Croom's would no longer be able to offset some costs by transporting additional adults to physician appointments in Tallahassee on the bus.

"My understanding is the contract before did not require the bus to only have our students. They were able to keep that price because they transported other kids," Sanders said, adding that Martha Weimorts, the former director of special programs, had insisted on the exclusivity because of requirements of the Jessica Lunsford Act. That state law requires background screening of all individuals who provide contracted non-instructional services to Florida public schools or districts.

Last month, the school board approved the hiring of a successor to Weimorts, who retired from her post this year. Named as the new director of special programs was Sue Summers, a former superintendent of the Liberty County Schools.

Summers served one-four-year term, from 2008-12, as Liberty County superintendent. She lost her re-election bid in the August 2012 Democratic primary. She has a doctorate in education and will be paid \$67,000, about \$3,000 less than her predecessor.

## A plea to visit classrooms

In a spirited back-and-forth at the start of the meeting, Cathy Wood, president of the local teachers' union, said the union had reviewed four proposals presented by Dietzen at the recent opening bargaining

session.

"Three of the four took my breath away," said Wood, calling the proposals "a little bit skewed."

"I just feel that once again the communication line has been severed and closed if these are the proposals ... to balance the budget on the backs of the employees," she said.

Both Wood and the school board members avoided going into detail on the proposals now on the table. She did encourage school board members to visit classrooms once school is back in session.

"I'm saying to you, please come, please schedule it," she said. "You need to be there, maybe on your lunch hour from your other jobs. Show your presence on a regular basis in these classrooms."

The proposal was met with some skepticism from school board members. "It would be virtually impossible and very disruptive to have five school board members traipsing around from class to class, to teacher to teacher," Gander said. "Everyone has an opportunity to come to the board, as you do. I don't really understand how we can make ourselves more available unless we go on conference call to the classroom."

"Just to go out and knock on the door and say 'Do you want to see me or don't?'" It's never worked out well for me," he said. "I've tried it. I have rarely ever gone in there that didn't feel like I was interrupting something going on."

Wood asked school board members "formulate some sort of schedule. If a teacher knows that you're going, the teacher would have to agree with you coming, and pair you up. We would have camaraderie of people sitting in your position as elected officials, (being able to see) something wonderful and positive that went on on that campus."

Board Member Teresa Ann Martin sought to reassure Wood the school board supported teachers. "I think great things are happening at the school, but there's always room for improvement. Don't take it so to heart that all they're doing is putting us down. We're looking at numbers and results and saying we don't have to be a D school. There's a lot of teachers working hard, some that's not and some that are."

Wood continued to plea for personal visits. "Please come and sit in a classroom. For our staff to see you come and participate in some capacity is going to be that motivator; that something that will entice them to maybe make that difference."

Board Member Pam Shiver said she did not favor the idea of staging school board visits. "I won't come announced; I don't want to walk in on you on your best behavior," she said, and then likened the situation to hers as a postal service employee.

"Everything is data-driven. Management looks at nothing but the data," Shiver said. "To the employee, it's 'Hey I'm a human being.' But in the essence of it all there's still a business that needs to be done."

Board Member David Hinton, a former teacher at Carrabelle High School, said he did not support the idea of school board member visits. "When I was a teacher, the only time I ever saw a board member was when there was a problem," he said. "It wasn't the board member's job to micromanage the school."

He said when he was elected to office, he decided "I'm going to do it here in the board room. I don't go to school to see what's going on."

"I don't really have a desire to go to the schools. It's intimidating for a school board member to go into the school."



SUE SUMMERS

## Croom's contract renewed

In another matter concerning a private sector service provider, the board agreed to a \$66,000 contract for next year with Croom's Transportation that will cover the cost of transporting a half-dozen disabled students and a paraprofessional to the Gretchen Everhart School in Tallahassee.

"I believe we're still going to try to work towards the future of transporting the children ourselves," Marks said. "We don't have anything in place right now to take care of these children, and we need it by July 1."

The price tag for the transportation will run \$15,000 more than did it this year. School Board Attorney Barbara Sanders said the



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# NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS

The Franklin Board of County Commissioners will receive sealed bids qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing.

## PLUMBING RENOVATIONS AT THE FRANKLIN JAIL AND SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The project is located at 270 State Road 65, Eastpoint, Florida, and consists of replacing plumbing components on existing fixtures at the County Jail and Sheriff's Office.

Completion date for this project will be 60 days from the date of the Notice to Proceed presented to the successful bidder.

A mandatory pre-bid walk-thru is scheduled for Monday, July 8, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. The walk-thru will be held at the County Jail at 270 State Road, Eastpoint, Florida.

Liquidated damages for failure to complete the project on the specified date will be set at \$200.00 per day.

The sealed bid must be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope "**PLUMBING RENOVATIONS AT COUNTY JAIL**". The envelope should also bear on the outside the Bidder's name, address and license number, if applicable.

Bids will be received until 4:30 p.m. (EST) on Monday, July 15, 2013, at the Franklin County Clerk's Office, Franklin County Courthouse, 33 Market Street, Suite 203, Apalachicola, Florida 32320-2317, and will be opened and read aloud on Tuesday, July 16, 2013, at the County Commission meeting held at the Courthouse Annex, 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, Florida.

The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to waive any informality in any bid, to accept and/or reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid that in their best judgement will be in the best interest of Franklin County. All bids shall remain form for a period of sixty days after opening.

All bidders shall comply with all applicable State and local laws concerning licensing registration and regulation of contractors doing business in the State of Florida.

Questions should be addressed to Alan Pierce, Director of Administrative Services, at 850-653-9783, Ext. 161 or alanp@fairpoint.net

**PUBLISH DATES:** Thursday, June 27, 2013  
Thursday, July 4, 2013

**BILL TO:** FRANKLIN COUNTY BOCC  
Attn: Linda Phillips  
33 Market Street, Suite 203  
Apalachicola, FL 32320

1104136

# OYSTERS from page A1

change “will not result in adverse impacts to seagrasses, existing shellfish beds, natural reefs or other sensitive habitats.”

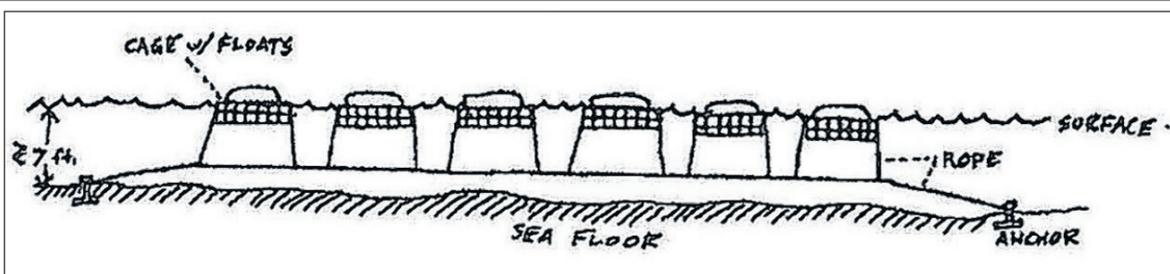
At their April 2 meeting, Franklin County commissioners had reviewed the Lovels’ proposal and raised some questions, although they lacked authority to approve or deny the proposed modifications.

“This will keep other people from using that water. Boats will run into bags,” Commissioner Smokey Parrish said. “If there’s damage done, whoever does it will probably be responsible.”

Commissioner Cheryl Sanders said the leases were west of the ramp where boats turn in. “People love to fish around those places for the drums,” she said. “(It could interfere with) clammers being able to get to their leases.”

Commissioner William Massey concurred, noting the leases were “straight off the boat landing,” and Commissioner Pinki Jackel said “it would be hard to run a boat where all those stakes are.”

Clay Lovel, younger brother to Ben Lovel, the two sons of Leo Lovel, said he was not sure how much effect using the entire water column will have on recreational boats. “All the times I’ve been there, I’ve seen only one or two other boats driving in that area that weren’t other people working on their leases,” he said. “When you consider 1.5 acres on the water, it’s a very, very small space.”



This drawing shows the oyster baskets the Lovels provided on their application to the state.

LEO LOVEL | Special to the Times

with a mixed reaction from locals and ultimately failed.

But Clay Lovel said he thinks the family’s plan could be one more tool in oystermen’s hands in keeping the industry alive and prospering.

“We hope the wild oyster population comes back, over there and over here,” he said. “It’s a regional problem. We are not competing at all. From what we’ve learned from other people who farm oysters, that there is a worldwide market that cannot be filled for oysters. If anything, we hope our oysters might help reseed the bay.”

“There used to be oyster houses all over Franklin and Wakulla County,” Lovel said. “We’re hoping any increase in oyster production here could have a ripple effect. We have no grand plan other than to make a living on the water. We think if there’s one more option for these people to make a living on the water, that can only be good.”

With hard times facing oystermen who work the bay, and with reliance on a \$2.7 million federal grant for reseeding the bay about to dry up, longtime oystermen aren’t getting their dander up about the Alligator Harbor project.

“I’m hoping it works out,” Franklin County Seafood Works Association President Shannon Hartsfield told the Tallahassee Democrat. “That’s what we are going to have to do, trial and error. I don’t see how it can hurt our bay. It may give an opportunity for a different way to harvest oysters.

That’s a plus in my book.”

Clay Lovel said the family’s oyster harvesting project actually landed in their laps thanks to a salesman for the Bay Shellfish Company out of Palmetto.

The family started with two clam leases a year ago and was about halfway through the germination process when they decided to try oyster farming.

“It wasn’t really our idea, to be honest with you,” Lovel said. “The seed salesman had oyster seed available, so we said yeah, and we bought some cages to put them in the water. It was more luck than anything that we ended up getting the oyster seed.”

## ‘A very clean and thin shell’

Last summer, aquaculture regulators granted the Lovels a variance on their clam leases, and they put in about 10,000 oyster seeds. Nine months later, with about 150,000 pieces growing in 450 cages, they started harvesting their first crop of oysters.

“We were astonished when we saw how fast they were growing. They filled those cages up pretty quick,” Lovel said. “It was the first time we did it so they grew at different rates. They don’t really all come off at once, some grow faster than others. We’re learning trial by error even now. We probably overcrowded them at first.”

What the Lovels have produced in Alligator Harbor has been a smaller, saltier oyster than those found in Apalachicola Bay, and

they have only been sold at Spring Creek, at about \$10 for a dozen on the half-shell.

“That’s all we’re doing at the moment; we only need to get as many as we need for the restaurant right now,” Lovel said.

“We do harvest smaller ones, and we’re also trying to market a smaller oyster as well,” he said. “Since they’re so young they have a very clean and thin shell, very white on the inside. At the location where we’re going, there’s hardly any freshwater. It’s a very salty environment; therefore the oyster is very briny.”

“Customers love ’em,” Lovel said. “Of course some people like a big oyster. I personally prefer a smaller oyster. It’s just like mullet; some people like big mullet, and some people like small mullet.”

He said other than being allowed to harvest oysters smaller than 3 inches long, Spring Creek is subject to all other rules regarding oyster harvesting, including refrigeration and storage.

“We have to go through every single precaution and rule that any other oyster house would,” Lovel said.

He said he’s not sure whether post-harvest processing will be an issue regarding vibrio vulnificus, naturally occurring bacteria that thrives in warm waters and can be deadly for people with compromised immune systems who eat raw oysters.

He said some diseases like dermo, which can threaten the health of oysters, take as long as 18

months to thrive. “We are already harvesting some oysters that are less than a year old,” Lovel said. “We’re hoping it won’t be a major concern for us.”

The Lovels plan to experiment with different methods of floating the cages. “Honestly, we are using a fraction of our one lease with oysters and clam. It’s all we can do to run the restaurant and keep up with our oysters and clams,” Lovel said. “Being able to use the full water column will make our work easier and more efficient.”

He said using the entire water column will enable the Lovels to more easily defoul their equipment of grasses and barnacles. “We can get those out of the water more easily, and kill those organisms, and keep our equipment and the oysters clean. It opens up the window of people that can do that,” he said. “Right now we can get in the water and work those cages in low tide, but that’s a small window. You have to be fit enough to get in the water and handle that equipment.”

“We do realize we’re still in an ongoing experiment, but we’re very hopeful that it will be successful,” he said. “We think it could provide some options for others who work on the water.”

“We figure what we’re in to right now, it’s just like farming. There may be a good season, and there may be a bust season. We’re not even taking baby steps yet. We’re just getting crawling. We haven’t even got all the way through our first crop.”

## ‘I’m hoping it works out’

The Lovel family, which has owned and operated Spring Creek Restaurant near Shell Point in Panacea since 1977, is sensitive to fears that farming oysters ultimately could lead to the end of the traditional tonging methods that long have been the hallmark of Apalachicola Bay oystermen. Two decades ago, when the state tried to introduce oyster farming as part of job retraining, the idea met

# TURTLES from page A1

largest populations of nesting sea turtles in the state, has wrestled for years with problems with disorientations of both adults and hatchlings because of improperly shielded residential and commercial lighting. Because all sea turtles are considered to be at risk of extinction, turtle deaths resulting from improper lighting may violate the Endangered Species Act.

Bill Mahan, Franklin County extension agent called USFW “the 600-pound gorilla in the room waiting to pounce.”

Mahan said the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is cooperating with the county to educate island property managers and owners.

About a dozen property owners and managers on the island attended a June 19 sea turtle workshop at the St. George Island firehouse led by Kelly Roberts, an FWC wildlife biologist. Roberts said she was delighted because she had held county wide workshops where only five had attended.

Last September, USFW threatened to fine island properties with lighting that disorients sea turtles to the tune of \$5,000 or more for each violation. A letter from USFW said the county sea turtle protection ordinance, passed in 1998, is not being properly enforced, and the federal agency will invoke the Endangered Species Act if the county continues to ignore its own ordinance.

A second letter received last month repeated that warning.

Dan Garlick, owner of Garlick Environmental Services Inc., said USFW can and will levy stiff fines in order to enforce the Endangered Species Act.

In my experience, what often happens is they impose the fines, which can’t be paid and are not paid by the violator but the whole process gives the community a black eye,” he said. “It’s very bad from a public image point of view.”

According to the act, civil penalties can be up to \$25,000 per violation. Crim-

inal penalties are not to exceed \$50,000 in fines and a year of imprisonment. Lisa Lehnhoff, a spokeswoman for USFW, said the amount of the fine is largely at the discretion of the USFW enforcement officer.

“There might be one disorientation with more than one hatchling involved, and the officer could choose to treat it as a single violation and fine, say, \$1,000,” she said. “If a second disorientation occurs involving the same property, the officer might fine the owner for each turtle affected.”

Over the last five years, the Endangered Species Act rarely has been invoked for violations involving sea turtles except where there was criminal activity, for example the sale of turtle meat or purposeful destruction of a nest. Charges against property owners causing disorientations appear to be unprecedented.

However, there is funding available from the Deepwater Horizon settlement targeted at improving and protecting sea turtle nesting areas, and that infusion of money could make enforcement of the law more feasible.

USFW agents returned to the island in May and conducted a survey that identified 140 residences that might be out of compliance. A copy of this list was attached to the USFW letter sent to Pierce. The list includes beachside and first tier properties from Sunset Beach, on the extreme eastern end, to Bob Sikes Cut on the west.

Businesses are not included in the list; about half the properties on the list appear to be vacation rentals, but many are private homes.

In a telephone interview, Lehnhoff said, “The county has had an ordinance since 1998, and (USFW) has been active in trying to bring people into compliance. This is just a continuation of that initiative.”

Donald Imm, a USFW project leader, USFW’s sea turtle effort “isn’t as much about sea turtles as the lifestyle on St. George Island. People have enjoyed

the beach there for many years. Being able to coexist with sea turtles and their nests is an important part of that. At some point, it could get so developed local people won’t be able to enjoy that lifestyle. In south Florida, there are plenty of islands where every day Florida residents can no longer afford to go and enjoy those resources. This is about sustained growth, sustained economy and sustaining conditions on the island.

“We fully support a healthy economy and a healthy county. In no way are we trying to oppose any of those things,” he said. “We really hope to give the county residents some options. Right now, plans for enforcement of the Endangered Species Act are on hold, but the time will come when law enforcement will get involved.”

Susan Ficklen, of Collins Vacation Rentals, was among those who attended the June 19 workshop.

“In the past, Franklin County has stated that there was an ordinance but no money to enforce it,” she said in an interview last week. “A volunteer organization led by Bruce Drye was formed. Each season, the turtles turn a list of noncompliant houses to the county. The county sends a letter to the owner.”

Ficklen said Collins has one owner who recently received such a county notification and told the rental company he wanted to be in compliance.

“He contacted the Turtle Conservancy. They provided him with advice and funding for fixtures and installation,” she said. “(Property managers) represent the owners, and we are responsible to inform them about anything that will affect them or their renters or property.”

“I think it’s important to recognize that we are still a part of the ecoheaven,” Ficklen said. “We already remind every guest when they arrive that this is turtle season. It’s like the beach the way it was when we were kids and people

respect that.”

She said the rental companies have received copies of the list of 140 properties and will work to inform affected property owners. “I’m certain that we have the support of all rental companies,” Ficklen said.

Imm said USFW and FWC hope to obtain environmental restoration money from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill settlement to assist in bringing the island into compliance and will work with homeowners and property management companies to that end.

Lehnhoff began visiting island businesses last week to provide information and answer questions about compliance. She will speak at the August meeting of the St. George Island Civic Club.

At the June 18 county commission meeting, Pierce and Mahan said

they had received word from USFW the county also might be eligible for grant money to protect turtles under “Restoring the Night Sky,” a project funded by the Deepwater Horizon settlement.

Pierce said the county’s grant proposal requests funds for education and to pay a code enforcement officer to work nights and evenings inspecting lighting on the island. He said the grant also would provide money to retrofit structures with compliant lighting. The program would be run out of Mahan’s Sea Grant office at the Armory.

Pierce said some portions of the island, including the commercial district, would be difficult to bring into compliance. He said his plan is to create a wide swath of dark beach on the east end of the island where housing

is less dense than at island center.

Commissioner Smokey Parrish expressed concern for public safety if lighting in the business district is reduced.

“Some folks, because they love turtles, get kind of extreme,” Commissioner Noah Lockley said. “We don’t want that.”

Commissioner Pinki Jackel suggested commercial lighting and signs could be retrofitted to protect the turtles. “They were here before us, and we need to try and live with them,” she said.

Commissioners voted unanimously to allow Pierce and Mahan to apply for the grant.

Imm said USFW will continue to document turtle disorientations and collect information that will be needed to prosecute violators of the Endangered Species Act.

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## The Declaration of Independence

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

**W**e hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighboring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

**W**e, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

## Understanding Medicare premiums

By Ron Pollack  
Special to the Times

At the end of May, the Medicare Trustees reported that Medicare costs are expected to grow more slowly than was previously expected. One of the positive effects of this trend is that Medicare premiums are also expected to increase more slowly. What does that mean for you and your family? Here's a look at the different types of Medicare premiums.

**Q: What do people mean by "Medicare premiums"?**

**A:** When people talk about Medicare premiums, they're often thinking of the Part B premium (Part B primarily covers doctor visits and other outpatient services). For most beneficiaries, this premium is automatically deducted from their Social Security benefit each month. In 2013, most people with Medicare pay a Part B premium of \$104.90 a month.

**Q: What other Medicare premiums exist besides Part B?**

**A:** Most people with Medicare do not pay a premium for Medicare Part A (which covers hospital and other inpatient care) because they or their spouse

paid enough in Medicare taxes during their working years to qualify for premium-free Part A.

If you have a Part D prescription drug plan, you do pay premiums. In 2013, the national average for a Part D monthly premium is \$40.18, but Part D premiums vary widely from plan to plan and region to region.

If you have a Medicare Advantage plan, your plan usually charges an additional premium.

Finally, you may have a private Medicare supplemental policy, either from a former employer or private company. The premiums for these policies vary significantly.

**Q: How are Medicare premiums determined?**

**A:** By law, the Part B premium must cover 25 percent of Medicare's Part B costs. When Medicare costs grow more slowly, so do premiums.

Part D premiums are similarly tied to the costs of prescription drugs. Medicare Advantage premiums are determined by a more complicated process, but they also reflect trends in costs. Because Part D and

Medicare Advantage plans are run by private companies, premiums can vary a lot. But even so, when health care costs rise more slowly, premiums usually do too.

**Q: Does everyone pay the same premium?**

**A:** If your income is more than \$85,000 (for just you, or \$170,000 for you and your spouse), you pay an additional Part B premium. How much more depends on your income: People with the highest incomes pay the most. Also, since 2011, the same high-income beneficiaries have paid higher Part D premiums. Part A premiums and Medicare Advantage premiums are not affected by these rules.

**Q: If I have a limited income, can I get help paying my premiums?**

**A:** For people with limited incomes and resources, the Part D Extra Help program covers all or most of their Part D premium, as well as other pharmacy costs. You can find out if you qualify and apply online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp) or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE. Each state also has Medicare Savings Programs that cover Part B premiums for people with

limited incomes. In some cases, these programs also cover other Medicare costs. To learn more, call 1-800-MEDICARE and ask for a referral to your local state health insurance assistance program (SHIP), or go to this website [www.familiesusa.org/resources/program-locator](http://www.familiesusa.org/resources/program-locator) and click on your state.

**Q: What will happen to Medicare premiums in the future?**

**A:** Medicare premiums depend greatly on what happens to health care costs, specifically Medicare costs, in the future. No one knows for sure if the recent slowdown in Medicare costs will continue. The early indications from the Medicare Trustees' report are that the trend should continue for now, and that the 2014 Part B premium will be unchanged from 2013. For anyone with Medicare living on a fixed income—and that's most people—this is encouraging news.

*Ron Pollack is executive director of Families US, a national organization for health care consumers that has advocated for universal, affordable, quality health care since 1982.*



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# Ellis Van Vleet: A hometown hero

By LOIS SWOBODA

653-1819 | @ApalachTimes  
Lswoboda@starfl.com

Franklin County has sired many a patriot and one of these was William Ellis Van Vleet.

Born in Apalachicola to William and Florida Van Vleet on Oct. 28, 1924, he entered the world with a twin sister, Erris.

His friends and family called him "Buddy." He was by all accounts an all-American boy, who loved boating and fishing, excelled at sports and made friends easily.

His parents kept every one of his Sunday School graduation certificates from the First Baptist Church where their younger son, Louis, is still a devout member. The diplomas are tucked away with Buddy's other things in a wooden trunk.

As soon as he was old enough, Buddy began shrimping with his father, when not in school. Sometimes they took along Louis, who was four years younger.

Louis said he has often wondered what it would have been like to grow up with a brother. He has happy memories of Buddy's kindness.

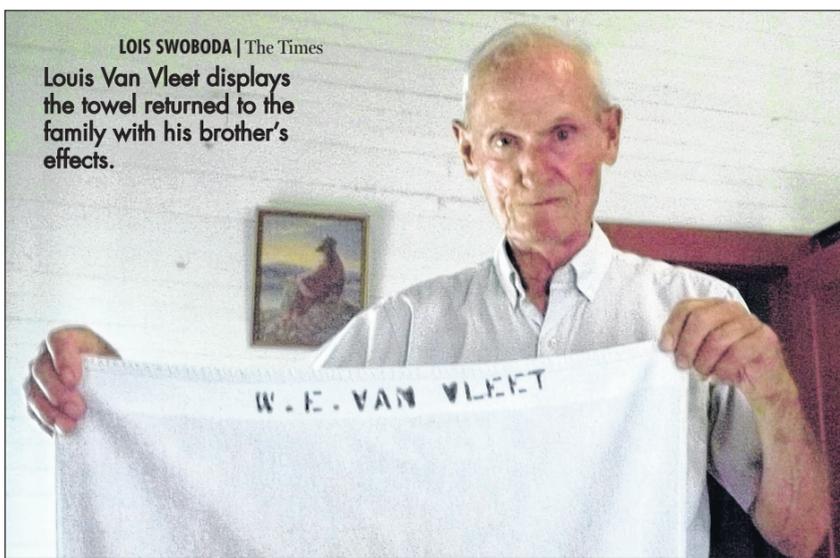
"He was a good brother," said Van Vleet. "One time, when I was little, I had gone down to the Dixie Theatre. It cost a dime to get in. I got up to the window and found out I had lost my dime. My brother stepped up and put one down for me. I never forgot that."

And Buddy is not forgotten. A shelf in the Van Vleet living room displays his pictures, and a handful of special treasures. His trunk, in a cozy bedroom, is filled with his things as if he might still return to claim them.

Like so many of his members of the "Greatest Generation," Buddy volunteered in 1943 and at age 18 became a Marine. His Marine handbook remains in the trunk of his belongings.

After training, he was assigned to the aircraft carrier, USS Franklin. Nicknamed "Big Ben," the Franklin was one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers built for the Navy during World War II. She was 872 feet long and 147 feet wide with a crew of more than 2,000. She carried 100 aircraft.

Aboard the Franklin, Buddy traveled to the Pacific, crossing the international dateline on June 23, 1944 and



LOIS SWOBODA | The Times  
Louis Van Vleet displays the towel returned to the family with his brother's effects.

the equator on Sept. 20.

The Franklin participated in numerous battles from July through October 1944. On Oct. 27, she was hit by a suicide bomber killing 56 crew members and wounding 60.

The wrecked plane in two sections was shoved into the water off opposite sides of the ship. The Franklin was so badly damaged she returned to Puget Sound Navy Yard for repairs.

Buddy, who was on his gun mount during the fatal battle, was unhurt, but his cabin was burned. He had to borrow clothes for the return trip to the US. While the Franklin was being repaired, Buddy was able to return to Apalachicola for a visit with his family.

"He had a week off. It was the last time we was all here together," recalled Van Vleet.

Buddy, who had never been a lady's man, joked with his mother that he might bring home a bride from the Philippines.

He told his young brother, "Anybody's ever been in a war they'll never forget it."

He gave Louis what must have been a tremendous treasure to a boy in his early teens, a piece of the fuselage from the kamikaze that crashed into the Franklin.

After Buddy returned to the aircraft carrier, his mother told Louis that Buddy believed he would never return home again. "She said she could read it on him," said Van Vleet.

The telegram that every soldier's family dreads arrived on April 10, 1945.

On March 19, the Franklin maneuvered closer to the Japanese mainland than any other US carrier during the

war. She was struck by two armor-piercing bombs causing severe damage and triggering explosions of stored ammunition and rockets. She lay dead in the water; many of the crew were killed or blown overboard.

Initially, 724 were listed as dead or missing but later the toll of the dead was raised to more than 800.

Buddy was among the missing. "It like to killed Mama," said Van Vleet.

When the telegram came, word spread fast. Dr. Weems, the family physician, was across town but he told the people he was with, "I have to go now. Mrs. Van Vleet will need me."

There was some question about where Buddy had been at the time of the attack. Many of the young men killed had been in the chow line.

Ellsworth Taylor, who served on the Franklin with Buddy, wrote the Van Vleet family, that their son "was one any mother would be proud to call her son. He was not killed in the chow line. He was on the second deck and there was a big explosion. It's very hard to tell a mother that her son is dead but I really believe he is. If your boy died, he didn't suffer as the boys never knew what hit them. Your boy lived a very clean life as we used to go on liberty together and I believe he was ready to meet God."

Buddy's remains were never returned home. In August, 1945, his effects were

returned by parcel post.

Included in the package were four books, a box containing six handkerchiefs, a collar stay, an envelope of photographs, a bundle of letters, a pipe, a bathing suit, a sewing kit and four bath towels. Most of these items remain in the trunk at the Van Vleet home.

In March 1946, the Van Vleets received an official "declaration of presumptive death" from the Navy. Florida Van Vleet arranged for a memorial service and purchased a monument with the US Marine Corps insignia that can still be seen in Magnolia Cemetery.

The family continued to inquire after their lost boy. "My mother wrote to people about him and she looked for him to come home for another 10 years," said Louis.

Buddy received a posthumous Purple Heart. The family received a section of plank from the Franklin from the Naval Historical Center in Washington D.C. On it Louis mounted the bit of fuselage his brother brought him in 1944.

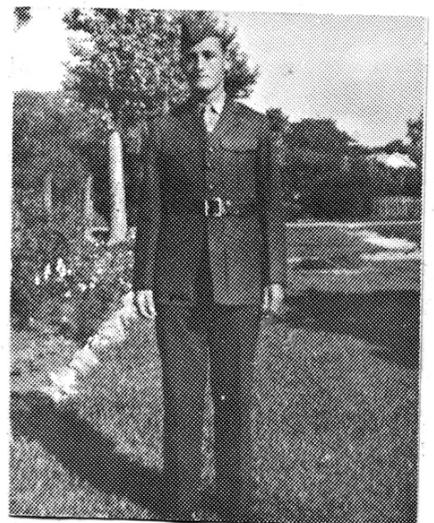
After Buddy enlisted, the Van Vleet family saved every letter from the son and every memento of his wartime travels. His brother, Louis, still treasures these keepsakes of an American hero.

Van Vleet said he hopes to eventually donate his brother's effects to the Camp Gordon Johnston Museum in Carrabelle so they can be preserved for future generations.



A memorial to William Ellis Van Vleet sits in the family plot in Magnolia Cemetery.

## William Ellis VanVleet United States Marine Corp.



**Missing in action  
on Aircraft Carrier Franklin  
off coast of Japan March 19, 1945.  
Still missed by family: twin sister Erris Ventry,  
sister Eva R. VanVleet, brother Louis VanVleet.**

pc16 #2913

FROM THE VAN VLEET FAMILY COLLECTION

Louis Van Vleet keeps a small memorial to his brother on a living room shelf.

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of the Northwest Florida Regional Housing Authority will hold its Annual Meeting on July 18, 2013, at the Holiday Inn & Suites, 2725 Graves Road, Tallahassee, Florida. Meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. E.D.S.T. The meeting will be open to the public.

451091

## Annual Membership Meeting and Election

Tuesday Evening  
**July 9, 2013 at 6:00**  
Rancy House Carriage House  
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The Panhandle Players invites you to join us for our annual meetings and for the election of Board members and officers. Hear about our plans for the coming season and about how you can become involved.

For more information or to express an interest in running for the Board of Directors, please call Elaine Kozlowsky at 850-670-1671 or Bob Inguagiato at 850-370-5281.

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# Daniels to get dose of doctoring

By DAVID ADLERSTEIN  
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A Franklin County High School student is about to get a glimpse of what her future would be like if she pursues her dream to become a doctor.

Cayce Daniels, who will be a sophomore this fall, is headed to Emory University in Atlanta Sunday for a 10-day participation in the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine.

She'll be staying at a dorm at Emory as she embarks on a hands-on, interactive curriculum that includes shadowing practicing physicians, clinical site visits at the nation's top medical centers and meeting and interacting with faculty from world-renowned medical institutions.

Daniels, 15, the daughter of Jesse and Jennifer Daniels of Carrabelle, is an honor roll student, active in the Tigers program at the Carrabelle branch library, and a member of the Franklin County band for four years.

Jennifer Daniels said her daughter, who has dreams of becoming a radiologist, was nominated for the program after an aptitude test at the school showed she has an interest in and an aptitude for medicine.

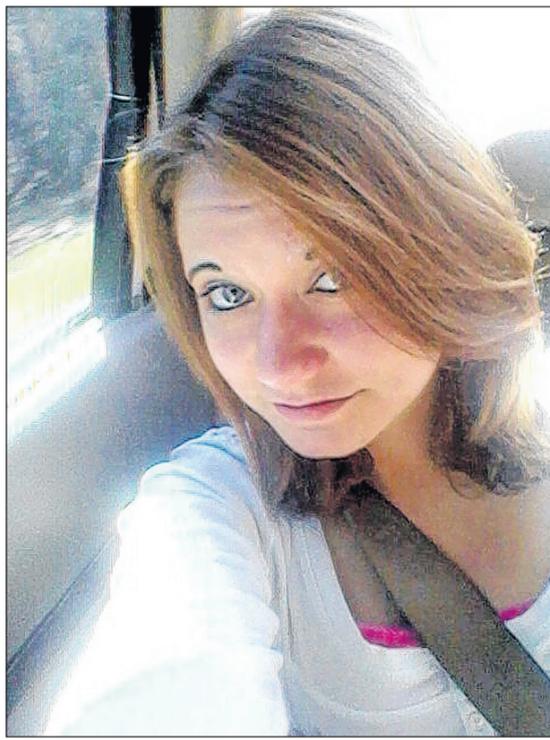
Tuition for the program

runs close to \$2,700, but with the help of family and friends, Daniels was able to make things work.

"She got a lot of help from the people in the community, First Baptist Church Carrabelle, where she is a member; Gayla Parks State Farm Insurance, Dr. Eugene Charbonneau, Mike's Quick Cash, just to name a few," said Jennifer Daniels.

Her mother said Cayce plans to keep a journal and take photos of the forum. "It's going to let her see what being a doctor entails as some of the activities will let her experience participating in a mock residency program selection, examining leadership by analyzing leaders in medicine, problem-based learning case, medical ethics scenarios and caucus," said Jennifer Daniels. "She'll participate in workshops learning how to take a patient's blood pressure and suturing, public health, participating in a mass triage scenario and site explorations to different medical schools and hospitals."

According to the youth leadership forum's website, participating institutions in the Atlanta area have included Emory School of Medicine, Georgia Health Sciences University, Mercer School of Medicine, Morehouse School of Medicine and Georgia Campus-Philadelphia School of Os-



Cayce Daniels

teopathic Medicine.

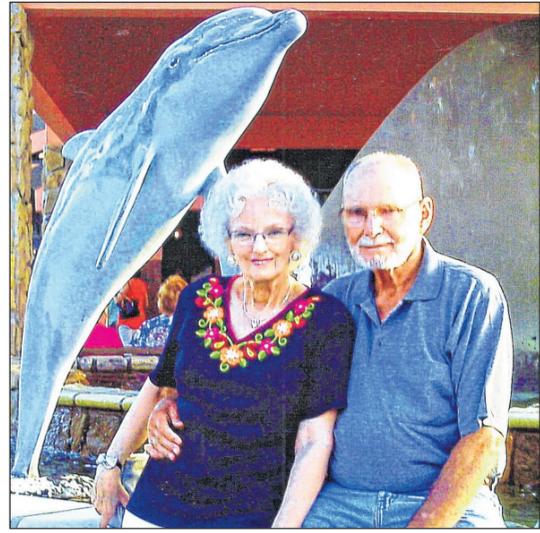
Hands-on activities may include histology, which involves using microscopes to view cell anatomy, visits to an anatomy lab, engaging in a vital signs workshop, and learning how to diagnose on SimMan, which is a portable, patient simulator.

Other highlights with the forum have been a hypnotism extravaganza, led by Sean Wheeler, a certi-

fied hypnotist; a visit to the inspiring Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site; shopping at the Mall of Georgia, the largest mall in the state; and a semi-formal dinner and dancing on the final evening of the program.

Speakers who have participated in past Atlanta Forums include health officials from the Centers for Disease Control and the Grady Health System.

## 60TH ANNIVERSARY



Clarence and Judy Norris were married in their hometown of Bethel, Ohio on June 26, 1953.

Clarence worked for General Motors for 30 years and retired in 1983. Judy works in retail sales and raised their son David, who passed away in 2007.

They came to Eastpoint for a week's vacation Christmas of 1983 and fell in love with the area and

the friendly people and moved here the next year.

Clarence works as a fishing guide for Bay City Lodge and Judy worked for Bayside Florist for 10 years and then switched to Two Gulls Gift Shops where she has worked for almost 18 years.

Their good friends, Lynn and Greg Martina, celebrated the occasion with them at Capt. Anderson's Restaurant.

## Morgan and Strickland are Philaco scholars

The Philaco Woman's Club education committee has announced the recipients of two \$1,000 scholarship awards for 2013.

Winners are Morgan Walker, salutatorian for the Franklin County High School Class of 2013, and Sarah E. Strickland, valedictorian at the First Baptist Christian School.

Walker, who has a grade point average of better than 4.0, served as team captain of the Brain Bowl team for 2012 and competed on the team in grades 10 through 12, as well as participating in sports, scouting, serving as a student mentor and working part-time. She has been accepted by the University of Florida where she plans to pursue a course of study in physics and astronomy. Morgan also has been dual-enrolled at Gulf

Coast State College and will have 36 credit hours when she graduates.

Strickland, who has a 3.5 grade point average, served as a teacher's aide her senior year, volunteered with her school's fundraising events, and assisted with younger classes and her church nursery, while working part time since 2009. She enjoys sports and photography, and paints in oil, acrylic and pastels, and enjoys. She has been accepted by Pensacola Christian College where she plans to enter the nursing program, with art as an elective.

Committee members Judy Cook, Ginny Griner, Heather Guidry, Dawn Radford, and Judy Stokowski acted as judges during the scholarship competition.

## CONGRATULATIONS CAMILLE DAVIS



Franklin County Elementary School student Camille Davis made a perfect score on her FCAT Math 2.0.

She will be going into the fifth grade in 2013-14. She is the daughter of

Clint and Angela Davis, of Carrabelle, Beach.

Grandparents are Arthur "Red" and Billie Faye Dais, and Mike and Sue Bodiford, of Apalachicola. Congrats Millie, we love you!

## GRANGER TWINS BORN



Celia Granger of Eastpoint would like to announce the birth of her twins, Kymbri Jayde and Kyron Jayceon Granger.

Kymbri Jayde was born at 9:07 p.m. and Kyron Jayceon was

born at 9:08 p.m. on Thursday, May 30, 2013 at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital.

Maternal grandparents are Jimmy and Lynn Granger, of Eastpoint.

## Legion post to host chicken dinner Saturday

Can't believe the year is half gone already. Be sure to have your survivor kits and your escape plan handy.

There won't be a lunch at the Franklin County Senior Center today, July 4, but be watching for you next Thursday, July 11.

You can, however, join your friends and neighbors for a covered dish lunch at the Lanark Village Boat Club this afternoon, July 4. Donation is \$3.

Bring your favorite dish to share and enjoy the Fourth of July afternoon. Serving begins at 1 p.m. See ya there!

Later on, about dark thirty, come and watch the fireworks on the Carrabelle River. Have a safe and great Fourth of July.

Grilled chicken will be served, along with two sides, at Camp Gordon Johnston American Legion Post 82, on Saturday, July 6. Food line forms at 5 p.m. and

will continue until gone. Your donation of \$8 will be collected at the bar.

Also on Saturday evening, July 6, you can dance the night away at the Franklin County Senior Center. Ron Vice will be on hand to spin the platters. Bring your favorite snack, beverage, your dancing shoes and your main squeeze. Cha, cha, cha! Fun starts at 7 p.m.

There will be a big moving sale on Friday and Saturday, July 12 and 13, from 8 a.m. until noon. The contents of our rectory, at Sacred

Heart Catholic Church, 109 Newman Drive, corner of Spring and Newman, and our house for visiting clergy will be for sale. We need volunteers, however, to help with this sale. Come by - there's bound to be something you simply can't live without.

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

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



LANARK NEWS  
Jim Welsh

## PET OF THE WEEK

Franklin County Humane Society



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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.

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PHOTOS BY DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

Alberta Read joins in singing with the children in the sanctuary of the First Baptist Church of Eastpoint.

# AN AGELESS LOVE OF GOD

## 99-year-old helps conduct weeklong Bible school in Eastpoint

By DAVID ADLERSTEIN  
653-8894 | @ApalachTimes  
Dadlerstein@staff1.com

For youngsters at last week's vacation Bible school at Eastpoint's First Baptist Church, encountering the love of God may have been a first-ever thing.

For Alberta Read, it was the culmination of nearly a century of experience.

At age 99, Read was among the two dozen volunteers from Belleview Baptist Church near Ocala who, for the third consecutive year, traveled north to conduct the weeklong Bible school at the Eastpoint church.

With a smile on her face as stirring as a rainbow, Read clapped and shimmied and sang right along with the tots, encouraging them in their exploration of the week's theme, to face their fears and to trust God.

"I'm helping them singing, whatever they are doing, just acting crazy with the kids," said Read. "Whatever they do, I do."

Read continues to live alone, as she has for nearly the last 50 years, ever since her husband Edgar died from a heart attack at age 53.

Read grew up in Pennsylvania, originally in a Methodist family, but later became a Baptist when "I accepted the Lord as my Savior."

Her beau Edgar would come to her town to visit, and they fell in love and were married in 1932. She worked as the manager of a school cafeteria in Langhorne, Pennsylvania, and he worked a factory job for the Rohm and Haas Company.

The couple, who did not have children, had purchased five acres in central Florida in anticipation of retiring to the Sunshine State "but my husband died before we even got there," she said.

Life as a widow was difficult in Langhorne, so Alberta moved down to Florida to be near her



Alberta Read helps show the children at the vacation Bible school how to go with the flow.

cousins, Flossie and Bob Castle in Belleview.

The Castles were among the two dozen volunteers who came down from First Baptist of Belleview, bringing down all the materials for the Bible school curriculum "Colossal Coaster World" and their experience with teaching it.

The lessons are all built around the verse from 2 Timothy 1:7 "For God has not given us a spirit of fearfulness, but one of power, love and sound judgment."

The lessons all focus on Paul in the book of Acts, and teach kids they can trust God no matter what twists and turns the ride of life may take.

"It's about daring to

change, to speak up, to believe, to stand strong and to trust," said Flossie Castle.

She said Alberta was involved in all aspects of the school last week. "She helps them sing and helps with the Bible story and trying to smile and show the kids some love," said Flossie Castle. "We're all here to tell them Jesus loves them."

Read, who will turn 100 on Sept. 17, said she's in good health, with the exception of her eyesight, which has waned due to macular degeneration.

"You do lose something at age 99. I guess your eyesight is the first to go," she said. "I'm no different than anybody else.

Other than that I'm doing everything I used to, except teach. I can't see to study my lesson. I don't read anymore."

Flossie Castle said she and her husband eat together with Read, but that she is mostly self-sufficient. "She sang in the choir until she couldn't read music anymore" she said. "She visits hospitals and nursing homes, and she goes to all the services.

"She took care of me when I was a little girl, and now I take care of her," said Flossie Castle. "She does very well. She's pretty healthy. She's getting forgetful."

Read said she feels good these days as the years continue to roll by. "I feel fine and I live alone and I don't have any problems," she said. "The years go fast. As you get older, they go faster and faster.

"I am trying to volunteer and I have a couple jobs to do," she said. "I just do as I'm told. At 99, what more can I do?"

## Obituary

### Frank Harlen Brown

Frank Harlen "Doc" Brown, 91, passed away peacefully Thursday, June 27, 2013, in Tallahassee.

Frank was married to Virginia Mae (Thomas) Brown for 66 years before her passing in 2007.

Brown, a retired public school superintendent, was born in Rushsylvania, Ohio. He graduated from Bellefontaine High School and went on to receive the bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from The Ohio State University.

He served as a rifleman with the United States Army's 96th Infantry Division in the amphibious assault to liberate the Philippines in World War II, and was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart medals for his actions and for his wounds sustained in combat.

Brown had a lengthy and distinguished career as an educator. He was coordinator of the Ohio State House Conference on Education in 1960. He served as superintendent of schools in Canal Winchester, Ohio, Bedford, Ohio, and West Aurora, Ill.

A Kiwanian for more than 30 years, he also was active in the United

Methodist Church, teaching Sunday school for several years. In his final years, he became a Floridian. His personality - to the end - matched the sunshine in the state.

He leaves a daughter, Beth Blair (husband Curt); two beloved grandchildren Joy Adele Stubbs (husband Chuck) and Ruel William Smith (wife Amy); and four treasured great-grandchildren Charlie Stubbs, Mary Harlen Stubbs, Ruel Alden Smith and Reid Jameson Smith; as well as his sister, Charlotte Hall of Bellefontaine, Ohio; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to wife Virginia, Frank was predeceased by his son 1st Lt. Ruel Harlen Brown, while mobilized with the Ohio Air National Guard in 1968, and by his three brothers, Lowell, Perk, Carol, and his sister, Thelma.

Plans are being made for a service celebrating his life to be held later in Bellefontaine and East Liberty, Ohio. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Big Bend Hospice, 1723 Mahan Center Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32308.

## Faith BRIEF

### County food pantry open again July 9

The Franklin County Food Pantry would like to remind the community it is open the second and fourth Tuesday of every month from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Apalachicola Community Building, at 192 14th St., which is the site of the former Apalachicola High School.

The food pantry will be open on July 9 and July 23 and then on Aug. 13 and Aug. 27.



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R. Michael Whaley, Pastor

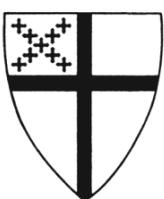
Join us as we praise and worship the living Christ.  
"Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise." Psalm 145:3

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

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#### First United Methodist Church of Apalachicola

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Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

75 5th St. Apalachicola - 653-9530 - fumcapalach@gtcom.net  
Pastor: Rev. Themo Patriotis

#### Carrabelle United Methodist Church

Worship Services 10:45 a.m. - Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
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102 NE Ave. B Carrabelle - 697-3672  
Pastor: Aaron Batey

#### Eastpoint United Methodist Church

Worship Service 9:00 a.m. every Sunday  
Sunday Brunch 10 a.m.  
Youth Group Tuesdays 6 p.m.  
317 Patton Dr. (corner of David St.)  
Pastor: Aaron Batey

#### St. George Island United Methodist Church

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour  
201 E. Gulf Beach Dr. 927-4635 www.sgiunc.org  
Pastor: Rev. Themo Patriotis

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## Officials: Let states set snapper rules

By VALERIE GARMAN

747-5076 | @valericgarman  
vgarman@pcnh.com

**PANAMA CITY BEACH** — The 28-day Gulf red snapper season ended in federal waters Friday, but for many local anglers and lawmakers, fighting increasingly strict snapper regulations is a year-round battle.

The U.S. House Natural Resources Committee held an oversight hearing June 27 for testimony on the potential development of a management plan

that would give Gulf states more authority in managing the recreational snapper fishery.

U.S. Rep. Steve Southerland, R-Panama City, who serves on the committee, said he has been disappointed in the National Marine Fisheries Service's "continued disregard for people and the businesses people run."

"I am in great agreement that the states need to have more say and the federal government needs to have less," Southerland

said. "I'm not happy with the National Marine Fisheries Service and how they're responding to the needs" of anglers. "There is no fish that has greater economic value in Florida fisheries than red snapper."

The proposed amendment to the reef fish management plan would give states the authority to set bag limits and season lengths by dividing the recreational quota between the states and allowing for more flexibility.

Southerland said one of the biggest issues with the federal management plan is the absence of a reliable data collection procedure to measure the snapper stock. The federal season was reduced from 40 days to 28 days this year, despite growth in the snapper population.

Southerland also com-

mended the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for supporting the proposal.

"These ever-shortening seasons have created uncertain challenging times for captains, fishermen and coastal communities like Destin and Panama City, which depend on charter trips and vacationing families staying in hotels and eating in local restaurants," FWC marine fisheries management director Jessica McCawley said. "If lost, the fishing heritage of these types of coastal communities is not something that can easily be rebuilt."

NMFS assistant administrator Eric Schwaab testified that a new stock assessment has shown there are more snapper in the Gulf than there have been in decades. Recreational anglers are landing snap-

per at three times the rate they were in 2006 and commercial anglers caught 27 percent more in 2012 than in 2007.

"However, the improved recreational catch rates have had unforeseen impacts," said Schwaab, who noted red snapper quotas increased by 62 percent from 2008 to 2012, and landings increased 148 percent during the same time period. "The rate of landings is outpacing the rate of population growth; as a result, the recreational seasons have been progressively shorter to prevent catch overages."

Pam Anderson, operations manager at Capt. Anderson's Marina, spoke on behalf of the Panama City Boatmen's Association at the Washington, D.C., hearing.

"A 28-day red snapper

season doesn't meet the needs of anyone," Anderson said. "We need improved data, flexibility in the regulations, and fishery management that understands the importance of the impact of the fishery on the Gulf Coast."

Anderson said the dates for this year's federal red snapper season changed four times in two months, impeding vacation plans for the many tourists who flock to the Gulf Coast for its world-renowned fishing.

"Despite the good intentions of Congress to grow and maintain a healthy fishery, there have been significant, unintended consequences with the 2007 Magnuson Act," Anderson said. "It needs to be updated with common sense solutions to keep the fishery rebuilding while getting people back to work."

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### WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, July 04	84°	78°	80 %
Fri, July 05	87°	78°	70 %
Sat, July 06	88°	80°	40 %
Sun, July 07	89°	79°	30 %
Mon, July 08	89°	79°	10 %
Tues, July 09	89°	78°	60 %
Wed, July 10	89°	79°	60 %

### 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
4	Th	4:43am 1.3	12:32pm 1.7	7:13am 1.2	9:33pm -0.1
5	Fr	5:18am 1.4	1:19pm 1.7	8:21am 1.3	10:15pm -0.2
6	Sa	5:46am 1.4	2:05pm 1.7	9:15am 1.3	10:52pm -0.2
7	Su	6:11am 1.4	2:51pm 1.7	10:02am 1.2	11:24pm -0.1
8	Mo	6:33am 1.5	3:35pm 1.7	10:43am 1.2	11:51pm -0.1
9	Tu	6:52am 1.5	4:18pm 1.7	11:22am 1.1	
10	We	7:10am 1.5	5:02pm 1.6	12:14am 0.0	12:01pm 1.1
11	Th	7:28am 1.5	5:49pm 1.5	12:35am 0.1	12:42pm 1.0
12	Fr	7:48am 1.6	6:40pm 1.4	12:56am 0.1	12:7pm 0.9
13	Sa	8:11am 1.6	7:39pm 1.3	1:20am 0.3	2:18pm 0.8
14	Su	8:36am 1.6	8:53pm 1.2	1:49am 0.4	3:20pm 0.7

### CARRABELLE

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
4	Th	3:18am 2.1	11:07am 2.7	5:00am 1.9	7:20pm -0.2
5	Fr	3:53am 2.2	11:54am 2.7	6:08am 2.1	8:02pm -0.3
6	Sa	4:21am 2.2	12:40pm 2.7	7:02am 2.1	8:39pm -0.3
7	Su	4:46am 2.2	1:26pm 2.7	7:49am 1.9	9:11pm -0.2
8	Mo	5:08am 2.4	2:10pm 2.7	8:30am 1.9	9:38pm -0.2
9	Tu	5:27am 2.4	2:53pm 2.7	9:09am 1.8	10:01pm 0.0
10	We	5:45am 2.4	3:37pm 2.6	9:48am 1.8	10:22pm 0.2
11	Th	6:03am 2.4	4:24pm 2.4	10:29am 1.6	10:43pm 0.2
12	Fr	6:23am 2.6	5:15pm 2.2	11:14am 1.4	11:07pm 0.5
13	Sa	6:46am 2.6	6:14pm 2.1	12:05pm 1.3	11:36pm 0.6
14	Su	7:11am 2.6	7:28pm 1.9	1:07pm 1.1	

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## Grouper season closes in county's state waters

Special to the Times

Gag grouper opened Monday for recreational harvest in most Gulf of Mexico state waters and all Gulf federal waters.

The same day, the season closed in state waters off the coast of Franklin, Wakulla, Jefferson and Taylor counties.

The gag grouper recreational harvest season in Gulf of Mexico state and federal waters, not including Franklin, Jefferson,

Wakulla, Taylor and Monroe counties, will remain open through Dec. 3. State waters off Franklin, Wakulla, Jefferson and Taylor counties were open from April 1 through June 30 and will not be open during the July 1-through-Dec. 3 season. Monroe County is also excluded from the July 1-through-Dec. 3 season because it is included in the Atlantic rules for gag grouper.

Gag grouper caught in federal waters during the July 1-through-Dec. 3 sea-

son may be taken ashore in Franklin, Wakulla, Jefferson and Taylor counties, but boats with gag grouper aboard may not stop and must have gear stowed while traveling through state waters in that region.

The four-county region includes all waters of Apalachicola Bay and Indian Pass, including those in Gulf County, and all waters of the Steinhatchee River, including those in Dixie County. The FWC manages marine fish from the shore to 9

nautical miles in the Gulf of Mexico.

The FWC is working with Florida's anglers to rebuild gag grouper populations in the Gulf of Mexico back to strong, sustainable levels.

The gag grouper recreational harvest minimum size and bag limits are 22 inches total length and two gag grouper per person.

To learn more, visit MyFWC.com/Fishing and click on "Saltwater," "Recreational Regulations" and "Gulf Grouper."

## Outdoors BRIEFS

### Bay scallop season opens

Recreational bay scallop season opened June 29 in Gulf of Mexico state waters (shore to 9 nautical miles) from the Pasco-Hernando County Line to the west bank of the Mexico Beach Canal in Bay County. The season will remain open through Sept. 24, with the first day of the closure on Sept. 25.

The bag limit is two gallons of whole bay scallops or one pint of meat per person, per day, with a vessel limit of 10 gallons of whole bay scallops or a half gallon of meat.

Scallops may be collected by hand or with a landing or dip net.

### Recreational lionfish license requirement removed

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has waived the recreational license requirement for divers harvesting lionfish using certain gear and excluded lionfish from the commercial and recreational bag limits, allowing people to take as many of the invasive fish as they can. Before the change, recreational anglers could not catch more than 100 pounds of lionfish without being required to have a commercial license.

Specific gear that can be used to target lionfish without the requirement of a recreational license includes hand-held nets, pole spears, Hawaiian slings or any other spearing devices designed and marketed exclusively for lionfish.

An identical executive order was put into place in August 2012 and is set to expire Aug. 3. The newly adopted rule will take effect before the executive order expires, so there

will be no lapse in the expanded permissions.

Lionfish are a nonnative, invasive species that negatively affect Florida's native saltwater fish and wildlife. Currently, the most effective method of removing lionfish from Florida waters is by spearing or using a hand-held net. Removing the license requirements and bag limits will increase lionfish harvest opportunities.

Use caution when handling this fish. The spines of this species deliver a venomous sting that can last for days and cause extreme pain, sweating, respiratory distress, and even paralysis. If you are stung by a lionfish, seek medical attention immediately. Complications can be fatal.

Immediate first aid measures include immersing the wound for 30 to 90 minutes in water as hot as the poisoned person can tolerate (but not scalding) because the poisons are heat-sensitive. A chemical heat pack can also be applied. Repeat as necessary to control pain. Use tweezers to remove any spines in the wound using caution to not squeeze venom glands that might have broken off in the wound with the spine. Wear gloves to avoid self-inoculation during spine removal. Scrub the wound with soap and water. Then flush the affected area with fresh water.

Do not apply tape to close the wound as this may increase the risk of infection.

### Florida Wild Mammal Association flight pen update

Do you feel a sense of awe when you look up and see an eagle, an osprey or a hawk flying gracefully and free? Do you get a thrill when

you find an owl watching you from its perch in a tree?

If your answer is yes, then the Florida Wild Mammal Association needs your help. Their flight cage was damaged a year ago during Tropical Storm Debby. This is the cage where they rehabilitate birds of prey (eagles, osprey, owls, hawks, etc.) so after they have recovered from their illnesses and injuries, they can get much-needed flight conditioning as the last step to prepare them for release back into the wild and a second chance at life.

Volunteer Rob Olin has taken the initiative to make this project happen. He enlisted the help of friends for labor and worked out a deal with Taylor's Building Supply in Eastpoint, who generously agreed to donate half of the supplies needed to replace the roof of our flight cage. The total cost of supplies needed is \$2,700; the balance due is about \$1,350.

As a nonprofit with no county, state or federal funding, FWMA has no funds to pay for the balance for this project. They desperately need sponsors. If you or your business would like to be a sponsor, email FWMA Director Chris Beatty at choppaotta@aol.com. Sponsors of \$500 or more will be listed and thanked on our website, and a plaque in their honor will be placed on the newly refurbished flight cage.

FWMA is totally funded by grants and donations from people like you.

One in five animals that come to the shelter is from Franklin County.

You can send a tax-deductible donation to Florida Wild Mammal Association, 198 Edgar Poole Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. If you find an injured animal, do not call. Please bring it to 198 Edgar Poole Road off of US 319 near Crawfordville.

### FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



#### Inshore

Our regions lakes, rivers, and creeks are close to full with so much rain lately, and the fish have responded well to the cooler rainwater. Big bream and catfish are being caught in the Brother and Howard Creek. Try using a 5- to 6-foot light fly rod and a chartruse or glow popper for great action under low-hanging trees and limbs.

#### Offshore

Red snapper is still in season in state waters, 9 miles from land, but the fish will be harder to land in shallow water. Try using lighter line and smaller hooks with cut bait fished halfway to the bottom. Gag grouper is open again in our region this week with no new changes in the bag limits or sizes. Good sized fish are in 150 feet of water due south of the Cape.

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**4TH OF JULY  
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# Sizzler 5K granted Grand Prix status

By LOIS SWOBODA

653-1819 | @ApalachTimes  
lswoboda@starfl.com

The 16th annual St. George Island Sizzler 5K Race has been designated one of 15 Grand Prix events for the 2013 season by the Gulf Winds Track Club of Tallahassee.

Club members earn points by participating in these sanctioned events which are held to a high standard for record keeping and course measurement and must be properly insured and offer proper amenities.

Founder Hobson Fulmer said the Sizzler has been part of the Grand Prix circuit before.

"They rotate you out every few years," he said. "You're more likely to get asked back if you do a good job with your race. It also helps that I am active in the Gulf Winds club."

Fulmer said he put together the first Sizzler in 1998. "I had started the cross country track program at Apalachicola High School. The county commission gave me permission but wouldn't give me any money, so I had to find a way to raise money to get my kids to meets," he said.

"Around 2003, I had stopped coaching, and the run became a fundraiser for the humane society. It has grown a little every year. For a long time, I had to do it by myself with just the help of my staff and spouse. Last year, it really took off. We developed a Sizzler committee and that allowed us to really expand the party and stuff. It's become a kind of community event for the island. They've done a wonderful thing. Now I can just concentrate on handling the race and let them promote it and plan the party and everything else."

Fulmer thanked the committee for all their

hard work and said local artist Ann Eason has made the race special by donating unique ceramic awards for the triumphant runners. "Most people who participate in these things don't want another little plastic gold cup," he said. "They have plenty. These are really nice."

On May 7, county commissioners voted unanimously to approve a resolution recognizing the Sizzler for its benefit to the community as it raises money for the Franklin County Humane Society.

Co-chairs Fulmer and Bob Landiss predict this year's Sizzler will be bigger and better than ever.

Start training now for the 5K race and one-mile Fun Run to be held Saturday, August 10 at 6 p.m. The Sizzler, sponsored by the Tate's Hell Track Club, is notorious for the hot humid conditions experienced by participating runners.

Deadline for preregistration is Aug. 8, and the cost is \$25, or you can register the day of the event for \$30. T-shirts may not be available for those registering on the day of the event. There is a \$10 student rate for cross country teams.

The Fun Run begins at 5:30 p.m. and is followed by the 5K race at 6 p.m. The post-race party and awards will begin around 6:30 p.m. at Lighthouse Park. There will be unique awards given out to overall male and female, Masters, Grand Masters, Senior Masters, and all standard age group winners. Awards will be three-deep for each age group for the 5K.

This race is a benefit for the Franklin County Humane Society and is produced by The Tate's Hell Track Club.

The Sizzler is seeking cash donations to support the event as well as in-kind



PHOTOS BY DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

Many people traditionally run the annual St. George Island Sizzler 5k Race, now designated one of 15 Grand Prix events.

donations for the post-race party. Gift items like visors, coupons, gift cards, water bottles and koozies are needed for 450 goodie bags.

Also needed are 40 cases of bottled water, 500 14-ounce cups, 500 9-ounce cups, 800 plastic forks and knives, 1,000 paper plates and paper napkins, 175 pounds of ice, 150 pounds new potatoes, 125 pounds Andouille sausage, 240 ears of corn, 185 pounds extra-large Gulf shrimp, 1,200 pieces of dessert, three gallons cocktail sauce, one case Old Bay seasoning, three kegs or 25 cases of beer, 10 cases of soda, 14 1.5-liter bottles of red and white wine and red beans and rice for 350.

Branded items are OK. If you want to help, call Bud Hayes at 323-0138.

For more information, go to [www.stgeorgeisland-sizzler.com](http://www.stgeorgeisland-sizzler.com).



Hobson Fulmer, founder of the Sizzler, makes an announcement at the event.

## News BRIEFS

### Schools begins summer work hours

Summer work hours at the Franklin County School District office began Monday and will run through Friday, Aug. 2. The summer work schedule will be Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., with a 45-minute lunch. On Fridays the offices will be closed.

Normal work hours will resume on Monday, Aug. 5.

### Carrabelle seniors host dance Saturday

The Carrabelle Senior Center will host a dance Saturday evening, July 6, starting at 7 p.m. Admission is free, with music provided by local disc jockey Ron Vice, serving up a lively mix of Big Band dance tunes and mellow pop hits. Come down to dance... or just to listen to the music! The Senior Center is at 201 NW Avenue F, on the corner of 1st Street and NW Avenue F in downtown Carrabelle.

### Juvenile Justice Council to meet Monday

The Franklin County Juvenile Justice Council will meet at

11 a.m. on Monday, July 8 at the TIGERS site in Apalachicola, located behind the old Apalachicola High School on 14th Street, in the independent building facing the football field.

All meetings are open to the public, and all are welcomed. For more info, call Carol Barfield, chair, at 653-2784

### Seafood workers to meet Monday

The Franklin County Seafood Workers Association will hold a meeting at 6 p.m. on Monday, July 8 at the fire house in Eastpoint, on the corner of 6th Street and CC Land Road. The meeting will be discussing association business, and also will conduct elections to seat replacement officers for the secretary, treasury and second vice president seats that have not been filled. Any questions please contact Shannon at 653-5190.

### Panhandle Players to meet Tuesday

The annual meeting and elections for the Panhandle Players will be held Tuesday evening, July 9 at 6 p.m. in the Raney House Carriage House in downtown

Apalachicola.

The Panhandle Players invites everyone to join them for the annual meeting, and for the election of board members and officers. Hear about the group's plans for the upcoming season, and about how you can become involved.

For more information, or to express an interest in running for the board of directors, please call Elaine Kozlowsky at 670-1671, Ann Cowles at 927-4660 or Bob Inguagiato at 370-5281.

### Carrabelle commission to meet July 11

Carrabelle's regular city commission has been rescheduled from July 4 to Thursday, July 11 at 6 p.m.

### Want to attend Camp Timpooshee?

At the June 28 county commission meeting, Bill Mahan, county extension agent, said his office is receiving requests to attend Camp Timpooshee with the county 4H program. This year's camp will take place July 22-26, and Mahan expects more than 20 county youngsters to attend. Camp Timpooshee accommodates 140

campers in climate controlled cabins. This year, Franklin County will be joined by campers from Okaloosa and Walton counties, and Covington County, Alabama. The camp is located in Niceville on the shore of the Choctawhatchee Bay.

The camp has a dining hall with fully staffed kitchen; an outdoor pavilion with large barbecue grill; a fire circle seating 120 and private beachfront facilities with canoes, fishing, and marine collecting equipment. There is a 20-passenger pontoon boat for snorkeling and leisure trips and a marine wet lab with fresh and saltwater tanks.

Interested campers and parents can contact Mahan at 247-9359.

### Business After Hours July 11 at Tapas Bar

The Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce will host a Business After Hours on Thursday, July 11 at Tamara's Tapas Bar, 73 Market Street in Apalachicola from 5:30-7 p.m. The chamber's next business luncheon will take place at noon on Wednesday, Aug. 7 at Beach Pit BBQ on US 98 in Eastpoint.

## Sports BRIEFS

### FCHS to host July 15-17 volleyball camp

The Franklin County High School volleyball program will host a Volleyball Camp at Franklin County Schools from July 15-17.

The camp, for grades fifth through 12th, will be daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$151.

Call coach Hilary Stanton at 653-5042 for information and registration.

### Sacred Heart to offer free physicals

Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf, in Port St. Joe will be conducting free physicals for all middle school and high school boys and girls in Franklin County at the Franklin County High School gymnasium from 5-8 p.m. on July 22 and Aug. 15. The physicals are open to students at all schools in Franklin County.

Call Coach Michael Sweatt at 670-2800 ext. 1924 for details or any questions that are of concern. Physical forms can be uploaded and printed out at [www.fhsaa.org/forms/general](http://www.fhsaa.org/forms/general).

Print the EL02, EL03 and EL3CH forms and fill out general information before you come. If not,

there will be copies at the school the day of the physical dates listed above. Try to have a parent accompanying your child.

If you are planning on playing a sport or think you might play any sports at all you will have to have a sports physical. Take advantage of this free opportunity to get your physical now.

A sports physical will last you one year for every sport, so you will not have to worry about it the entire school year until next summer.

Sweatt also extended his thanks to Dana Whaley and the county health department for providing free sport physicals to the Seahawk football team in the spring.

**BILL MILLER REALTY**  
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BELOW CITY. APP. PRICE

C/B HOME 311 - 2 COR.LOTS  
CITY - \$49,500

COMM. BLDG. ON 98 & GULF  
FOR RENT \$500/MTH.

MIH - 2 CRNR LOTS - BLK. \$  
STORE - REDUCED \$39,500

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



LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

WEST 219.13 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 55 MINUTES 33 SECONDS EAST 200.0 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 38 SECONDS EAST 232.45 FEET TO AN INTERSECTION WITH THE AFOREMENTIONED RIGHT-OF-WAY, THENCE WITH SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY AND A CURVE RUN WESTERLY WITH A RADIUS OF 5629.65 FEET THROUGH A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 02 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 25 SECONDS FOR AN ARC DISTANCE OF 200.47 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

PARCEL NO. 2:

COMMENCE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF FRACTIONAL SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 8 WEST, FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, THENCE GO SOUTH 00 DEGREES 12 MINUTES 01 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID FRACTIONAL SECTION 11 FOR A DISTANCE OF 1315.07 FEET, THENCE LEAVING SAID WESTERLY SECTION LINE, GO SOUTH 89 DEGREES 57 MINUTES 44 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 631.41 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 57 MINUTES 44 SECONDS EAST ALONG A LINE FOR A DISTANCE OF 44.86 FEET TO AN IRON ROD, THENCE LEAVING SAID POINT GO SOUTH 00 DEGREES 12 MINUTES 01 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 213.25 FEET TO A POINT ON THE NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD NO. 30 (US HIGHWAY 98), SAID POINT BEING A CURVE CONCAVE TO THE NORTHEAST AND HAVING A RADIUS OF 5645.24 FEET, THENCE GO NORTH, WESTERLY ALONG SAID CURVING RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE HAVING A RADIUS OF 5645.24 FEET AND CENTRAL ANGLE OF 00 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 19 SECONDS, FOR AN ARC DISTANCE OF 44.86 FEET (CHORD=44.86 FEET, CHORD BEARING=NORTH 83 DEGREES 39 MINUTES 39 SECONDS WEST) TO THE POINT OF TANGENCY, THENCE LEAVING SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, GO NORTH 00 DEGREES 12 MINUTES 01 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 208.74 FEET MORE OR LESS TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN AND BEING A PORTION OF FRACTIONAL SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 8 WEST, FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA.

PARCEL NO. 3:

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LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

TIONAL SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 8 WEST, FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA.

DATED: June 20, 2013.

MARCIA M. JOHNSON Clerk of the Court

By: Michele Maxwell Deputy Clerk July 4, 2013

94193T IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2010-CA-000038 SEC.:

BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP, FKA COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP, Plaintiff,

vs.

BILLIE J. ADAMS; STEPHEN H. ADAMS; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order on Plaintiff's Motion to Cancel and Reschedule Foreclosure Sale dated June 10, 2013, entered in Civil Case No. 2010-CA-000038 of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Franklin County, Florida, wherein the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest bidder for cash on 15th day of August, 2013, at 11:00 a.m. on the Front steps of the Franklin County Courthouse, 33 Market Street, Apalachicola, Florida 32320, relative to the following described property as set forth in the Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 6, BLOCK 3, SUN 'N SAND, UNIT NO. 2, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 12, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA.

TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 2008 DESTINY MANUFACTURED HOME, SERIAL NUMBER DISH03537GAA/B.

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

ATTENTION: 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: Susan Wilson, ADA Coordinator 301 South Monroe St. Tallahassee, FL 32301 Phone: (850) 577-4401

Please contact at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

DATED AT APALACHICOLA, FLORIDA THIS 12TH DAY OF JUNE, 2013.

MARCIA M. JOHNSON CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

Michele Maxwell Deputy Clerk July 4, 11, 2013

94239T IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 19-2008-CA-000422 DIVISION:

LASALLE BANK MIDWEST, Plaintiff,

vs.

ROBERT L. LAFFOON A/K/A ROBERT LAFFOON, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated March 26, 2013 and entered in Case No. 19-2008-CA-000422 of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for FRANKLIN County, Florida

Dated: June 27, 2013.

Marcia Johnson Clerk of Court

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

wherein LASALLE BANK MIDWEST, is the Plaintiff and ROBERT L. LAFFOON A/K/A ROBERT LAFFOON; THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ROBERT L. LAFFOON A/K/A ROBERT LAFFOON N/K/A TRACEY LAFFOON; GARY FOGLEMAN; THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF GARY FOGLEMAN; MARINER'S VIEW CONDOMINIUMS ASSOCIATION, INC.; are the Defendants. The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at FRONT DOOR OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 33 MARKET STREET, APALACHICOLA, FLORIDA at 11:00AM, on the 18th day of July, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

UNIT NUMBER 208 OF MARINER'S VIEW CONDOMINIUMS, AS PER THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 865, PAGE 369, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, TOGETHER WITH AN UNDIVIDED INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS APPURTENANT THERETO AS SET FORTH IN SAID DECLARATION AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO

A/K/A 706 HOWARD STREET D, CARRABELLE, FL 32322

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

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of this Court on this 19th day of June, 2013.

Marcia M. Johnson Clerk of Circuit Court

By: Michele Maxwell Deputy Clerk

\*\*See Americans with Disabilities Act 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: Mr. Doug Smith, Office of Court Administration, Leon County Courthouse, 301 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301 Phone: 850-577-4401 Fax: 850-487-7947 F08068466 July 4, 11, 2013

94245T IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA Case No.: 12-000401-CA

CENTENNIAL BANK, an Arkansas banking corporation, successor in interest to Coastal Community Bank, Plaintiff,

vs.

BRUCE L. TAYLOR, HUBERT BENTLEY, and NATALIE BUTLER, Defendants.

CLERK'S NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, in accordance with the Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated June 25, 2013, in the above-styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the second floor lobby of the Franklin County Courthouse, 33 Market Street, Apalachicola, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on August 15, 2013, the following described property:

Lot 1 (unrecorded)

Commence at a 6 x 6 inch concrete monument marking the Northeast corner of Section 30, Township 8 South, Range 6 West, Franklin County, Florida and run South 00 degrees 45 minutes 08 seconds West 659.56 feet to a re-rod (marked 5826) lying on the Southerly right of way boundary of Twin Lakes Road, thence run North 89 degrees 29 minutes 28 seconds West along said right of way boundary 455.86 feet to a re-rod (marked 7160) marking the point of beginning; from said point of beginning continue North 89 degrees 29 minutes 28 seconds West along said right of way boundary a distance of 200.08 feet to an iron pipe; thence leaving said right of way boundary run South 00 degrees 28 minutes 22 seconds West 214.87 feet; thence run South 89 degrees 42 minutes 40 seconds East 204.88 feet to a re-rod (marked 7160); thence run North 00 degrees 48 minutes 43 seconds West 214.14 feet to the point of beginning.

Dated: June 27, 2013.

Marcia Johnson Clerk of Court

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

By: Michele Maxwell Deputy Clerk July 4, 11, 2013

PUBLIC NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS 1120

Other

Franklin County S.H.I.P. Program

The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners through the Franklin County S.H.I.P. Program will be accepting applications starting on July 19, 2013 for the Down Payment Assistance Program, to buy existing housing only. Owner Occupied Rehabilitation and Emergency Repair programs. The deadline for submitting applications will be August 30, 2013. For an application or more information please call Lori Switzer at 653-8199 or come by the office at 192-14th Street, Apalachicola.

ADOPTIONS 1130

ADOPTION: Adoring Financially Secure Couple, at-home parent awaits baby.

Kelly & Josh 1-800-552-0045 Expenses Pd FLBar42311

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HELP WANTED 4100

4100 - Help Wanted 4130 - Employment Information

HELP WANTED 4100

Education

Early Education and Care, Inc. Center Director

position available in our Franklin County Early Head Start center. This position will supervise center staff and insure that the philosophy, goals and objectives of our programs are fulfilled. Applicant must possess a BA/BS in early childhood, child development or related field. A minimum of three (3) years supervisory experience in an early childhood setting plus two (2) years of teaching experience preferred. Excellent benefits! Apply at Early Education and Care, Inc. 450 Jenks Avenue, Panama City, FL 32401 EOE/M/F/D/DFWP WebID#: 34255583 Text FL55583 to 56654

HELP WANTED 4100

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Desk Clerk Needed

At Buccaneer Inn on St. George Island. Must be able to work flexible hours, weekends, holidays and nights. Computer experience preferred. Pay based on prior experience. Call (850) 927-2163 Web ID: 34257518

HELP WANTED 4100

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Looking for live-in caregiver for elderly woman. All utilities paid. No rent. Possible pay. Call for details. Located in Carrabelle. 850-209-4124 Web ID#: 34257391

# Guidelines emerging for RESTORE Act funding

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

Large projects will be favored for RESTORE funding.

On May 23, three years after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council released the "Draft Initial Comprehensive Plan: Restoring the Gulf Coast's Ecosystem and Economy."

The council is chaired by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce, acting Secretary Rebecca Blank. Other members are the governors of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi

and Texas and the secretaries of the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Army, Homeland Security and Interior, and the administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The 20-page document gives a history and breakdown of available funding resources for Gulf restoration projects. What's still missing is the amount of money available and how to apply for it. The amount will be established when the courts set an amount BP must pay to compensate for damage caused by the spill.

On June 18, County Planner Alan Pierce told commissioners he and Chairman Cheryl Sanders at-

tended a workshop in Gulf County hosted by the Nature Conservancy (TNC) to talk about developing projects and criteria that would be competitive for BP money.

"The Nature Conservancy is offering to provide guidance on projects that would be funded through the Gulf Coast Restore Council," Pierce said. "The advice we were given is that the council looked very favorably upon projects that protected watersheds. Franklin County has three watersheds: Apalachicola River and Bay, New River, and Ochlocknee River and Bay. Watersheds go beyond county boundaries, so if the concept of watersheds is used, then all proj-

ects are going to be multi-county in impact, which helps when competing with other areas."

Pierce said TNC advised workshop participants it will be critical to make clear what results can be expected from an investment.

Pierce said the county's SMART group is trying to come up with projects on a large enough scale to be competitive.

Sanders said she wants to invite representatives from Gulf and Wakulla counties to the next meeting of the County's RESTORE Council.

According to the Restoration Council draft, when choosing projects to fund, the council will verify

whether the proposal is legal and in keeping with restoration goals. Projects will be compared to avoid duplication of funding from multiple sources.

Council members can choose to sponsor favorite projects. Scientific experts will also be quizzed on whether a project is a good idea and feasible.

The public can offer input on potential projects and funding criteria at [www.restorethegulf.gov](http://www.restorethegulf.gov).

In addition to money for implementing a plan, there will be funding for technical assistance to prepare proposals and to monitor the outcome of projects that have been funded.



## Trivia Fun

Wilson Casey  
WC@TriviaGuy.com

"Trivia Fun" with Wilson Casey, Guinness World Record Holder from Woodruff, S.C., is published in more than 500 newspapers across the country and is now a weekly feature in The Times.

**1) Surveys say Roman candles are the "most favorite" type of fireworks for the 4th**

**with what the "least favorite"?**

Firecrackers, Smokeballs, Pinwheels, Snaps

**2) Where is "Rebildfest" billed as the largest celebration of American independence held outside the U.S.?**

Germany, Denmark, Mexico, Australia

**3) On July 4, 1848, President Polk laid the cornerstone of what famous structure?**

Lincoln Memorial, Library of Congress, Capitol building, Washington Monument

**4) Thomas Jefferson and which other former president died July 4, 1826?**

George Washington, John Adams, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson

**5) On that same date of July 4, 1826, what noted American was born?**

Robert E. Lee, Stephen Foster, Walt Whitman, Henry David Thoreau

**6) Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776; one was Hancock, who was the other?**

Henry, Franklin, Pinckney, Thomson

**7) What famous American patriot was hung as a spy in 1776 by the British?**

Paul Revere, Nathan Hale, Daniel Webster, Nathaniel Hawthorne

**8) Who's been the only future President of the United States to be born on a July 4th?**

Jackson, Van Buren, Taft, Coolidge

**9) Where did the Continental Congress sign the Declaration of**

**Independence?**

Boston, NYC, Philadelphia, Mount Vernon

**10) Who was the first President of the Continental Congress?**

Peyton Randolph, Roger Sherman, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin

**11) At signing time the colonies were under which English King?**

George I, George III, Charles I, Charles III

**12) Which colony had the most signers at 9?**

Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Massachusetts

**13) On July 4, 1960 Mickey Mantle hit which career-number homerun?**

300, 400, 500, 600

**14) Which president died July 4, 1831?**

Madison, Monroe, Tyler, Polk

**ANSWERS**

1) Smokeballs. 2) Denmark. 3) Washington Monument. 4) John Adams. 5) Stephen Foster. 6) Thomson. 7) Nathan Hale. 8) Coolidge. 9) Philadelphia. 10) Peyton Randolph. 11) George III. 12) Pennsylvania. 13) 300. 14) Monroe.

# Real Estate Picks

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Located on a peninsula within the gated Plantation community and surrounded by beautiful views of the Bay and marsh, this home is the perfect peaceful place to enjoy nature and to invite overnight guests to their private quarters! Main house includes living and dining rooms, kitchen, master suite with outdoor shower, screened porch with indoor/outdoor fireplace. Guest wing includes 3 bedrooms, living room, morning kitchen and laundry! Very private outdoor hot tub accessible from both areas of this unique home overlooks the marsh with outstanding views. This custom built home with beautiful cabinets, pine floors/trim, lots of careful details giving a feeling of a secluded getaway was lovingly crafted by the owners. Covered garage, water filtration system, circular drive, beautiful landscaping make this a must see home!

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Shimmering Sands Realty



**STEVE HARRIS**

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This custom designed home in the prestigious Magnolia Bay gated community. Sunroom, screened & open porches, hot tub off MBR suite, large master tiled bath w/ open shower and garden tub, detached garage, gas fireplace, granite countertops, stainless kitchen, wine cooler, built-in corner cabinets. Amenities include community dock, pool, tennis courts. Main living area & master on 1st floor w/guestrooms upstairs for privacy w/ private porch.

4515098

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**STEVE HARRIS**

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