Bay Business Report

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National Trust Honors City
Apalachicola is Distinctive

On February 7th, Apalachicola was named one of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's *2008 America's Dozen Distinctive Destinations.* The National Trust for Historic Preservation selected twelve destinations across the United States that offer an authentic visitor experience by combining dynamic downtowns, cultural diversity, attractive architecture, cultural landscapes and a strong commitment to historic preservation and revitalization. The Apalachicola Bay Chamber applied to the program last October and was notified in December of the award.

Other communities chosen this year included Aiken, South Carolina, Columbus, Mississippi, Crested Butte, Colorado, Fort Davis, Texas, Friday Harbor, Washington, Portland, Oregon, Portsmouth, N.H, Red Wing, Minnesota, Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, San Juan Bautista, California, Wilmington, North Carolina.

"These twelve communities represent the richness and diversity of America's cultural heritage," says Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, "and in preserving their historic fabric and spirit of place are models for other towns and cities." This is the 9th time the National Trust for Historic Preservation has announced a list of *Dozen Distinctive Destinations*. To date, there are 108 *Distinctive Destinations* located in 42 states throughout the country, with only two others in Florida, Key West and Fernandina Beach. To see a complete list, visit www.nationaltrust.org\ddd. In each community, residents have taken forceful action to protect their town's character and sense of place. Whether by enacting a local preservation law to protect historic buildings against

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Dozen Distinctive Destinations®
NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION®

Meeting Notices

Monthly Business Luncheon
March 5, 2008 noon
Papa Joe's Oyster Bar & Grill
301-B Market Street, Apalachicola

Business After Hours
March 13, 2008 5:30-7:00 pm
Coombs House Inn
80 6th Street, Apalachicola

April Monthly Business Luncheon
April 2, 2008 noon
That Place On 98
500 US Highway 98, Eastpoint

Chamber Board Tours New School

On Friday, February 15th, Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce Board members toured the beautiful new Franklin County School's campus. Casey Kelley, Project Manager with Peter R. Brown Construction, and School board member Denise Butler took Diana Prickett, Bud Hayes, Joe Taylor, Kristin Anderson, Kathy Robinson, Vince Bishop, Wayne Thomas, Anita Grove and Cindy Collins on a tour of the new facility. They viewed the spacious gym-

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From the Director

Anita Grove

The 12th Annual Forgotten Coast Chefs Sampler went exceptionally well this year. Two hundred tickets were sold and over $11,000 was raised for the Chamber. Everyone had a delightful evening and we would like to thank all of our talented chefs, restaurants and beverage purveyors for making the event the best yet: *Apalachicola Seafood Grill, Avenue Sea at the Gibson Inn, Boss Oyster, Blue Parrot Oceanfront Café, Café con Leche, Caroline's Dining on the River, Crooked River Grill, Eddy Teach's Raw Bar, Harry A's, My Caterer, Red Top Café, Sunset Coastal Grill, Tamara's Café Floridita, That Place on 98, That's A Moray, Verandas Wine Bar & Bistro, Wheelhouse Oyster Bar, Southern Wine & Spirits, National Distributing Company, Lewis Bear Company and Buffalo Rock Pepsi.* Table designers, which included merchants, volunteers and area nonprofits, were under the expert orchestration and vision of Joe Taylor, transformed the armory into a dining wonderland: Andrea Duval & Jeannie Rogers with *Andrea's Nails & Apalachicola Historical Inn,* Joe & Jeanette Taylor *Avenue E* and *BLUE beach+home,* Amy Price *Bayside Gallery & Florist*, Pam Mahr *Big Bend Hospice* , Brigitte Schroeder *Bryant House*, Nancy Kerr & Clarice Powell *Chez Funk* , *Cook Insurance & Gulf State Community Bank*, Dixie Partington *Dixie Theatre*, Amanda Kollar, *Garden's Inc*, Karla Ambose *High Cotton Styles,* Melissa Rapack *Lazy Daisy*, Beverly Hewitt *Old Time Soda Fountain*, Katherine Neill *Oyster Catcher* and Elizabeth & Rich Wynn *Panache Tent & Event.* We would like to thank the sponsors who purchased tables at the

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New Members/Member News

Royce Rolstad Photography

Welcome Royce Rolstad to the Chamber with his business *Royce Rolstad Photography.* Royce is available to take photographs for weddings, engagements, family portraits, special occasions and sunset portraits. Born and raised in Apalachicola, Royce has had a life-long interest in photography and film production. In 2005, he graduated from Florida State University with a BA from the College of Communications where he studied videography and TV production. He currently works as the vice-president of *Forgotten Coast TV,* the local cable channel in Franklin County, where he produces and films their shows. Royce can be reached by calling (850) 653-5586, by email royceiii82@hotmail.com or visit his website at www.roycerolstadphotography.com.

Mark W. Friedman, Farnsley Financial Consultants, LLC

In addition to his accounting firm, Roberson & Friedman, PA, CPA, Mark W. Friedman, has joined the Chamber with *Farnsley Financial Consultants, LLC.* Providing independent and confidential financial guidance in the areas of retirement and estate planning, Mark offers investment advisory services, income and tax strategies and wealth management advice. Mark is not leaving his CPA practice. He has been actively involved in investments with local clients for many years and felt it was time to establish a separate office for his investment services. He offers free initial investment analysis and private consultations. Mark's new office is located in the Gibson Inn Annex next door to the Natural Medicine Store on Market Street in Apalachicola. He can be reached by calling (850) 653-1523 or by email mark@farnsley.com.

Vie People and Places Magazine

Welcome Lisa Burwell owner of *Cornerstone Marketing* and the publisher and editor of *Vie People and Places* magazine. Originally from Boston, Lisa moved to the Santa Rosa area fourteen years ago and founded Cornerstone Marketing, an advertising and public relations firm. *Vie People and Places* is a new humane interest and lifestyle magazine that focuses on the interesting people and places in northwest Florida from Pensacola to Apalachicola. *Cornerstone* is located in Grayton Beach at 114 Logan Lane, Suite 4. Lisa can be reached by calling (850) 231-3087, or by email at lisa@theideaboutique.com or visit their new website where you can get a preview of the magazine www.viepeopleplusplaces.com.

Bay, Franklin & Gulf Healthy Start Coalition

Sharon Owens joined the Chamber with *Bay, Franklin & Gulf Healthy Start Coalition,* a community based coalition whose purpose is to identify the local health care needs of women, infants and their families and to meet those needs with local resources. With the goal of giving babies a healthy start by improving a women's pregnancy, they seek to promote healthy growth and development in children up to the age of three. They design systems that refer at risk women and infants to needed services. They coordinate information and monitor health care providers who offer these services and ensure that communities adhere to Healthy Start prenatal and infant screening. Healthy Start Coalition has offices in the Franklin, Gulf and Bay County health departments. Sharon can be reached by calling (850) 872-4130 or (850) 832-7165 cell. They can also be reached by email healthystart@comcast.net or to visit their website go to www.healthystartbfg.org.

N2 Deep Divers, LLC

Stephen and Sandi Bartlett joined the Chamber with their new business *N2 Deep Divers, LLC,* a full-service dive shop and charter service offering open water recreational diving and spear fishing charters aboard their 26-foot SeaCat with cabin. The Bartletts will offer open water scuba diving certification. Their new shop has an above ground indoor heated pool in which both locals and vacationers can get certified to dive in three days. The shop will carry all sorts of dive gear and swim wear plus air available to fill air tanks. They will also carry nitrox and repair dive gear. Sandi and Stephen will offer swimming lessons in the future. They are expecting their first baby any day now so they do not have a schedule just yet. *N2 Deep Divers* is located at 317 Water Street in Apalachicola, next door to the Wheelhouse Restaurant. They can be reached by calling (850) 653-3337 or 653-5270 cell. Their email is intoodeepdive@yahoo.com.

Gpik, LLC

We have an inventor in our ranks right here in Franklin County! Chamber member Gordon Adkins has invented a new product called the *Gpik*™. The *Gpik*™ allows multi-taskers to use their mobile devices with only one hand. It is a stylus that fits on your thumb to help you more accurately use mobile devices such as phones, handheld computers and PDAs. The ***gpik*™** comes in a variety of colors and is available online at www.gpik.net. Gordon is looking for distributors and he can be contacted at (850) 927-4747, email info@gpik.net.

St George Island Wedding Videos

Howard and Susan Reeder and their daughter Andrea Amison have joined the Chamber with their business *St George Island Wedding Videos*. What started out as a small church project has become a passion for the whole family. The Reeders film wedding ceremonies and receptions from the start of ceremony to the end of the reception. They take a lot of pride in the product and use three high quality Sony camcorders (vx-2100) from three different angles to ensure they capture the entire event. After editing, their clients receive six DVDs. They also video other events such as graduations, school plays and performances, birthday parties and family reunions. The Reeders also are the videographers that film county and city commission meetings for Forgotten Coast TV. Howard has been in Apalachicola since 1962. He has filmed many community and school programs and games. He plans to add these archives to his website in the near future. They can be reached at (850) 653-9661, Howard's cell (850) 628-9396, Susan's cell (850) 370-6138 or by email habby@gtcom.net. You can visit their website at www.stgeorgeislandweddingvideos.com.

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