

SPIRITS: Michaels sells license

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Gulf Breeze residents had to drive to Pensacola or Fort Walton.

Michaels said it cost approximately \$12,000 to get the license he won in the state-run lottery in December of last year. Michaels said he sold his license for close to \$160,000.

"Ultimately, I didn't have an interest in having a liquor store or anything to do with liquor," Michaels said. "I like real estate and that's why I sold it."

Kaple seemed more than happy to take any implied burden associated with the license.

"We taste thousands of wines so the public only has to taste the good ones... The great thing about wine is that every one is different and they evolve every day," Kaple said of the new retailer, which sells top-shelf liquors, fine cigars, specialty beers and custom gift

baskets.

Kaple said he is partners with the owners of Aloha Screen Printing, Kaipo and Lopaka Robello, who own the building where both companies are located.

Aloha Liquors is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday.

The store also features wine tastings every Friday from 5 to 7 p.m. After voters determined to lift the county-wide ban on liquor sales, close to 5,000 applied for the license. The state selected 17 recipients at random, including: Saxton, Cathy Gail - Milton; Martin, William McGuire - Pensacola; Shores, Robert Scott - Navarre; Lasalle, Carm Christopher - Pensacola; Phares, Robert Zane - Mary Esther; Hunt, Peter Byron - Pensacola; Rainer, Kimberly Schraishuhn - Pensacola; O'Donnell, Angela



Franklin Hayes/Gulf Breeze News

Owner Ian Kaple stocks the walk-in humidor at Aloha Wine and Liquors.

S. - Valrico; Norwood, Mike - Pensacola; Myers, Ralph N. - Fort Lauderdale; Antonacci, Peter - Tallahassee; Parker, Timothy Eben - Pensacola; Michaels, Gary Robert, et al. -

Gulf Breeze; Sanchez, Todd Edward - Orlando; Kennison, Katherine Ann - Navarre; Fuller, Richard Thomas - Pensacola and Carter, Alla - Fort Myers.

MIDWAY: County wants Lifeguard to settle in

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in case one of their ambulances is not available. We think it makes a lot more sense -- if there is no Lifeguard ambulance available in our area -- to have one of our own ready to roll just

within the Midway district than to sit and wait for one to come from Pensacola or Ft. Walton Beach."

County Commissioners said they would like to see Lifeguard get in place and get 'their feet on the ground' before addressing

Midway's request of an added ambulance in the south end. Commissioner Bob Cole said,

John Roche, owner of Lifeguard ambulance service, was at the meeting and told commissioners he had been talking to Chief Demeter about

this issue, and "just wanted a few weeks" to get things going and in place. Then they would look seriously at how to implement Midway as a mutual aid transport. Lifeguard is scheduled to take over the county's ambulance services Aug. 1.

COMMISSO: CEO defends decision to fight Sinclair

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about bringing competition to the marketplace, and Mediacom has been the competitor that delivers more telecommunications products to communities on the Gulf Coast more than any other company. We have provided Gulf Coast consumers with a phone service alternative that substantially lowers the price they have traditionally paid for wire-line phone service," Commisso said.

Mediacom's Florida-based senior vice president, Jim Carey, said the annual \$1.8 million consumer savings is derived from comparisons using the pricing of Mediacom's phone service, which is available for as low as \$29.95 per month, and the advertised monthly prices of other phone service providers in the area.

During the interview, Commisso defended his battle with Sinclair Broadcast Group over contract negotiations.

"There's no law that prevents anybody from going into the cable business. But there's a law that prevents us from getting ABC programming if we don't like what Sinclair wants to charge us," Commisso said during an exclusive interview at Mediacom's Gulf Breeze office. "That's not fair. That's not right and I've always spoken up on this issue but there are more powerful people in the world than me."

The climax of the confrontation left Mediacom subscribers without ABC programming after Sinclair stopped negotiations in September of 2006 and sent a written notice prohibiting Mediacom from carrying any of Sinclair's stations beyond Jan. 5.

Mediacom branches began offering free TV antennas so affected customers could still watch the local ABC affiliate. The two parties eventually came to an agreement after officials with the Federal Communications Commission sided with Sinclair Broadcasting. Mediacom began broadcasting Sinclair programming again on Feb. 2.

"I think it's wrong for the local ABC station to get access to exclusive programming out of New York because they're an ABC affiliate and I don't have the ability to get the same," said Commisso. "We have to deal with our customers day in and day out because we send a bill to your home and we have to deal with you. [Sinclair doesn't] send a bill to the home. There's a major difference. They sign the contract, they extract what-

ever they can from me and then they go to the next deal."

Mediacom began as the vision of Commisso and at the time of its first acquisition in March 1996, Mediacom consisted of a four-member management team with significant successful business experience in acquiring, financing and operating cable television systems.

Mediacom ended the last year of the 20th century on a high note by acquiring Triax Midwest Associates LP and Zylstra Communications Corporation.

On February 4, 2000, Mediacom became a publicly traded company listed on the NASDAQ exchange.

These are some of the transactions that made Mediacom the eighth largest cable television company in the United States.

TROOPS: Longtime volunteer makes a difference

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see a plaque or sculpture to dedicate the park to the veterans coming home, the wounded and fallen whose sacrifices allow children to play freely.

"It always means a lot when they hear from the kids ... that we're grateful for what they do."

Kellermann said the equipment located at the park was damaged during Hurricane Ivan and isn't developmentally appropriate for older children who are at the park for soccer and baseball programs, and they are sometimes shooed away from the area where toddlers are playing.

Kellermann, a single mother of Ed, 8, is also involved in the soccer program at Tiger Point Park. Ed, whose father is in the Air Force, is a rising third grader at Oriole Beach Elementary School and helps his mom coor-

dinate Homefront Hugs. He is recognized as one of the organization's young volunteers. His participation is one of the reasons Kellermann won the award, because it was for children involved in volunteer organizations.

Kellermann, who has degenerative osteoarthritis, works on Homefront Hugs from her Tiger Lake home. She began her efforts after the attacks of September 11, 2001 and wanted to do something for the families affected. She began corresponding the the World Trade Center United Families group, and then began "adopting" troops deployed to Afghanistan, sending care packages over and providing support for the families at home.

After Kellermann gained the trust of the squadrons, word spread quickly and soldiers began soliciting her help to provide DVDs, candy, lip balm,

sun lotion and cards and stickers to send home to their spouses and children.

"I used my personal funds," Kellermann said, but soon found like-minded individuals who also wanted to show their support for the troops but didn't have the connections.

Soon, Homefront Hugs became an umbrella group for the adoption aspect of the effort, called Hugs for Smiles USA; an effort to support a special operations group called Operation United Warriors; Operation Healing Angel to support the doctors, nurses and wounded being treated in military hospitals; and eventually, another group dedicated to providing support for families affected by hurricanes called Hurricane Hugs. One day, a truckload of lunchboxes packed with items for boys and girls arrived at Kellermann's home from Michigan, where school children had packed them for distribution through Hurricane Hugs.

"I made sure I knew who

they were and they all got thank yous and certificates," Kellermann said.

After Hurricane Katrina, Kellermann and some volunteers brought supplies to a Red Cross shelter in the Biloxi area. "They said, 'Oh we're so glad you let you in' because the kids were so happy to be opening the lunch boxes and back packs. It was so neat and they looked so exhausted and the moms looked so worn out and your heart just went out to them," Kellermann said.

There is a lady down in Palm Harbor doing a huge fundraiser for Hurricane Hugs, packing lunch boxes now to be ready in case a storm hits.

"We have wonderful volunteers across the country. What's so wonderful is how just a little spark can get the best out of people. We have disabled volunteers, kids in foster homes that help out, kids in developmental centers, our elderly are just fantastic. That's what keeps me going. You see the best in America," Kellermann said.

Calendar of Events

Thursday, June 28
Santa Rosa County Commission Regular Meeting, 9 a.m., Commissioner's Board Room, 6495 Caroline Street, Milton

Senior Leadership Briefing, 1:30 p.m., Commissioner's Board Room, 6495 Caroline Street, Milton

School Board Meeting, 10 a.m., School District Administrative Offices, 5086 Canal Street, Milton

Pensacola in the Civil War, presentation, Naval Live Oaks, Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Friday, June 29
 The Northwest Florida Blood Center will host a **Pre-Fourth of July Blood Drive** on Friday, June 29 from 7am to 6pm. The blood drive will be held at WEAR TV ABC studios located at 4990 Mobile Highway, Pensacola. Each blood donor will receive a special American Blood Donor t-shirt. Be a Lifesaver and enjoy hamburgers and hot dogs served between 11am to 2pm.

Saturday, June 30
Full Moon Walk at the entrance gate to Fort Pickens, 8 p.m.

Sunday, July 1
MaChis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama Meeting, 1 p.m., 2778 Geneva County Road 5, Kinston, Alabama. For more information call 334-894 - 0108

Seeing Sea Life, presentation, Naval Live Oaks, Sundays, through Aug. 13 at 2 p.m.

Monday, July 2
 No meetings scheduled as of press time

Tuesday, July 3
 No meetings scheduled as of press time

Wednesday, July 4
Fourth of July holiday - Gulf Breeze News, City of Gulf Breeze, Santa Rosa County and Gulf Breeze Chamber of Commerce Offices will be closed.

No meetings scheduled as of press time

Thursday, July 5
Apaches of Fort Pickens, presentation, at Naval Live Oaks, 10 a.m.

For additional meeting information, visit:

www.splashpensacolabeach.com
 www.cityofgulfbreeze.com
 www.santarosa.fl.gov
 www.gulfbreezechamber.com
 sria-fla.com
 www.santarosa.k12.fl.us

AMBULANCE: Lifeguard prepared for takeover

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counties, as was proposed by Lifeguard in the contract, do those counties have to adhere to the requirements the county put in place for Lifeguard, as response times, billing patients, etc. Goodin was told by the county attorney those mutual aid agencies are not required to meet the county's standards.

Lifeguard owner John Roche addressed commissioners, telling them so far Lifeguard has

been working very hard to get everything in place, from hiring Rural Metro people so they won't lose their jobs when that contract pulls out of the county July 31, to purchasing 12 new ambulances.

"This week we even made an offer on a \$1-million building in Milton. I have personally put about \$3-million into this new contract already -- so we are determined to make it work and make it work fast, by Aug. 1," Roche said.

Elected Officials CONTACT

GULF BREEZE ELECTED OFFICIALS
 1070 Shoreline Dr., Gulf Breeze, FL 32561; (850) 934-5100

MAYOR LANE GILCHRIST
 (850) 932-5565
 mayor@ci.gulf-breeze.fl.us

BEVERLY ZIMMERN
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CARL HOFFMAN
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 (850) 232-0939
 jschluter@ci.gulf-breeze.fl.us

RICHARD FULFORD
 (850) 932-5135
 rfulford@co.gulf-breeze.fl.us

SANTA ROSA COUNTY COMMISSION
 6495 Caroline Street, Milton, FL 32570; (850) 932-1340 or 983-1877

JOHN BROXSON, Dist. 5
 (850) 932-2617
 comm-broxson@co.santarosa.fl.us

GORDON GOODIN, Dist. 4
 (850) 939-1274
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DON SALTER, Dist. 3
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BOB COLE, Dist. 2
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 comm-cole@co.santarosa.fl.us

TOM STEWART, Dist. 1
 (850) 983-1877
 comm-stewart@co.santarosa.fl.us

SANTA ROSA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 5086 Canal St., Milton, FL 32570; (850) 983-5000

ED GRAY III, Dist. 5
 (850) 932-6287

JOANN J. SIMPSON, Dist. 4
 (850) 994-5446

DIANE COLEMAN, Dist. 3
 (850) 939-5538

HUGH WINKLES, Dist. 2
 (850) 623-6299

DIANE SCOTT, Dist. 1
 (850) 623-0413

FLORIDA STATE REPRESENTATIVES

GREG EVERS (R)
 District Office: 5424 Willing St., Milton, FL 32570
 (850) 983-5550
 greg.evers@myfloridahouse.gov

DAVE MURZIN (R)
 District Office: Suite 22B, 7100 Plantation Rd., Ste. 3, Pensacola, FL 32504
 (850) 494-7330

C.V. "CLAY" FORD (R)
 District Office: 1804 W. Garden St., Pensacola, FL 32501-4418
 (850) 595-5550

RAY SANSOM (R)
 District Office: 348 SW Miracle Strip Pkwy., Bldg. C, Ste. 12, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548-5257
 (850) 833-9328

FLORIDA STATE SENATOR

DON GAETZ (R)
 District Office: 217 Miracle Strip Pkwy., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
 (850) 897-5747
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 don.gaetz.web@flsenate.gov

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

JEFF MILLER (R)
 Pensacola Office: 4300 Bayou Blvd. Ste. 17C, Pensacola, FL 32503
 (850) 479-1183
 Toll Free: (866) 367-1614

U.S. SENATORS

Senator MEL MARTINEZ (R)
 315 E. Robinson St., Landmark Center 1, Ste. 475, Orlando, FL 32801
 (407) 254-2573

Senator NELSON, BILL (D)
 US Court House Annex, 111 N. Adams St., Tallahassee, FL 32301
 (850) 942-8415

Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office Report

Information provided by the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office.

Felonies	Fontaine, Navarre, money laundering, \$100,000 or more	Rowe, Joshua Lerue, 25, W/M, 4900 block of Ellea Calle Lane, Gulf Breeze, burglary, larceny, less than \$5,000, larceny of a firearm	Pittman, Bonnie Sue, 47, W/F, 2200 block of Jeannie Street, Navarre, failure to appear
6/18/07 Hurst, Robert Dean, 61, W/M, 2600 block of Turkey Creek Drive, Navarre, aggravated assault	6/20/07 Sanders, Michelle Lee, 39, W/F, 2800 block of Villa Woods Circle, Gulf Breeze, obstructing justice	Morgan, Robert Dean, 22, W/M, 2600 block of Oxmere Drive, Navarre, grand theft, forgery	DUI
Turman, Bobby Wayne, 32, W/M, 8100 block of Menorca Street, Navarre, violation of probation	Stewart, Robert Walker, 28, W/M, 7400 block of Harvest Village Boulevard, Navarre, failure to appear	Cotner, Barbara Jane, 41, W/F, 8400 block of Loreda Street, Navarre, violation of probation	6/22/07 Bourgeois, Aaron James, 21, W/M, 1900 block of Constitution Drive, Navarre, DUI
White, Michael Anthony, 49, W/M, 3000 block of Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, grand theft auto	Davis, Pamela Ann, 19, W/F, 9000 block of Timber Lane, Navarre, dealing in stolen property	6/23/07 Douglas, Joshua Adam, 22, W/M, 1900 block of Blankenship Road, Navarre, violation of probation	6/23/07 McElroy, Marvin Timothy, 47, W/M, 7500 block of Black Jack Circle, Navarre, DUI
6/19/07 McCowen, Clinton Raymond, 46, W/M, 1900 block of Rue La	6/21/07		