

**Search still on for Lillian man, missing since April 9**  
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**Habitat, Kiwanis Club combine efforts on latest build**  
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The  
Foley

# ONLOOKER *Since 1907*

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Foley, Alabama • 50 Cents

## Sponsorships help zoo

By Celeste Newton

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Business owners and civic leaders support the newest residents of the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo with their purchase and ongoing sponsorships of four-week-old, 10 pound, female Barbary lion cub, "C.C." and her future mate, "Simba," a 75 lb., four-month-old male Barbary.

"It was a great idea, the Lions giving the lions," Jennifer Spruiell, spokesperson for the Gulf Shores Lion's Club said of

the club's recent \$2,000 purchase of Simba.

"We were delighted to get a call from Patti, after all the zoo has been through, with Hurricane Ivan, we thought it was an awesome idea," Spruiell said.

Part of the proceeds from the Lions Club annual fund-raiser, the Max Wilson Memorial Golf for Sight, bought the cub.

Spruiell was delighted to help with the young cubs when she learned of the zoo's loss of Audrey, a geriatric zoo resident,

who died of natural causes recently.

According to Spruiell, the promotional value alone of the recent acquisition should encourage other local businesses to sponsor or assist the zoo, both for the worthwhile cause and for the great name recognition given to supporters and sponsors in recognition of their contribution.

Orange Beach Lion's Club purchased C.C., the namesake

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Ted Scarritt of Perdido Beach Services is a sponsor of the big cats at the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo. He is pictured with one of the two new Barbary Lions, four-week-old C.C.

Submitted Photo

## Child sex abuser gets life

■ Selma native once lived in Foley

By Bob Morgan

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A Selma man arrested on June 5, 2001, and charged with eight counts of sodomy and sexual abuse against a Baldwin County female juvenile will spend the rest of his life in prison.

Jimmy Lee Jones, 50, was sentenced last month by Baldwin County Circuit Court Judge Lang Floyd.

Jones, who once lived in Foley, was charged with two counts of first-degree sodomy; two counts of first-degree sexual abuse; two counts of second-degree sodomy; and two counts of second-degree sexual abuse. He was sentenced to life plus 30 years on the charges.

Jones, who had a Selma address, was convicted on the charges late last year. At the time of his arrest, Jones' address was listed as John Hall Lane in Foley. The Baldwin County Corrections Center also had an address for Jones as Geno Road in Gulf Shores.

According to court documents, Jones had been sexually abusing the juvenile since she was 7 years old. The abuse continued until the juvenile was approximately 14.

She first talked to someone concerning the abuse when she was 16.

Following his arrest on June 5, 2001, Jones was released from the Baldwin County Corrections Center three days later after posting a \$100,000 bond.

Jones had been living with his mother in Selma prior to being incarcerated on Nov. 2, 2004, when a jury found him guilty of the sexual abuse charges.



Jimmy Lee Jones

## Restore Refloods



Celeste Newton/Staff Photo

Lea Adams, manager of the Habitat for Humanity ReStore, and John Glenn, president-elect of the board of directors, stand next to the watermarked building materials at the Habitat ReStore.

## Habitat resale shop hit by floods

By Celeste Newton

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Within the last two weeks, Mother Nature has unleashed severe storms and created

flooding throughout Baldwin County, no better witnessed than by the volunteers and employee, Lea Adams, manager of Habitat for Humanity of Baldwin County's ReStore.

With each passing storm, the structure, located at 21473 U.S. Highway 98 E between Elberta and Foley, took on water causing costly damage and ruin to their new and donated inventory. Based on interior water marks left on vertical store surfaces a foot of muddy water ran through their

store, entering through and under the warehouse, causing the structure's wall to buckle in on the west side and buckle out to the east side.

"It was double the water and mud on April 6," said Lea Adams, ReStore Manager.

Following the March 31 storm with its subsequent flooding, the volunteers, along with Adams, pitched water-logged inventory into dumpsters and shoveled mud out of the store in hopes of reopening. The retail store did open only to have another, more intense flood on the very same day.

John Glenn, president-elect of the board of directors, said the second storm was worse than the first, as the

ground was already saturated and so much rain came down within a matter of hours.

A holding pond just to the southeast of the store, in Fernwood Heights, was deluged with runoff and had become increasingly inadequate with each storm's rainfall.

"Once it came across the street we had water at our feet in five minutes," said Glenn of the second, more intense storm.

And, then on Monday, with April 11th's storm, another three to four inches seeped and swept into the warehouse structure.

Glenn said all the volunteers are weary from the enormous and repetitive

SEE ReSTORE PAGE 12A

## Beach mouse public meetings set next week

■ City prepares plan to help obtain building permits

By Alton Wallace

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Public meetings will be held Wednesday and Thursday aimed at developing a plan that would vastly simplify the paperwork required for building on properties that might be inhabited by the Alabama beach mouse.

The meetings are sponsored by the City of Gulf Shores.

Before the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will issue a permit to build near the endangered animals' habitat, a property owner is required to submit documents detailing their project's expected impact on the 3-inch mouse. The applicant must also indicate what they will do to mitigate damage and improve the habitat.

City officials are in the process of putting together a proposal that would allow it to obtain, on behalf of the property owners, the Incidental Take Permits required to build single-family homes or duplexes on a part of Fort Morgan Peninsula.

The Fort Morgan Peninsula is known to have the beach mouse living in the dunes.

The creation of a "range-wide" Incidental Take Permit, covering a 10-mile stretch from just west of the Lagoon Pass to Fort Morgan, is the city's goal.

Under the plan, the city would require that projects in the range be built to specifications meant to preserve the mice's habitat, and then, the city would monitor the range to ensure compliance with the conservation plan. Enforcement of the plan would belong to the Fish & Wildlife Service.

As part of this effort, the

FYI

**WHAT: Meeting on Alabama beach mouse and development**

**TIME: 10 a.m. to noon; 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday and 9 to 11 a.m.; 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday**

**WHERE: Gulf Shores City Council Chambers**

city must first put together a "range-wide" Habitat Conservation Plan.

The public meetings on Wednesday and Thursday at the Gulf Shores City Council chambers are intended to gather public input to create the conservation plan.

"We want people to understand the measures necessary to preserve the beach mouse," said Carolyn Doughty, one of the council members working on the plan for the city.

"They need to have input into what's fair and what's not fair, and we want them to understand what is required," Doughty said.

The general idea behind the conservation plan is to get the Alabama Beach Mouse population healthy enough so that they no longer need federal protection.

A city-hired consultant will be at the public meeting to explain what would be required of residents and of the city to implement a range-wide plan.

Wednesday's meetings will be from 10:30 a.m. to noon, and 2 to 4 p.m.

Thursday's meetings will be from 9 to 11 a.m., and 2 to 4 p.m.

If you would like to attend one of the meetings, contact Carolyn Doughty at (251)968-2919 or at cdoughty@meyerre.com.

## It's in the mail: City of Gulf Shores to send out hurricane decals

By Alton Wallace

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For residents and property owners south of the Intracoastal Waterway in Gulf Shores, obtaining the decals necessary to return to the island immediately after a hurricane just became a lot easier.

Instead of requiring property owners to pick them up at city hall, which

has been the city's practice in the past, the city council voted at its meeting on Monday to mail the decals.

Mayor Billy Duke said the decals will be mailed during the next few weeks to people with billing addresses on record with Baldwin EMC, the electric cooperative.

"The first two will be mailed out at no cost," Duke said. "Those residents and property owners who wish to

obtain additional hurricane re-entry decals will be allowed to purchase no more than two additional decals at a cost of \$10 per decal."

Additional decals will require strict proof of residency or property ownership, in the form of a deed, lease, or utility bill listing the street address of the property for which the decal is being purchased.

At a work session meeting last

week, city officials said that mailing the decals would cost less than dispersing them at City Hall.

Police Chief Arthur Bourne said that only owners of "improved property" will be issued decals.

Owners of undeveloped land will be allowed to re-enter the island only after post-hurricane restrictions are lifted. Owners and managers of commercial property will be allowed to

return immediately after a storm, but they will be required to obtain letters of re-entry from the city, he said.

Also, Bourne said, "Everybody needs to understand that everyone is going to be people that live right on the line of a zone, and they may get the wrong sticker. If they do, they just need to come to City Hall and show us proof of residency and we'll swap decals with them."

# Lion

Continued from Page 1A

for longtime friend and employee, Catherine Curlee.

Orange Beach Lion's Club President Paul Cope said the civic group's motto is "We Serve."

"I can't think of a better way to give back to the community — and to one of the most powerful animals at the zoo," Cope said.

It is the first zoo animal purchase made by the group and they are thrilled to support the cause following Hurricane Ivan's devastation, he said.

Patti Hall, director of the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo, was delighted with both Lions Clubs' commitment to the zoo.

She said the cub acquisition was actually made following the cubs' arrival at the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo from the Chestatee Wildlife Preserve in Dahlona, Ga., on March 28.

Plans can change, Hall said.

C.C., the female who was sexed at nine days, was originally thought to have been a male, so Simba had to be a male, Hall said.

Ensuring healthy animals is key so an acclimation period is given to assess the animals before they are offered or promised to businesses or individuals, Hall said.

There are currently 20 plus business or individual zoo sponsors, including local business, Perdido Beach Services, which has supported the zoo for the last three years with the sponsorship of Audrey, the 18-year-old lion, Hall said.

She added that the businesses' contributions offset the tremendous expenses incurred with the annual upkeep of the cats.

Audrey's expenses ran at roughly \$6,000 per year.

With her subsequent passing, the ongoing sponsorship will assist the new cubs with their food, medical, enrichment, house maintenance and keeper care.

Scarritt's commitment to the zoo and his admiration for the "big cats" is obvious.

When questioned about his ongoing cat sponsorship he said, "I love the big cats — their strength, their intelligence, their independence and their athletic ability."

Historically, they were known as the "Roman gladiator cats." They were brought to Europe for the coliseum games and were descendants



Alton Wallace/Staff Photo

Staff at the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo, along with members of the Gulf Shores and Orange Beach Lions Clubs, are pictured with Simba and C.C. The two cubs were purchased with the help of the local Lions clubs.

of the famous lion collection of Moroccan kings and were of rare lineage.

The animal came to represent courage and nobility.

These are the largest of the cat family — larger than the African lion and differing in color, with a light halo around the face and dark main behind it and a dark belly fringe or torso.

The Barbary lion has bordered on extinction.

They once roamed throughout north Africa, hunting the woodlands of the Great and Little Atlas mountain ranges from Morocco to Egypt, according to information provided by the zoo.

In the 1920s a hunter claimed the last wild Barbary in Morocco. There were only a handful of these majestic, large, dark-maned lions in captivity.

Since the late 1990s, DNA profiling has been used to identify and breed the new Barbary line to restore them to the wild.

The International Barbary Project was a collaborative effort to change that trend and reintroduce the lion to the wild after 80 years of near extinction.

The initial effort failed in part due to too many institutions being involved and control issues.

And, a mistake was made. They bred for traits prior to advances made by DNA research.

The large heavy mane which extends under their belly is, in fact, characteristic of five of the seven subspecies of the lion.

To date, there are 200 to 250 in captivity and they remain extinct in the wild, Head Zoo Keeper Cyndi Johnson said.

Simba will weigh about 500 pounds and C.C. will weigh in slightly less at 450 pounds at maturity. They could measure 10 feet from their ears to the tip of their tail.

Zoo plans include mating the two once they reach full maturity at seven years of age.

Hall said zoo sponsorships can range from a snake at \$1,000 to \$7,000 for the larger animals and there are a number of sponsorships available.

A variety of benefits are available to the sponsor, including a named custom sign, complimentary zoo passes, Web site links and more.

Fun spectator events for big cat lovers are planned for summer 2005.

Starting in mid-June the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo will host an educational Marcan Tiger Show.

Baby Weeks will run the first two weeks of July featuring rare white and tabby tiger cubs. The Weather Channel will carry a 30 minute episode of Storm

Story on the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo and Hurricane Ivan's passing at 7 p.m. central on June 5.

School tours and private parties are currently held at the zoo and plans are to reopen to the public on Memorial Day weekend.



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## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Lotion additive  
 5 Barnyard call  
 8 Nile bird  
 12 Petula Clark hit  
 14 Zilch  
 15 Cheeriness  
 16 Oversupply  
 17 Lubricant  
 18 Prison official  
 20 Pictorial poser  
 23 Easy stride  
 24 Figure-skating jump  
 25 Dark solar area  
 28 - culpa  
 29 "Oops!"  
 30 Princess' insomnia cause  
 32 Soda-shop treats  
 34 Authentic  
 35 Picks a target  
 36 Thick  
 37 Environment  
 40 Bran source  
 41 Pastoral opus  
 42 Old timers?  
 47 - gin fizz  
 48 Snail  
 49 See to  
 50 Away from NNW  
 51 Uncomplicated

**DOWN**

1 Commercials  
 2 Bud's partner  
 3 Possess  
 4 Imbue with spirit  
 5 Seethe  
 6 Grain bristle  
 7 Windflowers  
 8 Marching properly  
 9 Piglet's papa  
 10 Grooving on  
 11 Witnessed  
 13 Anything but

that  
 19 Basilica area  
 20 Aries  
 21 Former mates  
 22 Boyfriend  
 23 Olympic coasters  
 25 Detectives (Sl.)  
 26 Admitting clients  
 27 Afternoon socials  
 29 Garfield's pal  
 31 Stout's cousin  
 33 Got down pat

34 Go to bed  
 36 Iconoclastic art movement  
 37 Atomizer output  
 38 Between jobs  
 39 Mount Holyoke founder Mary  
 40 Erstwhile  
 43 Constitution letters  
 44 Khan title  
 45 Section of L.A.?  
 46 Sloppy place

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## ReStore

Continued from Page 1A

clean up efforts and a crew was hired to assist ReStore on what was now their third cleanup attempt.

Adams said the three-year-old structure has never had a flooding situation like this;

"Hurricane Ivan only brought a little bit of rain under the doors, nothing like this," Adams said.

Several neighbors in the Fernwood Heights neighborhood were also flooded.

Losses of new and donated items include: all upholstered furniture, appliances, stoves and dishwashers, dryers, many cabinet doors, counter tops (the fiber board behind them was ruined), a computer and printer, two organs. Unfortunately, Cabinet Masters had just donated cabinets and doors. Many of the new cabinets were stacked up high and survived; half were lost. The water current inside the store toppled a full size refrigerator.

Flood insurance was not part of their policy and con-

tents were insured only for fire and theft, in effect, their losses were uninsured.

They estimate 50 to 60 percent of their inventory is gone and a retail value of approximately \$20,000 was lost.

Foley City Administrator Perry Wilbourne said the city continues to "push" for federal assistance, which involves an interactive process between leaders and the government.

Wilbourne said if the area is declared federal disaster area, "many can apply and we'll see funding like with Ivan."

With regard to a time-frame, "we'll know sooner than later," Wilbourne said, though nothing definite is set.

Wilbourne, who has served and lived in the city of Foley for 12 and a half years, said he has never witnessed rainstorms like these. He said there are major problems in a lot of areas and Foley is moving as quickly as he's ever seen the city move to rectify the flooding situation.

Adams was thankful for Waste Management, which brought out a second dump-

ster following the first storm, which, with the amount of inventory lost, was "most helpful."

Flat shovels, hoses, big fans, and shop vacs were either loaned or purchased for cleanup. After the second flood, one of the shop vacs was destroyed.

The Habitat ReStore is a building materials reuse center.

Donations of new and used cabinets, lighting, plumbing fixtures, doors, windows and appliances may be used to build Habitat houses — the remainder is sold to the public at a substantial discount.

Six months ago, the ReStore began carrying thrift items including dishes, sheets and glasses.

ReStore's mission, according to its Web site is to "Help Habitat build more homes, make home improvements more affordable, and prevent useable building materials from going to the landfill."

For information, updates on their reopening, or to donate, call Habitat ReStore at 986-3906.



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