

CRESTVIEW

# News Bulletin



Summer camps, A8

Saturday, JUNE 2, 2012

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37th Year, Number 44

50¢

## A special graduation

### Richbourg School's class of one graduates

By BRIAN HUGHES  
682-6524 | @cnbBrian  
brianh@crestviewbulletin.com

The sole member of the Richbourg E.S.E. School Class of 2012 marched into a wildly cheering gymnasium and was genuinely surprised by the outpouring of heartfelt congratulations from the family, friends, schoolmates, faculty, staff and representatives from the Okaloosa County School District who gathered to share his special day.

John Andrew Lawrence was this year's only graduate from north Okaloosa's special needs school, where he was king of the school's April 20 prom. But while many students graduating from area schools can't wait to leave their halls of learning behind them, John can't wait to go back.

"He's going to be doing the school's summer pro-

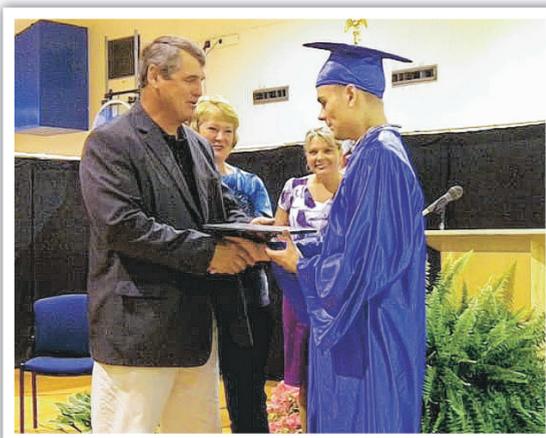
gram," his mother Cheryl Lawrence said. "John loves, loves, loves school."

Cheryl and Ben-z Lawrence adopted their oldest son from Bowling Green, Ky., when he was 9 and his younger brother, Caleb, whom John calls Bubba, was 3. John has mental retardation, Cheryl said, "and that's the politically correct term."

While at Richbourg, John demonstrated an affinity for caring for the younger students and was frequently called on by staff members to help them out. Principal Christy Corbin has offered to let him return to his alma mater as a volunteer, Cheryl Lawrence said.

"The kids just love him. He reacts so well with all of them," she said. "They relate to John because they know John is a student."

Cheryl Lawrence praised Corbin and her staff for cre-



Okaloosa School District Deputy Superintendent Rodney Nobles hands John Lawrence his diploma as school board member Cathy Thigpen and Richbourg School Principal Christie Corbin applaud.

ating an environment that led to her son's success, culminating in his memorable graduation ceremony at which Deputy Superintendent Rodney Nobles pre-

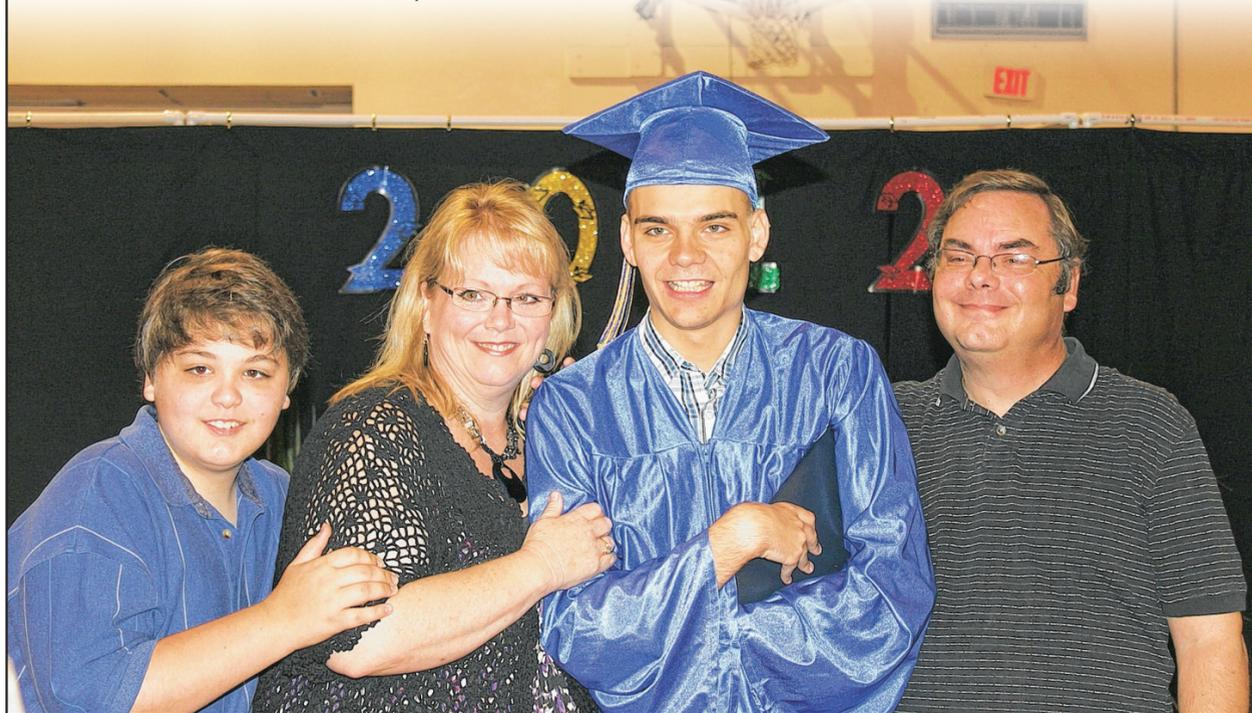
sented John his diploma as school board representative Cathy Thigpen applauded.

For many years, the

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PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE NEWS BULLETIN

Richbourg School's sole graduate, John Lawrence, is embraced by his family after receiving his diploma. From left are his brother Caleb, mother Cheryl, John and his father Ben-z.



## Off to the real world : CHS seniors prepare for college



BRIAN HUGHES | News Bulletin

Seniors Tyler Colonna, Kara Vonada and James Purcell prepare for life after high school.

By BRIAN HUGHES  
682-6524 | @cnbBrian  
brianh@crestviewbulletin.com

Their primary and secondary schooling behind them, with last night's graduation, Crestview High School's seniors are eager and ready to head out into the "real world" and discover what life has in store for them. To sample the feelings of the class of 2012, the News Bulletin caught up with several seniors during Senior Week activities.

Universally, Crestview's high school seniors were found in a mixture of joy, ex-

citement, anticipation and perhaps just a slightest hint of trepidation about the new world that awaits them. Many will head to college, some taking the plunge and heading far away from their familiar home turf, others starting gingerly at a college closer to home.

Aaron Jenkins, still damp from a giant, homemade slip-n-slide on the school's ball field during Senior Field Day, is among the latter.

"I'm going to UWF (University of West Florida in

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## Stirring up trouble

### Crestview FD throws a few local twists at 'Hurricane Gispert'

By BRIAN HUGHES  
682-6524 | @cnbBrian  
brianh@crestviewbulletin.com

Crestview firefighters not only monitored the progress of a fictitious category 3 hurricane, they threw a few unexpected twists into the county's annual hurricane planning exercise that sent participants hunkered down in the county Emergency Operations Center in Niceville scrambling.

Technically a "hurrex," or hurricane exercise, Hurricane Gispert (named for an emergency planner in Hillsborough County) was modeled on 1998's Hurricane Georges. That storm's severe flooding rendered Crestview an island cut off from surrounding communities.

Crestview Fire Department veterans Battalion Chief Tony Holland and Assistant Chief Ralph Everage were on duty during Georges. When Randy McDaniel, chief of Okaloosa County's Emergency Management department, asked Crestview emergency responders to join the Hurrex Gispert exercise, their first-hand experience proved invaluable.

"Randy had asked for some input from Crestview," Everage explained. "He wanted something other than a coastal component and asked for some input from us."

"We wanted them to consider what they could possibly need in the city — shortfalls they would have in a flooding event, making us jump through the hoops to find those things for them," McDaniel said.

As the virtual storm approached at 8 a.m. May 24, Holland and Everage logged into WebEOC, an Internet-based communications system used by emergency management agencies throughout the county. The system is also linked to the state Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee, which monitored the state's local Gispert exercises.

Using their experience from past storms, Holland and Everage devised "injects," or storm-related emergency situation scenarios, and entered them into WebEOC.

As the "storm" buffeted the region, Holland entered, "In the area of (State Road) 85 and (U.S. Highway) 90 there are power lines down and the traffic light is on the ground."

The scenario and others from neighboring agencies flowed into the system. County Emergency Management staff prioritized the incidents and assigned them to various emergency services function (ESF) organizations.

ESFs include county and municipal public works offices, fire and search-and-rescue units, the Red Cross and Salvation Army, public utilities, the military, law enforcement agencies, municipal governments, the county health department, and animal control.

Other organizations include the Division of Forestry, local and county purchasing departments, city planning agencies and the Department of Children and Families, public relations and media.

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# What's HAPPENING

## LOCAL NATIONAL GUARD TROOP DEPLOYS JUNE 17

The 83rd Troop, Unit 870th of the Florida Army National Guard at Crestview will be deployed at 8 a.m. Sunday, June 17, from the armory at 1518 E. James Lee Blvd., Crestview.

The Crestview Area Chamber of Commerce and the MAC Committee asks that the public attend and wear red white and blue, bring signs like "We Support Our Troops," "Thanks For What You Do," "We Are Proud of You," etc. and wave a flag in the soldiers' honor. Beach Community Mortgage will be passing out small American flags as well.

**YARD AND CRAFT SALE:** The Indoor Yard and Craft Sale is from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. today at the Okaloosa County Extension Office, 5450 Old Bethel Road, Crestview. Lots of bargains, a food booth, and booths by local artisans will be presented. Master Gardeners will be holding a plant clinic during the same time. Bring in a sample for ID or diagnosis.

**NEW CHARTER PROPOSAL:** The city of Crestview's proposed new charter will be under discussion at the 6 p.m. workshop meeting Monday, June 4, at Warriors Hall, Stillwell Blvd., Crestview.

**COMMISSION MEETING:** The Okaloosa County Board of Commissioners' next public board meeting is at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 5, in the commission chambers of the Crestview Courthouse, 101 E. James Lee Blvd.

AquaGreen, the company submitting the Request for Proposal for the Okaloosa Island Property, will present it. The board has the option of making a final decision concerning the request at the meeting, and the public is encouraged to attend or participate.

For an agenda, previous meeting summaries or a meeting calendar, please visit [www.okaloosafl.com](http://www.okaloosafl.com).

**FINANCIAL SEMINAR:** A June 12 seminar on estate planning is at 6 p.m. at Mia's Family Italian Restaurant, 2203 S. Ferdon Blvd., Crestview. Yvonne Shanklin of Edward Jones in Crestview and

special guests will present information and a local estate planning attorney will be present to answer questions. Dinner will be served. To reserve space for you and a guest, call 682-2497 no later than June 5.

**FIRST TUESDAY:** "Curing ADD/ODD/DVD Behavior in Children" with Dr. Peter Oas is the subject of the 10:30 a.m. First Tuesday Lecture on June 5 at the library, 1445 Commerce Drive Crestview. Coffee and cookies are served at 10 a.m.

Call 682-4432 for more information.

**BIKER SUNDAYS:** American Legion Post No. 75 hosts a series of Biker Sundays from 1-4 p.m. at 898 U.S. Highway 90 E. in Crestview to support the post and its veterans programs.

Scheduled days and bands performing are as follows: June 10, Juke Joint Willie; June 24, Grey Wolf.

Hamburgers and hot dogs with baked beans and potato salad will be served for \$5 per plate. Pool use is free and there will be special happy hour prices.

For details call 689-3195.

**THE NORTH OKALOOSA PATRIOTS** meet at 6:30 p.m. every third Tuesday to address concerns regarding American freedom at 151 N. Woodlawn Blvd., Crestview (the Woman's Club meeting house). For information contact David Chamberlain at 682-6582.

**JUNE SUPPORT GROUP:** Alzheimer's Family Services next support group begins at 10 a.m. Tuesday, June 12, at Covenant Hospice, 370 W. Redstone Drive, Crestview. The meetings are free and respite care is available. The groups are a means for caregivers and others interested in learning more about Alzheimer's disease to exchange ideas, gather information and discuss their concerns with others who are dealing or have dealt with the same issues. To register for additional information, call 478-7790 or visit [www.AlzFamServ.org](http://www.AlzFamServ.org).

**COMPUTER TUTORING:** The Crestview Public Library offers one-on-one beginning skills computer tutoring. The one-hour sessions are especially helpful for senior citizens who want to learn how to use the Internet and email. Appointments are available Mondays through Thursdays at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., or noon. Visit the library at 1445 Commerce Drive or call 682-4432 to schedule your tutoring session. A library card is required. There is no

charge for an initial card to any Okaloosa County resident. Just bring in a picture ID and proof of street address.

**SUMMER SING AND DANCE:** Melinda Mills will be at Warriors Hall on Stillwell Avenue at 10:15 a.m. Friday, June 8, with her guitar to entertain children of all ages. Doors open at 10 a.m. for the free program, sponsored by the Crestview Public Library and the Friends of the Crestview Library. Visit [www.learningthroughsong.com](http://www.learningthroughsong.com) to learn more, or call 682-4432 for details.

**JUNE 9 PAGEANT:** The 2012 Miss Crestview Kings & Queens Pageant is at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at the Crestview High School auditorium, N. Ferdon Blvd.

The deadline to enter is noon on June 2.

For information call 974-0220, 682-6129 or 682-21754, or download an application at [events-md.com](http://events-md.com).

**CANCER BENEFIT:** A fundraiser for Morgan Murray is from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at the Old Spanish Trail Park pavilion softball field on Stillwell Blvd., Crestview. Raffle tickets are being sold for \$1 each. A charity softball tournament is also scheduled on the day of the fundraiser. The entry fee is \$150 per team. Food snacks and drinks will be available for purchase. All proceeds will go direct to the Murray family.

Further donations can be made at Regions Bank, Account 0164693333 (four threes). For details, call Michele, 398-6614; Rachel, 974-0898; Daniel, 305-2832, or Mary Beth, 428-3031. For more information, visit [www.nwfdailynews.com/articles/cancer-49032-girl-.html](http://www.nwfdailynews.com/articles/cancer-49032-girl-.html).

**URGENT CARE REMAINS OPEN:** The 1502 S. Ferdon Blvd. office of Crestview Urgent Care is still open for business, despite the "for lease" sign outside the building. The office will close for one day in June to move behind Dunkin Donuts in Crestview.

**BLOOD DRIVES:** Northwest Florida Blood Center is hosting the following North Okaloosa blood drives:

June 9, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Riverwood Luxury Apartments, 342 Riverwood Drive, Crestview.

June 10, 8 a.m. to noon at First Baptist Church of Holt, 532 U.S. Highway 90, Holt.

June 12, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Northwest Florida State College, U.S. Highway 90, Crestview, free movie ticket for all donors.

# EDITORIAL

## Who is minding the cookie jar?

Former Dorcas Fire District bookkeeper Courtney Lingenfelter was charged last month with grand theft and 19 counts of uttering a forged instrument.

According to a State Attorney's Office affidavit, Lingenfelter admitted to writing \$6,634 in unauthorized checks out of the volunteer fire department's checking accounts for her own personal use.

It is an all-too familiar turn of events. In April, former Laurel Hill City Clerk Stephanie Davis pleaded no contest to felony larceny charges after she was accused of stealing city funds. According to Davis' arrest report, Laurel Hill Mayor Joan Smith told investigators that the estimated amount Davis is accused of taking totaled \$7,509.

Then, of course, there is the case of Mark Bellingier, the former executive director of the Okaloosa County Tourist Development Council, who died May 4, in Pelham, Ala., of a suspected drug overdose. Shortly before his death, Bellingier admitted to Okaloosa County commissioners he used \$710,000 to purchase a yacht, and the FBI says he used \$747,000 in BP oil spill funds to purchase a home.

In February 2011, members of the board of commissioners for the Almarante Fire Department fired then Fire Chief David Henderson over more than \$1,966 in purchases and cash withdrawals from the volunteer fire department's bank account in 2009 and 2010.

Among other things, Henderson's fire department debit card was used in April 2010 to withdraw \$503 in cash at the Wind Creek Casino & Hotel in Atmore, Ala., board members said. A

\$165 hotel room was charged to the department's account the same night.

And who can forget the August 2009 sentencing of former Okaloosa County Sheriff Charlie Morris, who pleaded guilty to six federal charges, including theft, fraud and money laundering? Morris was sentenced to 71 months in prison after FBI agents found he masterminded a scheme to take thousands of taxpayer dollars used for gambling and other personal ventures.

The surprise isn't that allegations of embezzlement keep cropping up. Anyone who follows the news knows that theft of taxpayer money is often reported in cities and counties all across the nation, and the world for that matter.

The surprise is that, given the commonality of the problem, officials aren't more watchful.

In almost all of the cases listed above, if members of the fire department boards, the Laurel Hill City Council, or in the case of the TDC, Okaloosa County commissioners, had examined monthly financial statements, they would have quickly realized something was amiss.

Because no one was watching, all of the alleged thefts occurred over a period of months, if not longer.

Monitoring those charged with spending taxpayer money is a fundamental duty of any elected body — volunteer or paid.

Hopefully someone is paying attention.

*News Bulletin Editor Michael Stewart can be reached at 682-6524 or by email at [michaels@crestviewbulletin.com](mailto:michaels@crestviewbulletin.com).*

## HUBBUB

### Visitors won't be allowed to bring tobacco on Okaloosa school properties

I'm sorry, but it is about time!

How is my car your responsibility? I think there are other more important issues than this to deal with then telling a older generation when and how and where they can smoke, especially our veterans. My car is mine.

It's never been your right to smoke wherever you want.

That's not going to work for your hardcore

generations and your military vets. I think in your car is overstepping bounds.

Does that mean no more bus drivers standing around across the street from the school having a smoke before picking up the kids?

Nope, it means on school grounds. Private property is still OK. It's like telling someone who lives across the street from a school, "Sorry, but you can't smoke."

*Have an issue you want published? Send it to editor Michael Stewart at [michaels@crestviewbulletin.com](mailto:michaels@crestviewbulletin.com).*

*What people in north Okaloosa County are talking about:*

### 'Super optimistic' student overcomes obstacles to graduate

You are awesome, Taylor!

Taylor has shown great stamina and determination, which is a testament to the strength God provides when you lay your troubles before His throne and rely upon Him. Prayers for a speedy miracle!

### Woman fails drug test with someone else's urine

That's what you get, you dough-head!

### Veto won't stall FAMU project

Scott wants the money to give to his cronies.

# CRESTVIEW News Bulletin

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#### NEWS INFORMATION

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#### PUBLISHER

TOM CONNER  
[tomc@crestviewbulletin.com](mailto:tomc@crestviewbulletin.com)

#### EDITOR

MICHAEL STEWART  
[michaels@crestviewbulletin.com](mailto:michaels@crestviewbulletin.com)

#### OFFICE STAFF

AMY REID . . . . . RECEPTIONIST  
[amyrc@crestviewbulletin.com](mailto:amyrc@crestviewbulletin.com)  
DAWN BARNES . . . . . CIRCULATION ASSISTANT  
[dawnb@crestviewbulletin.com](mailto:dawnb@crestviewbulletin.com)

#### ADVERTISING INFORMATION

DIANA BAKER . . . . . AD CONSULTANT  
[dianab@crestviewbulletin.com](mailto:dianab@crestviewbulletin.com)  
MELISSA TEDDER . . . . . AD CONSULTANT  
[melissa@crestviewbulletin.com](mailto:melissa@crestviewbulletin.com)  
SHERRIE STANLEY . . . . . MEDIA CONSULTANT  
[sherries@crestviewbulletin.com](mailto:sherries@crestviewbulletin.com)

#### EDITORIAL

BRIAN HUGHES . . . . . REPORTER  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR  
[brianh@crestviewbulletin.com](mailto:brianh@crestviewbulletin.com)  
RANDY DICKSON . . . . . SPORTS EDITOR  
[randyd@crestviewbulletin.com](mailto:randyd@crestviewbulletin.com)  
RENEE BELL . . . . . EDITORIAL ASSISTANT  
[news@crestviewbulletin.com](mailto:news@crestviewbulletin.com)

MAIN OFFICE FAX NUMBER  
(850) 682-2246

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BRIAN HUGHES | News Bulletin

Crestview High seniors Derek Lovelace and Aaron Jenkins.

**WORLD** from page A1

Pensacola) for the first two years," he said. "I want to stay close and get the hang of college, then I plan to go to USF (University of South Florida) in Tampa."

His pal Derek Lovelace, equally wet, is going a bit farther, to a college over the border in Alabama.

"I actually have a baseball scholarship to play ball at Faulkner State College in Fairhope," Derek said. "I'm very excited. I'm going to hang around for the summer before I get out of here."

Like Derek, most of the grads are planning a care-free summer, enjoying days that revolve around summer jobs and hanging out with best friends before the summons of higher education scatters close companions, many of whom have been together since middle or even elementary school.

Kara Vonada is both excited — and a bit saddened — that her goals will uproot her from Crestview within a couple weeks, depositing her in Cocoa Beach, where she plans to find a job and save money before starting school in the fall. While her college studies have her excited, it's leaving her friends so soon after graduation that's the sad part.

"I'm going to Rosen College at the University of Central Florida," Kara said. "I want to major in hospital-

ity management. But I'm going to miss these guys."

Among "these guys" is Tyler Colonna, selected by his peers as this year's Bulldog Idol for his musical prowess.

While college is definitely in his future, saving for it is a greater priority right now for Tyler, who promised to keep making music as well.

"I'm going to work and save up money for school," he said. "I'm going to hold two jobs: selling concessions at Durrell Lee Park and working at Publix. And I'm going to do some modeling at Abercrombie & Fitch in Destin Commons."

Another of Kara's pals, James Purcell, is also one of Tyler's colleagues at Publix.

"I'm going to college in Savannah (Ga.) at Armstrong Atlantic State University," James said. "I'll study civil engineering."

With eight years of primary school and four years of secondary school now behind them, the seniors didn't expect that those 12 years could rush by so quickly.

"It's been quick," Aaron said. "I didn't expect it to go this fast, especially the last four years."

"It's a crazy feeling," Tyler agreed.

"It still feels unreal," James added.

"It flew by, but we're ready!" Kara said, summing up her friends' feelings.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HUGHES | News Bulletin

Crestview Fire Department Battalion Chief Tony Holland, left, and Assistant Chief Ralph Everage participate in the countywide hurricane planning exercise from the city's main fire station.

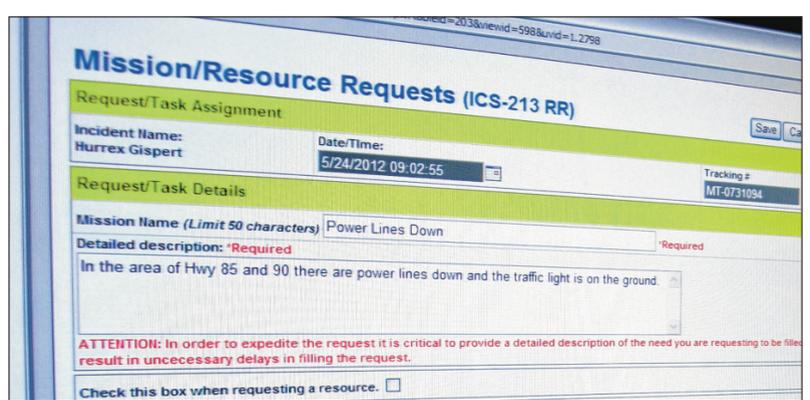
**TROUBLE** from page A1

"When the requests come in, they go to ESF5 — planning — which is the county Emergency Management department," Everage said. "They screen them and task them wherever they need to go."

"I could task Crestview through the same system," McDaniel said. "It allows us to collaborate and use our resources to the utmost. We can't be an island in a disaster. I have resources that Crestview may need and they have resources I may need and everybody works together to share those resources and prioritize them."

An hour and a half into the exercise, the monitor at Crestview's Public Safety Station 1 suddenly froze.

"This is why we do drills," Holland said as he rebooted the computer. When the system failed to come up, he and Everage realized the problem was not their equipment. Twenty minutes later, the system



This Crestview-originated "inject," or emergency scenario, calls for county assistance to clear the city's busiest intersection.

was back up. Fortunately, failure of the main link between agencies was a contingency that is included in the county's plans.

"It allowed us to test our Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)," McDaniel said. "When our system crashed, our plan sent us back to doing it the old way, with three-part forms. When the system went down, we continued to col-

lect the data. When the system came back up, we entered the data into WebEOC. We lost nothing."

Later, McDaniel said, an investigation by county computer technicians found the cause of the crash.

"What we found is the vendor for our system sent us an update and the update had a bug in it," McDaniel said. "They had to

send us a fix the next day but without the exercise, we wouldn't have known there was a bug in it."

"It's really a nice system," Everage said. "We're just working the bugs out of it."

"I don't like surprises so I'd rather have it break before I need it than when I need it," McDaniel said. "The exercise worked well."

**GRADUATION** from page A1

county's only special needs school was Silver Sands School in Fort Walton Beach. The opening of Richbourg School in August 2010 was a relief for north Okaloosa County special needs students and their families, educators said. It currently enrolls nearly 50 students from age 3 to 22.

"They have all the right people at Richbourg," Cheryl

Lawrence said. "Things are really clicking there."

Vocational training is an important part of Richbourg's curriculum. With his job coach providing advice and encouragement, John worked at Ms. B's BBQ and Bakery this semester, where he was soon embraced by restaurant owner Belinda Gibbons and her staff.

"They just loved him," Cheryl Lawrence said. "It seems everywhere he goes people become really attached to him. We are just really blessed in that way."

Cheryl Lawrence said people might be surprised to know the number of special needs students in northern Okaloosa County.

"Richbourg is just as good if not better than Sil-

ver Sands and we are so fortunate to have this in our community," she said. "It's awesome!"

The care the school put into assuring its single graduate had a graduation he'll always remember typifies the attention each student receives, Cheryl Lawrence said.

"Richbourg really went out of their way to make his

day special even though it was just one kid graduating. Everybody went wild when he came into the room," she said. "The whole school was there ... He looked like a deer in the headlights. He was just amazed!"

A social, featuring a huge sheet cake donated by Chatty Cakes in Baker, followed John's graduation ceremony, which was

attended by nearly 25 family members and friends, including his Richbourg School family.

"And they are a family," Cheryl Lawrence said. "Exceptional students must be given an exceptional education. They (Richbourg's staff) are a huge asset to this community and the families that they serve with kids of special needs."

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# For Pete's sake

## Customers, friends support cancer victim



By **BRIAN HUGHES**  
682-6524 | @cnbBrian  
brianh@crestviewbulletin.com

When customers stopped by the Lee Buick-GMC dealership on State Road 85 and asked for Pete Daugherty, they knew they could count on the commercial sales representative's professional help and advice. Now Daugherty is counting on the support of some of those customers.

The 16-year Lee employee is suffering from debilitating illness, the dealership's general manager, Scott Lee, said.

"He's battling stage four lung cancer," Lee said sadly. "He's been with us a long time. We're trying to help him out."

On May 25, Lee had Ronnie Lunsford, a locally renowned barbecue pit master with S&L Auto Body, bring his mobile meat smoker over to the GMC dealership, where he smoked several dozen succulent Boston

butts.

Melanie Fullerton from Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union organized the fundraiser, which raised nearly \$3,500.

In addition to Boston butts, organizers raffled off a hunting bow donated by Daugherty's son Ken, Fullerton said, with local outdoorsman Rudy Dukes winning the weapon.

"We had great participation from the community. We were just glad we could help him out," Fullerton said. "He enjoyed everybody coming by and getting to see everyone. That was a highlight for Pete."

Fullerton also helped establish an account at the credit union to assist Daugherty with his medical expenses.

"We have the account open for anyone who wants to make a contribution," Fullerton said.

"Any old customers or friends who want to help Pete out can donate at the credit union," Lee said.

"We'll also take checks here. We had a customer that came in just to pick up a (vehicle) manual, and he wrote a check on the spot."

Lee Buick-GMC salesman Dale Henderson has been with the dealership as long as Daugherty and eagerly displayed the hunting bow to people who might be interested in buying a chance to win the weapon.

"I started here one week, and Pete started the next week," Henderson said. "He and I are the original 'last of the Mohicans' here."

Pete Daugherty, wearing his Lee Buick-GMC nametag as he leaned heavily on a cane, said he was touched by the care and affection that he felt from his boss and colleagues.

"Many of the car places don't care what you're going to do next month. They just care about now," Daugherty said. "This is a real, real car family. They care about the people that work here and the people that come in here to buy a car."

**WANT TO HELP?**

Anyone wishing to contribute to the fund established to assist Pete Daugherty with his medical expenses may donate at Lee Buick-GMC, 4300 South Ferdon Blvd., 682-2708, or at Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union, 1126 N. Ferdon Blvd., 682-2225, or 1307 Georgia Ave., Baker, 537-9815.



**BRIAN HUGHES | News Bulletin**

**Top left:** Dozens of Boston butts cook in Ronnie Lunsford's portable meat smoker to raise money for Pete Daugherty's medical expenses.

**Above:** Pete Daugherty, seated, is joined by Lee Buick-GMC general manager Scott Lee, salesman Dale Henderson (holding the hunting bow that was raffled off), Melanie Fullerton of the Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union and pit master Ronnie Lunsford of S&L Auto Body.

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Niceville Community Center  
204 N. Partin Dr., Niceville

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**Mon., June 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**  
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Your kids won't want to miss this exciting Vacation Bible School program. Children ages 4 through rising 6th graders are welcome to join us on Promise Island.

There is no cost to attend. Registration forms are available at the church or on the church website, [www.welcomehome2crestview.com](http://www.welcomehome2crestview.com). Please contact the church for more information at (850) 682-2018.

# Take time to rest and sharpen your spiritual walk

Special to the News Bulletin

Most pastors I know believe that worship is the most important aspect of church life. Worship is central to remembering the presence of God, and being reassured of God's love, grace and forgiveness.

Worshipping God and remembering the Sabbath is essential to remembering whose we are and whose God is, remembering who we are, and who we were created to be. This is probably why pastors spend so much time and energy preparing sermons and prayers, and selecting appropriate hymns. This is an attempt to have worship be a time of fulfillment, not only to us, but ultimately to God.

There are times, I know, when people think ministers spend too much time preparing sermons. A while ago the British Weekly printed a letter to the editor. It read:

"Dear Sir: I notice that ministers seem to set a



**REV. MARK BROADHEAD**  
From the Pulpit

great deal of importance on their sermons and spend a great deal of time in preparing them. I have been attending services quite regularly for the past thirty years and during that time, if I estimate correctly, I have listened to no less than 3,000 sermons, but, to my consternation, I discover I cannot remember a single one of them. I wonder if a minister's time might be more profitably spent on something else? Sincerely..."

That letter triggered an avalanche of angry responses for weeks. Sermons were castigated and defended by lay and clergy, but eventually a single letter closed the debate:

"My dear Sir: I have been married for thirty years. During that time I have eaten 32,850 meals — mostly of my wife's cooking. Suddenly I have discovered that I cannot remember the menu of a single meal. And yet, I received nourishment from every one of them. I have the distinct

impression that without them, I would have starved to death long ago. Sincerely..."

Worship is important. Remembering and observing the Sabbath, and resting in God's presence, is vitally important to who we are. We are to take time to refresh ourselves in the way God intended.

Some time ago I saw a bumper sticker that read, "Jesus is coming soon. Look busy!" It made me laugh, but then I got to thinking about the message of that sticker. Look busy. It didn't say anything about focusing on what is important.

When we run around all the time, we will eventually run down. And unfortunately, even in our leisure time we rush around to do everything we are "supposed" to do in order to have fun — at least, that's what the advertisements say. We can become so busy rushing around doing things that we can self-destruct.

Several years ago, newspapers told how a new Navy jet fighter shot itself down. While flying at

supersonic speed, it ran into cannon shells it had fired only a few seconds before. The jet was traveling too fast!

If someone doesn't have time to worship God in regular church services, if there isn't time to read the Bible, if time is not made to pray, one will not reap the benefits of Sabbath rest. God's voice cannot be heard.

You see, I don't think rushing around is how God intended for us to live. I believe God gave us the Sabbath as a way for us to slow down, to have us stop for a brief time to catch our breath and reflect on our relationship with him. There are too many other distractions in this world six days a week that can draw our attention away from God. We need to keep one day a week sacred for remembering him, praising him, worshipping him, and resting in him.

Worshipping God and having Sabbath rest are essential to who we are and how we live. It's like the woodcutter of years ago who approached the foreman of a logging crew and asked for a job. "That

depends," replied the foreman. "Let's see you fell this tree." The young man stepped forward and skillfully dropped a great tree. Impressed, the foreman exclaimed, "Start Monday!"

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday rolled by, and Thursday afternoon the foreman approached the young man and said, "You can pick up your paycheck on the way out today."

Startled, he replied, "I thought you paid on Friday." "Normally we do," answered the foreman, "but we're letting you go today because you've fallen behind. Our daily charts show that you've dropped from first place on Monday to last on Wednesday."

"But I'm a hard worker," the young man objected. "I arrive first, leave last, and even have worked through my coffee breaks!" The foreman, sensing the boy's integrity, thought for a minute and then asked, "Have you been sharpening your ax?"

The young man replied, "I've been

working too hard to take the time."

We have to stop periodically to rest, to recharge our batteries, to sharpen our spiritual lives. We need to take Sabbath rest and worship seriously. Otherwise we lose our edge and become dull in our relationship with God.

This summer, be sure you take time to rest — physically. Be sure to take time to rest in God's presence by worshipping God. You may just be amazed at how wonderful it feels to be recreated by spending time enjoying some Sabbath rest.

*Rev. Mark Broadhead is pastor at Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church, Hill 8115 Fourth Street, Laurel Hill (652-2164) and First Presbyterian Church of Crestview, 492 N. Ferdon Blvd., at the intersection of U.S. Highway 90 and State Road 85 in the heart of Crestview (682-2835). Sunday morning worship is at 9 a.m. in Laurel Hill and 11 a.m. in Crestview. Website: www.fpc-crestview.org.*

## License-free saltwater, freshwater fishing days

Special to the News Bulletin

Saltwater recreational anglers can fish in Florida without a fishing license today and a license won't be needed June 9 to fish in the state's freshwater rivers, streams and lakes.

The first week of June is National Fishing and Boating Week and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is offering license-free fishing on the two Saturdays to encourage residents to experience the state's fishing opportunities.

"Florida's license-free fishing days are an excellent opportunity to share the fun, excitement and togetherness of a fishing trip with the entire

family," said Nick Wiley, FWC executive director. "This also is a great time for experienced anglers to introduce friends to the sport, even if they don't have a fishing license.

"By having these events on weekends, we hope Florida residents and visitors will experience the joy of saltwater and freshwater fishing. We expect many will discover a healthy sport they can enjoy for a lifetime."

Saltwater anglers can try their hand today at catching a red snapper, which will be open for harvest in Gulf and Atlantic state waters and Gulf federal waters for the license-free fishing day. Want to stick a little closer to shore? Try your hand at

near-shore species such as spotted seatrout or red drum.

Can't make the June 2 or June 9 license-free fishing days? The FWC also made Sept. 1 a license-free saltwater fishing day, which not only falls on a holiday weekend, but is during the popular bay scallop and spiny lobster seasons.

Each year, the first Saturday in April and second Saturday in June will be license-free freshwater fishing days.

All other bag limit, season and size restrictions apply on these dates.

For more information check out [www.MyFWC.com/Fishing](http://www.MyFWC.com/Fishing) for fishing tips, locations and rules.

## Family Wall of Honor unveiled

By **BRIAN HUGHES**

682-6524 | @cnbBrian  
brianh@crestviewbulletin.com

The North Okaloosa Historical Association will host a recognition ceremony from 11 a.m. to noon this morning to announce the first nominations for the new Family Heritage Wall of Honor. The ceremony will be at the Baker Block Museum, where the wall

will be a permanent part of the exhibits.

"We wish to honor the unsung individuals of the area who have been recognized by their grateful family and friends for their contribution to the history, formation and positive stories of our county," museum Executive Director Ann Spann stated in a press release.

"Nominees are individuals who have lived

or worked in Okaloosa County who have made a contribution to the formation or positive enhancement to our communities," the release states.

Light refreshments will follow the announcement of the first Family Wall of Honor recipients. The Baker Block Museum is at the corner of State Roads 189 and 4 in Baker. Phone 537-5714 for information.

## Church BRIEFS

**GOSPEL CONCERT:** Bama Blu-Grace of Cullman, Ala., will be featured by Libby and Friends Gospel Concert Ministry at 6 p.m. June 9 at Central Baptist Church, 951 S. Ferdon Blvd., Crestview. A love offering will be received and everyone is invited to attend.

The concerts are every second Saturday of the month and are sponsored by Davis-Watkins, Crestview

Memorial Funeral Home, Ms. B's BBQ and Bakery, and Central Baptist Church. For details, visit [www.LibbyAndFriends-GospelConcerts.com](http://www.LibbyAndFriends-GospelConcerts.com).

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** is from 5-8 p.m. Sunday, June 3, and at 6-9 p.m. nightly Monday through Thursday, June 7, at 4565 Live Oak Church Road, Crestview. Amazing Wonders Aviation is the theme. Family Night is at 6:30 p.m. June 8.

Bible studies, music,

recreation and crafts will be featured. Call 682-5160 or visit [liveoakbc.net](http://liveoakbc.net) for details.

**EGLIN CHAPEL:** The Eglin Chapel Center, will sponsor the Ultimate Day Camp, June 18-22 for children that have completed grades one through six. Cost is \$70 for children of active duty military and \$90 for children of non-active duty military. To obtain a discount code, please call the chapel at 882-2111.

## HERE'S TO YOUR Health

### 2012 Community Seminar Series

#### Good Riddance to Joint Pain

Thursday, June 7, 11:30 am - Twin Cities Hospital Wellness Center

Join us as a former patient shares his experience of a total joint replacement.

#### Sensitive Beats: Women's Cardiac Issues

Monday, June 11, 11:30 am - Twin Cities Hospital Wellness Center

Join us as Kelly Light, RN, BSN, discusses current cardiac issues affecting today's women.

#### Life Without Heartburn

Tuesday, June 12, 11:30 am - Twin Cities Hospital Wellness Center

Join us as Jeremy Atchison from Esophyx discusses the TIF procedure—a long term solution for acid reflux.

#### A Cycle of Change: Women's Health Panel

Friday, June 15, 11:30 a.m. - Twin Cities Hospital Wellness Center

Join us for a seminar all about women's health issues. Do you have questions about the latest health fad or what HRT is really all about? Then this seminar is for you!

#### "BONE"-afide Facts: Knees, Hips, and Shoulders

Wednesday, June 20, 11:30 a.m. - Twin Cities Hospital Wellness Center

Join us as Rustin Sorensen, PA, teaches us some "bone"-afide facts about knees, hips, and shoulders.

#### You Can Be Too Sweet!

Thursday, July 12, 11:30 a.m. - Twin Cities Hospital Wellness Center

Join us as Deanna Howard-Gonzalez, RD, LD, CDE, discusses the warning signs of diabetes and the healthy keys to prevention.

Reservations required, call 850.729.9463



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\* 6105 Eden Sq. 3 br, 2 ba, \$875 month  
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\* 702 Kenneth Ave. 4 br, 2 ba, \$975 month  
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\* 106 Conwin Dr. 2 br, 2.5 ba, \$800 month  
\* 341 Crooked Pine Trail, 3 br, 2.5 ba, \$800 month  
\* 142 Swaying Pine 3 br, 2.5 ba, \$800 month  
\* 398 Crooked Pine Trail, 3 br, 2.5 ba, \$800 month  
\* 582 Wingspan Way 3 br, 2.5 ba, \$825 month  
\* 6105 Eden Sq. 3 br, 2 ba, \$875 month  
\* 183 Mary Lane, 3 br, 2 ba, \$900 month  
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## News & NOTES

### CAMPS

#### Bulldog baseball

The Crestview High School baseball team's Bulldog baseball camp is June 11-13 for boys and girls ages 4-13.

The camp will run from 9 a.m. to noon each day. Registration is from 8-9 a.m. on June 11 at the Crestview High School baseball field.

Cost of the camp is \$75 per player and includes a camp T-shirt, a pizza lunch on Wednesday and free admission to the Justin Richards tournament June 14-16.

For more information call Crestview baseball coach Tim Gillis at 689-7417.

#### Crestview volleyball

The Crestview volleyball team will host an instructional camp led by the Florida State University volleyball coaching staff June 11 and 13.

The camp is open to girls that will be going into grades 6-12. Cost of the camp is \$160 per player.

The varsity camp will run from 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. daily. The junior varsity/freshman/middle school camp will go from 2-7:45 p.m.

Participants are requested to preregister with coach Kathy Combest no later than June 10.

Combest can be reached at 240-1347 or by email at combestk@mail.okaloosa.k12.fl.us.

#### CHS girls basketball

The Crestview High School girls basketball team is hosting a camp June 25-26 featuring former Laurel Hill and Gulf Coast Community College head coach Roonie Scovell and assistant Grover Hicks.

The camp will go from 8 a.m. to noon each day and is open for girls entering grades 8-12.

Cost is \$45 per player.

For more information contact coach Kathy Combest at 240-1347 or by email at combestk@mail.okaloosa.k12.fl.us.

#### Youth sports

#### Crestview football, soccer, cheerleader registration

The Crestview Parks and Recreation Department will conduct registration for the youth football, cheerleading and soccer programs throughout the month of June and through July 4.

Football is open for those ages 6-11. Soccer league ages are U6-U15 and cheerleading is for those ages 4-12.

Cost for all programs is \$65 per child.

For more information call the Parks and Recreation Department at 682-4715.

#### Baker football registration

The Baker Area Youth Association is now registering for football and cheerleading. The BAYA also is looking for adult volunteers and sponsors.

For more information email info@bayasports.com or www.bayasports.com.

#### Golf

#### Two-man scramble

Foxwood Country Club is sponsoring a two-man scramble tournament June 16-17.

Cost of the tournament is \$190 per team.

Starting time on June 16 is 12:30 p.m. Starting time June 17 is 8 a.m.

For more information call 682-2012 or 826-2012.

#### Night golf

Foxwood Country Club will conduct a night golf tournament July 7.

The tournament starts at 6 p.m., with the first nine holes being played in daylight. Play on the second nine holes will start at 8:30 p.m.

Cost for the four-person scramble is \$36 per player. Refreshments will be provided.

For more information call 682-2012 or 826-2012.

# Bulldog soccer camp set for Monday

By RANDY DICKSON

682-6524 | @BigRandle  
randydc@crestviewbulletin.com

The Crestview High School boys soccer team will host a soccer camp June 4-8 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at Davidson Middle School for players going into kindergarten through the seventh grade.

The camp, which will be led by Bulldog coach Scottie Milton, assistant coach Nick Kootsouradis and the Crestview varsity players, costs \$60. Players should bring their own soccer ball and water.

The camp will focus on soccer basics of dribbling, passing and shooting in a fun setting that will include daily games of four-on-four.

Milton, who enters his third year as the Bulldog coach, draws from a wealth of experience in training young players. Milton played collegiately at the University of Mobile, is a past assistant coach at the University of West Florida and former head coach at Andrew College in Georgia.

"We are looking to the future as coach Scottie is starting his third season with us," Kootsouradis said. "We are looking to develop players starting with the kindergartners all the way up to the seventh graders to hopefully compete with some of these other cities in the area. We want to build the soccer program here in Crestview from the ground up."

One of the ways the Bulldogs hope to establish that ground up

approach is by having the varsity players work at the camp.

"What we are planning to do is have our high school age boys come to the youth camp," Kootsouradis said. "They will earn service hours for scholarships while working with the younger players. It won't be one-on-one (coaching) but there will be many different coaches there and the high school boys will be helping out, kind of like Tim Gillis does with the baseball camp."

"It's important to get our players involved because the younger boys will definitely look up to the juniors and seniors."

The Bulldog camp takes place a week before the soccer camp at Twin Hills Park, sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department. Kootsouradis encouraged players to attend both camps if possible. He does believe the Bulldog camp will offer a little something extra for those serious about playing at the middle school or high school levels.

"I would say if your child wants to play competitive ball — if you think your child is going to be the athlete that is going to play in middle school and high school — send them to the Crestview Bulldog camp because we are focusing on competitive soccer," he said. "If you want everybody to have fun and make friends then send them to the city soccer."

For more information or to register for the camp email Nick Kootsouradis at crestviewcrew@cox.net.



FILE PHOTOS

Crestview soccer coach Scottie Milton watches a drill at a soccer camp last summer.

# Batter up for the Bulldog Baseball Camp

By RANDY DICKSON

682-6524 | @BigRandle  
randydc@crestviewbulletin.com

Aspiring baseball players ages 4-13 have an opportunity pick up some pointers to improve their game at the annual Crestview Bulldog Baseball Camp scheduled for June 11-13 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Crestview High School baseball field.

Registration for the camp will be from 8-9 a.m. June 11. Cost of the camp is \$75 per player and includes a T-shirt, a pizza lunch on June 13 and admission to the Justin Richards Scholarship Tournament June 13-16.

Crestview baseball coach Tim Gillis, a former minor leaguer in the Atlanta organization, is the lead instructor at the camp. Other Bulldog coaches and Crestview baseball players will assist him.

"We are looking forward to it (the camp)," Gillis said. "That's something that is fun and you get a different perspective on the game when you are around the young kids for a couple of days and see their eagerness for the game."

The camp will focus on the baseball basics of hitting, fielding and throwing. There also will be a lesser emphasis on pitching and base running.

"We do all those things (teaching skills), but we try to have as much fun with it as we can," Gillis said. "We finish each day up with games, which they just love, and it kind of lets you put everything in that you've talked to them about. And then you can stop and have teaching moments along the way that you need to."

Gillis stressed the importance of having the Bulldog players involved with the camp.

"If you look at it from our players' standpoint you see there is an obligation that goes with being a high school baseball player," he said. "Those kids look up to you (the Bulldog player) and they watch you. They watch what kind of car you drive up in and how you leave in that car."

"How they (the players) interact with those kids on a daily basis is a big eye opener for all of us. You watch and you see the guys that kind of take the bull by the horns and they are the guys that take ownership of that group. It's a true sign of leadership and it's obviously something I really pay a lot of attention to."

Gillis thinks working at the camp also allows the Bulldog players to remember what it was like when they first started playing the game.

"I think when you get that perspective of looking at the kids at the start



FILE PHOTOS

it makes you appreciate what you've been through your whole career and where you are," he said. "And hopefully it makes you want to work a little harder. That's what it is all about."

Right: The little guys weren't the only ones that had a good time at last year's camp. Here an older camper is involved in one of the daily games that were played at the end of each session.

