

# The Bay Beacon

16 Pages, 2 Sections, 2 Inserts

Wednesday, July 13, 2011

50¢

**UP  
COMING**

Friday, 5-7 p.m.



Boy Scout Troop 52 will hold

a spaghetti dinner and silent auction at AMVETS Post 78 in Valparaiso.

Cost is \$5 per person, and all proceeds go toward Troop 52 activities and awards.

Saturday, 9 a.m.

The Northlight Marina in Niceville will hold a paddle board relay.



Registration will be at 9 a.m., the race will begin at 10:15. There will be food and fun afterward.

Call 843-602-7747 for info or to register.

Wednesday, 11 a.m.

The Heritage Museum, 115 Westview Ave., Valparaiso, will hold History Sandwiched In, a free lunchtime history program.

Speaker Michael



Weech will present "We Can Do It! American

propaganda on the homefront during WWII."

Call 678-2615 to reserve a seat.

Calendar, B-4.

## Niceville family of 7 killed in plane crash

Engine failure believed cause

By Del Lessard  
Beacon Staff Writer

A Niceville family, including five young children, died Saturday when their twin-engine plane crashed in west central Alabama.

Marengo County Coroner Stuart Eatmon said all seven members aboard a twin-engine

plane enroute from St. Louis to Destin were killed Saturday night near the Demopolis airport in west central Alabama. He identified the victims as:

Fred Teutenberg, 42.  
Teresa Teutenberg, 36.  
Emma Teutenberg, 2.

Please see CRASH, page A-5



The Teutenberg family. Facebook photo

## High in the saddle



Beacon photo by Del Lessard  
Six-year-old Sebastian Alvarado, son of an Eglin staff sergeant, was the picture of confidence atop Cochise June 29 during a four-day camp sponsored by Eglin's Exceptional Family Members Program. The camp took place at Grace Rides, an equine-therapy stable in Seminole.

## Handy expounds on speech policy

By Mike Griffith  
Beacon Correspondent

In an exchange of e-mails with the Bay Beacon, Northwest Florida State College President Ty Handy attempted to clarify his proposed policy regarding free speech, political demonstrations and protest activities on campus.



Ty Handy

Handy listed two points in his proposed rule:

"The college currently has no policy regarding when, where, or

in what format, a protest can take shape," Handy wrote. "Because we have no policy, such actions are potentially allowed anywhere on campus at any time. Our only recourse is two-fold. First, we can ask you to cease the behavior if it is interfering with the educational process or with normal operations. Second, if the protester refuses to cease, we must call the Niceville Police and have them handle the situation."

Handy wrote that the proposed policy is intended to provide a third option for "handling any problems that may arise."

"It designates three very public areas on campus as 'Public Speaking Areas' where such

Please see HANDY, page A-2

## Niceville election to be held Tuesday

By Del Lessard  
Beacon Staff Writer

On Tuesday Niceville voters living inside city limits will have the opportunity to help fill two seats on the five-seat Niceville City Council.

Six candidates are on the ballot seeking election to the non-partisan, unpaid positions. Elected city council members serve for four years. Candidates include: Incumbent Judy Boudreaux, who is being challenged by Heath Rominger for the Group 5 city council seat.

Four newcomers—Debbie Lewis, Barry Reed, Vickie Ritchson and Bill Schaeztle—are competing against one another to win the Group 1 city council seat

being relinquished by seven-term incumbent Al Swihart, who did not seek reelection. If no candidate wins a majority, 50 percent plus one, a runoff election between the top two vote-getters is set for Aug. 2.

Mayor Randall Wise and Councilman William Thomas are unopposed.

Wise has served as mayor since 1971. Thomas was first elected to the city council four years ago.

Polls at Niceville City Council Chambers, 208 N. Partin Drive, open at 7 a.m., Tuesday, July 19, and will close at 7 p.m..

The Beacon sent questionnaires to each of the candidates. See page A-3 to read each candidate's response.

Candidates' positions, A-3.

## College trustees approve 8 percent tuition hike

By Mike Griffith  
Beacon Correspondent

The Northwest Florida State College Board of Trustees June 29 approved a budget for the fiscal year that began July 1, which college president Ty Handy said maintains the college's tuition rates among the lowest in the state. This despite budget chal-

lenges that include a decrease of more than \$1.7 million in state and federal funding, a 29.8 percent increase in utilities costs, and an 8 percent increase in health insurance premiums.

The general operating budget for the college's 2011-12 fiscal year will be \$33,247,910, a slight decrease from \$33,254,944 in the

2010-11 budget year. The total college budget in all funds, including construction, student financial aid, auxiliary operations and other categories for 2011-12 is \$65,849,906 down from \$81,171,693 in 2010-11.

The budget includes an 8 percent increase in student tuition and increases in some student

fees. This, said a NWFS press release, compares favorably to the state university system, whose Board of Governors recently approved a 15 percent tuition increase at public universities. Handy told the trustees that, for the average full-time student, the additional cost per semester at NWFS will be about \$150. The

state-authorized tuition increase is expected to generate approximately \$998,000 in additional revenue for the college.

The tuition and fees for the 2011-12 academic year will be \$94.02 per credit hour in-state for 1000 and 2000 level classes, up from the current \$84.62. Bachelor's degree classes (3000

and 4000 level courses) will be \$109.27 per credit hour, up from the current \$98.34 per credit hour. The college budget also includes a state mandated fee of \$30 per semester for Adult Basic Education programs which serve adults who do not have a high

Please see HIKE, page A-10

## Planners to consider school land rezoning

By Del Lessard  
Beacon Staff Writer

A controversial proposal to rezone the former Valparaiso Elementary School property is set to be considered by the Valparaiso Planning Commission Aug. 16 following a sometimes contentious city commission meeting Monday.

The Okaloosa County School Board last month officially closed Valparaiso Elementary due to shrinking enrollments. Former Valparaiso Elementary students in grades K through 5 are now zoned to Lewis School, a K-8 school also located in Valparaiso.

A yet-to-be-released proposed rezoning ordinance being championed by City Commissioner Neal Shermer would rezone the school district's former Valparaiso Elementary campus from its present commercial status to a new zoning category that would limit future use to schools. The city commission initiated the proposed rezoning last January by a 3-0 vote, following a similar vote to study Shermer's proposal that the city investigate creation of a charter elementary school at the former Valparaiso

Please see REZONING, page A-4



## Weight watcher

The northbound lanes of John Sims Parkway over Toms Bayou Bridge in Valparaiso have been restricted to legal loads only as a precaution after Florida Department of Transportation bridge inspectors found cracks in its concrete beams. FDOT is investigating a cause and possible corrective measures that will allow normal operation of the bridge to resume. Approximately 9,300 vehicles cross the bridge daily. Three percent is truck traffic. Permitted vehicles over the legal load limit will use alternate routes. The restriction does not pose a hazard to traffic crossing the bridge, which was built in 1954, according to FDOT.

Beacon photo by Del Lessard

**HANDY**

From page A-1

behavior can occur," he said. "This would give us the stop-gap measure of saying to someone wishing to protest that they can move to one of these three areas where their efforts will not interfere with the educational process (i.e. classroom instruction) or normal business operations and they can continue their activity. If they refuse this compromise location, again the Niceville Police would need to handle the matter."

Handy said the Niceville Police Department requested a copy of the college's policy during the spring semester so the department can plan.

"Many colleges and universities have had such policies for over a decade," Handy wrote. "The University of Florida, Pensacola State College, and most recently, Florida State have adopted such policies. I'm sure there are many others in the state, but I have not done a comprehensive survey."

He said a well-worded regulation

upholds the First Amendment, guaranteeing freedom of speech.

"The ones that stand up in court actually encourage free speech by providing a very public location for such," Handy wrote. "To the extent that not having a policy currently allows us only to ask someone to stop and then calling in law enforcement, this policy would, in my opinion, encourage such activity by providing us a solution that does not result in potential criminal charges being filed."

Handy said he was academic dean at Elizabethtown Community College when Kentucky Governor Paul Patton proposed sweeping changes to the two-year college system in the late 1990s.

"Students on our campus decided to protest by camping out on campus grounds," he wrote. "The college had a policy such as the one proposed at NWFSC and we used to encourage the students to 'camp out' between the administration building and the science/math building in a very

public area that would not disrupt classes. The students protested for about a week. During that time we provided evening security for them and port-a-potties for hygiene. Their safety would have been hard to secure if they were all over campus. The event received significant publicity and the governor decided to come and speak to the campus about his plans during their protest. In the end the policy worked as intended."

The proposed NWFSC college policy proposes three areas

on the Niceville campus to serve as soapboxes: in front of the administration building, by the waterfall in the Mattie Kelly Arts Complex, and in the "quad" outside of the K-Mall.

"These are very public areas but their use would greatly lessen the risk of disrupting classes to the point where we would need to engage law enforcement," Handy wrote.

"This is the kind of policy that most colleges, especially non-residential ones, may never need to call on," he said. "But when there is a need, not having a policy greatly limits the manner in which such activity can be handled and having such a policy will likely lessen the need for police involvement."

The board of trustees voted to table the policy until members can examine some of the policies from other colleges and universities. Handy said he is in the process of collecting those.

"At the end of the day, the board, not me, will decide if this is a good policy to put in place," he wrote.

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**Niceville road closure**

The City of Niceville announces the following road closure.

Bayshore Drive between 29th and 31st streets will be closed intermittently for the installation of storm pipe. This work began Monday, July 11. It is slated to take four weeks to be completed. There will be detour signs posted in the area.

Direct all questions to the Public Works office, 729-4064.

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Niceville's Newspaper

# Niceville council hopefuls respond to questions

By Del Lessard  
Beacon Staff Writer

The Beacon asked each candidate for Niceville City Council: why they are running for office, what the chief duties of the city council are; what special experience or talent they possess; what areas of city service could be improved; and what they see as the top issues facing the city, and how they would tackle them.

**Judith "Judy" Boudreaux**, 68, of 220 Kildare Circle.

**Occupation:** City Councilwoman, business owner

**Formal Education:** Univ. of Maryland, Education.

**Marital Status:** Married, Ellis Boudreaux

**Children:** Joey, 40, Jennifer, 39, and Angelique, 30.

**Years lived in city:** 31 years continuously

**Phone:** 830-4949

**E-mail:** councilwomanjudy@gmail.com

**Why are you running for office?**

I wish to serve the people of Niceville, be their spokesperson, represent their needs and protect their services on a daily basis.

**What are the chief duties of the office you seek?**

The chief duties of the office I seek are to protect the rights and services of each person within our beautiful city and serve their interests in reference to safety, property rights, low taxes and quality of living. During the past 16 years I have addressed these issues, supporting our state-of-the-art water system, our premier children's park, Turkey Creek walk and ballfields, our modern showcase library, our new first-class Fire Department and our professional Police Department that serves our safe neighborhoods.

**Describe what experience or talent you have that can most benefit residents if you're elected to the city council?**

The most important experience I have that can best benefit residents of Niceville is the 16 years of service on the Niceville City Council. I have been through yearly budgets, monthly meetings, resident concerns and comprehensive growth of our beautiful city. I have lived in Niceville for 30 consecutive years and watched my children grow up in this wonderful city of educational and recreational opportunities. With 30 years of owning and operating three businesses, I know the need for balanced budgets, sensible decision-making and providing a quality service to customers.

**Does Niceville need to improve any services? If so, which ones? Why? How?**

There is always room for improvement; our human nature is to strive for perfection. I

earnestly believe Niceville is doing a great job in providing services to all our residents. Our water, our sidewalks, our community center, our library, our fire and police service, all testify to the quality of service and protection to our citizens.

**What are the top three issues facing Niceville and how would you tackle them?**

Congestion on Hwy. 20, maintaining quality services with a limited budget, and meeting the recreational needs of more fields for our youth. I have and will continue to tackle these issues with sound business judgment and a spirit of cooperation with county leaders.

**Debbie Lewis**, 48, of 2446 Duncan Drive

**Occupation:** Realtor

**Formal Education:**

**Marital status:** Married to Charles "Kevin" Payne for 29 years

**Children:** None

**Years lived in city:** 15 years

**Phone:** 678-5355

**E-mail:** Debbie.Lewis@ERA.com

**Why are you running for office?**

To ensure a continuation of true public service in our city government, based on integrity, a love of our community and a desire to see Niceville grow in the right manner.

**What are the chief duties of the office you seek?**

—To be a voice for the residents of the City of Niceville.

—To act as a resource of the citizens, make sure that they

receive quality services and help them resolve their problems.

—To hold local government accountable to look out for the best interests of its citizens.

—Add, delete, modify or reduce municipal services.

—To protect private property rights and act as steward of taxpayer resources.

**Describe what experience or talent you have that can most benefit residents if you're elected to the city council.**

As a past Niceville director at the Emerald Coast Association of Realtors, I represented our community in an organization of several thousand members. I provided yearly budgetary oversight, ensuring member profitability as well as assumed fiscal accountability. I have also held many leadership positions with local

and state organizations and I consider myself a career servant/volunteer.

**Does Niceville need to improve any services? If so, which ones? Why? How?**

Niceville provides excellent services within the city; there is always potential room for improvement based on citizen satisfaction/dissatisfaction.

**What are the top three issues facing Niceville and how would you tackle them?**

Niceville appears to be a well-managed city. Through public advocacy and doing what citizens ask, we can ensure that Niceville will:

—Not fall to second in economic development to our sister communities as a result of the incoming 7th SFG.

—Continue to be a community of moral responsibility and fiscal accountability regarding taxpayer dollars.

—Place quality of life ahead of growth and/or finance.

**Barry Reed**, 46, of 220 Kildare Circle.

**Occupation:** Director EMS

& Fire Programs, Northwest Florida State College. Also served 20 years USAF.

**Formal Education:** Currently attending UWF Curriculum & Instructional Technology Development doctoral program. Masters in public administration. Bachelor of science in nursing. Associate of science in emergency medical services-paramedic.

**Marital status:** Married,

**Nichole Reed**  
**Children:** Lyndsey 6, Ryan 3

**Years lived in city:** Lived in the Niceville area (Bluewater Bay) since 2003, then moved to the city of Niceville in 2010.

**Phone:** 830-5148

**E-mail:** reed65@gmail.com

**Why are you running for office?**

I wish to serve Niceville and ensure it remains a growing community focused on the needs of its citizens. Along with my wife and two children, we look forward to the opportunity of being a part of the future of the city we call home.

Please see COUNCIL, page A-8



Barry Reed



Judith Boudreaux

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# REZONING

From page A-1

Elementary School site.

The issue came up again Monday when Mayor Bruce Arnold, who voted with Shermer and Commissioner Heyward Strong for the rezoning initiative in January, again suggested delaying the rezoning effort. Arnold said that school district personnel had asked to meet with him and the city administrator on proposed alternative uses of the former elementary school property, including possible commercial and industrial activity.

School officials also asked that the city take no action on

rezoning to limit future use of the school property. The mayor suggested that the rezoning action be delayed for about a year, time enough, he said, for the Air Force to release F-35 noise profiles that could determine whether the property is suitable for classroom instruction.

Citing the city's adoption of Roberts Rules, Doug Wyckoff, the city's attorney, told the mayor that he and the commission had no authority to change their January vote to develop a new zoning category for the school property. He insisted the city had to let the proposal go before the planning commission first.

When Joe Morgan, a resi-

dent in the audience asked whether it was legal for the city to rezone school board property, or anyone else's land, Wyckoff assured him that the city indeed had the legal power to do so.

The mayor said he thought it more productive for the planning commission to meet with school officials first. But Shermer opposed any talks, accusing school officials of "thumbing their nose" at the city when they decided to close the elementary school without negotiating with the city first.

Commissioner Diane Kelley said that the charter school proposed by Shermer could actually hurt the city by taking away students from its only

remaining public school, Lewis. She said she'd previously been the principal at Bruner Middle School in Fort Walton Beach when Liza Jackson, a charter school, opened nearby and siphoned off students from her own public school.

Shermer began disputing school district intentions until the mayor eventually gavelled the meeting to order.

Letters notifying about 100 property owners located near the Valparaiso Elementary School property will be mailed out by the city this week notifying them of the city's proposed rezoning. The city must also advertise the Aug. 16 Planning Commission meeting.

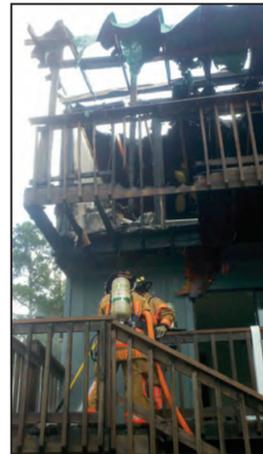
# Structure fire causes \$100,000 in damages

By Del Lessard  
Beacon Staff Writer

Niceville firefighters were busy mid-day Monday responding to two structure fires that caused more than \$100,000 damage but no injuries.

The first call, a three-alarm fire, was received at 11:48 a.m. and firefighters were on scene by 11:52 a.m., July 11, with smoke and flames showing at a townhouse complex, 200 White St., units 23 and 24, according to Tommy Mayville, Niceville's fire chief. No one was home in either of the two-story townhouses involved in the fire, Mayville said, although firefighters did rescue a large dog from the upstairs floor of one of the units.

Firefighters from Destin, Eglin Air Force Base, North Bay, East Niceville, Valparaiso and Ocean City-Wright fire departments responded to the call, Mayville said. He said firefighters had to drag their lines a distance and down a boardwalk to reach the fire, delaying the fire being declared out until 12:35 p.m. Some vessels had to be untied from the dock to keep from being involved in the fire, Mayville said. Fire boats from the Destin Fire Department and the U.S. Coast Guard Station Destin were also called to fight the fire from the waterside of the townhouses and to help protect vessels tied up nearby, he



Submitted photo  
A firefighter wets down a porch after fires damaged two structures Monday.

Damage was estimated at \$100,000, the fire chief said, while the cause of the fire was determined to be a charcoal grill on a second story deck.

Niceville firefighters got toned out a second time at 2:35 p.m. Monday to another structure fire with smoke showing, this one a mobile home at 1021 Everglade Drive, Mayville said. The fire was declared out at 2:46 p.m., with fire damage limited to the kitchen area. Mayville said no one was at home at the time. The owner was listed as Cindy Alford.



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**CRASH**

From page A-1

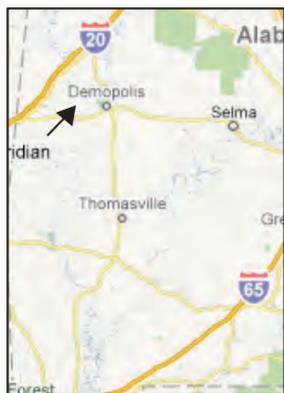
- Peyton Teutenberg, 4.
- Ellie Teutenberg, 6.
- Brendon Teutenberg, 9.
- Will Teutenberg, 10.

Fred Teutenberg and his family came here about seven or eight years ago from St. Louis, Mo., according to former school board member and PAL Soccer chief Howard Hill, of Niceville. The family lived in Bluewater Bay, he said. Fred Teutenberg was "very big into technology," Hill said, and owned a technology business, Advanced Integrated Technology Solutions.

The Rev. Rurel Ausley, lead pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Niceville, said members of the church were "shocked and saddened" by the loss of the Teutenberg family. Fred Teutenberg was a bass guitar player in one of the church's praise bands and had a distinctive, very animated way of playing his instrument, he said. "People may not know him by name," Ausley said, but they would recognize him if told Fred was the man who played the bass guitar in church.

He said the family attended church every Sunday and Wednesday, eating together at the same table—then added that the family filled the whole table.

Ausley said the church also hired Fred, through his technology company, to manage the computers and other technology



© 2011 Google Maps  
Map shows the approximate location of the plane crash.

issues for the church. Since the whole family was killed, the pastor said he did not know what funeral arrangements were being made for the family. "We will definitely do something," he said about fellow church members. "It impacts our church so much."

"On the flip side, as a faith community, we will celebrate their lives," Ausley said. Because of their faith in Jesus Christ, the tragedy is not the end, he said. "We believe they are in heaven with Jesus," he said, "a belief that brings great joy in the midst of all this."

Fred was also involved in soccer, Hill said, serving as the director of coaching on the PAL soccer board of directors, as the coach of the traveling soccer team EC United, and as the boy's soccer coach at Ruckel Middle School.

Hill said Fred's wife, Teresa, served as the secretary of PAL soccer for two years, and also founded and operated a childcare center in Bluewater Bay, The Discovery Learning Academy. "They were a great family" said Hill.

The school's director, Jennifer Langston, released the following statement:

"The Discovery Learning Academy family is deeply saddened by the loss of our owner and friend Teresa Teutenberg. She was an excellent leader and role model. Her work within the school and the community will be greatly missed. She was patient and loving with the children in the school. Discovery Learning Academy was her pride and joy. She opened this center to serve a need within the community. She loved every single member of the Discovery family. She enjoyed working with the teachers and staff to reach out to the community and local area. Her heart was truly as big as the building. The laughter and love of her and her children will be missed at our center."

Marengo County Sheriff Richard Bates said all seven people on board the twin engine plane were killed Saturday evening when the plane crashed into a wooded and swampy area northwest of the Demopolis airport near Tombigbee River. He said the county was notified just after midnight Sunday morning of the crash, which occurred in Marengo County.

The National Transportation Safety Board, which is investigating the crash, identified the plane as a twin-engine Cessna 451C. NTSB spokesman Nicholas Worrell said Monday that the crash site is about four miles into the woods, delaying reports from on-scene investigators.

The Marengo County Coroner said he was called to the scene of the crash about 3:30 a.m. Sunday and spent approximately 12 hours with FAA investigators. Eatmon told the Beacon that the family was en route to Destin from a family reunion in St. Louis, Mo., where the Teutenberg family was originally from.

According to the coroner, FAA officials said the pilot of the plane made a "mayday" call about having engine problems and that an FAA facility in Meridian, Miss., heard the call and directed Teutenberg to the airport in Demopolis. The plane crashed about two miles from the airport at the edge of the Tombigbee River.

Eatmon said the plane hit an oak tree that knocked off a wing and that the plane ended up upside down. A fire after the crash consumed most of the plane and made identifying the bodies difficult. The remains of the seven family members were taken to Montgomery for positive identification, he said Monday morning. He said that members of the Teutenberg family members had requested the

remains be returned to St. Louis.

Eatmon said Fred Teutenberg's step-daughter, Ashlei Bruewer, 16, Teresa's child from an earlier marriage, was not on the plane but had stayed in St. Louis with other family members. Ashlei had withdrawn from Niceville High in August 2010, according to Alexis Tibbetts, Okaloosa County Superintendent of Schools.

"It's heart-breaking," said Tibbetts. The two youngest Teutenberg children attended the Discovery preschool in

Bluewater Bay while their older siblings, Ellie, Brendon and Will, attended Bluewater Elementary and had just completed, respectively, kindergarten, second and fourth grades. The children were smart and well behaved, she said, and their parents engaged in their children's education. She said the children's father, Fred, had volunteered as assistant soccer coach at Ruckel Middle School. Tibbetts said she had talked to the three teachers who taught the children at Bluewater. "It's hard on the teachers, as well as family," she said.

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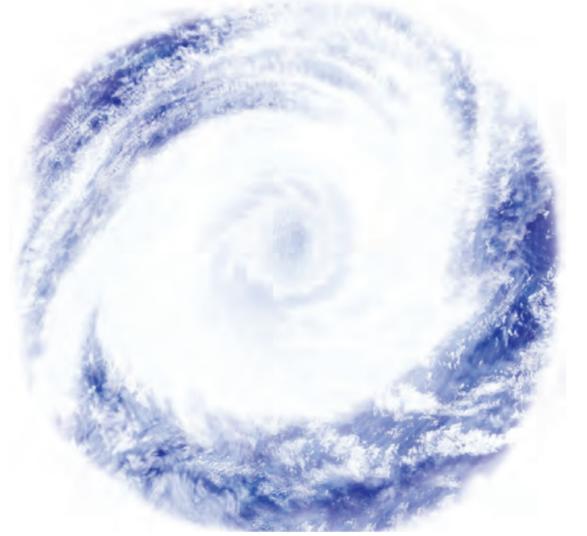
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# Police Blotter

The following accounts of the activities of police are according to records of the Niceville and Valparaiso police departments, the Okaloosa County and Walton County sheriff's offices, other law-enforcement agencies, and the Okaloosa County and Walton County jails.

## Arrests

Sabrina Jean Heeks, a hair stylist, 37, of 325 Greenwood Way, Niceville, was arrested by sheriff's deputies June 25 on a charge of domestic violence battery.

\*\*\*

Charles Randal Hutchins, a janitor, 58, of 1535 Hickory St., Niceville, was arrested by sheriff's deputies June 26 on a charge of animal cruelty.

\*\*\*

Levy Houston Lucas Jr., 50, of 609 29th St., Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police July 1 on a charge of disorderly intoxication. Lucas allegedly walked into the Niceville police station while intoxicated and became disruptive.

\*\*\*

Kimberly Lorene Hogue, unemployed, 28, of 1411 29th St., Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police July 2 on a Santa

Rosa County warrant on a charge of violation of pre-trial release on the original charges of trafficking in drugs and neglect of elderly/disabled.

\*\*\*

Jeffrey John Landry, a cook, 38, of 718 Oakwood Drive, Mandeville, La., was arrested by Niceville police June 30 on a Walton County warrant for failure to appear on an original worthless check charge.

\*\*\*

Justin Matthew Zembsch, 21, of 1504 27th St., Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police June 30 on a charge of leaving the scene of an accident involving bodily injury.

\*\*\*

A 15-year-old Niceville boy, a student, was arrested by Niceville police June 28 on a charge of domestic violence battery, the alleged victim being his brother.

\*\*\*

Allen D. Odle, unemployed, 49, of 3 Pinehurst, Shalimar, was arrested by Niceville police June 30 on charges of criminal mischief, over \$1,000 damage, and trespass. On Nov. 29 Odle is alleged to have thrown a bucket of paint through the window of a residence on 27th Street, then entered the home.

## DUI arrests

John Henry Rickenbacker III, 23, of 200 Early St., Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police for DUI on Palm Boulevard at Hudson Circle, July 4 at 2:30 a.m. Rickenbacker was also cited for running a stop sign.

## Thefts

A Niceville resident from the 400 block of 20th Street reported June 26 that unknown person(s) had stolen approximately 50 pounds of copper and 100 pounds of lead, mostly metal pipe, from his backyard.

\*\*\*

A Niceville resident from the 4000 block of 13th Street reported that an unlocked car parked overnight in the driveway was found June 26 with the driver's side door open and the center console opened and its contents rum-

maged through. The only thing believed missing was loose change.

\*\*\*

A Niceville resident from the 2500 block of North Edgewater Drive reported June 24 that unknown person(s) hit her mailbox and stood it back up. The victim did not get a tag number or vehicle description.

\*\*\*

A Niceville resident from the 1400 block of Scott Street reported that unknown person(s) stole five 5-gallon gas cans from a backyard shed sometime June 23-25.

\*\*\*

A Niceville air-conditioning business, 321 N. Highway 85 reported that sometime June 21-23 unknown person stole copper from a scrap bin behind the business. The stolen metal was valued between \$3,000 and \$5,000.

\*\*\*

A Niceville resident from the 1100 block of Finck Road reported June 22 that someone tried to break into his home but that the suspect fled on foot and went over a fence when the resident let his dog outside.

Please see BLOTTER, page A-7

# Fire Department Reports

## Niceville

The Niceville Fire Department responded to the following calls from July 1, 2011, through July 10, 2011.

Street	Situation	Date	Time
N. Partin Drive	Medical	07/01/11	07:27
Rocky Bayou Drive	Service call	07/01/11	09:27
Azalea Drive	Medical	07/02/11	00:45
29th Street	Canceled	07/02/11	04:20
Darlington Oak Drive	Medical	07/02/11	05:39
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	07/02/11	13:01
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	07/03/11	10:44
Roberts Drive	Medical	07/04/11	20:20
W. College Blvd.	Vehicle extrication	07/05/11	03:35
W. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	07/05/11	06:51
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Alarm activation	07/05/11	11:04
W. John Sims Pkwy.	Alarm activation	07/05/11	11:36
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	07/05/11	20:34
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Vehicle crash	07/06/11	12:40
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Alarm activation	07/06/11	12:58
Vincent Circle	Medical	07/07/11	04:49
E. College Blvd.	Alarm activation	07/07/11	06:23
Benton Avenue	Service call	07/07/11	14:17
Vincent Circle	Service call	07/07/11	15:47
S. Palm Blvd.	Vehicle crash	07/08/11	07:08
E. College Blvd.	Medical	07/08/11	08:19
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	07/09/11	11:15
Valparaiso Blvd.	Fuel spill	07/09/11	14:25
Crooked Creek Cove	Medical	07/09/11	14:25
S. Palm Blvd.	Vehicle crash	07/10/11	12:27
N. Partin Drive	Medical	07/10/11	13:04
N. Partin Drive	Medical	07/10/11	13:05
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	07/10/11	13:28

Weekly Safety Tip: Dispose of old newspapers, magazines and rags properly. If possible, have them recycled. Do not store them near gasoline, cleaning fluid or kerosene. Keep all flammable materials in a cool, vented place away from your main living areas.

## North Bay

The North Bay Fire Department responded to the following calls July 3, 2011, through July 11, 2011.

Location	Situation	Date	Time
N. Lakeshore Drive	Vehicle fire	07/03/11	06:27
Hidden Lakes Drive	EMS excluding vehicle	07/03/11	08:54
N. White Point Road	Medical assist EMS	07/03/11	12:52
Highway 20	Motor vehicle accident	07/03/11	14:42
White Point Road	Motor vehicle accident	07/04/11	00:52
Range Road	EMS excluding vehicle	07/04/11	19:03
Midland Court	Medical assist EMS	07/05/11	06:13
Merchants Way	Medical assist EMS	07/05/11	13:41
E. Highway 20	Medical assist EMS	07/05/11	19:05
Pine Street	Medical assist EMS	07/06/11	02:29
Range Road	Dispatched, canceled	07/06/11	08:14
N. White Point Road	EMS excluding vehicle	07/06/11	08:51
E. Highway 20	Animal problem	07/06/11	17:23
Hidden Lakes Drive	EMS excluding vehicle	07/06/11	21:15
White Point Road	Motor vehicle accident	07/07/11	15:56
Merchants Way	EMS excluding vehicle	07/07/11	21:31
Merchants Way	Medical assist EMS	07/08/11	03:28
Canterbury Cove	False alarm	07/08/11	09:30
Meadowbrook Court	EMS excluding vehicle	07/08/11	10:10
White Point Road	Medical assist EMS	07/08/11	12:44
White Point Road	EMS excluding vehicle	07/08/11	13:06
E. Highway 20	Lightning strike	07/09/11	07:49
Newcastle Court	Motor vehicle accident	07/09/11	21:45
N. White Point Road	EMS excluding vehicle	07/09/11	22:53
Hickory Street	Smoke, odor removal	07/10/11	07:11
Hwy. 20 & White Point Rd.	Motor vehicle accident	07/10/11	10:51
N. White Point Road	Medical assist EMS	07/10/11	11:19
N. Partin Drive	EMS excluding vehicle	07/10/11	13:12
Bluewater Blvd.	Motor vehicle accident	07/10/11	16:44

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- An **electronic medication administration barcode system** is in place to ensure that Twin Cities Hospital patients always receive the correct medication and dosage.
- Twin Cities Hospital has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval. Our facility adheres to standards of practice outlined by the **most well-respected healthcare quality agencies**, including The Joint Commission, Leapfrog, and National Quality Foundation, ensuring the highest quality care for its patients and their families.



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The INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER — by Mike Griffith

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Rob Royce, 29, Brewton, Ala., maintenance



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Shane Exterkamp, 17, Niceville, Niceville High School student



"I guess it means we're not spending any more money we don't have, or adding to the deficit."

Daylan Coffey, 10, Knoxville, Tenn., student



"What will we do next? Will we give up on space, or do something bigger and better?"

Dave Cook, 44, Cincinnati, Ohio, manufacturing executive



"It's good to save money, but I don't like to slam the door on space exploration. Exploration and discovery have always been a big part of what America is all about."

Joyce Harp, 51, Niceville, teacher



"It's disappointing, because our country has invested so much in space exploration over the years. I believe it is only a short-term halt, and they will begin again."

Ruth Copeland, 63, Valparaiso, retired

What should we ask next week? Email your suggested question to: info@baybeacon.com Include "Suggested IP question" in the "subject" field.

BLOTTER

From page A-6

\*\*\*  
A Crestview woman who works in Niceville reported June 24 that she was given a counterfeit \$10 bill in change when she ate at a restaurant in Valparaiso. The woman said she was unaware of the bill being a fake until she tried to pay for an item at a local convenience store. Niceville police placed the counterfeit into evidence.

\*\*\*  
A Niceville resident from the 400 block of Mulcahy Circle reported that sometime overnight, June 26-27, unknown person(s) burglarized two unlocked vehicles and stole several items, including a wallet containing \$50 cash, credit cards and a driver's license from one vehicle, and a purse containing \$70 cash, a camera, \$100 worth of gift cards and a driver's license from the other vehicle.

\*\*\*  
A Niceville resident from the 1000 block of Darlington Oak learned that his pickup truck had been burglarized July 2. A deputy who found a black computer bag with miscellaneous items July 1 traced the bag back to the victim, who then realized the laptop computer that had been in the bag inside his vehicle July 1 had been stolen. The victim also reported that a loaded Ruger .357 magnum revolver plus two speed loaders with 10 more rounds, was also stolen from the truck. The computer was valued at \$400, the gun and speed loaders at \$730.

\*\*\*  
A masonry business owner reported that sometime July 3-5 unknown person(s) stole a \$1,500 cement mixer from a construction site on Winding Waters Way, Niceville.

\*\*\*  
A Niceville resident from the first block of Newcastle Court reported that an electric wheelchair lift that he packaged on a pallet and placed at roadside in front of his home for pickup by a freighting business was stolen by

unknown person(s) sometime June 28. The lift was valued at \$1,600.

\*\*\*  
A 14-foot trailer that had been parked behind a business in the 4500 block of East Highway 20

was reported stolen by unknown person(s) sometime June 26-28. The trailer was valued at \$2,500.

\*\*\*  
A Niceville resident from the 1800 block of Bayshore Drive

reported June 16 that unknown person(s) stole a 2009 pickup truck from the driveway of the residence. The victim stated he was unsure the truck was locked and that he kept a spare set of keys in the center console of the vehicle.

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**COUNCIL**

From page A-3

**What are the chief duties of the office you seek?**

The chief duties of a city council member include enactment of the city budget, establishing policies to support the operations of the city, making decisions concerning local ordinances to ensure a high quality of life, and further developing the long-range vision for Niceville.

**Describe what experience or talent you have that can most benefit residents if you're elected to the city council.**

I have 28 years of experience serving in the military and the public safety sector, including my current position as a supervisor overseeing the administration of Emergency Medical Service and firefighting training programs. I possess a master of science degree in administration and I am currently completing a

doctorate in education.

**Does Niceville need to improve any services? If so, which ones? Why? How?**

The City of Niceville has always maintained a small city atmosphere while providing services rivaling larger municipalities. As one of the few areas in the south end of Okaloosa County with growth potential, it is important not to lose sight of the small city atmosphere in the face of expansion.

**What are the top three issues facing Niceville and how would you tackle them?**

Niceville, like most other communities, must be concerned with uncertain economic trends. Being fiscally responsible while providing continued service to the community will ensure growth without placing undue financial burdens upon taxpayers. It is important to maintain city services during these fiscally challenging times, especially in

the areas of public safety (police and fire service), public works (sanitation, streets, and water and sewer) and parks and recreation.

**Vickie Ritchson, 53, of 105 Lincolnshire Drive.**

**Occupation:** Computer operator for USAF contractor.

**Formal Education:** Bachelor of applied science, Project management—quality improvement; associate of science, industrial technology management, both earned from Northwest Florida State College as of 2010.

**Marital status:** Married 30 years to David Ritchson, Chief Master Sergeant. (retired)

**Children:** Eric, 30, Alan, 28, and Brian, 23.

**Years lived in city:** 18 years  
**Phone:** 678-2057  
**E-mail:** dritch4@cox.net

**Why are you running for office?**

My goal is to serve the community. I want to support the same initiatives as retiring incumbent Mr. Al Swihart, such as his advocacy for public libraries and critical city infrastructure. I care about the things that make this city a great place to live.

**What are the chief duties of the office you seek?**

Council members represent the citizens of the city. They introduce and pass ordinances and oversee the day-to-day operations and the budget of the city.

**Describe what experience or talent you have that can most benefit residents if you're elected to the city council.**

I served the past three years on the Niceville Planning Commission, which has given me an understanding of the city ordinances and issues that come before the city council. My military background helps me appreciate the delicate balance we need to maintain with the mili-

tary. I have a bachelor's degree in project management—quality improvement with small business and finance work experience. My diverse background is a good foundation for decision making regarding city business, projects and total quality improvement.

**Does Niceville need to improve any services? If so, which ones? Why? How?**

I think that the City of Niceville is doing a great job providing services to the community. But, if there was one thing to improve it would be to use technology to solicit input from the community on key issues and provide information to encourage community involvement.

**What are the top three issues facing Niceville and how would you tackle them?**

The top three issues facing Niceville are first, the military presence and BRAC-related changes; second, the strained economy and its effect; and third, maintaining quality of life in Niceville with a tight, yet balanced, budget. I would solicit input from the community on these and other key issues and provide information through use of social networks and technology.

**Heath Rominger, 40, of 3 Coolwater Lane.**

**Occupation:** Military analyst for defense contractor, SAIC

**Formal Education:** M.B.A., Webster University 2003

**Marital status:** Married, Caryn (4+ Years)

**Children:** None  
**Years lived in city:** Currently five years.

**Phone:** 699-8395  
**E-mail:** rome4council@gmail.com

**Why are you running for office?**

I am running for office to make a difference and be part of

the continued success of Niceville.

**What are the chief duties of the office you seek?**

Duties of the office that I seek are to establish policy, pass local ordinances and develop/continue the overall vision for the Niceville.

**Describe what experience or talent you have that can most benefit residents if you're elected to the city council.**

I am an informed decision maker based on the city's guidance (Niceville's long term planning goals and city ordinances), facts and overall well-being of the residents of Niceville.

**Does Niceville need to improve any services? If so, which ones? Why? How?**

Improve is a relative term. However, I would ask the question, "Are we working smarter, not harder?"

**What are the top three issues facing Niceville and how would you tackle them?**

The top three issues that Niceville faces is very subjective depending on who you talk to. However, I would like to see continued positive development and growth management that appeals to all residents both current and future.

**William "Bill" Schaetzle, 60, of 142 Mulry Drive.**

**Occupation:** Retired (USAF) electronic warfare officer but currently an EC-130J program manager at Hurlburt Field.

**Formal Education:** B.S. economics, with postgraduate courses in MBA program.

**Marital Status:** Married (Claudene)

**Children:** None  
**Years lived in city:** 12  
**Phone:** 729-0348 (H)

**E-mail:** bschaetzle@gmail.com

**Why are you running for office?**

I am a concerned citizen and I would like to see Niceville continue to be a desirable place to live, work, raise a family, and send your children to school.

**What are the chief duties of the office you seek?**

A city councilman/woman is an elected official voted into office by the citizens and is responsible to the citizens for the legislative functions of our city, such as passing local ordinances, voting on appropriations, and developing an overall vision of the city.

**Describe what experience or talent you have that can most benefit residents if you're elected to the city council.**

First, as a concerned citizen I have attended almost all monthly city council meetings since 2004. I have seen and listened to the issues that are brought before the council by our city manager (Mr. Corbin) and our citizens. Secondly, as a recent retiree from the USAF (2004), I know how important our partnership with the local bases and military community is to our city. Thirdly, I have held various management positions both within the USAF and as a civilian that have dealt with planning, programming and budgeting and these experiences can carry over to the operation of our city.

**Does Niceville need to improve any services? If so, which ones? Why? How?**

I feel the various city departments have done an excellent job in providing services to our citizens and local businesses; however with the recent opening of a Walmart, and more businesses yet to come, it is incumbent upon us to have the right amount of police protection, fire protection, EMS services and traffic flow (roadways) to accommodate these businesses in addition to providing these services to our citizens. Businesses and local community leaders must work together to continue to make Niceville an attractive place to live and work.

**What are the three top issues facing Niceville and how would you tackle them?**

In my opinion, the first issue would be the continued protection of citizens and business from crime. The right training and the right size police force should help deter and fight criminal activity. My second issue would be: traffic and congestion brought about by additional businesses and development. Proper planning can ensure easy access to businesses and residential communities. My third issue would be to ensure the city can absorb the potential/planned growth of the recently announced 1,100-acre development being planned for the northeast side of the city. All city services will need to adjust to meet the needs and demands of a development of this size within our community.



Vickie Ritchson



Heath Rominger



William "Bill" Schaetzle

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- Waste Management, Inc
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- Every individual who made a donation to the Fireworks Fund.
- Every individual who bought a Fireworks T-shirt
- And special thanks to Destin Charter Boat Captains: Capt Kelly Windes, Capt Steve Haeusler, Capt Eric Thrasher, Capt Robert Hill

**Thank you to each of you for helping to, not only make July 4th, 2011, Fireworks successful, but to making the 2011 Fireworks Celebration a reality!**

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**OBITUARIES**

**Berry Lawrence Chesser Jr.**

May 24, 1957-June 24, 2011

Berry Lawrence (B.L.) Chesser Jr., 54, died June 24 at his home in Ridgcrest, Calif., where he had been employed with the Jacobs Naval Systems Group since November 2009. The cause was ALS ("Lou Gehrig's Disease"), which he had fought since being diagnosed in January of this year.

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m., July 16, 2011, at Memory Chapel Funeral Home in Laurel, Miss.

Chesser was born May 24, 1957, in Columbus, Miss., and was there until 1971, when his family moved to Laurel, where he was a 1975 graduate of R. H. Watkins High School. In Laurel, he was praised for both his academic excellence and his athletic ability, starting at the center position on the R. H. Watkins High School championship football team. He subsequently earned his B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Washington and became an applications engineer for the Nalco Chemical Company.

Lawrence was well-known for enjoying intellectual challenges as well as for ardently following his personal interests. So it really came as no surprise when—amidst a successful career in the highly challenging field of chemical engineering—he decided to change course and follow a lifelong passion by pursuing a degree in aerospace engineering.

Chesser earned his Master of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering from Mississippi State University in December 1992, at a time when MSU was one of the centers of develop-

ment for a new era in computational fluid dynamics. Under this new approach, computer modeling became an efficient and effective means of understanding aerodynamics for airplanes and their "stores" as an alternative to wind tunnel or actual flight tests; and, as a CFD Project Engineer working with the U. S. Air Force SEEK EAGLE Office at Eglin Air Force Base, Chesser was deeply involved in the use of this computer modeling. From then on, he devoted his work to, as he put it: "working with airplanes and the things that fall off of them." Chesser later was active in the development of the Institute for High Performance Computing (HPC) Applications to Air Armament (IHAAA) in 2004, and ultimately ran the Institute. He was also a member of Sigma Gamma Tau, the national honor society for Aerospace Engineering.

Chesser was known for his generosity, spirit and an independent streak. Without hesitation he would step in to help those down on their luck—friends and strangers alike. In his avocations, there were no half-measures and he had an obvious joy in sharing his pursuits: from fishing to flying to reading to riding a seemingly endless series of motorcycles along both the open and the rocky road.

Chesser is survived by his wife Maria Bishop Chesser; his mother Patricia Garnett Chesser; sisters Anne Chesser Hannaford, Mellgwin Chesser Ramsey and Margaret Chesser Thomason.

After being diagnosed with ALS, Chesser discovered late in life that he was in fact one of "Jerry's Kids." The generous loan of a power wheelchair through the Muscular Dystrophy Association was a gift beyond measure. As the MDA also funds ALS research, the family would appreciate—in lieu of flowers—memorial gifts to the MDA in remembrance of Berry Lawrence Chesser Jr.



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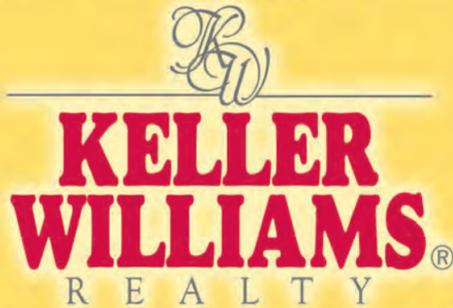
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**HIKE**

From page A-1 school diploma or those with English-as-a-Second-Language skills. Adult Basic Education programs had previously been free of charge. Handy also told the trustees that in addition to the college still offering among the lowest tuition in Florida of any public college or university, NWFS was to be listed on a "College Affordability and Transparency List" report issued

by the U.S. Department of Education June 30, as having among the nation's the lowest tuition for public, four year colleges. He said NWFS is among the 25 colleges nationwide with the lowest tuition and fees, and that those with lower costs were mostly those operating under special circumstances, such as being located in Puerto Rico or on American Indian reservations. Another significant feature in the new NWFS budget, according to the college press release, is

the elimination of 17 unfilled positions and a decrease in personnel costs of approximately \$400,000. The deletion of unfilled positions helps fund a 4 percent salary adjustment for current full-time personnel and a 3 percent adjustment for part-time staff. Handy said that since college personnel haven't had a salary adjustment in the previous two years, and since employees now face state-mandated contributions to retirement and increased costs for health care benefits, "The

adjustment means the average employee's net take home pay will actually be about the same or less in the 2011-12 year than it was in 2008." In other action, the NWFS trustees: —Re-elected Sandy Sims, of Niceville, as chair, and Brian Pennington, of Shalimar, as vice chair of the governing board, and approved the board's annual meeting calendar. —Approved President Handy's contract, and approved of

the president's evaluation letter to the Division of Community Colleges. —Approved a retirement resolution honoring the services of Dianne Kostelny of Niceville, who served 23 years in several capacities at the college, including as a counselor, reading professor and adult basic education instructor. Kostelny was also commended for her very active leadership participation in the local and statewide Florida Association of Community Colleges.

—Approved the Florida College System Annual Equity Update Report and the college's Internal Staff and Program Development Plan for 2011-12. According to the college press release, the board of trustees next meets in regular business session on July 20 at 4:30 p.m. in the community gallery, Building K, College Mall on the Niceville campus. Board meetings are open to the public. For further information, see nwfs.edu/BoardofTrustees.



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Summit II is also excited about Redken's new Shades EQ Cream. Its new cream formula features rich, deep color, with incredible shine from pomegranate oil and rich proteins for excellent conditioning. It will meet all your semi-permanent color needs and create amazing results.

They also offer some great treatments that combat the signs of aging hair. If you are experiencing any combination of the signs of chronological or

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hormonal aging, the new Time Reset Salon Service offered at Summit II can help. It improves your hair density, shine and manageability. This treatment has proven age-correcting results. Based on the professional evaluations of Redken providing salons over a two-month period, 94 percent of hairdressers noticed improved manageability, 77 percent noticed increased density and 88 percent noticed enhanced shine. If you want youthful body and shine restored to your hair, come in to see them for this luxurious new service expertly applied by one of Summit II's highly trained professional stylists.

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"At War," part of the Military Memories exhibit to be unveiled at Night at the Museum at the Heritage Museum, includes military regalia, like this Navy uniform, and memorabilia from the Civil War to the Vietnam War.

Beacon photos by Molly Mosher



Meredith, left, and Julia Freeman examine each other's projects they created as part of the requirements for the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C., June 18-23.

Beacon photo by Kenneth Books

## Who's News

E-mail items to info@baybeacon.com.

The Taylor Haugen Foundation is proud to announce its 2011 Taylor Haugen Scholarship recipients.

**Julia Denney**, daughter of Pam and Mark Denney, graduated as an honor student from Rocky Bayou Christian School where she excelled in volleyball and academics. She plans to study prosthetics at St. Petersburg College, Fla.



Julia Denney

**Taylor Nixon**, son of Chris and Lavina Nixon, graduated as an honor student from Niceville High School, where he excelled in



Taylor Nixon

Please see WHO'S, page B-2

## Wine, dine, salute history

By Molly Mosher  
Beacon Staff Writer

The Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida will open its doors Friday, July 15, to history buffs and lovers of fine fare alike for "Night at the Museum," a guided museum tour and wine tasting.

Guests will witness history brought to life with live Native American music, historical characterizations, and a spinning presentation by a member of the

Shire Phoenix historical society.

Those in attendance will also please their palates, sampling food and wine pairings from area restaurants, including Café Bienville, One20 Bistro, Compass Rose, Joey Tomato's, Helga's and Dockside Oyster Bar.

There will be 10 exhibits for people to check out, including an unveiling of the newest

Please see HISTORY, page B-3

## Twins sharpen leadership skills

By Kenneth Books  
Beacon Staff Writer

Some say leaders are born; others that they're made. Two young ladies from Niceville who already displayed plenty of leadership traits were recently made better leaders by participation in the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C., June 18-23.

How does one lead?

"Make sure everybody works together—communicate," said Julia Freeman.

And if that doesn't work?

"Probably ask different people to talk to that person, instead of just one person trying to pound it into their head," she said.

Julia and her twin sister, Meredith, 11-year-olds who will be in sixth grade at Ruckel Middle School in the

fall, were nominated for the conference by their reading teacher, Caron Seebaldt. They learned a lot, met many other kids from all over the country and generally had a ball.

"One of the things we got to do was a 4-D movie about how reporting had changed throughout history," said Meredith, referring to an

Please see TWINS, page B-3

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Young philanthropist Hailey Moriarty hands hard-earned dollars to Sharing & Caring employee Susan Magerman. The money, earned by selling lemonade, will go toward the organization's "Tools for School" drive, which will donate school supplies to 350 children in need.

Beacon photo by Molly Mosher

## School supplies from lemons

Young girl donates money from lemonade sales

By Molly Mosher  
Beacon Staff Writer

Hailey Moriarty started her lemonade stand with one goal in mind—to help the needy.

This unselfish 8-year-old, a third-grader at Plew Elementary, spent a hot May Saturday selling lemonade to raise money.

Little did her parents know she was working to contribute to a worthy cause.

"We thought she was saving up for an iPod," said her father, Kevin.

But both Kevin and Hailey's mother, Jacki, were wrong.

Her aim was to donate the money to help the homeless.

In the four hours worked by

Hailey and her best friend, Braedyn Newton, who was visiting from Alabama, the team managed to raise \$50.

The girls posted at the end of the Moriarty driveway to sell lemonade, along with cookies and brownies, to thirsty passers-by. And at 50 cents a cup, earning \$50 was no small feat.

But, the girls were also helped by the kindness of strangers.

"Some people would just stop to drop off donations, too," said Kevin.

When the time came to actually donate the money, Hailey and her mother were at a bit of a loss. Rather than just donating

it to homeless on the street, however, they found a truly worthy cause right in their hometown.

And so, that's how Hailey came to donate \$50 to the annual Sharing & Caring "Tools for School" school supply drive.

Everyone at Sharing and Caring is tickled with Hailey's generosity, which will go far in their drive to provide school supplies to 350 area students who cannot afford them.

"We try to give what's specific on the list—for example, we try to give fourth graders at Plew exactly what is on their supply list," said Frieda

Please see SCHOOL, page B-2

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# PAL Soccer LEAGUE

## Fun Recreational Soccer! Ages 5-18

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Sat., July 16, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., NHS Cafeteria  
 Resident: \$60\*; Non-Resident: \$70\*\*  
 (\*Includes \$10 user fee that goes to City of Niceville.)  
 (\*\*Includes \$10 user fee plus \$10 fee for players residing outside city limits of Niceville or Valparaiso; both fees go to City of Niceville.)

### Late Registration

Sat., August 6, 9 a.m. - Noon, Niceville City Hall  
 \$25 extra for late registration (after July 16)

Waiting list after August 6

Copy of state-issued birth certificate required for players not registered with PAL Soccer in Fall 2010.

Age Group	Birthdates
VIP (Children w/ disabilities)	Aug 1, 92-Jul 31, 06
U6	Aug 1, 05-Sep 1, 06*
U8	Aug 1, 03-Jul 31, 05
U10	Aug 1, 01-Jul 31, 03
U12	Aug 1, 99-Jul 31, 01
U14	Aug 1, 97-Jul 31, 99
U19	Aug 1, 92-Jul 31, 97

\*Contingent registration for Sep 2-Dec 31, 06. Call for details.  
 1. U6 and VIP teams are co-ed. Separate girls' and boys' teams in U8, U10, U12, U14 and U19.  
 2. Uniforms provided (jersey, shorts, socks for VIP & U6 through U14; shirt only for U19). Players keep uniforms.  
 3. Accidental Medical Insurance for all players included.

**COACHES NEEDED - Sign Up at Registration**  
**TEAM SPONSORS NEEDED**  
 \$200 for U6 through U14; \$100 for Each Subsequent Team  
 \$100 for U19

**For info: Howard Hill, 678-2182 or www.nicevillepalsoccer.org**



## Hats off to Ruckel Rockettes

The Ruckel Rockettes returned from the UDA Dance Camp held June 21-24 in Tuscaloosa, Ala., with many awards, including first place in the junior high division with a dance prepared at home, the "Full Out" award for a camp-learned team routine, super spirit sticks from UDA staff and a superior for dances learned at camp. From left, back: Jessi Miceli, Jordyn Jackson, Sarah Pabst, Grace Barton, Lexi Grandgenett and Coach Kendall Brown; front: Sarah Beth Sullivan, McKenzie Nall, Desiree Manard, Johannah Wolfe, Olivia Reneau and Kimberlyn Porter.

## Big fish to fry

Colten Junger, a Ruckel Middle School eighth-grader, recently caught this 18.4 pound, 33-inch long red snapper while fishing in the Gulf waters of Destin. Colten has been fishing and hunting for most of his youth. Colten hopes to one day have a career in marine biology.



## SCHOOL

From page B-1

Spence, a Sharing & Caring employee who is coordinating the school supply efforts.

Along with donations of actual school supplies, monetary donations are also being accepted.

Donations can be dropped off Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m.-noon, at Sharing & Caring in

Niceville, 104 Bullock Blvd.

- Items needed include:  
 1" & 1 1/2" 3-ring binders w/ clear cover  
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 Calculators  
 Colored pencils  
 Compass, safety edge  
 Construction paper  
 Crayons (8 count, 16 count, 24 count)  
 Dry erase markers  
 Elmer's glue (4 oz & 8 oz)  
 Erasers (regular pink and pencil top)  
 Folders (2-pocket, 3 prong & no prongs)  
 Glue sticks

- Graph paper  
 Hand sanitizer  
 Highlighters  
 Liquid hand soap  
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 Markers (washable)  
 Notebook dividers (5 tab & 8 tab)  
 Notebook paper (wide rule)  
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Back of Home

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## WHO'S

From page B-1

leadership, academics and wrestling. He plans to study chemical engineering and premed at the University of Florida in the fall.

\*\*\*

The National Wildlife Federation recognized the **community of Southwind** in Bluewater Bay as an official Certified Wildlife Habitat site. The property attracts a variety of birds, butterflies and other local animals by providing a wildlife-friendly landscape.

\*\*\*

**Breana Hodges** of Niceville earned a Master of Business in Business Administration from Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, Ga.

\*\*\*

**Lisa Pitell** of Bluewater Bay announced her affiliation with Arbor Wealth Management in Miramar Beach. Pitell is a graduate of Stetson Law School in Deland, Fla. Pitell is vice chair and a board member of Okaloosa-Walton Child Care and a member of the Florida Bar.

\*\*\*

**Warren Paul Wilson**, sponsored by the Choctawhatchee



Bay Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution, has been granted a Florida State Society, Daughters of the American

Revolution (FSSDAR) scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Warren also won the Dr. Aura-Lee A. Pittenger and James Hobbs Pittenger American History Scholarship, in the amount of \$2,000 per year. The scholarship is given to a high school senior who will take a minimum of 24 credit hours in American History or American Government while in college.

\*\*\*

**Ellejo Lynn Lafever** of Niceville was named to Iowa State University's Dean's List. To be on the Dean's List, students must maintain a grade point average of 3.5-4.0 while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours.

\*\*\*

**Christopher M. Hinson** of Niceville was named to the spring 2011 Dean's List at Samford University, Birmingham. To qualify, a student must have earned a minimum 3.5 GPA with 12 credit hours.

\*\*\*

**Marsha Babe** received Agent of the Month from ERA American Realty for May. She was chosen out of 70 agents in five local offices.

\*\*\*

**Binh T. Ly** of Niceville was named to the spring 2011 Dean's List at Samford University, Birmingham. To qualify for the honor, a student must have earned a minimum 3.5 GPA with 12 credit hours.

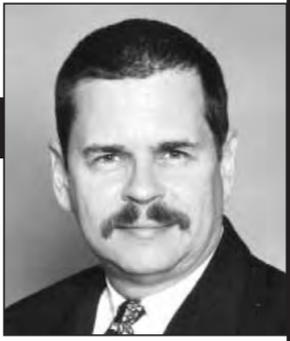
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## Boy Scouts excel at camp

Boy Scout Troop 157 attended summer camp at Skymont Scout Reservation in Altamont, Tenn. The troop earned more than 100 merit badges and Honor and Top Troop awards during the weeklong camp. Each scout had the opportunity to climb the 40-foot climbing wall, get bounced off the BLOB at the waterfront and go on a white water river expedition down the Ocoee River. Troop 157 meets every Monday at St. Jude's Episcopal Church at 6:45 p.m.

## TWINS

From page B-1

activity at the Newseum.

A 4-D movie, she explained, is a 3-dimensional movie that includes tactile elements.

"They might blow wind," Julia said. "At one point, a rat was moving by and you felt the wind on your leg."

The sisters, who said the spend much of their time together and never fight ("We teach each other a lot," Julia said), are both leaders already.

"They work hard at it," their mother, Joan, said.

"It was a great way to learn about leadership skills, because to be nominated you already had to have skills, but you learn how to develop them," Meredith said.

But being nominated is just the tip of the iceberg.

"Once you decide to go, you have to bring in a leadership project defining leadership and we had to get five mentors who were teachers, coaches, etc.," Meredith said.

Julia tackled the project requirement by writing an essay about leadership.

"It's supposed to be basically what you think leadership is and a historic figure or a person you know who showed leadership," she said. She chose Harriet Tubman. "She ran the Underground Railroad (during the Civil War era) and didn't lose a single passenger," Julia said.

Meredith put together a collage about what she thought leadership was.

In addition, Meredith said, "We had a journal that talked about topics such as voices of change, voices of courage and voices of freedom."

Each day during the conference, activities were planned to illustrate some aspect of leadership. Two of those activities were debates, one on whether John Brown was correct in raiding Harper's Ferry and another on whether Mary Beth Tinker, a 13-year-old Des Moines high school student and her peers should have been permitted to wear black armbands in 1965 to protest the Vietnam conflict.

Julia and Meredith were assigned to argue one side or another. Julia, who thought the student should have the right to wear the armband, was assigned to argue against it.

"It was fun because I got to do it from a different angle than I would have," she said. "It was fun coming up with objections to counter other people's approach."

The conference was "a good way to learn about being a leader ... and meet people who were leaders and successful," Julia said.

Meredith agreed. "It was a great way to learn about leadership and how to represent leaders in our schools and committees," she said.

Both young ladies are interested in medical careers, Meredith as a pediatrician ("I like kids, especially little kids—3-year-olds," she said) and Julia as a pilot or a neurologist.



Julia, left, and Meredith Freeman visited Colonial Williamsburg after their leadership conference in Washington, D.C.

In the fall, when they begin middle school, both plan to try out for the tennis and cross country teams. Both were on the Knowledge Masters team at Plew. But both recognize that the week they spent in the nation's capital can have a lasting, positive effect.

"When we're in difficult situations, we'll be able to use those (leadership) traits better and communicate better," Julia said.

"It was just a really good experience," Meredith added. "We got to meet a lot of people from across the country who were like us."

## In the Service

E-mail items to info@baybeacon.com.

Air Force Reserve Col. R. Brian Risner was promoted to his current rank and received a subsequent assignment to the Air Force Global Strike Command at Barksdale Air Force Base, La.

Risner serves as the senior Individual Mobility Augmentee Communications Director at the Global Strike Command. The colonel has served in the military for 25 years.

Risner is the son of Rebecca Walker of Niceville, and the son-in-law of Bea Hall of Fort Walton Beach.

Risner graduated in 1979 from Fort Walton Beach High School. In 1985, he received a bachelor's degree and a commission of second lieutenant in the Air Force at the University of Florida at Gainesville.

\*\*\*

Air Force Reserve Airman Kayla P. Wagers, daughter of Linnette Wagers of Niceville and James Wagers of Valparaiso, graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio.

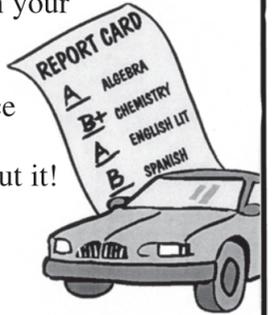


Kayla Wagers

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Wagers earned distinction as an honors graduate.

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## HISTORY

From page B-1

exhibit—Military Memories, which celebrates the sacrifice and hard work of our military, including the sometimes overlooked troubles endured by military families.

The exhibit is divided into two themes, "On the Homefront" and "At War."

"At War" features a mural by artist Barrie Williams, depicting war planes in flight, military insignia and uniforms spanning the Civil War to Vietnam conflict. One particularly interesting garment is a POW uniform from Niceville's own Howard Hill, who spent five and a half years at the "Hanoi Hilton" POW camp in Vietnam.

The exhibit also includes an edition of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin from Dec. 7, 1941, headlined "WAR! Oahu bombed by Japanese planes."

"On the Homefront" displays a 1940s kitchen scene, with the woman of the house managing the domestic front while her husband is at war.



"On the Homefront" depicts a 1940s domestic scene, with a woman "holding down the fort" in her husband's absence.

The exhibit, curated by Cynthia Tomerlin and sponsored in large part by Pioneer Technologies, is a nod to those who serve, and the ongoing sacrifices made by them and their families.

Come be one of the first to take a peek at this new exhibit,

watch history come alive, mingle, and sample great food and wine at Night at the Museum.

The festivities will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for non-members, \$25 for members. Special discounts are available for new family members and groups. Tickets are limited. Call 678-2615.

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**2011**  
CALENDAR  
E-mail items to info@baybeacon.com before 5 p.m. Wednesday.

**Friends for Fun senior club**

All singles 60 and older, come join Friends for Fun for laughter and friendly conversation each Wednesday, 3-6 p.m., at the Bluewater Bay Clubhouse. This is an opportunity to make new friends and find joy and companionship. Info: 897-4434.

**RBCS seeks host families**

Rocky Bayou Christian School is looking for families living in Okaloosa County to host an international student. Male and female students will come from China, S. Korea, Thailand and Vietnam.

Your family will not only gain a new family member, you will also learn about a different culture, and its values and traditions. Students stay with a host family for 10 months. By opening your home and heart to a young person from another culture, you quickly establish strong bonds, which can turn into a lifelong friendship. There is a monthly stipend that will help with expenses for each international student.

If you are interested or would like more information, call RBCS, 729-7227, ext. 375, or email williamsd@rbcsc.org.

**Teen driver safety course**

The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office will hold a "Teen Driver Challenge" course July 26 and 27. The free program is designed to help teens boost driving skills and lessen the odds of becoming involved in a crash.

The program focuses on defensive driving techniques and evasive maneuvers. It involves a mixture of classroom instruction at the OCSO Shalimar Administration Building as well as hands-on driver training at the Northwest Florida State College driving range in Niceville.

Teens 15-19 are eligible and must have a valid learner's permit/Florida operations license and must provide their own cars.

**School supplies donations**

Donations of school supplies are now being collected at Niceville's Sharing & Caring, 104 Bullock Blvd. Supplies will be distributed Aug. 13 to approximately 350 students in our community. Parents/guardians may sign up their children until Aug. 5. Lists of supplies needed may be obtained at Sharing & Caring. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Info: 729-3600.

**Free museum admission**

The Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida announces the launch of Blue Star Museums, a part-

nership with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and more than 1,300 museums across America to offer free admission to all active-duty military personnel and their families through Labor Day. Leadership support has been provided by MetLife Foundation through Blue Star Families.

The USSF Entry Level Referee Course will be held in Niceville for those interested in refereeing. The class consists of online education modules and 12 hours of classroom training and participation. After training, you will have the basic knowledge to begin refereeing.

**Referee training course**

The 2011 course will be held at Niceville City Hall Aug. 22, 6-8:30 p.m.; Aug. 24, 6-8 p.m.; Aug. 27, 9 a.m.-noon; and Aug. 31, 6-9 p.m. Info: fsr-inc.com under the "Become a Referee" tab.

The cost is \$100. Register by Aug. 8. To register or for more information: Al Haberbusch, haberpsu64@cox.net or 678-9084; Howard Hill, howard\_hill@cox.net or 678-2182; or Bernie Busovne, busovnefamily@cox.net or 897-9497.

**Creative writing group**

The Valparaiso Community Library will offer a writing workshop Thursdays at 1 p.m. All ages are welcome to come and explore their creativity, with a focus on self expression, creative writing and improvisation.



**Many stories yet to come**

The Niceville Library will continue the "One World, Many Stories" summer program with "Global Kids" July 13, 10:30-11 a.m. for ages 3-completed kindergarten, and noon-1 p.m. for completed grades 1-3. It will also be held July 14, 10:30-11 a.m. for ages 3-completed kindergarten, and 1:15-3 p.m. for completed grades 4 and up. Registration is required, call 279-4863, ext. 1514.

**Rosemont Baptist dinner**

Leave your dishes in the cupboard and have dinner at Rosemont Baptist Church with Nita and More Friday, July 22. The menu will be limited. Reserve by July 15. Call the church office, 678-1611. All proceeds will go to Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes.

**Leadership Okaloosa**

The Northwest Florida State College Leadership Institute is now accepting applications for the 2011-2012 Leadership Okaloosa program. Participants meet one day a month from September to June and receive classroom leadership development training by a certified instructor.

**Blood drive**

Food Depot, 1015 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville, will also hold a blood drive Friday, July 15, 3-7 p.m.

**Civil War lecture**

The Indian Temple Mound and Museum, 139 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, will host another installment of the Civil War lecture series. On July 15 at 2 p.m., Tara Giuliano will present "No Man's Land: Civil War across the Fla. Panhandle."

**Night at the Museum**

The Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, 115 Westview Avenue, Valparaiso, will hold a Night at the Museum—A guided tour and wine tasting Experience, Friday, July 15. The guided tour will begin at 7 p.m. and guests will learn about

Northwest Florida history, view the new Military Memories exhibit and sample wine and food from fine dining restaurants in Niceville and Valparaiso. Hear the beautiful sounds of live Native American music, enter raffles, 50/50, take part in a silent auction and mingle with special guests bringing history to life. Tickets are \$30; museum members \$25. Space is limited. Call 678-2615 for tickets.

**Catholic seminar**

Dr. Paul Thigpen, speaker and author, will present "Are You Saved? The Catholic Response" at Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church, Niceville, on July 15, 7 p.m., and 16, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Father Butler Parish Life Center. The seminar will explain the Catholic Church's teaching about what it means to be saved, and shows how that teaching is rooted in Scripture. Registration is \$20. Info: Dianne Hinds, 678-3413, or Yvonne Beyers, 543-2275, or sites.google.com/site/hnjadulthoodfaithfor

**Dinner and silent auction**

Boy Scout Troop 52 will hold a spaghetti dinner and silent auction July 15 at AVMETS Post 78 in Valparaiso. Spaghetti, salad, bread, dessert and a drink will be served for \$5 per person from 5-7 p.m. There will also be a silent auction. You can even look online and send early bids: troop52.valp.net/auction.htm. All proceeds support Boy Scout Troop 52 activities and awards throughout the year.

**Bowling fundraiser**

Bowling for Bucks, a benefit for the Global Orphan Project, will take place Saturday, July 16, noon-2 p.m., at Hurricane Lanes in Destin. The cost is \$10 per person or \$50 for a team of six. All proceeds will go to the project.

**For tickets and information, visit gobowl.org or contact Ashley Breaux, 317-519-4802.**

**July hikes**

The Florida Trail Association will hold a hike July 16, at 7 p.m. Bring your canoe or kayak and join the FTA for a moonlight paddle on Bluewater Bay. Details: 729-0344.

**For a complete list of events, visit choctaw.floridatrail.org.**

**Paddle board relay race**

The NorthLight Marina in Bluewater will hold a paddle board relay July 16. Registration at 9 a.m., the relay starts at 10:15. There will be food and fun after the relay. Registration is \$35. For info and to register, call Jon Parks, 843-602-7747, or visit active.com.

**Junior Lifeguard Program**

The Junior Lifeguard Program, open to girls and boys ages 11-17, will run July 18-29. The Junior Lifeguard Program is a way to learn about personal and public safety, and includes interactions with EMS Ambulance, Coast Guard, Gulf Flight, marine life and more. Info: Lindsey Daso at 830-7652 or okaloosabeachsafty.org.

**Luncheon history lecture**

The Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, 115 Westview Avenue, Valparaiso, will hold "History Sandwiched In," a luncheon lecture July 20 at 11 a.m. The program, presented by Michael Weech, will be "We Can Do It!"

**NWFSC summer musical**

"Big River," the Northwest Florida State College summer musical, will be performed at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, July 20-23, 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$25 adult/\$20 youth (18 and younger). Info: 729-6000, matiekellyartscenter.org, or stop by the box office Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mark Twain's timeless classic sweeps us down the mighty Mississippi as the irrepressible Huck Finn helps his friend Jim, a slave, escape to freedom at the mouth of the Ohio River.



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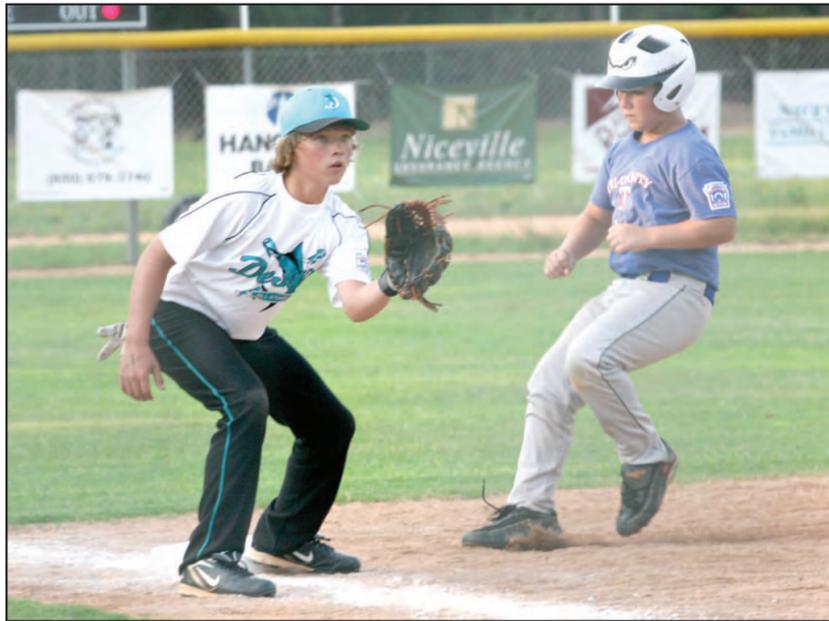
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Beacon photo by Sarah Clauson

## Safe at third

Staff Sgt. Chris Rohde, an Eglin airman playing for the ERA American Realty Commandos, stops at third base during a softball game in the Independence Day Mullet Tournament in Niceville.



## Waiting for the ball

Destin 11/12 All-Star Blake McRae waits for the throw at third during a Little League All-Star game July 2. Destin easily defeated Tri-County, 15-5. Destin fell to Niceville in the championship game.

Beacon photo by Sarah Clauson



## 9/10 Maroon heads to Sectionals

The Niceville-Valparaiso Little League 9/10 year old Maroon team went undefeated to capture the Florida District 1 Championship July 1, defeating DeFuniak Springs, Shalimar, Tri-County and Niceville White and outscoring its opponents, 66-6. The team will compete at Sectionals July 16-17 in Tallahassee. From left: back, coach Brian Walsh, manager Weyman Dorsett and coach Robbie Williams; center, Connor Walsh, Chandler Plourd, Derek Vogel, Owen Williams, Coley Embry, Tristan Keith, Zack Coldsnow and Trent Walker; front, Harrison Dorsett, Brandon Cromwell, Evan Griffith and Cole Varner.



## 9/10 Fast-Pitch team to state

The Niceville Valparaiso Little League Fast-Pitch 9/10-Year-Old Sanctioned Tournament champions For District 1 will head to the state tournament the end of July. Niceville beat DeFuniak Springs twice to become District 1 Champions, scoring the winning run in the title game against DeFuniak in the sixth inning with two outs. Final score 8-9. Team members are: manager Melony Malone, coach Winn Martain, coach Steve Lightfoot, players Mary Katherine Cary, Breona Duncan, Katie Lightfoot, Kamden Martain, Alicyn F. Grete, Hayden Randall, Carley E. Kidder, Alexis Cisneros, Jillian Malone, Anjeli Beliveau, Madison Silvas and Allison Brown.



## 7-9 softballers state-bound

The 7-9 NVLL District 1 champion kid pitch softball team won districts and goes to state. From left: rear, coaches Bobby Grete, Troy Sjostrom, David Brown; second row, Allison Brown, Jenna Elmer, Anjeli Beliveau, Marissa Rung; third row, Mikayla Hampton, Isabel Torres, Ava Worthy, Savanna Hill, Carley Kidder, Katrina Wellema; front row, Alicyn Grete, Hannah Sjostrom, Makayla Ernsberger.



## 12U All-Stars win state title

Niceville 12U All-Stars won the Florida District 1 Little League title Saturday, July 2, at Rarick Field in Niceville, defeating Destin, 14-1, by stroking four home runs among their 12 hits. Collectively, Niceville defeated its three opponents, 33-1, in only 11 innings of offense. Niceville will play the District 20 champions in Tallahassee July 23. From left: kneeling, Drew Grandgenett and Brady Smith; second row, Devin Hemenway, A J Nipper, Chance Huff, Nick Hazama, Christian Huff and Jacob Jenkins; back row, Logan Taylor, Wesley Brooks, Tyler Russell, Will West III and Judd Barth.



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