

The Bay Beacon

12 Pages, 2 Sections, 6 Inserts

Wednesday, August 29, 2012

50¢

Dodging the worst of Isaac

After drawing bead on Okaloosa, storm's track shifts westward

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

As Isaac moved up the Gulf of Mexico, many local residents made preparations, in case the storm affected Northwest Florida.

On Friday, forecasters said Isaac, then rated as a tropical storm, was heading toward the Niceville-Valparaiso area. But by Monday, forecasts by the National Hurricane Center had shifted the expected path westward, toward Mississippi and Louisiana.

Eerily, Isaac was forecast to strike southern Louisiana early today, Wednesday, on the seventh anniversary of the Louisiana landfall of Katrina, a Category 3 hurricane that killed some 1,800 people in that state and Mississippi.

Despite Isaac's shift westward, heavy rains and tropical storm-force winds were possible in the Twin Cities area.

The Okaloosa County Department of Public Safety and other local officials announced some local preparations. As of Tuesday these included the following:

Okaloosa County emergency officials recommended voluntary evacuations for areas south of U.S. Highway 98, low-lying areas prone to flooding, and mobile homes and campgrounds. All

roads and bridges were expected to remain open unless winds over bridges exceed 45 miles per hour.

Emergency shelters at the Northwest Florida State College Raider Arena in Niceville and at Davidson Middle School in Crestview were on standby, but had not opened.

The National Weather Service issued river-flooding alerts for the Blackwater and Shoal rivers in Okaloosa County, and the Choctawhatchee River in Walton County.

Okaloosa County and Walton County public schools, Rocky Bayou Christian School in Niceville, and Northwest Florida State College were closed Tuesday due to the weather.

Area military bases told all but mission-critical personnel to stay home Tuesday and Wednesday.

Eglin Air Force Base and Hurlburt Field planes were flown to other installations outside the projected path of the storm.

Eglin officials ordered evacuation of the following low-lying areas: Post 1 Point Fancamp; Temporary Living Facilities Buildings 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751; Maxwell-Gunter Recreation Center; and Camp Robins.

At the Walmart in Niceville, assistant managers Stephanie Chamberlin and Michelle Williams said many customers

Please see ISAAC, page A-5



Beacon photos by Mike Griffith

As local residents prepared for the passage of Storm Isaac, one of the boarded-up homes along the Valparaiso waterfront bore the name, "Wind Song." At the Walmart store in Niceville, staff members were busy restocking shelves and displays with such storm-related items as bottled water, batteries, groceries, and battery-powered lights.

UP COMING

Friday, 2-5 p.m.

STERLING HOUSE
BROOKDALE SENIOR LIVING

Sterling House,

Bluewater Bay, will hold a community sign-up Friday, Aug. 31, 2-5 p.m., for the Oct. 6 Okaloosa County **Walk to End Alzheimer's.**

Computers and staff will be on hand to assist individuals and teams to register for the walk. Refreshments will be served.

Saturday, 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Come out to the **Biophilia Center,** 4956 State Hwy 20 East, Freeport, to learn all about **sharks!** Learn about basic shark anatomy, the types of sharks found in Florida, why shark attacks



occur/how to avoid an attack, and shark conservation. Have fun with shark trivia and prizes.

Info: 835-1824.

Saturday, 9-11:30 a.m.

The **Valparaiso Garden Club** Advanced Floral Design Studies classes begin for anyone interested in learning about floral design. Classes will be held at the **Valparaiso Community Library** on the first Saturday of each month, excluding December.



Cost of six classes: \$60.

Info: 897-4011, or jnkam@gmail.com for registration forms, or pick one up at the library.

Calendar, B-3

Area represented at storm-delayed GOP convention

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

The Niceville area is represented at this week's Republican National Convention in Tampa. Okaloosa County Republican Party Chair, Barbara Wall, of Niceville, and State Committeeman Steve Czonstka of Bluewater Bay are delegates to the convention, which is scheduled to run through Thursday, with the expected acceptance speech of GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney.



Steve Czonstka

The scheduled first day of the convention, Monday, was canceled because of Tropical Storm Isaac, which at that time was churning northwestward through the Gulf of Mexico, about 150 miles southwest of Tampa, just shy of hurricane strength, affecting the convention area with tropical-storm force winds.

In an e-mail message to the Beacon Sunday evening, Czonstka wrote,



Barbara Wall

"Hurricane Isaac has complicated the conduct of the convention due to its impact on transportation of delegates from the numerous hotels and resorts used for lodging of the thousands of participants from each of the states attending the event."

According to Czonstka, he and Wall travelled from their homes in the Niceville area on Saturday to the Innisbrook Resort in Palm Harbor, lodging for the 99 members of the

Please see GOP, page A-3

Valp. OKs Eglin planning

By Del Lessard
Beacon Staff Writer

Valparaiso city commissioners have approved an amendment to the city's comprehensive plan to make the city more compatible with its military neighbor.

The new ordinance however does not affect the city's concerns about high levels of jet noise once Eglin Air Force Base receives its full complement of 59 F-35 Joint Strike Fighter aircraft. That issue will be addressed after the Air Force releases a Supplemental Environmental Impact Study, expected later this year.

Titled the "2012 Military Compatibility Amendments," Valparaiso Ordinance 628 complies with state statutes requiring local governments to adopt land development codes that are "compatible" with the missions of their military neighbors.

But the amendment approved Aug. 13 has little effect on existing property owners in Valparaiso because it limits the densities and intensities of development within the Crash Zone (CZ) and the Accident Potential Zones

Please see VALP, page A-6

Global interest in local politics



Beacon photo by Mike Griffith

When the Niceville-Valparaiso Tea Party and an allied conservative group, a Niceville-based chapter of Americans for Prosperity, did a door-to-door survey of local residents on Saturday, they drew attention from a film crew from Japan Broadcasting Corp. Shown here, JBC journalist Matt Field, left, interviews an AFP volunteer while a cameraman records the interview. JBC correspondent Ichiro Kabasawa told the Beacon that his company is doing news coverage of the American political process, and came to Niceville because "Florida is a battleground state" in the upcoming presidential election.

College hikes cost of building by \$400K

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

Northwest Florida State College has agreed to spend \$188,000 to for additional work on a new college bookstore, including adding a café, part of a much larger overhaul of the college's old student center.

This and other changes will delay by more than two months, to Dec. 10, the planned completion of the renovation of Building K, the former College Mall, on the main campus in Niceville.

A \$417,000 change order, approved by the college board of trustees Aug. 21, includes modification of space in the campus bookstore that will be put in the facility for the addition of a café and other modifications for Barnes & Noble, which recently began operating campus stores at the Niceville and Fort Walton Beach campuses.

According to NWFSC Vice President Gary Yancey, the change order will add \$417,263 to the previous cost estimate of \$22.2 million for the ongoing renovation project, which is rebuilding the college's previous student center and making it part of a new student complex, joining another new building which

Please see COLLEGE, page A-3

New boss for scandal-scarred TDC

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

During a lengthy meeting in a crowded chamber Aug. 21, the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved the appointment of Daniel O'Byrne as executive director of the county's scandal-ridden Tourist Development Council.

The commission also held a pair of lengthy public hearings that lasted well into the night, concerning whether to allow helicopter sightseeing flights to take off and land next to U.S. Highway 98 near Destin, and a discussion about the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Small Area Study of how to keep Eglin Air Force Base and its surrounding civilian communities compatible with each other. They also rejected a proposal

to fund a county stormwater utility, and learned that active cleaning of groundwater from the former Niceville landfill will not be required by the state.

According to an official biography of the new TDC director released by the Okaloosa County public information office, "Daniel O'Byrne has an extensive background in tourism over the 32-year span of his career. He brings a strong sales and marketing background to the current position as tourism director for the Emerald Coast and Okaloosa County, from his experiences in larger venues such as New York and Orlando to the smaller markets of Little Rock, Arkansas and Jacksonville, Florida."

Most recently, he was CEO of Visit Jacksonville.

"O'Byrne touts his practical

experiences, management skills and education as a result of his successful career, and the talent he brings to the new position as tourism director. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Hotel Administration from Cornell University and a Master's in Applied Economics from the University of Central Florida. Daniel O'Byrne is married to Lorrie, his wife of 20 years, and they have two children."

The TDC's previous permanent director, Mark Bellinger, killed himself earlier this year after a warrant was issued for his arrest on charges of stealing from the county agency, according to authorities.

During the meeting in Fort Walton Beach, the commission heard from several county residents concerned about possible

loss of control of their property as a potential result of the recent Small Area Study, which is a part of the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) program that has been underway for several years to help the county and Eglin Air Force Base manage local land development in such a way as to minimize interference, or "encroachment" of local civilian development on the base and its military missions.

In a PowerPoint briefing given to commissioners by Rod Lewis of the Haas Center for Business

Research and Economic Development, Lewis had warned that encroachment could jeopardize the continuation of weapons testing at Eglin, potentially reducing the base's role in the local economy. Lewis recommended that county officials coordinate with base commanders regarding all land developments approved by the county.

Lewis also recommended regulation of outdoor lighting for new developments, to prevent interference with night flying training, which includes training special operations aircrews to fly and locate targets in darkness. Lewis recommended that new developments use outdoor light fixtures that aim downward and minimize upward scattering of light.

During the meeting, several

county residents said they oppose any new restrictions on what they can build or how they can use their property.

Niceville resident H.H. Caldwell criticized the small area study, saying it was short on specifics, unrealistic, and recommended restrictions on civilian activities but not military activities. He said Lewis' recommendations, if followed, would create "a nebulous process in which I must ask your permission for what I do on my own land." He also questioned the recommendation that all real estate transactions include disclosures of low-level training flight routes leading to and from the base.

As for lighting restrictions, Caldwell said, "Okaloosa County can't pass turtle-friendly lighting along the beach," and is therefore unlikely to be able to restrict lighting elsewhere in the county.

Holt resident Julie Parker asked commissioners, "If I apply for a development that is within the county land development code, why should it have to be reviewed with Eglin?"

"I have lived here for 30 years," she said, "and in all that time my land has never grown legs and 'encroached' on them—it is they who have encroached on us."

A Fort Walton Beach resident told commissioners "There's no guarantee what will happen with Eglin," and that the commercial and industrial development of land in the north county is needed in order to diversify the local economy and make the county less dependent on the military. Such diversity, he said, would "vaccinate" the county against possible future reductions or closure of Eglin.

Baker resident and state legislator Greg Evers also addressed the meeting, saying that state legislation passed in 2003 and 2004 to encourage the JLUS process was intended to encourage military activity in Florida and prevent base closures, but the small area study "came at a time when government pushes too much."

"The legislation was not intended to take anyone's property rights," he said.

After hearing from residents, commissioners passed a motion saying that county approval of future developments will be done in accordance with existing rules. In other words, said Commissioner Wayne Harris, "We're not changing a darn thing." He added, however, that the county will continue its current practice of coordinating with base commanders about any changes or waivers to existing county land development rules.

Harris also said that "Eglin is transitioning from test and evaluation to being a training base," with the arrival of the 7th Special Forces Group and the transition of the 33rd Fighter Wing from being an operational combat unit to a training wing for the new fighter.

Commissioner Bill Roberts, however, said, "Don't roll over on Eglin becoming a training base. We should fight to keep research and development at Eglin."

The meeting also included a public hearing on whether to allow Beach Helicopter to launch and recover sightseeing helicopter flights from a heliport just north of U.S. Highway 98, on Okaloosa Island, next door to the Longhorn steakhouse. Numerous residents told commissioners they oppose the helicopter operation as a nuisance and because of safety concerns. However, attorneys for Beach Helicopter told the commission that the county's land development code lists sightseeing helicopters as a permitted business on Okaloosa Island, and that the Federal Aviation Agency has sole authority to regulate flying safety, making it illegal for state or local governments to restrict aviation for safety reasons.

Following the hearing, commissioners, although saying they were reluctant to do it, voted 4-1 in favor of permitting the helicopter business. "We have to go by the law," said Harris. Commissioner Dave Parisot cast the lone dissenting vote.

In other business, commis-

Please see TDC, page A-5



Daniel O'Byrne

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Miller warns of budget cuts

Sequestration would impact military, says Congressman

By Melissa LaPlante
Beacon Correspondent

U.S. Rep. Jeff Miller (R-Chumuckla) answered questions on a variety of subjects from the press and audience Aug. 23 at the American Legion Hall in Fort Walton Beach.



Congressman Jeff Miller, R-Dist. 1, answered questions from constituents last week in Fort Walton Beach.

Beacon photo by Melissa LaPlante

The topic for the evening's meeting was to discuss the issues going on in government now and predictions for the future.

Miller, a Republican whose District 1 includes the Twin Cities except for the Bluewater Bay area, said 31 pieces of legislation modifying the controversial Affordable Care Act, popularly known as Obamacare, were sent to the Senate, but none has advanced to a floor vote.

Prior to leaving the House for a break, Miller and representatives of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) met to discuss the prospective \$500 billion armed services cut-back, termed "sequestration," if

Congress fails to agree on a budget by Jan. 1.

Miller said if Republican Mitt Romney wins the presidential election over incumbent Democrat Barack Obama, the two "elephants in the room"—Social Security and Medicare—will have to be addressed.

He said he was concerned that the government aids individuals not in finding a job but in using up all their government benefits before finding employment.

If President Obama wins reelection, then he "will not have to answer to the people" regarding his use of executive orders, Miller said, adding that Romney,

if elected, has plans to vacate several controversial executive orders issued by Obama.

Miller said he has found few military service members who support Obama's reelection. Northwest Florida has a huge military population and would play a big part in Mitt Romney winning Florida, he said.

The threat of "sequestration," mandatory across-the-board cut-backs in federal spending Jan. 1, is real, he said, and so far neither side has budged from their stances.

"The president will take sequestration off the table if we raise taxes for the top 1 percent,"

Miller said, "and that will not happen either."

Miller said he is unsure whether the Armament Center will move away from Eglin Air Force Base. He said the decision rests with senior leadership at Wright Patterson Air Force Base.

"We have done everything we can to get assurances from the Air Force in writing what we suspected for decades to happen," he said. Miller said he believes the government is losing the big picture of the Air Force—that Air Force is more than just planes, but also weapons.

The Republicans have no appetite for an additional round of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), Miller said. But he said he believes a push for an early BRAC is coming next year and in 2015. He said he will push for the preservation of the military mission in Northwest Florida.

"People of the Department of Defense don't know what goes on at Eglin," he said.

The Affordable Care Act will be repealed, Miller said.

"Our health care system is in shambles," he said. "We have 15 unelected bureaucrats rationing care that is provided by Medicare."

COLLEGE

From page A-1

is already complete. Yancey told the Beacon Monday that \$98,638 of the cost of the change order will help pay for a Starbucks café which will be attached to the new Barnes & Noble store. Other modifications to the store will account for another \$89,339 of the change order cost.

In addition, he said, the change order includes \$113,272 for "scope changes" including modifications to a parking lot and landscaping, \$25,035 for bonds, overhead and contractor profit, and \$90,977 in delay cost, as the changes will delay the project's expected completion date from Oct. 1 to Dec. 10.

Yancey told the Beacon, "The café was not part of the original plan," but that when college officials learned that students wanted one in the new building, as is common in the bookseller's regular retail stores, they suggested it to Barnes & Noble. The company agreed provided the college share the cost of adding the café.

Operation of the café once it is built, Yancey said, will be done by Barnes & Noble, which will either profit or lose money depending on how well the café does financially.

Also during their Aug. 21 meeting, the trustees approved a competitive proposal by BBVA Compass to provide banking services for the college and the NWFSC Foundation for a three-year term beginning Oct. 1. According to Yancey, the BBVA proposal was one of two received by the college, and is less costly than the competing proposal from the college's current bank, First National.

In other business, trustees approved a new scholarship endowment for students pursuing an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certification. The new endowment is funded through a \$15,000 gift to the college's Foundation by Bryan and Nancy Hough of Fort Walton Beach, in memory of their son Geoffrey Scott Hough.

According to a statement from the college, "Geoffrey, a 2008 graduate of Fort Walton Beach High School, was attending NWFSC when he was tragically



Some \$188,000 in extra work for the ongoing renovation of Building K at Northwest Florida State College is related to the planned operation of a Barnes & Noble outlet, which will operate a bookstore and café in the structure. The work was part of a \$417,000 change order approved by the college board of trustees. Pictured, the building site on Monday.

Beacon photo by Mike Griffith

killed in an automobile accident at age 21. He had been enrolled in the college's EMT program, a career field he was inspired to pursue following the expert care he had received in 2009 from emergency personnel following another, previous accident."

The naming gift agreement approved by trustees noted that the scholarship will help students to pursue a career in public service, just as Geoffrey had planned to follow his father and uncle, who both serve in the Fort Walton Beach Police Department, and another uncle who is an Okaloosa County deputy sheriff.

The trustees also approved a new weighted point system to select applicants for the college's new firefighting vocational certificate program. The pool of eligible applicants to the program is now exceeding the number of seats in the limited access program.

The college admits 24 students each fall for the firefighting program and offers specialized training facilities such as a burn tower to train current and future firefighters.

The trustees also approved the continuation of agreements with the Okaloosa and Walton County school districts, for NWFSC to provide early college/dual enrollment opportunities for academically qualified high school students and to offer credit toward

certain NWFSC technical programs for high school or GED graduates who completed certain high school career academy or certifications.

The trustees also approved a retirement resolution honoring the service of Ronald (Ron) Walls of Niceville, for 25 years of service as a staff and faculty member in various areas of the college, including service as an instructor in the electrical engineering program, and innovative work in instructional technologies including creation of the college's E-Campus and Learning Technologies web portals.

Trustees also approved a budget amendment to transfer \$2.78 million toward the eventual \$7.6 million purchase of the Banner computer software product from Ellucian. The new Banner software will provide a new college-wide computer operations system to control finance, registration and all college operational processes. The product replaces older software that had been developed and maintained through a consortium of state colleges, but which officials say is no longer adequate for the needs of the college for the coming decades.

The trustees also approved the sale of a small lot in Walton County owned by the NWFSC Foundation for \$4,010, to a buyer who submitted an offer \$510 over the asking price.

GOP

From page A-1

Florida delegation as well as delegates from South Carolina.

Weather did not affect their travel or the conduct of a Republican Party of Florida State Executive Committee special business meeting or the delegates' welcoming events on Sunday.

After the expected passage of Issac on Monday, convention officials planned to resume operation yesterday, Tuesday, rescheduling the delayed and remaining events.

"The decision to hold the RNC in a coastal Florida city in the mid-

dle of hurricane season was made more than two years prior and is testimony to the importance of the Sunshine State in this year's November elections," Czonstka stated. "It is a megastate with 29 electoral votes that mirrors the nation's moods, sentiments and demographics. Florida is America—today's America and tomorrow's."

Demographically, wrote Czonstka, Florida matches the country in terms of white, African-American and Hispanic people. It mirrors the country in its proportion of rural, suburban and urban residents. It has a greater proportion of senior citizens, but in that sense the state reflects what's

looming for other states.

Wall and Czonstka expressed concern about Issac's potential impact on their Niceville homes during their absence, but said they hoped for the best while anxious to resume their involvement in the RNC events for the remainder of the convention.

Czonstka said that Florida will be well represented among the speakers scheduled to address the convention. During the week, he stated, delegates will hear from the following Floridians: Gov. Rick Scott, U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi, Florida Speaker Designate Will Weatherford, U.S. Senate nominee Connie Mack.



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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

Jason Douglas Hendershot, 30, of 300-I Madison Ave., Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police Aug. 14 on a charge of grand theft auto. After police recovered a stolen vehicle on North Palm Boulevard, a block from Hendershot's residence, Hendershot allegedly told police he got the car from a friend, but added, "I assumed the car was stolen, but I decided to drive it anyway."

Amy Mae Wolf, a business owner, 33, of 126 Meadow Woods Lane, Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police Aug. 17 on a charge of grand theft over \$300, less than \$5,000 (retail theft.) Wolf allegedly placed \$401 worth of merchandise in a shopping cart at

Kmart, 1140 E. John Sims Parkway, then attempted to leave without paying.

Debra Ann Strange, unemployed, 50, of 202-A Camellia Place, Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police Aug. 17 on charges of battery and child neglect without great harm.

Thomas Martin Chambers, 34, of 401 King St., Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police Aug. 13 on charges of resisting an officer with violence and possession of controlled substance without a prescription, three Xanax pills. Chambers allegedly shoved a police officer backwards and ran off when the officer took out his handcuffs to place Chambers under arrest on the drug possession charge.

Adam Michael Strickland, a cashier, 20, of 52 Winfield St., Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police Aug. 17 on a petit theft charge. An employee at Walmart, 1300 E. Highway 20, Strickland allegedly admitted that he sold a \$139.96 fishing pole to someone for \$5.58, then had the customer return it later for a full price refund.

Krystal Leigh Reiley, 27, of 304 Reeves St., Lot A5, Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police Aug. 18 on charges of resisting an officer without violence and giving a false name belonging to someone else. During an Oct. 28, 2011, traffic stop for a child not wearing a seat belt, Reiley allegedly said she did not have her license with her and gave someone else's name and personal information. The other person subsequently was billed by a collection agency for nonpayment of the traffic ticket.

Abubakr Cristobal, unemployed, 18, of 1247 Whitewood Way, Niceville, was arrested by sheriff's deputies Aug. 14 on a violation of probation charge on the original misdemeanor charges of possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Robert Aaron Kelley, 29, of 191 Homestead St., Niceville, was arrested by sheriff's deputies Aug. 15 on a violation of probation charge on the original charge of trespass.

Sean William Haynes, 24, of 616 Ginkgo Ave., Niceville, was arrested by sheriff's deputies Aug. 18 on a violation of probation charge on original charges of grand theft, eight counts, theft, two counts, and burglary, two counts.

DUI arrests

Christy Renee Forrester, 39, of 79 S. John Sims Parkway, #128, Valparaiso, was arrested by Valparaiso police for DUI on State Road 397 (John Sims Parkway) at Glen Avenue, Aug. 20 at 2:31 a.m. Forrester was also cited for unlawful speed, 61 mph in a 35 mph zone.

William Edgar Wright IV, 26, of 235 White St., Niceville, was arrested by sheriff's deputies for DUI on Eglin Parkway at public vehicle area of Allstate Insurance, Aug. 12 at 12:32 a.m.

Thefts

A Niceville resident from the 300 block of Riley Road reported Aug. 20 that someone had stolen a banjo, guitar and two bracelets, valued in total at \$2,450. The banjo and guitar were later located in a Niceville pawn shop.

A Niceville resident from the 300 block of St. Andrews Drive reported that he came home at 1:45 p.m. Aug. 20 and found that unknown person(s) had broken out a window in a rear door, entered and ransacked rooms in the home. The victim reported \$420 cash was stolen.

A Niceville resident who left his home in the 1600 block of 26th Street unlocked Aug. 20 while he went to the store returned 90 minutes later to find that unknown person(s) had burglarized his resi-

dence and stole a video game station and approximately 13 games or movies. The stolen items were valued at \$900 total.

A Niceville man reported that sometime Aug. 17-20 someone stole a guitar from his unlocked boat while it was docked in a slip at 821 Bayshore Drive.

A Niceville resident reported Aug. 20 that someone had stolen her wallet and credit cards and had used the credit card in Walton County. Police were still investigating.

A Niceville resident reported the tag on his mother's vehicle was stolen Aug. 14 while his mother was recuperating in a local nursing home.

A Niceville resident from the 1600 block of 27th Street reported that unknown person(s) stole two chain saws and a gallon-can of gasoline from his front porch sometime Aug. 13 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

On the morning of Aug. 15 it was discovered that unknown persons(s) had broken into the band room at Rocky Bayou Christian School and had stolen two computer monitors.

A Niceville resident from the 400 block of Bally Way reported that unknown person(s) entered her vehicle sometime Aug. 12-13 and stole \$100 from the console. The victim told police that the same vehicle had been burglarized Aug. 7 when unknown person(s) entered the unlocked vehicle and stole \$60 and about 20 prescription pills. The victim said she had originally chosen not to report the first incident.

A Niceville resident from the first block of Garden Lane reported that sometime July 24-Aug. 13 someone stole a laptop computer from her apartment.

A Niceville resident from the 2100 block of Bayshore Drive reported that unknown person(s) burglarized his vehicle and stole a satellite radio and a pair of sunglasses. The stolen items were valued at \$350.

A Niceville resident came to the police department Aug. 20 to report that sometime overnight unknown person(s) stole a wallet that contained \$30, a Social Security card and her license from her car, that was parked with the windows down. The victim said she needed a police report to request replacement of her license and Social Security card.

A woman reported to police Aug. 15 that approximately three weeks prior unknown person(s) burglarized her vehicle and stole \$60 and her driver's license while it was parked at night in the Walmart parking lot for about four hours.

A Niceville resident from the 300 block of Edrehi Drive reported that sometime Aug. 12-15 unknown person(s) came to the dock area behind the home, cut the lock securing an outboard motor to a dingy and stole the 2011

Fire Department Reports

Niceville

The Niceville Fire Department responded to the following calls from August 20, 2012 through August 26, 2012.

STREET	SITUATION	DATE	TIME
0 Structure Fire	18 Emergency Medical Calls		
0 Vehicle Fire	11 Vehicle Crash		
0 Other Fire	0 Vehicle Crash with Extrication		
0 Illegal Burn	5 Other Emergency Calls		
2 False Alarms	0 Hazardous Conditions		
E. John Sims Pkwy	Vehicle Crash	08/20/12	12:27
E. John Sims Pkwy	Vehicle Crash	08/20/12	13:32
SR 85 N/SR 123	Vehicle Crash	08/20/12	18:45
E. John Sims Pkwy	Vehicle Crash	08/20/12	19:13
E. John Sims Pkwy	Cancelled	08/21/12	10:34
E. John Sims Pkwy	Vehicle Crash	08/21/12	15:01
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	08/21/12	15:15
SR 85 N.	Vehicle Crash	08/21/12	18:27
Kelly Road	Medical	08/21/12	23:30
Lanman Road	Alarm Activation	08/22/12	01:53
Duncan Drive	Medical	08/22/12	11:47
Peachtree Way	Medical	08/22/12	18:06
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	08/22/12	19:48
Arrowhead Way	Medical	08/23/12	10:48
N. Palm Blvd.	Vehicle Crash	08/23/12	16:43
E. John Sims Pkwy	Medical	08/24/12	11:36
Valparaiso Blvd.	Medical	08/24/12	12:18
E. John Sims Pkwy	Medical	08/24/12	13:21
SR 85 N.	Medical	08/24/12	13:57
E. John Sims Pkwy	Vehicle Crash	08/24/12	14:53
N. Partin Drive	Vehicle Crash	08/24/12	15:10
E. John Sims Pkwy	False Call	08/24/12	16:00
20th Street	Cancelled	08/24/12	20:08
N. Palm Blvd.	Vehicle Crash	08/24/12	23:11
Government Avenue	Medical	08/25/12	03:49
N. Palm Blvd.	Medical	08/25/12	13:34
W. John Sims Pkwy	Medical	08/25/12	14:43
Bailey Drive	Medical	08/25/12	21:52
Rocky Bayou Bridge	Cancelled	08/26/12	00:37
Aspen Court	False Call	08/26/12	03:47
E. John Sims Pkwy	Vehicle Crash	08/26/12	12:09
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	08/26/12	15:09
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	08/26/12	17:02
Kelly Road	Service Call	08/26/12	19:02
W. John Sims Pkwy	Medical	08/26/12	21:11
Honeysuckle Way	Medical	08/26/12	22:16

Weekly Safety Tip: Football season will be starting soon...There will be large crowds in and around the stadium and a lot of traffic after the game. Be sure to use the pedestrian crosswalks to cross. The Niceville Fire Department is there for your safety and protection.

Like the Niceville Fire Department on Facebook

North Bay

The North Bay Fire Department responded to the following calls from August 19, 2012 through August 27, 2012.

Street	Situation	Date	Time
N. White Point Road	EMS call	08/19/12	01:27
Parkwood Lane	Alarm activation	08/19/12	13:20
Cedar Street	Medical assist	08/19/12	17:49
Parkside Circle	Dispatched & cancelled	08/19/12	19:20
Raintree Blvd.	EMS call	08/20/12	12:41
Birkdale Circle	Assist invalid	08/20/12	21:03
Blue Pine Lane	Vehicle accident	08/21/12	00:01
Mark Twain Court	Detector activation	08/21/12	13:02
Cat Mar Road	Dispatched & cancelled	08/21/12	17:03
Cat Mar Road	Detector activation	08/21/12	20:07
N. White Point Road	Medical assist	08/21/12	23:38
N. White Point Road	EMS call	08/22/12	10:42
Oakmont Place	Unintentional transmission	08/22/12	12:35
N. White Point Road	EMS call	08/22/12	17:53
N. White Point Road	EMS call	08/23/12	18:38
N. White Point Road	EMS call	08/24/12	06:42
Hickory Street	Assist invalid	08/25/12	05:08
Caribbean Way	EMS call	08/25/12	11:27
Merchants Walk	Vehicle accident	08/25/12	13:34
Kelly Road/Valp.	Dispatched & cancelled	08/26/12	18:19
Oakwood Circle	Medical assist	08/27/12	11:28

Visit northbayfd.org for more information

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A Niceville resident from the 1700 block of 23rd St. reported Aug. 21 that his home had been burglarized and some personal items stolen.

A Niceville resident from the 600 block of Caribbean Way reported that he received a credit card statement and a credit card with his correct name and address although he had not applied for the card. When he contacted the credit card company he was advised that the credit card was applied for online and the unknown person who completed the application had access to his Social Security number and date of birth. The identity theft victim also learned that a purchase had been made with the card July 10.

Criminal Mischief

A Niceville resident from the 6000 block of Sterling River Way reported that sometime Aug. 16-17 unknown person(s) had vandalized her car, broke a beer bottle in

her driveway and knocked over a street sign. The resident also reported that nearby contractor signs for a new home had been broken and the community pool across the street had also been vandalized.

Other

A 17-year-old Niceville boy was issued a criminal summons by Niceville police Aug. 14 on a charge of shoplifting. The boy allegedly was observed concealing two items in his pants then exiting Kmart, 1104 E. John Sims Parkway, without paying for the items.

A 16-year-old Niceville boy was issued a notice to appear by sheriff's deputies Aug. 16 on a charge of underage possession of an alcoholic beverage.

Amanda Pearl Bridges, unemployed, 21, of 105 Windlake Court, Niceville, was issued a notice to appear by sheriff's deputies Aug. 18 on a charge of petit retail theft.

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Beacon photo by Mike Griffith

Tanker trucks lined up on Bayshore Drive, Niceville, Monday to take on fuel at the Citgo terminal. A surge in demand was reported at local gas stations as Storm Isaac churned up the Gulf of Mexico.

ISAAC

From page A-1

bought bottled water, batteries, candles, and hurricane lamps over the weekend.

"We ran out of gas cans on Saturday," said Williams Monday, "but we have now restocked everything. Things are much slower today."

At Niceville's Ace Hardware store on John Sims Parkway, store manager Stephanie D'Angelo said Monday, "It was pretty crazy here on Saturday. We

ran out of gas cans and Plylocks (used to fasten plywood shutters to windows without nails or screws), and we're down to one gas can, but we are re-stocking today."

Her advice for hurricane preparation is, "Don't wait until the last minute to prepare for hurricane season."

At the Citgo gas terminal along Boggy Bayou, Niceville, empty tanker trucks lined up Monday, waiting to take on fuel loads for delivery to area filling stations.

Terminal manager Jay Goss

told the Beacon that business had been "brisk" over the weekend, but that there had been no shortage of gasoline in the area, with the exception of "a couple of stations that ran short for a couple of hours."

Goss said that if the storm damages refineries or blocks the Intracoastal Waterway between Niceville and refineries along the coast of Louisiana and Mississippi, there could be some delay in gasoline deliveries to his terminal during the next couple of weeks, but that he did not expect any serious problems.

TDC

From page A-2

sioners dropped a proposal made during an Aug. 9 budget workshop to split property tax revenue derived from the county's parks and recreation municipal services taxing unit (MSTU), using half of those funds to establish a stormwater utility to curtail pollution of local waterways.

During the Aug. 9 workshop, public health director Karen Chapmen had warned commissioners that increasing stormwater pollution is reducing the number of days each year when it is safe to swim at local beaches.

"A hundred percent of those funds should go to parks and recreation," said Commissioner Don Amunds. A motion to split the funding failed for lack of a second.

Commissioners also heard a briefing from public works director John Hofstad, saying that new state regulations now allow the county to do "monitored natural attenuation" of ground water contamination from the former Niceville landfill. Previous state rules, Hofstad said, would have

required the county to install an expensive "pump and treat" system to actively clean ground water from around the landfill, but the new rules allow the county to merely place monitoring wells

around the site to ensure that ground water pollution is not spreading.

The former landfill is just west of Highway 85 North, on Eglin land north of Niceville.

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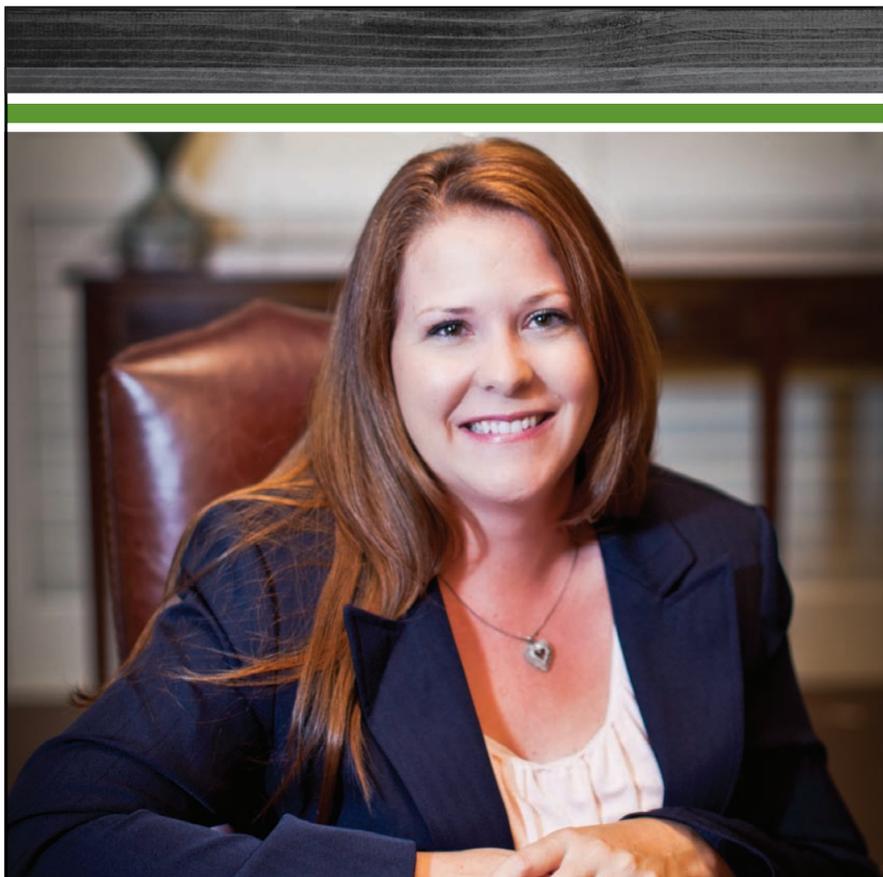
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The Bay Beacon and Beacon Express, incorporating the Bluewater Breeze, is published every Wednesday by Bayou Enterprises Inc. Free total-market home delivery to Niceville, Valparaiso, Bluewater Bay and Seminole, as well as mid-Walton County from Villa Tasso to Basin Bayou, including Choctaw Beach. Subscriptions: One year, mail, \$104. One year, electronic subscription, \$52.
Niceville's Newspaper



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VALP

From page A-1

(APZs) to those currently allowed by the cities Comprehensive Plan.

The CZ is an area extending 3,000 feet, including part of Valparaiso, from the north end

of the north-south Eglin runway and is an area in which there is a higher-than-normal probability of an aircraft crash occurring, based on historical data at airports and military bases around the country. Eglin's 2006 Air Installation Compatible use Zone (AICUZ) study recommends that no homes be

allowed in the CZ.

About 18 Valparaiso homes were built in the CZ before 2006. Two homes on Andrews Drive, in the CZ, were destroyed by a military training jet, a T-38, that ran out of gas and crashed in 2003. New homes were built on the same locations.

The APZs 1 and 2 extend out 5,000 feet and 7,000 feet, respectively, from the crash zone, including parts of Valparaiso and Niceville. The 2006 Eglin AICUZ recommends limited, less dense development in those areas due to the potential for aircraft crashes in those zones.

Valparaiso's comprehensive plan amendment also recognizes that city has a planning commission that makes recommendations to city commissioners on land development and zoning issues. It also specifies that an Eglin Air Force Base representative will serve as an "ex officio, i.e., non-voting,

member of the planning commission. That ex-officio member is currently Marion Cook, Eglin's Community Planner. The ex-officio member will be appointed annually.

No one from the public attended the first of two public hearings on the ordinance, which was held July 2.



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The hearing health care professionals at Niceville Hearing Center are leading the way in helping people experience healthier hearing lives. Through advanced hearing technology and superior service, Niceville Hearing Center's goal is to educate patients about hearing loss and its effects on their lives, while ultimately providing innovative solutions that meet each individuals hearing needs and lifestyle.

The staff at Niceville Hearing Center takes the time to know their patients and their goals. Hearing better is more than the purchase of hearing aids, there are emotions involved as well.



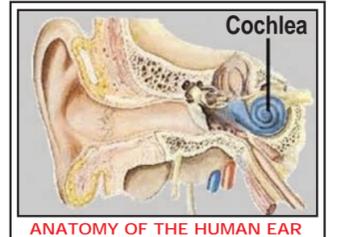
A successful ribbon cutting taking place at Twin Cities Medical Plaza.

The staff at Niceville Hearing Center will discuss the patient's hearing health and the history of listening environments, as well as any previous or current diseases and injuries. The patient's thoughts, feelings and expectations are most important, as well as developing the right hearing healthcare plan.

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Niceville Hearing Center is proud to offer excellence in hearing health care with a unique approach to meet the patient's personal needs, while making the hearing experience as natural and care free as possible. Counseling and educating patients about the importance of preserving their hearing is the essence of Niceville Hearing Center's role as a hearing health care provider. After a very detailed audiometric hearing evaluation, the staff at Niceville Hearing Center will help the patient make decisions about improving their hearing. All appropriate alternatives are discussed, whether it be a medical referral, hearing instruments, or other rehabilitative measures. As a valued



patient, you will receive hearing aids that perfectly match your lifestyle and budget. Niceville Hearing Center offers a full line of digital programmable hearing devices that are easy to wear. Working closely with the patient ensures that all concerns are met, both today and tomorrow, and that the patient is completely satisfied with every aspect of their hearing experience at Niceville Hearing Center.

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S. Grant Williams, owner of Niceville Hearing Center, was nominated as "The Best of 2011 Hearing Healthcare Professionals" by The Hearing Review publication.

The Hearing Review publishers established the "Best Of The Best" program to recognize those hearing instrument specialist, audiologists, ear, nose & throat medical doctors and others who exemplify quality hearing health care. This program highlights outstanding individuals, practices, facilities and companies that "go above and beyond" the call of duty to serve the needs of people with hearing impairment.

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Who's News

Mary Ellen "Molly" Brannon, a 2008 Graduate of Niceville High School, has been admitted to Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert School of Law for the fall, 2012, semester. A native of Miramar Beach, Brannon attended Butler Elementary School and Destin Middle School prior to her graduation with honors from Niceville High School. She recently received her undergraduate degree from LSU, where she majored in sociology with a concentration in criminology and minored in psychology and international studies. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George T. Brannon Sr. of Miramar Beach.



Mary Ellen "Molly" Brannon

Mark Victor Ross has been promoted to the rank of major, U.S. Army. He is the operations officer for Task Force 1, Operations Group, Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La. Ross is a 1995 graduate of Niceville High School. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2001. He is the son of Mark and Vickie Ross of Niceville and is married to the former Jill Pedretti of Verona, Wisc. They have a daughter, Kristin Ann, age 3, and are expecting their second child, a boy, in September.



Mark Victor Ross

Debby Lewis, Realtor, of ERA American Realty, Niceville, attended Florida Realtor 96th annual Convention & Trade Expo Aug. 8-12, 2012, at the Marriott World Center in Orlando.



Debby Lewis

Ray Nilsson of Niceville took the first step in becoming a Boilermaker by participating in the annual STAR program at Purdue University's West Lafayette campus. Summer Transition, Advising and Registration (STAR) is Purdue's program for new undergraduate students to receive academic advice and create their initial course schedule. Incoming students select their one-day STAR session and come to Purdue's West Lafayette campus to conduct this and other important business.

Prime Time signups to begin



Personal enrichment classes in Acrylic painting are just some of the more than 40 Prime Time non-credit classes offered by NWFSC.

No tests, grades in enrichment classes at college

Registration for the Fall PRIME Time series of personal enrichment classes offered by Northwest Florida State College begins Sept. 6 at the Niceville campus and South Walton Center. In-person registration at all seven NWFSC

locations starts Sept. 7 until the first class session, space permitting. The PRIME Time schedule of classes and information is available at nwfsc.edu/schedule, at community locations such as libraries and chambers of com-

merce, or by calling the NWFSC Continuing Education Department at 729-6084.

All PRIME Time courses are non-credit and are designed for personal enrichment with

Please see SIGNUPS, page B-5



102 and counting

The fountain of youth may be a myth but Beatrice Winters seems to have found a secret that has helped her keep going. On Aug. 23, she celebrated her 102nd birthday. She lives at Superior Residences of Niceville. "When you get to be my age," she said, "you really don't care about celebrating them." But the smile on her face told a different story as she was surrounded by friends and family.

Generations get together

Three generations—mother, daughter and granddaughters — have gathered for years at the beginning of the school year. From left, Sarah Sims, Kristen Sims, Patsy Taylor and Mary Sims. Patsy Taylor taught in Louisiana, California, Tennessee and Florida before beginning a real estate career. Mary and her daughter Kristen teach second grade and kindergarten, respectively, at Bluewater Bay Elementary School. Mary's daughter Sarah is a junior and member of the Niceville High School volleyball team.



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Engeldingers celebrate 50 years of marriage

Frank and Carla Engeldinger of Niceville will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Sept. 8. They were married Sept. 8, 1962, in Menomonie, Wisc., at St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

Frank retired with 20 years in the U.S. Air Force as a security policeman. During that time, the couple lived in numerous places, including California, Florida, Texas, Turkey and New Mexico, returning to Florida, where he retired. He also spent a couple of unaccompanied tours to Thailand and Turkey. After retiring in 1980, he went to work at Century 21, Wilson Minger Agency, where he spent the next 26 years in real estate, retiring in December 2007. He enjoys golfing and being a stay-at-home husband.

Carla was employed for 40 years with Civil Service, working in various career fields at each base where her husband was sent. Her final job was Executive Secretary to the 96th Air Base Wing Commander. She retired in October 2007. Since then, she has been involved with Pet Welfare on Eglin Air Force Base as the dog coordinator, a job that, although very time-consuming, is her passion.

Frank and Carla have two children, Renee and son-in-law Gary Aull, and Jeffrey and daughter-in-law Daniela Engeldinger, and three grandchildren, Haley, Joshua and Tanner.

Friends and family may stop by a 50th anniversary open house celebration at the Boathouse in Valparaiso, Saturday, Sept. 8, from 4 to 7 p.m. No gifts, please.



Carla and Frank Engeldinger on their wedding day Sept. 8, 1962, in Menomonie, Wisc.



Frank and Carla Engeldinger will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Sept. 8.



Classroom donation

Oscar Ferrell, Master of Okaloosa Masonic Lodge 312, presents a check for \$200 to Julie Howell, a newly hired teacher at Edge Elementary. The lodge gives a check each year to a selected teacher to assist with classroom expenses for the coming year. Also pictured are Dr. Samantha Dawson, principal of Edge Elementary, and Ken Eichorn, secretary of Okaloosa Lodge.



Niceville girl vies for title in Anaheim

Alexa Johnson, 8, daughter of Janet and Andrew Johnson of Niceville, earned the title of 2012 National American Miss Florida in her age group July 27 and 28 in Jacksonville. The Bluewater Elementary School third-grader will now compete for the national title Thanksgiving week in Anaheim, Calif. She is active in the community as well, having collected school supplies to donate to Sharing and Caring.

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Beacon Newspapers, 1181 E. John Sims Pky., Niceville, FL 32578



Food donations needed

Sharing & Caring, Niceville, is asking for donations due to a shortage of food. Items needed include, but are not limited to: canned meats, pork and beans, cereal, canned pasta, corn, drinks (juice), side dishes (Hamburger Helper), toilet paper and toothpaste, or any items which cannot be purchased with food stamps. Donations can be dropped off Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., or Friday, 9 a.m.-noon. Info: 678-8459.

Nicotine Anonymous

If you desire to stop using nicotine, or stay stopped, join Nicotine Anonymous on Thursdays at 7 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church, 1800 John Sims Parkway. Info: 897-4721.

Floral Design Studies

The Valparaiso Garden Club is now accepting registrations for Advanced Floral Design Studies classes for anyone interested in learning about floral design. Classes will be held at the Valparaiso Community Library on the first Saturday of each month, September-March, excluding December, from 9-11:30 a.m. Cost of six classes: \$60. Call 897-4011, or email jnkam@gmail.com for registration forms, or pick one up at the Valparaiso Community Library. No experience necessary. Info: marieharrison@valp.net.

Arts and crafts show

The fourth annual Fall Flair Arts & Crafts Show, sponsored by the Destin United Methodist Women, will take place Friday, Sept. 7, 9 a.m.-5:00 p.m., and Saturday, Sept. 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Destin Life Center, 200 Beach Drive, Destin. Vendors will display and sell their works. A bake sale will offer a variety of homemade goodies for purchase. Enjoy lunch at the Soul Cafe. All proceeds benefit Church missions. Info: fallflair2012@aol.com

Bazaar vendors needed

Niceville UMC World Bazaar and Benefit is seeking quality home-craft vendors for its 36th annual event Oct. 27. For information and entry forms, go to nicevilleumc.org/women/bazaar.htm or call 865-4769.

Oktoberfest seeks artists

The 18th Annual Oktoberfest and Crafts Festival at Winn-Dixie Plaza in Bluewater Bay is looking for artists and craftsmen interested in selling their work. The festival, sponsored by the Mid-Bay Rotary Club, will be Sept. 28, from 5-10 p.m., and Sept. 29, from 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Cost for both days: \$75. Info: Bert, 897-3190.

'Have a Heart' run/walk

Registration is ongoing for the Okaloosa County "Have a Heart" 5K run/walk, Sept. 1, at the 911 Emergency Operations Center. The course will loop around the Northwest Florida State College Campus, Niceville. Registration is \$20. T-shirts will be presented to the first 200 entries. Info: Ken Wolfe, kwolfe@co.okaloosa.fl.us, or newftc.com/racecalendar. All proceeds benefit the American Heart Association.

Rotary golf tourney

Reservations are being taken for the Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Club Golf Tournament Oct. 11, at 1 p.m., Rocky Bayou Country Club. The golf tournament will fund scholarships for local students. The goal this year is \$10,000. Corporate sponsor: \$350, four player and hole sign. Individual player: \$90. Hole sign only, \$100. Info: Jimmie Boisjolie, 699-0045, jimgirl@cox.net, or nicevalrotary@yahoo.com. Safe boating class



Shark program Saturday

Come out to the Biophilia Center to learn all about sharks. Learn about basic shark anatomy, the types of sharks found in Florida, why shark attacks occur/how to avoid an attack, and shark conservation. Have fun with shark trivia and prizes and join this educational experience, Saturday, Sept. 1, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., E.O.Wilson Biophilia Center, 4956 State Hwy 20 East, Freeport. Info: 835-1824.

Club Golf Tournament Oct. 11, at 1 p.m., Rocky Bayou Country Club. The golf tournament will fund scholarships for local students. The goal this year is \$10,000. Corporate sponsor: \$350, four player and hole sign. Individual player: \$90. Hole sign only, \$100. Info: Jimmie Boisjolie, 699-0045, jimgirl@cox.net, or nicevalrotary@yahoo.com. Safe boating class

Walk to end Alzheimer's

Sterling House, Bluewater Bay, will hold a community sign-up Friday, Aug. 31, 2-5 p.m., for the Oct. 6 Okaloosa County Walk to End Alzheimer's. Computers and staff will be on hand to assist individuals and teams to register for the walk. Refreshments will be served.

Alzheimer's support group

Alzheimer's Family Services provides monthly support groups for family members or friends coping with a loved one with Alzheimer's disease. A support group will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 29, at the First United Methodist Church, Chandler Center, 214 S. Partin Drive. The support group is free and respite care is available.

Support 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 this support group or for additional information, call 850-478-7790 or visit AlzFamServ.org.

Audubon beekeeping meeting

The next meeting of the Choctawhatchee Audubon Society will be held Thursday, Sept. 6, and will feature a presentation on the basics of beekeeping by Niceville native Jeff Dietrich. Jeff is in the fifth year of a master's in beekeeping certification through the University of West Florida. His bees produce honey from a variety of local wildflowers, and samples will be available.

This meeting will be held in Room 132 of the Student Services Center (SSC 132) on the Niceville Campus of Northwest Florida State College at 6:30 p.m., for socializing and refreshments, and the program at 7 p.m. The meeting is free and open to all who have an interest in birds and nature. For more information, please call Walt Spence at 582-7064.

'We Grew Up' gathering

The fourth annual "We Grew Up

at FBC Valparaiso" Gathering is planned for Labor Day Weekend. A reception with light refreshments is planned for Saturday afternoon, Sept. 1, in the church's Fellowship Hall from 2-5 p.m., followed by dinner at Boathouse Landing restaurant at 6 p.m. No RSVP is needed. A "head count" will be taken during the reception for those planning to eat dinner together. Those who can't make it to the reception, but would like to eat dinner with the group can call Pam Smith 678-5484/Text: 621-6135 or Liz Jepson Webb 678-1301 elizmiz@aol.com.

Library movie day

The Valparaiso Community Library plans its first Early Release Movie Day of the fall. "The Pirates: Band of Misfits," Sept. 6, 1:30 p.m. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Schoolhouse marks 100th

Camp Walton Schoolhouse aficionados will celebrate the build-

ing's 100 years on Saturday, Sept. 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Everyone is invited for an old-fashioned party with decorations, cake and ice cream. The theme of the day is the time period the schoolhouse functioned as a school: 1912-1936. Meet Fort Walton Beach's founding families whose ancestors attended the school and learn about the past. Enjoy these activities and displays throughout the day:

- Live music and games such as 3-legged races;
- Educational exhibits on inventions, toys, and newspaper headlines from 1912-1936.;
- Antique cars on Heritage Park grounds;
- Old-fashioned photo opportunities;
- Shopping for schoolhouse related items, including a new Christmas ornament.

Admission to all museums at Heritage Park and Cultural Center will be free that day.

Child care expert to speak

John Rosemond, syndicated columnist and author of more than 14 best selling parenting books, including his most recent, "Parenting By The Book," is coming back to Niceville after 10 years Sunday, Sept. 9, 6:30 p.m., at the Mattie Kelly Art Center. Tickets are \$25 for general admission or \$45 for VIP seats and reception. Also, a silent auction will be available. To order tickets, call 729-6000 or visit mattiekellyartscenter.org/index.cfm.

Blood drive for 1st responders

Northwest Florida Blood Services will be at Sterling House, Bluewater Bay, Sept. 10, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., for a 9/11 commemorative blood drive in honor of first responders for Patriots Day. Wear red white and blue and stay for refreshments.

Friends set book sale

The Friends of the Niceville Library annual book sale will take place at Niceville Community Center, adjacent to the library, Sept. 14, 4-6 p.m., for Friends only, and 15, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., for the general public. Saturday's event will include a bake sale. Info: 729-4090.

Obituary

Lorena (Jo) Jewell Bartlett

Lorena (Jo) Jewell Bartlett, 91, a former resident of Niceville, Fla., passed away Sunday, Aug. 19, 2012, in Tallahassee, Fla.

The sixth child of William Thomas and Dorenda Jane Mann, Jo was born on Feb. 6, 1921, in Lovington, N.M. At a young age her family moved to Texas, where she grew up and eventually met and married the love of her life, Delmar Travis Bartlett, on Dec. 9, 1941.



Lorena (Jo) Jewell Bartlett

A military wife for 20 years, Jo moved her family to bases from Texas to Virginia, wherever her husband was assigned. Along the way, they were blessed with two daughters who kept her busy while Travis was away on assignment. She was an athlete who loved to play softball and later golf. Indoors,

it was bowling and bridge. An officer's wife, Jo was always prepared to host an impromptu get-together and her happy-hour hors d'oeuvres were legendary. Jo loved to dance and after professional lessons she went on to dance in many amateur competitions.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Travis, in 1988. She is survived by two daughters, Jody Swenson (Rex) of Niceville, Fla., and Judy Galloway (John) of Tallahassee, Fla., eight grandchildren, Lorena Katherine Spillar-Purvis (Rick) of Niceville, Fla., Yvette Michelle Stecklein of Crestview, Fla., David Michael Thomas (Mar'ti) of Rockledge, Fla., Kacy Katrina McClean (Sean) of Orlando, Fla., Dorenda Jo Keller of Havana, Fla., Laura Elizabeth Burrough (Steve) of Niceville, Fla., Matthew Aaron Thomas (Lisa) of Birmingham, Ala., and Harrison Bradley Keller IV (Sandy) of Midland, Fla., 13 great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

A memorial service will be held in Tallahassee on Sept. 22. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her memory to Big Bend Hospice, 1723 Mahan Center Boulevard, Tallahassee, FL 32308.

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THE INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER

—by Mike Griffith

Location: Wal-Mart

What are your plans for the Labor Day weekend?



"I work in a restaurant, so I'll be busy."

Chance Gould, 39, Niceville, cook



"Moving into my new dorm room at the University of South Florida."

Eddie Martinez, 18, Niceville, student



"Hang out at home, go swimming, and enjoy the beautiful weather."

Lindsey Lynch, 34, Bluewater Bay, mommy



"We'll probably spend some time with our son, his wife, and our grandchildren."

Pat Hansen, 72, Niceville, retired



"We'll be staying home. We already live in one of the nation's premier vacation spots, so why go anywhere else?"

Jerry Moellenkamp, 64, Niceville, health care coordinator



"My sister and brother-in-law are coming to visit from North Carolina."

Joanne Gifun, 60, Niceville, housewife

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

Martial arts master teaches

Grandmaster Ron Pierce of San Diego, a martial arts expert with 55 years of experience and founder of Pierce Family Gung Fu, demonstrates his offensive and defensive techniques at a seminar held at the Martial Arts Combat Academy (MACA) in Niceville. Over the two-day seminar, students learned empty-hand and weapon skills, as well as how to use everyday items such as a credit card or dollar bill to defend against an attack.



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Mary Thomas, center, is honored by alumni from 10 years of the dental assisting program at Northwest Florida State College.

Students honor retiring director

Students honor retiring director

Northwest Florida State College recognized students who completed the college's vocational certificate program in dental assisting during the 2011-12 academic year at a pinning ceremony held Aug. 3.

Mary Thomas, the dental assisting program director, noted at the ceremony that the NWF State College graduates are now certified for dental assisting throughout Florida, including radiography certification and other expanded functions. Graduates are also eligible to take the National Board Exam to be eligible for jobs nationwide.

Dental assisting graduates include:

Niceville: Brianna Allen and Deanna Faulkner, Niceville; Nicki Bolton and Carrie Harper, Crestview; Kristina Lynn, DeFuniak Springs; Monique Clay, Julija Celovalnova, Sonklin Craghead and Brandi Lee, Fort Walton Beach; Kacy Edwards, Holt; Kristen Komm

and Nicole Smith, Mary Esther; and Siobhan Simeone, Navarre.

The dental assisting students surprised Thomas by recognizing her impending retirement with a small ceremony of their own. Thomas has had a significant role in shaping the lives of dental assistants for a number of years, as she has led the NWFSC dental program since its inception in 2002. She also led the college's dental assisting education efforts when the college hosted a joint program with Gulf Coast Community College prior to the establishment of a stand-alone dental program.

To pay tribute to Thomas's leadership and to thank her for all she has done, alumni from each of the program's 10 graduating classes returned to share in her final pinning ceremony (photo attached).

"Mary Thomas will be greatly missed," remarked Dr. Brian Shonk, the Dean of Career and Technical Education at the college. "She has been a tremendous person to work with, and a driving force behind the success of this program."

Thomas, who is retiring after

10 years at the college, thanked everyone for their encouragement and dedication. "But the real reason we're here today is to celebrate these graduates," Thomas noted. "Congratulations, class of 2012."

Local blood drives slated

Aug. 29
Hurlburt Building One
100 Bartley Street
8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Niceville United Methodist Church
214 S. Partin Drive
3 to 8 p.m.

Aug. 31
Wal-Mart Niceville
1 to 6 p.m.
Free gift card for all donors

Sept. 5
First Baptist Church of Niceville, 622 Bayshore Drive
5 to 8 p.m.

Northwest Florida State College

PRIME TIME

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Student Services Center, 2nd floor

South Walton Center
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Register Sept. 7th - Until
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- Exercise
- Language
- Cooking
- Government
- Wine Tasting
- History
- Computers
- and more . . .

Brochures are available at all NWFSC campuses, area libraries, Chamber of Commerce offices, visitor centers and senior centers.

FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT

AMANDA BARKER
Director of
Continuing Education
729-6085

~ OR ~

LAURA SCHULTZE
Curriculum &
Instructional Specialist
729-6084

www.nwfsc.edu/schedule

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SIGNUPS

From page B-1

no grades or tests given. Open to adults of any age, PRIME Time non-credit classes start in September, October and November and range from \$5 to \$75. Courses focus on computers, health, foods, fitness, politics, arts, gardening and more. More than 40 courses are

offered on the NWFSO Niceville campus. The 16 courses offered in South Walton and Destin include a new Lunch and Learn on "Titanic: The Ship of Dreams" offered at Rutherford's in Destin. The popular Chef's Choice series will feature various area restaurants, including The Grille at Kelly Plantation, Longhorn Steakhouse, and Melting Pot. Fitness 101 will be offered at the college's

Chautauqua Center located in DeFuniak Springs. New courses this year include "American Women in WWII: A Weapon Waiting to be Used," "Beginning Sign Language," "Journaling Adventures!" "Astronomy," and "Mosaics Magic: Beginning Stained Glass Mosaics."

In-person registration Sept. 6 at NWFSO in Niceville in the Student Services Center is from

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Individuals who have previously enrolled may register by web at nwfsoc.edu, starting Sept. 6 at 9 a.m. Registration continues until classes start or are filled.

PRIME Time participants receive the benefits of regular NWF State College students, including use of the library, access to special events, and free parking. For more information, call 729-6084 or 729-6085.

Registration now open for Relay 5K

Register now for the 7th Annual Twin-Cities Relay for Life 5K/Mile Fun Run, to be held Sept. 15 at 8 a.m. at Lewis School,

Valparaiso. Early registration for the 5K is \$15/Fun Run, \$5. The student price is \$5 for either race.

Special rates are available for

groups of 10 or more. Late fee add \$5 the day of the race.

The first 250 entries will receive T-shirts.

Register on-line at active.com. Email samacd@valp.net for any questions. Proceeds benefit The American Cancer Society. Runners and walkers are welcome.

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Eagles strong on 'O' and 'D'

The Niceville Eagles football team clicked on offense and defense during Friday's Kickoff Classic scrimmage against Washington, outscoring the visitors 32-0. At left, sophomore running back Shi Kim Coward speeds past Washington defenders on his way to a first down. At right, Joseph Blythe (43) and Perry Barrett dive for a fumbled ball. Blythe snagged the loose ball for a first down. Niceville will open its regular season Friday at home against East Gadsden. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

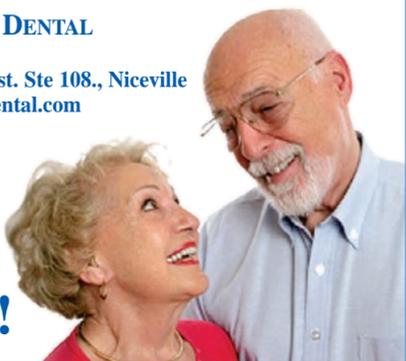
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