

The Bay Beacon

Police Blotter
Page A-4

12 Pages, 2 Sections, 5 Inserts

Wednesday, November 14, 2012

50¢

**UP
COMING**

Friday, noon-1 p.m.

Bring and enjoy a lunch while listening to a **boat history lecture** at the **Heritage Museum** of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso.



Friday, 9 a.m.-noon.

Round up your animals for a **pet nail trim** at the **Parkway Veterinarian Hospitals'** fundraiser to benefit the American Cancer Society, Niceville.

Saturday, 9 a.m.

Learn all about the **U.S. Constitution** with expert KrisAnne Hall at **Radiant Life Church**, Niceville.

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.



Celebrate the Northwest Florida Ballet's 43 years with the holiday tradition of **"The Nutcracker,"** at the **Mattie Kelly Arts Center**, Niceville.

Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Take the kids to laugh and sing in **"Shrek the Musical,"** at the **Mattie Kelly Arts Center**, Niceville.



See Calendar, B-3.

Outlook dim for Christmas Lady's display

By Anna Kavanaugh
Beacon Staff Writer

The "Christmas Lady," Debbie Lewis, has featured her annual "Animation In Motion" Christmas show for 17 years, usually in Niceville.

In recent years, it has become difficult to secure a space for her large, lighted collection of animated dolls, nutcrackers and Christmas village,

which draws many hundreds of visitors during the holiday season.

This year, she says, her time and luck appear to have run out.

"We usually have five to six weeks to plan," Lewis said Friday. "With 20 days or so left, I just don't think we can do it."

The display has been an annual event, since 1994, earning Lewis, a real estate agent, the nickname



Debbie Lewis

"Christmas Lady."

Until 2006, the show was featured in her Niceville yard and house. Then the city of Niceville told her the month-long event was disruptive to the neighborhood. She has had to find a new venue every year since.

"Visiting 'Animation in Motion' has been a part of my family's Christmas for many years," said Jeff Werner, whose own Christmas light

show in his yard in Bluewater Bay draws many spectators. "We're going to miss not being able to go this year."

A number of obstacles have kept Lewis from hosting her show. She said she needs at least 5,000 square feet to display the Christmas items. Radiant Life Church in Niceville, where the past two displays were

Please see DISPLAY, page A-6

Salute to service



Representatives of local veterans and service organizations, and civic and military leaders, stood with commemorative wreaths at the Veterans Day ceremony at Doolittle Park in Valparaiso Nov. 12. The representatives, such as Col. Antonio Douglas (right), vice commander of the 96th Test Wing, Eglin Air Force Base, placed the wreaths at the park's monument to honor past and current members of the U.S. armed forces.

Beacon photos by Daniel Elsesser



Enrollment increases a 2nd year

By Daniel Elsesser
Beacon Staff Writer

Public-school enrollment in Okaloosa County has increased sharply after a five-year decline, according to outgoing Superintendent of Schools Alexis Tibbetts.

Enrollment was 28,868 students in the 2005-06 school year, but dropped to 26,486 in 2010-11, Tibbetts said last week. The 8.25 percent decline was the 13th largest of the state's 67 districts over that five-year period, she said.

This school year, Okaloosa has recorded an

Please see ENROLLMENT, page A-2



Alexis Tibbetts

Four-laning of SR 123 will hike speed limit

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

Thirty-four people attended a public information open house meeting held Thursday at the Niceville Community Center concerning plans by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to widen State Road 123 from two to four lanes, between the north and south branches of State Road 85.

When the project is completed at a yet-unspecified date, the speed limit on the busy, five-mile commuter highway will rise by 10 mph, to 65 mph, according to the FDOT.

SR 123 allows traffic between north and

Please see SR 123, page A-2

Most incumbents prevail in election

Beacon Correspondent

The Nov. 6 general election saw informal ribbon cutting and celebration at the end of the new sidewalk recently completed along the west end of Bay Drive.



Tricia Brunson

One of the newcomers to local politics is Tricia Brunson, who defeated incumbent Leonard



Debbie Stretch
Martin for the East Niceville Fire District Group 5 seat.

Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce president, was pleased that she won.

"I didn't really run because I saw problems," said Brunson. "I just wanted to help my neighbors." Looking



Doug Burgess

at a map of the fire district, she noticed that all five members of its elected governing board resided south of John Sims Parkway, although most of the district's territory lies north of the highway.



Dale Blanchard

Brunson, being from the north side, in the Rocky Bayou community, thought it would be useful if households in her part of the fire district had a direct voice.

"It just made sense



Don Gaetz

because they're a large portion of its tax base," she said.

The self-governing fire district encompasses the area north and east of the Niceville city limits, to the Rocky Bayou waterway.

Separately, of the three Bluewater Bay Municipal Services Benefit Unit Board of Directors seats on the Nov. 6 ballot, one went to challenger

Please see ELECTION, page A-5

Where the sidewalk used to end

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

A group of Bluewater Bay residents gathered last Wednesday afternoon for an informal ribbon cutting and celebration at the end of the new sidewalk recently completed along the west end of Bay Drive.

The event marked the end of a campaign by nearby residents to get the Bluewater Bay Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) and the Okaloosa County Commission to work together to build the sidewalk, which residents said is needed to ensure safety of bicyclists and pedestri-

ans who previously had to walk or ride in the road.

Among those attending were Courtney and Karsen Kloos, ages 8 and 5, Amanda Schmidt, Terrie Azevedo, Neville Edenborough, Joan McCarthy, Susan Kloos, Doug Burgess, and Dale Blanchard.

McCarthy, Burgess and Blanchard are board members of the MSBU, and Edenborough was a leader of the efforts by residents to get the sidewalk built.

Following the ribbon cutting, Edenborough talked briefly about the sidewalk project as his neighbors enjoyed cookies and other refreshments.



An informal ceremony was held Nov. 7 to mark the opening of a sidewalk near the west end of Bay Drive, Bluewater Bay. It was built in a joint venture of the Bluewater Bay Municipal Services Benefit Unit and Okaloosa County.

SR 123

From page A-1

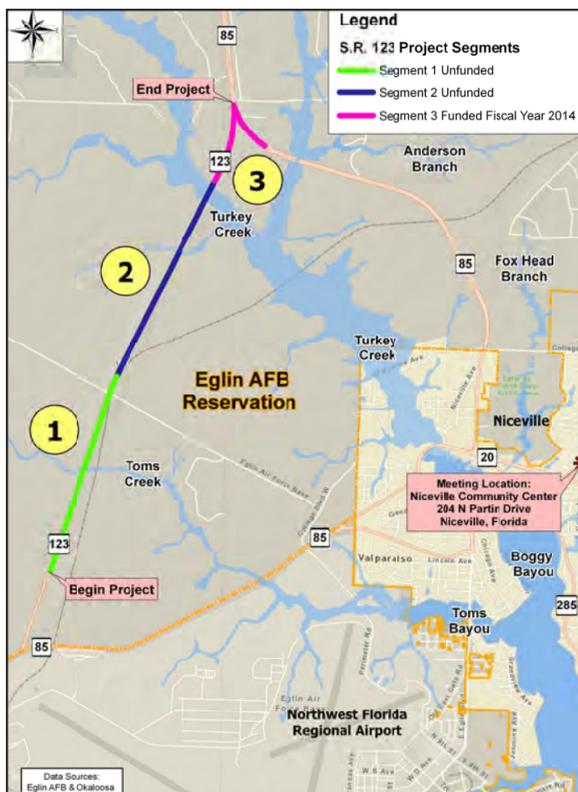
south county to bypass the mid-county communities of Niceville and Valparaiso. The roadway is heavily traveled by residents of Crestview who work at Eglin Air Force Base or in Fort Walton Beach.

According to an FDOT statement, "Proposed improvements consist of widening SR 123 from two to four lanes with four 12-foot travel lanes and 10-foot shoulders (five-foot paved), separated by a 64-foot grassed median."

The project, which will require three new bridges, will require right-of-way from Eglin Air Force Base because it cuts through the Eglin Reservation.

The FDOT stated that the project has been divided into three segments for funding purposes. The only segment funded by FDOT thus far is Segment 3, from north of Turkey Creek to SR 85 North. That segment has been funded, with an estimated construction cost of \$10.2 million, with construction scheduled to begin during Fiscal Year 2014, and expected to take about two years to complete.

FDOT District 3 Public Information Director Ian Satter said the other two segments have not yet been funded, but that he expects funding to become available from savings on other highway projects throughout the state. He explained that construction bids on such projects sometimes come in lower than the project's original budgets, allowing the



Florida Department of Transportation

The Florida Department of Transportation so far has enough money to pay for segment 1 of a planned three-segment four-laning of State Road 123 west of Niceville-Valparaiso. The first phase of the project, slated to begin in fiscal year 2013-14, will cost an estimated \$10 million.

excess funds to be transferred to other projects, and that he expects this to happen enough during the next few years to make funding available for the other two segments of the SR 123 widening.

Segment 1 will extend from north of SR 85 South to north of Tom's Creek, and Segment 2 will extend from north of Tom's Creek to north of Turkey Creek. Satter did not provide an estimate of the cost for either of the

as-yet unfunded segments.

Satter told the Beacon that by widening SR 123, FDOT hopes to improve safety by reducing congestion along the road. He said other safety features will include wider paved shoulders.

He also said that by widening the road, the state will be able to increase the posted speed limit to 65 miles per hour from the current 55 mph limit. He also said that widening SR

123 will improve its capacity as a potential evacuation route when hurricanes approach Northwest Florida.

Satter also said that of the 34 people who signed in during Thursday's meeting, half were FDOT staff members, and most of the rest were county and city public officials or representatives of contracting companies likely to bid on the road construction project.

He said that although the meeting was announced in advance, that he has noticed a reduction in interest in such meetings by the public in the last couple of years. Satter said he hopes that interest will improve when FDOT implements plans for a website containing more information about upcoming highway projects, including videos explaining the projects.

One of the contractor representatives at Thursday's meeting was Bobby Braun, of the Anderson Columbia construction company. Braun examined plans for the project, and said he expects that his company will be among the bidders. Such projects, he said, are a staple of his company's business, and Anderson Columbia is already involved in other local road projects, including helping to build the new flyover at the junction of SR 123 and SR 85 South near the Northwest Florida Regional Airport, and construction of the Mid-Bay Bridge Connector between the north end of the bridge and SR 85 north of Niceville.

Information about the SR 123 widening project is available by phoning Satter at (888) 638-0250, ext. 205, or by phoning Atkins Engineering General Consultant Project Manager Sandra Lamb, at (866) 855-7275.

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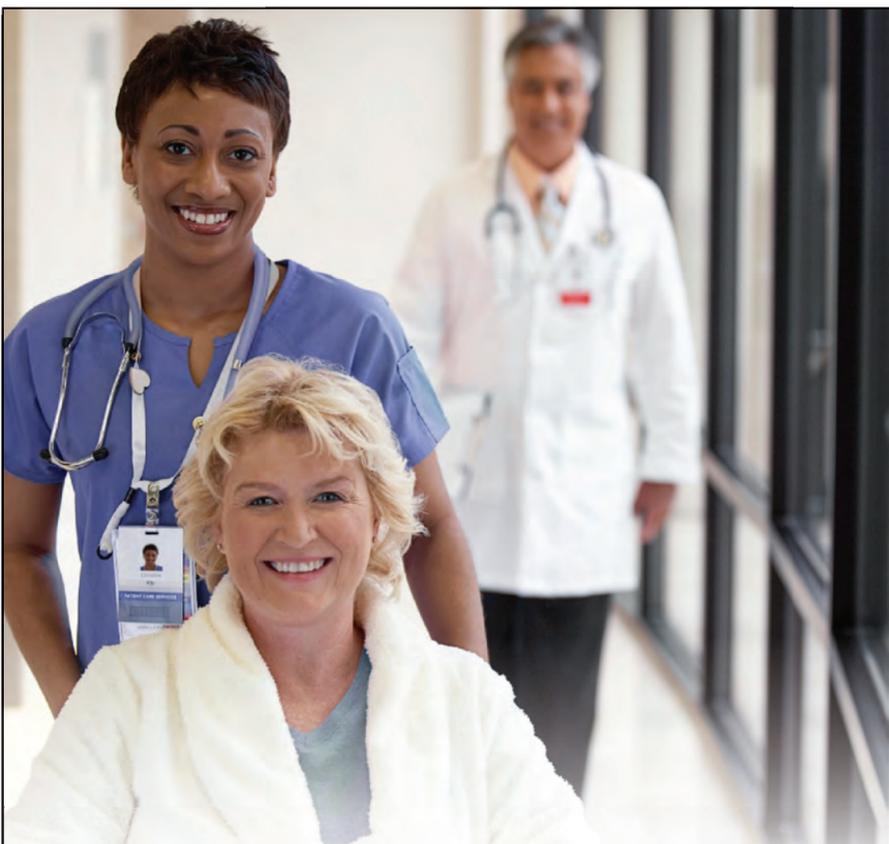
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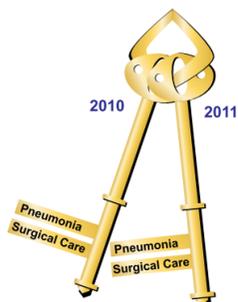
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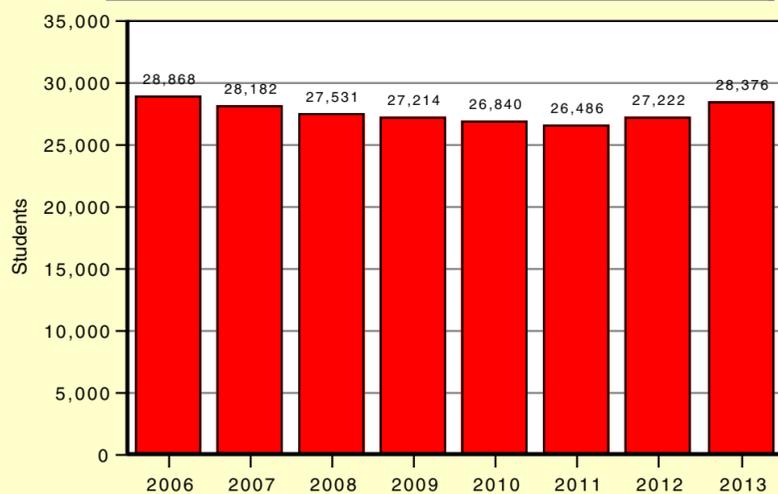
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More students in county classrooms

Okaloosa County School District enrollment, by year



ENROLLMENT

From page A-1

enrollment of 28,376 students, up 4.2 percent from last year, and 1.7 percent below 2006.

Tibbetts credited at least part of the increase to the Army 7th Special Forces Group moving to Eglin Air Force Base from Fort Bragg, N.C.

Ryan Gore, information systems program director for the school district, said growth in the county housing market might have also contributed to the enrollment spike. The market suffered heavily in the wake of the collapse of the U.S. housing bubble in 2007-08.

"We've had a slight increase in housing production, especially in the north end of the county, near Crestview," Gore said. "There's been some neighborhoods growing, and that could have led to an increase in population."

Gore said the decrease in enrollment 2005-06 to 2010-11 was the main factor in the closures of Valparaiso Elementary, Ocean City Elementary and Oak Hill Elementary.

Tibbetts will leave office later this month after having served six years. She was defeated in her bid for re-election in the Aug. 14 Republican primary by Mary Beth Jackson.

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Vets greeted 'with open arms'

Nodjomian addresses Veterans Day breakfast

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

On Sunday, the Niceville Exchange Club sponsored the 15th annual "One Nation Under God Breakfast," hosted by AmVets Post 78 in Valparaiso. Retired Air Force Col. Sal Nodjomian, former base commander at Eglin Air Force Base, was the guest speaker.

Nodjomian, who served 23 years on active duty, mostly as an Air Force civil engineer, mission support officer, and finally as commander of Eglin's 96th Air Base Wing, is now executive vice president and global director of federal practices for Matrix Design Group. He lives in Niceville.

In his remarks during the Veterans Day breakfast, Nodjomian said that although he could not remember what he had for breakfast the previous day, "I remember my first day of active duty as if it were yesterday—that's the way it is with the things that are most important to us."

Nodjomian told those present that while veterans and their families understand the meaning and importance of Veterans Day, they should "get the message out to those who don't understand."

He also discussed the meanings of key words and phrases in the Pledge of Allegiance:

The "republic" mentioned in the pledge, he said, "is still engaged in conflict," and needs the support of its citizens in order to survive.

"Under God," he said, reminds Americans that the nation and its people are subject to "a force greater than all of us."

"Indivisible," he said, reminds us that "America is a fraternity open to all, including those who cannot defend themselves, or who suffer from injustice."

"This is a great time to be a veteran," Nodjomian added, because today's returning veterans "are welcomed home with open arms and well-deserved admiration" by their fellow Americans, unlike veterans of the Vietnam War who were often



Retired Air Force Col. Sal Nodjomian, former base commander at Eglin Air Force Base, was the guest speaker at the Veterans Day breakfast at AmVets Post 78, Valparaiso. Today's returning veterans "are welcomed home with open arms and well-deserved admiration" by their fellow Americans, he told those who attended the event, which was sponsored by the Niceville Exchange Club.

Beacon photos by Mike Griffith



ignored or treated with contempt by people who blamed them for the war itself.

"What I miss most" about military service now that he is retired from active duty, said Nodjomian, "is the people—the can-do attitude of my troops, and the sense of being part of something bigger than myself." He said his favorite memory of his military service was one day when a little boy saw him in uni-

form, came up to him, and said, "Thank you for saving my country."

Following military service, he said, veterans can still serve the nation, in such capacities as teachers, mentors, volunteers, and by helping fellow veterans when needed. As a new civilian, Nodjomian said, "I can still quietly do my part to ensure that this country remains safe."

Other highlights of Sunday's

Veterans Day breakfast included presentation of colors by the AmVets Post 78 honor guard, and an invocation by Eglin chaplain Capt. Shawn Bishop, a buffet breakfast for participants, and the singing of the National Anthem and "In God We Still Trust" by Barbara Pendergraft. Following his speech, Nodjomian was given a plaque by Rick Miller, president of the Niceville Exchange Club.

E. Niceville fire commissioner resigns after losing election

By Daniel Elsesser
Beacon Staff Writer

Leonard Martin stepped down as a commissioner of the East Niceville Fire District early, forgoing the Nov. 12 meeting, which would have been his last after losing his bid for re-election to Tricia Brunson.

Brunson, who attended the meeting as an audience member, received 68 percent of the votes to Martin's 32 percent to win the Group 5 election Nov. 6.

In a letter read aloud by Chief

Michael Wright at the Nov. 12 meeting, Martin stated that his new job with the Coast Guard Auxiliary required time that he couldn't spend at the commission meeting.

In other business, the board discussed, but took no action on, a proposed pay raise for East Niceville Fire District employees, an issue which will be voted on at the commission's next meeting Dec. 10.

Commissioner Ed Dunbar suggested the district use \$9,000

in its payroll budget to give the active firefighters, 10 people, a 3.5 percent annual raise.

Wright said he and the three officers working directly for him would be willing to forgo raises to ensure the six lowest-paid firefighters received increases.

Chairman Mike Marcolongo expressed some objections to the raise proposal, saying money was tight and increasing the salary sets a dangerous precedent for the future.

Dunbar countered, saying his

suggestion was based on his study of pay and benefits received by workers at other fire departments and districts in the surrounding area.

Dunbar said raises should be discussed yearly, as needs and resources of that year are accounted for.

"I'm not trying to commit us to a 3.5 percent raise every year," Dunbar said. "But I'm also not committing to zero next year. We'll just have to see what the situation is."

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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

Donald Edward Brooks, a truck driver, 44, of 1302 E. James Lee Blvd., Crestview, was arrested by Niceville police Nov. 5 on a Santa Rosa County warrant for the original charges of burglary, grand theft and property damage.

Michael John Vonarx, unemployed, 34, of 400 Kelly Road, Unit 4, Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police Nov. 5 on a charge of domestic violence related battery causing bodily harm.

Michael Henry Duncan, a carpenter, 39, at large, was arrested by sheriff's deputies Nov. 5 on a charge of resisting an officer without violence.

After Duncan allegedly entered the rear passenger door of a car in the parking lot of the Tom Thumb at 598 Highway 85 N, Niceville, the arresting officers approached the car and ordered Duncan out. When Duncan refused, the officers opened the door and attempted to remove him. When he resisted, one officer fired his Taser into Duncan's left arm, subduing him after the electric stun gun ran its five-second cycle.

James Michael Hamill, a deckhand, 29, of 1423 Hickory St., Niceville, was arrested by sheriff's deputies in Fort Walton Beach Nov. 8 on a charge of loitering or prowling.

DUI arrests

Beau Austin Elwyn Butcher, a supermarket worker, 21, of 149 Baywind Drive, Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police for DUI and leaving the scene of an accident at 1015 E John Sims Parkway, Niceville, Nov. 6 at 12:26 p.m. Butcher's vehicle allegedly hit a car in the parking lot in front of Food Depot.

Thefts

A Valparaiso resident from the 500 block of Kelly Mill Road reported an unknown person stole her blue BMX bicycle worth \$69.95 sometime Oct. 29-Nov. 3.

A Valparaiso resident from the 200 block of Washington Avenue reported an unknown person stole \$70 from a jar in her apartment Nov. 5.

A Niceville resident from the 400 block of 20th Street reported an unknown person ripped the door off their shed's hinges with the lock still attached and stole a rake and shovel Nov. 1.

A Niceville resident from the 200 block of Reynolds Avenue reported Nov. 3 an unknown person stole two Mitt Romney campaign signs from her yard.

A Niceville resident from the 300 block of Oaklake Lane reported an unknown person stole \$620 worth of personal items from her home Nov. 5.

A Niceville resident from the 800 block of Coldwater Creek Circle reported an unknown person used or possessed her ID without consent at Northwest Florida State College at 100 E. College Blvd. Nov. 8.

Criminal mischief

A Niceville resident from the 1000 block of Thomas Street, reported that an unknown person broke a window in her home Nov. 1.

A Niceville resident reported Nov. 1 at about 5:57 p.m. that an unknown person slashed the tires on his stepdaughter's car in the parking lot of a restaurant at 406 W. John Sims Parkway.

A Niceville resident from the first block of East College Boulevard reported an unknown person damaged his 2010 Chevrolet Silverado by throwing a brick into the truck's bed Nov. 1.

A Niceville resident from the 900 block of Trout Creek Cove reported an unknown person cut a hole 36 inches wide and 24 inches high in the fencing at 218 N. Partin Drive, Niceville sometime Nov. 1-Nov. 2. The repair costs are estimated at \$200.

Fire Department Reports

Niceville

The Niceville Fire Department responded to the following calls from November 05, 2012 through November 11, 2012.

0 Structure Fire	29 Emergency Medical Calls
0 Vehicle Fire	1 Vehicle Crash
1 Other Fire	0 Vehicle Crash with Extrication
0 Illegal Burn	4 Other Emergency Calls
0 False Alarms	0 Hazardous Conditions

STREET	SITUATION	DATE	TIME
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/5/12	09:45
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/5/12	11:16
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/5/12	12:11
Linden Ave.	Medical	11/5/12	13:33
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/5/12	14:56
Coral Dr.	Medical	11/5/12	20:31
Azalea Dr.	Medical	11/6/12	01:42
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/6/12	06:38
Hudson Cir.	Medical	11/6/12	10:05
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Vehicle crash	11/6/12	13:51
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/6/12	13:57
Weeden Island Dr.	Medical	11/7/12	08:06
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/7/12	08:44
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/7/12	10:36
Red Maple Way	Alarm activation	11/7/12	19:11
Powell Dr.	Alarm activation	11/8/12	01:07
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/8/12	06:05
Bayshore Dr.	Smoke scare	11/8/12	07:11
Florida St.	Medical	11/8/12	07:14
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/8/12	09:25
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/8/12	09:28
Eglin AFB	Woods fire	11/8/12	16:41
Cadillac Ave.	Medical	11/8/12	17:09
Cadillac Ave.	Medical	11/9/12	07:09
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/9/12	12:22
Bayshore Dr.	Medical	11/10/12	01:43
Hickory Ave.	Medical	11/10/12	12:49
Cherrywood Ct.	Medical	11/10/12	13:41
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/10/12	14:08
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/10/12	15:25
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/10/12	15:57
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Alarm activation	11/10/12	19:05
Reeves St.	Medical	11/10/12	20:12
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/11/12	13:11
Government Ave.	Medical	11/11/12	23:50

Weekly Safety Tip: Always store the gas cylinder to your gas grill outside - away from structures - and turn off the valve when not in use.

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North Bay

The North Bay Fire Department responded to the following calls from November 05, 2012 through November 12, 2012.

Street	Situation	Date	Time
E. Highway 20	Medical	11/5/12	11:22
E. Bermuda Cir.	Medical	11/5/12	16:02
E. Hiwy. 20 & Range Rd.	Vehicle accident	11/6/12	06:41
N. White Point Rd.	Dispatched & cancelled	11/6/12	08:33
E. Hwy. 20 & White Point	Dispatched & cancelled	11/6/12	16:30
N. White Point Rd.	Dispatched & cancelled	11/6/12	17:12
Bobcat Cove	Public assist	11/7/12	09:29
White Point Rd.	Medical	11/7/12	10:19
Aruba Way	Dispatched & cancelled	11/7/12	20:10
Windlake Dr.	Medical	11/8/12	08:18
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	11/8/12	14:16
Glen Eagles Dr.	Dispatched & cancelled	11/8/12	20:26
Hickory Street	Alarm activation	11/9/12	05:11
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	11/9/12	08:21
Range Rd.	Alarm activation	11/10/12	09:20
W. Parkwood Ln.	Unintentional transmission	11/10/12	11:55
Parkwood Ct.	Medical	11/10/12	13:36
John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/10/12	14:12
N. White Point Rd.	Dispatched & cancelled	11/11/12	06:59
St. Lucia Ct.	Medical	11/11/12	13:53
Calinda Ln.	Alarm activation	11/12/12	21:31

Visit northbayfd.org for more information.

Okaloosa easing restrictions on storage of unused vehicles

By Daniel Elsesser
Beacon Staff Writer

The Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners Nov. 6 approved on first public hearing changes to the land development code related to the storage and removal of abandoned or nuisance vehicles.

The amendments will go before the board for final approval at its next meeting Nov. 20.

The proposal included changes to protect establishments, such as car dealers and parking garages, that, under the current code, technically store abandoned vehicles on their property.

The proposal, which was approved 5-0, was presented by Okaloosa County Growth Management Director Elliot Kampert and also contained changes to help people storing

vehicles for deployed military family members avoid abandoned vehicle penalties.

Kampert said the proposed changes would allow Okaloosa County residents to store vehicles with expired tags behind a six-foot-high opaque fence out of public view instead of having to pay for the vehicle's retagging.

The proposal would also remove the rules regarding abandoned and nuisance vehicles from the land development code and place them in Chapter 21 of the Okaloosa County Code of Ordinances, which covers traffic and motor vehicles.

"Why rules about abandoned and nuisance vehicles are in the land development code is beyond me," Kampert said.

In a separate proposal, Kampert introduced other

changes to the land development code which would place various rules and restrictions under more appropriate codes.

Most notably, the changes would disallow takeoffs and landings for aerial sightseeing under code C-3, general commercial, and allow them only under I-2, airport industrial park.

Timberview Helicopters, which originally operated out of the Destin Commons, has had to move its business to land zoned for airports.

Attorney David Powell, representing Timberview Helicopters, requested at the meeting that the board remove the provision disallowing aerial sightseeing in C-3 or grandfather in Destin Helicopter Rides, a Timberview subsidiary.

Powell said his client cannot operate profitably near an

airport and said the proposed change to the land development code would effectively put Timberview Helicopters out of business.

Commissioner Wayne Harris voiced approval for the suggestion but no vote was taken by the board. The changes will be up for final approval Nov. 20.

Kelly Windes, who was appointed by Gov. Rick Scott to fill the seat vacated by James Campbell, participated in his first meeting but chose to wait to be officially sworn in until Nov. 20, when Nathan Boyles will be sworn in to fill the seat held by Commissioner Bill Roberts.

Roberts, who did not run for re-election, was recognized by the other commission members "in appreciation for his service as a county commissioner."

Thank You!
Thank You!
Thank You!



...for voting me onto the MSBU.

- Debbie Stretch -

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THE INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER —by Mike Griffith



How do you expect President Obama's re-election to affect you?

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"Short of a nuclear attack on the United States, the re-election of President Obama is the next worst thing that could have happened. I actually voted for Obama the last time, but when the Okaloosa Democratic Party phoned me this year, I asked what was bought for the \$5 trillion in additional debt. They just got angry and hung up on me."

Jim Whitmarsh, 70, Niceville, retired



"I'd like to see the president and congress work together to allow disabled veterans to collect disability benefits without having to give up their military retired pay."

Adolph Guerrero, 48, Niceville, disabled veteran



"Gun laws will be a lot more strict. It will actually help gun sales, because people are worried."

Danny Bryant, 24, Valparaiso, gun salesman



"Hopefully, given a second term, President Obama can boost the economy."

Kass Lee, 32, Valparaiso, customer service representative



"I hope it doesn't affect me. I could say something more, but God wouldn't want me to."

Kathy McDaniel, 56, Crestview, retired



"Let's hope it's in a good way. If he doesn't get the country fixed, it's going to sink."

Mac McNally, 67, Niceville, Wal-Mart greeter

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

ELECTION

From page A-1

Debbie Stretch. She defeated Joe Jellison.

"The community has given to me and I'd like to give back to the community," said Stretch, a real estate agent.

Among the priorities for the Group 4 director-elect is improving drainage along a stretch of Southwind Drive.

"When we get the heavy rains, the water just kind of sits there and puddles," said Stretch. The pooling leads to damaged grass along the road's periphery, she said.

Stretch shares the same vision for the MSBU as the two incumbents who were re-elected. She, Group 3 Director Doug Burgess and Group 5's Dale Blanchard see its mission of maintaining common areas as a way to ensure property values for the approximately 3,000 homes in Bluewater Bay remain strong.



Wayne Harris

"We've been making progress," said Blanchard. A recent example was the addition of sidewalk along Bay Drive near the marina, he said.

Also important for the MSBU directors is adding or replacing streetlights and beautification of intersections using shrubs, flowers and other plants.

"I kind of look for places that might benefit from a project as I drive through Bluewater Bay," said Burgess.

Burgess also wants the most bang for the buck.

"We want to be as judicious with the use of taxpayer's money as we can," he said.

Okaloosa County Commissioner Wayne Harris, District 1, resoundingly defeated challenger Ronald L.F. Connor, the lone candidate to run for countywide office as a Democrat this year.

Re-elected state Sen. Don Gaetz has a three-point agenda for his last term, which ends in 2016. The Niceville Republican defeated Richard Harrison, no party, of Marianna, in the Senate District 1 race.

At the top of Gaetz's list are economic growth and job creation. What form that will take is to be determined, but the lawmaker said he will look at all options, including taxation policy.

Point two is related to point one. Gaetz, a former Okaloosa County superintendent of schools, said he would like to

lash higher education closer to job opportunities that are available.

Gaetz said he wants people to be able "to compete for real jobs in the real economy. It means more focus on STEM, but it's not just about STEM." STEM is shorthand for science, technology, engineering and math.



Jeff Miller

Gaetz said that critical skills such as being able to communicate, including writing effectively, are important, too.

Finally, Gaetz wants to clean up politics by raising ethical standards for local and state officials. Citing a list of recent political scandals in Okaloosa County without using names, Gaetz made the argument that transparency is key.

He said he would like to see public officials better report assets, such as "what they own," and liabilities, such as "who they owe."

Executing his plan might be easier because Gaetz has been elected by his peers to a two-year term as president of the state Senate, one of the three most powerful political posts in Florida. He will take that post

in Tallahassee Nov. 20. However, the long-time politician said he recognizes the limitations of even that influential position.

"As president, I don't get to dictate," said Gaetz. "I have an opportunity to persuade and encourage."

For Congress, U.S. District 1 Rep. Jeff Miller was re-elected to another term. The Chumuckla Republican easily defeated Laurel Hill Democrat Jim Bryan, Valparaiso Libertarian Calen Fretts, and write-ins.

Miller has a three-point agenda, which he's pushing even during the lame-duck session of Congress.

"My focus will continue to be on jobs and the economy," said the Republican in a statement. "Cutting spending and moving the budget toward balance is crucial for the future of this nation." Among the changes to federal law that he would like to see is a simpler tax code.

Also a priority for the congressman, who chairs the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, is prompt delivery of services, including mental health care, to veterans.

The threat of automatic, across-the-board cuts to the federal budget in 2013, which is known as sequestration or, informally, the fiscal cliff, also troubles Miller.

"Sequestration is just around

the corner and there are some who want to try to balance the budget on the back of our military," he said. "We need to continue to have the most capable military in the world and the bases in Northwest Florida are a crucial component of that force."

Also re-elected by Floridians was U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson, a Democrat, who defeated Republican Congressman Connie Mack IV.

President Barack Obama, a Democrat, won re-election by a comfortable margin nationwide, defeating Republican Mitt

Romney, former governor of Massachusetts. Obama's capture of Florida's 29 electoral votes was by a margin of less than 1 percent, however.

Voters in heavily Republican Okaloosa County went for Romney and Mack by margins of about 3 to 1.

Okaloosa voters still favor GOP

Beacon Correspondent

Okaloosa County voters did Nov. 6 what they have been doing for a couple of decades—cast ballots in overwhelming support of Republican candidates for public office.

"Given the political makeup of our area, the votes seemed to track pretty close to it," said Okaloosa County Supervisor of Elections Paul Lux on Nov. 8.

Lux noted that the way ballots were cast in Okaloosa County did not mirror statewide results.

Take the top of the ticket, where Republican candidate for president Mitt Romney took 73.8 percent of votes in Okaloosa County, compared with incumbent Barack Obama's 24.6 percent.

Statewide, by contrast, Obama edged Romney to claim Florida's 29 electoral votes, 50 percent to 49.14 percent.

In last week's election, Okaloosa voters heavily favored GOP U.S. Senate can-

didate Connie Mack IV in his bid to unseat Democratic Sen. Bill Nelson, 67 percent to 29 percent. But Nelson won re-election handily in the statewide balloting, polling 55 percent of the vote against Mack's 42 percent.

In Okaloosa County, it mattered little for the outcome whether the ballot was absentee, an early vote, or an election-day vote at a precinct polling station, according to Lux. He said 72.1 percent of absentee ballots and 74.3 percent of early votes went to Romney.

The elections supervisor added that election day at Okaloosa polling centers went smoothly. There were some long lines, but no serious malfunctions with tabulating machines.

Lux added that his office received some complaints, but they tended to be questions about how close election campaign signs, or campaigners, could be to polling places.

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DISPLAY

From page A-1

held, is now using the space on Hart Street, Niceville, for its new River Academy classrooms, Lewis said.

"It's hard to secure that space," Lewis said. "It is a lot of time to give up your space. In 2009 our display took up 10,000 square feet."

This year, Lewis started her location search in August. She finally received an offer of space in the old Vanguard Bank operations building, Valparaiso, but without adequate transportation and manpower to set up the giant display, Lewis said, she has run out of time to accept.

The building required yard maintenance and a heavy clean-up. Lewis said she would also have to pay for the power to be turned on. With only one volunteer, it appeared to be impossible.

Lewis met with Valparaiso Mayor Bruce Arnold Nov. 8 to

discuss receiving help from the city. The mayor offered city workers to help unload the items and open trailers for transportation, but the city couldn't afford all the manpower needed in such a short time, Lewis said.

Lewis usually has five to six volunteers, including she and her husband, Kevin Payne, to help her set up the more than 600 dolls, 500 nutcrackers, and 1,000-piece Christmas village show. They also help transport and unload all the items into the space.

Another challenge was setting up at a new location. Lewis said it's difficult to hold the display in a new place from scratch. If a circuit fails or something else goes wrong, she wouldn't know where to move the electrical cords.

Lewis began the annual display in 1994, after she and her husband moved to Niceville.

The two hosted the event in their Niceville home until 2006, when neighbors complained



Nutcrackers on display in the 2011 "Animation In Motion" show at Radiant Life Church, 100 Hart St., Niceville.



Debbie Lewis, the "Christmas Lady," with some of her "Animation In Motion" show items stored at her home in Niceville.

about the spectator traffic generated by the attraction.

Officials of the city of Niceville told Lewis the elaborate display would no longer be allowed at her home because the

crowds, and their cars, could block emergency responders.

"Niceville's edict against Debbie having the show at her home was a significant part of what launched my show in the

first place," Werner said.

Since then she has had to secure a spot every year for the display. Lewis has been invited back to places outside of Niceville, but she enjoys keeping

the show local and would like to find a permanent place to host the show.

"I'm tired of going through the stress of finding a new location every year," Lewis said.

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tifocal contacts to provide good vision both near and far. These lenses are available in many materials, and can provide most patients with comfort and a dramatically reduced dependence on

reading glasses. Although finding the perfect lens takes some trial and error, many patients have enjoyed this new technology. We can do better for you than "monovision."

Our patients with high astigmatism or keratoconus have shown great success with gas permeable lenses, or the new Synergeyes lens. This specialty lens combines the improved clarity of a gas permeable lens with the immediate comfort of a soft lens. This latest technology has allowed many patients who have been unable to wear contact lenses to again appreciate better vision in contacts.

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unaware you had. Studies suggest that a majority of people who are afflicted with a serious medical condition had it for years before the symptoms revealed its presence. A dilated, comprehensive eye exam analyzes the detailed structures of the eye that allow you to appreciate fine detail. The complex nature of our vision makes it impossible to correct and restore vision in some eye diseases, so early detection is important.

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Marching Knights place second

The Rocky Bayou Marching Knights received an overall superior rating and placed second at the Little Big Horn competition Oct. 20, in Opp, Ala. The team also received ratings for its drum major Connor Lynch, superior; majorette Lexi Kirkpatrick, excellent; color guard, excellent; and drum line, superior. The Marching Knights will perform at the Crestview Downtown Christmas Parade Dec. 1, the Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Club Community Christmas Parade Dec. 1, and the Fort Walton Beach Christmas Parade Dec. 3.



Pavilion raises \$635

The Twin Cities Pavilion raised \$635 to benefit the residents of the pavilion at its fundraiser Oct. 20, at 1053 John Sims Parkway, Niceville. Nancy Rhode and Sandy Landon worked hard to prepare for the fundraiser. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Niceville, gave generous contributions to the bake sale.

Edge's festival raises funds

By Anna Kavanaugh
Beacon Staff Writer

More than 300 people attended Lewis J. Edge Elementary School's Fall Chili Festival fundraiser Nov. 3, from 3-6 p.m., at 300 Highway 85 N, Niceville.

The event raised \$3528, which doesn't include the expenses to put on the event, such as supplies and rentals for the festival. The proceeds will benefit Edge Elementary's classrooms.

An estimated 60 volunteers,



including student's parents and Edge Elementary teachers, participated in the fundraiser. More than 25 volunteers from Niceville High School also participated.

Students enjoyed rock climbing, face painting, live music and food. The winner of the children's pie eating contest was Edge fourth grader

Edge fourth grader Caroline Hiers was named the winner of the pie eating contest Nov. 3.

More photos, page B-6



Photo by Scoot Schaeffler

Rocky Bayou Royalty

Rocky Bayou Christian School's 2012 Homecoming King and Queen, seniors Jacob Holcomb and Rachel Mosley, were crowned at the school's homecoming dance on Nov. 3, at the RBCS' gym, 2101 Partin Drive N, Niceville.

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Students perform in county chorus

Thirty-one members of the Ruckel Middle School Ambassadors Chorus performed Oct. 29 in the Okaloosa County Vocal Association All-County Honor Chorus, at the Mattie Kelly Fine Arts Auditorium, Northwest Florida State College, Niceville. The selected students rehearsed for six weeks and participated in a two-day choral clinic to prepare. They are: Stefani Alderfer, Brynn Burdge, Julia Freeman, Meredith Freeman, Hannah Grigg, Hayley Grigg, Elizabeth Kelton, Lauren Matthews, Brianna Moye, Ashley Sambenedetto, Sarah Sullivan, Emma, Weeks, Richard Brown, Lauren Cole, Tatum Hackler, John Hencinski, Alexander Johnson, George Krist, Thuyvan Luong, Savannah Mikus, Chase Mixson, Mckenzie Nall, Keenan Oas, Justin Rodriguez, Andrew Sansone, Lindsay Schmidt, Megan Stiles, Elijah Sutton, Logan Taylor, Joseph Walker and Olivia Warsheski.

In the Service

Navy Seaman **Alexander Wayne** graduated from basic military training on Sept. 7, 2012, at Naval Station Great Lakes, Chicago, Ill. He was accepted to the Navy's Nuclear Field Program and is training to be an Electronics Technician at the Naval Weapons Station in Charleston, S.C.



Alexander Wayne

He is a 2012 Niceville High School graduate and the son of Patrick and Deede Wayne of Niceville.

Army Private First Class **Jewell Brodie-Graham** graduated from basic military training Oct. 25, 2012, at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He is training to be a Veterinary Technician at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

He is 2011 Niceville High School graduate and the son of Mabel Carter of Niceville.

Air Force Reserve Airman **Christian M. Holman** graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

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.

He is a 2010 graduate of Niceville High School and the son of Candice Harper and brother of Chance Harper, of Partin Drive, Niceville.

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The entire "Girls Gotta Run" club ran and finished the 5K "Race for Lace" to raise funds for Cystic Fibrosis Nov. 3 in Crestview.

Girls club finishes 5K

By Anna Kavanaugh
Beacon Staff Writer

Edge Elementary's after-school running club, "Girls Gotta Run," finished the third annual 5K "Race for Lace" with Great Strides for Cystic Fibrosis Nov. 3, in Crestview.

Participants enjoyed live music and a breakfast. The club students are all from Edge

Elementary except Rocky Bayou Christian School student Tavey Edelman.

The club is run by Edge teachers Angela Beebe, Jodi Dezinski and Holly Troxell. The girls meet after school to run and learn about physical wellness to coincide with the club's slogan, "Edge leaders are fit for life."

Club members are: Jenna Early, Abbie Welsh, Peyton Chambers, Heather Adams, Te'a Marta, Sian Mignot, Jenna Elmer, Darcie Welborn, Melena Stevenson, Emma Langston, Kayla Dean, Gabrielle Jackson, Adrienne Pritchard, Hannah Wetherell, Lauryn Loggins, Michiah Sanders, Tavey Edelman, RBCS.

Who's News

Carrie Summerlin of Freeport has been hired as a business development manager for SimpleHIRE. Her sales efforts will be focused to educate and partner with small to mid-sized business owners to provide comprehensive human resource solutions including benefits and payroll.



Carrie Summerlin

Sherry Harlow of Valparaiso, APR, marketing and public relations director of Eglin Federal Credit Union, has been appointed to serve a three-year term on the Universal Accreditation Board in New York City.

Harlow was selected to serve from 1300 members in the Southern Public Relations Federation covering La., Miss., Ala., and Northwest Fla.



Sherry Harlow

Harlow is a graduate of the University of West Florida, a founding member of the Emerald Coast Public Relations Organization, Okaloosa County, and a 27-year member of the Florida Public Relations Association.

Patrons of Artful Things raised more than \$4,200 during its fundraiser Nov. 3, at Artful Things, 1087 East John Sims Parkway, Niceville.

There were 60 donated items auctioned and art classes throughout the day. **Candice Holeczeko**, co-owner of Artful Things, was able to attend the fundraiser after suffering a stroke Sept. 24.

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Sharing and Caring

Sharing and Caring is looking for donations of food, hygiene products, diapers, detergents and more at 104 Bullock Blvd., Niceville.

The shelter is also signing up families from Niceville, Valparaiso and Choctaw Beach for its annual Christmas Program, which will provide holiday food baskets and Christmas gifts for children ages 12 and under.

Sing up at the shelter during normal business hours. Proof of residency and ID is required at the time of sign up. Contact Delle Diamon at 678-8459.

Nursing students sought

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Northwest Florida State College is accepting applications for the January 2013 term until Nov. 30. Apply online at www.nwfsc.edu/RNtoBSN for the program, which offers the majority of its instruction through online courses to accommodate the working nurse. The program is housed at NWFSC, 100 College Blvd., Niceville. For information contact Dr. Beth Norton, RN, CNE, Director Bachelor of Science in Nursing 729-6444 or nortonb@nwfsc.edu.

Cal's Holiday Food Drive

Cal's Appliances will host its first Holiday Food Drive for Sharing and Caring until Nov. 30, at 121 N Partin Drive, Niceville. Canned and dry goods or donations will be accepted and go directly to Sharing and Caring.

Coats for Christmas

United Way of Okaloosa-Walton Counties is hosting their annual "Coats for Kids at Christmas" through Dec. 5. Drop off new or hardly worn coats at the following locations in the Twin Cities area: Bank of America, BankTrust, BB&T, BBVA Compass Banks, Beach Community Banks, Boeing Company, CCB Community Bank, Coastal Bank and Trusts, Covenant Hospice, Eglin Chapel, Eglin Federal Credit Unions, First City Bank, Northwest Florida State College, Okaloosa School District Office, Regions, Summit and Trustmark Banks, Twin Cities Hospital, and the YMCA.

Baytowne Wharf Skating Rink

Ice skate at the public outdoor ice rink until Jan. 31, at the events plaza in Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin.

During the month of November donate two non-perishable items to the rink and receive a free skate rental. It's \$10 for an hour and a half of skating and \$2 to rent skates. Visit www.Sandestin.com/events.

Library story time

The Niceville Public Library will host a story time for children 3-5 years old Nov. 14 and 15, at 10:30 a.m., at the Youth Services program room, 206 N. Partin Dr. Preschoolers will enjoy "Let's Talk Turkey" and other classics. Contact Christina, 279-4863.

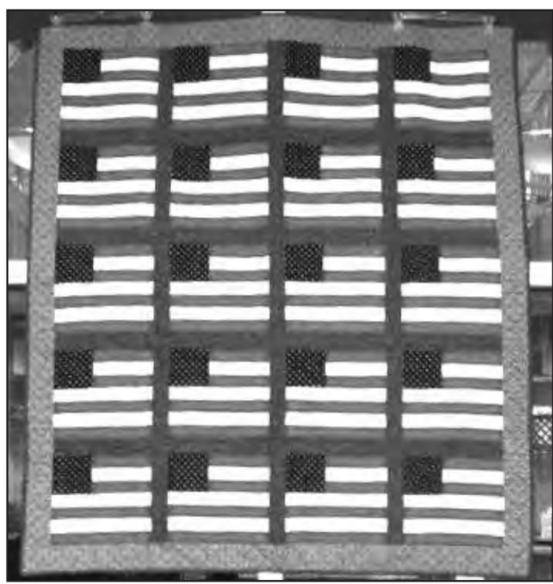
Macy's farewell performance

The Niceville Eagle pride Marching Band will perform it's Macy's Thanksgiving Day performance Nov. 15, 7 p.m., at the Niceville High School Eagle Stadium to thank the community for all its support.

Republican club meeting

All county Republicans are invited to attend the Okaloosa County Republican Club meeting Nov. 15, 7 p.m., at the American Legion Hall, 105 Hollywood Blvd., Fort Walton Beach. Okaloosa County Sheriff Larry Ashley will speak about the state of the county and answer questions regarding his office.

The election of the new club Board of Directors will be held during the meeting, as well as a look ahead to 2013 activities. A social hour will begin at 6:15 p.m. and dinner is avail-



Quilts of Valor Display

The Niceville Public Library presents the Quilts of Valor exhibit, created by the Flying Needles Quilt Guild, Niceville, until Nov. 30, at 206 Partin Drive N. The guild is a 501-C-3 non-profit organization that creates quilts, Christmas stockings and bags for those in need. The quilts will be donated to honor and comfort wounded warriors and veterans.

able with a reservation for \$12. Contact Jane Dale at 651-5049.

Embroiderers' Guild meeting

Visitors are welcome to join the Sand Dunes Chapter of Embroiderers' Guild of America at its night group meeting Nov. 15, 6-8:30 p.m., and regular meeting Nov. 19, 9:30 a.m.-noon, in room 400, at 214 Partin Drive S., First United Methodist Church of Niceville. Contact 496-3466.

Boat history lecture

Bring your lunch for The Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida's "History Sandwiched-In" Nov. 16, Noon-1 p.m., at 115 Westview Ave., Valparaiso.

Senior Captain Hamilton, Director of the Friends of the Governor Stone Inc. will lecture on the Schooner Governor Stone, a national historic landmark registered antique vessel built in 1877 and its contribution to the historic Gulf Coast communities. Space is limited. Register at 678-2615

Night church service

Join All God's Children and the Living Word Worship Center for a night service Nov. 16, 7 p.m., 40 John Sims Pkwy., Valparaiso. Special guest Prophet Thelma Bassa of Orlando will speak. Contact 678-7632. There will also be a Thanksgiving dinner Nov. 18 immediately following morning worship service.

RBCS play

Rocky Bayou Christian School will perform "12 Angry Jurors," adapted from the teleplay "12 Angry Men," Nov. 16, 7 p.m., at the Fort Walton Beach Municipal Auditorium, Fort Walton Beach. Reserve tickets for adults, \$12, and students, \$10, by contacting Jana Obergewich 678-7358 or obergewichj@rbcsc.org.

'Nutcracker' at NWSFC

The Northwest Florida Ballet (NFB) is celebrating 43 years of excellence by presenting The Nutcracker Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 18, 2:30 p.m., at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center. Tickets are \$28 for adults and \$14 for children and can be purchased at www.nfballet.org.

Insect workshop

Experience insects with FAMU's Entomology Club's presentation "Wild about Bugs!" Nov. 17, at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., E.O.Wilson Biophilia Center, 4956 Hwy 20 E., Freeport. Standard admission rates apply. Visit www.eowilsoncenter.org or contact 835-1824 for more information.

Constitution workshop

The Niceville-Valparaiso Tea Party will host an all day class on the U.S. Constitution on Nov. 17, 9 a.m., Radiant Life Church, 100 Hart St., Niceville. The guest lecturer will be KrisAnne Hall, who travels throughout country to teach people about the Constitution.

Students are free and a donation of \$10 is suggested to cover lunch and the workshop. Seating is limited. Register at 729-2874.

Pet fundraiser

Bring your pets to get their nails trimmed at the Parkway Veterinary Hospital's Relay for Life fundraiser Nov. 17, 9 a.m.-noon, at 1101 E. John Sims Pkwy., Valparaiso. Each pet costs \$8 and a proof of rabies vaccine is required.

Proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society. Contact 729-3225.

Bertie Higgins Concert

Emerald Coast Concert Association presents Bertie Higgins, consummate stage performer, songwriter and vocalist, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m., Fort Walton Beach Civic Auditorium. Enjoy songs about living and loving in a tropical paradise. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door and \$10 for children 18 and under. For tickets contact 362-9356.

'Geek Lights' build day

The fifth annual "Geek Lights on the Corner" will host a public build day on Nov. 17, 9 a.m., at the corner of Bluewater Boulevard and Antigua Way, Niceville. Fans of Geek Lights can help with the build and get a behind-the-scenes look of how the show is put together.

Operation Christmas Child

The Niceville United Methodist Church is collecting Christmas shoeboxes until Nov. 18, 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., in the gathering area of the Community Life Center 214 Partin Drive S., Niceville. Pick up a shoebox and list of items to fill an unsealed shoebox for a child in need at the church.

Label the box boy or girl and the appropriate age. Contact Linda at 496-6866 for more information or stop by the operation display at the gathering area.

Auxiliary book and gift sale

The Twin Cities Hospital Auxiliary will host a book and gift sale Nov. 19, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., in the Hospital Wellness Center behind the hospital, 2190 Highway 85 N, Niceville, to benefit its scholarship fund for students who want to study in the healthcare field. All proceeds go to the Twin Cities Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship fund. Contact 897-3502.

'Shrek the Musical'

Experience "Shrek The Musical" come to life Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m., at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Northwest Florida State College, 100 College Blvd., Niceville. The musical features book and lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire and music by Olivier Jeanine Tesori. Tickets are \$45 each and can be purchased at the box office, 729-6000, or <http://mattiekellyarts-center.org>.

ADSO Christmas Art Market

The Arts and Design Society's Christmas Art Market will take place Nov. 19 through Dec. 17, at the art center, 17 First St. SE, Fort Walton Beach. There will be an assortment of crafts made by members, including jewelry, paintings, pottery, photographs and note cards. Crafts are all under \$200. The gallery's hours are Tuesday-Friday, noon- 4 p.m., and Saturday, 1-4 p.m. For more information contact 244-1271.

NWFSC baseball camp

Northwest Florida State College will host a baseball camp Nov. 19 and 20, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at the NWFSC Raiders baseball field, Niceville. Expert coaching staff and players from the NWF State Baseball Team instruct participants about the fundamentals of baseball. Open to boys ages 7-14 for \$90. Lunch is available for \$5. Enroll at any NWFSC campus or center or at

www.nwfraiders.org. Contact Coach Doug Martin, 729-5268, or NWFSC Athletics Office, 729-5379.

'Geek Lights' Display

The fifth annual "Geek Lights on the Corner" Christmas light and music show will begin Nov. 26 through Jan. 1, at the corner of Bluewater Boulevard and Antigua Way, Niceville. The free shows start at 6 p.m. and every hour and half-hour, with the last show starting at 9:30 p.m., Sunday-Thursday, and 10:30 p.m., Friday-Saturday.

Christmas Parade meeting

The Niceville-Valparaiso Community Christmas Parade will hold a mandatory meeting for all participants to receive parade instructions Nov. 26, 6 p.m., at the Niceville Community Center.

The Registration fee deadline is Nov. 26 or a \$5 late fee if paid after. The entry fee for profit organizations is \$60 and \$30 for non-profit. Proceeds will provide holiday meals for Sharing and Caring families and other community service projects.

American Girls book club

The Niceville Public Library will host its American Girls History Mystery book club discussion Nov. 28, 4:15-5:30 p.m., at the library's youth services program room, Niceville. The club is open to girls in grades second through sixth.

Registration is required at the library as space is limited. November's book is "The Cameo Necklace: A Cecile Mystery," by Evelyn Coleman.

'Nunset Boulevard'

Join TV icon Cindy Williams, of the hit show "Laverne and Shirley", as she appears in the nationally touring comedy "Nunset Boulevard," Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m., at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center, 100 College Blvd., Niceville. Tickets are \$35 each or receive a group discount of \$5 off per ticket for groups of 10 or more. Purchase tickets at www.mattiekellyartscenter.org or 729-6000 or in person at the box office Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

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BEACONSPORTS



Eagles rout Bay, end regular season on high note

NHS takes on Milton Friday in regional playoff opener

By Sarah Clauson
Beacon Correspondent

The Niceville High School Eagles hosted the Bay Tornados last Friday for the "Senior Night" season closer and clobbered them, 35-7. The win helped solidify the momentum they gained during the second half of their season. The non-district victory gave the Eagles a 6-3 record for the season, which they will take with them into the postseason against the Milton Panthers this Friday.

The victory, like the Eagles' last several, was thanks in large part to a tight defense that allowed the offense to rack up the points. The Defense kept the Tornados scoreless until late in the fourth quarter when they allowed the only Bay touchdown of the evening. The offense, with the exception of

two turnovers, scored on all but one drive, and was forced to punt only once. It racked up 28 points in the first half, with two touchdowns by wide receiver Tyree McCants, one by running back Tayjon Culley, and one by linebacker Barrett Perry.

At halftime, the Niceville Eagle Pride marching band recognized its seniors. The band will travel to New York City, where it will represent Florida in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade.

The team effort continued into the second half, with play time for many of the backups and a final touchdown by Dane Wagner in the third.

"We built some momentum and we wanted to keep it," said Eagles head coach John Hicks. "I thought we came out here tonight and took care of business. The Eagles hope to take



The Eagle defense, led by Drew Frederic, presented a brick wall to Bay offensive players.

Beacon photos by Sarah Clauson

their four-game winning streak to Milton Friday in the 6A Regional Quarterfinal and advance further in postseason play.

"They will be another challenge for our defense," Hicks said of Milton. "They've got a lot of good receivers and big play people. It'll be tough, and offensively we've got to keep doing what we're doing."

Andrew Mitchell kicks the point after one of the Eagles five touchdowns during Friday night's 35-7 rout of Bay.



Rocky swimmer excels at regionals

Rocky Bayou Christian School freshman Suzi Sober was a finalist in the 1A Region 1 swimming tournament in Jacksonville Nov. 2, barely missing going to the state championship. She is the 2012 District 1-1A 500 free champion.



Suzi Sober

Also competing in district finals were Doug Linder and Colin Frazier, 50 free finalists; Jeffrey Sober 200 IM and 100 fly finalist; Hannah Stoner, 100 breast stroke finalist; 200 girls medley relay finalists Audrey Stevens, Iris Lee, Sober and Hannah Stoner; 200 men's medley relay finalists Lon Ritenour, Liam Ritenour, Nick Bowers and Johnson Sullivan; and 200 and 400 men's free relay finalists Doug Linder, Colin Frazier, Jeffrey Sober and Wesley Bowers.

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Briefs

A baseball camp for boys ages 7-14 will be held Nov. 19 and 20 at Northwest Florida State College.

Daily work will be done on fundamentals and taught in a setting that will educate and entertain players.

The camp will be presented in full-day sessions, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The cost is \$90.

Camp instructors will include the coaching staff and players from the Northwest Florida State College Baseball team.

Info: coach Doug Martin, 729-5268, or assistant coach Nick Fletcher, 729-6048.

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Bo Burns, Owner and Agent
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"Where Buyers and Sellers Meet!" Beacon CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

NEWSPAPER EDITOR

Beacon Newspapers seeks a full-time editor to manage its three military weeklies: The Eglin Flyer, the Hurlburt Patriot, and the Green Beret. This editor assigns, compiles and edits news stories, prepares them and associated photos for publication, writes headlines, determines story placement, lays out the papers, and sees them through production to publication. This editor also assists in some aspects of production of the Bay Beacon, our community weekly for Niceville and Valparaiso. Applicants must be able to write quickly and accurately, and must display top-flight editing and proofreading skills. Candidates must be deadline-oriented, have an eye for detail, and be able to excel in a fast-paced news environment. Nonsmoking office. Competitive pay, commensurate with experience and aptitude. Benefits include paid vacation and holidays, and IRA plan. Apply at Beacon Newspapers, 1181 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville.

If you want Niceville, Valparaiso and Bluewater Bay to know, say it in the Beacon.

Help Wanted

ADVERTISING SALES

The Beacon Newspapers (The Bay Beacon, The Eglin Flyer, The Hurlburt Patriot, The Green Beret) have an opening for a career-minded, full-time person to sell customers the benefits of newspaper advertising. Candidates should be upbeat, energetic, organized, self-starting and detail-oriented. Salary plus incentive. Mileage allowance. Benefits include IRA plan and paid vacation and holidays. Candidates must be available 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and have a reliable vehicle. We will train the right person. Apply in person at the Beacon, 1181 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville.

Let the community know your business.

Advertise in At Your Service

The Bay Beacon, The Eglin Flyer, The Hurlburt Patriot & The Green Beret

(850) 678-1080

Help Wanted

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY

Earn extra cash of \$45 to \$140 or more each week in your spare time! The Bay Beacon seeks a reliable independent contractor to insert, bag, and deliver newspapers Tuesday night. You must be over 21 and have a reliable vehicle, a good driving record, a Florida driver's license, and proof of current liability insurance. No collecting duties. Earnings vary according to route and work load. Stop by the Bay Beacon for an information sheet and to fill out an application. The Beacon 1181 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville • 678-1080 (Parkway East Shopping Center across from PoFolks)

The more you tell, the more you sell! Call the Beacon at 678-1080 to place your ad today!

Homes for Lease

Niceville house. Available Now! Nice private, completely fenced yard. Great for military personnel and/or students. 5-minutes to Eglin's front gate, walking distance to NWF University & dog park, minutes to stores, 15-minutes to interstate & beaches. Just remodeled - includes new central AC/Heat, carpet, just painted, shades, cable ready, blinds, washer & dryer. Pet dog OK. \$1000/mo. w/discout for military personnel. 236 Jefferson Ave. Niceville, FL. For more information, call 850-729-6504.

Homes for Rent

Large Niceville Duplex. 2/2. \$800/mo. DD \$800. Very nice, clean, new paint, W/D, yard. Close to Bases. Military Discount! 850-699-4011

Looking for a home or a job? Be sure to check the classified ads every Wednesday in the Bay Beacon.

Homes for Sale

-AVOID-
 Legal loopholes that can cost you thousands in the sale of your home. Free Special Report reveals 3 costly errors to avoid. Free Recorded Message: 1-866-234-3321, ID# 1011

SELL YOUR HOME FAST AND FOR TOP DOLLAR

Before listing your home, order this Free Special Report that reveals 27 Tips to give you the competitive edge. Free Recorded Message 1-866-234-3321, ID# 1023

Miscellaneous

The Beach Bashers travel baseball team, based in Panama City, are looking for players ages 8 thru 12 for the 2013 season. If interested, email jpark23@hotmail.com ASAP.

Yard Sales

Huge yard sale. Nov. 17th. 7am-1pm. Christmas decorations, Halloween decorations, clothes & more. 128 Edwards Circle, Valparaiso.

Garage Sale Sat. Nov. 17 - 8:00-?. 4434 Southminister Circle, Niceville. Christmas, household items, appliances, etc. Big Sale

Homes for Sale

How to Sell Your Home Yourself And Save the Commission
 Free Report reveals "10 Inside Tips to Selling Your House by Yourself"
 CALL Free recorded message **1-866-234-3321, ID #1006**
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Homes for Sale

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Office Space
PRIME WAREHOUSE OR OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE
WISE AVE. Niceville Offices
 500SF-1,000SF
Warehouses
 1,000SF-6,000SF
 For more information call **897-6464**
 1484 Hickory St. Niceville

Homes for Rent

RENTALS AVAILABLE!
Niceville, Crestview, Fort Walton and Navarre!
One bedroom to five bedrooms from \$450-\$2500!
 Search online at: **OurLocalRental.com**
Century 21 Wilson Minger Agency
 Niceville's Top Selling Real Estate Office
729-6504

Homes for Rent

Bluewater Bay Resort Realty - RENTALS -
Florida Club - 1-2 bdrms Furnished - \$1400-\$1600
 Screened patio, includes cable, internet, utilities, washer/dryer. Complex features pool, hot tub, sauna, car wash, workout room, and club house.
Studios - \$800-\$1500 - Furnished
 Waterfront, includes utilities, cable, internet.
Lakeside - 2/2 - Furnished - \$1600
 Waterfront, large living area, includes washer/dryer, utilities, cable, internet.
Townhouse - 4/2.5 - Unfurnished - \$1800
 Garage, 3 patios, loft, end unit, open floor plan.
Lakeside - Furnished - 3/2 - \$1600
 Townhouse style, waterfront, includes washer/dryer, cable, internet, utilities.
LONG TERM RENTALS NEEDED
 Homes, townhomes, patio homes, condos needed in Bluewater Bay Resort for our booming long-term rental program. Experienced, professional real estate management program available to meet your investment/ involvement needs.
850-897-1443

CONVENIENT WAYS TO PLACE YOUR BEACON CLASSIFIED AD!
 Beacon Newspapers • 1181 E. John Sims Pkwy. • Niceville, FL • (850) 678-1080

BEACON CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: 2:00 p.m. Fri. for Wed. MAIL: Beacon Newspapers, 1181 E. John Sims Pkwy., Niceville, FL 32578. Please enclose check.
 DROP IN: The Bay Beacon, 1181 E. John Sims Pkwy., Parkway East Shopping Center. Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. M-F. After hours, use mail slot in our door. E-MAIL: Classified@baybeacon.com Type "Classified" in subject field. (Do not include credit card information. We will call you for credit card info. \$5 processing fee.)

Please write ad on form. Minimum charge \$11.00* for up to 10 words. Each additional word 20c. Attach more paper if needed.

First Word				
				\$11.00
\$11.20	\$11.40	\$11.60	\$11.80	\$12.00

*Base price includes \$5 weekly discount for walk-in or mail-in prepaid ads. Please make checks payable to the Beacon Newspapers. Ads are non-refundable.

50% DISCOUNT FOR ADDITIONAL WEEKS OR PAPERS. Check publications to publish ad:
 Bay Beacon (Number of weeks) _____ Eglin Flyer (Number of weeks) _____ Hurlburt Patriot (Number of weeks) _____ Green Beret (Number of weeks) _____

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____

Price of First Run\$ _____
 + Price of subsequent runs\$ _____
 = Total Price.....\$ _____

Edge Elementary festival



Mckenzie Janssen, Edge first grader, with her father, work on a project at the Home Depot build-it workshop at the festival.



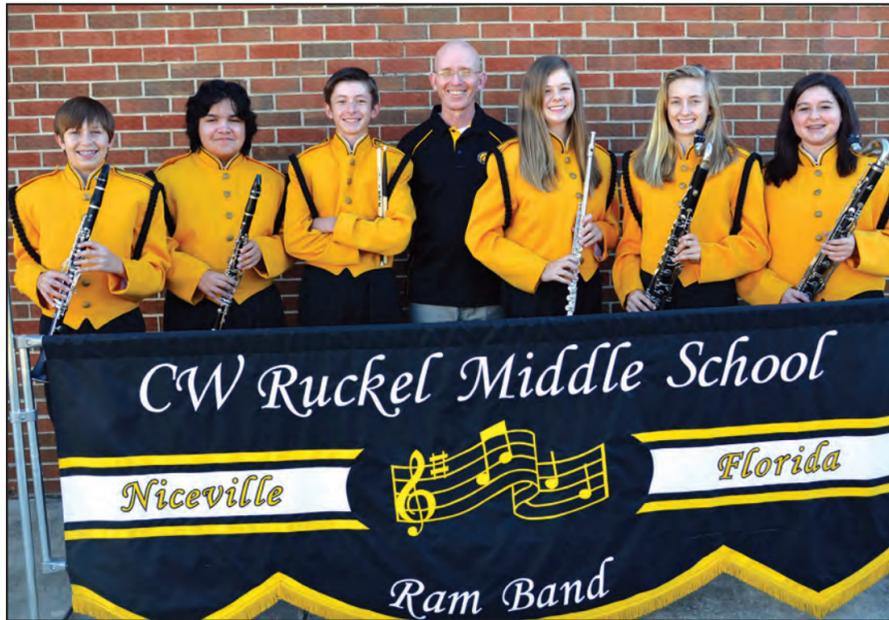
Edge Elementary teachers volunteering at the festival from left: Darby Crews, first grade, Cynthia Tuznik, fourth grade, and Colleen Ballasch, fourth grade.



Club honors Policeman of the Year

The Niceville Exchange Club honored Policeman of the Year Steve Richards, right, at the club's meeting Oct. 23 at La Rumba, Niceville. Lt. William Steven Gaiser, left, introduced Richards whose name was added to a plaque that hangs in the Niceville Police Department.

All-State Band chooses six Ruckel students



The Ruckel Middle School band selected students from left: Ryan Murphey, Perrin Davis, Hunter Brake, Ruckel Band Director Eddie Steadman, Alexandria Tolbert, Claire Crist and Jazzlyn Timper.

By Anna Kavanaugh
Beacon Staff Writer

Six Ruckel Middle School students have been selected as members of the Florida All-State Band.

Directed by Eddie Steadman, Ruckel's band director, they include eighth graders Hunter Brake, percussion; Claire Crist, bass clarinet; Perrin Davis, clar-

inet and Alexandria Tolbert, flute. Also chosen were seventh graders Ryan Murphey; clarinet and Jazzlyn Timper, bass clarinet.

Auditions for the All-State Band had five parts: seven memorized major scales in two minutes, a chromatic scale, a lyrical musical study, a technical musical study and a sight-reading exercise for music the students

didn't see before.

Percussionists audition on three instruments. Auditions are recorded and sent to a trained judge who scores each audition.

The All State Band will perform at the 2013 Florida Music Educators Conference Jan. 9-12, Tampa. The All-State Concert will be held Jan. 12, 3 p.m., at the Tampa Convention Center.

Anniversaries

Abner and Lena Williams celebrate 20th anniversary

Abner and Lena Williams, long-time Niceville residents, will celebrate their 20th anniversary on Nov. 14, 2012.

They were married in 1992 at Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church, Niceville.

Both attended Ruckel Middle School and graduated from Niceville Senior High School.

The Williams are parents to David, a Florida State University student and Noah, a Ruckel Middle School student.

God has blessed them in many ways over the years as they continue to love, support and accept each other. Through the good times and the bad,



Mr. and Mrs. Abner Williams

they have always stood by each other and remain the best of friends.

ROCKY BAYOU CHRISTIAN SCHOOL'S COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE 2012

Please join us for our annual Open House for Prospective Families.

This event will be held on
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2012

from **9:00 AM to 10:30 AM**

in the **SAXON LIBRARY**
on the **NICEVILLE CAMPUS.**

If you would like to join us, please RSVP to the Admission Office at 850.279.3727.

To learn more about our Destin or Niceville campus visit us at www.rbc.org



OUR MISSION

To assist parents in their God-given responsibility to train and develop in their children a biblical worldview, Christian character and the skills necessary to fulfill God's calling in their lives.

2101 N. PARTIN DRIVE • NICEVILLE, FL 32578
WWW.RBCS.ORG • 850.279.3727

ATTENTION Bluewater Bay Residents

There have been several articles recently regarding Bluewater Bay Resorts plan to shorten the Magnolia golf course and to develop the three parcels which would become vacant.

For more information, please go to the Magnolia Plantation website and follow the link "Proposed changes to Magnolia course."

www.magnoliaplantationhoa.com



Magnolia Plantation
at Bluewater Bay