

The Bay Beacon

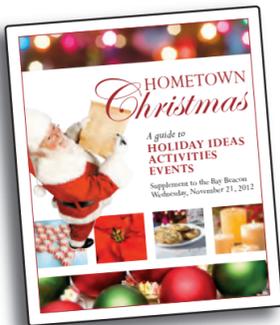
Police Blotter
Page A-4

20 Pages, 3 Sections, 7 Inserts

Wednesday, November 21, 2012

50c

Inside ...



UP
COMING

Thursday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.



Enjoy a free Thanksgiving lunch with First Baptist Church of Niceville in the Fellowship Hall.

Saturday, 10 a.m.

Ride your bike through the streets of Niceville with the Adventure Club starting at Giuseppe's Wharf Restaurant and Marina, Niceville.

Monday, 6 p.m.



See the opening premiere of the "Geek Lights" Christmas light show at the corner of Bluewater Boulevard and Antigua Way, Niceville.

Tuesday, 6 p.m.

Shop at The Niceville Garden Club's silent auction, plant sale and raffle at the Niceville Public Library.

Wednesday, 9-10:30 a.m.



Join American Girls History Mystery's book club and discuss "The Cameo Necklace: A Cecile Mystery," in the youth services program room, Niceville Public Library.

See Calendar, B-2.

NHS band marches tomorrow in NYC

By Anna Kavanaugh
Beacon Staff Writer

Tune in to NBC on Thanksgiving Day, 9 a.m.-noon, to watch the Niceville High School Eagle Pride Marching Band perform in the 86th Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.

The band students, parents and boosters have spent countless hours of preparation over the past year and a half for this performance and the five-day trip. They flew to the New York metro area Monday.

Kaitlynn Byrd, the band's drum major, couldn't wait to

head to New York City to perform in the parade.

"I'm really excited," Kaitlynn said last week. "It's a great opportunity not only for the band, but for the community to get our name out there.

Please see NHS, page A-5



An iconic balloon in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, in which the NHS band is scheduled to march Thursday.

'Not unpatriotic to file a noise complaint'



Air Force environmental study

A map presented to the Valparaiso City Commission Nov. 13 shows green lines depicting paths of F-35 warplane takeoffs from Eglin Air Force Base under a proposal to use existing runways. The Air Force has not made a final decision concerning flight patterns.

F-35 panel members urge citizens to speak up

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

Noise from F-35 fighter planes was discussed during the Nov. 13 Valparaiso City Commission meeting.

"It is not unpatriotic to file a noise complaint," said Bob Bachelor, a Valparaiso representative to the Eglin Noise Committee. Bachelor urged citizens of Valparaiso and nearby communities to report incidents of excessive noise to Valparaiso and Eglin Air Force Base officials whenever the noise from F-35 flights becomes a hazard or nuisance.

Bachelor said that some local residents may be reluctant to complain about excessive noise because they feel that doing so would label them as unpatriotic complainers. But he added that such reports are needed to discourage the Air Force from disregarding its own stated rules for keeping the noise from such flights to a minimum, and to promote the health, safety, and quality of life of fellow citizens.

Bachelor and fellow noise committee member Bob Webb briefed the city commission, showing maps, charts and other

Please see F-35, page A-3

MSBU keeps winning bid under wraps

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

The elected board of the district that collects tax money from Bluewater Bay residents for community upkeep has renewed its main landscaping contract, but isn't disclosing particulars concerning how much it agreed to pay.

During their Nov. 13 meeting, the board of directors of the Bluewater Bay Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) decided to award the annual landscaping contract to Bayou Lawn Service, which officials said was the low bidder among the three companies contending for the job.

According to MSBU financial reports, landscaping accounted for about \$167,000 of the MSBU's \$368,000 budget for the year ended Sept. 30, when Bayou Lawn also held the contract.

On Friday, MSBU management consultant Archie Jernigan told the Beacon that Bayou

Lawn had been selected, as the company has been for the last several years. Jernigan did not, however, disclose the amounts bid by Bayou or the other two companies, asserting that such information is confidential according to Florida's trade secrets law.

During the September and

October MSBU meetings, board members had delayed acceptance of any of the proposals they had received for the annual landscaping contract for common areas of Bluewater Bay. It is the largest single spending item in the MSBU's annual budget.

Please see MSBU, page A-4

Despite lawsuit, Niceville nixes plan for offices among homes

By Daniel Elsesser
Beacon Staff Writer

The Niceville City Council again denied a request by two Niceville property owners to rezone their land at 316 Niceville Ave. from R-2 (multiple family residence) to RNC (residential, neighborhood and commercial) at its Nov. 13 meeting, despite a pending lawsuit.

James Finlayson and Warren Cook, owners of the Niceville Avenue vacant lot, have now requested the city

rezone their land at least three times since 2007.

On Aug. 7, 2007, the men filed a request with the Niceville Planning Department to have their property rezoned to C-2 (general commercial).

The men filed another request with the planning department Feb. 28, 2008, requesting the land be rezoned to RNC. Both requests were subsequently denied by the city council after the Niceville Planning

Please see LAWSUIT, page A-2



Senate photo

Gaetz takes charge

Florida State Sen. Don Gaetz of Niceville took office as Senate President yesterday at the Capitol in Tallahassee. Story, A-6.

Valp. drops appeal of judgment over secret meetings

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

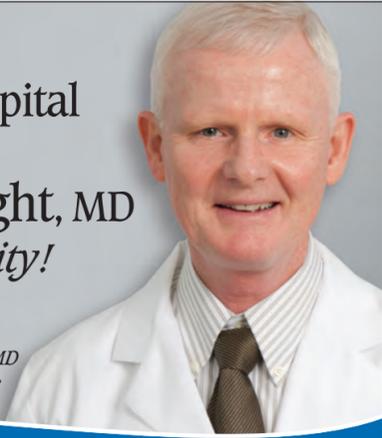
The Valparaiso City Commission decided Monday night to settle an open-meetings lawsuit brought against the city by Valparaiso resident Anthony Bradley.

The settlement, which ends a case that began in 2008, will cost city taxpayers at least \$182,291.

The city will drop its appeal of a circuit judge's judgment earlier this year that it broke the Florida Sunshine Law by conducting secret meetings.

Please see VALP., page A-4

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LAWSUIT

From page A-1

Board recommended they be denied.

According to Bert Moore, an attorney representing Finlayson and Cook, the owners intend to build a two-story office building on the land, which is surrounded by private houses.

Moore said the owners have promised to have a covenant placed on the land restricting them to build only a maximum two-story office building.

Finlayson and Cook filed the currently pending suit with the District 1 circuit court Sept. 13, 2010, requesting the court to make a declaratory judgment stating the property qualifies for rezoning.

Niceville City Attorney

Dixie Powell filed a motion against that complaint, stating the men incorrectly sued the Niceville Planning Board, which had only made a recommendation to the Niceville City Council, not a decision.

Finlayson and Cook amended their complaint to include the city council June 14, 2011. Powell filed a motion to dismiss the amended complaint, stating that the plaintiffs failed to show the city council was "unreasonable, arbitrary and/or capricious" in its decision.

Semantic issues aside, Powell said, the city council's decision makes practical sense.

"They want to put a commercial building right in the middle of a neighborhood, with houses on all sides," Powell said. "I think the city council made the right deci-

sion."

But Moore, the landowners' lawyer, said the lot in question is in a "transitional neighborhood," which in the future can be expected to have more commercial buildings.

"Because of its proximity to other commercial establishments, [an office building] would not be an incompatible use of the land," Moore said.

Niceville Cash and Carry, a hardware and lumber supply store, is located at 500 Niceville Ave., approximately 1,000 feet away from the lot in question.

Moore said members of the Niceville City Council had previously denied the rezoning request out of concern that granting the request would be spot zoning, or zoning land uncharacteristic to its surroundings.



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- 10 Bunco
- 11 Bingo
- 12 Computer workshops
- 13 Ice cream socials
- 14 Potluck luncheons

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THE INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER —by Mike Griffith



What are you thankful for this Thanksgiving?

Location: Kmart



"My family and my freedom."

Chelsea Morin, 36, Niceville, US Air Force operating room nurse



"I'm thankful for my fiancée. We've been engaged for about a month now."

Chris Doswell, 19, Niceville, chemical distributor



"My family and friends."

Edna Kelley, 78, Niceville, retired



"My family and friends."

Cathy Evans, Bluewater Bay, first grade teacher



"For my family, and for being alive."

Tina Pinkham, 46, Niceville, homemaker



"I'm thankful to be alive - I'm a stroke victim."

Ricky Nicholson, 53, Atlanta, Georgia, retired

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

F-35

From page A-1

information about F-35 flight paths and noise patterns over Valparaiso, Niceville, and other communities, as well as a brief history of the Air Force's environmental studies of F-35 noise, Air Force restrictions on flights over populated areas, and how well those restrictions are actually being followed.

As of Nov. 2, said Bachelor, the city had received eight noise reports from four Valparaiso residents, after 498 F-35 missions had been flown from Eglin.

Bachelor said that at present, there are 22 F-35s based at Eglin, including six A-models, used by the Air Force, and 16 B-model planes designed for short takeoffs and vertical landings, to be used by the Marine Corps. He said four more aircraft are expected to be

based at Eglin during the remainder of 2012, and another eight to 12 during 2013, when the first Navy C-model planes are expected to arrive. By 2020, Bachelor said, there will be 54 F-35s regularly flying from Eglin.

About 10 F-35 flying missions per day are now being flown from Eglin, Bachelor said, and because the F-35 is a single-seat aircraft, most such missions involve two aircraft—either two F-35s or one F-35 accompanied by an F-16, to allow instructor or observation pilots to accompany students or test pilots to observe and provide instructions.

Although the Air Force has promised to restrict flights from using Runway 19, a north-south runway which aims planes directly over Valparaiso, to emergencies only, Bachelor said "It is debatable" how well the Air Force is actually following its stated policy.

He said the amount of noise from F-35s is likely to increase in the near future, as the F-35 program moves from its current "operational utility evaluation" to regularly flying student training missions early in 2013.

Webb briefed the commission on how the noise profile from an F-35 spreads louder noise over a wider area than fighters previously flown from Eglin, such as F-4s or F-15s. He said that when F-35s are flown from Runway 19, a large section of Valparaiso is exposed to noise levels that make homes within the affected areas "uninhabitable" according to the

Air Force's own studies.

Bachelor said he is "not just looking out for Valparaiso," because loud noise is also affecting other areas, such as Niceville, Bluewater Bay, Shalimar, Fort Walton Beach, and Destin, as well as affecting military families who live within Eglin Air Force Base, where the noise is closest and loudest.

After hearing from Bachelor and Webb, Valparaiso Mayor Bruce Arnold said he encourages people to report aircraft noise whenever it becomes a nuisance. "Eglin claims that there is no problem," he said, "but we need everyone's help" to document noise problems whenever and wherever they occur.

Bachelor said people experiencing excessive noise can report it by phoning Eglin Public Affairs, Valparaiso City Hall, or both. Arnold said he will have notes added to city utility bills informing residents of how to file noise reports.

"I like the slogan, 'It's not unpatriotic to call,'" said city commissioner Kay Hamilton following Bachelor and Webb's slide briefing. "A lot of us feel that way."

An Eglin spokesman said the base investigates all noise complaints quickly.

"Citizens should call the Public Affairs office at (850) 882-3915, or 882-3391 to file their complaint," Eglin spokesman Mike Spaits said Monday in response to questions from the Beacon. "The Air Force Noise Complaint

Process is just one part of our obligation to being a good neighbor and we ask residents to contact us directly so we can make every effort to understand the incident and investigate the issue as soon as possible," Spaits said.

"Eglin's Public Affairs office provides timely, responsive, and factual answers to aircraft and ordnance noise complaints working in conjunction with the installation's aircraft operations and civil engineer offices," Spaits said. "If a response is requested, Eglin Public Affairs representatives will call the complainant back with an explanation of the incident as soon as it is thoroughly investigated—usually within a few days. A report of the complaints is also reviewed at the Air Operations Board meeting, which is also attended by the community planners."

So far in 2012, Spaits said, Eglin has received 39 ordnance noise complaints and 31 non-F-35 aircraft noise complaints. Since F-35 flights began in March, he said, "we have received 10 F-35 noise complaints. Of those 10 complaints, five were from one individual in Rocky Bayou, and the remaining five were from four different individuals in Valparaiso."

"Historically, as far back as our records show, Valparaiso residents have submitted the fewest complaints out of all of our surrounding communities," the Eglin spokesman said. "In fact, from 2006-2010, only one noise complaint was received from Valparaiso."

Correction

An article Nov. 14 incorrectly characterized a letter to the East Niceville Fire Commission by Leonard Martin, a member of the commission. It was not a letter of resignation. In the letter, Martin asked the commission to terminate his fire district pay and e-mail as of Nov. 15, the statutory ending date of the term he was then serving.

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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

A 13-year-old Niceville boy was arrested by Niceville police Nov. 8 on a charge of battery.

Christopher Michael Campbell, 38, of 304 Reeves St., Lot B-15, Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police Nov. 10 on a charge of retail theft. Campbell allegedly stole a sweater worth \$11.30 from the Wal-Mart at 1300 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville.

Christopher Corwin Lee Hubbard, a construction worker, 22, of 3179 E. James Lee Blvd., Crestview, was arrested by Niceville police Nov. 10 on a charge of retail theft. Hubbard allegedly stole a phone charger worth \$15.86 from the Wal-Mart at 1300 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville. Hubbard allegedly said he stole the charger to save money for Christmas presents.

Robert D. Roll, 21, of 1512

27th St., Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police Nov. 9 on charges of marijuana possession and drug equipment possession. Roll allegedly yelled questions at an officer who was responding to a separate underage smoking call. After Roll consented to a pat down search, the officer allegedly found a marijuana pipe and approximately one gram of marijuana.

A 15-year-old Niceville girl was arrested by Niceville police Nov. 10 on a charge of retail theft shoplifting. The girl allegedly stole \$94.38 worth of merchandise from the Wal-Mart at 1300 E. John Sims Parkway, filling her purse with items such as candy, makeup, a Beatles T-shirt and a salt-and-pepper shaker.

Jacob Colby Cecil, an electrician, 28, of 213 Andy Lane, Freeport, was arrested by Valparaiso police Nov. 7 on charges of driving with a revoked

license habitual offender and attaching a tag not assigned. The arresting officer stopped Cecil after the officer's radar recorded Cecil's car moving 76 mph in a 35 mph zone on John Sims Parkway.

Patricia Sue Herrin, 70, of 228 St. Charles Ave., Valparaiso, was arrested by Valparaiso police Nov. 9 on charges of stalking (harassment) and reckless driving. Herrin allegedly nearly hit the complainant with her car Oct. 9. Herrin has allegedly filed 191 complaints, most of them unfounded, against the complainant since Nov. 23, 2006.

DUI arrests

Kelvin John Lenoir, retired, 39, of 210 Yacht Club Drive, Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police for DUI and driving with a suspended license habitual offender on Bayshore Drive Nov. 10 at 2:09 a.m. Lenoir was also cited for speeding.

Alice Marie Bryant-Soles, an entertainer, 37, of 697 Long Drive, Crestview, was arrested by sheriff's deputies for DUI at 1065 E. John Sims Parkway Nov. 9.

Thefts

A Destin resident from the 1000 block of Airport Road reported someone stole \$25 from her at the Comfort Inn Suites at 148 W. John Sims Parkway Nov. 11.

A Niceville resident from the 2000 block of Echo Creek Cove reported an unknown person used or possessed his identity without consent Nov. 11. Allegedly, an unknown person opened several accounts using the man's social security number after stealing his daughter's purse and reading his social security number from his daughter's military ID.

Criminal mischief

A Niceville resident from the 800 block of Coldwater Creek Circle reported someone the window of his car Nov. 11.

Other

A Niceville resident from the 1000 block of 47th Street reported he found a glass marijuana pipe in a closet in his house Nov. 8. Sheriff's deputies took the pipe in as evidence to be destroyed.

Fire Department Reports

Niceville

The Niceville Fire Department responded to the following calls from November 12, 2012 through November 18, 2012.

0 Structure Fire	21 Emergency Medical Calls
0 Vehicle Fire	2 Vehicle Crash
0 Other Fire	0 Vehicle Crash with Extrication
0 Illegal Burn	3 Other Emergency Calls
1 False Alarms	0 Hazardous Conditions

STREET	SITUATION	DATE	TIME
N. Palm Blvd.	Medical	11/12/12	00:29
Everglade Drive	Medical	11/12/12	14:37
SR 85 N.	Vehicle crash	11/13/12	09:40
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/13/12	22:45
Oak Avenue	Medical	11/14/12	13:21
SR 85 N/SR 123	Medical	11/15/12	01:17
23rd Street	Medical	11/15/12	02:00
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/15/12	02:30
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/15/12	03:51
27th Street	Medical	11/15/12	10:28
SR 285	Vehicle crash	11/15/12	13:16
Kelly Road	Medical	11/16/12	02:22
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/16/12	13:02
Bayshore Drive	Medical	11/16/12	15:13
Kelly Road	Medical	11/16/12	21:08
47th Street	Alarm activation	11/17/12	08:04
Kumquat Ave.	Medical	11/17/12	08:05
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/17/12	11:03
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/17/12	11:18
Edgewater Drive	False call	11/17/12	14:55
28th Street	Medical	11/17/12	16:41
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/17/12	20:50
Reeves Street	Medical	11/17/12	22:37
Grove Park Drive	Dispatched & cancelled	11/18/12	07:48
2nd Street	Medical	11/18/12	13:26
Coldwater Creek Circle	Alarm activation	11/18/12	15:13
Azalea Drive	Medical	11/18/12	20:06

Weekly Safety Tip: Purchase portable heaters with automatic shutoff safety features. Keep them clean and at least three feet away from draperies, furniture, clothes, bedding or walls.

Like the Niceville Fire Department on Facebook

North Bay

The North Bay Fire Department responded to the following calls from November 13, 2012 through November 18, 2012.

Street	Situation	Date	Time
Hwy. 20/County Line	Dispatched & cancelled	11/13/12	06:52
Highway 20 East	Medical	11/13/12	09:06
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	11/13/12	16:45
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	11/13/12	19:14
Windlake Drive	Medical	11/14/12	03:20
Bay Drive	Alarm activation	11/14/12	08:58
Calinda Lane	Medical	11/14/12	11:50
Bay Drive	Public assist	11/14/12	16:58
St. Martin Cove	Medical	11/14/12	20:21
Magnolia Plantation Blvd.	Medical	11/16/12	01:19
Cougar Circle	EMS call	11/16/12	01:37
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	11/16/12	14:14
Cypress Street	Medical	11/16/12	22:18
Greenwood Cove N.	Medical assist	11/17/12	10:10
Ida Coon Circle	Medical	11/18/12	08:35
Southwind Court	Medical	11/18/12	09:06
White Point Road	Public assist	11/18/12	10:58
Cat Mar Road	Medical	11/18/12	16:00
Bermuda Circle	Public assist	11/18/12	20:26

Visit northbayfd.org for more information.

MSBU

From page A-1

During the October meeting, MSBU Treasurer Joe Jellison said that the lowest bid was from Bayou Lawn Service, but he was uncertain whether that bid was acceptable, because Bayou actually submitted two proposals after the Request for Proposals issued by the MSBU had only called for one proposal from each company seeking the contract.

During that meeting, MSBU members voted to delay a final decision until they had time to obtain a legal opinion about whether the current bid was acceptable, and if not, how to proceed to select a contractor for the coming year.

When asked last month whether copies of the proposals received by the MSBU are available to the public, Jernigan said they are not, because they are confidential information under the Florida trade secrets act.

The Request For Proposals (RFP) issued by the MSBU board instructed bidders to declare their proposals trade secrets.

The MSBU board turned down requests in September and October from the Bay Beacon to provide copies of the proposals, and of the evaluation work sheet

used by the evaluation committee (Doug Burgess and Jernigan), in accordance with Florida's public records and Sunshine laws.

According to the RFP signed by MSBU board community services chairman Doug Burgess, "Proposals will be evaluated by a team consisting of the Chairman, BWB MSBU Community Services and the Management Services Contractor."

The RFP also states, "The following shall be placed at the bottom of the offeror's proposal cover page: 'This document includes data protected from unauthorized disclosure under the Trade Secret provisions of Chapter 812.002 and Chapter 812.001 of Florida Statutes. All sheets containing data subject to this protection shall be marked appropriately.' On affected sheets, place the following statement at the bottom of the page: 'Use or disclosure of data contained on this sheet is subject to the restriction on the cover page of this proposal.'"

The RFP also states, "There will not be a public proposal opening."

The Beacon has contended that "trade secrets" are limited to unique, proprietary information held by specific companies, such as secret chemical formulas or product designs that give compa-

nies competitive advantages in the marketplace, but that information about how elected government officials spend tax money, to include the amounts bid by companies seeking government contracts, must be openly disclosed in accordance with Florida's Sunshine Law and public records law.

The MSBU is an agency of Okaloosa County government, financed by an annual flat-fee tax on Bluewater Bay property owners and residents, and members of the MSBU board of directors are elected by Bluewater Bay voters.

In other business during the

Nov. 13 meeting, board members reviewed a list of ongoing projects presented by board member Doug Burgess. These included:

—Sidewalks: A new sidewalk along Bay Drive was completed and opened Nov. 7. Other sidewalks in Bluewater Bay are expected to be completed later this year as part of a cooperative cost sharing program between the MSBU and Okaloosa County Public Works. According to previous documents from the MSBU, "Estimated cost per sidewalk is \$5959.00 for material for Bay Dr. Windward total \$29,626.55; Southwind total \$35,723.35; Woodlands total \$31,429.70. Grand total is \$102,738.60."

—Landscape entrances to St. Andrews Cove and Turnberry Cove from Southwind Drive: Estimates for St. Andrews Cove is \$5,675 for both sides and \$5,675 for both sides of Turnberry Cove. The project has not yet been scheduled, however.

—Survey street lights: The MSBU board has approved installing 10 new lights at a cost of \$11,703. Lights are currently being installed by CHELCO. Nine additional lights may be installed in the future.

The next public meeting of the MSBU board of directors is scheduled for 10 a.m., Dec. 11, at the Bluewater Bay golf clubhouse on Bluewater Boulevard.



Beacon photo by Mike Griffith

Board members of the Bluewater Bay Municipal Services Benefit Unit and staff met Nov. 13. The board approved a costly, year-long landscaping contract but did not disclose details of the contractor's bid.

VALP.

From page A-1

Monday's decision came after the commission met behind closed doors to discuss the case with City Attorney Hayward Dykes.

After discussing the case in private, the city commission reconvened in open session to vote in favor of accepting a settlement offered by Bradley's attorney, Michael Chesser.

Earlier this year, a court ruled in favor of the lawsuit brought against Valparaiso by Bradley, who contended that city officials had violated Florida's Sunshine Law in 2008, in the process of deciding that the city would sue the Air Force to obtain documents related to the stationing of F-35 fighter planes at Eglin Air Force Base.

The city's suit against the Air

Force was eventually settled. Nevertheless, Bradley's suit against the city, filed in 2009, actually went to trial, where Circuit Judge Thomas Remington ruled in July of this year that the city in 2008 violated the Sunshine Law by deciding to sue the Air Force through secret discussions rather than in public meetings.

The judge also ruled that the city had failed to give adequate notice of a public meeting in 2009, when the city commission authorized a second lawsuit against the Air Force over plans to station F-35 fighter planes at Eglin Air Force Base. The city commission was concerned about the possible impact on residents by noise and potential safety issues from flying the powerful new fighter planes over the city—an issue that continues to this day.

In August of this year, the city commission authorized Dykes to appeal Judge Remington's ruling that it broke the Sunshine Law. Monday, however, the commission decided to accept Chesser's offer to settle Bradley's suit rather than continue the appeal.

In his letter to Valparaiso, Chesser said the case could be settled if the city would pay Bradley's attorney fees and costs, but he did not ask the city to pay anything to Bradley himself. "Please understand that if I request the Court to set fees and costs," wrote Chesser, "my office policy and agreements with clients require interest to be paid, and I will apply for a multiplier, which I continue to believe is due and would be awarded."

"In that regard, I confirm to you that my office has been paid nothing toward either fees or costs. The fee number is

\$173,475.50. The costs are \$8,815.76. The total is \$182,291.26."

These numbers do not include amounts expended by the city for its own defense.

Following Monday's closed session, commissioners H.H. Strong and Joe Morgan, along with Mayor Bruce Arnold, voted unanimously to accept Chesser's offer. Commissioners Diane Kelley and Kay Hamilton were not present at Monday's meeting.

Of the five members of today's commission, only Strong and Arnold were members at the time the Bradley lawsuit was filed.

Following the meeting, Dykes told the Beacon that the case will not be officially closed until some final legal procedures and paperwork are completed, but that he expects no further actual litigation in the matter.

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The Niceville High School Eagle Pride Marching Band will perform in the 2012 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York.



NHS

From page A-1

It's definitely the highlight of our year."

The band has participated in numerous fundraisers in the community to support the \$600,000 trip and Niceville corporate sponsors also pitched in a total of \$45,000, Sandi McClanahan, band booster, said.

The day of the parade will be an exhausting one for the band with a wake up call at 1:45 a.m.

They will leave the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel, N.J., at 2:30 a.m., on six charter buses to head to the 3:20 a.m. camera rehearsal. The band is required to wear half of their uniforms to test their appearance on camera.

The band will have to carry all of their equipment more than half a mile from the buses to the starting point of the parade on 77th Street.

Breakfast will be served at 5:30 a.m., at the Hard Rock Café in a private dining room where the band can calm their nerves and rest before the show.

At 8 a.m. the band will line up fully dressed in their uniforms and wait to begin the three-hour, new two-and-a-half-mile long parade.

The band will march from 77th Street and Central Park West and travel to Columbus Circle along Central Park South to 6th Avenue. Then they will head down 6th Avenue to 34th Street and along 34th Street to end of the parade at Macy's Herald Square.

National stars set to perform at the parade include Carly Rae Jepsen, Flo Rida, The Wanted, Karmin, Neon Trees, Cody Simpson, Jimmy Fallon and The Roots, Jennette McCurdy, Chris Isaak and Don McLean.

An estimated 3 million spectators will line the parade route, and more than 50 million viewers across the country are expected to watch the event on TV, according to Macy's.

Elf on the Shelf, Hello Kitty and Papa Smurf are the three new balloons this year along with six new floats: Daytime, Play Time, Night Time Too...

Goldfish on Parade; Music is Our Life; 75 Years of March Madness; Stirrin' Up Sweet Sensations and the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.

There will be a total of 16 character balloons, 40 ornament balloons, 28 floats, 1,600 cheerleaders and dancers, 900 clowns, 11 marching bands, music performances and an appearance by Santa Claus at the parade.

The six high school bands performing in the parade are Niceville's Eagle Pride; Father Ryan High School Marching Band, Nashville, Tenn.; Kenton Ridge High School Marching Band, Springfield, Ohio; Oak Ridge High School Marching Band, Conroe, Texas; Saratoga High School, Saratoga, Calif.; and Wyoming All-State High School Marching Band, Wyo.

After the parade the Niceville band will head back to the hotel for lunch. Then they will head to their Thanksgiving family-style dinner in Jersey City, N.J., overlooking the Manhattan skyline. The band will eat, dance and celebrate for all their hard work with friends and family who also came on the trip.

The two chartered Boeing 737 jets carrying the band, teachers and chaparones are scheduled to return to the Northwest Florida Regional Airport at 8:30 p.m. Friday.



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Tara A. Hagan graduated cum laude from the Stetson University College of Law. She is a member of the Leadership Okaloosa Class of 2012-13.



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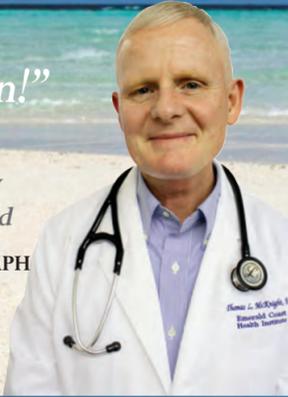


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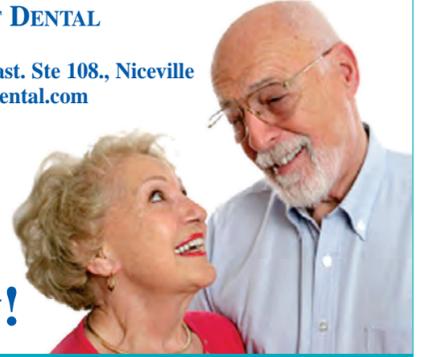
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Bluewater Bay Residents

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

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Gaetz takes office as Fla. Senate president

By Kenneth Books
Beacon Staff Writer

State Sen. Don Gaetz, Niceville, took office as the 97th Senate President Tuesday in Tallahassee, succeeding Sen. Mike Haridopolos of east central Florida.

Twenty-six of the 40 Florida senators are Republicans, as is Gaetz, who represents District 1, which includes the Twin Cities area.

The Senate President is a constitutional officer who leads the Florida Senate for a two-year term. The president, who is elected by members of the

Senate, manages the operations of the Senate and presides over its sessions. The president's many duties include: selecting a majority leader, appointing senators to standing Senate committees, appointing committee chairs, and appointing citizens to a variety of boards and commissions.

Gaetz, 64, said he has a three-part field of interest as he begins his new political role, which begins well before the Legislature convenes in Tallahassee March 5 for its annual 60-day regular session.

"The first is promoting job

growth," he told the *Beacon*. "The second is lashing higher education to the realities of the economy so our graduates can get jobs. And the third is ethics reform at the local level and state level."

Before running for the Florida Senate, Gaetz served as an elected member of the Okaloosa



Don Gaetz

County School Board and as Okaloosa County Schools Superintendent. He was first elected to the state Senate in 2006, and was re-elected in 2010 and 2012.

The first two Gaetz priorities are connected, he said.

"Now, half the college and university graduates from last year—half—are either unemployed or underemployed, meaning their degrees did not qualify them for jobs. I have a laser focus on economics and educational issues. And I believe we need to raise the ethical level."

Gaetz said recent events in

Okaloosa County drive home the need for ethical reform. He noted that a former Okaloosa County sheriff is in prison after conviction in a kickback scheme, a Tourist Development Council director committed suicide early this year after he was charged with stealing public money, a county commissioner this year was removed after being charged with misconduct (the charge denied), and a state representative was forced out in 2010 after his indictment on a misconduct charge (since dropped).

"I'm looking forward to next year," Gaetz said. "I have plenty

to do and I'm optimistic and enthusiastic.

But his first priority after swearing in, Gaetz said, would be to enjoy Thanksgiving at home with his wife, Vicky, and their daughter, Erin, a producer at NBC News in New York.

"Within three hours after being sworn in, I'll be starting to make the Gaetz family recipe for dressing," he said.

Their son, Matt, a Fort Walton Beach Republican, serves in the Florida House of Representatives, representing District 4, which also includes the Twin Cities area.



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Advertising Feature
With the holidays rapidly approaching, now is the time to plan your family or business holiday party. The Boathouse Landing can help make your event special, with many different rooms and menu options to fit your special needs—from cocktails and hors d'oeuvres to full course meals. Banquet manager Heather Hyde has been with the boat-house for over 6 years and can help you create a festive and elegant menu for your special event. She is available to assist you with questions or bookings Tuesday thru Saturday.



The Boathouse Landing can accommodate a cozy gathering of family and friends or an elaborate banquet your guests will remember for a lifetime.

Open seven days a week for lunch and dinner, the Boathouse Landing offers a relaxed atmosphere overlooking boggy bayou. Even when the weather is too chilly to dine outdoors on the spacious deck, there is still ample seating inside with views of the water. As expected, the Boathouse is known for a succulent variety of seafood, but also offers many other options such as pasta, steaks, po boys and burgers. Food allergies are not a problem. Gluten free menus are available and if you tell your server your specific allergy, they can guide you through

the menu or customize something for you. Each afternoon, from 4:30 to 6 p.m., diners can choose from early bird specials, featuring such mouth-watering selections as beef tenderloin tips with a marsala mushroom sauce, pan sautéed chicken breast topped with a lemon caper cream sauce, shrimp étouffée, jumbo fried shrimp or a pecan crusted catch of the day. While it's a delectable treat for the palate, it's also light on the wallet at just \$9.95. A side salad can be added for \$2.49. As befits a restaurant bordering the bayou, seafood is abundant. Selections range from oysters on the half shell, seafood stuffed shrimp, grilled or blackened mahi-mahi topped with lemon beurre blanc, or Boathouse grouper topped with Maine lobster meat and a sherry butter sauce. For food from the land, diners can choose from everything from Ribeye steak and filet mignon to half-pound hamburgers and po' boy sandwich-

es. Lighter fare includes salads such as the coconut chicken salad: breaded chicken with coconut bread crumbs on fresh mixed greens, with mandarin oranges, tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, honey roasted nuts and orange vinaigrette dressing. Downstairs, at the Bilge Pub Lounge and Patio Oyster Bar, you can enjoy an appetizer and your favorite refreshment during Happy Hour, which runs Mon.-Sat. 3-6 p.m. Live music is played on the enclosed patio bar Friday and Saturday nights with a mix of country, island and pop. If you want excellent dining in a casual atmosphere at a price you can afford, the Boathouse Landing is sure to please. For more information, reservations and to reserve a banquet room, call the Boathouse Landing at 678-2805 or stop by their location at 124 John Sims Parkway. You can also go to their website at www.theboathouselanding.com to see more pictures and menus.

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The National Senior Beta Officers from left, Kristen Bernheisel, Amanda Hart, Michelle Earls, Laura Herndon, and Laura Hudson.

Rocky Bayou's honor societies announce officers

By Anna Kavanaugh
Beacon Staff Writer

Rocky Bayou Christian School's National Senior Beta Club announced its officers for the 2012-13 school year. They are, with grades: president

Laura Herndon, 12; vice president Amanda Hart, 12; secretary Kristen Bernheisel, 12, chaplain Michelle Earls, 11; and treasurer Laura Hudson, 10.

The senior club accepted 13

new members along with its current 28 members.

The RBCS National Junior Beta Club had enough members this year to separate from the senior club. The 2012

Please see OFFICERS, page B-4



Eagle Troop 546 helps garden club

The Eagle Scout Troop 546 replaced new and old posts and built a new bench for the Bluewater Bay Garden Club's Native Plant Trail, Bluewater Bay Boulevard, between Highway 20 and Caribbean Way, during the month of October. They also replaced the old railroad ties at the entrance of the trail.

RBCS King and Queen

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.

Photo by Scott Schaeffler



Sorority holds annual tea

The Gamma Epsilon Master Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi held its annual Preferential Tea Nov. 4, at Baron's Tea House, Crestview. Pictured from left: Helen Martin, Angela Budden, Eunice Whitman, Dianne Wilbur, Mattie Williams, Carol Trombley, Margaret Holley, Susan Vetter, Doris Olig and Marge Ballon, sitting.

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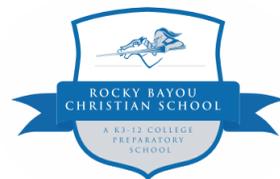
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Sharing and Caring

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.

Head Start tots sought

Okaloosa County Comprehensive Head Start is accepting applications for children ages 3-5 years old for its



Niceville High holiday concert

The Niceville High School Chorus will host its holiday concert, "A Wreath of Carols," Dec. 16, 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1407 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville. The chorus includes the Select Women, Bel Canto, Kantorai, The Camerata, Opus One and the Niceville Singers. The concert is \$10 per person.

free preschool for those who qualify, at the Niceville Head Start Center, 1200 Valparaiso Blvd. Niceville. Contact 244-2606.

Baytown 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. For hours visit www.Sandestin.com/events.

ADSO Christmas Art Market

The Arts and Design Society's Christmas Art Market will run until 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. Contact 244-1271.

Christmas Reflections

DeFuniak Springs hosts "Christmas Reflections," an evening of lights and decorated season characters until Dec. 31, 5-9 p.m., at Circle Drive, Lake DeFuniak. Evening passes are \$3 and a season pass is \$35. There will be carriage rides offered for an additional fee on weekends. Contact Ellen at 307-2228.

Thanksgiving luncheon

First Baptist Church of Niceville's annual Thanksgiving Community Luncheon will take place Nov. 22, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall, 622 Bayshore Drive. The luncheon is free and open to the public. Contact 678-4621.

Bird workshop

The E.O. Wilson Biophilia Center will host "Birds of Prey" with Lisa Miller Nov. 24, at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., 4956 State Highway 20 E., Freeport. Learn about owls, hawks and other Florida raptors. Standard admission rates apply. Contact 835-1824.

Adventure Club bike ride

Adventure Club will meet Nov. 24, 10 a.m., for a bike ride in Niceville. Meet at Giuseppe's Wharf Restaurant and Marina, 821 Bayshore Dr., Niceville. There will be lunch after the ride at a nearby restaurant. Contact Jim Bayes 897-6756.

'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 parade participants Nov. 26, 6 p.m., at the Niceville Community Center. This

will be the last day to enter the parade or there will be a \$5 late fee. The entry fee for profit organizations is \$60 and \$30 for non-profit. Pictured is the Niceville High School Color Guard at last year's parade.

Garden club auction and sale

The Niceville Garden Club will host a silent auction, plant sale and raffle at its meeting Nov. 27, 6 p.m., at the Niceville Public Library, 206 Partin Drive N. All meetings are open to the public. Contact Marsha Palmer, 883-2630.

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.

RBCS open house

Rocky Bayou Christian School will host its annual open house for prospective families Nov. 28, 9-10:30 a.m., in the Saxon Library.

Please see CALENDAR, page B-4

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Living and working in the Niceville/Valparaiso area for a long time, I have always been extremely pleased with the Bay Beacon and the service the paper has provided me. I am doing the job that I love in my professional field working as a local real estate agent for 18 years and know how extremely important recognition is to my profession. The Bay Beacon has always done an outstanding job with all the articles that have acknowledged my business. In addition, I greatly appreciate the support the Bay Beacon has given two of my special projects, including my Christmas display, "Animation in Motion", and the Valparaiso-Niceville Girls Softball League.

I would like to say thank you to the staff of the Bay Beacon for all of their sincere commitment and dedication to our local area.

Debbie Lewis

Debbie Lewis
"The Christmas Lady"
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Who's News

The Auxiliary of Twin Cities Hospital honored **Chelsea Outman**, Rocky Bayou Christian Academy senior, for her more than 300 volunteer hours in the hospital's emergency room Oct. 25 at Ed's Legendary Steak-Seafood restaurant in Palm Plaza, Niceville.



Chelsea Outman

The Department of Early Childhood Education at Northwest Florida State College recognized **Teresa Fritz**, Niceville, for earning the national Child Development Associate and Florida Child Care Professional credentials in early childhood education at the college's annual Early Childhood Honors reception



Teresa Fritz

The Department of Early Childhood Education at Northwest Florida State College recognized **Shelli Lynch**, Niceville, for earning the Florida Child Care Professional credential in early childhood education at the college's annual Early Childhood Honors reception.



Shelli Lynch

The Department of Early Childhood Education at Northwest Florida State College recognized **Melissa Wade**, Niceville, for earning the Florida Director credential in early childhood education at the college's annual Early Childhood Honors reception.



Melissa Wade

Alice H. Murray of Valparaiso was announced as one of the 10 winners in the national Legal Rebels Ross Essay Contest Oct. 25, for members of the American Bar Association. Murray will receive a \$500 prize for her submission of a haiku of the practice of law.

Marilyn Clark, Lynn Gauthier and Argenia Parmer have joined Coldwell Banker United, REALTORS® as full-time sales associates working out of the Niceville office.



Photos courtesy of FSGA

Two Niceville teens win golf divisions

Antonia Poate, left, Niceville High School junior, won the Florida Junior Tour's Girls 16-18 Division title Nov. 10 and 11, at Perdido Bay Golf Club, Pensacola. Poate posted a tournament total of 167 to capture her first title by nine shots. **Jason Rogers**, Rocky Bayou Christian School junior, took the Boys 16-18 Division title and overcame a four-stroke deficit for his first career victory with a total of 153.



Garden club hosts bird bander

The Bluewater Bay Garden Club had **Fred Bassett**, a national certified hummingbird bander, Tallahassee, speak at its meeting Nov. 8, at the Bluewater Bay Clubhouse, Niceville. **Karen Williams**, left, also presented Bassett with a \$100 check for the Hummer/Bird Study Group, Inc., a group dedicated to the study and preservation of hummingbirds and other Neo-tropical songbirds.

Obituary

Tricia Louise Curtis

Aug. 14, 1968-Nov. 5, 2012

Tricia Louise Curtis, 44, of Midlothian, Texas ended her journey in life on Nov. 5, 2012 at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Md. She began her journey in life in Pennsylvania on Aug. 14, 1968 and soon after her birth moved to Niceville, Fla., where she attended school until high school.

Her parents, Carol and Horace Brown of Niceville, and her only child, Brent Douglas Curtis of Midlothian, preceded her in death.

Tricia is survived by her loving husband of 23 years, Joel Douglas Curtis and only brother, Tim Brown (wife, Becca and nephews, Lawson and Carter) and many family and friends from both sides of the family.

Her favorite passtime was making all people happy and bringing laughter into their lives. She enjoyed education, fellowship and helping old and young people in many aspects of their lives. She was a very loving, strong and compassionate lady.

Tricia's true life was the love of her husband, whom she always referred to as Dougie,

son, Brent, also known as B Boy, and their four dogs, Bobo, Geisha, Wawa and Zoey. She always made sure they wanted for nothing.

She never knew a stranger throughout her life; she just loved life and everyone in it. In later years she continued in college receiving her AA degree in business administration. She was also very active as a band parent for the Midlothian High School where her son, Brent, graduated from in 2003.

There were so many things Tricia wanted to do and places she wanted to see, but for the last 11 years she fought a long hard battle with many things. The last battle, being the hardest, was six years dealing with Leukemia and other health complications. Now she is with her beloved son, Brent, and neither of them will suffer any more pain or sickness.

Tricia was very strong in her belief in our heavenly father and strived so hard to bring Doug in. Now he knows that this is the only way he can join them. Tricia once again did God's will; all who knew and loved her will

truly and sadly miss her.

Tricia and Doug's daily words of love to one another were: "I love you; how much; bunches and bunches; for how long; ever and ever; and infinity."

The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Leukemia Society in Tricia and Brent's name.

Joel Douglas would like to thank Dr. Scotsman and staff of Fort Worth, all of the National Institute of Health, Dr. Hickstien and team, Dr. Holland and team, all the nurses in her life, the Dallas Police Dept., and all family and friends, close and afar.

Memorial services were held at 2 p.m., with fellowship and food at 12:15 p.m., on Monday, Nov. 19, 2012, at First United Methodist Church, 800 S. 9th St., Midlothian, Texas.

Correction

The Nov. 14 issue printed an incorrect photo with the announcement of Rocky Bayou Christian School's 2012 Homecoming King and Queen. The people pictured were actually the school's 2011 Homecoming King, Adam Downing, and Queen, Grace Stoner, attending the 2012 Homecoming Court presentation. A photo of the 2012 King and Queen appears today on Page B-1.

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 9:00 a.m. Traditional Service
 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service

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OFFICERS

From page B-1
 officers announced Oct. 15 are, with grades: president Gabriel Seabrook, 7; vice president Meredith Milam, 8; secretary Lauren Householder, 7; chaplain Kaylee Orr, 7; and treasurer Megan Slagle, 8.

The mission of the national honor society is to promote the ideals of academic achievement, character, service and leadership among students.



The National Junior Beta Officers from left, sponsor Lisa Given, Meredith Milam, Kaylee Orr, Megan Slagle, Lauren Householder, and Gabriel Seabrook.

A new member reception will be held within the next month to celebrate the growth of both organizations. The club's sponsor is Mrs. Lisa Given.

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Edge donates to Hero Hugs

Mrs. Sandra McCormick's third grade Edge Elementary class donated 29.2 pounds of leftover Halloween candy Nov. 9 to Bailey Reese's organization, Hero Hugs, in Niceville. The class won a popcorn party to be held Nov. 30. Bailey, center, will make care packages with the candy to send to military troops overseas.

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 Noon Thurs., Nov. 29

Publication dates
 Wed., Nov. 28*
 Fri., Nov. 30**
 Wed., Dec. 5*
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*Beacon dates
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Lewis student makes All-State Band

Lewis School seventh grader Tacy Colo'n was chosen Nov. 1, from several thousand students who auditioned in September, to be a part of the Florida All-State Band. Tacy will travel to Tampa in January to perform in the band, comprised of mostly eighth graders. Robert Colón, Lewis School band director, directs her.



CALENDAR

From page B-2

2101 Partin Drive N., Niceville Campus. Contact 279-3727 to register.

Donate blood at Eglin
 Northwest Florida Blood Services will host two blood drives on Nov. 29, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Eglin 780th Test Squadron/Seek Eagle Office Bldg. 350, 205 West D Ave., Eglin Air Force Base, and Nov. 30, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Eglin OFP CTF/40th Bldg. 60, 601 Choctawhatchee Blvd., Eglin Air Force Base. Snacks and drinks will be provided to donors as well as a free t-shirt. Contact Lynda Krupka with questions, 862-4216 or Lynda.Krupka@oneblood.org.

Teen Space craft day
 Teen Space will make free safety pin bracelets for its craft day Nov. 29, 2:30 p.m., at the Niceville Public Library, 206 Partin Drive N. The event is free and open to ages 13-17. Registration required by Nov. 27. Contact 279-4863 ext. 1514 or khouston@okaloosa.lib.fl.us.

Toys for Tots
 Toys for Tots will collect donations of new, unwrapped toys from the community Nov. 29, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Niceville Wal-Mart. They will also be collecting during the Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Club's Community Christmas Parade Dec. 1. Marines and local volunteers will collect donations throughout the parade and donors will receive a free 2012

'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.

Eglin tree lighting
 The Eglin Chapel Tree Lighting festival Nov. 30, 5:30 p.m., at the West Gate Chapel, Eglin Air Force Base. There will be caroling, choir performances, a tree lighting and Santa to arrive on a fire truck. Refreshments will be served following the ceremony. Contact 882-2111.

Scouts to sell firs
 Niceville's Boy Scouts of America Troop 546 will hold its annual Christmas tree sale Nov. 30-Dec. 2, in front of the Niceville Police Station, 212 Partin Drive N. The troop will have an assortment of Fraser fir No. 1 trees from North Carolina in various prices and ranging from 5-9 ft. tall. Trees will be sold on Friday, 3-9 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., and Sunday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Contact Jack Knight, 374-2602.

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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 proof-reading 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.

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Eagles lose Region 6A nail-biter in overtime



Beacon photo by Sarah Clauson

Niceville's Demetrius Davis dives to block a fourth-quarter Milton punt. He recovered the ball and scampered to the end zone to tie the Region 6A quarterfinal game, 31-31, but the Eagles lost in overtime.

By Sarah Clauson
Beacon Correspondent

The Niceville Eagles travelled to Milton Friday to a showdown against the Panthers in the 6A Regional quarterfinals. It turned out to be a nail-biter like no other. Ultimately the Eagles fell to the Panthers, 38-31 in overtime, but the come-from-behind effort in the last moments of the game was a true testament to the fighting Eagle spirit, and served as a perfect representation of their entire season.

The Eagles started strong with a fumble recovery that gave them the ball, and, after a short drive, the first seven points of the game. The Panthers answered with similar intensity. After intercepting the ball they tied the game late in the first quarter. Both teams struggled with turnovers, but the Eagles edged ahead with a field goal early in the second, followed by an interception by Tyree McCants that led to another field goal, this one a 47-yarder by Mitchell to put the Eagles lead to 13-7.

Milton answered with a touch-down and took the lead for the first time in the night. It gained momentum and clung to the lead, heading into halftime up 17-13. It still looked to be anyone's game, but the Panthers' momentum grew, and after a Niceville fumble in the fourth quarter, they scored another touch-down to give them a solid 31-16 lead with just five minutes remaining. With what looked to be a guaranteed loss, Eagle fans began to leave the stands as the finality of their 2012 season began to settle.

A completion from Mitchell to McCants in the end zone put the score at 31-23 with 2:20 left in the game. A failed onside kick seemed to seal Niceville's fate, but the Eagle defense forced the Panthers to punt with 1:17 left. The defense managed to block the punt and the ball was scooped up by Demetrius Davis, who ran it back for an unbelievable touchdown that put the Eagles just two points shy of a tie. Mitchell connected with Dane Wagner for the

two-point conversion to tie the game. With a minute remaining the Eagle defense locked the Panthers down and sent the game, which looked to be a clear Panther victory, into overtime.

The Panthers made quick work of their overtime possession and pulled ahead by seven. The Eagles took over for their last crack at a win, but weren't able to push past the Panther defense. The defeat was a tough one, but the effort and resilience by the team was a sight to be seen. Head coach John Hicks acknowledged the turnovers as a big part of the loss but was also quite proud of the effort.

"We came back in the season, and we came back in tonight's game," said Hicks. Midway through the season the Eagles had more losses than wins and were thought to be out of the post-season running. The lesson learned after the 2012 season, and Friday night's game, is do not give up on the Eagles, and don't leave the game until the buzzer sounds.



Courtesy photo

7 Eagles swim in state tourney

Niceville High School sent seven swimmers to the state meet this year, although none brought home a state title. From left: Matthew Markwardt, Jessica Tibaduiza, Milbrey Parke, coach Kathy Ritacco, Caitlin Myers, Kalenne Krause and Wyatt Kartvedt. Not pictured is Chaz Brechler.



Courtesy photo

NHS scores shutout

Niceville High School's Miranda O'Neil (7) moves to score in the Lady Eagles' 8-0 soccer victory over Escambia Thursday, Nov. 15. The soccer team is now 6-0-1 in season play. The next game will be played Nov. 27 at 7 p.m. against Crestview at the Howard Hill Soccer Complex in Niceville.

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HOMETOWN *Christmas*



A guide to
**HOLIDAY IDEAS
ACTIVITIES
EVENTS**

Supplement to the Bay Beacon
Wednesday, November 21, 2012



Community spreads Christmas spirit

'Geek Lights' display

The fifth annual "Geek Lights on the Corner" Christmas light and music show will take place nightly Nov. 26 through Jan. 1, at the corner of Bluewater Boulevard and Antigua Way, Bluewater Bay. 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.

Scouts to sell firs

Niceville's Boy Scouts of America Troop 546 will hold its annual Christmas tree sale Nov. 30-Dec. 2, in front of the Niceville Police Station, 212 N. Partin Drive. The troop will have an assortment of Frasier fir No. 1 trees from North Carolina in various prices and ranging from 5-9 ft. tall.

Trees will be sold on Friday, 3-9 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., and Sunday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Contact Jack Knight, 374-2602.

Eglin tree lighting

The Eglin Chapel will host its free



The Niceville-Valparaiso Christmas Parade will begin at 10 a.m. Dec. 1 at the intersection of Palm Boulevard and John Sims Parkway., Niceville.

Holiday Tree Lighting festival Nov. 30, 5:30 p.m., at the West Gate Chapel, Eglin Air Force Base. There will be caroling, choir performances, a tree lighting and Santa to arrive on a fire truck. Refreshments will be served following the ceremony. Contact 882-2111.

Community Christmas Parade

The Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Club will present its "All I want for Christmas" Parade Dec. 1, 10 a.m., beginning at the intersection of Palm Boulevard and John Sims Parkway, Niceville.

The parade will start at the intersection and travel west on John Sims to Partin Drive, then turn north up Partin to head between the Children's Park and Ruckel Middle School. The judging stand will be in the Ruckel parking lot.

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

Continued on next page

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S. Grant Williams, owner of Niceville Hearing Center, was nominated as "The Best of 2012 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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City of Niceville

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New and old holiday traditions set

From previous page

Caring families and other community service projects.

Niceville Christmas Festival

The sixth annual Niceville Community Christmas Festival will be held Dec. 1, 5-9 p.m., at the Niceville City Hall Complex, on Partin Drive. The tree lighting will take place at 6 p.m. Bring the family and enjoy performances by Ruckel and Lewis Middle school chorus' and the Plew Elementary chorus.

Children can visit with Santa in the Children's Park, take a "slhay" (hay) ride with Santa's elves and more. Walk through the complex and see decorative scenes and thousands of lights. Children can make crafts for free and greet the Christmas characters inside the council chambers. Food will be available and a selection of craft vendors. Outside Christmas displays will be open until Dec. 31.

Audubon Christmas Party

Audubon Society's annual Christmas



The Yule of Yesteryear, a traditional holiday celebration, will be held at Perrine Park and in the Heritage Museum, Valparaiso, Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. There will be craft and food vendors, Christmas choirs, crafts for kids, and pictures with Santa.

Party will be held Dec. 8, 6 p.m., at Ed's Legendary Seafood and Steaks Restaurant in Palm Plaza, Niceville. The event will be open to the public. Join the fun and toast to the year's success. There will be a raffle and donated raffle prizes are suggested. Drinks and dinner will be available from the menu. For reservations contact Margaret Benner 678-6665.

Yule of Yesteryear

The Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida will present the Yule of Yesteryear, a traditional holiday celebration, Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. A Victorian Tea will be at 1:30 p.m., as well as Christmas shopping with craft vendors, Christmas choirs and food vendors, crafts for kids, and pictures with Santa.

Library Christmas party

The Friends of the Niceville Public Library and staff will host a patron appreciation party Dec. 12, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., at the library, 206 Partin Drive N, Niceville. There will be finger foods, goodies and punch.

Ritz Salon

Management and staff of the Ritz Salon would like to wish you and your family a happy holiday season!

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Charities spreading Christmas goodwill

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.

Toys for Tots

Toys for Tots will collect donations of new, unwrapped toys from the community during the Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Club's Community Christmas Parade Dec. 1. Marines and local volunteers will collect donations throughout the parade and donors will receive a free 2012 Toys for Tots T-shirt. Contact Susan C. Rood 855-7411.

Brownie Troop to collect food

Niceville Brownie Troop 663 will be collecting non-perishable canned goods



Toys for Tots will collect donations of new, unwrapped toys from the community during the Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Club's Community Christmas Parade Dec. 1.

for Sharing and Caring, Niceville during the Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Club's Community Christmas Parade Dec. 1. To go along with the parade's theme, "All I want for Christmas," the troop wished for no one to be hungry this Christmas. Contact Rae Garmon 803-7727.

Jingle Bell Jog

The Army 7th Special Forces Group will host its annual Jingle Bell Jog 10K

and 5K run or walk Dec. 8, 8 a.m., at Uptown Station, Fort Walton Beach. The proceeds will benefit the 7th Special Forces Group, a non-profit volunteer organization that provides support to families of the group. The event commemorates the members and families of Special Forces. There will be prizes, costume contests, raffles, music and food after the race. Register for \$30 at www.sfa7.com/news-events/event-3/.

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.

Cal's will also host a special "Passing of the Cans" Christmas party with snacks and beverages Dec. 1, immediately following the Niceville-Valparaiso Christmas Parade. Donators will be entered into a drawing to win door prizes that will be given out at the party. Contact 678-4838.

OASIS fundraiser

OASIS, the Okaloosa AIDS Support and Informational Services, will host its Holiday Jubilee Dec. 1, 6:30 p.m., at Saint Andrew's by the Sea Episcopal Church, 307 Harbor Blvd., Destin. The evening will feature holiday snacks, festive beverages, seasonal musical entertainment and a silent auction.

Tickets are \$20 per person and proceeds will go to OASIS to assist those in the area affected by HIV or AIDS. To purchase tickets, donate auction items, or volunteer contact OASIS at 314-0950.

Continued on next page

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Better to give than to receive

From previous page

OASIS is a non-profit, community-based organization serving Okaloosa, Walton, Santa Rosa, and Escambia counties with HIV case management, testing, and community education and informational services.

Sharing and Caring

Sharing and Caring is looking for donations of food, hygiene products, diapers, detergents and more from Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m.-noon, at 104 Bullock Blvd., Niceville.

The shelter is also signing up families from Niceville, Valparaiso and Choctaw Beach for its annual Christmas Program. This is a community program with churches, businesses, and civic organizations that 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.

Shelter House

Shelter House, a domestic violence cen-



ter, is collecting canned and dry food items to create Christmas meals for women and children residing in the shelter during the holidays. The shelter asks for gift cards to stores, such as Winn-Dixie, Food World or Food Depot for the families to use. All donations can be dropped off at the Shelter House anytime, 102 Buck Drive, Fort Walton Beach, and only refrigerated items on Dec. 19. Contact 243-1201.

Santa Patrol

The Walton County Sheriff's Office will hold its 15th annual Santa Patrol program this holiday season. A meeting will be held Nov. 24, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., at the DeFuniak Springs Civic Center, to apply for donations. The program donates toys and funds for local needy children during the Christmas season. There will be limited

Sharing and Caring is looking for donations to help families in the area from Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m.-noon, at 104 Bullock Blvd., Niceville.

childcare provided on site.

New or unopened toys will be accepted for stockings donations, as well as checks. Donations can be dropped off at the Walton County Sheriff's Office, 752 Triple G Rd., DeFuniak Springs, and the South Walton Sheriff's Substation, 133 Sheriff Dr., Santa Rosa Beach, by Dec. 14. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Contact Sgt. Danny Garner at 892-8186.

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'Tis the season for concerts, musicals



The Northwest Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra will perform its free public Winter Concert with more than 50 young musicians Dec. 9, 3 p.m., at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville.

College honors recital

Northwest Florida State College Performing Arts Division will perform its Honors Recital Dec. 7, 3 p.m., in the Tyler Recital Hall of the music wing, at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center, 100 College Blvd., Niceville. The recital is free and open to the public. The performers are voted into the recital by NWFSC Fine Arts faculty. For information contact the NWFSC Fine Arts Office at 729-5382.

NWFSO 'Holiday Pops'

Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra will perform its annual "Holiday Pops" concert Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center at Northwest Florida State College, 100 College Blvd., Niceville. Celebrate the holiday season with performances of light classics, pops selections and the ever-popular carol sing-a-longs.

The Northwest Florida Symphony Chorale joins the orchestra in this seasonal offering. Tickets are \$22.50 each for adults, \$16 for Active Duty Military and children 18 and under. NWFSC students may obtain one free admission per ID, in person from the box office.

Purchase tickets at www.mattiekellyartscenter.org, 729-6000 or at the box office Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Youth concerts

The Northwest Florida State College Junior Orchestra will perform its concert Dec. 8 at 11 a.m., in the Tyler Recital Hall, Northwest Florida State College, 100 College Blvd., Niceville.

The Northwest Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra will perform its free public Winter Concert Dec. 9, 3 p.m., at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center mainstage, Northwest Florida State College, 100 College Blvd., Niceville.

The NWFSYO is a full orchestra comprised of more than 50 talented musicians, grades 4-12, from Okaloosa, Walton and Santa Rosa counties. Liz Aylor conducts the group. For more information contact 729-5382 or Liz Aylor at 651-4308. Donations to support the youth program are welcome.

Christmas Benefit

The Emerald Coast Community Band (ECCB) will host its "Destin Snowbirds" Christmas Concert Dec. 11, 10 a.m., at the Destin Community Center.

'A Victorian Christmas'

The Northwest Florida State College Madrigals, a select 26-voice mixed ensemble, will perform "A Victorian Christmas" Dec. 13, 7:30 p.m., at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center McIlroy Gallery, 100 College Blvd., Niceville.

The group of scholarship vocalists,

under the direction of Allison Everitt, and Belle Voci, a women's ensemble under the direction of Lois Van Dam, will perform a variety of holiday music.

Tickets are \$25 each and will include light refreshments. Purchase tickets at 729-6000 or the box office. All proceeds from the event go to the NWFSC Fine Arts Scholarship fund and NWFSC student tickets do not apply to this event.

Holiday jazz

Peter White, a jazz guitarist, along with Kirk Whalym and Mindi Abair, will perform "A Peter White Christmas" Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m., at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center mainstage, 100 College Blvd., Niceville. There will be an arrangement of holiday jazz favorites performed. Tickets are \$40 and reserved seating close to the stage are \$80. Contact 729-6000 or www.mattiekellyartscenter.org to purchase tickets.

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DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Yule-time events at schools, churches

Rocky Bayou concerts

The Rocky Bayou Christian Academy's 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.

The beginning and Jr. Knights will perform its Christmas concert Dec. 8, 6:30 p.m., at Wright Baptist Church, 795 Beal Parkway Northwest, Fort Walton Beach.

The RBCS High School band and Chamber Choir will perform its Christmas concert Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m., at the Rocky Bayou Baptist Church, 2401 Partin Drive N, Niceville.

St. Paul Lutheran events

St. Paul Lutheran Church will begin their holiday season with "The Holden Evening Prayer" offered Dec. 5, 12, and 19, 7 p.m., in the Underdahl Hall, 1407 East John Sims Parkway, Niceville.

The church will host "A Christmas Concert" Dec. 21, 7 p.m., at the church, which features sing-a-longs, soloists and other musical groups in the congregation. A reception in the Gathering Room will follow the concert

Celebrate Christmas Eve Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m., with a Family Celebration Service, 7:30 p.m., Service of Carols and Candles, and 11 p.m. with a Candlelight Holy



First Baptist Church of Niceville will present its 27th Singing Christmas Tree concert, "The Hope of Christmas," Dec. 7-8, 7 p.m. and Dec. 9, 3 p.m.

Communion. The evening will offer a drama, choirs and solos. There will also be a candlelight closing in all three services.

The church is located at 1407 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville. Call 678-1298 for more information or visit www.stpaulniceville.com.

Niceville High concerts

The Niceville Singers of Niceville High School will give a free concert Dec. 7, 7 p.m., St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1407 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville. Freewill donations to the NHS Choir program will

be accepted. A reception in the Gathering Room will follow the concert.

The Niceville High School Chorus will host its holiday concert, "A Wreath of Carols" Dec. 16, 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1407 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville. The chorus includes the Select Women, Bel Canto, Kantorai, The Camerata, Opus One and the Niceville Singers.

They will perform a collection of familiar and new holiday offerings sung by the 170 chorus members. The concert is \$10 per person.

'Singing Tree'

First Baptist Church of Niceville presents its 27th Singing Christmas Tree concert, "The Hope of Christmas," Dec. 7-8, 7 p.m. and Dec. 9, 3 p.m. Tickets are available at the church's office or by mail, at First Baptist Church of Niceville, 622 Bayshore Drive, for a \$1 donation per ticket. Include your first and second choice of presentation, ticket money and a self-addressed stamped envelope when ordering by mail. Contact 678-4621.

Lewis concerts

The Lewis School Chorus will hold its "Sounds of the Season" concert Dec. 20, 6:30-8:30 p.m., in the Lewis cafeteria, 281 Mississippi Ave., Valparaiso. The Lewis School Band will hold its Winter Concert Dec. 18, 6-9 p.m., in the Taylor Haugen Gym, at the Lewis School. Contact 833-4130.

First Presbyterian service

First Presbyterian Church will hold its 22nd annual Christmas Eve service Dec. 24, 7-8 p.m., in the Sanctuary, 1800 East John Sims Parkway, Niceville. There will be an abundance of congregational carols as well as anthems by the choir and selected solos. The service is free and open to the public.

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Neighboring holiday celebrations

ADSO Christmas Art Market

The Arts and Design Society's Christmas Art Market will take place 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.

Immanuel Anglican Church

Immanuel Anglican Church will host its one-day Christmas Camp, "The Greatest Gift Camp," celebrating the birth of Jesus Dec. 15, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at 250 Indian Bayou Trail, Destin. The camp will include opportunities to make gifts for friends and family, and a birthday celebration for Jesus. Pre-registration required. For more information call Children's Pastor Cissy Barfield at 837-6324.

Crestview Christmas Parade

The Main Street Crestview Association, under the sponsorship of the City of Crestview, will host its annual Christmas Parade Dec. 1, 5:30-8 p.m., to begin on Main Street in downtown Crestview. Schools, civic organizations, churches and



DeFuniak Springs will host "Christmas Reflections," an evening of lights and decorated season characters from Nov. 23-Dec. 31, 5-9 p.m.

businesses will be a part of the parade complete with lights, marching bands, decorative floats and Santa Claus. Santa Claus will be available to hear children's wish list items at the Courthouse Terrace Gazebo immediately following the parade.

Christmas Reflections

DeFuniak Springs hosts "Christmas Reflections," an evening of lights and decorated season characters from Nov. 23-Dec. 31, 5-9 p.m., at Circle Drive, Lake DeFuniak. Evening passes are \$3 and a season pass is \$35. There will be carriage rides offered for an additional fee on weekends. Contact Ellen at 307-2228.

FWB Christmas Parade

The city of Fort Walton Beach will host its annual Christmas Parade Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m., at the corner of Eglin Parkway SE and 1st St., Fort Walton Beach. This year's theme is "My favorite Christmas movie." Santa Claus will wave to children on the final float. The cost to enter the parade is \$35 and the application deadline is Nov. 28, by 5:30 p.m. Contact 833-9576.

Chorus Christmas Traditions

The Fort Walton Beach Community Chorus will perform its Christmas show "Christmas Traditions" Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., Dec. 8, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Dec. 9, 3

p.m., at the Fort Walton Beach Municipal Auditorium, 107 Miracle Strip Parkway, Fort Walton Beach.

This year the chorus will bring its favorite "Christmas Traditions" to life through singing, dancing, acting, and musical accompaniment. Purchase tickets for \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors 60 and older, and \$8 for children 12 and under. Contact 543-5298 or www.fwbcc.org.

Illuminated benefit run

Shelter House and Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort will team up again for the second annual Luminaria Run Dec. 8, 5 p.m., Baytowne Marina, Sandestin. More than 2,000 luminaries will light the path for runners and walkers.

The race includes 5k and 9k courses throughout Sandestin. Registration for the 5k is \$25 for adults in advance, \$35 on site and \$10 for children in advance, \$15 on site. The 9k race costs \$40 in advance or \$50 on race day for adults and \$15 in advance and \$20 on race day for children. Register at www.imATHLETE.com.

The public is encouraged to decorate a luminaria to be placed along the course in memory of a loved one for \$10 and can be picked up and dropped off at the Shelter House Administration Office, 102 Buck Drive, Fort Walton Beach. Contact 243-1201.

Emerald Coast Concert Association's 2012-2013 Series

Our 53rd season will begin in November with the following programs:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH A TRIBUTE TO JOHN DENVER
Starring Ted Vigil who closely resembles and sounds like John Denver
Saturday, Dec. 15, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.
Fort Walton Beach Civic Auditorium

RICKY NELSON REMEMBERED
A tribute by his sons, Mathew & Gunnar
Tuesday, January 29, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.
Emerald Coast Convention Center

LINDA GENTILE
Known as "The Female Liberace" presents Broadway's "Music of the Night"
Saturday, February 9, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.
Fort Walton Beach Civic Auditorium

"SOULED OUT"
Great Motown and Soul Sounds
Sat., February 16, 2013 at 7:30 pm.
NWF State College's Mattie Kelly Arts Center

NEW DIRECTIONS VETERANS CHOIR
From the military to the streets and now in America's spotlight!
Sat., March 2, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.
NWF State College's Mattie Kelly Arts Center

Season memberships are still at \$120 per person, \$60 for children under 18.
Single tickets will be available at a later date.
For information call 850-362-9356 or go to www.emeraldcoastconcerts.org.

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