

The Bay Beacon

Police Blotter, page A-6

12 Pages, 2 Sections, 3 Inserts

Wednesday, December 4, 2013

50¢

UP
COMING

Thurs., 6:30 p.m.



The **Audubon Society** program will be "Pictorial Survey of Birds that are Rare or Difficult to Identify during the **Christmas Bird Count**," in Room 130 of the new Student Services Building at Northwest Florida State College, Niceville. 582-7461.

Fri., 3 p.m.

Northwest Florida State College Performing Arts Division will give a free **Honors Recital** in the Tyler Recital Hall of the music wing at the **Mattie Kelly Arts Center**, 100 College Boulevard, Niceville. 729-5382.

Sat. 1-4:30 p.m.

Rocky Bayou Christian Academy's Mu Alpha Theta Club will offer **free math tutoring** at **Rocky Bayou Christian School**, room 802. Tutoring in basic math through AP calculus will be available. Students from any school welcome. 279-3755.

Sun., 2 p.m.

There will be a **book signing party** with author Wayne Goodson as he signs copies of his latest book, "Maze," at the **Niceville Community Center**. Entertainment, recitals by Walt Richardson, music and finger foods.



Calendar, B-2

Firm drops bid to build tower in Bluewater Bay

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

The company that was seeking to place a 370-foot communications tower in the heart of Bluewater Bay has withdrawn its application from further consideration by the Okaloosa County Commission.

Instead, the applicant, Crown Castle GT Co., will replace its 370-foot tower at its current site off Nelson Point Road, just west of Bluewater Bay.

In October the commission delayed a decision on the controversial request for a zoning variance that would have allowed the

company to relocate the tower to the Bluewater Bay site.

Officials said the delay would afford the company another chance to renegotiate with the landowner of the current site and to meet with residents in the area

Please see TOWER, page A-3



A communications tower off Nelson Point Road that is steadied with guy wires will be replaced with one without guy wires on the same site. A plan to replace it with one in Bluewater Bay was dropped in the face of community opposition.

Beacon photo



Making memories

There were almost as many smiles as there were lights during opening night of "Animation in Motion" Friday. The extravagant annual display was set up by "the Christmas Lady," Debbie Lewis of Niceville, this year in the former Food World building in Oak Creek Shopping Center, Niceville. The free-admission display is open nightly, 6-9 p.m., until Dec. 27.

Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

100-year time capsule to be sealed Dec. 14

Beach sand and menus on list of interest to future generations

Beacon Staff

Alongside its relics of the past, the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida will soon house some current items being saved for the future.

The Okaloosa Viva Florida 500 Time Capsule Committee next week will seal a time capsule intended for opening in 100 years at the Heritage Museum in Valparaiso.

The capsule is part of Florida Department of State's Division of Library and Information Services' Viva Florida 500 project, launched to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon's arrival in Florida.

The department issued stainless steel time capsules measuring 6 inches by 24 inches, to every county library in the state and tasked the library's leadership with leading the assembly of pertinent capsule items.

The committee decided to seal the capsule at the Heritage Museum's Yule of Yesteryear celebration Dec. 14. Items tentatively selected for storage in the capsule, which include beach sand, military patches and restaurant menus, are on display at the museum until the metal capsule is sealed. Included will also be a

Please see CAPSULE, page A-3



Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

Members of the time capsule committee hold up items that may be included in the capsule when it is ceremonially sealed Dec. 14. A final decision as to what will be included is likely this week.

Niceville eyes rules on land use to conform to Eglin operations

Beacon Staff

An ordinance enacted by the Niceville City Council Oct. 8, and which took effect in early November, requires the city to consider making changes in its rules governing development and real estate sales and rentals to make them more compatible with military operations.

The MIPA (Military Influence Planning Area) overlay mentioned in the ordinance is depicted on the map accompanying this article (page A-8).

The area includes much of western Niceville, the area closest to Eglin Air Force Base, home of the 33rd Fighter Wing, which will eventually operate 59 of the powerful warplanes for training purposes.

The MIPA is subject to change after the Air Force publishes a final version of an environmental study of the effects of Eglin military aircraft operations, particularly the F-35, according to city officials.

The JLUS (Joint Land Use Study) mentioned in the ordinance is a 2010 report on a study commissioned by Eglin Air Force Base, in which civilian governments surrounding the base participated, that laid out recommendations concerning off-base land use. The recommendations are aimed at reducing civilian encroachment on base activities.

Text of land-use policy 7.A.12.2 enacted Oct. 8 by the

Please see LAND, page A-8

Area affected, A-8.



Eagles advance to final four

The crowd that came to see the Niceville High School football game Friday had plenty to shout about as the Eagles rolled over Neptune Beach Fletcher 38-17, earning a place in the state 7A final four. Niceville will host Kissimmee Osceola Friday. The winner of that game will go to the state championship matchup Dec. 13 in Orlando. Story, B-4.

Beacon photo by Sarah Clouston

Christmas Parade to be held Saturday

Beacon Staff

Christmas spirit will arrive early Saturday morning as the crowds gather to cheer the floats in the annual Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Club's Christmas Parade.

The parade will begin Dec. 7 at 10 a.m. at the intersection of Palm Boulevard and John Sims Parkway, Niceville.

This year's parade theme is "A day that will live in infamy," honoring WWII veterans and commemorating the entry of the U.S. into the war following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

The colorful, decorated floats, school bands and other marchers will assemble on Marc Smith Boulevard, behind People's National Bank. The parade will come out onto Palm Boulevard and turn west on John Sims Parkway. It will turn north on Partin Drive. It will then travel to the area between the Children's Park and Ruckel Middle School. The judging stand will be in the Ruckel parking lot.

The entry fee this year for profit organizations was \$60. It was \$30 for nonprofit groups. The proceeds will provide holiday meals for Sharing and Caring families

and other community service projects, according to the Rotary Club.

Floats will be judged and awards will be given for the Grand Marshal's and President's Choice awards. In addition, first, second and third place will be awarded in four divisions: Commercial, Club/Nonprofit/Church Adult, Club/Nonprofit Youth, and Best Marching/Performing Unit.

The results will be posted at the Niceville-Valparaiso-Bay Area Chamber of Commerce office, 1055 East John Sims Parkway, Niceville, by 3 p.m. the day of the parade.

The Niceville High School Drill Team, under the direction of Chief Taylor, will lead the parade followed closely by the Eagle Pride Marching Band.

The Lewis School Band, Ruckel Middle School Band and Rocky Bayou Christian School's Marching Knights will also perform in the parade.

In keeping with the theme, the 2013 Grand Marshal will be a veteran of WWII.

Marines and volunteers will march for the Toys for Tots campaign. They will collect donations of new, unwrapped toys from the community throughout the parade



and donors will receive a 2013 Toys for Tots T-shirt, special Toys for Tots dog tags and collectable plastic coins, or chips.

Santa Claus will appear on the final float.

The Rotary Club issued the following list of parade participants:

- Valparaiso Mayor Bruce Arnold
- Niceville Mayor Randall Wise
- City of Niceville Council Members
- East Niceville Fire Department
- Lewis Middle School
- Niceville Mayor Randall Wise
- City of Niceville Council Members
- East Niceville Fire Department
- Lewis Middle School

- Marching Band
- District 4 Florida Rep. Matt Gaetz
- Okaloosa County Superintendent of Schools Marybeth Jackson
- Niceville Fire Department
- Niceville High School Band
- Niceville High School Color Guard
- Niceville-Valparaiso Chamber President, Duane Gallagher
- North Bay Fire Department
- Okaloosa County Commissioner, District 2, Dave Parisot

Line up early to find the perfect place to watch the annual Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Club's Christmas Parade this Saturday starting at 10 a.m. at the intersection of Palm Boulevard and John Sims Parkway, Niceville.

- Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office
- Playground Corvette Club
- Sunset Vets of Northwest Florida
- Reverend Ernest Walker, WWII Veteran
- Rocky Bayou Christian School Marching Band
- Ruckel Middle School Band
- Toys for Tots
- Valparaiso Volunteer Fire Department
- One Hour Air and Ben Franklin Plumbing
- Helen Back Café

- Krewes of Bowlegs
- Beach Elite Cheerleading
- American Cancer Society-Relay for Life 2014
- Pet Welfare Advisory Council
- Edward Jones Investments
- Emerald Coast Autism Center
- The Cutting Room Salon and Spa
- Girl Scout Troop 247
- McDonalds
- Zeb Watts Septic & Underground, Inc.
- Niceville Cash & Carry
- Knights of Columbus Assembly 3236
- All Star Twirlers
- Jackson Hewitt Tax Service
- United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
- Exchange Club of Niceville
- Filipino American Association of Okaloosa County
- Palmer's ATA Martial Arts
- Niceville Valparaiso Little League
- Beach Party Bus
- Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida
- Chick-fil-A at Niceville
- AMVETS 78
- FC Dallas-Emerald Coast Travel Soccer.



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Yule of Yesteryear

Saturday, Dec. 14, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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10:00 a.m.Walton Guard demonstration	2:30 p.m.Walton Guard demonstration
10:15 a.m.Pelican Pickers	3:00 p.m.Pyramid Players
11:30 a.m.Emerald Coast Chorus	3:30 p.m.Christmas Choir
12:00 p.m.Terri D, Native American Flute Player	4:00 p.m.FWB Community Chorus
12:30 p.m.Sugar Beach a cappella chorus	4:30 p.m.Trinity Presbyterian Choir
1:00 p.m.Okaloosa County time capsule sealing	5:00 p.m.Christmas Tree lighting
1:30 p.m.BackInTyme performers	11 a.m.-2 p.m. Pictures with Santa
2:00 p.m.Panhandle Poetry Project	

All Day: Museum open free, holiday bake sale, craft vendors, food vendors, Walton Guard reenactors camp.

All-State Eagle Pride Band selected

The 2014 All-State Eagle Pride Band has been selected. Pictured, front row from left, Olivia Glaze, flute; Claire Crist, bass clarinet; Erin Murphy, bass clarinet; Tennyson Strano, bassoon; Kiera Welch, euphonium; Jaqueline Wallace, contra clarinet; Asia Greer, trumpet; Mikayla Timm, flute. Back row from left, Dan Wooten, Band Director; Cari Sands, clarinet; Marshall Mosley, clarinet; Andrew Moore, trombone; Andrew Royal, bass trombone; Perrin Davis, clarinet; Caroline Schreck, clarinet; Laura Harber, flute and Rodney Nobles, principal.



CAPSULE

From page A-1

computer USB "thumb" drive containing images of the area.

Steve Czonstka, a museum trustee, said the museum, and the time capsule, likely will not be in their current location when the capsule is due to be opened in 2113. He said the building has recently seen problems with the deterioration of roofing and insulation.

The committee decided not to bury the time capsule, but to store it, viewable to the public, in the museum.

Czonstka said the capsule will be housed in a permanent display, wherever the museum's future location.

The time capsule is a strange creation that seems to have grown out of a fear of being forgotten. People put away meaningful items so that a future generation may understand what their life was like and see how the world has changed.

Today, the idea of the time capsule may seem as outdated as the contents. With technology allowing for the storage of a seemingly endless amount of information in an small space, trying to convey the essence of our time by concealing items in a capsule to be unearthed by our descendants may be considered an archaic practice.

This is a challenge that groups



Steve Czonstka, a member of the Northwest Florida Heritage Museum's board, holds a time capsule that will be sealed for 100 years on Dec. 14. A committee has decided to store the capsule, which commemorates the 500th anniversary of Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon's arrival in Florida, at the museum in Valparaiso.

Beacon photo

such as the Okaloosa Viva Time Capsule committee must master when assembling items to store in capsules.

This committee is attempting to bring together items that will give an impression of life in Okaloosa County when it is opened as a part of Florida's 600th anniversary in 2113.

Aside from the seeming antiquity of the process, assembling a time capsule given today's technological advancements presents a problem of compatibility with our future counterparts.

The computer thumb drive selected for inclusion is loaded with area photographs and videos, along with with printed explanations on how to use the eventually outdated technology.

Vicky Stever, Okaloosa County Public Library

Cooperative coordinator and head of the time capsule committee, noted that the speed of technological advancement has allowed us to store large amounts of information in a small space while simultaneously threatening to continue advancing at such a rate that our current technology will be unrecognizable and even unusable in 100 years.

"A thumb drive is a great thing to use when you're putting together something with limited space like this," Stever said. "But we have to remember that they may not know what to do with a thumb drive when they see it."

Suggestions for the time capsule include minutes from

Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners meetings, and screen shots of web pages and Facebook pages. But, just to be sure, the committee has made sure to include physical printouts of current maps of Okaloosa, tourism brochures and a 2013 newspaper year in review.

A final decision on the contents is scheduled to be made today, Dec. 4. Items under consideration include: A winning essay, an Okaloosa County school calendar, a note card of Turkey Creek (Niceville), museum brochures, Destin beach sand, a Doolittle Raiders 71st Anniversary Program 2013, wood from "Governor Stone" (1877) schooner, cotton from a field in northern Okaloosa County, military patches and coins, Boy Scout patches, and museum artifacts.

The committee's discussions indicate that the assembly of a time capsule is a process done much more for the benefit of the present generation than for the one in the future. The committee even had a difficult time agreeing on 2113 as the opening date, as several members wanted to see the contents again in their own lifetimes.

The capsule is scheduled to be sealed in a public ceremony at 1 p.m., Dec. 14, at the museum, 115 Westview Ave., Valparaiso.

TOWER

From page A-1

surrounding the proposed new location, which would have been off Bay Drive, near the Bluewater Bay main swimming pool.

A number of neighbors of the proposed site had opposed the relocation plan as creating an eyesore in the residential area.

A breakthrough in negotiations occurred and the company has announced plans to seek a permit to replace the existing tower with one that is of the same height," stated County Commissioner Nathan Boyles.

The new tower will no longer require guy wires which will also substantially lessen the tower's impact in its current location, according to Boyles. "In my view this is an excellent resolution to the issue," he stated.

Bluewater Bay resident Jonathan Tallman, who is also a member of the Bluewater Bay Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) governing board, told

the Beacon, "I believe that this is a win-win for the Bluewater Bay community and the residents who live off of Lancaster (where the existing tower is situated). The new tower will have a substantially smaller footprint. It will allow for the guyed wires to be removed."

"I have a lot of respect for the Crown Castle legal team," said Tallman. "I feel that they listened to the residents of Bluewater Bay and handled this issue in a very professional manner. This has brought the residents of Bluewater Bay closer together for a common purpose."

Not every Bluewater Bay resident was pleased at the cancellation of the Bay Drive tower.

"I was for the cell tower," said Bluewater resident Jeff Werner. Werner said that the new tower, had it been built, could have improved cell phone reception throughout Bluewater Bay and nearby neighborhoods, where he said poor reception is often a problem. "People want infrastructure," he said, "but not in their own back yard."

"I have a different perspective," Werner acknowledged, "since it would not have been right next to my home," but even if it had been built next to his house, Werner added, he still would probably not have minded.



Nathan Boyles

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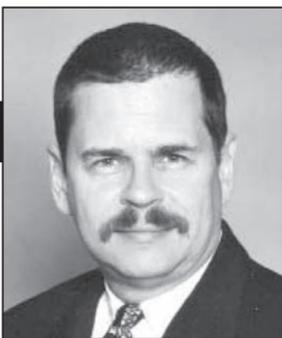
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Holiday events in nearby communities

ADSO Christmas Art Market

The Arts and Design Society's Christmas Art Market will take place through Dec. 21, at the art center, 17 First St. SE, Fort Walton Beach. There will be an assortment of artwork made by members, including jewelry, paintings, pottery, photographs and note cards. All artwork will be 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.

Festival of the Trees, Sandestin

Grand Boulevard's fourth annual "Festival of Trees" will showcase 12 uniquely decorated Christmas trees from area non-profit organizations, through Dec. 25 in Grand Park, Sandestin.

Sounds of the Season

The Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation presents their "Sounds of the Season Concert" Friday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m., at Village Baptist Church, 101 Matthew Blvd., Destin. This holiday spectacular features sacred and secular music.

The public, including winter visitors, are invited to join the Community Chorus which can accommodate up to 120 voices from community members.



Admission is a donation of an unwrapped child's toy that will bring a brighter Christmas to underprivileged children in our community.

A love offering will benefit MKAF's All Kinds of Art educational programs.

For more info, please call 650-2226 or visit mattiekellyartsfoundation.org.

Crestview Parade on Main Street

The Main Street Crestview Association, under

the sponsorship of the City of Crestview, will host its annual Christmas Parade Dec. 7, 5:30-8 p.m., to begin on Main Street in downtown Crestview.

Schools, civic organizations, churches and 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

DeFuniak Springs hosts "Christmas Reflections," an evening of lights and decorated season characters through 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.

Fort Walton Beach parade

The city of Fort Walton Beach will host its annual Christmas Parade Dec. 2, 6:30 p.m., at the corner of Eglin Parkway SE and 1st St., Fort Walton Beach. This year's theme is "Candy Canes and Christmas Carols." Santa Claus will wave to children on the final float.

Destin Christmas tree lighting

The 27th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, hosted by the City of Destin, will be held at the Destin Community Center on Thursday, Dec. 5, at 6 p.m.

This will be an outdoor event for the entire family with a visit from Santa Claus. There will

Continued on page A-5

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Northwest Florida yule events scheduled

From page A-4

be entertainment from local choruses, musical groups and dancers with refreshments being served after the lighting of the tree. Donations of toys and canned food will be collected for families in need. Please call 654-5184 for more information.

FWB Chorus Christmas concert

The Fort Walton Beach Community Chorus will perform its Christmas show "Christmas Miracles" Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., Dec. 7, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Dec. 8, 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 Miracles" to life through singing, dancing, acting, and musical accompaniment. Purchase tickets for \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors 60 and older, and \$10 for children 18 and under. Contact 543-5298 or fwbcc.org.

Shelter House run in Sandestin

Shelter House and Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort will team up again for the third annual Luminaria Run Dec. 7, 4:30 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 and \$10 for children, \$15 on site. The 9k race costs \$40 for adults and \$15 in advance and \$20 on race day for children. Register at imATHLETE.com or shelterhousewfl.org.

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.

DeFuniak Springs' annual "Christmas Reflections" display is a tradition for many as they enjoy the brilliance of 8 million twinkling lights around a perfectly round lake that is ringed by Victorian homes.

Boat parade in Destin Harbor

The Destin and Fishing Museum will host its 27th annual Holiday on the Harbor Lighted Boat Parade Dec. 15, 6 p.m., on the Destin Harbor, in front of Harry T's restaurant.

Festivities will be held along the harbor and the Lighted Boat Parade and judging will take place upstairs at Harry T's. Boats will start lining up in the harbor between 5 and 5:30 p.m. The parade will travel east in the Harbor, turning north at Grand Harbor Condo and proceed along the harbor's north shore west to pass Harry T's.

In case of bad weather, the event will take place Dec. 22, 6 p.m. Fireworks in the East Pass will light up the sky after the parade. All commercial, charter, and private boats are invited to participate. Entry forms are located at the museum, Destin Community Center, City Hall, and Destin Chamber of Commerce. Contact the museum at 837-6611 or kathydestinhistory@gmail.com.

Destin parade on U.S. 98

The 28th annual Destin Christmas Parade will be held Saturday, Dec. 14, at 10 a.m., beginning at the Downtown Destin Shopping Center, Highway 98 and Main Street and will proceed down Harbor Boulevard to Stahlman Avenue.

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Fire Department Reports

Niceville

The Niceville Fire Department responded to the following calls from Nov.25, 2013 through Nov.30, 2013.



2 Structure Fire	19	Emergency Medical Calls
0 Vehicle Fire	2	Vehicle Crash
0 Other Fire	0	Vehicle Crash with Extrication
2 Illegal Burn	1	Other Emergency Calls
0 False Alarms	0	Hazardous Conditions

STREET	SITUATION	DATE	TIME
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/25/13	13:06
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Structure fire	11/25/13	16:24
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Vehicle crash	11/26/13	09:47
Falcon Trail	Alarm activation	11/27/13	04:34
Langman Rd.	Medical	11/27/13	06:03
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/27/13	09:01
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/27/13	09:45
3rd Street	Medical	11/27/13	14:00
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/28/13	03:02
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/28/13	09:59
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/28/13	11:01
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/28/13	18:59
Ramond Ct.	Medical	11/28/13	19:08
27th Street	Medical	11/29/13	03:58
Roberts Dr.	Medical	11/29/13	06:54
Coconut Palm Cir.	Medical	11/29/13	09:53
Fairway Dr.	Medical	11/29/13	10:10
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/29/13	17:49
Bartonwood Ct.	Medical	11/30/13	00:06
Cross Street	Illegal burning	11/30/13	09:17
N. Partin Dr.	Structure fire	11/30/13	12:13
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Vehicle crash	11/30/13	12:48
McKinney St.	Medical	11/30/13	14:00
Linden Ave.	Illegal burning	11/30/13	14:52
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	11/30/13	16:08
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	11/30/13 16:15	

Weekly Safety Tip: Keep a natural (cut) Christmas tree outside until you are ready to decorate it. Make sure your tree stand can hold at least 1 gallon of water and check the water level daily to make sure there is plenty of water in the bowl. (A tree should use 1 quart to 1 gallon of water every 1-2 days.) A dry Christmas tree can burn in 3-5 seconds.

Like the Niceville Fire Department on Facebook

North Bay



The North Bay Fire Department responded to the following calls from November 25, 2013 through December 1, 2013.

STREET	SITUATION	DATE	TIME
White Point/Samana	Dispatched & cancelled	11/25/13	08:06
N. White Point Rd.	Medical assist	11/25/13	09:17
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	11/25/13	09:31
S. Midbay Bridge	EMS	11/25/13	13:37
John Sims Pkwy.	Building fire	11/25/13	16:25
Everglade Dr.	Dispatched & cancelled	11/25/13	16:47
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	11/25/13	17:49
Range Rd.	False alarm	11/26/13	09:58
Sunset Bch Blvd	Medical assist	11/26/13	10:26
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	11/26/13	14:55
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	11/26/13	16:51
Merchants Way	Dispatched & cancelled	11/26/13	20:30
Falcon Trail	Cover assignment	11/27/13	04:36
Ida Coon Cir.	Dispatched & cancelled	11/27/13	07:25
Parkwood Square	Good intent	11/27/13	19:41
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	11/27/13	20:37
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	11/28/13	10:16
Hidden Lakes Dr.	Smoke detector activation	11/28/13	16:39
Meadowbrook Ct.	Medical	11/28/13	17:09
N. White Point Rd.	Dispatched & cancelled	11/28/13	22:01
Range Rd/BW Blvd	Vehicle accident	11/29/13	01:28
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	11/29/13	11:45
N. Partin Dr.	Detector activation	11/30/13	12:15
Antiqua Way	Public assist	11/30/13	18:06
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Dispatched & cancelled	12/1/13	21:06
Newcastle Ct.	Medical	12/1/13	22:27

Visit northbayfd.org for more information.

Sheriff still seeking killer in '81 slaying

Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office

Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office investigator Mike Irwin has not given up on bringing the killers of Leonard "Buddy" Phelps to justice, even though the murder took place on Oct. 2, 1981.

"Basically in 2009 we started giving it some new emphasis and developed some really strong leads in 2009," Irwin said.

Buddy Phelps was 59 when someone beat and shot him in the backyard of his business off John Sims Parkway in Niceville.

"As you come down Highway 85 into Niceville and it tees into 20, that's where Buddy Phelps' place was," Irwin said. "He owned Phelps Brothers Boat Works. He was kind of an entrepreneur, had a little bit of real estate investments. He built long line fishing boats, work boats. He didn't believe so to speak in banking. He financed some of the work boats that he built but he had money. He was a shrewd businessman and he had money. So he became a target in that aspect and the motive we believe was money and the bad guys in this case looked at Buddy as a cash cow and that's where it stemmed."

The inside of Phelps' apartment over his business was ransacked and investigators believe the killers got what they were looking for. Irwin also believes the Phelps murder can be tied to a criminal element that is still around today.

"So to look back and say, well it's an '81 case, chances are that witnesses have died and the bad guys have died—yeah, a lot of times in cold cases, that's the way it goes," Irwin said. "But this case is not that way. It's not that way at all. It's very important to us, very important to the community, to try to get this one put away."



Slaying victim Buddy Phelps



Investigator Mike Irwin

Irwin is convinced that there are current residents in North Okaloosa County who have valuable information in the murder of Phelps, and he's asking them to come forward and share it so justice can finally take place for Phelps and his surviving family.

"We feel like there are some people who still reside in the Baker/Holt communities that know information," Irwin said. "Has this case taken us elsewhere? Yes it has. It's taken us to Louisiana. It's taken us to Alabama. It's taken us a lot of places but we feel like primarily there's people in Holt and Baker communities who know information pertaining to this case. They may not know Buddy Phelps personally, but they know information pertaining to this case."

If you're one of those individuals, contact the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office at 850-689-5705 or Emerald Coast Crime Stoppers at 860-863-TIPS.

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

On Nov. 7, Niceville police arrested Jessica Marie Wagner, 20, of 122 Dartmouth Way, Niceville, for possession of cocaine and marijuana.

On Nov. 9, Niceville police arrested Nicholas Laurance Dos Santos, 21, of 201 College Boulevard, #20, Niceville, for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

On Nov. 9, Niceville police arrested Brandon Logan Dent, 19, of 315 Badger Lane, Crestview, for robbery and battery. According to a police report, Dent, along with several others, had robbed another man on Sept. 19 by assaulting him, holding him down, and taking his wallet, containing \$680, along with his driver's license, military ID card, and other items.

On Oct. 15, Niceville police arrested William Joseph Sullins, 52, of 1016 48th St., Niceville, for trespassing and failure to leave property upon order by owner. He was intoxicated and passed out next to the propane cages at 1100 E. John Sims Pkwy. (CVS pharmacy). The defendant was given several opportunities to leave the property, but he refused.

He was issued a trespass warning and ordered to vacate the property, and he again refused, stating, "I'm not leaving, arrest me if you want to." He was then placed under arrest for trespass after warning.

On Oct. 9, Valparaiso police arrested Perry Vaughn Shermer, 56, of 432 Andrew Dr., Valparaiso, for battery. Shermer allegedly struck another man in

the back of the head with his fist, during an altercation at a bank. The incident was captured by the bank's ATM camera.

On Oct. 17, Valparaiso police arrested Jason Douglas Hendershot, 31, of 205 Nathey Street, Niceville, for theft of a firearm. Hendershot allegedly took three firearms from the victim's home, during a party thrown by the victim's daughter, while the victim was out of town on a fishing trip.

On Oct. 17 Valparaiso police arrested Micheal Alexander Sherman, 22, of 219 Deer St., Niceville, for theft of a firearm. He allegedly took three firearms from the victim's home, during a party thrown by the victim's daughter, while the victim was out of town on a fishing trip.

On Oct. 19, Okaloosa deputies arrested Jason Douglas Hendershot, 31, of Niceville, for drug possession, burglary, petit larceny, loitering, and resisting an officer without violence. A deputy on patrol shortly after 2 a.m. observed Hendershot darting between two parked vehicles in an apparent effort to avoid detection.

When confronted by the deputy, Hendershot ran about 100 yards, and attempted to jump over a fence, but did not make it. He was taken into custody, and a search of his person revealed some prescription drugs, and a quantity of loose change. The prescription drugs were identified as belonging to the owner of an unlocked vehicle nearby.

On October 28, Erik Pugh, 33, of 224 Burnett Ave., NW, Fort Walton Beach, was arrested by Niceville police for fleeing in an attempt to elude. At approximately 1:10 a.m. an officer observed a motorcycle speeding north on Palm Boulevard. Using radar, the officer clocked Pugh at 50 m.p.h. in a 25 m.p.h. zone.

The officer activated his emergency lights, but Pugh rapidly accelerated. The officer activated his siren in an attempt to get Pugh to stop the motorcycle, but Pugh accelerated, going around a vehicle stopped at the intersection of Palm and State Road 285.

Pugh then sped north on Palm Boulevard, reaching the intersection of Palm Boulevard and College Boulevard, where he turned east onto College, where the officer lost sight of him. Pugh was later located hiding between two homes on 47th Street. Pugh said he ran because he did not want a speeding ticket.

Timothy Allen Shaw Jr., 25, of 32 7th Ave., Unit 126, Shalimar, was arrested by Valparaiso police Oct. 26 for DUI. An officer using radar measured Shaw's speed at 58 mph in a 45 mph zone. The officer also observed Shaw's vehicle drifting across the double yellow line, and driving in the opposite lane of traffic.

Happy Holidays to all!!

Register Now The Connector Run January 4, 2014

The Mid-Bay Bridge Connector in Niceville, Florida is opening January 4, 2014 and we invite you to help us celebrate this historic event with a 5K/Half Marathon Run over portions of this new, scenic roadway. Festivities begin at the Mullet Festival Site with a Half Marathon starting at 8:00 a.m. followed shortly by a 5K Run/Walk. Music, food, and beverages will be provided and we'll wrap everything up with awards and door prizes.

Run proceeds will benefit the Special Operations Warrior Foundation and promote local area athletics through the Northwest Florida Track Club.

Register online at www.NWFTC.com or www.Mid-Bay.com



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THE INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER —by Mike Griffith

Will you spend more or less on Christmas shopping this year than last year?

Location: Walmart



"Less. I have less money. It's hard on Social Security. But, I love doing this. This is my fifth year."

Lorraine Slauson, 75, Niceville, Salvation Army bell ringer



"Less. I think most people will, because there's no security right now. If you've got back-up now, you'd better keep it."

Gene Ferguson, 75, Niceville, retired



"About the same. My two little children get Christmas presents no matter what."

Christopher Knight, 47, Atlanta, Georgia, business owner



"Definitely less. Money – I don't have it. I didn't have a job, but finally found one – part-time, because of Obamacare. I used to make \$48,000 a year, before I got laid off two years ago when they cut Civil Service. Now, I make \$10,000."

Melody Coon, 50, Niceville, clerk



"Less. We're broke. The economy's worse this year than last year."

Meagan Langford, 22, Valparaiso, student



"Probably less. The economy is not doing so great, and with Obamacare, I'm not sure how much I'll have to spend on health insurance next year. I'm trying to save money."

Matthew Kuka, 30, Niceville, marketing coordinator

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

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor on any subject are welcome. To allow room for all views, please keep your letters short. Also, don't forget to sign them and include your phone number. We reserve the right to edit or refuse any submissions. Please send items to:
The Beacon • 1181 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville, FL 32578 Fax: 1-888-520-9323 • Email: info@baybeacon.com

God's little acre

By Helga R. Marandola
Niceville

Niceville. I call it God's little acre. Niceville lives up to its name. Life here is as close to paradise as you can get. There is a friendly atmosphere. You feel welcome and safe any hour of the day and night. It is nice to live, in Niceville.

I must admit, coming from the city that never sleeps (Las

Vegas), it was for me a drastic but beautiful change.

After eight years here, I feel very blessed and happy being surrounded by good friends, great scenery, golf courses, palm trees, waterways, the church of my choice and a feeling of belonging.

Niceville, may you never change. Yet, there will be changes. For me, may you always be "God's Little Acre."

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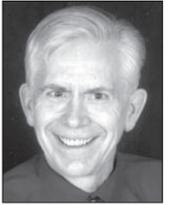
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LAND

From page A-1

Niceville City Council follows:

"By May 2014 the City shall evaluate the recommendations of Section 10 of the JLUS Report and the 2013 BRAC SEIS and amend the Land Development Code to implement those that are determined to be appropriate and feasible within the MIPA overlay zones.

a. Establish noise level reduction construction standards consistent with the 2010 Florida Building Code, Section 324, Airport Noise.

b. Establish disclosure procedures notifying buyers and lessors that property is near a military installation subject to low level aircraft, impulse noises, and/or other military-related issues identified by the City.

c. Establish a lighting ordinance that requires shielding and operation in such a manner that is not misleading or dangerous to aircraft operation within the MIPA.

d. Identify Accident Potential Zones (APZ) on City planning maps and documents and require developers to identify same on all proposed projects and plats.

e. Upon completion of the BRAC Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), identify high noise areas on City planning maps and documents) and require developers to identify same information on all proposed projects and plats.

f. Study required implementation steps to retrofit existing public buildings within the high noise level areas (>65 db) with sound attenuation.

g. Study required implementation steps to develop retrofit program for sound attenuation for habitable buildings in high noise level areas (>65 db)

h. Evaluate maximum height for buildings and structures by zoning district and amend the Land Development Code as applicable to limit object heights as depicted on Figure 10-7 of the JLUS

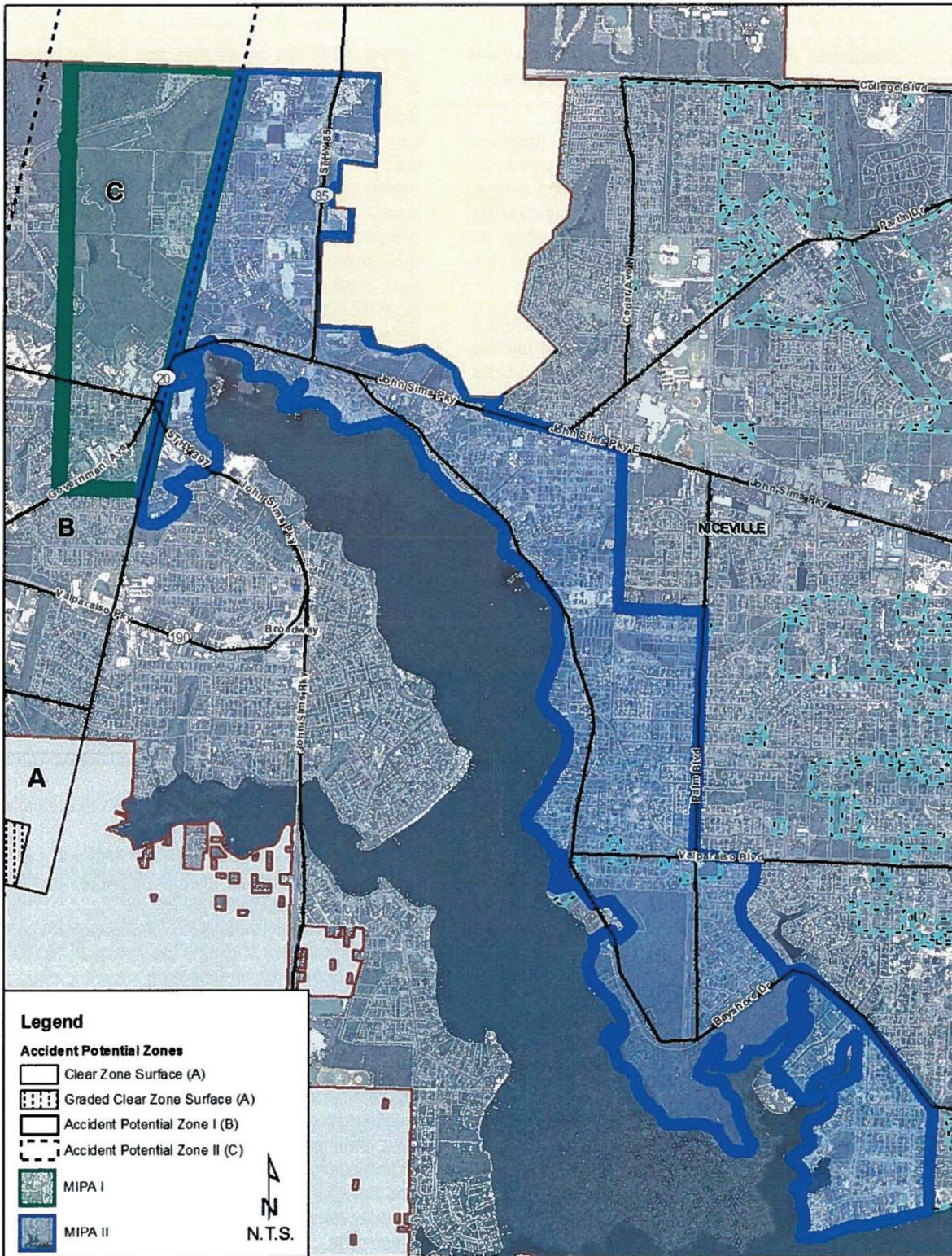
regarding potential conflicts with Eglin AFB missions and operations.

1. Establish Military Influence Planning Area (MIPA) zoning overlay districts to address compatibility issues related to land use, aircraft noise, and high frequency impulse noise. Measures to achieve noise level reduction (NLR) of 25 db must be incorporated into the design and construction of all parts or portions of buildings where the public is received, office areas, noise sensitive areas, or where the normal noise level is low, depending on type of use.

1. Update the Land Development Code to include specific language designed to strengthen the City's compatibility position on proposed developments and zoning amendments and/or other related change requests within the MIPA overlay districts."

A map produced in 2010 by an Eglin Air Force Base-sponsored committee of local governments shows the Military Influence Planning Area (MIPA) in western Niceville, the areas bounded by thick blue or green lines. The Niceville City Council recently enacted an ordinance requiring it to consider land-use restrictions in the MIPA aimed at making civilian development more compatible with Eglin flight operations.

Joint Land Use Study



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Smoked meats benefit bayou fireworks

Larry Donaldson was working hard to temperature check 600 Boston butts Nov. 22 as part of a fundraising event for The Fireworks Trust Fund. Proceeds will go to "Light up the Bayou" on next July. Another Boston butt sale will be held early next year in time for the Superbowl.

Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith



A family takes pause Nov. 22 in front of their ShelterBox tent, set up next to the ruins of a hut destroyed by the recent typhoon that tore through the Philippines. Bluewater Bay resident Jim Miller is serving a logistics coordinator to manage the shipment of ShelterBox aid to the Philippines and to assist with the distribution of that aid to the victims of the typhoon. Pictured right, a young man carries away one of the ShelterBox units.



Photos courtesy of Shelter Box International



Troop 546 honors newest Eagle Scout

Troop 546 held an Eagle court-of-honor for their troop's most recent Eagle Scout, Andrew Knight. Andrew is the troop's 58th Eagle Scout since the troop was chartered in 1985. Pictured, Troop 546, front row from left, Weston Smith, Conner Nelson, Andrew Knight, Mike Klinger and Drew Knebl. Back row from left, Mike Lynch, Hudson Pearce, David Bobbitt, Scoutmaster Steve Pearce and Jack Knight.

BWB man assists in Philippines

By Angela Yuriko Smith
Beacon Staff Writer

When Typhoon Haiyan tore through the Philippines Nov. 7, Bluewater Bay resident Jim Miller, a member of the Mid-Bay Bridge Rotary Club, knew he had to go.

"I volunteered to assist with this disaster response partly because I was stationed in the Philippines with the U.S. Air Force in 1966-1967," said Miller in an email to the Beacon from the island nation.

Miller departed Nov. 18 for a "24 hour flight adventure to Mactan/Cebu via Atlanta and Seoul," according to Miller.

Miller serves as a logistics coordinator to manage the shipment of ShelterBox aid to the Philippines and has been involved with the disaster relief program since 2006.

ShelterBox USA is one of the charities the Mid-Bay Bridge Rotary Club supports and is a registered 501(c)(3) charity in the United States with headquarters in the United Kingdom that delivers essentials a family needs to survive to disaster hit regions all over the world.

Supplies come in a sealed green tub, or ShelterBox, and typically include "a disaster relief tent for an extended family, blankets, water storage and purification equipment, cooking utensils, a stove, a basic tool kit, a children's activity pack and other vital items," according to Shelterbox.

Currently, ShelterBox has teams are focusing on three badly hit regions; Tacloban, Cebu and Bohol.

Annie Sandalo-Cameron, president of the Filipino American Association of Okaloosa County, reports many of their members have loved ones in the affected areas.

"Half of our members distant cousins, relatives, and friends back in the Philippines were affected," said Cameron.

The association had a fundraising event Nov. 18 at the Niceville Community Center to raise money to send back.

Cameron urged that donations be sent directly to Catholic Relief Services or the Red Cross and said monetary support was better than trying to send supplies directly.

"I told them not to send bottles of water," said Cameron. "The box would be \$100 to send."



Jim Miller



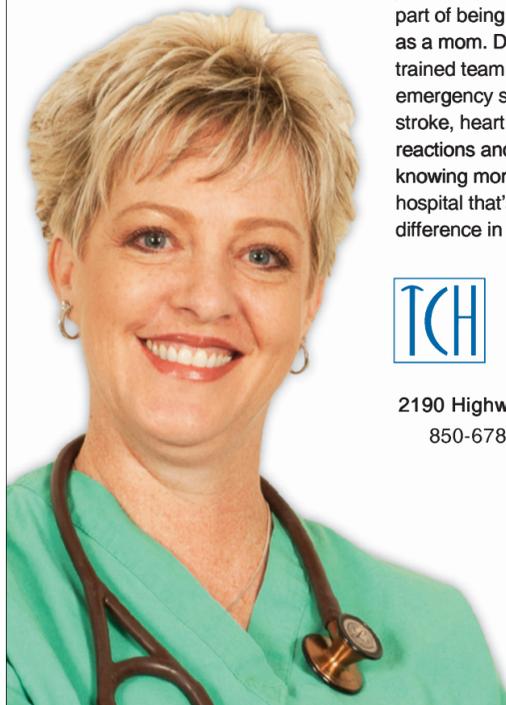
Ruckel students deliver donations

"Unity for the Community" was the theme of Ruckel Middle School's 2013 annual food drive. The National Junior Honor Society and the Student Government Association partnered to spear head this effort. Ruckel students and employees collected 3251 non-perishable food items for Sharing & Caring of Niceville. The donations were delivered Nov. 22. Pictured, students from Ruckel unload the donations.

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Michelle VandenBosch, MD

Who's News

Abner Williams of Niceville, realtor and lead buyer specialist, has joined the real estate group at Keller Williams Realty Emerald Coast.



Williams is a member of the National Association of Realtors, Florida Realtors and Emerald Coast Association of Realtors and currently enrolled with the Bold Real Estate Training program at Keller Williams Realty Emerald Coast.

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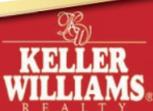
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Niceville High concerts

The Niceville Singers of Niceville High School will give a free concert Dec. 6, 7 p.m., St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1407 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville. Freewill donations to the NHS Choir program will be accepted.



Luncheon for ladies

The North West Retired Officers Wives Club luncheon and program will take place on Thursday, Dec. 12 at the Eglin Bayview Club. Social Hour starts at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch and program featuring the Sugar Beach Chorus, directed by Karen Boisjolie.

New members are welcome. Call 651-0295 to RSVP by Dec. 6.

Community Christmas parade

The Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Club will present its annual community Christmas Parade, this year themed "A Date Which Will Live in Infamy" in memory of the attack on Pearl Harbor, on Dec. 7 at 10 a.m., beginning at Palm Boulevard and John Sims Parkway, Niceville.

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

Feathered friends

There will be a Bird Walk Dec. 7 at the Okaloosa Landfill led by Alan Knothe. See our guests: sparrows and other songbirds, ducks, raptors, shorebirds, and wading birds.

Bring binoculars, cameras, and spotting scopes, and wear good shoes. Meet at Coach and Four Restaurant on North Lewis Turner Blvd., Fort Walton Beach, at 7:30 a.m. Call Alan at 862-3498 for more info.

Free math help

Rocky Bayou Christian Academy's Mu Alpha Theta Club will offer free math tutoring from 1-4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7, at Rocky Bayou Christian School, room 802 in the modular by the soccer fields. Tutoring in basic math through AP Calculus will be available.

This free service will be open to students from any of the local area schools or colleges. Please call Carla Alldredge, at 279-3755 if you would like to reserve a tutor. Walk-ins welcome. Bring your textbook, and any old tests and quizzes that you need help on.

Parents night out

Parents can enjoy a night out while NHS Leadership students lead games and arts and crafts with the kids at a "Winter Wonderland" themed night filled with games, arts and crafts, and watch the movie "Polar Express," rated "G." Pizza, snacks and hot chocolate will be served.

Kids Night registration forms are being delivered to all area elementary schools or can be picked up in the NHS Attendance Office. Registration forms with payment can be returned to the elementary school by Dec. 5. Walk-ins will also be welcomed on Dec. 7.

Wild holiday

The Biophila Center presents "Wildlife Winter Wonderland" Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10-3 p.m.

There will be live penguins at noon, a holiday themed photo booth, a visit from Santa, and more.

Nature presentations with live animals throughout the day with silent auction items for the adults. Items for auction include Disney park hopper

Reading buddy

Baci, a Bichon Frise therapy dog, loves a good book. Kids age 7 or older are invited to read a story to Baci in the Youth Services program room Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 3:30 p.m.

This is a first come, first served program. You may bring a book or choose from the library collection.

Early release movie day

Families are invited to the Valparaiso Community Library for next Early Release Movie Day on Thursday, Dec. 5 at 1:30 p.m. The movie will be Planes, rated PG. Popcorn and drinks will be served. Seating and snacks are limited.

Audubon meets

The Audubon monthly meeting and program Dec. 5 will be "Pictorial Survey of Birds that are Rare or Difficult to Identify during the Christmas Bird Count," presented by Alan Knothe, biologist.

The meeting will be held in Room 130 of the new Student Services Building at Northwest Florida State College. Socializing with light refreshments begins at 6:30 p.m., and the programs begin at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free and open to the interested public. Call Walt Spence at 582-7461 for more info.

Sprucing the holidays

Niceville's Boy Scouts of America Troop 546 will be holding their annual Christmas tree sale Friday, Dec. 6 through Sunday, Dec. 8 in front of the Niceville Police Station at 212 N. Partin Drive.

The troop will have an assortment of high-quality Fraser Fir No. 1 trees from North Carolina in various prices and sizes ranging from five to nine feet tall.

Hours of operation are Friday from 3-9 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. For more information contact Jack Knight at 374-2602.

ADSO open house

In lieu of a December luncheon, the Arts and Design Society will have their annual Christmas Party on Friday, Dec. 6, from 6-8 p.m., to which all are invited.

There will be a variety of festive activities, including an auction of holiday decorations made by members, and a potluck dinner. For further information, visit the ADSO website at artsdesignsociety.org, or call 244-1271. The Art Center is located at 17 First Street, S.E., Fort Walton Beach.

College honors recital

Northwest Florida State College Performing Arts Division will perform its Honors Recital Dec. 6, 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.

Health insurance tutorial

The Niceville Public Library will have a representative on site Dec. 6, 12, and 18, to assist individuals with questions concerning Health Insurance Marketplace.



Boy Scouts receive 'top seller' awards

Three members of Boy Scout Troop 157 in Niceville received a gift certificate award from the Gulf Coast Council of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) for being "top sellers" of the BSA annual popcorn fundraiser. Pictured from left, Jared Deiters, Zane French and Christopher Loffler with Scoutmaster John Snell, Sr.



Audubon Society bird walk

There will be a Bird Walk Dec. 7 at the Okaloosa Landfill led by Alan Knothe. See sparrows and other songbirds, ducks, raptors, shorebirds, and wading birds. Bring binoculars, cameras, and spotting scopes, and wear good shoes. Meet at Coach and Four Restaurant on North Lewis Turner Blvd., Fort Walton Beach, at 7:30 a.m. Call Alan at 862-3498 for more info.

passes, vacations, rounds of golf, jewelry and spa packages.

Engineers without Borders

New members are invited to join an up and coming chapter of Engineers Without Borders, the Emerald Coast Professional Chapter De. 7 from 3-6 p.m. at The Gathering Church in Fort Walton Beach, 218 Eglin Pkwy. N.E.

To register, please visit ewb-cbpc.org/event-registration.html

Christmas festival

Come enjoy the Christmas Festival Dec. 7 from 4:30 to 9 p.m. at the Niceville City Complex.

The children will have the opportunity to visit with Santa, make free crafts, write their letter to Santa at the Niceville North Pole Post Office.

There will be food vendors with a variety of food and treats. A selection of craft and gift vendors.

Visit the Council chambers where there will be scenes set up with different characters to take pictures with your children, so be sure to bring a camera.

Enjoy the music of our local school children's choirs and don't forget to take a sla-hay ride.

No vehicles are allowed inside the City Complex for this evening so our little ones are safe, so please park at the Softball complex, across the road

at Ruckel or in the large area in the field across from the Fire Dept. Handicap transportation will be available.

Healing horseplay

Families can come out to the wonderful campus at Camp Timpochee on County Line Road, (just past Bluewater Bay and the Mid-Bay Bridge connector) on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

There is no admission charge to come into the park and enjoy the equine exhibitions. Participants can also enjoy food, a bouncy house, carnival events, animals to pet, face and pumpkin painting, cake walk, and a hay ride for small donations.

All proceeds will go directly to support continued therapeutic riding sessions at GRACE Rides.

Christmas parade

The Niceville Valparaiso Rotary Club Community Christmas parade will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7, starting at 10 a.m. The 2013 Community Christmas Parade will commemorate Pearl Harbor by honoring survivors and Veterans in memory of the attacks of December 7, 1941.

Book signing festivities

The public is welcome to attend a book signing with author Wayne Goodson as he signs copies of his latest book, "Maze," at the Niceville

Community Center on Dec. 8 at 2 p.m.

There will be entertainment, recitals by Walt Richardson, music and finger foods. An award will also be given to a Niceville City official.

Youth concerts

The Junior Orchestra of Northwest Florida State College and the college sponsored Northwest Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra (NFSYO) will present free winter concerts on Dec. 7 and 8.

Both concerts are free and open to the public, with donations to support the youth program are welcomed.

The Junior Orchestra, will perform in concert Saturday, Dec. 7 at 11 a.m. in Tyler Recital Hall, located in the Music Wing of the Mattie Kelly Arts Center complex on the college's Niceville campus.

The Northwest Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra (NFSYO) performs in the mainstage theater Sunday, Dec. 8 at 3 p.m.

For information, contact the NWFSC Fine Arts Office at 729-5382. Both groups are conducted by Liz Aylor.

Republican Christmas

The Okaloosa County Republican Club will host their annual Christmas Party at 6 p.m. on Dec. 10 at the Fort

Walton Beach Yacht Club, 189 Ferry Road in Ft Walton Beach.

Heavy Hors d'oeuvres will be served and door prizes awarded all for a donation of \$15. Cash bar available. Local Republicans, their guests and all visitors are welcome and encouraged to attend.

For more information or to purchase tickets please call Don Adams at 586-1325.

Niceville Library Christmas

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

There will be finger foods, goodies and punch.

Lewis School Band concert

The Lewis School Band will hold its Winter Concert Dec. 11, 6:30 p.m., in the Taylor Haugen Gym, at the Lewis School. This concert has been rescheduled from the sports schedules. Contact 833-4130.

Lewis School Chorus concert

The Lewis School Chorus will hold its "Sounds of the Season" concert Dec. 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m., in the Lewis cafeteria, 281 Mississippi Ave., Valparaiso. Contact 833-4130.

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DAR learns native lore

Lt. Col. (ret.) Kirby Locklear, a member of the Lumbees Tribe, gave a program with song, dance and story of Native American people to the Choctawhatchee Bay Daughters of the American Revolution at their November meeting. Pictured with him is Joyce Harrington, 2nd Vice Regent.

Barrio Fiesta Queen and Princess

The Fillipino-American Association of Okaloosa County held the 36th Barrio Fiesta Celebration dinner and dance Nov. 16 at the Niceville Community Center. Pictured, the AAOC 2013 Queen, Della Webb and the 2013 FAAOC Little Princess, Matea Singleton.



NHS students donate blankets

Members of the Niceville High School Leadership Group donated blankets for the children living at Children in Crisis. Pictured from left, Keshia Taylor, April Melohn, Caitlyn Heart, Helene Mason, Jennifer Fenger, Kaleigh Marker, Bailee Giana, Lauren Rhodes and Jessi Miceli.



Gloria Price



Helen Wise



Jimmie Boisjolie

Buy the Bayou raises funds for charity

Three local, charitable organizations were presented with donations Nov. 6 at the 14th Annual Buy the Bayou Auction and Wine Tasting Reception. Gloria Price received a check for \$2,400 on behalf of Sharing and Caring of Niceville, Helen Wise received a check for \$1,800 on behalf of Friends of the Niceville Library and Jimmie Boisjolie received a check for \$1,800 on behalf of the Taylor Haugen Foundation.



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Eagles beat Fletcher, advance to state semi-finals Friday

By Sarah Clauson
Beacon Correspondent

The Niceville Eagles knocked the Fletcher Senators out of the playoffs with a 38-17 victory in the Region One finals last Friday. The win catapults the Eagles into the final four and puts them just one win away from a trip to Orlando for the state championship.

This Friday, the Eagles will host Osceola from Kissimmee in one last battle before the state championship.

The winner of Friday's game, either Niceville or Osceola, will face off with either East Lake from Tarpon Springs or Dwyer from Palm Beach Gardens at the state championships in Orlando.

The temperature was cold but the Eagle stadium was hot. The Eagles dominated the Senators from the start, and even with a few mistakes, they took control of the game, and kept it.

After Tyler Moore on defense recovered a Fletcher fumble,

Tayjon Culley scored the first touchdown of the night, and the Eagles managed to recover the subsequent kick off and score another touchdown by Tyree McCants all within the first half of the first quarter.

The score going into halftime was 24-10, and the Senators entered the third quarter with intensity and made a big play that narrowed the gap to 24-17 less than a minute into the quarter.

The Eagles answered and with a beautifully executed fake hand off, quarterback Ashton Hooker connected with Jalen Douglas in the end zone to edge the Eagle lead to a more comfortable 31-17 midway through the third.

The defense shut the Senators down and didn't allow any more points. Brandon Kucera recovered a fumble and they forced another turn over on downs. The offense put another seven on the board late in the fourth, Culley's third touchdown of the night, after a drive that had a string of penal-

ties by a wore out and disappointed Fletcher team.

Head Coach John Hicks spoke of the quick lead that the Eagles racked up.

"Defensively we played really well and set the tone for the football game," said Hicks. "We were confident and played hard."

Their spot in the final four is certainly deserved. With a 12-1 record and solid performances week after week, even with injuries, the Eagles have once again made a name for themselves.

This year's team is one marked by the discipline and cohesion that they demonstrate in their playing.

Their success has certainly been a team effort, with so many different players rising to the occasion throughout the season.

This Friday the Eagles will host Osceola from Kissimmee in hopes of overcoming their last hurdle before the state championship. Kick off is at 7:30 p.m. Go Eagles!



Beacon photo by Sarah Clauson

The Niceville Eagles crushed Fletcher Friday as they moved into the final four. NHS will host Osceola from Kissimmee this Friday, their last obstacle before the state championships. Pictured, Ashton Hooker on a quarterback keeper.

Niceville swimmers break their own county record

The Niceville High School ladies swim team placed third at the State High School Swim Championship in Stuart Nov. 15 and broke their own county record in the process with a time of 3:33.56 in the 400 Free Relay. Pictured, the Lady Eagles 400 Free Relay team, Tatum Hackler, Sydney Dawson, Kalanne Krause and Caitlin Myers

Photo courtesy of Lisa Myers



Tennis center contract OK'd



The Eagle Ram Tennis Center has accomplished the first step on its way to eventually being an eight court center with lights and an "under 10" court area. The center has been funded entirely by donations. Pictured, Shelley Scholl, left, and Joan Freeman work to update the donations chart at the corner of Palm Blvd. and Partin Dr.

Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

4 courts to be built at Ruckel

The Eagle Ram Tennis Center moves one step ahead as the Okaloosa County School Board approved the award of Phase 1, the first four courts, to McElroy Enterprises, Inc. at a meeting on Nov. 12.

The tennis center is planned to benefit not just the Ruckel Middle and Niceville High tennis programs, but the entire student and community population in Okaloosa County when it's completed.

This landmark facility, to be built on Ruckel Middle School property on Partin Drive across from City Hall, will encourage students and adults alike to participate in an accessible sport and enable tournaments and games to continue play regardless of the time of day. The ultimate goal is to complete an eight court center with lights and an "under 10" court area.

The Eagle Ram Tennis Center is a project which has been funded entirely by donations. The team of volunteers is very close to raising the remaining necessary funds and has some events already planned. For more information, please visit eagleramtennis.com.



Successful season ends for NHS runners

Girls varsity team at the state meet in Tallahassee Nov. 9, pictured front row from left, Julia Moreno, Mackenzie Shinnick, Haley Smith and Anna Herrera. Back row from left, Regan McAlister, Annie Serpa, Drew Haggerrnana and Clair Crist. The girls team placed 13th in the state and the boys placed 7th.

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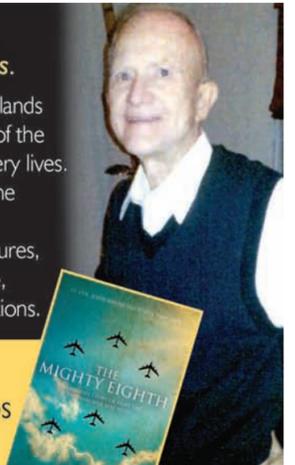
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MAZE
WAYNE GOODSON

My wife died of pancreatic cancer March 1, 1999. A lot of me died with her. Though the temptation to say, "Move over, sweetheart, I'm coming with you," was compelling, mortal life had me trapped by responsibilities.

In this book of short stories and poetry, witness the powerful works of Wayne Goodson as he weaves different tales of seemingly magical lands and situations. In the story Maze, journey through South America with Dr. Marlow Dunn and his son as they aim to prove the existence of the elusive pygmies. Witness the dangers and the mystic culture that is told through the eyes of two adventurers that could cost them their very lives. In the stories Thumper, The Behemoth of Boggy Bayou, and Squirrel Tree, read about the author's strange connection to various animals in the world and how he has come to a mutual respect of their existence. And finally, in the story Martha, take a journey in the lives of Wayne and Martha Goodson; lives filled with love, adventures and misadventures, and the proverbial glue that holds it all together still. Wayne Goodson gives us a view into a world that may be seemingly familiar to some, and almost alien to others, as he provides a window through this book filled with a spirit that promises to reverberate through the generations.



BOOK SIGNING Sunday, Dec. 8 • Niceville Community Center
Just in time for CHRISTMAS GIFTS
"AMAZING TRACE" / RECITALS PERFORMED BY DEACON WALT RICHARDSON - FINGER FOODS
Arrive at 2 p.m. for award to our City Manager