

The Bay Beacon

Police Blotter, page A-4

10 Pages, 2 Sections, 4 Inserts

Wednesday, March 19, 2014

50¢

UP
COMING

Wed., 2:30 p.m.

The **Niceville Public Library** is having a "Super Smash Bros. Brawl," rated "T," tournament to be held in their Teen Space. Open to all teens 13-17. Prizes will be awarded. 279-4863 x1514.



Fri, 7:30 p.m.

Lady Smith Black Mambazo performs at the **Mattie Kelly Arts Center**, Niceville. Tickets are \$35. 729-6000.

Sat., 9-10:30 a.m.

Junior gardeners and their friends are invited to meet at Room 3 of the **George W. Mitchell Building** next to the Valparaiso Community Library to learn about entering in the youth division of Valparaiso Garden Club's flower show. Kindergarten through high school are invited.



Tues., 7-9 p.m.

There will be a free **music appreciation program** led by Marie-Claude Bohler at the **Unitarian Church Fellowship Hall**, 1295 Bayshore Drive, Valparaiso. Open to all.



Calendar, B-2, B-3

Bluewater panel eyes plan for community

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

During an informal workshop preceding their regular meeting on March 11, members of the Bluewater Bay Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) discussed ideas for a "strategic plan" for long-term improvements to the landscaping and

other maintenance of common areas within Bluewater Bay.

The workshop continued discussions which were begun at a similar workshop held Feb. 11, in which board members have been attempting to define goals for the coming year, and prioritize projects for long-term improvements to the community.

Some of the goals currently under consideration include:

—Promoting a strong sense of community and enriching the quality of life for Bluewater Bay residents.

—Ensuring that the Bluewater Bay community is attractive, well-maintained and safe.

Please see **BLUEWATER**, page A-3



Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

The Bluewater Bay MSBU directors are considering a strategic plan for long-term improvements and maintenance of common areas.

Valparaiso medians to get makeover



Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

Crape myrtles in medians in John Sims Parkway in Valparaiso would be replaced with a variety of easy-to-maintain plants under a planned landscaping project to be funded by a \$295,000 state grant.

\$295K grant to pay for new plantings

Beacon staff

The grass medians in the center of John Sims Parkway in Valparaiso may soon undergo beautification, according to City Commissioner Joe Morgan.

The medians that would be affected run from the welcome sign in front of Doolittle Park all the way to Eglin's East Gate. All the medians with grass will be newly landscaped. Once the city has Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) approval, work can proceed, said Morgan.

"We've had the [Valparaiso] garden club, other interested parties and public works people find what will easily be maintained with low water usage," said Morgan. "Nothing too beachy. We are looking for native plants that are aesthetically pleasing."

Plans include removing the crape myrtle trees already growing in some medians, according to Marie Harrison, president of the Valparaiso Garden Club, and replacing them with easier-to-maintain plants such as holly, native plants, ornamental grasses and saw palmettos.

"It's a big project," said Harrison. "We are really looking forward to getting our landscaping up to date. We expect it to be a big improvement."

"The plants are going to be almost all native," said Bradford Davis, the landscape architect overseeing the project. He listed magnolia, palmetto,

Please see **MEDIANS**, page A-2

E. Niceville Fire District studies medical expenses

By Rich Byrd
Beacon Correspondent

Increasing operational costs have been an on-going challenge for the East Niceville Fire District. As a result, the elected commissioners of the district's governing board are looking at cost-cutting measures.

At a meeting last week, continued dialogue regarding dis-

trict health care expenditures on behalf of employees was a significant focus of discussion.

Commissioner Matt Schwab has conducted research on the Affordable Care Act and stated it provides for a federal government subsidy to those making a salary of \$14,000-\$42,000 annually to assist with obtaining medical insurance.

At the February district meeting, Schwab had proposed that it could be to the advantage of the district to explore the option of dropping the current group policy in lieu of individual policies assisted by the government subsidy. Members concurred with researching this proposal further.

At the meeting March 10,

Chairman Michael Marcolongo recommended that an invitation be made to a local insurance agent that was familiar with the federal Affordable Care Act, popularly known as Obamacare, to discuss this option and its impact.

Schwab stated that this process required a detailed "business case analysis" and

that he was in the process of orchestrating this presentation. Once confirmed, he would ensure that it was added to the agenda.

A secondary issue that generated spirited discussion, was the process of paying bills. Marcolongo raised a concern regarding "bill paying procedures." He stated there

appeared to be confusion with the process and it required immediate attention.

Tricia Brunson, treasurer, confirmed that the process was not as effective as it should be. She stated that bills were being received at several locations and that there appeared to be

Please see **EXPENSES**, page A-3

Rezoning eyed for 'Old Valp.'

By Marcia Anne Sanders
Beacon Correspondent

The Valparaiso Planning Commission Board met last week to elect a chairman, to consider two variances, and to discuss rezoning part of the "Old Valparaiso" district from its current historical designation in hopes of stimulating business development.

All five members of the board were present at the meeting March 11.

Chairman Tom Browning said he has been elected city commissioner and will therefore be leaving the board.

Vice Chair Robin Helmer said she could not take the chairmanship.

Joseph Cobb nominated Eric Berrill to be the new chairman. Berrill was elected unanimously.

Jack Carson was elected vice chair.

The board will have just four of its seven seats filled without Browning, so it is accepting applications.

The board considered variances on two narrow corner lots, at 278 Florida Ave. and 241 Edge Ave. Both applicants asked for a variance so that the 25-foot side setback requirement would be changed to a 10-foot setback, which would allow them to build 15 feet closer to the property line.

Please see **OLD VALP.**, page A-3



In hopes of stimulating business development, the Valparaiso Planning Commission Board is considering rezoning part of the "Old Valparaiso" district near Perrine Park from historical district to a new zone called neighborhood commercial.

Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

Dr. Frist Humanitarian Award recipients announced

Twin Cities Hospital recently announced their recipients of the 2013 Dr. Frist Humanitarian Awards.

At a luncheon in Niceville, David Whalen, CEO, presented awards to Dr. Thomas Fox, Jackie Vogler, a volunteer and David Bennett, an employee.

These individuals are now eligible for the Nationwide 2013 Dr. Frist Humanitarian Award, the highest honor an employee, volunteer, and physi-

cian can receive at HCA, the parent company of Twin Cities Hospital.

In addition to a framed certificate and lapel pin, the recipients also received monetary allocations to be donated to the charitable organization, or organizations, of their choice.

The Dr. Frist Humanitarian Awards were created to annually recognize one employee, physician, and volunteer at each HCA-affiliated facility who

demonstrate extraordinary concern for the welfare and happiness of patients and their community.

The Dr. Frist Humanitarian Awards are given annually in recognition of the humanitarian spirit and philanthropic work of the late Dr. Thomas F. Frist, Sr., a founder of HCA.

National recipients will be honored in the spring at a reception at the company's headquarters in Nashville, Tenn.



Recipients of the 2013 Dr. Frist Humanitarian Awards received a framed certificate and lapel pin at a recent luncheon in Niceville. The recipients also received monetary allocations to be donated to the charitable organization, or organizations, of their choice. Pictured from left, Dr. Thomas Fox, Jackie Vogler and David Bennett.

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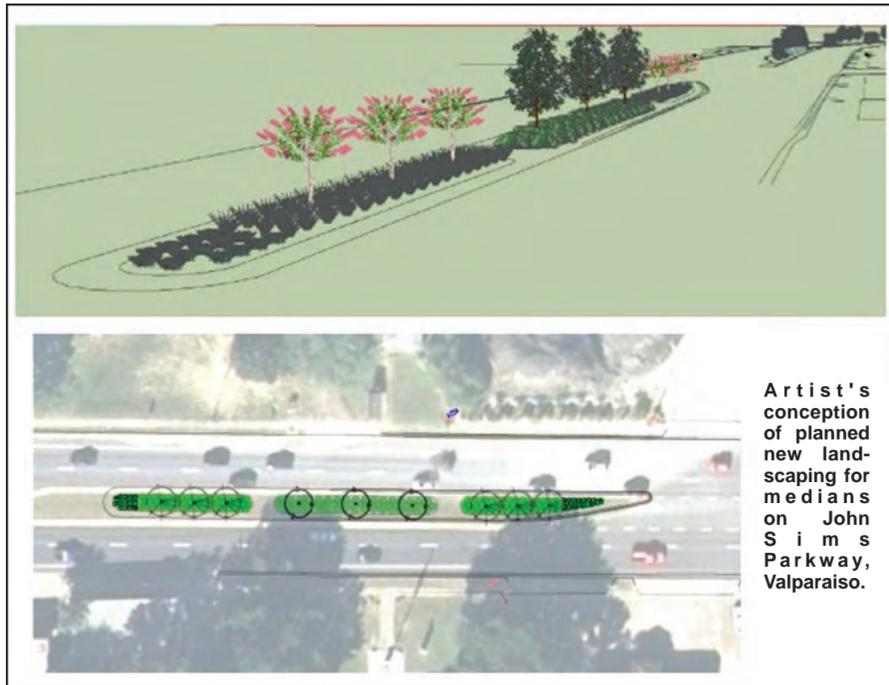
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Artist's conception of planned new landscaping for medians on John Sims Parkway, Valparaiso.

MEDIANS

From page A-1

dwarf yaupon, and mulch grass and others "selected with input from a citizen group."

One citizen at a city commission meeting March 10 objected to the fact that the plan includes removal of some existing crape

myrtle trees.

Morgan replied that the trees are difficult to maintain, and do not match the color scheme for the new landscaping plan.

The project's budget is \$295,000, said Davis, which will be paid with a grant from the DOT. A new irrigation system will be installed as well, according

to Davis.

Harrison said the use of an irrigation system will be temporary.

"Irrigation will be there until the plants are established," said Harrison. "Then turned off."

Morgan expects the project will begin this year, as soon as approval from the DOT is obtained.

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OLD VALP.

From page A-1

Applicants Michael and Melissa Low of Niceville purchased the vacant Edge Avenue property. Michael Low addressed the board, saying the plot was too narrow for anything but a two-story house. His application for the variance stated it would "create a financial hardship" for the couple to build a two-story house, as opposed to a single-story one.

Applicants Bobbie and Beverly Prevett of Valparaiso asked for the variance on the Florida Avenue property. Their application said the vacant property "would have no beneficial use without the variance

requested."

Both variances were granted by the board.

Michael Low said they would begin clearing the lot within days and start building as soon as they can get the permit.

Beverly Prevett said they had waited to get the variance before choosing a house plan so they will build in the next few months.

Jack Carson asked to table the request for the new zoning category to be approved. It will be put on the agenda for the next board meeting on April 15 at 6 p.m.

The proposed zoning category, called neighborhood commercial, deals with the currently zoned historical district in the

"Old Valparaiso" neighborhood in the vicinity of the intersection of Eastview and Westview avenues, near Perrine Park. It was formerly the city's business district.

The new zoning category lists 40 types of businesses that would be allowed in the area and also leaves the option for other retail and service businesses approved by the planning board. The zone would not allow restaurants or the sale of liquor.

Perrine Park and the Heritage Museum are located in the area, which also contains residential housing and commercial businesses. It has vacant lots available for development.

Berrill said the new zoning category would make the area "neighborhood friendly."

"It was a historical district but had no historical buildings," Berrill said.

Cobb said the new zoning category would "limit the kind of businesses that can be established there." Cobb also said the new zoning category might be used to develop a business corridor around John Sims Parkway.

City Administrator Carl Scott explained where he got the specifications for the new zoning category. "I just looked at some other cities, municipalities that have commercial neighborhood zoning and adapted it to our city."



A proposed new zoning category for the "Old Valparaiso" historic district lists 40 types of businesses that would be allowed.

Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

BLUEWATER

From page A-1

—Providing safe and attractive roads, sidewalks and park-like areas for residents to enjoy.

—Contributing positively to residence investment in Bluewater Bay by preserving property values, guaranteeing that pursuit of excellence is a guiding principle for the MSBU.

—Maximizing partnership with Okaloosa County and with other community resources.

Among the items discussed during the workshop was a digital map of Bluewater Bay, to be prepared by landscape architect Brad Davis. The map would include infrastructure, such as utilities, irrigation, landscaping features, roads, and boundaries, and could be used as a tool for future planning.

Board member Steve Hall suggested that the map be designed in such a way that it could be posted on the MSBU website to provide useful information for community residents, as well as for the MSBU board itself. He said the map could also include elements of

the MSBU master plan as that plan is developed.

The MSBU is an arm of Okaloosa County government, in charge of maintenance and improvements to landscaping, street signs, street lighting, and other care of common areas within the unincorporated Bluewater Bay community. It is governed by a five-member board of directors elected by Bluewater Bay residents.

Another issue discussed during the workshop was how the MSBU should respond, if at all, to the recent closure of the Magnolia golf course owned by Bluewater Bay Resort. The former golf course is currently reverting to a natural state, which some nearby residents regard as an eyesore. The resort said it couldn't afford to maintain the course after it withdrew plans to build homes and businesses on it in the face community opposition.

MSBU board member Felix Beukenkamp asked whether the MSBU has any authority to mow grass or perform any basic maintenance of the former golf course, or what the MSBU can do to encourage the resort to do

so.

Board member Jonathan Tallman suggested that the board look into whether existing legal covenants governing property use within Bluewater Bay would have any bearing on maintenance of the former golf course, and what authority, if any, the MSBU has to enforce such covenants.

In other business, MSBU management consultant Darlene Landsberger told the board that the Florida Department of Transportation may change some of the landscaping at the entrances to Bluewater Bay in conjunction with the current repaving project along State Road 20, the main highway which bisects the Bluewater Bay community. She said she would meet with FDOT officials to learn more about their plans, and would report back to the MSBU board on how the repaving project will affect entrances to the community.

Other activities discussed during the workshop and meeting included:

—A proposed Easter egg roll to be held at the Woodlands

Park. The tentative date would be Saturday, April 12, at 9 a.m., with different age groups participating.

—The possibility of showing community movies at the Bluewater Bay golf course driving range.

—Possible community parades, such as bicycle parades, to be held on special occasions such as Halloween or during the Christmas season, as well as a possible community Christmas tree lighting event for Bluewater Bay residents.

Special projects recently approved by the MSBU include:

—Redesign and/or replanting of flowerbeds at various locations within Bluewater Bay.

—Replacement of a block wall on Bluewater Boulevard North, near the CVS drugstore, with seasonal plants and pine straw.

—Renovation of the median at the intersection of Bay Drive and Garden Oaks Way, to repair the curb and replenish plants in the median.

—Tree trimming and pruning along various streets within Bluewater Bay.

EXPENSES

From page A-1

duplication of effort with Fire Chief Michael Wright. Wright confirmed the disconnect and was eager to work with Brunson on a resolution.

Commissioner Ed Dunbar echoed the need to correct payment procedures as soon as possible to "avoid the accrual of any interest payments." Brunson and Wright stated this was a priority and would address this concern immediately to avoid future concerns.

Chief Wright presented an unexpected concern regarding a fire engine that was currently in the shop for minor repair. As presented at the February meeting, the repair action was still on hold pending delivery of the needed parts.

Now, complications with



The East Niceville Fire Commission discussed expenses during a meeting March 10.

Beacon photo by Rich Byrd

the parts supplier has resulted in a concern regarding the timely delivery of the needed components.

American LaFrance, the primary company that provides the parts required, has gone out of business, according to fire district officials. News accounts indicated that the 140-year-old

South Carolina-based maker of fire engines closed its doors in January.

As a result, efforts are being made to source a new supplier or wait for the parts currently owned by American LaFrance to be auctioned off to a new supplier and then contact them for assistance, according to fire

district officials.

Captain Jason Holcomb stated that this delay was an inconvenience, but did not impact operations. All engines were fully operational and that if needed the engine in the repair shop could be recalled for use. The estimate for repairs is currently \$3,000.

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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

On March 2, Niceville police arrested Robert Cole Fuller, 30, no occupation, of 105 Little John Court, Niceville, for one count of damage to property-criminal mischief (more than \$200 under \$1000), one count of battery, one count of kidnap-false imprisonment, and one count of resisting an officer without violence.



On March 4, Niceville police arrested Jonathan Wayne Brown, 28, a marine mechanic, 127 Center St., Freeport, for one count of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription.

On March 5, Valparaiso police arrested John Keith Bennett, 32, unemployed, of 1215 Shipley Dr., Niceville, for one count of possession of cocaine with intent to sell within 1,000 feet of a convenience business.

A police officer observed Bennett, whom the officer knew to have a history of narcotics violations, in the parking lot of the Tom Thumb store on John Sims Parkway.



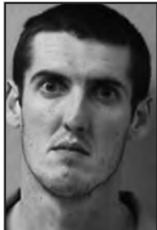
John Keith Bennett

After briefly questioning Bennett and then releasing him, the officer observed Bennett walk to a nearby vehicle, lay his cell phone on the ground and grab

a clear round plastic object from behind the front right tire.

The officer then approached Bennett at the rear of the vehicle, detained his hands, and located the clear round plastic item in Bennett's left hand. The container held a rocklike substance, which the officer suspected was cocaine. Bennett was then placed in the back seat of the patrol car, while the officer conducted a test of the suspected cocaine, which indicated that the substance was cocaine. Bennett, who is unemployed, also had \$120 in his possession, consisting of five \$20 bills and two \$10 bills—denominations consistent with the sale of narcotics.

On March 6, Niceville police arrested Blaine Alexander Thomas, 28, unemployed, of 1609 Date Palm Dr., Niceville, on Okaloosa County warrants for one count of grand theft, one count of dealing in stolen property, one count of grand theft of a motor vehicle, and one count of criminal mischief.



Blaine Alexander Thomas

While being arrested at the Niceville City Skate Park, Thomas removed his jacket. Inside of the jacket police found a bag containing two syringes, one bent spoon with a white residue, a cup, straw, a piece of parachute cord, one cigarette cellophane and a white sponge type material commonly used as a filter, which contained a

Okaloosa seeks fugitives

This information is from reports by the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office.



Wanted As Of: 03/10/2014
Grand Theft Auto
Name: Andrew Royce Lewis
Sex: Male
Race: Caucasian
Age: 19
DOB: 10/20/1994
Height: 5ft 7in, Weight: 110 lbs
Hair: Brown, Eyes: Brown



Wanted As Of: 12/10/2013
Poss. of Marijuana with Intent to Distribute
Name: Joseph Jamel Davenport
Sex: Male
Race: Black
Age: 24
DOB: 10/23/1990
Height: 6ft 0in, Weight: 150 lbs
Hair: Black, Eyes: Brown

This information is from reports by the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office. A reward is offered by Emerald Coast Crime Stoppers, 863-8477, or 1-888-654-8477. Information can also be provided anonymously by texting "TIP214 plus the message" to CRIMES (274637)

liquid substance that was field tested and yielded a presumptive positive result for the presence of methamphetamine. Thomas was therefore also arrested on one count of possession of methamphetamine and one count of possession of narcotic paraphernalia.

On March 8, Niceville police arrested Roger Dale Belcher Jr., 42, no known address, for one count of possession of a controlled substance and for driving with a suspended license. When an officer stopped Belcher for a burned out headlight, Belcher admitted driving with a suspended license. The officer arrested Belcher, and while searching him, found a small clear bag in Belcher's right front pocket. The officer asked Belcher what was in the bag, and Belcher replied, "speed." The officer transported Belcher and the bag to the Niceville Police Department, where the bag was tested and gave a positive indication for methamphetamine.

While at the police station, Belcher was arrested again, this time on an Okaloosa County warrant for one count of grand theft and one count of dealing in stolen property. A witness had previously identified Belcher as the person who had allegedly stolen a trailer and some other items, which Belcher and an accomplice had allegedly sold later.

On March 8, Niceville police arrested Leslie Mitchell Johnson, 57, unemployed, 356 Illinois Ave., Valparaiso, on an Okaloosa County warrant for one count of criminal mischief and one count of possession of burglary tools.

On March 9, Niceville police arrested Jeremiah Devon Green, 27, a clerk, 732 North Palm

Bld., Niceville, on a Bay County warrant for one count of violation of probation.

On March 10, Valparaiso police arrested Justin Dashawn Redick, 18, occupation unknown, of 244 Yacht Club Dr., Fort Walton Beach, for one count of grand theft auto. Two witnesses told police that on Dec. 11, Redick entered an unlocked, parked 2001 Chevy Monte Carlo on Highland Street, opened the trunk, removed a subwoofer, and placed it in the woods.



Redick then got back inside the vehicle, started it, backed out, advised both witnesses to get in (but they refused), and then left the area.

The witnesses reported that Redick returned the next day, got the subwoofer, and told them that he was going to take the car to a "chop shop" in Pensacola.

On Dec. 12, the vehicle was found by Niceville police off State Road 85 N., near the mullet festival grounds. The vehicle was processed and several latent fingerprints were lifted from the trunk area and from the passenger side door. An FDLE lab report later identified some of the fingerprints as belonging to Redick.

DUI

On March 8, Niceville police arrested Kasemeby Deyond Lee, 34, a car dealer employee, of 500 Kelly Mill Road, Apt. 173, Valparaiso, for DUI. Lee was initially stopped after being observed driving 53 mph in a 35 mph zone on State Road 20 near Cedar Avenue. Once stopped, he showed multiple behavioral signs of intoxication, and his blood alcohol level was measured at or above .193.

Fire Department Reports

Niceville

The Niceville Fire Department responded to the following calls from Mar. 10, 2014 through Mar. 16, 2014.



0 Structure Fire	25	Emergency Medical Calls
0 Vehicle Fire	4	Vehicle Crash
0 Other Fire	0	Vehicle Crash with Extrication
0 Illegal Burn	5	Other Emergency Calls
0 False Alarms	0	Hazardous Conditions

Street	Situation	Date	Time
23rd Street	Medical	3/10/14	13:28
Royal Palm Dr.	Medical	3/10/14	14:25
Niceville Ave.	Medical	3/11/14	00:57
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	3/11/14	07:31
26th Street	Medical	3/11/14	11:06
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	3/11/14	12:04
S. Palm Blvd.	Vehicle crash	3/11/14	14:47
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Vehicle crash	3/12/14	18:18
W. John Sims Pkwy.	Service call	3/12/14	16:08
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	3/12/14	18:59
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	3/13/14	08:55
Crestview Ave.	Medical	3/13/14	10:31
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	3/13/14	15:38
27th Street	Medical	3/13/14	17:55
SR 85 N.	Medical	3/13/14	18:00
N. Partin Dr.	Alarm activation	3/13/14	20:45
W. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	3/14/14	01:31
47th Street	Medical	3/14/14	11:54
Government Ave.	Medical	3/14/14	12:05
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	3/14/14	16:36
21st Street	Medical	3/14/14	18:40
College Blvd	Good intent	3/14/14	19:48
Reeves St.	Medical	3/14/14	22:27
Courington Ct.	Medical	3/15/14	01:23
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	3/15/14	07:46
Red Maple Way	Alarm activation	3/15/14	07:49
N. Partin Dr.	Vehicle crash	3/15/14	11:13
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	3/15/14	17:19
26th Street	Medical	3/16/14	00:17
SR 85 N.	Vehicle crash	3/16/14	01:30
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	3/16/14	09:31
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Service call	3/16/14	11:12
White St.	Medical	3/16/14	19:10
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	3/16/14	20:15

Weekly Safety Tip: Check lamps and ceiling fixtures to make sure wiring is intact. If an appliance smokes or smells, turn it off immediately. Examine electrical cords before use and replace any that are frayed or cracked. Don't overload electrical outlets.

Like the Niceville Fire Department on Facebook

North Bay



The North Bay Fire Department responded to the following calls from Mar. 10, 2014 through Mar. 16, 2014.

Street	Situation	Date	Time
N. White Point Rd.	Medical assist	3/10/14	06:27
Ida Coon Cir.	Public assist	3/10/14	11:16
E. Hwy. 20	Medical	3/10/14	16:27
E. Hwy. 20/Bay Dr.	Vehicle accident	3/10/14	16:50
Otterlake Cove	No incident found	3/10/14	22:16
Merchants Way	Medical	3/11/14	02:23
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	3/11/14	12:39
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	3/11/14	13:49
Merchants Way	Medical	3/11/14	16:02
Range Rd/Hwy. 20	No incident found	3/11/14	18:20
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	3/11/14	21:58
1/4 mi. S. of County Line Rd.	Medical	3/12/14	02:57
Nassau/Antiqua	Dispatched & cancelled	3/12/14	05:18
N. Tumbery Cv.	Public assist	3/12/14	15:29
Clentlake Cir.	Medical	3/13/14	10:34
Ida Coon Cir.	Medical	3/13/14	11:28
Muirfield Way	Medical	3/13/14	23:36
Greenwood Way	No incident found	3/14/14	07:14
St. Lucia Cove	Medical	3/14/14	13:30
N. White Point Rd.	Dispatched & cancelled	3/14/14	14:41
N. White Point Rd.	Dispatched & cancelled	3/14/14	21:21
Ida Coon Cir.	Medical assist	3/15/14	09:25
Lost Horse Cir.	Medical assist	3/15/14	11:04
County Line Rd/Hwy. 20	Vehicle accident	3/16/14	02:57
Parkwood Cir.	Medical	3/16/14	09:52
N. Lakeshore Dr.	Vehicle accident	3/16/14	12:40
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	3/16/14	17:42
Wright Cir.	Medical	3/16/14	22:30

Visit northbayfd.org for more information.

On March 9, Niceville police arrested Klaus Hofmann, 60, retired, of 126 S. Shore Dr. Unit 28, Miramar Beach, for DUI. Police stopped Hofmann after observing his vehicle swerving, straddling the center lane, and nearly striking another vehicle. Once stopped, Hoffman showed multiple behavioral signs of intoxication, and ate a Listerine strip

while the officer was not at his car window. His blood alcohol level was measured at or above .180.

Notice to appear

On March 9, Valparaiso police cited Heather M. Reidel, 30, unemployed, of 284 Montana Ave., Valparaiso, for failure to restrain and confine an

Please see BLOTTER, page A-5

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THE INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER —by Mike Griffith



What do you think about expanding women's college sports, if it requires eliminating some men's sports?

Location: Oak Creek shopping center



"It would depend on the sports. It wouldn't be fair, for example, to eliminate men's soccer in order to expand women's soccer."

Terry Payne, 56, Bluewater Bay, retired



"I believe there should be equal rights. We should give women a chance."

Casey Chavis, 23, Niceville, deckhand



"More people attend and support men's sports than women's sports. It's not right or fair, but that's how it is."

Cassandra Davis, 40, Tuskegee, Alabama, bus driver



"Don't decrease men's sports, but find other ways to fund women's sports."

Elaine Bandy, 57, Niceville, homemaker and substitute teacher



"It's fine with me. If they put fast pitch softball back in the Olympics, that would be great."

Timmy Chapel, 45, Niceville, retired



"Women should have the same opportunity to enjoy sports as men."

Bobby Francis, 54, Niceville, restaurant owner

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

YOUTH

From page A-6

The meeting March 11 at Niceville City Hall was attended by youth council members Caroline Schreck, William Adams, and Jason Nodjomian—just enough for a quorum. The other two members of the five-member council, Taylor Anderson and Stella Kim, were absent.

Members discussed various options for community service projects to be sponsored by the council. One such project will be a

collection of used blue jeans, to provide clothing for the poor. Council members agreed to hold the collection shortly after spring break, and to place collection boxes at local high schools and other locations around the community. Prior to spring break, they said, they will publicize the event as much as possible, especially among fellow high school students who may have used jeans that they can contribute.

Council members also agreed to organize an art contest, in which contestants will submit

ideas for an inspirational mural. The winning student will then have the opportunity to actually paint their mural on a wall somewhere in downtown Niceville.

Another project planned by the YAC may be a community cleanup, similar to the cleanup efforts that were done several years ago, each fall and again in the spring, in Niceville, Valparaiso, and Bluewater Bay.

Following the 5 p.m. YAC meeting, the three members remained in the Niceville city council chamber, where they

observed a regular 6 p.m. meeting of the adult Niceville City Council. During that meeting, YAC member Caroline Schreck addressed the adult council members, asking for their support and guidance in arranging the community cleanup.

City Councilman Sal Nodjomian, who served as an

adult advisor to the youth advisory council, during the earlier meeting, told Schreck that the city council is supportive of the idea of a community cleanup, and asked the YAC to develop a more detailed plan for the cleanup day and present it to the city council in a future meeting.

Applicants for positions on

the youth advisory council should be students in good standing at Niceville High School, Collegiate High School, or Rocky Bayou Christian School. Details about the council and its application and appointment process are available on the youth advisory council page of the city of Niceville.

BLOTTER

From page A-4

animal. Police had received a report that day from a complainant who said that while riding his bicycle on South Bayshore Drive, a brown pit bull had chased him for approximately 30 feet, aggressively barking and charging at him. The complainant further reported that the dog circled his bicycle, and would not allow him to continue on for approximately 3 minutes, then retreated to the backyard of 284 Montana. Police later located the dog and observed that it was unrestrained and not under voice control in the back yard, at 284 Montana Ave., where the rear gate was open. Police contacted the owner, Reidel, who said that her dog had been in the backyard all day and she was not aware the gate was open. Police

also learned that Reidel had already been given two other notices to appear, one on Sept. 27, and another on Nov. 3, for allowing her dogs to run unrestrained and not under voice control.

Other

On March 7, Niceville police received a report of fraud. The victim reported that her credit card had disappeared and there were five unauthorized charges made to the card.

On March 7, Niceville police responded to the main entrance of Northwest Florida State College, where a victim reported that a student had hit her vehicle with a bat.

On March 7, Niceville police responded to an address on Sterling River Way, where a resident said she had found strange footprints in her house.

On March 7, Niceville police received a report of a stolen camera. The victim told police that he/she had heard from a third party that the camera may have been pawned.

On March 7, Niceville police received a report of a stolen basketball pole.

On March 8, Niceville police responded to an incident in which a teenager had bitten her mother on the knuckle, causing it to bleed.

On March 9, Niceville police responded to an address on Reeves Street, regarding the theft of a bicycle.

On March 10, Niceville police received a report from someone who said that their credit card had been stolen and someone else was using it.

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Niceville's Newspaper

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) as of March 10, 2014. Offer expires on April 15, 2014. Minimum deposit of \$500. Applies to new contributions only. Rate does not apply to rollovers, transfers, or renewals. The special 3.00%APY is available for existing CCB personal checking account holders. Non-customers may open a new CCB checking account in order to receive the special 3.00%APY. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Offer may be modified at any time without notice and may vary by market. Member FDIC

Youth council meets

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

The Niceville Youth Advisory Council has decided to organize a jeans collection, an art contest, and possibly a community cleanup, as service projects to benefit the community.

The youth advisory council is a

five-member board of local high school students, organized last year to parallel the adult Niceville City Council.

Members of the youth advisory council, which first met last October, are each appointed by one of Niceville's five adult city council members, from among

students who apply for positions on the YAC. The purpose of the Niceville youth advisory council is to provide the council with a representative voice for Niceville youth in city affairs, as well as opportunities for leadership and community service.

Please see YOUTH, page A-5



From left, Niceville City Councilman Sal Nodjoman met March 11 with Youth Advisory Council members Caroline Schreck, William Adams, and Jason Nodjoman.

Beacon photo by Mike Griffith

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Advertising Feature

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Summit II offers semi-private rooms so that you and your stylist can discuss your hair history without interruption; its needs, your preferences and the possibilities for looking magnificent at every angle. At Summit II, your hair care is priority number one. Their team wants to provide the best possible cut and styling, tailored to your specifications and lifestyle, while getting to know the guest in their chair. They will take the time to make sure your looks effortless and not only sparkles walking out of the salon, but for the rest of the week.

If your hair is short, unruly or even thinning or damaged, don't be discouraged. Not only does Summit II constantly keep up with beautiful styles for bobbed hair as well as big hair, but they also carry Kenra sulfate free shampoo; a gentle shampoo solution designed to preserve luminosity and moisture while maintaining bounce and structure. The best part? It's compatible with all hair types and can be useful after and while caring for colored hair. Hair strength can also be a priority for men and women experiencing signs of aging hair, either from hormonal or chronological effect.

A new product by Redken, the Color Extend Magnetics System, is an exclusive Interlock Protein and Charge-Attrac Complex, for color treated hair. Lightweight and non-stripping for a natural feel, your hair feels fortified and your color will shine radiantly for optimal looking vibrancy. To keep your hair at its brilliant best, Redken offers Diamond Oil shampoo and conditioner to



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In terms of color, their team carries the best Redken products that work from root to tip... giving your hair what it needs to go from dull and ashy to golden and sassy. If you're looking for a bolder change, take the plunge and consult with a stylist about the latest hues. They will do everything to ensure that it complements your personal style, coloring and face shape, as well as bring compliments your way.

To be the "mane" attraction this Spring, add Summit II to your list of 'must dos,' or grab a gift certificate for a fun and unique gift. Be sure to schedule early so that you can be standout sexy for 2014.

Summit II is located on the corner of the Highway 85 and John Sims Parkway intersection in Niceville. The address is 101 E. John Sims Parkway. Walk-ins are accepted on a space-available basis. It is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday; 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday; and 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday. For information or an appointment, call 678-1977.

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Rocky Bayou Christian School wins at Brain Bowl



RBCS's Varsity Academic A Team won first place in the annual state "Brain Bowl." Team Pictured, Noah Kerstein, Ian Kampert, James Sung and Ben Esses.

Rocky Bayou Christian School's Varsity Academic A Team won first place in the Florida Association of Christian Colleges and Schools Annual State Brain Bowl Academic Competition in Orlando on Feb. 6-7.

Senior Noah Kerstein, the A team captain, led his team mates, juniors Ian Kampert and James Sung, with freshmen Ben Esses for the state win. James earned a trophy for the most toss ups answered by any RBCS student at the two day competition.

Junior Cameron Esses, the B Team captain, correctly answering the most toss up questions for the team, also led his group, made up of sopho-

mores Seth Kerstein and freshmen, Ariel Schesniak and Kyle Wyn, to earn a trophy and a spot in the finalist round.

Senior Christian Yun led sophomores Marcus Fort, Ethan Harris, and Stephen Lowmiller to the Consolation Round, with Marcus answering correctly the most toss up points for the team.

Finally, eighth grader Gabe Seabrook, the middle school team captain, led his team, made up of eighth graders Mary Brannon and Devan Grabinger, to a third place state win in the middle school competition. Gabe tied for first place for most toss ups answered correctly in the middle school division.



The middle school team won third in the state. Pictured, Mary Brannon, Gabe Seabrook and Devan Grabinger.

Who's News

Kyla Marie Stevens, a 2009 Niceville High School graduate, will receive a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature from New College of Florida in Sarasota on May 23. Her future plans include travel and pursuing a Masters of Fine Art in Creative Writing. She is the daughter of Paulamarie Stevens.



Kyla Marie Stevens

Billy Riley of Bryan Pest Control, Inc. as the 67th president of the Florida Pest Management Association (FPMA) during ceremonies in Orlando. Riley will preside over the FPMA Executive Board, 16 region board members and the

Please see WHO'S, page B-3



Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

Edge students win art contest

Fifth grade students Melaina Bryant and Erin Gonyea are the Edge Elementary School winners for the recent Kids Tag art contest, a competition where Okaloosa county 5th grade students designed and created their own specialty license plate.



Warmer weather means regatta season

Eglin Yacht Club hosted the Choctaw Bay Sailing Regatta March 1 with racers from Eglin, Bluewater Bay and Ft Walton Yacht Clubs. It took over three hours for all participants to finish. Inset, Ed and Cindy Doyle of Niceville sailed the committee boat, called "My Blue Heaven," which holds race officials and spectators for the race.

Plew students take walking field trip

The second graders of Plew Elementary recently toured Sharing and Caring, bringing 389 pounds of food with them as a donation. The second graders held a school wide food drive to gather their donations and walked the food items to the pantry in wagons. The students also toured Gulf Power during the trip.



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Girl Scouts enjoy hoe down with dads

Twin Cities Girl Scouts hosted a "Me and My Guy Hoe Down" at the Niceville Community Center for all Girl Scouts along with their fathers and grandfathers recently. Niceville and Valparaiso Troops 247, 663, 685, 702, 761, 1121, and 2111 all participated while Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors from Troops 151 and 356 decorated, planned games, and served.



Mid-Bay Rotary Club gives to museum

The Mid-Bay Rotary Club recently donated \$500 to the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida in support of their upcoming 38th Saturday in the Park event planned for April 26, from 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. Pictured, Dave Underwood and Harold Peek and Mid-Bay Rotary, Gordon King, Museum Chairman, Museum Manager Gina Marini, Don Bohler of Mid-Bay Rotary. For event information contact info@heritage-museum.org or call 678-2615.



Field trip for NWFSC geology students

Northwest Florida State College Geology students took a fieldtrip with the Southeastern Geological Society on Saturday, March 8 to several limestone quarries near Crystal River Lecanto Mine in Citrus County. Students collected fossils and calcite crystals along with nearly 50 other geologists. Pictured, from left, Jessica Thomas, Elizabeth Evans, Donald Downer, Brittany Stanley, Bethany Fralish, Robert Bussard, Mitchell Sangprawe, Ed Laird and James Sweeney. Kneeling, Dr. Jon Bryan.

2014 CALENDAR

E-mail items to info@baybeacon.com

Chambers of Commerce present the Multi-Chamber Business Expo and Taste of Okaloosa County on March 20 from 4-7 p.m. at the Emerald Coast Convention Center. This event will showcase local businesses and restaurants. Open to the public at no charge.

Horticulture meeting

The Tri-County Horticulture Studies Group will meet on March 20 in the meeting room at the Fort Walton Beach Library, 185 Miracle Strip Pkwy. at 10 a.m. where Marie Harrison will teach about the Araceae (aroid) family.

Following the program, the group will visit the Mary Esther Community garden.

Meetings are free and open to the public. For information contact marieharrison@valp.net.

Benefit performance

Lady Smith Black Mambazo performs March 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the

Please see CALENDAR, page B-3

Gaming tourney

The Niceville Public Library invites teens to get their game on during the Super Smash Bros. Brawl tournament to be held in their Teen Space on Wednesday, March 19 at 2:30 p.m. The tournament is open to all teens 13-17. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place and refreshments will be served. Call Youth Services @ 279-4863 x1514 to register for this free program.

Multi-Chamber expo

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Global singers

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Emerald Coast is hosting a free concert by Singers of United Lands, S.O.U.L. March 23 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. S.O.U.L. is a quartet comprised of four young adults, each from a different country, touring for a year to share their cultures. Open to the public, donations are welcome. For more information visit singersofunitedlands.org.

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Victorian tea for philanthropists

The P.E.O., Chapter DH, met at a Victorian Tea held at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida. P.E.O. is a philanthropic organization where women celebrate the advancement of women through educational scholarships, grants, awards and loans.

School receives grade of 'A' since 2002

Bluewater Elementary has been awarded a grade of "A+" by the Okaloosa County School District. Bluewater has been an "A" school since 2002 receiving the grade of "A" for 12 consecutive years. Pictured, Superintendent of Schools Mary Beth Jackson, center, presents the award to Principal Dr. Connie Hall at right and Assistant Principal Amy Klugh in a special recognition faculty meeting.



Eagle Scout project improves school

Boy Scout Sterrett McInnis completed his Eagle Scout project, a courtyard and garden that will be used as an outdoor classroom and lunch area, along with his troop, Troop 157 of Niceville along with representatives of the Butler Student Council last February. Materials were donated by area businesses, organizations and individuals.



Scouts clean up school

Cub Scout Pack 556 of Niceville cleaned up 17 bags of rubbish at Plew Elementary School Feb. 9 during their 2nd annual Adopt-A-School project. Pictured, Jeffrey Hall II, Timothy Hall, Kyle Erickson, Xander Garland, Trey Harvard, Gabe Jacobs, Anthony Joseph, Alex Darrow, Jackson Beck, Ryley Gest, Sam Eiland, Seth Shackelford, Denielle Hall, Jeffrey Hall, Shannon Hildebaugh, Hilda Joseph, Ann Haley, Kevin Darrow, Kelly Eiland and James Jacobs.



Snowbirds make blankets and toys for CAC

Each year the Fort Walton Beach Snowbird Crafters create stuffed animals and blankets as gifts for the Children's Advocacy Center. The visitors come from as far away as Michigan, Canada, Ohio and Minnesota.

In the Service

Air Force Airman 1st Class

Trifon T. Valencia graduated from basic military training at Joint Base S a n Antonio-Lackland, S a n Antonio, Texas.



Trifon T. Valencia

Valencia is the son of Joanaly Gaduang of Layton, Utah and a 2010 graduate of Niceville High School.

WHO'S

From page B-7

state-wide membership of the association.

Billy has been with Bryan Pest Control for over 24 years and is currently the manager of the Niceville branch. Billy resides in Niceville with his wife Angela and daughter Jordyn.



Billy Riley

Amanda Daher, formerly from Niceville, received two awards on March 12 at the Alabama Writer's Forum in Montgomery, Ala. honoring young Alabama writers. She is a 4.0 student and plans to major in journalism.



Amanda Daher

Amanda is the daughter of Shana Harrison of Geneva, Ala. and Steve Daher of Niceville. Maternal grandparents are Paul and Jill Moore, also of Niceville.

CALENDAR

From page B-2

Mainstage Theater at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, to benefit public radio affiliate WUWF.

Tickets are \$35 with a discount for WUWF members and groups. Call or click for tickets at 729-6000 or mattiekellyartscenter.org.

Junior gardeners

All Junior gardeners and their friends are invited to meet at room 3 of the George W. Mitchell Building, next to the Valparaiso Community Library, on March 22 from 9 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. to learn about entering in the youth division of Valparaiso Garden Club's flower show, on April 26 at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Kindergarten through high school are invited. For information, email marieharrison@valp.net.

Free concert

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Open to the public, donations are welcome. For more information visit singersofunitedlands.org.

Tea Party meets

The Niceville-Valparaiso Tea Party will meet at Niceville City Hall on March 24, at 6 p.m. The guest speaker will be speaking on the mission of the newspaper.

Classical commentary

At the community classical music study series, "Better Listening," Marie-Claude Bohler will present a multimedia session "Art, Music and Literature in times of War" Tuesday, March 25.

"Better Listening" programs combine commentaries on classical music and related CD selections. The programs will be held each Tuesday evening through March 25 from 7-9 p.m. at the Unitarian Church Fellowship Hall, 1295 Bayshore Drive, Valparaiso. All sessions are free and open to the public. No reservations required.

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Yard Sales

Multi-family yard sale. Kildare Cir. Saturday March 22nd. 8am-2pm. Looking for deals? Check the classified section every Wednesday in the Beacon.

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Miscellaneous

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Beacon photo by Sarah Clauson

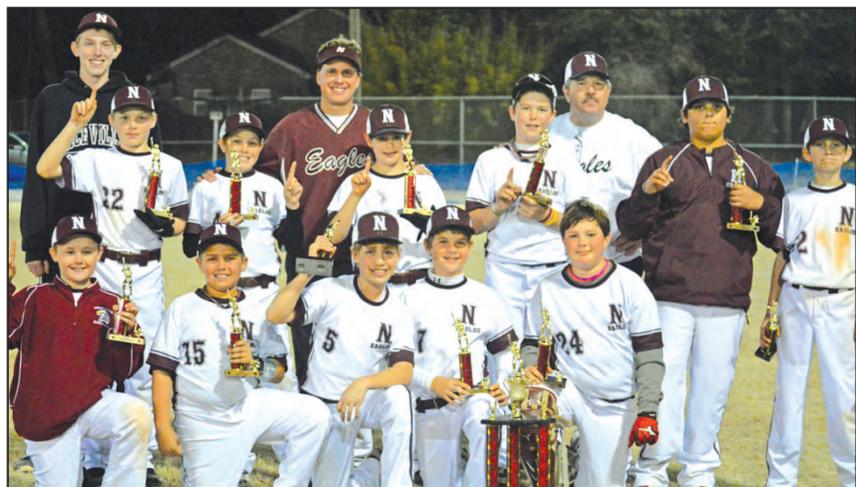
NHS girls flag football wins first game

The inaugural Niceville High School girls flag football team won the first game of their first season March 13 with a score of 15-7 against Crestview High School. Pictured, Eli Craft outmaneuvers the opposition and runs the ball. Their next game will be Thursday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m. in Fort Walton Beach against Choctaw High School.



Ruckel boys take county soccer championship

Ruckel Middle School boys soccer won the county championship game 2-1 on Feb. 13 against Liza Jackson Preparatory School at Twin Oaks Field, Niceville. Their record at the end of the season was 10-0. The team scored 42 goals total and was only scored on five times in the entire season.



Traveling Eagles win Presidents Day Classic

The Niceville 11U Traveling Eagles are the new champions of the Eagles Presidents Day Classic after winning a tournament held in Niceville Feb.15-16 with a score of 34-5. In the championship game, they defeated the Navarre Nemesis 2-0. Pictured from top row left, Garrett Norman, Jason Marquardt and Manager David Garner. Second row from left, Keagen Norman, Trey Wainwright, Kaden Geisler, Cade Johnston, Sam Carrell and Brady Koger. Bottom row from left, Trevor Mee, Brenley Laird, Jay Marquardt, Nathan Tiller and Hayden Hubbard.

Eagle runners compete in Panama City

The Niceville High School track and field team competed in Panama City March 8 at the Rutherford Rams Relays. The Eagles competed against 14 schools to place 3rd for the girls and 2nd for the boys.

"This meet is different than most in that majority of races are relay races," said Coach Jamie LaFollette. "In the individual events, continuing her string of victories, Sophia Bergman placed 1st in the shot put and discus. Kevin Cruz also had another solid day, setting a new school record in the 110 meter hurdles. Placing 2nd were Skyler Joneson in the discus and Caden Ewing in the 1600 meter. Jack Massey and Mia Kirila placed 3rd in the 800 and 100 meter hurdles, respectively."

The girls distance medley team of Drew Haggerman, Cenedy Crum, Claire Crist and Mackenzie Shinnick led off with a victory, said Coach LaFollette, a new school record and just missed the meet record by less than one second. The boy's distance medley team of Jack Massey, Tripp Davis, Nick Morken and Thomas Howell followed with a victory, breaking both the school and meet records.

Girl's results: Mia Kirila, 3rd place 100m hurdles (17.75); Cheyenne Woodard, 3rd place 300m hurdles (52.85); Sophia Bergmann, 1st place discus and shot put (115-02.00, 37-09.00); Skyler Joneson, 2nd place discus (99-02.00). In the 4x800m relay, 2nd place went to Drew Haggerman, Annie Serpa, Claire



Niceville High School's track and field team competed in Panama City March 8. Pictured, Tripp Davis runs ahead after taking the baton from Caden Ewing during the 4x800 meter relay.

Crist and Mackenzie Shinnick (10:11.80). In the 4x400m relay, 3rd place went to Cenedy Crum, Drew Haggerman, Katelyn Friesen and Nickie Anderson (4:20.58).

Boy's results: Caden Ewing, 2nd place 1600m (4:37.89); Kevin Cruz, 1st place 300m hurdles and 3rd place high jump (41.51, 5-10.00); Jack Massey, 3rd place 3200m (10:21.19); In the 4x800m relay, 1st place went to Caden Ewing, Tripp Davis, Thomas Howell and Nick Morken (8:16.91). In the sprint medley relay, 2nd place went to Josh Chord, Alex Boswell, David Bobbit and Tripp Davis (3:45.03).

Personal records achieved by the athletes: M. Kirila, C. Woodard, D. LaFollette, J.

Moreno, K. Cutnaw, E. Mitchell, T. Reece, S. Bergmann, S. Joneson, H. Schroeder, J. Lawrenz, S. Mims, L. Martinez, K. Cruz, B. Higgins, C. Ewing, K. Ferris, D. Bayer, J. Massey, J. Fiske, J. Nodjomian, E. Sheilkoff, H. Boilini, I. Hunter, A. Robbins and A. Baker. Season bests achieved by the athletes: A. Serpa, H. Schroeder and G. Olds.

The Eagles will be competing in Tallahassee at the FSU Relays on March 21-22 and again on March 29 in Pensacola for the Panhandle Championships. For more information on meets or how to support the Eagles track and field program, please visit peanutpie.com.

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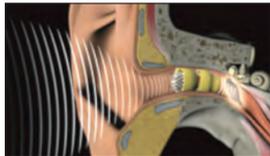
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Former Niceville resident is Alabama state all-star

Amanda Daher, a former Niceville resident and now a Junior at Geneva High School in Ala., is a shortstop on her softball team. Geneva played in the Slocomb, Ala. softball tournament on March 8. She was 7/9 with 2 home runs. As a freshman, Amanda was voted an all-star on the Alabama state team. Amanda is the daughter of Shana Harrison of Geneva, Ala. and Steve Daher of Niceville. Maternal grandparents are Paul and Jill Moore, also currently of Niceville.