

The Bay Beacon

Police Blotter, page A-4

10 Pages, 2 Sections, 5 Inserts

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

50¢

UP
COMING

Fri., 3 p.m.



The **Fine & Performing Arts Division** at Northwest Florida State College will hold its free annual **Spring Honors Recital** in Tyler Recital Hall, Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville. 729-5382.

Sat., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.



The free 7th annual **Choctawhatchee Estuary Family Festival** will be at **Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou State Park** on S.R. 20 near Niceville. No park entrance fee.

Sat., 9 a.m.

The **Lewis School Athletics Department** is hosting a **3 person golf scramble** at Eglin Golf Course to benefit the sports program at Lewis. The cost is \$55 per person/\$165 per team and coed teams are welcome. 974-0450.



Sat., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.



Valparaiso Garden Club is having its free standard flower show **"The Joy and Art of Gardening"** in the fellowship hall of Trinity Presbyterian Church, 44 Southview Avenue, Valparaiso.

Calendar, B-3.

New highway to airport eyed



Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority

A proposed link between Niceville and State Road 123 near the Northwest Florida Regional Airport (in red) has been dropped by the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority, according to the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority. As a result, the bridge authority last week voted to proceed with a highway itself—if found to be feasible—that would link Highway 85 near the airport with the west end of its new bridge connector (not shown on map) just north of Niceville. Unlike the earlier plan, however, a bridge authority highway would not extend all the way to State Road 123.

Would link bridge bypass; funding undetermined

Beacon Staff

The Mid-Bay Bridge Authority is studying whether to extend its recently completed 11-mile connector highway another four miles westward to connect to Highway 85 near the Northwest Florida Regional Airport.

The authority governing board on Thursday voted to go ahead with the project if it finds that the Air Force, through whose land such a highway must pass, agrees to it.

The action came after bridge authority Executive Director Jim Vest told the board that the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority, which had such a highway link in its master plan, has dropped the idea.

The corridor authority estimated the cost of such an airport connector at \$50 million.

Vest told the board that the MBBA has enough funds to conduct the environmental analysis and design needed to help determine the feasibility of such a project. He said the new road, if built, would probably not be a toll road. How the road would be financed was not decided.

The Northwest Florida Regional Transportation Corridor Authority, which last year ranked such an airport connector highest

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

Seeking answers on medical costs

Fire panel seeks savings in law

By **Rich Byrd**
Beacon Correspondent

Efforts to streamline fiscal processes to control costs continued to be the primary focus of the East Niceville Fire District Commission during its monthly meeting on April 14.

Commissioner Tricia Brunson, treasurer, stated concerns that were addressed at last month's meeting related to the fire district's bill-paying process have improved dramatically. Brunson commended Fire Chief Michael Wright on his efforts to work with her to improve the processes and his cooperation in assuming the accounts payable function.

She also expressed her

appreciation to the staff of CPA for working with the district in restructuring accounts payable procedures.

A major area of concentration continued to be health care expenditures. Wright stated he was still in the process of working with Commissioner Matt Schwab on having Rick Simerly, a Fort Walton Beach insurance broker, to conduct a presentation to the commission on the Affordable Care Act, commonly known as Obamacare, to learn more about the various options available in cutting costs.

Wright indicated he was able to get Trustmark/Starmark, current health care insurance

Please see **ANSWERS**, page A-6



Unbeaten Niceville flag football team sets season finale

The undefeated Niceville High School flag football team, 5-0, will play its final game of the season Thursday at Fort Walton Beach. Because this is Okaloosa County's inaugural season for the high school sport, teams are not eligible for postseason title play. Pictured, Niceville slot receiver Eli Craft carries against Choctaw in a home game April 17. Final score was 7-0.

Beacon photo by Sarah Clauson

Niceville council wrestles with bond issue

By **Marcia Anne Sanders**
Beacon Correspondent

The Niceville City Council April 15 approved an ordinance authorizing a \$5.1 million refinancing of water and sewer revenue debt at a lower interest rate than originally obtained by

the city.

Award of the loan was postponed a week, however, after the council was told that the apparent low bidder had withdrawn its offer.

City Manager Lannie Corbin said the money saved by refi-

ancing these loans will be used for water and sewer capital projects but that no particular projects have been earmarked for the funds.

City Clerk Dan Doucet estimated that about \$600,000 would be saved in interest

costs, but exact figures are not known since the lender was not chosen at the April 15 meeting.

Except for a lower interest rate, terms and debt service for the bonds will remain "almost exactly" the same, according to according to Bill Fray of Fray

Municipal Securities, finance adviser to the city. The bonds will mature in different years up to 2030.

The interest rate on the current bonds, which the contemplated loans would refinance,

Please see **BOND**, page A-5

County commission tackles varied agenda

By **Mike Griffith**
Beacon Correspondent

Members of the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) April 15 approved vacating a portion of Nutmeg Avenue in Niceville. They also approved measures honoring Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) personnel and mothers of military members, and a cooperative agreement with the Air Force to take large areas of land out of development in order to protect the county watershed and military missions at Eglin Air Force Base.

Stephen Kennedy, Matthew Smith-Kennedy, Mark Williams and his wife, Kim, petitioned the commission to vacate, or relinquish county rights to, a portion of Nutmeg Avenue right-of-way between Blocks 24 and 25 as platted Valparaiso Realty Company's Pine Crest Addition to Valparaiso, Fl. Sheet No. 9, Subdivision.

The requested area for vaca-

tion lies south of 18th Street and north of Hickory Street measuring approximately 50 feet by 144 feet. After a brief discussion, the county commission unanimously approved the request for vacation. A street was never built on the platted roadway.

Meeting in Fort Walton Beach, commissioners also approved measures to honor explosive ordnance disposal personnel and Blue Star mothers. The commission approved a proclamation declaring May 3 as "Explosive Ordnance Disposal Day" in Okaloosa County. Navy Capt. Bill Noel, commander of the four-service Navy EOD School northeast of Niceville, was on hand to receive the proclamation from the county commission.

On May 3 the names of eight deceased EOD personnel will be added to the memorial.

In a similar move, the commission approved a proclamation

Please see **COUNTY** page A-3



Niceville students do well in state science fair

Students from all sixty-seven counties in the State of Florida gathered in Lakeland for the 59th Annual State Science and Engineering Fair. Bayley McMenimen and Camille Miles, both from Ruckel Middle School, won the Junior Division Engineering category. Niceville High School student Sarah Craig was awarded second in botany. Pictured, the East Panhandle Regional State Finalist Delegation, which included students from Okaloosa and Walton counties.

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Beacon photo by Cheryle Valentine

Early family reunion is 90-year tradition

The Early family has been holding a family reunion every Easter Sunday for at least 90 years, with the first one anyone can remember in 1924. "We've never missed a year," said Steve Early. "We've gathered in the rain and the cold and one year we even had a funeral—we buried my great-uncle that morning, the one that started it all, and had our picnic that afternoon the way he would've wanted it." Pictured above, this year's reunion was held at Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou State Park, Niceville, as it has been for the past half century. Below, one of the first reunions, with Jake and Annie Early, center.



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Pilates is a body conditioning routine that seeks to build flexibility, strength, endurance, and coordination emphasizing control, centering, concentration, precision, breath, and flow. Students must provide their own mats.

Power Yoga — Cynthia McGinnis
(Registration Fee - \$40)

Ref# 90794
May 19 – June 25
Mondays/Wednesdays
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Ref# 90793
June 30 – August 4
Mondays/Wednesdays
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Pilates — Cynthia McGinnis
(Registration Fee - \$40)

Ref# 90791
May 15 – June 24
Tuesdays/Thursdays
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Ref# 90792
June 26 – July 31
Tuesdays/Thursdays
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Zumba Gold/Toning — Gloria Overfield
(Registration Fee - \$20)

Ref# 90784
May 19 – June 30
Mondays
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Ref# 90783
May 21 – June 25
Wednesdays
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Ref# 90785
July 7 – August 4
Mondays
5:30 p.m. – 6:40 p.m.

Ref# 90786
July 2 – July 30
Wednesdays
5:30 p.m. – 6:40 p.m.

Yoga — Rachel Reese
(Registration Fee - \$20)

Ref# 90790
May 20 – June 24
Tuesdays
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Ref# 90789
May 15 – June 19
Thursdays
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Ref# 90787
July 1 – July 29
Tuesdays
5:30 p.m. – 6:40 p.m.

Ref# 90788
June 26 – July 31
Thursdays
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.



For Information contact: **Amanda Barker • (850) 729-6085 • www.nwfsc.edu**

All classes are held in Building T, Room 314, Niceville Campus

EA/EO

COUNTY

From page A-1

establishing the month of May as "Blue Star Mothers of America Month," and authorized the Blue Star flag/banner to be flown on county flagpoles annually during May. "Blue Star" mothers are those who have sons or daughters currently serving in the armed forces. "Gold Star" mothers are those whose sons or daughters have been killed in action.

At the request of county water and sewer director Jeff Littrell, the BCC authorized the BCC Chairman to execute a "Cooperative Agreement between the county and the United States of America acting by and through the Secretary of the Air Force."

The agreement was described by Littrell as "a \$200,000 Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) grant to go towards land acquisition of a Shoal River buffer, which benefits both the Air Force (Duke Field flight path) and Okaloosa County (watershed protection for future water supply). The Cooperative Agreement also consolidates this new REPI grant with three previous REPI agreements."

According to documents provided by Littrell, "The attached agreement is indirectly related to future water supply planning for Okaloosa County. This agreement further formalizes the partnership between the County and Eglin AFB. Both entities have the same objective of being protective of the environment, specifically north of Duke Field and south of Interstate 10."

According to the county documents, because of Duke Field's flight path, "Eglin would like to limit development in this area and create a natural buffer. Specifically, sound attenuation is an issue that would affect the public, and light pollution is an issue that would affect the various military missions at Duke Field."

"This buffer area," Littrell wrote, "is in the same vicinity that the Board and OCWS have been committed to utilizing for future water supply. We are currently at the land acquisition stage in order to secure land to be used for an offline reservoir, water treatment plant, wetlands mitigation, and associated infrastructure such as pipelines, pump stations, an intake structure,



Beacon photo by Mike Griffith

Navy Capt. Bill Noel, commander of the Navy EOD School, received a proclamation from the Okaloosa County Commission, represented by Commissioner Dave Parisot, declaring May 3 "Explosive Ordnance Disposal Day." The annual EOD Memorial ceremony will be held that day at the school northeast of Niceville.

ture, and the needed utilities. The REPI grant funds cannot be used for acquisition of land for the offline reservoir. Other grant funds will be used for the reservoir property. The benefit to the County is that the land acquired with these REPI funds can be used for expanded watershed protection for future water supply, as well as additional acreage for wetlands mitigation, access, and utilities."

"In August 2011, the BCC approved and executed the first Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) for \$500,000. In January 2012, the BCC approved and executed another REPI Agreement for \$200,000. In January 2013, the BCC approved and executed the third REPI Agreement for \$200,000. The current agreement under consideration is for further Air Force REPI money in the amount of \$200,000 to be used for a land purchase for buffering and environmental conservation in the same Shoal River vicinity."

"Okaloosa County's 'match' is another \$200,000 Defense Infrastructure Grant (DIG), which has recently been awarded and is expected to go to BCC for approval in the next 1-2 months."

"The three previous REPI agreements were each titled 'Agreement for a Deed of Easement'. The Air Force views these as individual purchase agreements; they now desire to consolidate and replace these three agreements into one new agreement, titled a 'Cooperative Agreement'. This Cooperative

Agreement also makes another \$200,000 of REPI funding available; the total of all REPI funding is now \$1,100,000."

After hearing from Littrell, the board approved the cooperative agreement and authorized the BCC Chairman to execute subsequent cooperative agreement related documents and any future modifications.

Also at Littrell's recommendation, the BCC approved a proposal to advertise and hold a public meeting at the May 20, 2014 BCC meeting to discuss and to vote on approval for OCWS to self-perform construction on a new force main and repump station near Eglin Air Force Base.

Also during the meeting, Okaloosa Sheriff Larry Ashley thanked county facilities maintenance staff for their help in renovating Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office (OCWS) facilities.

In a related matter, the BCC approved a budget transfer in the amount of \$100,000 to be used to fund the DAG design services contract for the sheriff's new Shalimar building and other incidental engineering expenditures.

The BCC had previously approved a Design Services Contract with DAG in the amount of \$80,000 for the Sheriff's new Shalimar building at the April 1 BCC meeting. However, no funding source was identified at that meeting.

In other business, the BCC approved Memorandums of Agreement (MOA) with the Florida Department of Health in

Okaloosa County. The MOAs, which were tabled at a previous BCC meeting to allow time for coordination with county staff, allow the Florida Department of Health to use the Emerald Coast Convention Center and the Boardwalk on Okaloosa Island as "Points of Distribution" (PODs) for distributing medicines and other medical supplies to the public during public health emergencies such as epidemics or mass-casualty disasters.

The BCC also authorized the waiver of park permit fees for all non-profit and not-for-profit organizations. According to background material presented by county staff members, "Many not-for-profit and non-profit organizations have limited funding available for activities that benefit the public and exclusive use of Okaloosa County parks and recreational areas by individuals and organizations requires a permit fee."

The commission approved the proposal by a 4 to 1 vote, with the dissenting vote cast by Commissioner Wayne Harris. Harris said he prefers to grant such waivers on a case-by-case basis rather than granting a blanket waiver to all "nonprofit" organizations. Some nonprofit organizations, he said, employ thousands of people and handle millions of dollars in revenue, as do for-profit corporations.

In other business, the BCC unanimously approved a resolution encouraging the national Marine Fisheries Service to adopt and implement, on an expedited basis, a mandatory electronic catch data reporting system for the monitoring of red snapper and other managed species in the Gulf of Mexico aboard fare carrying vessels. Further, said the resolution, the fisheries service should explore other options for the collection of data in the recreational fishing sector to provide greater accountability.

The resolution was requested by Commissioner Kelly Windes, who is also a charter fishing boat captain. He said an electronic catch data reporting system will provide more accurate data to state and federal regulators who set annual limits on the length of fishing seasons and the number of fish that may be caught by commercial fishing vessels, charter boats, and individual fishermen. Such regulations have long been a matter of controversy between regulators and the various types of fishermen.

Transportation Commission.

Vest replied that about five or six years ago, the legislature put a number of transportation authorities under monitoring by the Florida Transportation Commission. At that time, the MBBA would probably have been included, but for an "oversight" that occurred at the time. He said the MBBA has never had any objections to being included, and that such inclusion would not diminish the MBBA's authority over its bridge or connector road operations, but merely means that annual reports on such operations would have to be provided to the Florida Transportation Commission.

HIGHWAY

From page A-1

among the 36 highway projects in its master plan, is scheduled to meet Thursday in Destin.

In other action Thursday, the Mid-Bay Bridge board examined a draft budget for fiscal year 2015. The proposed new budget calls for total operation and administration expenses of \$18,664,500 in FY 2015—up from \$16,992,035 in FY 2014.

The increase in expenses is chiefly due to debt service, which would rise nearly \$1 million, to \$14,313,000.

Capital expenditures, however, are expected to decline from \$6 million in FY 2014 to \$2 million in FY 2015, as construction of the Mid-Bay Bridge Connector route came to a close early this year.

The budget discussed at last Thursday's meeting was tentative, and board members will have time to review it prior to their next meeting, scheduled for 9 a.m. May 15, at Niceville City Hall, at which time the MBB Board is expected to vote on a final version of the budget, which will then be presented to the Okaloosa County Commission for review in June.

Assistant Executive Director Rolin Saylor told the bridge board members that construction continues on a new bridge being

built along Rocky Bayou Drive, with one lane of the new bridge now open to traffic. The bridge will replace a culvert that currently runs under the road, and is one of several environmental mitigation projects being

financed by the MBBA in return for being allowed to build the Mid-Bay Bridge Connector through Air Force controlled land.

In other business, Vest told the MBBA board that toll-paying traffic along the Mid-Bay Bridge Connector has grown steadily since it opened in January, when 3,577 vehicles used the new road. That number rose to 4,270 in February, the first full month

of connector road operation, and climbed again to 5,395 in March. An unknown number of vehicles use the highway's free sections.

Traffic over the bridge itself has also increased slightly, said Vest, from 1,065,772 vehicles in Feb. to 1,393,451 in March. The March figure is 0.03 percent higher than the 1,388,772 vehicles that crossed the bridge during March 2013.

Vest was asked during the meeting whether the MBBA's stance has changed on bills currently moving through the Florida Legislature that would add the MBB Board to the list of transportation entities "monitored" by the Florida

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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

Valparaiso police arrested Leslie Ian Johnson, 30, unemployed, of 356 Illinois Ave., for one count of burglary to a structure. The police report stated that between March 17 and March 18, Johnson entered the fenced area of Okaloosa Gas without permission, and removed several items including two extension power cords, a spool of copper wire, scrap metal and a wheelbarrow and put them in the woods. The value of the items is approximately \$509.

A witness observed Johnson loading a 100 foot orange extension cord into a green Chevrolet with a Florida handicap tag. The witness used his cell phone to obtain a photo of the vehicle leaving the scene. The witness also identified Johnson from a photo lineup.

On April 7 Danielle Nicole Knab, 28, of 1493 Cedar St., Niceville, was booked into the Walton County Jail for DUI. She was released later the same day.

On April 8 Joshua Timothy Nelson, 36, of 390 Edge Ave., Valparaiso, was booked into the Walton County Jail for probation violation (felony).

On April 8, Niceville police arrested Tucker Raymond Robinson, 23, 1115 Rita Lane, Niceville, for one count of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription (methamphetamine).

The arrest occurred after a firefighter working at the scene of a traffic crash observed Tucker wandering around in the middle of the crash scene, in which Tucker had not been involved, appearing to be under the influence of something.

The firefighter pointed Tucker out to a police officer who contacted Tucker to see why he was wandering through the crash scene. Tucker appeared to be under the influence of a narcotic,

swaying and having trouble forming complete sentences. The officer asked Tucker if he had anything illegal on him, and Tucker paused and began to dig in his pockets. He pulled some items from his front right pants pocket and then quickly shoved the items back into his pocket. The officer asked Tucker what he was trying to hide.

Tucker had attempted to put a small white dental floss container back in his pocket. The officer asked Tucker what was inside it, and Tucker said it was Xanax. Tucker said he did not have a prescription for Xanax. The pills had no identifying markings, and will be sent to FDLE for analysis. Located in Tucker's front right small pocket was a piece of cellophane tied in a knot. When the knot was untied, the officer located a small amount of crystal-like substance which tested positive for methamphetamine.

On April 9, Niceville police arrested Amber Elizabeth Wojciechowski, 24, of 611 29th St., Niceville, for one count of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription (methamphetamine), and one count of knowingly driving while license suspended or revoked.

Wojciechowski was involved in a traffic crash on April 8. During the investigation of the crash, she stated that she was attempting to make a left turn from State Road 20 onto the southbound lane of Redwood Avenue.

Wojciechowski failed to notice another vehicle headed east on State Road 20, and collided with that vehicle. She then stated that she operated her vehicle knowing that she did not possess a valid driver license. Upon release from Twin Cities Hospital, she entered the Niceville Police Department in reference to retrieving her Florida identification card.

Wojciechowski was placed under arrest on the license charge. A search and inventory of her possessions by a Niceville officer yielded an unknown substance which later tested positive for methamphetamine.

Okaloosa seeks fugitives

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



Wanted As Of: 04/22/2013
VOP-Aggravated Stalking
Name: Ronald Westley Lewis
Sex: Male Race: Caucasian
Age: 25 DOB: 03/29/1989
Height: 5ft 10in Weight: 160 lbs
Hair: Brown Eyes: Blue



Wanted As Of: 03/27/2013
Grand Theft & Contracting without a License
Name: Mark Robert Fitzgerald
Sex: Male Race: Caucasian
Age: 39 DOB: 03/08/1975
Height: 6ft 0in Weight: 180 lbs
Hair: Unknown Eyes: Unknown

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)

On April 10, Randolph Allen Kenly, 38, of 222 Owen Street, Niceville, was booked into the Walton County jail for probation violation (felony).



On April 11, Niceville police arrested Jamie L. Hodge, 24, 1762 Hinote Rd., DeFuniak Springs, for one count of driving while license suspended or revoked, habitual offender, one count of providing a false name to a law enforcement officer, one count of marijuana possession under 20 grams, and one count of violation of probation based on an out of county warrant.

The arrest occurred after a Niceville officer observed Hodge driving a pickup truck with a brake light extinguished. The officer conducted a traffic stop and made contact with Hodge, requesting his driver license, registration and proof of insurance. Hodge said he did not have an ID on him at the time. The officer asked if he had a valid driver license and Hodge said he did not think so, because of unpaid tickets.

Hodge provided the officer with the name of another person, but stuttered when providing that information, and did not know his social security number. He was given multiple opportunities and still provided the same information. He eventually said that he had never been issued a driver

license.

He was arrested, and during the search of his person a partially smoked marijuana cigarette fell from an L&M cigarette pack which the officer pulled from Hodge's front left pocket. Hodge admitted that this item was marijuana, and it later tested positive for THC. He was transported to the Niceville police station, where he initially refused to be photographed. An officer advised him that he would be photographed at the Okaloosa County jail, along with having his fingerprints taken.

At that point, Hodge admitted that his name was Jamie Lee Hodge, and provided his correct date of birth. Police ran that information and discovered that he had an active warrant out of Walton County for violation of probation. He is also a habitual traffic offender, having been placed on that status on March 5, 2014.

On April 13 Niceville police arrested Suzanne Lee Imbruglia, 48, a dog groomer, of 1611 26th Street, Apt. G, Niceville, for one count of resisting an officer without violence. At 2:58 a.m., an officer responded to a report of a disturbance at 1611 26th St. Upon arrival, the officer saw Imbruglia walking up the stairs at that address. He ordered her to come back down the stairs. She said, "No," and kept walking up the stairs.

The officer then grabbed her wrist and escorted her to the bottom of the stairs, as Imbruglia was yelling and using vulgar language. She was asked to quiet down, but refused to do so. Another officer arrived on scene to assist. Imbruglia then tried to walk away. An officer ordered her to stop, but she continued. Both officers then grabbed her by her wrists and placed her up against the wall of the building and applied handcuffs, placing her under arrest.

On April 13 Niceville police arrested Joanne Marie Nichols, 53, unemployed, of 413 Paradise Road, Niceville, for one count of larceny/pettit theft, first-degree, more than \$100 but less than \$300. The arrest was made on an Okaloosa County warrant stemming from an incident on Feb. 25. On that date, an officer was dispatched to 411 Paradise Rd., where complainants stated that Nichols had stolen their cat and threatened to snap its neck.

Nichols, when contacted by police, admitted to taking the cat and putting it into her bathtub. She told police that she did not threaten to kill the cat, and further stated that she gave the cat food and water. An officer requested Nichols to return the cat to the complainants, or face being arrested for the theft of the cat. Nichols refused to return the cat.

On April 13, Niceville police arrested Michael Gavin Quinnell, 20, a restaurant shift manager, 9 Kelly Way, Valparaiso, for one count of resisting an officer without violence, one count of possession of marijuana less than 20 grams, and one count of possession of drug paraphernalia.

The arrest occurred after a police officer observed Quinnell driving a vehicle with a broken taillight. The officer observed

Fire Department Reports

Niceville

The Niceville Fire Department responded to the following calls from Apr. 14, 2014 through Apr. 20, 2014.



0 Structure Fire	23	Emergency Medical Calls
1 Vehicle Fire	3	Vehicle Crash
0 Other Fire	0	Vehicle Crash with Extrication
0 Illegal Burn	3	Other Emergency Calls
0 False Alarms	1	Hazardous Conditions

Street	Situation	Date	Time
Sean Ln.	Medical	4/14/14	02:59
S. Palm Blvd.	Medical	4/14/14	03:38
Twin Cities Blvd.	Medical	4/14/14	09:21
Coral Dr.	Medical	4/14/14	11:13
Twin Cities Blvd.	Electrical problem	4/14/14	11:32
Kazmira Ct.	Medical	4/14/14	18:02
Ivy Ave.	Medical	4/14/14	19:47
W. John Sims Pkwy.	Vehicle fire	4/14/14	21:29
23rd Street	Medical	4/14/14	23:51
Deer St.	Medical	4/15/14	04:49
Everglade Dr.	Medical	4/15/14	06:02
Ellis Ave.	Medical	4/15/14	10:17
Reeves St.	Medical	4/15/14	16:49
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	4/15/14	16:59
Woods Dr.	Medical	4/15/14	18:23
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	4/15/14	19:01
Coconut Palm Cir.	Medical	4/16/14	08:24
Bayshore Dr.	Vehicle crash	4/16/14	13:58
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	4/16/14	17:45
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	4/16/14	18:04
Christy Dr.	Service call	4/16/14	20:32
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	4/17/14	08:09
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	4/17/14	11:37
Reeves St.	Cancelled en route	4/17/14	23:58
N. Partin Dr.	Vehicle crash	4/18/14	10:49
Pontevedra Ln.	Medical	4/18/14	11:28
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	4/18/14	14:05
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Vehicle crash	4/18/14	16:00
29th Street	Medical	4/19/14	17:23
29th Street	Medical	4/19/14	17:23
Edgewater Dr.	Alarm activation	4/20/14	01:15

Weekly Safety Tip: Use or store flammable products (e.g. pesticides, fertilizers, paint, gasoline) away from any source of heat or flame. Never smoke near flammable liquids. Like the Niceville Fire Department on Facebook

North Bay



The North Bay Fire Department responded to the following calls from Apr. 14, 2014 through Apr. 20, 2014.

Street	Situation	Date	Time
Hagen Ct.	Medical	4/14/14	07:43
Twin Cities Blvd.	Fire	4/14/14	11:35
Pine St.	Medical	4/14/14	13:54
N. White Point Rd.	Medical assist	4/14/14	14:57
Marina Cove Dr.	Medical assist	4/14/14	20:11
Berringer Dr/White Point	Service call	4/15/14	06:22
Wren Way	Medical	4/15/14	12:57
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	4/17/14	08:03
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	4/17/14	15:40
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	4/17/14	18:48
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	4/18/14	08:20
Alligator Point	Medical	4/18/14	11:17
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	4/18/14	18:03
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	4/18/14	23:58
Prestwick Dr.	Medical	4/19/14	11:24
E. Hwy. 20	Dispatched & cancelled	4/19/14	16:39
N. White Point Rd.	Dispatched & cancelled	4/19/14	19:11
E. Hwy. 20	Medical	4/20/14	02:54
Jamaica Way	Public assist	4/20/14	11:28
Baywind Dr.	Medical	4/20/14	18:18

Visit northbayfd.org for more information.

Quinnell make an abrupt left turn into the driveway of an address on Reeves Street without using a turn indicator.

The officer contacted Quinnell in his vehicle, and smelled the odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. Quinnell was asked to get out. He initially refused by saying, "No, I would rather sit here," and remained in the vehicle. The officer again told him to get out, and he again refused. Quinnell finally exited the vehicle.

When the officer told Quinnell that he was going to pat him down for weapons, Quinnell began to pull away from the officer. The officer handcuffed him after a struggle.

The officer began to search Quinnell's pockets, but Quinnell attempted to reach inside a pocket and said he did not consent to the search.

The officer asked Quinnell how much marijuana was in the vehicle and he replied, "about a gram." A search of the vehicle revealed a small clear bag containing a green leafy substance, which later tested positive for THC. Also located was a grinder and a small glass pipe containing burnt marijuana.

On April 13, Niceville police arrested Madison Barrett Blome, 18, a life guard, 204 Parkwood Circle, Niceville, on one count of aggravated child abuse with serious injuries. The arrest was made on an Okaloosa Circuit Court warrant stemming from an incident on Jan. 18, 2014, in which Blome allegedly struck a 14-year-old boy with a clenched right fist to his nose and left eye, and beat his head.

The juvenile victim sustained a concussion and a fractured orbital bone near his left eye. The attack was apparently over the victim breaking Blome's skateboard. Blome stated that he acted out of "stress" and "punched him out of anger."

On April 13, Niceville police arrested a 16-year-old male for one count of resisting an officer with violence, and one count of resisting an officer without violence.

At 1:07 a.m., an officer observed the subject lying on Redwood Avenue with another

male. The officer pulled up near them in a clearly marked patrol vehicle, placed his spotlight on the subjects, and they got up and began to walk behind the apartments located on Kazmira Court.

The officer yelled to both subjects to stop, and identified himself as a police officer. The subjects began running through the apartment complex, and the officer chased them between buildings and through the parking lot. The officer saw both subjects running along 27th Street, and one ran back into the apartment complex, and jumped the fence toward 27th St. The officer located the arrestee on 27th St., hiding in the bushes next to a chain-link fence. The officer ordered him out of the bushes. He complied, but when the officer told him to get on the ground, he said, "Why?" and did not comply.

The officer grabbed the subject in an attempt to affect the arrest. The subject turned toward the officer and pushed his body back from the officer, who eventually managed to force him to the ground and apply handcuffs. The subject said he ran because he was out past his probation curfew.

Other

On March 29, an Okaloosa County deputy responded to a report of a burglary at an address on Bluewater Blvd., Niceville. The case status is pending.

On April 3, an Okaloosa deputy responded to a report of theft at an address on Olde Post Road. The victim stated that she believed someone had stolen her phone. On April 8, the alleged victim informed police that she had located her phone.

On April 3, an Okaloosa deputy responded to a report of grand theft at an address on Meadow Woods Lane, Niceville. The case status is pending.

On April 4 a Walton County deputy responded to a report of child abuse or neglect. After some investigation, the case was closed as unfounded.

On April 4, an Okaloosa deputy responded to a report of battery at an address on Pine St.,

Please see BLOTTER, page A-5

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What do you think about loosening restrictions on gun possession by troops on US military bases?

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"The more experienced people could be authorized to carry weapons."

Benjamin Lusk, 23, Mossy Head, cart associate



"It would be more beneficial for more troops to carry weapons than not."

Gloria Price, Niceville, retired civil servant



"They should. If you're old enough to risk your life for everybody, then you're responsible enough to have a weapon."

Shelby Rodriguez, 20, Eglin Air Force Base, contractor



"If we're able to defend this country with weapons on foreign lands, we should be allowed to defend ourselves at home."

Dale Trainer, 47, Freeport, retired Air Force



"After everything that has happened, I think it would be a good idea."

Jessica Jones, 29, Choctaw Beach, homemaker



"The same rules should apply to them that apply to us."

John Marshall, 35, Valparaiso, store clerk

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

BOND

From page A-1

ranges from 3.7 percent to 4.3 percent.

The city obtained bids from five banks, each offering different interest rates and other expenses. According to city documents, the true interest cost offered by these banks (including expenses) ranged from 1.95 percent from FNBT.Com Bank, Fort Walton Beach, to 3.17 percent with SunTrust Bank, Atlanta.

Trustmark National Bank, Jackson, Miss., offered a bid with 2.58 percent true interest cost. JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., New York, offered 2.8 percent. Branch Banking and Trust Company, Winston-Salem, N.C., offered 3.07.

Fray presented the bids to the city council but told them that FNBT.Com Bank, the apparent low bidder, "came back and said they would not make the loan."

Fray added, "The attorneys have tried to do everything they wanted."

City Council Member Sal Nodjoman asked why FNBT.Com Bank had apparently withdrawn its bid.

Niceville City Attorney Dixie Dan Powell replied, "The bid process is an offer and an acceptance. They just informed us that they weren't going to make this

loan."

When asked how much of a difference in savings the city would experience with FNBT.Com Bank's original offer and the second-place bidder, Trustmark Bank, Fray said it was about \$276,000.

Nodjoman said, "I have a problem with this." He went on to say, "This is not trivial. As far as I'm concerned this is \$276,000 of taxpayer dollars."

When asked why FNBT.Com Bank might be rescinding its offer, Fray said that the bank's representatives told him that terms of the bid had changed.

Fray said that the city had asked FNBT.Com Bank to consider increasing the size of the loan to increase the city's savings. However, Fray said, this did not change the terms of the

original bid solicitation.

Fray asked the board to consider the second place bidder, Trustmark. "The city's going to come out very well on this, no matter what," he said.

Fray said that the city needs to complete the refinancing by month's end. He said the council should award the contract to a bank at its next meeting.

After the meeting, Powell said of the offer from FNBT.Com Bank, "Once we have that commitment, it usually goes through." He added, "We're going to look at all the options."

A city council meeting to consider the matter further was scheduled for April 22 at 6 p.m., after the Beacon's press deadline. Doucet last week indicated that bid negotiations were continuing.



Bill Fray

BLOTTER

From page A-4

Niceville. The case was closed after the alleged victim dropped charges.

On April 5 Okaloosa deputy responded to a report of battery at an address on State Road 20 in Niceville.

On April 7, an Okaloosa deputy responded to a report of battery at an address on Cat Mar Road. After some investigation, the case was closed as unfounded.

On April 8, Niceville police received a report of an identity theft. A man reported that some-

one else had filed a fraudulent income tax return using his social security number.

On April 9, an Okaloosa deputy responded to a report of theft at an address on Glendale Circle, Niceville. A resident reported that his camera had been taken from a bench on the front porch of his residence during his absence.

On April 9, an Okaloosa deputy responded to a report of battery at an address on Marina Cove Drive in Niceville. Based on conflicting stories between the parties involved, the case was closed without an arrest.

On April 10, a Walton County deputy responded to a

report of criminal mischief at an address on Eastern Street, Freeport.

On April 10, an Okaloosa deputy responded to an address on Sandalwood Court in Niceville regarding a report of identity theft. The complainant reported that when he attempted to file his 2013 tax return, he learned that someone else had already filed a return using his social security number.

On April 12, Niceville police responded to an address on Cottonwood Court regarding theft. The complainant reported that someone had taken a long-board from his front yard during the previous night.

On April 13, Niceville police responded to an address at the Wildwood apartments on Kelly Road regarding a report of the theft of a toolbox from a pickup truck.

On April 14, Niceville police responded to a report of the theft of some computers at the Walmart Supercenter.

On April 14, Niceville police responded to an address on Marquette Street regarding the theft of a cell phone the previous night at Tisa's Friendly Inn.

On April 14, Niceville police responded to an address on Kildare Circle regarding a report of some stolen checks.

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Niceville's Newspaper

ANSWERS

From page A-1

provider, to continue its coverage and eligibility through next year. Additionally, he discussed the federal law's health care insurance option with the district's agent, Floyd Schweppe.

Wright said he was told by Schweppe that although total cost to the district would be less, under the Affordable Care Act the firefighter's co-pay and deductibles would increase significantly. The commission agreed that it was a prudent action to hear ACA options presented by Simerly.

Wright reported that the fire engine that had been out of commission due to repairs has been returned and is back in service. Unfortunately, the final repair invoice was \$2,000 over the previously received estimate of \$3,000. He stated that a thorough review of the invoice would be conducted and hoped

to negotiate a reduced rate. A full report would be provided at the next meeting.

Commissioner Ed Dunbar presented a proposal to assess the possibility of securing a line of credit with Peoples National Bank in order to provide a fund reserve. He stated the commission uses its operational reserve

which is at \$90,000 for fiscal year 2013-14, to fund operations during the transition from fiscal year to the next, while the district awaits the new year's tax receipts.

A decline in the operational fund balance could result in a delay in meeting payment actions such as payroll in the

early months of the new fiscal year. The line of credit would ensure fund availability to preclude any funding limitations.

Chairman Michael Marcolongo concurred with proposal recommendation and asked Dunbar to research this option and present findings to commission.



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Advertising Feature

The Boathouse Landing, in Valparaiso, is a relaxed waterfront dining experience for everyone to enjoy. Whether dining with the family, a cozy meal for two, or a place to unwind with a few friends, the Boathouse Landing has something to offer every dining occasion.

The Boathouse Landing has been family owned and operated by Nick and Lisa Sarra since 2001. They offer lunch and dinner, 7 days a week, and specialize in fresh seafood, steaks, and pastas. The menu covers an array of savory dishes to suit most tastes.

With the cold weather finally behind us, the deck overlooking Boggy Bayou is the perfect place to relax with friends or family. You can watch the shore birds and dolphin while you eat, or enjoy live music on the weekends down on the waters edge in the Patio Bar.

It is also a great time to try out some new menu items like Steak Diane or Bronzed Mahi topped with Crawfish Étouffée. The Boathouse has also

expanded their salad selection to include Steak or Chicken Caesar and a new Fried Crawfish Tail appetizer as well.

For those dining on a tight budget, Early Bird Specials are offered Monday through Sunday from 4:30-6:00 p.m. One delectable Early Bird entrée is the Pecan Crusted Catch of the Day, which is a pan sautéed white fish crusted with chopped pecans, topped with a honey cinnamon sauce then served with rice pilaf and vegetable medley. Another entrée is the Chicken Piccata, which is a pan sautéed chicken breast topped with a lemon caper cream sauce and served with rice pilaf and vegetables. Beef Tenderloin Medallions are another mouthwatering choice topped with marsala mushrooms, these melt-in-your-mouth tenderloins are served with red skinned potatoes and a vegetable medley. Other Early Bird choices are Fried Gulf Shrimp and Shrimp Étouffée.

Being located on Boggy Bayou in Valparaiso, the Boathouse Landing is very



Inside and outside dining is available at The Boathouse Landing Restaurant, both sharing a spectacular view of Boggy Bayou.



close to Eglin Air Force Base making it an ideal location for a quick and delectable lunch. If you're planning a retirement or going-away celebration, the Landing provides a menu of fast, delicious lunch options. The Boathouse Landing's banquet room can be reserved to accommodate small gatherings of people all the way up to large events of 75 or more.

The Bilge Pub offers two ways to unwind after a day of work or play, with a comfortable lounge inside, and a covered outside patio and oyster bar. Oysters on the half shell are available in the lounge. Enjoy a half dozen with your friends and favorite happy hour drink. The Bilge Pub offers happy hour Monday through Saturday, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. with various drink specials served daily.

Live music performed Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoon adds to the

dining experience and can vary from country and soft rock, to island grooves. Occasionally, a dining patron may even catch a glimpse of dolphins swimming through the waters of Boggy Bayou while listening to an island Reggae beat.

The Boathouse Landing also rents boat slips on a nightly and monthly basis. Slips are available for diners who choose to come in by water for a meal.

Mother's Day is May 11 and Father's Day is June 15, and they are both fast approaching. There is no better way to celebrate these spring and summer holidays than on the deck with family and friends. On special occasions like these, it is recommended you make reservations ahead of time.

The Boathouse Landing is located at 124 John Sims Parkway in Valparaiso. Call the restaurant at 678-2805 or visit their website at www.theboathouselanding.com.

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38th Saturday in the Park Entertainment Schedule

- 8 a.m. Rocky Bayou Christian School Chamber Choir.
- 8:30 a.m. A Dance Studio.
- 9:15 a.m. 5k Race Awards.
- 10 a.m. "The Joy & Art of Gardening" flower show at Trinity Church Hall, Valparaiso.
- 10 a.m. Emerald Coast Pipes & Drums.
- 10:30 a.m. Terri D. - Native American Flutes.
- 11:15 a.m. Clayton Lancaster.
- 11:45 a.m. Emerald Coast Chorus.
- 12:15 p.m. Angels & Vixens
Burlesque Review.
- 1 p.m. Backyard Garden Exhibit Dedication
- 1:30 p.m. Old Fashioned Contests.
- 2:30 p.m. Pyramid Players.
- 3 p.m. All Star Twirlers.
- 3:30 p.m. Lewis Jazz Band.

Saturday in the Park to mark 38th year

The Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso, will host the 38th Saturday in the Park Heritage Festival April 26 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. This is a family friendly event with something for everyone.

Before the festival opens in Perrine Park, there will be an invocation and flag raising ceremony with the National Anthem presented by the Rocky Bayou Christian School Chamber Choir at 7:45 a.m.

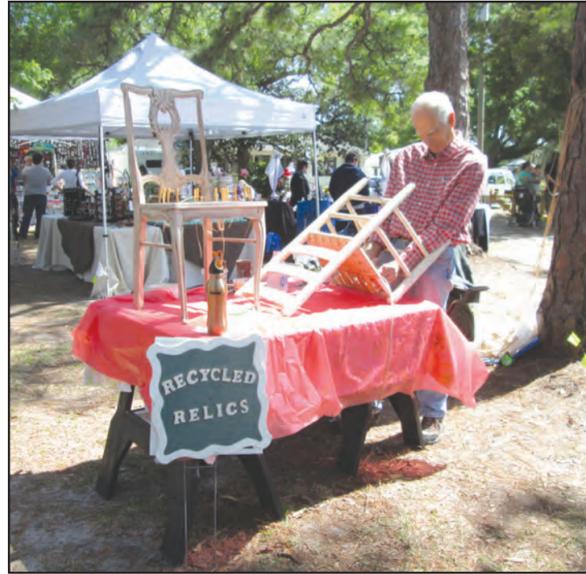
The event officially kicks-off at 8 a.m. when the Walton Guard Civil War Re-enactors fire their rifles to signal the start the Heritage 5k Fun Run/Walk.

Visitors will enjoy a variety of live entertainment under a covered tent with plenty of seating. Performers include choirs, bands, dancers and baton twirlers. There will be historic craft demonstrations including bobbin lace, chair caning, weaving and blacksmithing. Re-enactors include the Walton Guard, Shire Phoenix, Union Rebels and Panhandle Pioneer Settlement from Blountstown. There will also be plenty of art, craft and antique vendors to

browse along with "The Joy & Art of Gardening" flower show presented by Valparaiso Garden Club. There will be festival foods, raffles and a Kid Zone with old-fashioned toys, games and contests.

Saturday in the Park supports the Museum's mission to promote the rich heritage of Northwest Florida and will offer free museum admission all day. Kids will enjoy the Discovery Room and there will be a bake sale along with special deals in the Gift Shop. At 1 p.m. the Valparaiso Garden Club will hold a dedication for a new garden exhibit in the museum's backyard and the winner of the "Name that Garden" contest will be announced.

There will be plenty of handicap parking and a golf cart shuttle service from Lincoln Park. Craft vendor space is still available. The Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida is a private non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the past for the future. For more information call 678-2615.



Vendors and demonstrators will be on hand at the 38th annual Saturday in the Park event in Perrine Park, Valparaiso, across from the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida.

Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith



State Homecoming Queen finalist

Claire Gunter, Rocky Bayou Christian School's 2013 Homecoming Queen, was recently selected as a finalist for Florida's 34th annual Homecoming Queen Selection to be held May 4 at Lake Buena Vista in Orlando. America's Homecoming Queen, Inc. is a non-profit organization promoting education and community service for high school homecoming queens in all fifty states.



The new garden exhibit behind the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida in Valparaiso has been made possible through a cooperative community effort. Pictured from left, some of helpers, Connor Lynch, Brenda Jordon, Izabella Foreman, Marie Harrison, Mackenzie Davis and John Harrison. The student helpers are all Rocky Bayou Christian School seniors in the Junior Classical League.

Museum adds garden as living exhibit

By Angela Yuriko Smith
Beacon Staff Writer

The Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida and the Valparaiso Garden Club have worked together to create a new living exhibit behind the museum that will be dedicated during the annual Saturday in the Park April 26 at 1 p.m.

The winner of the "Name that Garden" contest will also be announced Saturday along with

the garden's official new name during the ceremony. The winner will receive a \$100 gift card as a prize.

Various groups that have contributed funding as well as in kind donations include Landon Wise of Wyscape Landscape Contractors who built the raised beds, Eagle Scout Andrew Royal who built trellises and benches, members of the Rocky Bayou Christian School Junior Classical

League who did soil amending work and planting, John Harrison, Walmart, Ace Hardware, the City of Valparaiso and volunteers from the garden club.

In addition, Marie Harrison and Brenda Jordon, both on the Board of Directors for the Valparaiso Garden Club, co-chaired the project. The Valparaiso Garden Club also held

Please see GARDEN, page B-2

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Partial List of Plants for Pollinator Garden

Perennials

Beach sunflower for nectar and native importance.
 Black-eyed Susan for nectar and native importance.
 Blanket flower for nectar and native importance.
 Butterfly weed to attract the Monarch butterflies.
 Canna to attract the Brazilian Skipper butterflies.
 Coreopsis for nectar.
 Cuphea for nectar.

Herbs and vegetables

Basil for nectar.
 Beans to attract the Long-tailed and Silver-spotted Skipper butterflies.
 Cabbage, Mustard, Broccoli to attract the Cabbage butterflies.
 Corn for historical importance.
 Dill to attract the Black Swallowtail butterflies.
 Fennel to attract the Black Swallowtail butterflies.
 Mexican mint marigold for nectar.
 Parsley to attract the Black Swallowtail butterflies.



Pictured, the raised beds built by Landon Wise of Wyscape Landscape Contractors. Members of the Rocky Bayou Christian School Junior Classical League did soil amending work and planting.

GARDEN

From page B-1

two fund-raisers for the garden, raising approximately \$2,000 for materials.

"The garden is in its infancy," said Harrison. "But we believe it will be a very worthwhile addition to our community."

Here is a statement of goals for the garden from the Valparaiso Garden Club:

—To educate the public regarding historical herbs by installing an herb garden, labeling the herbs, and preparing a script for docents, museum personnel, and volunteers.

—To educate about historical plants by labeling and preparing a script and handout

discussing the historical trees on site.

—To grow vegetables in a demonstration plot to use as a teaching tool for home gardeners.

—To familiarize the public with native shrubs suitable for their landscapes by installing several on the premises, labeling them, and preparing a script to familiarize visitors with the native plants and their value to wildlife and Florida friendly gardening practices.

—To introduce and promote Florida's wildflowers by establishing a wildflower plot within the garden.

—To provide plants for the pollination and habitat of our native butterflies.



Edge K-Kids donate

Edge Elementary K-Kids worked to put together care packages for the residents of Twin Cities Pavilion. Jean Pulley, left, the K-Kids advisor for the Kiwanis Club of Niceville-Valparaiso, delivered the packages to Tammie Harrel, the activities director at Twin Cities Pavilion. This is just one of a number of projects that the K-Kids do for the community each year.

Engagements

Brown-Jackson

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Jackson of Niceville announce the engagement of their son, Patrick, to Meredith Anna Brown. Anna is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Brown of Montgomery, Ala. The wedding will take place May 3 in Montgomery, Ala. where the couple will reside after a honeymoon in the Dominican Republic.



Meredith Anna Brown and Patrick Jackson

RUNNERS

From page B-4

Bergmann won 1st place in the discus and shot put (116-02.00, 37-05.00); Skyler Joneson won 2nd place in the discus (98-00.00);

Hannah Schroeder won 3rd place in the triple jump (33-00.75); Kevin Cruz won 2nd place in the 110m hurdles and long jump, 3rd place in the 300m hurdles (15.09, 5-10.00, 41.22); Nick Morken won 1st place in the 1600m and 800m (4:21.61, 2:01.31); Thomas

Howell won 2nd place in the 1600m and 3200m (4:21.83, 9:48.58); Josh Chord won 2nd place in the 400m dash (52.51); for the boys 4x400m relay Alex Boswell, Isaiah Denman, Josh Chord, David Bobbitt won 3rd place (3:36.48);

in the boys 4x800 relay Jack Massey, Tripp Davis, Thomas Howell, Nick Morken won 1st place (7:59.34); Tripp Davis won 2nd place 800m (2:01.46), Jack Massey won 3rd place 800m (2:02.72); Garrett Olds won 1st place discus (139-06.00); Edward

Shelikoff won 3rd place discus (131-08.00).

The following athletes set a personal record: M. Kirila, C. Woodard, C. Crum, R. Cathey, A. Boswell, C. Johnson, K. Cruz, M. Shinnick, J. Moreno, D. LaFollette, A. Martin, J. Fiske, A.

Boswell, C. Johnson, R. Sorenson, N. Escoffier, T. Gunger, T. Hamer, J. Nodjoman, K. Ferris, R. Giordano, J. Lawson, D. Bobbitt, D. Drake, K. Stephensen, E. Mitchell, J. Massey, L. Martinez, G. Olds, E. Shelikoff, H. Boilini and H. Schroeder.

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Egg hunt rescheduled

The City of Valparaiso has rescheduled their annual Easter egg hunt at Lincoln Park to April 26 with the first egg hunt starting at 9 a.m.

Children will be split up into four age categories—3 and under; ages 4-6; ages 7-9; and ages 10-12. The youngest group will hunt first, then each age group will follow after the next in 20 minute intervals.

Parents of children ages 3 and under are allowed to help their children during the hunt. The only other parents allowed on the field in the other age groups will be those of special needs children.

on Thursday April 24 at the American Legion Post 235, 105 S.W. Hollywood Blvd., beginning at 6:30 p.m. with a social hour and dinner at 7 p.m.

Okaloosa County Administrator Ernie Padgett will be the guest speaker. Price for dinner is \$15 and includes drinks and gratuity. All invited. For more information or to RSVP call Club President Don Adams at 586-1325.

Jewelry benefit

The Auxiliary of the Twin Cities Hospital will host a Masquerade \$5 Jewelry and Accessories Sale on Thursday, April 24 from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. and on Friday, April 25 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Hospital Wellness Center. All proceeds benefit the Auxiliary Health Care Related Scholarship Fund. For more information call the gift shop at 729-9481.

Honors recital

The Fine & Performing Arts Division at Northwest Florida State College will hold its annual Spring Honors Recital on Friday, April 25 at 3 p.m. to showcase the most successful NWFS student performances of the semester in Tyler Recital Hall, Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville. The event is free of charge and open to the public.

For information, contact the NWFS Fine Arts Office at 729-5382.

Artistic evening

Plew Elementary School's 10th annual Evening of the Arts, "A Starry Night Celebrating a Decade of Art Delight," will be on Thursday, April 24 from 5-8 p.m.

Free and open to the public, the show features student classroom galleries, a gallery store, a school spirit store, both a silent and live auction and refreshments.

Embroiderers meet

The Sand Dunes Chapter of Embroiderers' Guild of America will have their evening meeting Thursday, April 24 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in room 400, First United Methodist Church of Niceville. Visitors are welcome. 496-3466.

Parrot Heads meet

The Emerald Coast Parrot Head Club will have their "Monthly Phlocking" Friday, April 25 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Crust Pizzeria, 104 Harbor Blvd., Hwy. 98, next to AJ's parking lot.

Cheer clinic

Pre-Tryout Clinic for Ruckel Cheerleaders will be April 25 from 6-9 p.m. Cost is \$25. For more information call Coach Brittan Waldhour at 833-4142.



Plew to celebrate decade of arts

Plew Elementary School's free 10th annual Evening of the Arts, "A Starry Night Celebrating a Decade of Art Delight," will be on Thursday, April 24 from 5-8 p.m. Pictured, young artists whose work has been selected for a fundraiser calendar, Abby Bassham, Isabella Fuller, Haley Gilbert, Ronald Gurney, Maddie Hinze, Jazlynn Kealoha, Lauren Littlefield, Olivia O'Hara, Cameron Olsen, Conner Pugh, Sierra Schindler and Meg St. John.

2014
Beacon
CALENDAR

E-mail items to info@baybeacon.com before 5 p.m. Wednesday.

Give blood

Give blood on Wednesday, April 23 at Niceville United Methodist Church, 214 Partin Drive from 3 p.m.-8 p.m. All donors will receive a t-shirt.

Women's health program

The Florida Department of Health in Escambia County invites women to attend "For Peace of Mind" on Wednesday, April 23 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Niceville Community Center to learn about breast and cervical cancer facts, the HPV vaccine and available assistance for mammogram and pap screenings. Free giveaways and light refreshments.

Please call Jessica at 595-6637 or the Library at 279-4863 x 1504 to reserve a seat.

Republicans meet

The Okaloosa County Republican Club will host their monthly meeting

Dance Facets

The Northwest Florida State College dance students and faculty showcase their talents in jazz, ballet, modern and classical dance during a two day dance concert experience, "Dance Facets," on Friday, April 25 and 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the mainstage theater of the Mattie Kelly Arts Center on the Niceville campus. Proceeds benefit student scholarships and program support through the Frances Smith Herron Dance Studio Endowment.

Tickets are on sale now in-person or by phone or web for \$20 adult and \$15 youth from the center's Box Office.

Call 729-6000 or purchase online at MattieKellyArtsCenter.org. All ticket sales include a \$2 per ticket Box Office processing fee.

Saturday in the Park

The 2014 Saturday in the Park Heritage Festival will be held on Saturday, April 26, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso.

The 38th annual Saturday in the Park will feature the Heritage 5K Run/Walk and kids fun run. Kid Zone, re-enactments, traditional craft demonstrations, live entertainment,

old-fashioned games, toys and contests, craft and food vendors and more family fun. Admission is free.

For more information or to register, visit the museum's web site at heritage-museum.org or call 678-2615.

Flower show

Valparaiso Garden Club announces the opening of its standard flower show, "The Joy and Art of Gardening" on April 26 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in the fellowship hall of Trinity Presbyterian Church, 44 Southview Avenue, Valparaiso. Featured will be 36 floral designs plus 12 artistic crafts exhibits, photographs and work by youth gardeners. A guided tour through the show will commence at 10 a.m. The public is invited and admission is free.

Golf scramble

The Lewis School Athletics Department is hosting a 3 person golf scramble on April 26 with a 9 a.m. shotgun start at Eglin Golf Course. The cost is \$55 per person/\$165 per team and coed teams are welcome. Registration includes lunch and prizes and gifts after the scramble. Hole sponsors are also needed at the cost of \$100. The tournament will benefit the entire sports program at Lewis School.

For more information contact Jimmy Harrison at 974-0450 or visit the school website at okaloosaschools.com/lewis.

Family festival

The 7th annual Choctawhatchee Estuary Family Festival will be April 26 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou State Park on S.R. 20 near Niceville with T-shirt printing for kids, the chance to operate an underwater remote vehicle and more.

The Choctawhatchee Audubon Society will also be having an educational event from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. with games for kids and demonstrations on the use of binoculars and scopes for birding and nature watching. No park entrance fee and the event is also free.

Tea Party meets

The Niceville-Valparaiso Tea Party will meet at Niceville City Hall on Monday, April 28 at 6 p.m. Paul Lux, Okaloosa County Supervisor of Elections, will be the guest speaker on how to be a candidate.

Author signing

Robin Wiesneth, children's book author and artist, will be at Artful Things, 1087 John Sims Parkway, Niceville, on

April 29 from 4-6 p.m. to autograph her book, "Tails of Imagination." There will be light refreshments.

Embroiderers meet

The Sand Dunes Chapter of Embroiderers' Guild of America will have their day meeting Monday, April 28 from 9:30 a.m.-noon in room 400, First United Methodist Church of Niceville. Visitors are welcome. 496-3466.

Student art show

The Okaloosa County School District and the Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation will present the free 2014 Okaloosa County K-12 Student Art Show April 30 and May 1 from 9 a.m.-7:00 p.m. at the C.H. "Bull" Rigdon Fairgrounds/Northwest Florida Fairgrounds in Fort Walton Beach. This annual event exhibits over 2,500 pieces of student artwork from over 20 elementary and 17 middle and high schools. A reception will be held on May 1 from 6-7 p.m. Best of Show awards will be presented to middle school and high school artists for 2-D and 3-D works.

For more information, please contact the Okaloosa County School District at 833-3100 or the Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation at 650-2226.

Alzheimer's support group

A support group for those affected by Alzheimer's will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 30 at the Niceville United Methodist Church, Chandler Center, 214 S. Partin Drive. The support group is free and limited respite care is available, reserve in advance by calling 866-478-7790.

National Day of Prayer

The Twin Cities Ministerial Association will host this year's annual National Day of Prayer event on the front steps of Niceville City Hall, 208 N. Partin Drive, Niceville, on Thursday, May 1 at noon. For more information call 678-1611 or visit the National Day of Prayer website at nationaldayofprayer.org/events/.

Youth council seeks jeans

The City of Niceville Youth Advisory Council is sponsoring a Jean Drive which began Monday, April 21. Jeans of all sizes will be collected to give to the appropriate charity. Look for drop boxes at the Niceville Public Library, Water Department and Niceville High School.

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BEACON CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: 2:00 p.m. Fri. for Wed.

MAIL: Beacon Newspapers, 1181 E. John Sims Pkwy., Niceville, FL 32578. Please enclose check.
E-MAIL: Classified@baybeacon.com Type "Classified" in subject field. (Do not include credit card information. We will call you for credit card info. \$5 processing fee.)

DRIP IN: The Bay Beacon, 1181 E. John Sims Pkwy., Parkway East Shopping Center. Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. M-F. After hours, use mail slot in our door.

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

First Word					
					\$11.00
	\$11.20	\$11.40	\$11.60	\$11.80	\$12.00
*Base price includes \$5 weekly discount for walk-in or mail-in prepaid ads. Please make checks payable to the Beacon Newspapers. Ads are non-refundable.					
50% DISCOUNT FOR ADDITIONAL WEEKS OR PAPERS.					
(Indicate number of weeks to publish ad) _____ Bay Beacon _____ Eglin Flyer _____ Hurlburt Patriot					
Name _____	Phone _____	Price of First Run\$ _____			
Address _____		+ Price of subsequent runs \$ _____			
		= Total Price\$ _____			

Lewis plays Shoal River

Lewis School girls softball lost to Shoal River Middle School in a home game April 16. Pictured, Rhianna McGuiness prepares for a pitch.

Beacon photo by Sarah Clauson



Spring Savings Event
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DERMATOLOGY SURGERY CENTER
Dr. Scott Beals
Board Certified American Board of Dermatology
4566 Hwy. 20 East, Suite 101, Niceville

Niceville runners take 2nd in Panama City

The Niceville High School track and field team competed in the district meet held in Panama City on April 16. Both the boys and the girls teams took 2nd place overall, having competed against five other schools. Some of these athletes will continue on to compete in the regional meet held in Tallahassee on April 24.

"Twenty athletes and five relays placed in the top four and qualified for the 3A Region 1 meet," said Coach Jamie LaFollette. "Leading the way for the girls' team was Aubrey West with three individual victories. Sophia Bergmann also won both the shot put and discus and set a meet record in the shot put. Also winning for the girls was the 4x400 relay team. For the boys, Nick Morken won both the 800m and 1600m and Garrett Olds won on the discus. The boys 4x800 relay team was

victorious."

Results are as follows:
Aubrey West won 1st place in the 100m dash, 200m dash and long jump (12.69, 27.15, 16-08.50); Cheyenne Woodard won 2nd place in the 300m hurdles (50.89); Claire Crist won 2nd place in the 3200m (11:52.19); Nickie Anderson won 2nd place in the 400m dash (1:02.45); Cenedy Crum won 3rd place in the 400m dash (1:02.79); girls 4x100m relay Aubrey West, Montavia Hunter, Camryn Crum, Jaylah Lawson won 2nd place (51.37); girls 4x400m relay Nickie Anderson, Drew Haggerman, Cenedy Crum, Jaylah Lawson won 1st place (4:18.36); girls 4x800m relay Claire Crist, Mackenzie Shinnick, Nicole Escofier, Drew Haggerman won 2nd place (10:03.36); Sophia

Please see **RUNNERS**, page B-2

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Healthy Learning for Life



Managing Stressors and Pressures

Friday, May 9th | 11:30 a.m.

Joy Makela, LMHC, LSP, NCC

Twin Cities Hospital Wellness Center | 2190 Highway 85 North, Niceville

Stress has been listed as a risk factor for multiple illnesses. Join us for a healthy lunch and learn when Joy Makela teaches us how to handle the stress and pressures experienced in every day.

Assessment and Management of Sickle Cell Disease

Tuesday, May 13th | 12 p.m.

Rita Paschal, MD, Assistant Professor in the Division of Hematology and

Oncology, University of Alabama at Birmingham Health System

Fort Walton Beach Medical Center, 3rd Floor PCU Classroom A

1000 Mar Walt Drive, Fort Walton Beach

Join Dr. Paschal to learn more about the assessment and management of Sickle Cell Disease.

Free Vein Screening: Symptoms and Treatment of Venous Disease

Tuesday, May 13th | 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Ginger Manos, MD

Fort Walton Beach Medical Center Outpatient Waiting Area

1000 Mar Walt Drive, Fort Walton Beach

Does leg pain slow you down? If you are one of the many people for whom even a short walk can be painful, the problem may be your veins. Join Dr. Manos for a free vein screening and learn about the benefits of vein treatment.

Stretch and Relax Your Way to a Healthy Heart

Friday, May 23rd | 11:30 a.m.

Jo-Ana Chase, PhD, APRN-BC

Twin Cities Hospital Wellness Center | 2190 Highway 85 North, Niceville

Join us to learn more about Yoga and the benefits it offers for individuals living with or trying to prevent cardiovascular disease from Nurse Practitioner and Yoga Instructor, Jo-Ana Chase.

Ovarian Cancer

Wednesday, May 28th | 11:30 a.m.

Jennifer Seaton, MD, OB/GYN

Fort Walton Beach Medical Center, 3rd Floor PCU Classroom A

1000 Mar Walt Drive, Fort Walton Beach

Join Dr. Seaton as she discusses risk factors, diagnosis and treatment of Ovarian Cancer.

Complimentary lunch will be provided; reservations are required.
Call Consult-a-Nurse at 855-614-7274 to reserve your seat today!

For more information about our seminars and events, follow us on social media!



FWBMC.com



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Text ER to 23000 for average ER wait times

Wait is defined as the time of patient arrival until seen by a qualified medical professional.

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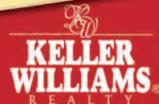


this summer in your very own sparkling pool! Combined with a separate cabana, you'll enjoy summer fun and so much more at **222 Antiqua Way** in Bluewater Bay. This 1850 SF, 3/2 ranch is feature-filled and ready for YOUR family! \$289,900



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4534 Hwy 20 East, Bluewater Bay (Merchants Walk)
Each office independently owned and operated.



7th Annual Choctawhatchee Estuary Family Festival

A family & community event for all ages!



Saturday, April 26, 2014 • 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou State Park, Hwy. 20 Niceville

Fun activities, hands-on displays & environmental awareness. Learn about the local waters of our estuary and the people living & working there.

Activities for all ages:

- T-shirt printing – kids print local fish designs on a take home shirt!
- Operate an underwater remotely operated vehicle (ROV)!
- Explore the deep ocean and learn about critters that glow-in-the-dark!
- Learn how to paddle board or take a kayak tour in the bayou (limited space available)
- View wildlife displays, learn about our local environment and more!!
- Participating events and displays by the Okaloosa County Health Department, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge, Audubon Society, Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance and others.

FREE OF CHARGE! NO PARK ENTRANCE FEE!

MATTIE M. KELLY
CULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTE
AT NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

www.mattiekellyinstitute.org

See website for all event sponsors and program updates or to sign up to volunteer at the event!

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