

The Bay Beacon

Police Blotter, page A-4

10 Pages, 2 Sections, 7 Inserts

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

50¢

UP COMING

Wed., 10 am.

Alzheimer's Family Services will hold a free support group for family members or friends coping with a loved one with Alzheimer's disease at the **Niceville United Methodist Church**, 214 S. Partin Drive. 866-478-7790.

Thurs, 1 p.m.

The **Twin Cities Seniors Club** will have its free **annual birthday party** at 268 Glenview Avenue, Valparaiso. Entree provided, please bring a dish to share. Area seniors welcome. 543-0869.



Tues., 2 p.m.

The **Valparaiso Community Library** welcomes teens and tweens ages 12-17 to their free **Gamers Club**. Wii and Gamecube games will be played. No sign up required. 729-5406.



Tues., 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Chamber volunteers and members dress as famous music idols and serve lunch at the **The Niceville Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce's Rockin' Chamber Luncheon**, One 20 A Modern Bistro, Niceville. All tips collected will be donated to a local charity. Open to the public, registration required. Tickets \$25 each. 678-2323.



Bluewater MSBU eyes 5% tax increase

By Marcia Anne Sanders
Beacon Staff Writer

Bluewater Bay property owners will see a 5 percent increase in their assessment for the Bluewater Bay Municipal Services Benefit Unit next year. For homeowners, the annual tax will rise to \$63, from \$60, under a measure adopted by the MSBU board of directors on a 3-2 vote July 1.

The increase is expected to bring in about \$14,700 more revenue in fiscal year 2014-15.

The MSBU's tentative budget for the fiscal year that will begin Oct. 1 will total about \$374,000, up 8.1 percent from the current year's \$345,900. Officials said that the budget is subject to change at a meeting scheduled for July 15.

The elected MSBU board oversees maintenance of "common area" landscaping and certain signs in the Bluewater Bay community.

Chairman of the MSBU board Steve Hall said the tax

increase was needed to fund a new master plan for the community's appearance. "We set a goal at the beginning of the year for unified signage, colors, flowers, tree style—the stuff that ties the community together—but we haven't made much progress. We need money to make a plan," Hall said.

At almost \$273,000, nearly 73 percent of the budget will go to community services, which includes the MSBU's landscape contract, irrigation, common area

enhancements and the master community plan. This represents an increase of about 35.7 percent over last year.

Under community services, the landscaping contract takes up \$214,000, while another \$24,000 will be for landscaping irrigation, which is twice as much as last year. Common area enhancements will be about \$17,700.

About \$28,600 will go to professional services, \$24,000 of which is for management fees.

Insurance takes up another \$6,400. Utilities is another \$24,500. Licenses and fees will be \$10,500.

During the 6 p.m. meeting following the workshop, there was also discussion of the \$50,000 in contingency funds collected over the years because all but about \$10,000 of it will be used in the next year for projects.

However, Okaloosa County has \$86,000 for the MSBU. **Please see INCREASE, page A-5**

Fabulous Fourth



The weather was perfect at the annual Independence Day celebration at Lincoln Park, Valparaiso, Friday. There were plenty of activities for kids, including a watermelon-eating contest, a sack race, relay races and a tug of war. "This is the best weather we've ever had for this," said Valparaiso Mayor Bruce Arnold, master of ceremonies.

Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

Niceville 'blue laws' at issue

By Rich Byrd
Beacon Correspondent

A proposal to ease restrictions on the sale and consumption of alcohol in restaurants was discussed by the Niceville Planning Commission last week, but no action was taken.

The monthly meeting of the planning commission convened on July 1 to review submitted building code issues that were presented for consideration.

One of the two issues on the agenda generated a spirited discussion.

The primary focus of the meeting centered on a request by Ruckel Properties Inc. for an easing of city ordinance 09-04-01, Alcohol Sale and Consumption, Sections 3-2 and 3-3.

Ruckel Properties submitted a letter to the city for a proposed ordinance modification to allow restaurants serving full meals to be exempt from the distance requirement from churches, and the current time restriction for sales on Sunday.

Ruckel Properties executive Steve Ruckel stated that the company is looking to attract new businesses to Niceville, but continually encounters one major obstacle regarding restaurants.

The obstacle, Ruckel told the planning board, is a city ordinance requiring restaurants serving alcohol to be at least

Please see ISSUE, page A-2

College sees 12.5% enrollment decline

By Marcia Anne Sanders
Beacon Staff Writer

Northwest Florida State College has suffered a 12.5-percent enrollment decline over the last three years since it hit an all-time high of 7,760 students

in the fall of 2010.

College President Ty Handy said he is expecting more decreases as the population of young people in the area declines in the next 10 years due to demographic trends.

Handy attributes the three-year enrollment decline largely to the recent recovery of the economy because the enrollment decreases followed increases in the years following the 2008 U.S. financial crisis.

When unemployment increases, some people think of going back to school to update their skills or retrain in other fields, he said. Conversely, when employment rises, colleges lose students.

"When times are really good, people don't really think about going to college," Handy said. "When times are tough, people think about it."

"We compete with jobs," Handy said. "So when retailers

and others are doing a lot of hiring, a lot of students will postpone college." He added, however, that many workers realize soon that such jobs may not turn into a well-paid career.

Please see COLLEGE, page A-2

Gaetz talks up Florida's record

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

Florida State Senate President Don Gaetz (R, Niceville), said last Wednesday that Florida's state government compares favorably with those of other states of comparable size and population.

The Dist. 1 lawmaker addressed a breakfast meeting of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association (NWFMOA) in Fort Walton Beach.

Gaetz, who is completing a two-year term as Senate President this year, has two more years to serve in his term as a senator before running up against state term limits. After

that, he said, he has no further political ambitions.

Gaetz told the group of retired and active duty military officers that Florida's government surpasses comparable states in fiscal responsibility.

For example, he said, Florida has recently surpassed the state of New York in population, but has a state budget less than half as large as New York's. New York's extra spending, he said, does not mean that New York state government is "doing twice as good a job."

In fact, said Gaetz, New York has been losing jobs and

Please see GAETZ, page A-3



Sen. Don Gaetz



Summer stuntman

Alex Vargas, 12, doing a front side 180 last week at the Niceville Youth Center on Palm Boulevard. The city-operated center, which features street obstacles, ramps and an air-conditioned snack room, is open to skateboards, inline skates, bikes and kick scooters Thursday through Sunday, 1 p.m. to 8 p.m., at no cost to users. Youths may rent helmets for \$2.

Beacon photo by Marcia Anne Sanders

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ISSUE

From page A-1

500 feet from schools and churches.

Ruckel indicated that the current ordinance has had an impact on "retail leakage" and "loss of opportunities for enhancing economic development."

Ruckel conveyed that the development company has a "number of parcels of land located along John Sims Parkway and other major traffic arteries that would be prime locations for new restaurants." However, he said, many of them are situated near schools or churches and are impacted by the current ordinance.

A modification to Sections 3-2 and 3-3 of Ordinance 09-4-01 would have a significant benefit for economic expansion, he said. Ruckel Properties would like to modify Section 3-2 so that the distance requirement does not pertain to eating places serving full meals, and to modify Section 3-3 to read that restaurants and places serving full meals be able to sell alcoholic beverages on Sunday beginning at 11 a.m., two hours earlier than under current law. The company's letter had proposed an even earlier time, 9 a.m., "because some restaurants offer brunch, with menus including alcoholic beverages such as mimosas and bloody Marys."

Current ordinance specifications for Sections 3-2 and 3-3 state the following:

—Section 3-2, Establishment's Proximity to Church or School, paragraph (a) states that "The sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premise consumption is prohibited by a business located within five hundred (500) feet of a lot or parcel of land on which a school or church is located."

—Section 3-3, Hours of Sale, states "No licensed place of business shall sell any alcoholic beverages, regardless of the alcoholic contents between the hours of 4:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. During any other portion of the



Beacon photo by Rich Byrd

Steve Ruckel, of Ruckel Properties, right, addresses the Niceville Planning Board July 1, seeking an easing of restrictions on the sale of alcohol by restaurants. No action was taken.

day, alcoholic beverages may be sold by licensees except Sunday, when no such beverages shall be sold between the hours of 4:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. All business licensed to sell alcoholic beverages, including but not limited to beer and wine, shall be governed in accord with these provisions."

Planning Commissioner Judy Byrne Riley expressed that the commission "could not approve a blanket general exception or change to the ordinance." However, the commission would be able to more accurately assess the application of the ordinance if a specific location was provided.

Commissioner Fred Jones added that a request for a proposed ordinance modification "would require review and coordination with the city council, as well as review by the city attorney."

Acting Chairperson Vickie Ritchson made it clear that any proposed change to this ordinance or an exception to the

ordinance would also need to be shared with the public. Actions such as newspaper articles would be required to ensure local residents are educated on the issue and to solicit their feedback and comments, she said.

Additionally, use of questionnaires or surveys for potentially impacted entities such as the Okaloosa County School District or churches would be required for their input, Ritchson said.

Ruckel agreed this was a sensitive issue and could create a "community firestorm." But he said "blue laws" are a thing of the past and hinder future economic opportunities.

Given the additional steps in the review process to coordinate this action with the city council, review by the city attorney and notification of residents, Ruckel determined that it would be prudent to withdraw his request at this time, but would pursue with the planning commission once a specific location is selected.

A motion was made to not vote on this issue or provide any recommendation to the city council and to handle with more visibility and seek counsel of the city attorney. The motion was approved unanimously by all commissioners. Further action would not be pursued unless the subject was resubmitted for consideration.

An unrelated planning action involved a request by Andres Santana for a special exception to Land Development Code, Section 7.14.02 (e) (3) to allow for a three-foot side setback, as opposed to the required seven and a half feet. The purpose of the exception is to construct an aluminum carport.

Frankie Revell, Niceville Building Department representative, informed the board that Santana's neighbors to the immediate right and left of his residence had been contacted and supported the exception. The Planning Commission unanimously approved this request.

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COLLEGE

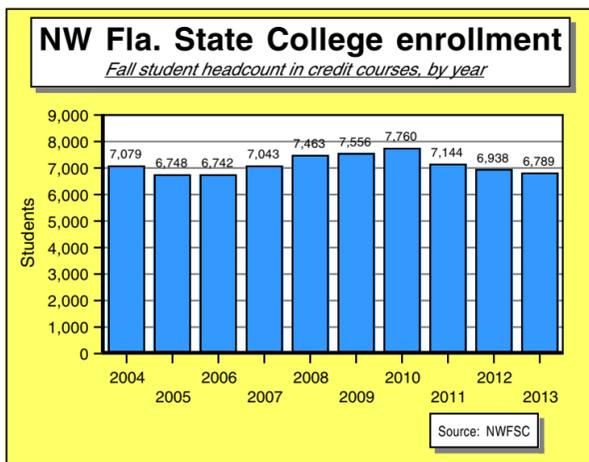
From page A-1

so eventually they do go back to school.

Other factors might be a continuing decline in the amount of state-funded Bright Futures scholarships. The highest Bright Futures scholarships paid 100 percent of tuition in a Florida college or university before 2009-10. Now they pay a fixed amount which is about 62 percent of the \$102.12 credit-hour tuition at NWFSC.

Now, to qualify for a Florida Medallion Scholars award, which accounts for the majority of Bright Futures scholarships, a high school student must have a minimum 1170 SAT or 26 ACT score, substantially higher than the previously required 1020 SAT or 22 ACT. Largely as a result, the number of new recipients of Bright Futures scholarships is expected to plummet 48 percent next year, according to state budget estimates.

Students do have other avenues for funding financial aid. Pat Bennett, the college's director of financial aid, said the amount of federal Pell grants has risen in recent years, and federal education loan amounts have remained substantially unchanged.



comes from tuition and fees that students pay, though much of that is indirectly subsidized by taxpayers and private sources through financial aid. About 58 percent comes from the state.

"That's changed from before the recession," he said. "Back in 2006-07, about 67 percent came from the state. As it dropped, we had to raise tuition."

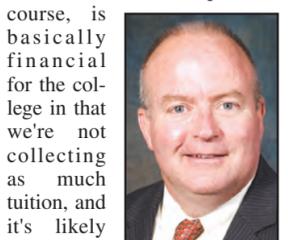
The NWFSC Budget Committee has assumed a one-percent decrease in enrollment in its budget for the 2014-2015 budget year.

According to a forecast by Woods and Poole Economics for the Okaloosa County area, the population of 18- to 24-year-olds will fall about 12 percent over the next six years, reflecting declines in family size of recent decades.

Handy said that new programs are helping to offset enrollment declines. The college has added a bachelor's degree in early childhood education and a technical program in welding. Handy hopes to add more technical programs as funds become available.

However, Handy has said that if the state does not increase funding, then more tuition increases may be on the horizon. Having fewer students may make that even more necessary.

Handy explained what happens when enrollment decreases. "The overall impact, of course, is basically financial for the college in that we're not collecting as much tuition, and it's likely that there will be more sections that don't have enough students in them that we'll have to cancel."



Ty Handy

Handy said he has not had to lay off employees, preferring to freeze hiring. Seventeen vacant positions were frozen with the college adding them back as they can.

Handy said the impact on direct state funding has been marginal. "The state's funding philosophy is not to make dramatic changes up or down regardless of what's up or down."

Since the recession, the amount of funding that comes from the state has dropped. According to Handy, about 42 percent of the college's money

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GAETZ

From page A-1

people in recent years, while Florida has been growing. Other large states have also suffered from their state government's desire to tax-and-spend, said the senator. In Illinois, he said, state legislators have tried to "improve" the state's economy by raising taxes on businesses and job creators. Illinois' pension fund is now insolvent, he said.

In California, said Gaetz, the state is paying its bills in "scrip," the equivalent of IOUs, because California does not have enough real money, despite high taxes.

Florida has its share of problems, said Gaetz, but is doing well compared not only to other states, but also versus the federal government in Washington, DC. There, he said, Congress recently debated for 12 days before finally managing to pass a Mother's Day resolution.

On a more serious note, he added, the federal government recently went for six years without a budget, and finally passed one only after congressmen "added enough pork" to persuade one another to approve it.

In Florida, he said, the legislature has passed a balanced budget and put \$3 billion in reserve, while also passing the largest tax cut in a decade.



State Sen. Don Gaetz, left, greets a constituent after speaking to a group of retired military officers July 2 in Fort Walton Beach.
Beacon photo by Mike Griffith

Gaetz also praised his fellow legislators and Gov. Rick Scott for other measures to improve life in Florida. For example, Gaetz said, he supported recent actions to make Florida more military-friendly.

"Military families and retirees and their families help to build our communities," Gaetz said. Among bills passed to help attract military families to live permanently in Florida after completing their military service, he said, have been measures to help military personnel "crosswalk their military skills and experience into civilian life and employment."

Gaetz said the state government has worked closely with

Workforce Florida and with local chambers of commerce to help recently discharged and retired military personnel make that transition, and the "Florida G.I. Bill" provides for subsidized in-state tuition for military personnel who settle in Florida, thus helping them to earn professional certifications and academic degrees which will help them find jobs and advance their civilian careers.

No other state, he said, has done as much to attract and assist military personnel, and as a result, the unemployment rate among former military people has dropped from 24 percent just a few years ago to below 6 percent. Gaetz said Florida has also

simplified the rules for military physicians and other professionals to have their professional credentials recognized by the state and to begin practicing such professions as civilians with a minimum of delay or red tape.

During a question-and-answer session, Gaetz was asked what he thinks of complaints from some local officials that the state has burdened local governments with "unfunded mandates," raising local costs for providing such services as public education and incarcerating juvenile offenders.

Gaetz said that as a result of recent court hearings and action by the legislature, the state has

Please see RECORD, page A-6

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4 more nabbed in meth crackdown

The Walton County Sheriff's Office arrested two people in Choctaw Beach July 1 as part of "Operation Avalanche," an ongoing investigation and series of arrests of suspected methamphetamine makers, dealers and users.

Glen Mel Hunter, 44, of 73 Eastern St., Choctaw Beach, was arrested for drug production, trafficking in methamphetamine, narcotic equipment possession and conspiring to manufacture methamphetamine, according to sheriff's reports. Hunter procured and delivered red phosphorus, a chemical used to manufacture methamphetamine, according to the reports. Brittany Cecile Via, 24, of 73

Eastern St., Choctaw Beach, was arrested for drug possession and narcotic equipment possession, according to sheriff's reports.

In addition on July 1, Charlie James Rhodes, 35, of 162 Pine Hill Road, DeFuniak Springs, and Sabrina Marie Thompson, 41, of 410 Kings Lake Blvd., DeFuniak Springs, were both charged with conspiracy to produce methamphetamine and possession of listed chemicals used in production of controlled substances, according to sheriff's reports. Thirty arrests have been made in Operation Avalanche, which is expected to result in additional arrests, according to the sheriff's office.



Glen Mel Hunter



Charlie James Rhodes



Brittany Cecile Via



Sabrina Marie Thompson

Fire Department Reports

Niceville

The Niceville Fire Department responded to the following calls from June 30, 2014 through July 6, 2014.

0 Structure Fire	25	Emergency Medical Calls
0 Vehicle Fire	3	Vehicle Crash
1 Other Fire	0	Vehicle Crash with Extrication
0 Illegal Burn	8	Other Emergency Calls
0 False Alarms	0	Hazardous Conditions



STREET	SITUATION	DATE	TIME
26 th Street	Medical	6/30/14	10:08
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	6/30/14	10:13
Meadow Woods Ln.	Cancelled	6/30/14	11:21
N. Cedar Ave.	Service call	6/30/14	11:31
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Vehicle crash	6/30/14	17:11
Minger St.	Medical	6/30/14	20:34
37 th Street	Medical	6/30/14	23:00
W. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	7/1/14	08:06
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	7/1/14	13:57
Ruckel/Forest Rd.	Service call	7/1/14	14:32
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Service call	7/1/14	15:22
Rhonda Dr.	Medical	7/2/14	01:40
Billmore Way	Alarm activation	7/2/14	10:18
37 th Street	Medical	7/2/14	10:58
Ellis Ave.	Medical	7/2/14	11:08
26 th Street	Medical	7/2/14	13:19
Bayshore Dr.	Medical	7/3/14	01:37
Lincolnshire Dr.	Medical	7/3/14	01:42
Bayshore Dr.	Brush fire	7/3/14	07:48
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	7/3/14	08:39
Yacht Club Dr.	Alarm activation	7/3/14	10:01
Abbott Cir.	Medical	7/3/14	11:18
26 th Street	Medical	7/3/14	17:35
Ellis Ave.	Medical	7/3/14	19:31
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	7/4/14	05:05
Plumosa Palm Dr.	Medical	7/4/14	16:59
Crab Island	Cancelled	7/4/14	17:41
SR 85 N/SR 123	Vehicle crash	7/4/14	18:01
SR 85 N/SR 123	Vehicle crash	7/4/14	19:05
S. Cedar Ave.	Medical	7/5/14	02:54
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Service call	7/5/14	12:26
Matt Blvd.	Medical	7/5/14	14:13
22 nd Street	Medical	7/5/14	14:52
Als Drive	Medical	7/6/14	10:46
27 th Street	Medical	7/6/14	10:47
Deer Street	Medical	7/6/14	11:13
Lake Ct.	Medical	7/6/14	20:22

Weekly Safety Tip: **EDITH**, do you know her? Well, it stands for **Exit Drills In The Home**. Everyone needs to practice this exercise prior to an actual emergency so the entire family will know what to do should an emergency occur.

The Niceville Fire Department has a Facebook page, check it out!

North Bay

The North Bay Fire Department responded to the following calls from June 30, 2014 through July 6, 2014.

STREET	SITUATION	DATE	TIME
Flange Rd./Hwy.20	No incident found	6/30/14	10:10
Meadow Woods Ln.	Smoke from bbq	6/30/14	11:24
E. Hwy. 20	Medical assist	7/1/14	08:25
Southlake Ct.	Water/steam leak	7/1/14	09:12
Sardinia Cv.	Public assist.	7/1/14	09:29
Pine Street	Medical	7/1/14	10:12
Marina Cove Dr.	No incident found	7/1/14	11:03
Ida Coon Cir.	Medical assist	7/1/14	14:05
Ida Coon Cir.	Medical assist	7/1/14	19:25
Parkwood Sq.	Medical	7/2/14	10:47
Calinda Ln.	Medical	7/2/14	22:03
Berringer Dr.	Medical	7/3/14	22:51
N. Bermuda Cir.	Dispatched & cancelled	7/5/14	02:01
Sandalwood Cir.	Medical assist	7/5/14	05:51
Westlake Ct.	Dispatched & cancelled	7/5/14	06:12
Mid Bay Bridge	Vehicle accident	7/6/14	21:08

Visit northbayfd.org for more information.

Valparaiso

The Valparaiso Volunteer Fire Department responded to the following calls during the month of June, 2014

LOCATION	SITUATION	DATE	TIME
S. John Sims Pkwy.	Hemorrhage	6/1/14	03:25
Grandview Ave.	Hazmat	6/4/14	13:14
Washington Ave.	Chest pain	6/4/14	22:28
Lewis Turner Blvd.	Fire station moveup	6/5/14	16:13
Montana Ave.	Cardiac arrest	6/6/14	06:02
S. John Sims Pkwy.	Assault/rape	6/6/14	20:57
Valparaiso Pkwy.	Assault/rape	6/7/14	17:46
Valparaiso Pkwy.	Breathing problem	6/9/14	08:00
Hickory Ln.	Unconscious	6/12/14	23:53
Tennessee Ave.	Fall	6/14/14	12:35
Tennessee Ave.	Sick call	6/14/14	17:33
Jackson Ave.	CVA/Stroke	6/15/14	01:31
Hidden Cove Dr.	Sick call	6/15/14	16:07
Edge Ave.	Fire service call	6/16/14	10:32
Edge Ave.	Psychiatric	6/16/14	16:37
Hidden Cove Ct.	Sick call	6/19/14	07:47
Chicago/S. John Sims.	Vehicle fire	6/19/14	16:18
23 rd Street	Vehicle accident	6/19/14	18:00
Azalea Cir.	Sick call	6/20/14	12:10
Royal Palm Dr.	Structure fire	6/22/14	20:39
Washington Ave.	Assault/rape	6/24/14	22:12
Iowa Street	Fall	6/24/14	22:14
Andrew Dr.	Psychiatric	6/27/14	05:59
Hidden Cove Way	Unconscious	6/28/14	14:50
Glen Ave.	Vehicle accident	6/29/14	16:05
Chicago Ave.	Fall	6/30/14	07:11
Hidden Cove Ct.	Psychiatric	6/30/14	08:25
Washington Ave.	Sick call	6/30/14	19:49

Okaloosa seeks fugitives

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



Wanted As Of: 07/07/2014
VOP-Grand Theft, Providing False Information to Pawn Broker & Fraud
Name: Miranda Faye Seagle
Sex: Female Race: Caucasian
DOB: 04/06/1991
Height: 5ft 7in Weight: 140 lbs
Hair: Brown Eyes: Blue



Wanted As Of: 05/15/2014
VOP-Aggravated Battery with a Deadly Weapon, Criminal Mischief & Battery
Name: Larry Neal Brown, II
Sex: Male Race: Caucasian
Age: 35 DOB: 09/08/1978
Height: 5ft 9in Weight: 165 lbs
Hair: Blond Eyes: Green

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)**

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 June 20, Valparaiso police arrested Timothy Jerome Fennell, 54, a painter, 1610 23rd St., Niceville, for one count of being a fugitive from justice.

The arrest was made on an outstanding warrant from the Paulding County Sheriff's Office in Dallas, Ga., on an original charge of forgery, first-degree.

On June 26, Jonathan Tyler Harvard, 20, of 1598 Pine St., Niceville, was booked into the Walton County jail for a misdemeanor probation violation.

On June 28, Niceville police arrested Matthew Allen Conwell, 38, of 300 Madison St., F,

Niceville, for one count of misdemeanor petit theft by defrauding a taxi driver of his services.

Conwell called for a taxicab to pick him up from Papa John's restaurant in Fort Walton Beach, and the cabbie drove him to a residence in Niceville. Upon arrival, Conwell said he had no money to pay his fare. He also broke a window at the residence, injuring his arm and causing him to bleed profusely inside the taxi. Total expenses were \$54 for the fare and \$150 to clean the cab.

On June 26, Niceville police

arrested a 14-year-old boy for fleeing and eluding police and failing to obey a law enforcement officer's order to stop.

Niceville police responded to a request for assistance from Eglin Air Force Base Security Forces regarding two individuals who had fled from Air Force police at Jackson Guard. When Niceville police encountered a suspect riding a bicycle on Niceville Avenue, an officer ordered him to stop, but

the boy fled and was later found hiding in some woods. He was transported to the Niceville police station for processing and later released to a parent/guardian.

DUI

On June 28, Niceville police arrested Michael Allen Lavale, 24, a cook, 304 Reeves St., Lot G-12, Niceville, on an out-of-state warrant for DUI. The warrant

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

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RESIDENTIAL CART DELIVERY NOTICE

In September 2013 the City of Valparaiso Commission passed by unanimous vote Ordinance 646 which, in part, provided for a new method of solid waste pickup from our customers. City garbage trucks have been outfitted with cart tipper. The tipper is attached to the back of each rear loader garbage truck and mechanically dump the contents of the new containers. Each residence is being assigned a 96 gallon cart for use. All regular household solid waste is to be placed in the cart. Once a new cart is received, residents should no longer use their old cans. A flier will be delivered with each cart with some instructions attached, including removal and disposal of any old cans customers wish to get rid of.

The driving force behind the change in pickup method was reducing the risk of injury to employees.

Sanitation crews will continue to provide what is known as "back door" service. Customers may place the new garbage cart at the same location they currently use. Crews will gladly retrieve the cart and dump the waste, then return the cart to its appropriate location. Pickup days remain the same (Monday & Thursday routes and Tuesday & Friday routes). We strive to deliver the best services anywhere.





THE INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER —by Mike Griffith

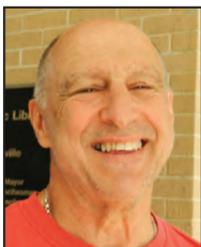
How do you beat the summer heat?

Location: Niceville Public Library and Children's Park



"I live near the beach, so I just go get in the water."

Laurel Laughlin, 20, Navarre, student



"I stay indoors, in the air conditioning."

Sam Hayes, 63, Niceville, retired Air Force



"With a hat, and I play in the water in my bathing suit."

Alera Bryson, 4, Baker



"We come here to the spray park, and swim at the grandparent's pool."

Megan Hayles, 28, Niceville, stay-home mom



"You don't."

Abner Sirmans, Niceville, master auto technician



"Get an umbrella, and play in the water."

Marina Hodges, 7, Destin, Destin Elementary School student

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

BLOTTER

From page A-4

stemmed from a Dec. 22 incident in Ramsey County, Minn.

Other

On June 5 Walton County sheriff's deputies responded to

an address on Kathy Lane in Choctaw Beach regarding a report of petit theft. Several flags had apparently been stolen from the Lake Sharon Estates subdivision.

On June 10 Walton County deputies responded to an

address on Hal St., Niceville, regarding a report of petit theft. A complainant said that someone had stolen the Florida license plate off his boat trailer.

On June 19, Valparaiso police responded to an address on Hidden Cove Lane, where a

complainant said that she had returned home to find her back door was unsecured and the curtains were disheveled. She also noticed that a living room window was unlocked and the screen was loose. She also reported that a computer hard drive was missing.

On June 27, an Okaloosa County deputy sheriff responded to an address on Pine Street in Niceville regarding a report of burglary, in which some fishing equipment had gone missing. After investigating, the officer determined that the fishing

equipment was not stolen.

On June 29, Valparaiso police responded to an address on Washington Avenue regarding a report that someone had entered another person's residence without permission. No arrest was made.

INCREASE

From page A-1

some of which will be used for the addition of sidewalks to Winged Foot Street and for funding the operating budget as well.

MSBU director Jonathan Tallman, who serves as finance director, was one of two votes against the tax increase, saying that residents need to be asked by referendum if they want to pay more money.

Tallman also said there were things that could be cut from the budget, such as website maintenance and hosting fees, advertis-

ing, records storage and meeting room fees. He added that he felt that there may be more resources that the MSBU could use at the county level.

In a statement issued later, Tallman said, "I am disappointed that the board decided to raise the rate by 5 percent. I found several items in the budget that I believe to be wasteful spending."

"I want there to be better parks, signage, sidewalks, landscaping but I think we need to have more public input before raising the tax rate," added Tallman.

Tallman also pointed out that

commercial buildings pay MSBU taxes that are significantly higher than those paid by homeowners. He cited the example of his office, which pays \$1,770 annually, an assessment that will increase by almost \$100 under the measure adopted last week. The Winn-Dixie shopping plaza pays \$4,222 and its assessment will go up over \$200.

MSBU director Felix Beukenkamp also voted against the increase, saying that he felt the planning for the budget should have started earlier and perhaps the board should wait until next year to consider an



Beacon photo by Marcia Anne Sanders

Association manager Darlane Landsberger, left, presents proposed 2014-15 budget to Bluewater Bay Municipal Services Benefit Unit directors, from left, Debbie Stretch, Jonathan Tallman, Judy Griffin and Felix Beukenkamp July 1. Chairman Steve Hall was also present.

increase. In the meantime, Beukenkamp said, the board could take a plan to the homeowners' associations and get their input and buy-in.

Board member Debbie Stretch, who voted for the increase, said that in recent conversations with constituents, she was told that residents wanted more services and would pay higher taxes to get them.

Also voting for the increase

were Hall and Judy Griffin.

Lynne Whittemore, a board member of the Glen Lake Homeowners Association, attended the meeting to find out why litter on Bluewater Boulevard had not been picked up. She also was concerned that there were low-hanging branches of trees along the bike path.

She was surprised by the tax increase, but not alarmed. Whittemore said, "I'm very

happy with what's being done in regards to the sidewalks and the infrastructure. I liked what Steve Hall said about the master plan and taking some of the funds to do that."

When asked what she would think if the master plan would require more funding, she responded that "It would depend on the scope and what the money was going to be used for."

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RECORD

From page A-3

raised its cost share for juvenile incarceration from 43 percent to 50 percent. Gaetz, a former Okaloosa County Superintendent of Schools, also said that the state is doing more to help fund public education, and that county schools, for

example, now receive more state money than ever before.

Asked about the possibility of cutting state sales taxes, Gaetz said that making such cuts could be complicated, as the revenue from state sales taxes are shared between the state and local governments, so that making any cuts would require a "balancing act" between such

entities. He also said that during each session of the legislature, "someone always proposes a state income tax," which is banned by the state constitution.

He said this is something he has fought every year, and that as long as he is in the state senate, "I'll not only vote against it, but I'll throw my body in front of the bulldozer."

Gaetz said that it is important for Florida to maintain as frugal a budget as possible, because, "Giving extra money to politicians is like giving a teenager a red convertible and a whiskey bottle—it won't end well."

Gaetz also said that he opposed a recently enacted bill to provide taxpayer-subsidized in-state college tuition to illegal

immigrants, despite the bill's popularity among other legislators and much of the public. He said he understood the humanitarian concerns behind the measure, but that it is unwise and wrong to reward illegal behavior with state subsidies.

Gaetz said that he is about to end his term as senate president, to which he was unanimously

elected by senate colleagues in November 2012, and that he still has about two years left on his term as a state senator. Following that, he said, he has no further political ambitions.

"I expect to spend more time taking out the garbage and cleaning cat boxes," he said. "I have been in public office long enough. I don't want to die in office."



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and may be costing you money. The likely answer to the problem may not be a bigger air conditioner or heater, but to Aeroseal the leaks in your existing ductwork.

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even the smallest leaks are detected and sealed, keeping your system working at peak efficiency.

Aeroseal is also safe – so much so that it has been used in schools and hospitals throughout the country. The installation process takes less than a day to complete, and no one needs to leave the house or building while it is being done. This summer, One Hour is offering half-off prices on duct cleaning for those customers who also purchase Aeroseal.

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One Hour Air Conditioning and Heating has partnered with Children's Miracle Network (CMN)

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Archery club in Niceville

By Angela Yuriko Smith
Beacon Staff Writer

Many people have seen the wooden sign on Highway 85 just past the Mullet Festival and wondered about the Choctaw Bowmen Archery Range it points to.

The Choctaw Bowmen Archery Club is one of the oldest in Florida and has been in service for over 50 years. Originally they were located on land behind the fence at Eglin Air Force Base, making it difficult for civilians to join.

When the original range became a parking lot two years ago, the bowmen have been able to move to a new range off base

and have welcomed civilian community members of all ages and experience levels. They emphasize teaching safety and hunting skills and members have access to the range to practice on their own time.

Nearly once a month members come together to compete in 3-D tournaments which involves a light hike through the woods to shoot at a series of foam targets shaped like ani-

Please see CLUB, page B-2



The Choctaw Bowmen Archery Club meets regularly at their range on Highway 85 just past the Mullet Festival grounds to practice shooting 3D targets like this one. Pictured from left, Rachel Miller, Kurt Heitman and Tom Farmer zero in on a foam buck.

Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

Who's News

Northwest Florida State College student **Donovan Black** of Niceville was recently recognized as a Music Student of the Month by the Association of Florida Colleges (AFC) from among students at the 28 state and community colleges.



Donovan will appear in the lead roles of "Galahad" and "Black Knight" in the upcoming musical production of "Spamalot" and also appeared in lead roles in past college productions "Les Miserables" and "The Wiz."

Emily Kent, a junior at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, Calif., was named to the Dean's List for the spring semester 2014. She is the daughter of Stephen and Sara Kent, Niceville.



NWFSC selects vice president

Northwest Florida State College President Ty Handy announced that the search committee for the college's new Vice President for Administration and CFO position has selected Randy White of Niceville for the job. White will begin work at the college on Aug. 11.

Dr. Gary Yancey, the current Vice President for Administration, will continue in that role until his retirement on Sept. 11.

White comes to Northwest Florida State College after a distinguished career in the U.S. Air Force. During his career, he served from 2005 to 2008 as the CFO of the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.

He retired from the Air Force last year and is currently teaching financial management courses for Management Concepts Inc.



Randy White



RBCS camps keep kids busy

Rocky Bayou Christian School offers a variety of summer day camps to keep kids busy during the holiday. Pictured students Ava Getchell, 6, Morgan May, 6, and Reajeane Agnew, 12, join their teacher AnnaMaria Goodloe during a Worship Dance activity.

Beacon photo by Marcia Anne Sanders

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Call Nikki Hobbs, 279-3081, for information.

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Registrations

Sat., July 12, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., NHS Cafeteria
Sat., July 26, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. NHS Cafeteria
Cost: \$65

Waiting list after July 26

Bring state-issued birth certificate for players not registered with PAL Soccer in Fall 2013.

Age Group	Birthdates
VIP (Children w/ disabilities)	Aug 1, 95-Jul 31, 10
U6	Aug 1, 08-Jul 31, 10
U8	Aug 1, 06-Jul 31, 08
U10	Aug 1, 04-Jul 31, 06
U12	Aug 1, 02-Jul 31, 04
U14	Aug 1, 00-Jul 31, 02
U19	Aug 1, 95-Jul 31, 00

1. U6 and VIP teams are co-ed. Separate girls' and boys' teams in U8, U10, U12, U14 and U19.
2. Uniforms provided (jersey, shorts, socks for VIP & U6 through U14; shirt only for U19). Players keep uniforms.
3. Accidental medical insurance and registration with Soccer Association for Youth included.

Donate used, good-condition soccer cleats.

Exchange or buy at registrations.

Contact Jody Osborne, 410-404-6799 or jodybosborne@gmail.com.

COACHES NEEDED | **TEAM SPONSORS NEEDED**
Sign up at registration | \$200 for U6 through U14; \$100 for Each Subsequent Team. \$100 for U19

Beginning Referee Course:

Go to fsr-inc.com, "Become a Referee" tab to register.

For info: Howard Hill, 678-2182 or www.nicevillepalsoccer.com



Ministry graduates first class

The first class of Youth Student Investigators recently graduated from the Transformations Ministry's Powered for Life class at Niceville United Methodist Church. The purpose of the class is to work within the community to explore permanent solutions to poverty by empowering individuals. Pictured, the graduating class along with their adult mentors. For more information, visit nicevilleumc/tranformations. The next class for youth begins Sept. 2.

Obituary

David S. Raymond

Sept. 5, 1930-June 28, 2014

All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; and grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever. 1 Peter 1:24-25

David came to Destin from Louisville, Kentucky, in 1990, upon his retirement from Kentucky Fried Chicken Corp., where he served as Vice President of Human Resources and Personnel.

David was born in Omaha, Neb., the seventh of eight children born to James and Lilly

Raymond. David is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Shirley, daughter, Cara A Pecore, two grandsons, Zachary and Seth, two sisters, Elizabeth Marsh of Stillwater, Minn., and Beverly Joy Lauer of Council Bluffs, Iowa, plus numerous nephews and nieces.

David was preceded in death by his son, Kirk Thomas Raymond. Dave attended the University of Nebraska at Omaha, earning a BS degree. While earning his college education, he served as President of Sigma Phi Epsilon, and left for a stint to serve as a member of the United States Air Force during the Korean War. Dave was later honored to serve as National Fund Raising Chairman for the University in 1987.



David Raymond

After a brief retirement, Dave started MUSCO Floor Covering with his son and daughter in 1992. He sold the business in 2005. During that period, he was honored as Business Man of the Year by both the Destin Chamber of Commerce and the Building Industry Association. Additionally, Dave was a Rotarian and a Paul Harris Fellow.

In addition to being active in both community and professional organizations, Dave became a member of Grace Lutheran Church in 1991. Among his greatest pleasures, Dave served as Church President and Building Chairman for Grace Lutherans new Church and Campus. Believing above all else, the relationship with God, family

and friends to be greater than all other achievements.

A celebration of David's life and memorial service will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, 4325 Commons Blvd., Destin at 11 a.m., July 12, with Pastor Kevin Wendt officiating. A luncheon will follow in the fellowship hall.

The family wishes to express their sincerest gratitude to the Doctors and Staff of the Emerald Coast Cancer Center and Covenant Hospice. David's cremation has been entrusted to Heritage Gardens. Expressions of love and sympathy may be made and viewed online at www.heritagegardensfuneralhome.com.

His remains will be interred at Riverview Cemetery in Aurora, Ind. at a future date. In lieu of flowers, Dave wishes that donations be made to the general fund of Grace Lutheran Church.

FREE HEARING PROFILE

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CLUB

From page B-1

The competition is light hearted and fun with a focus on improving individual skills rather than winning.

"Archery is on the upswing," said Craig Whitmier, club president. "A lot of people are getting into it because of the cost effectiveness." A regular membership for an individual is just \$5 a month, and allows access to the range anytime. Members who help maintain the facilities pay even less. A use permit from

Jackson Guard is also required, and costs \$12.

"It's not about strength," said Whitmier. "This sport is more mental than physical." The club has 40 active members ranging in age from just five years old to their oldest member, Tom Farmer, who is 78.

The next 3-D tournament date will be July 26 at the club range located on Highway 85 just past the Mullet Festival Grounds. More information on the Choctaw Bowmen can be found by visiting choctawbowmen.com.

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Moving Sale

July 12, 7-1. Indoor furnishings, outdoor furniture, sewing machine and more. 1722 Wren Way, WBW.

Yoga Classes

Get Fit Emerald Coast is offering yoga classes for all levels. Schedule: Mon. 9:30am and 12pm; Tues. 5:30pm; Fri. 12pm. Location: 323 Page Bacon Rd. Unit 15, Mary Esther. \$6.50/class. Contact: 850-424-6122. www.getfitemeraldcoast.com

Looking for deals? Check the classified section every Wednesday in the Bay Beacon.

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

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Alzheimer's support
 Alzheimer's Family Services will hold a support group for family members or friends coping with a loved one with Alzheimer's disease at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 9 at the Niceville United Methodist Church, Chandler Center, located at 214 S. Partin Drive.

The support group is free and limited respite care is available. To make arrangements for respite during the meeting, please contact Alzheimer's Family Services in advance at 866-478-7790.

Seniors to meet
 The Twin Cities Seniors Club will have their annual birthday party Thursday, July 10 at 1 p.m. at 268 Glenview Avenue, Valparaiso. Entree provided, please bring a dish to share. For more information, call 543-0869.

Concerts in the Village
 The Mattie Kelly Cultural Arts Village, 4323 Commons Drive West, Destin, will have the band Deja Vu in concert Thursday July 10 at 7 p.m.

Admission is \$10 per person, free for MKAF members and children under 12. Bring a chair, wine and a picnic and relax.
 For more information, call 650-2226 or visit MattieKellyArtsFoundation.org.

Library fun

Baci, a Bichon Frise therapy dog, loves to hear a good book. Children seven or older are invited to read a story to Baci in the Youth Services program room Friday, July 11, at 3 p.m.

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

Art camp

The Arts and Design Society is offering its summer "Kids' Art Camp."

Classes begin on Monday, July 14 with clay artistry and will feature a different medium each day, including drawing, painting, and other media.

Each week ends with an art show and reception for the families, during the second half of Friday's class. There are two July sessions of the camp, organized by age groups. Session 3: for ages 6-11 is July 14-18 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Session 4: for ages 6-11 is July 14-18 from 1-3 p.m. The cost for each of the week-long sessions is \$60 per child, \$50 for the children of ADSO members.

Pre-registration is required by Friday, July 11, for July Sessions. Classes will be at the ADSO Art Center, 17 First Street, SE, Fort Walton Beach.

For further information or to register, call 244-1271, or visit artsdesignsociety.org.

Biker benefit

Haven 4 All, a local biker club, will be hosting a poker run July 12 to benefit breast cancer research. Registration begins at 9 a.m. at Amvets Post 78, Valparaiso. For more information call 374-2989.



Bikers ride for a cause

Haven 4 All, a local motorcycle club, will be hosting a poker run July 12 to benefit breast cancer research. Registration begins at 9 a.m. at Amvets Post 78, Valparaiso. For more information call 374-2989.

Gamers to meet

The Valparaiso Community Library invites teens and tweens ages 12-17 to for the Gamers Club on July 15 at 2 p.m.

Wii and Gamecube games will be played and more. No sign up required.

Chamber luncheon

The Niceville Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce will present the first ever Rockin' Chamber Luncheon on Tuesday, July 15 at One 20 A Modern Bistro, Niceville.

Chamber volunteers and members will dress as famous music idols and serve lunch guests in a Rock Star costume. All tips collected by Rock Star servers will be donated to a local Chamber member charity of the servers' choice.

There will be two lunch seatings: 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Space is limited, so register early. Attendees do not have to be a Chamber member to register. Sponsorships are available for tables of six or eight, or individual open seating tickets are available for \$25 each.

To register for the luncheon please contact the Chamber at 678-2323 or events@nicevillechamber.com. Registration is also available on the Chamber's website at nicevillechamber.com/events.

"Spamalot" musical

The Northwest Florida State College Fine and Performing Arts Division proudly presents Monty Python's "Spamalot," a new musical lovingly ripped off from the motion picture Monty Python and the Holy Grail, with public performances for four nights only from July 16-19 at 7:30 p.m. nightly.

Tickets are on sale now by phone, web or in-person from the Mattie Kelly Arts Center Box Office. Tickets are \$25 adult and \$20 for youth age 18 and younger. Contact the Mattie Kelly Arts Center Box Office at 729-6000 or at mattiekellyartscenter.org.

Adventure ride

The adventure club will have a bike ride in Niceville Thursday, July 17. Interested riders meet at the golf course club house parking area in the Bluewater Bay Resort subdivision. For more information, call Bob and Audrey Hains at 897-3624.

Concerts in the Village

The Mattie Kelly Cultural Arts Village, 4323 Commons Drive West, Destin, will have Ike Bartley in concert Thursday July 17 at 7 p.m.

Admission is \$10 per person, free for MKAF members and children under 12. Bring a chair, wine and a picnic and relax.

For more information, call 650-2226 or visit MattieKellyArtsFoundation.org.

Night at the Museum

Night at the Museum will be Saturday, July 19 at 7 p.m. with a wine tasting and Sunday, July 20 at 6 p.m. at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso. No alcohol will be served at Sunday's event.

Tickets are \$35 per person, \$30 for museum members with a discount for groups of 6 or more. Reservation required. Visit heritage-museum.org or call 678-2615.

Football camp

The Niceville Eagle Football Camp will be July 21-22 for ages 7-12 years from 5-7 p.m. The camp costs \$35.

Pre-register at the Niceville High School main office.

For more information, call 833-4263 or 833-4114 ext. 1362.

Blood drive

There will be a blood drive Wednesday, July 23 at First Baptist Church of Niceville, 622 Bayshore Drive, from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

There will also be a blood drive at Walmart, Niceville, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. All donors from either drive will receive a beach towel.

Blood drive

There will be a blood drive Tuesday, July 29 at Walmart, Niceville, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Alzheimer's support

Alzheimer's Family Services will hold a support group for family members or friends coping with a loved one with Alzheimer's disease at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 30 at the Niceville United Methodist Church, Chandler Center, located at 214 S. Partin Drive.

The support group is free and limited respite care is available. To make arrangements for respite during the meeting, please contact Alzheimer's Family Services in advance at 866-478-7790.

Seeking volunteers

The Transformations Ministry's Powered for Life class at Niceville United Methodist Church is looking for individuals willing to participate as Mentoring Partners for the two adult classes as well as a second youth class in the fall.

The Orientation class for those interested in the ministry or in becoming Mentoring Partners will begin Aug. 5, from 6-7:30 p.m. and continue every Tuesday night in August. Applications are available at Niceville United Methodist Church in the Commission Café or online at nicevilleumc.com/transformations. For more information contact transformations@nicevilleumc.org or call Kim Colpitts at 461-0203 or Rebecca Ainslie-Perez at 509-998-4874.

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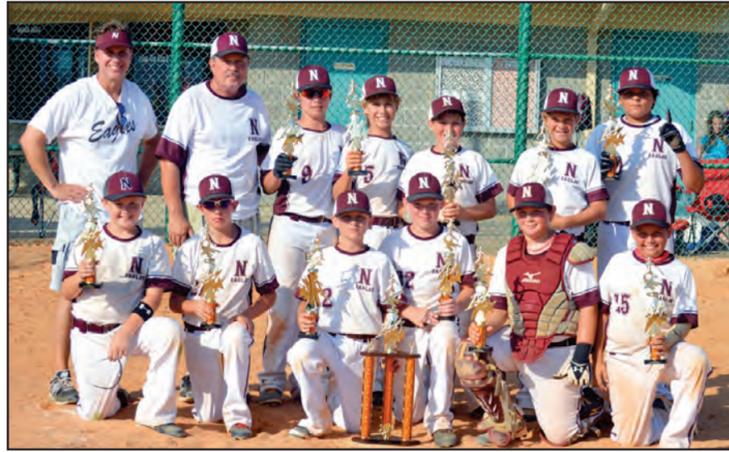
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BEACONSPORTS



**Traveling Eagles
earn 4th title**

The Niceville 11U Traveling Eagles won their 4th tournament championship this year at the Summer Slam Fest held in Destin. Pictured from left bottom row, Trevor Mee, Kaden Geisler, Brady Koger, Keagan Norman, Hayden Hubbard and Brenley Laird. Top row from left, Coach Jason Marquardt, Manager David Garner, Cole Babich, Jay Marquardt, Trey Wainwright, Nathan Tiller and Sam Carrell.

**'Benchwarmers'
gain division
championship**

The Bluewater Fitness "Benchwarmers" won the Niceville Valparaiso Little League Majors division championship at Rarrick Field, Niceville, with a score of 2-0 over SEC Construction's "Pink Panthers." Pictured, from bottom left, Todd Wendell, Trevor Mee, Brady Koger, Dominic Mahoney, Alex Phipps, Aiden McCarthy and Hunter Bedner. Top row from left, Coach Wes Koger, Ethan Checchio, Brady McCarthy, Seth Goodwin, Manager Jim Loftis, Tommy Eggers, Aiden Dark, Luke Loftis and Coach Ryan Bedner.



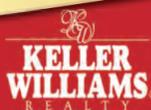
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**Ruckel girl wins
golf tourney**

Caroline Craig, a Ruckel Middle School student, made a hole-in-one at Bay Pointe Golf Club in Panama City Beach on the 117 yard, 6th hole during a Red Hills Junior Golf Tour tournament. She completed the round shooting a 75 and won the tournament with a 36 hole, two day total of 159.

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