

The Bay Beacon

Police Blotter, page A-6

12 Pages, 2 Sections, 6 Inserts

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

50¢

**UP
COMING**

Thurs, 6 p.m.



A Veterans Social Security Seminar will be held at Superior Residences, Bluewater Bay. 897-2244.

Fri., 4-6 p.m.



The annual book pre-sale for Friends of the Library members will take place in the Niceville Community Center. Non-members may join at the door. The sale will be open to the general public Saturday from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sat, 7:30 a.m.



Choctawhatchee Audubon Society is having a bird walk at the Fort Walton holding ponds. Meet at the Coach and Four Restaurant, 1313 N. Lewis Turner Blvd., Fort Walton. 210-343-9082.

Sun., 11 a.m.- 9 p.m.

Hispanic Fest 2014 is at the Emerald Coast Convention Center, Okaloosa Island. Visit unitedforagoodcause.org.

Niceville reduces size of utilities rate hike

By Marcia Anne Sanders
Beacon Staff Writer

Niceville water and sewer rates will rise an average of 3.5 percent with November bills, less than half the increase originally proposed.

The Niceville City Council voted the increase Sept. 11.

At the same time, the city council raised the water impact fee by \$3,000, and reduced the

sewer impact fee by the same amount. Impact fees are one-time charges levied against new hookups.

The initial recommendation for this year's rise was for a 7.7 percent increase followed by no increase the next year.

On Sept. 11, however, Glenn Stephens, a city engineering consultant, recommended a 3.5 percent increase this year, fol-

lowed by a 0.4 percent increase next year.

Some citizens came to the Sept. 11 meeting to express their displeasure with the increase that was approved. Ronald Swafford said that every one of the past 27 years he's lived in Niceville, his water or sewer rates have gone up. Swafford said, "Something has to be done. The city must live

inside of its budget."

Another resident, Susan Hancock, said, "Our family's disposable income has shrunk. We can't take any more. You've got to remember your water and sewer customers are not just numbers." Hancock said that single parents and people on fixed incomes were struggling with the increases.

City Clerk Dan Doucet

responded by saying that the city has had to spend money on infrastructure for the water and sewer system.

Hancock responded that "perhaps the judgment in pursuing these projects was not good."

City Manager Lannie Corbin said that even with the increases, the city is below the average

Please see UTILITIES, page A-3

'O say can you see?'



Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

Fifth graders at Plew Elementary School sang "The Star Spangled Banner" for their schoolmates Friday to mark the 200th anniversary of the verses, written by Francis Scott Key in 1814.

North Bay acts to hold its millage rate at 2.35

By Mike Griffith
Beacon Correspondent

North Bay fire commissioners will meet at 7 p.m. tonight for the second and final of two hearings to set the fire district's budget for fiscal year 2014-15.

At a meeting Sept. 9, commissioners tentatively approved the proposed budget, with expenditures of \$2,046,206.26, revenues of \$2,107,723.66, and a reserve of \$61,517.40. Commissioners also tentatively approved the proposed millage rate for the coming year at 2.35 mills, meaning that property owners in the North Bay Fire District would pay \$2.35 in ad valorem property tax to the fire district for every \$1,000 of assessed taxable value.

For example, the owner of a home appraised at \$200,000 taxable value, after homestead exemptions and other

discounts, would pay \$470 in property tax to the North Bay Fire District, in addition to other property taxes levied by such entities as Okaloosa County and the Okaloosa School District.

The 2.35 millage rate is the same as the current FY 2013-14 rate, but somewhat above the "rolled back" rate of 2.2825, at which the fire district would theoretically collect the same amount of property tax revenue next year as this year.

Fire Chief Joseph Miller, who briefed fire commissioners on the proposed budget, said, "I am proud that we have held the millage steady for the last four years in a row."

The meeting Sept. 9 marked Miller's final budget briefing to the North Bay commission, as he is slated to retire on

Please see NORTH BAY, page A-3

Bridge board seeks to hire next director

By Marcia Anne Sanders
Beacon Staff Writer

The Mid-Bay Bridge Authority voted to make a job offer to a leading candidate to succeed its long-time executive director.

Jim Vest, the current executive director who led the authority through the building of the bridge in 1993 and the completion of the bridge connector last year, will retire Sept. 30.

On Friday, the MBBA Board of Directors voted to hire Claude V. Fuller Jr., of Columbia, S.C., to succeed him, assuming an employment contract is finalized.

MBBA Board Chair Gordon E. Fornell said Fuller was an excellent choice because of his breadth and depth of experience. "He seemed to have all of the stuff we need," Fornell said.

Board member James Neilson said Fuller was well-qualified, adding, "I feel very comfortable that he'll do a great job."

Reached in South Carolina on Monday, Fuller said he was "thankful" for the confidence the board placed in him with his selection. He also said, "I am extremely excited. I spent 2009 to late 2013 serving at the headquarters of Air Force Special Operations Command at Hurlburt Field as well as serving in Panama City on a previous assignment. I and my wife are excited to come back to Florida."

Forty-five people from around the country applied for the position.

Those applicants were narrowed down to a field of six by MBBA lawyer Dawn Stumps. Board members chose three finalists, who were interviewed in private

Please see BOARD, page A-7

Seminole residents to vote on future of community center

By Marcia Anne Sanders
Beacon Staff Writer

Representatives of the Seminole community will conduct a vote next month on the future of the Seminole Community Center.

About half a dozen residents attended a community meeting Sept. 11 at the center on Cedar Street to discuss the possibility of the center being taken over by the county. The question of where the \$87,000 in liquid assets from the corporation that owns the center would go was also discussed.

Also discussed was who would be qualified to vote on the

issue during balloting that is scheduled for 7 p.m. Oct. 9 at the community center.

The chairman of the community corporation that owns the center, Aubrey Barfield, said the board has talked about transferring the center to the county for four years. It is owned and operated by the corporation that formerly owned the Seminole Water System before it became a part of the county system.

Barfield said he interpreted the charter to mean that the \$87,000 the corporation has would go to charity.

However, according to the
Please see SEMINOLE, page A-2



On the ball

The City of Niceville soccer fields at Twin Oaks were packed with PAL players and cheering parents Saturday. Pictured, U8 team Niceville Pack & Ship, in purple, squares off against Amanda Housand Keller Williams Realty. The PAL season for ages 4 through 18 began earlier this month.

Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith



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Beacon photo by Marcia Anne Sanders
Okaloosa County Parks Operations Manager James Puckett, left, speaks to Seminole residents about the possibility of the Seminole Community Center becoming county-owned.

SEMINOLE

From page A-1

registered agent for the corporation, Marvis Adams, if the corporation is dissolved, the remaining assets should be turned over to any incorporated township that includes Seminole or to the county of Okaloosa treasurer.

Since there is no incorporated township in Seminole, Adams said, the money would go to the county. If the county doesn't accept the assets, they can be sold publicly and the money given to a nationally recognized charity, according to Adams.

At the meeting, Seminole resident Brenda Lovell said that it was discussed years ago that the money should be divided between landowners. Barfield said that would be "impossible" because there have been so many users of the land over the years, it would be difficult to locate all of them.

Leadership for the board has been hard to come by and the current board is made up of people ranging in age from 77 to 93. The board has tried to have community get-togethers to garner support from the community with little success and turnout.

"It gets hard to run something for the community when you can't get the community to come," said Barfield.

Residents questioned Okaloosa County Parks Operations Manager James Puckett and Parks Coordinator Amy Allen regarding the possible transfer. Allen said the community center was a "very nice facility" and that the county was "very interested" in the possibility of owning it.

Allen and Puckett said the county wanted to move a batting cage from the Seminole Park on Cat-Mar Street to the center, add a pavilion with picnic tables and possibly add a play structure and outside bathroom. Puckett said he was willing to listen to other suggestions regarding changes to the center.

Puckett also said that the building would still be available to rent, though he did not know what kind of fees would be required. Lovell asked if people in the community would still get a discount and Puckett said he could make that recommendation but it would have to be approved.

Another resident, Johnathan Ellis, asked if the center would stay a community center. He was

concerned it might be turned into a lift station for a county sewer system that might be developed in the future. Puckett said it could be recommended that the center remain in its present capacity as a lunch and bingo center for senior citizens.

Puckett said, "We know how much this means to the area. I would like to not see it change."

In an interview after the meeting, Puckett said the facility would have to be declared surplus property in order to be sold by the county, which is a county commission-approved action that does not happen often. He also said that the \$87,000, if it went to the county, could be put in a line item or a capital improvement designation for use only on the Seminole Community Center property.

There was disagreement over who would be allowed to vote next month on the center's future.

Barfield said residents of Seminole who have attended two community meetings in the last six months may vote.

However, Ellis questioned that and asked for a copy of the corporation bylaws. Barfield was not able to produce a copy but said he would get one to Ellis later.

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NORTH BAY

From page A-1

Sept. 26. The fire commission is in the process of selecting Miller's successor from among applicants.

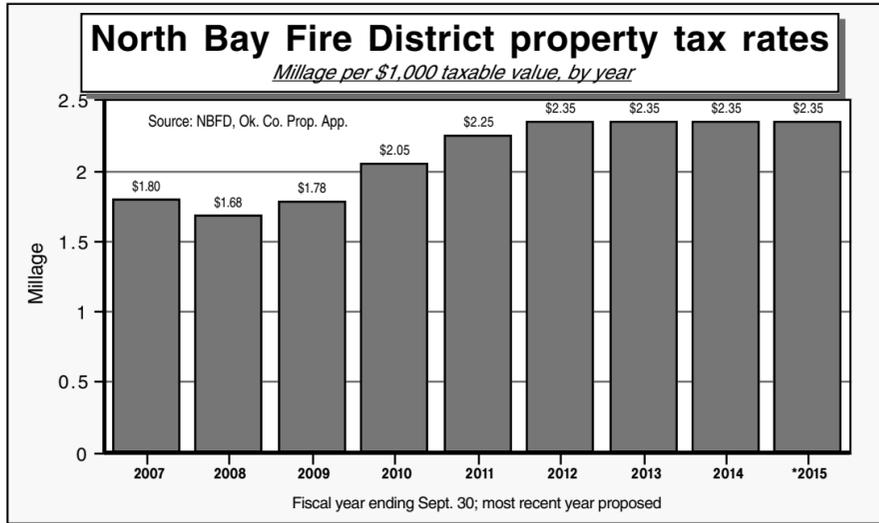
Highlights of the proposed budget include personnel costs of \$1,547,919.93, equipment acquisition costs of \$156,800, professional operating expenses of \$135,642.55, and maintenance costs of \$83,486.80, among other expenses. The largest increase in the proposed budget is for personnel costs, which will increase by \$40,790.95 over last year's figure. The largest decrease in the proposed budget will be for equipment acquisition, which will be \$20,000 less than last year, largely due to the completed acquisition of a new fire truck.

The fire commissioners will meet tonight, Wednesday, at 7 p.m. for their final public hearing, during which they may make changes before finalizing the budget, which will take effect on Oct. 1, with the start of the new fiscal year.

During the Sept. 9 meeting, fire commissioners voted 4-0 in favor of approving the tentative budget. Absent was fire commission Treasurer Stephen Strait, and among those present was Commissioner Roy Taylor, who was recently appointed to fill a vacancy left by former Commissioner Dave Scholl, who resigned from the fire commission earlier this year to make an unsuccessful run for election to the Okaloosa County School Board.

Scholl left the commission a parting letter in which he praised Chief Miller and his fellow commissioners for their service to the community, but criticized the proposed budget, and suggested that substantial cuts can be made.

"You don't need me to finish the work before you," wrote Scholl. "The task of finding a new chief is easy if you clearly



define the qualities you want. We have a great fire department that is well funded. We need a leader that is positive, competent and great with a budget of 2 million dollars. A fireman with an accounting background would be ideal. Not sure many are out there but, a man can dream."

Scholl also offered advice about upcoming contract negotiations with district firefighters. "The upcoming contract negotiation is nothing to fear," he said. "Do not be in a hurry to have a lawyer intervene and negotiate on our behalf. He gets paid by the hour and controls the time."

Scholl concluded by writing, "I joined the Fire Board because I was tired of seeing my taxes go up 4 years in a row during a recession. Last year we held the line on waste. Continue in that endeavor. Above, I have outlined potential savings to the tune of \$165,000.00. Please give it serious thought, keep pouring over the financials, let no question regarding spending go unasked or unanswered, do your own research."

In other business during last week's fire commission meeting, commissioners approved a renewal of the interlocal agreement between Okaloosa County

fire departments and Walton County, which provides for fire-fighting jurisdictions in both counties to assist one another during emergencies that exceed the capacity of individual departments.

Operations Chief Joseph Parker briefed commissioners on an annual commemoration ceremony that was to be held last Thursday in the Winn-Dixie parking lot, and said that Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi was slated to attend the ceremony.

Parker also briefed the commission on recent activity by North Bay firefighters:

On Aug. 7 crews responded to a vehicle that was found in the street running with an individual passed out behind the wheel. When the driver regained consciousness he became belligerent toward the firefighters. The sheriff's office was called, and deputies took custody of the patient.

On Aug. 10 North Bay firefighters responded to a structure fire at the Kangaroo carwash in Bluewater Bay. The carwash machine had shorted out and was burning inside the building. Firefighters disconnected the power and put out the fire, with

assistance from Niceville and East Niceville firefighters.

On Aug. 12 firefighters responded to the Shay Linn apartment complex, where a bird building a nest in a porch light fixture had caused a small fire, which was extinguished prior to firefighter's arrival.

On Aug. 16 North Bay firefighters responded to a structure fire in Niceville, where a fire had broken out in a utility closet in the front of a house. A person who had been inside the shower of the house fled out the back of the house wearing a towel. The fire was apparently caused by fans being placed next to a gas hot water heater in order to dry some spilled water. The fans, however, had the effect of causing the gas water heater to behave much like a blowtorch and start a fire in the closet, according to Parker.

On Aug. 19 North Bay firefighters responded to a person with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. The patient was flown by air ambulance to Pensacola, but died later.

On Aug. 30 North Bay firefighters responded to a broken gas line, isolating the area until Okaloosa Gas technicians arrived and secured the gas line.

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UTILITIES

From page A-1

for surrounding utilities in the area for the combined rate, although it is not below the average for its water rate.

The usage rate increases take effect Oct. 1 and will be seen for the first time by customers in the bills they receive in November.

In other business Sept. 11, the council passed on first reading its proposed millage rate of 3.70, which is the same rate as this year, but up from the rolled back millage which would have levied the same tax total as this year. Since property values have generally increased, even at the same millage rate the citywide tax levy will increase.

Finally, the council passed



City consultant Glenn Stephens briefs the Niceville City Council on suggested increases for water and sewer rates. From left: Daniel Henkel, Bill Schaeztle, Judy Boudreaux, Mayor Randall Wise, Stephens.

on first reading a municipal budget for the fiscal year that will start Oct. 1, in the amount of \$29.5 million.

There will be a final budget hearing Sept. 18, at 6 p.m. in City Hall.

Beacon photo by Marcia Anne Sanders

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Niceville completing 2nd floor of firehouse

By Marcia Anne Sanders
Beacon Staff Writer

Work is continuing to finish the second floor of the Niceville Fire Department building.

When the firehouse on North Partin Drive was built in 2008, the second floor was not finished. Now a physical fitness room, locker room, meeting room and offices are being added.

The fire sprinkler system is also being modified in the firehouse because of the work being done to finish the second floor, according to city Public Works Director Bruce Price. At a Niceville City Council meeting Sept. 9, the council approved a \$8,123 contract with Seago Fire Protection LLC to modify the

fire suppression system at the fire department.

Purchasing Department Head Chad Morris said in an interview before the meeting that a new suspended ceiling is being put in and the sprinkler heads need to be dropped down through it.

According to Fire Chief Tommy Mayville, the contractor will have to cut the pipe, rethread it and put it back. Two other bids were received for the project from B & C Fire Safety for \$12,152 and from Maximum Fire Protection Inc. for \$14,400. Morris said the bid chosen by the council to change the fire department sprinkler system was lower than expected by about \$4,000.

Another bid was approved at

the Sept. 9 meeting for fencing to surround the area between the fire department and youth center. The area is currently used to store extra dirt from jobs done by the city. Morris said the city wants to fence it off for the protection of children in the area who might want to play in it.

Additionally, the city will be building a storage area for Public Works at the site. The city only received one bid to fence the area from Shalimar Fence for \$20,195. Morris said the request for bids was advertised as well as being given to two companies, and that the quote was "about where we expected it to be."

In other news from the meeting, the Public Works



Beacon photo by Marcia Anne Sanders

A gym, locker room, meeting room, fire inspector office, and other offices are being added to the previously unfinished second floor of the Niceville Fire Department building on North Partin Drive.

Department will be replacing more than 500 stop signs in the city to meet state Department of Transportation standards. The

signs must be bigger according to the regulations, at least 30 inches instead of the current 24, and must have high intensity reflectivity.

The department will also be replacing mile per hour signs which are over 25 miles per hour to the bigger size and warning signs to include the high intensity reflective materials. Lastly, street signs must also be replaced to have 6 inch letters on an 8 inch background instead of the current 4 inch ones on a 6 inch background.

Repair Maintenance Supervisor Willie Hines said the department has started on these changes and has until 2018 to **Please see FIREHOUSE, page A-5**



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FIREHOUSE

From page A-4
finish them.

An ordinance for the rezoning of 205 Florida St. from R-1 to R-1B was also read at the meeting. Owner Jimmy Parish is building two houses in the same space where one is currently and needed the rezoning for smaller setbacks to build on the 50-foot-

wide lot. This was the second reading of the ordinance and it passed unanimously.

Legacy Cabinets on 109 Kelly Road also asked to be able to provide less parking spaces at the new facility it is building. The resolution to do so passed unanimously.

Price said that he is having someone work on the zoning map for the city land develop-

ment code because there are some inconsistencies such as a few subdivision whose land use changes weren't done.

Council member Dan Henkel asked how often public works checks median landscaping to see that it's not blocking a driver's line of vision. Price said he does that as he sees a need or one is reported to him.

Henkel also asked about the

stormwater problems that some residents in the Bayshore Drive and Valparaiso Boulevard area had brought to the council members at a previous meeting. Price said that many of the problems were due to the unprecedented rain events this year. He also said the city ran a pipe adjacent to one property and put in an underwater system which fixed the problem of water on that

property.

City Manager Lannie Corbin made his report at the meeting, saying that the Niceville-Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce had concerns about the bypass road taking business away from Niceville. Corbin said later that he thought a "Welcome to Niceville" sign with landscaping would be helpful. He also suggested putting in

recreational areas such as ball-fields in the area south of the bypass road.

Corbin announced that the city will be connecting the north Turkey Creek extension located on West College Boulevard to the boardwalk on the South end of Turkey Creek located off John Sims Parkway. He estimated it would be done by the end of February.



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Niceville's Newspaper

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 Aug. 27, Valparaiso police arrested Scott Allen Holt, 58, of 3002 Blue Pine Lane, Niceville, for one count of battery. Holt allegedly pushed a woman to the ground and dragged her approximately 15 feet while attempting to take her purse. A witness heard the woman screaming and walked outside, where he observed Holt standing over the victim and dragging her on the ground as she held onto her purse. The witness was able to separate Holt from the victim until police arrived.

On Sept. 4 Jonathan David White, 20, of 322 Parkwood Pl., Niceville, was booked into the Walton County jail for a municipal ordinance violation.

On Sept. 5, Niceville police arrested Michael Walter Bratton, 33, of 626 W. John Sims Pkwy., Apt. 117, Niceville, for one felony count of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, and one misdemeanor count of possession and/or use of drug equipment. Niceville police spotted Bratton near Tisa's Friendly Inn, and recognized him as someone with an active arrest warrant for drug possession stemming from an incident on July 17. While arresting him for the warrant, police searched Bratton and found 2 vials of methamphetamine on him.

On Sept. 5, Valparaiso police arrested Brandon Michael Grim, 27, address "at-large," for one count each of tampering with evidence, possession of marijuana less than 20 grams, and resisting arrest without violence, as well as three counts of possession of drug paraphernalia.

On Sept. 5, Valparaiso police arrested Marlon Reese

McLaughlin Jr., 22, of 326 Carmel Dr., Apt. 36, Fort Walton Beach, for one count each of possession of cocaine with intent to sell, possession of a firearm during commission of a crime, possession of marijuana less than 20 grams, and knowingly driving while license suspended or revoked.



Marlon R. McLaughlin Jr.

Police stopped McLaughlin's car after observing him driving 73 mph in a posted 55 mph zone on State Road 85. Police then detected an odor of marijuana from McLaughlin's vehicle. When asked for his driver's license, McLaughlin provided a Florida ID card, and a police data check revealed that his license had been suspended multiple times. Police placed McLaughlin under arrest, and a subsequent search of his vehicle revealed powder cocaine, suspected marijuana, and a loaded firearm under the driver seat.

Also arrested was McLaughlin's passenger, Marques Brion Jones, 23, of 611 Colonial Dr., Apt. 8, Fort Walton Beach, for one count each of possession of cocaine with intent to sell, and possession of marijuana less than 20 grams.



Marques B. Jones

Jones denied any knowledge of the drugs being in the vehicle. McLaughlin declined to answer questions from police.

On Sept. 6, the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office arrested Jonathan Am Bryant, 26, a clerk, of 518 22nd St., Niceville, for 80 counts of possession of child pornography. The arrest followed an undercover investigation initiated by the Pensacola Police Department. The OCSO received information in June from the Pensacola Police Department and the Office of Homeland Security regarding an address in Niceville where evidence indicated child pornography was being downloaded.

The OCSO executed a search warrant at 518 22nd St. on July 22, at Bryant's residence. A Dell laptop computer was seized and was processed forensically. A review of Bryant's hard drive revealed dozens of videos depicting sexual acts involving children ranging in age from toddlers to preteens.

On Sept. 6, Timothy Adam Johnson, 30, of 598 Woodlow Rd., Niceville, was booked into the Walton County jail on a charge listed as driving under the influence (refusal). He was released the following day.

On Sept. 6, Kenneth Newton Jordan, 65, of 124 Midland Court, Niceville, was booked into the Walton County jail on a charge of marijuana possession, not more than 20 grams, and for drug equipment possession and/or use. He was released later that day.

On Sept. 6 Brian Lizana, 54, of

Fire Department Reports

Niceville

The Niceville Fire Department responded to the following calls from Sept. 8, 2014 through Sept. 14, 2014.

0 Structure Fire	14 Emergency Medical Calls
0 Vehicle Fire	1 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
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	9/8/14	02:47
27th Street	Medical	9/8/14	09:02
Redwood /27th St.	Medical	9/8/14	11:46
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	9/8/14	20:45
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	9/9/14	00:35
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	9/9/14	08:07
E. College Blvd.	Medical	9/9/14	08:47
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	9/9/14	12:04
Scott St.	Medical	9/9/14	14:48
Palmetto Palm Dr.	Medical	9/9/14	17:08
White Point Rd.	Structure Fire	9/9/14	22:30
2nd Street	Medical	9/9/14	23:35
Alaqua Creek Cv.	Medical	9/11/14	08:05
Reeves St.	Medical	9/11/14	08:57
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	9/11/14	16:44
SR123	Cancelled	9/12/14	00:53
Nathey Ave.	Medical	9/12/14	01:27
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Vehicle Crash	9/12/14	03:09
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Smoke Scare	9/12/14	13:06
Springwood Way	Medical	9/12/14	19:03
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	9/12/14	20:23
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Vehicle Crash	9/13/14	04:31
Nathey Ave.	Medical	9/13/14	08:34
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Vehicle Crash	9/13/14	09:11
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	9/13/14	12:55
Crystal Ln.	Grass Fire	9/13/14	11:89
Baywind Dr.	Cancelled	9/13/14	16:24
Nathey Ave.	Medical	9/13/14	18:09
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	9/13/14	22:16
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	9/14/14	09:42
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	9/14/14	12:18
Keturah St.	Medical	9/14/14	19:43

Weekly Safety Tip: The Fire Department can't help you unless you can be found. Make sure the number of your house is visible from the street and is in a lighted area so it can be seen at night.

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

North Bay

The North Bay Fire District responded to the following calls from Sept. 8, 2014 through Sept. 14, 2014.



Street	Situation	Date	Time
Fairway Lakes Dr.	Medical	9/8/14	04:58
Glen Eagles Dr.	Public assist.	9/8/14	05:16
Springacres Cv.	Medical	9/8/14	15:45
Glen Eagles Dr.	Public assist.	9/8/14	19:25
Marina Cove Dr.	Smoke scare	9/9/14	02:34
E. Hwy. 20	Medical	9/9/14	10:44
Armadillo Trail	EMS call	9/9/14	10:49
Range Rd.	Dispatched & cancelled	9/9/14	15:45
White Point Rd.	Arcing	9/9/14	22:34
Fairway Lakes Dr.	Dispatched & cancelled	9/10/14	08:00
Woodward/Destin	Dispatched & cancelled	9/10/14	09:24
E. Hwy. 20	Medical	9/10/14	12:28
E. Hwy. 20	Dispatched & cancelled	9/10/14	18:49
Rosewood Way	Medical	9/10/14	19:04
Bluewater/Hwy. 20	Vehicle accident	9/11/14	10:37
Fairway Lakes Dr.	Medical	9/11/14	12:10
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	9/11/14	13:45
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	9/11/14	13:51
Ida Coon Cir.	Medical assist.	9/11/14	15:37
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Overheated motor	9/12/14	13:08
E. Hwy. 20	Medical	9/12/14	15:05
Sunset Beach Blvd.	Medical	9/12/14	20:28
Cat Mar Rd.	Medical	9/12/14	21:55
Mutfield Dr.	Accidental medical alarm	9/13/14	08:19
Baywind Dr.	Person in distress	9/13/14	18:27
Emerald Coast Pkwy.	Cover assignment	9/14/14	18:17
E. Hwy. 20	Local alarm system	9/14/14	20:03
N. White Point Rd.	Medical assist.	9/14/14	23:17

Visit northbayfd.org for more information.

173A Norberg, Valparaiso, was booked into the Walton County jail on a charge listed as driving under the influence (refusal). He was released later that day.

On Sept. 7, Niceville police arrested Ricardo Emmanuel Dass, 29, of 214 North Palm Blvd., Apt. F, Niceville, for one count of sexual battery.

Summonses served

On Sept. 4, Niceville police cited Charles L. Knight, 42, of 4627 Eagle Way, Crestview, for knowingly driving while license suspended or revoked.

On Sept. 5, Niceville police issued a summons to Scott Cuyler Sonstegaard, 23, of 6218 Old Dixie Dr., St. Augustine, for driving while license suspended or revoked, knowingly.

Other

On Aug. 25, Valparaiso police responded to a noise complaint at an address on Washington Avenue. Upon arrival, police did not hear any disturbing or loud noises and could not verify the complaint.

On Aug. 25, Valparaiso police responded to an address in Valparaiso regarding a disturbance. One party to the disturbance was issued a trespass warning.

On Aug. 25, Valparaiso police were called to an address on Montana Avenue to stand by while

someone gathered belongings that had been taken from the person's vehicle that morning.

On Aug. 26, Valparaiso police responded to an address on Lincoln Avenue regarding a 911 open line call. Upon arrival, police made contact with the caller, who was unaware that he had dialed 911.

On Aug. 26, Valparaiso police responded to the Boathouse Landing restaurant regarding a 911 hangup/open line call. Police conducted a walk-through of the facility, but were unable to locate the source of the call. Everything on the premises appeared normal.

On Aug. 26, Valparaiso police responded to the Compass Rose restaurant on John Sims Parkway regarding a report of a suspicious truck and trailer parked near the restaurant. Police contacted the driver of the vehicle and determined that he was not committing any crime. The driver then departed at the request of police.

On Aug. 26, Valparaiso police received a call from a landlord who wanted to fill out a damage report for her rental property, as the previous renters had caused damage. Police advised the caller that it was a civil matter, but arranged an extra patrol on the property to give the owner time to recover the keys from the former tenant, or have the locks changed.



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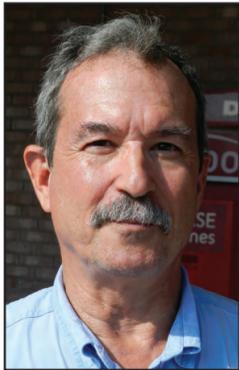
What football team are you rooting for this year?

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"My team is the Chicago Bears, but I haven't followed them much this year. I've been too busy working."

Ted Kotowske, 43, Niceville, waiter



"The New Orleans Saints."

William Pizzolato, 58, Niceville, soil conservationist



"I'm not a football fan. The Atlanta Braves are my folks."

Arnold Gjesdal, 56, Choctaw Beach, cabinet builder



"The Broncos. My dad was born in Denver, and we've been rooting for them ever since."

Courtney Kawcak, 9, Bluewater Bay, Bluewater Elementary School student



"Auburn for college, and Atlanta for pros."

Johnny Murray, 47, Freeport, waiter



"Go Gators!"

Amanda Housand, 28, Niceville, Realtor

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



Beacon photo by Marcia Anne Sanders
The Mid-Bay Bridge Authority Board discusses candidates for executive director Sept. 12. The board voted to begin negotiations with Claude V. Fuller Jr., of Columbia, S.C. From left: James Neilson, Virginia Asthana, Gordon Fornell, Lois Hoyt and Daniel Bowers Jr.

BOARD

From page A-1

by Fornell and Stumps.
In addition to Fuller, finalists also included the current assistant executive director of the MBBA, Rolin Saylor.
Fornell, a retired Air Force general officer, said he was impressed with Fuller's civil engineering background, Department of Transportation history and military background. Fuller was the Deputy Secretary for Engineering in the South Carolina Department of Transportation. He also worked for four years as a Director of



Jim Vest

Installations and Mission Support at Air Force Special Operations Command at Hurlburt Field.
He was Deputy Commander of the Army Corps of Engineers in Iraq, directing \$3.4 billion in reconstruction, economic development and construction.
Neilson asked if Fuller had good people skills. Fornell said that he had excellent people skills. He also said that Fuller met the board's salary range of between \$100,000 and \$120,000 a year, and was available immediately.
Stumps said the initial contract will be for a three-year term. A motion was made by Neilson and passed to allow Stumps and Fuller to negotiate a contract with Fuller.

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Retired U.S. Army Brigadier General Curt Hoglan and his wife Katherine are also glad they chose Rhino Shield to protect their home. "We thought they did a super job," said Gen. Hoglan. "We have recommended them to the folks next door." The Hoglans,



Curt and Katherine Hoglan show off their Rhino Shield protected home in Bluewater Bay.

who live in Bluewater Bay, said they were especially impressed by the courtesy and professionalism of Rhino Shield's service team. "They cleaned up well every day," said Gen. Hoglan. "They didn't leave a mess at all."

Gen. Hoglan also said he is pleased at how well the protection has lasted on his home, which he had treated in Feb. 2009. "We're very happy with the way it's lasting," he said. "We're glad to

recommend Rhino Shield."

"Super Shield," said Mike Redmond, owner of Rhino Shield Gulf South, "is a unique product, ideal for all kinds of roof surfaces such as tile, aluminum, steel, cedar shakes, concrete and clay."

"Super Shield ceramic roof coating offers substantial waterproofing and insulation benefits by creating a layer of protection with the benefit of ultra-violet ray reflectivity," Redmond said. "Super Shield not only aids in the reduction of energy consumption, but also helps resist mold, mildew and staining and increases resale value by

extending the life of the roof."

"While Super Shield is cheaper than reroofing," Redmond said, "this product also has a 10 year non-prorated transferable warranty, and can be tinted to any color." While Rhino Shield protection is well known for the protection it gives many Northwest Florida homes, Redmond said that it is also useful for protecting commercial structures such as stores, shops, and office buildings.

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Kelly Plantation resident Rick Martinez said his home still looks like new more than 12 years after it was protected by Rhino Shield.

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Buckley has Yard of the Month

The Niceville Garden Club chose Michael Buckley's yard at 1904 Palmetto Palm Circle as Yard of the Month for September.



Niceville artist exhibits at library

The art of Pia Elsessor, Niceville, is on display at the Niceville Library throughout the month of September. Elsessor has been working with oil paints on canvas.

Remembrance event starts NFSO season

The 28th season for the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra begins Saturday, Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m. with "Glory & Remembrance," a concert which pays tribute to the 75th anniversary of WWII and the 100th anniversary of WWI.

This opening concert features a partnership with the nationally acclaimed Westwater Arts and their unique large-format photo-choreography that will meld stunning visuals with NFSO music for an unforgettable concert experience to honor the 'Greatest Generation' heroes of the front lines and the home front.

"Patrons will experience a totally unique integration of images and music honoring the men and women of who won history's most pivotal victory," said NFSO conductor Jeffrey Rink, who explained that the concert will be a fusion of live symphonic music with multi-image photographic essays all choreographed

to select classical compositions.

At the NFSO's "Glory & Remembrance" concert on Sept. 20, the orchestra will perform a movement of Vaughan Williams Symphony No. 5 set to historic WWII images.

The evening's companion work, "No Man's Land," combines images of WWI with Aaron Copland's poignant Quiet City. General Charles A. Horner, USAF retired, will serve as master of ceremonies at the concert.

The night's musical journey also includes renowned Guest Artist Yevgeny Yontov of Israel, the 2013 Wideman International Piano Competition Gold Medal winner, performing Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4 in G Major, op. 58. The "Glory & Remembrance" concert is sponsored by the physicians of the Okaloosa County Medical Society.

Season and individual concert tickets are now on sale. The

NFSO is the region's premier professional orchestra and performs in residence at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center at Northwest Florida State College.

NFSO tickets are \$25 adult, \$18 for active duty military and their guests, and \$18 for youth age 18 and younger. Contact the Mattie Kelly Arts Center Box Office by phone at 729-6000 or online at MattieKellyArtsCenter.org. NWF State College students may request one free ticket per student ID, space permitting, in-person from the Box Office to regular season NFSO concerts.

"The photo choreography at our opening concert and our 2015 event with Cirque acrobats will both superbly meld the strengths of two art forms and help the orchestra share the beauty of live classical music with today's more diverse and visually oriented audiences," said Rink.



NFSO conductor Jeffrey Rink, Valparaiso, will conduct the NFSO's "Glory & Remembrance" concert, which pays tribute to the 75th anniversary of WWII and the 100th anniversary of WWI, on Sept. 20.



Who's News

Stefania Zabielska, a resident of Twin Cities Pavilion, Niceville, recently celebrated 102 years Sept. 2. Stefania is originally from Poland.



Stefania Zabielska

Engagement

Borriello-Wager

Retired Col. and Mrs. Lawrence M. Wager of Niceville are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jessica Nitra-Ann Wager to Jeff Peter Borriello, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Borriello of Boston, Mass.



Jessica Nitra-Ann Wager and Jeff Peter Borriello



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Mr. Williams and Staff,

January 13, 2014

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your kindness and generosity. I thank you for opening my eyes to the new technology of "better hearing." Wearing one hearing aid (behind the ear) for 40 plus years, I was skeptical to make any changes or try anything new. Well, I took you at your word Mr. Williams. "Try it, it will change how you feel about trying something new." Oh! How right you were! I totally embrace "new technology." I just had to learn to get out of my "comfort zone" and try what technology has to offer us to make our life easier and to hear what we've been missing. Again, I thank you all so very much. I love you all. God Bless.

Sincerely,

Karen Smith
Karen Smith



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Proverbs 29:18





Xi Beta Pi celebrates 1,000th meeting

Xi Beta Pi, Niceville chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, celebrated their 1000th meeting on Sept. 4 at the home of Carol Heubusch. Pictured from left, Dee Purka, Dottie Kime, Ashley Lambert, Marja Wilson and Joe Ann VanGronigan. Not pictured Cyndi Anderson, Diane Chiquette, Adrienne Coley, Nikki Greene, Sharon Hargreaves, Cathy Hess, Carol Heubusch, Janice Jean and Brigita Krasauskas.



Edge Safety Patrol selected

Deputy Jeff Moore has selected his Student Safety Patrol for Edge Elementary School. Pictured, Carson Adams, Catherine Adams, Anabel Barbee, Jace Barefield, Amelia Barrett, Madeline Howell, Amelia Burke, Makenzee Ely, Nyla Griffin, Peri Habblett, Aydan Horrigan, Sarah Lott, Annakah Morris, Jonah Ramby, Lauryn Scruggs, Anna-Liece Sheets, Halle Steffens, Uy Tran, Willa Urbanczyk and Taylor Webb.



Niceville author writes dream book

Sylvia Jackson, Niceville, was signing her book, "Dream Interpretation Toolkit," a Christian based study of dreams, Sept. 6 at Bayou Book Co.

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Choctaw Bowmen 3D archery winners



For Open Class, winners were Cj Bell in first place, Mike Watkins in second place and Tyler Thompson in third place.

The winners from the August 3D archery tournament held by the Choctaw Bowmen are pictured below, from left. The next and last tournament of the season will be held Sept. 20 at 10 a.m. For more information, visit choctawbowmen.com.



For Traditional Class, winners were Tom Farmer in first place, Nick Miller in second place and Kurt Heitman in third place.



For Youth Class, winners were Trey Thompson in first place, Luke Bell in second place and Chase Bell in third place.



For Bowhunter Class, winners were Justin Herring in first place, Curt Manning in second place and James Smith in third place.



For Women/Teen Bowhunter Class, winners were Myra Schoar in first place, Amanda Griffith in second place and Stormy Peterson in third place.

Obituary

Charles Samuel Knicley

1927-2014
Charles Samuel Knicley, age 86, of Fort Walton Beach passed away peacefully at his daughter's home with his family at his bedside.
Charles was born September 19, 1927, in Churchville, Va. to Samuel Knicley and Dollie Andrews. Charles spent 20

years in the Navy and Army as a helicopter mechanic and retired to become a heavy equipment mechanic and welder. He was an avid recreational fisherman and loved tinkering with things to fix and was a frequent Wal-Mart buddy at the local Fort Walton Beach Wal-Mart.

Charles was preceded in death by both of his parents;

three brothers, Robert Warren Knicley, Donald Andrews, and Dennis (Bucky) Andrews. He is survived by his wife, Elsie Mae Knicley; three children from a previous marriage (Peggy Elizabeth Knicley), Sherry Schwoch (Raymond) of Defuniak Springs, James Knicley (Amanda) of Brighton, Mich., Laura Knicley (Michael Breeding) of Valparaiso; two sisters, Dorothy Burke of Churchville, Va., and Macky Brown of Waynesboro, Va.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in the name of Charles Samuel

Knicley to the Wounded Warriors Project, Disabled American Veterans, or the American Indian Relief Council.

The family would like to thank all of Emerald Coast Hospice for their help and support through this difficult time.

There will be no services held for Charles and his ashes will be returned to the mountains he was proud to call home in Virginia.

To share memories, express condolences and sign the online guestbook, please visit www.daviswatkins.com.

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Bus driver needed for Christian school. Must live in Niceville and have CDL driver license. Please call 678-9355 or go to www.ourwell.org to email.

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The Beacon Newspapers (The Bay Beacon, The Eglin Flyer, The Hurlburt Patriot) have an opening for a career-minded, full-time person to sell customers the benefits of newspaper advertising. Candidates should be upbeat, energetic, organized, self-starting and detail-oriented. Salary plus incentive. Mileage allowance. Benefits include IRA plan and paid vacation and holidays. Candidates must be available 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and have a reliable vehicle. We will train the right person. Apply in person at the Beacon, 1181 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville.

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50% discount for additional weeks or papers. Check publications to publish ad:			
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<input type="checkbox"/> Hurlburt Patriot	(Number of weeks)	_____	
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Social security seminar

A Veterans Social Security Seminar will be Sept. 18 at 6 p.m. at Superior Residences, Bluewater Bay. Please RSVP to 897-2244.

Friend's book sale

The Friends of the Niceville Library would like to invite the public to their annual book sale where there will be a wide selection of gently used books and most items are \$1 or less. The sale will be held in the Niceville Community Center, 204 Partin Drive N. adjacent to the Library. The sale will be two days.

Friday Sept. 19 will have a presale for Friends of the Library members from 4 - 6 p.m. Non-members may join at the door to take advantage of the presale.

Saturday Sept. 20 will be the general sale open to all from 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. and will include baked goods for sale. A Niceville author will be on hand to sign books with 100% of proceeds going to Friends of the Library.

All proceeds benefit the Niceville Public Library.

Freeport festival

The City of Freeport will be hosting their first Bayfest on Saturday Sept. 20 at Freeport Regional Sports Complex at Hammock Bay from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Armbands will be sold at the gate the day of the event. Admission prices are \$5 for students and \$10 for Adults. Freeport Regional Sports Complex is located at 671 Hammock Trail East, Freeport. This is a tobacco-free facility. No alcohol, no pets, no coolers, no bikes, no skateboards.

Bird walk

Choctawhatchee Audubon Society is having a bird walk Sept. 20 at the Fort Walton holding ponds with experienced birder, Malcolm Mark Swan.

Meet at the Coach and Four Restaurant at 1313 N. Lewis Turner Blvd., Fort Walton at 7:30 a.m.

Bring a hat, water, sunscreen and insect repellent. Call Mark at 210-343-9082 for more information.

Biker's blast

The Biker's Blast for the Past Motorcycle Poker Run will be Sept. 20 starting at 8 a.m.

Food, music, prizes and fun will be had starting at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso.

For more information visit heritage-museum.org or call 678-4547.

Harvest of Harmony

Barbershop singers from around the Panhandle will perform an evening show at the Niceville High School auditorium on Saturday, Sept. 20 at 7 p.m.

Tickets for the show are priced at \$10 and are available in advance



Annual cardboard boat race Sunday

The annual Cardboard Boat Race at Bluewater Bay Marina will be 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 21 with registration beginning at 4 p.m. Register from now until race day. For more information, visit bluewaterbaymarina.com or call 897-2821.

at Bayou Books in Niceville, at the door the night of the show.

For further information on the event of for tickets, call 499-7182 or visit emeraldcoastchorus.com.

Hispanic Fest

Hispanic Fest 2014 is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 21 from 11 a.m. - 9 p.m., at the Emerald Coast Convention Center, Okaloosa Island.

The event will be a family-oriented, cultural and educational festival that will showcase the very best of Hispanic folklore, music, and food.

For more information, visit unit-

edforagoodcause.org.

Stitchers to meet

The Sand Dunes Chapter of Embroiderers' Guild of America's fall meetings will be at the Religious Education building at Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church, Valparaiso Blvd., Niceville.

There will be a stitch-in and meeting on Sunday, Sept. 21, from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Visitors are wel-

come. For more information, call 496-3466.

Little League meeting

The Niceville-Valparaiso Little League (NVLL) annual membership meeting and kickoff board meeting will be Sunday, Sept. 21 at 5:30 p.m. at Niceville City Hall. Anyone interested in being an NVLL General Member or a 2014 NVLL Board Member may attend.

Woman's expo

What Women Want at the Emerald Coast Convention Center, Okaloosa Island, is the Emerald Coast's premier women's expo on

Saturday, Sept. 27 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

This event offers women a fun day filled with exploring their personal style, renewing their soul and pampering themselves. Free admission and parking.

For additional information, please contact Ashley at 243-2323.

Bird walk

Choctawhatchee Audubon Society is having a bird walk Sept. 27 at Niceville bayous and spray fields. Lenny Fenimore will lead a bird walk in the Niceville area searching for a variety of water birds, migrating songbirds, and even Wild Turkeys. Bring a hat, sunscreen, and any spotting scopes or binoculars which you may wish to use.



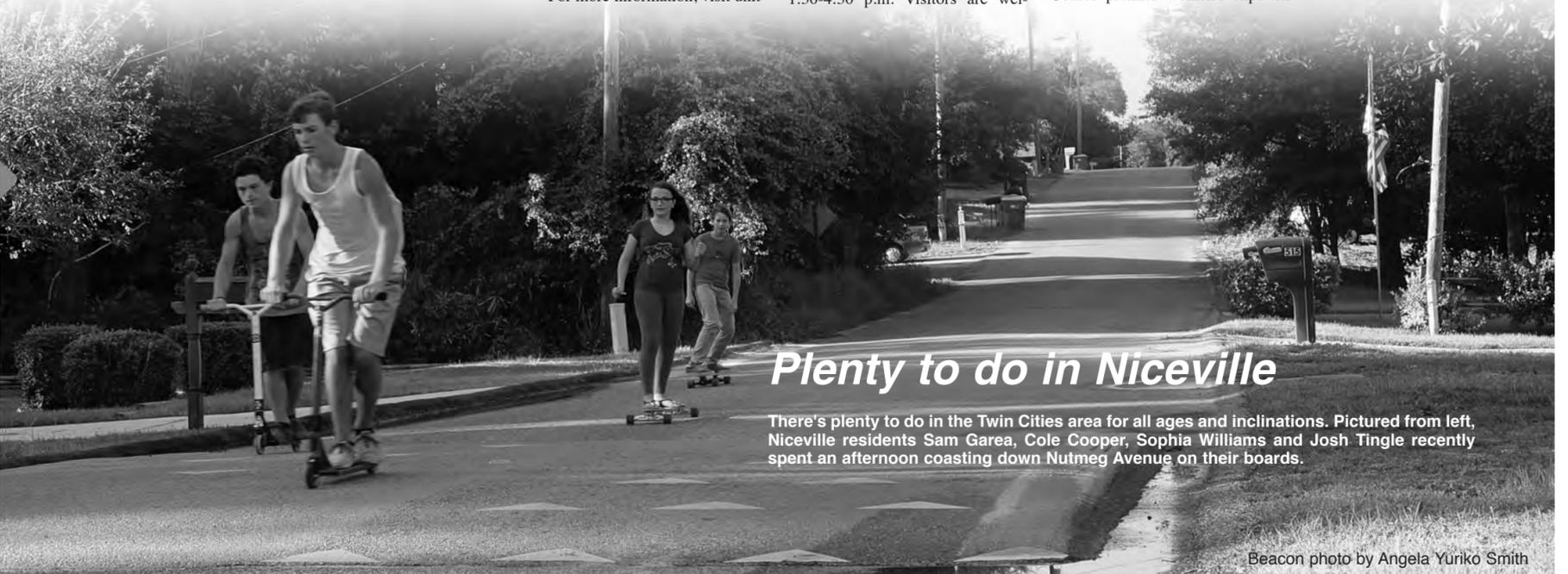
Meet in front of Badcock Furniture in Bayou Plaza, 699 John Sims Parkway, at 7:30 a.m. Call Lenny at 863-2039 for more information.

Tea Party to meet

The Niceville-Valparaiso Tea Party will meet at Niceville City Hall on Monday, Sept. 22, at 6 p.m. During the meeting, there will be a rundown of the candidates and amendments for the upcoming General Election. Please come with your questions and comments.

Oktoberfest

The 20th annual Oktoberfest and Arts and Crafts Festival, sponsored by the Mid-Bay Rotary Club, will be at Winn Dixie Plaza in Bluewater Bay on Friday, Sept. 26 from 5 to 10 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 27 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.



Plenty to do in Niceville

There's plenty to do in the Twin Cities area for all ages and inclinations. Pictured from left, Niceville residents Sam Garea, Cole Cooper, Sophia Williams and Josh Tingle recently spent an afternoon coasting down Nutmeg Avenue on their boards.

Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

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Beacon photos by Dave Shelikoff

Lewis beats Rocky Bayou

Lewis School beat Rocky Bayou Christian School Sept. 11 at a football game with a score of 36-0. Pictured, Ethan Evans for Lewis looks to throw the ball downfield while Morgan Hamilton from Rocky runs alongside to block.



Beacon photo by Sarah Clauson

Eagles crush Pine Forest

Niceville High School beat Pine Forest High School Friday, Sept. 12 at a football game with a score of 48-0. Pictured, a completion to Jon Secord for a first down. The next game will be against Choctaw at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 19 in an away game.

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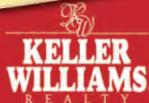
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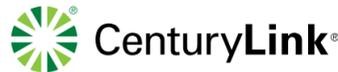
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NHS runners finish 2nd

The Niceville High School cross country teams opened their season at the Dolphin Dash in Panama City Sept. 6. Both teams placed 2nd behind Fort Walton Beach High School. The girls' team was led by Claire Crist, who finished 5th, followed by Nicole Escoffier in 6th and Hannah Schneidewind in 8th.

Mackenzie Shinnick was 4th for the team followed by newcomers Claudia Howes, who moved from overseas, and freshman Ciara Cogger.

Diana LaFollette, Julia Morena, Erica Mitchell, and Addi Martin were the team's 7th–10th runners, respectively.

In the boys' varsity race, junior Jason Nodjoman ran a great race running a personal record time of 17:36, quite an accomplishment on the hot and moderately slow course.

The next four runners crossed the finish line in a span of 12 seconds, led by Elijah Schneidewind, Jack Johnson, Austin Thompson and Evan Etheridge.

Zach Fralish, Payton Watson, Brad Massey, Andy Holtery and Michael Escoffier rounded out positions 6-10.

The meet concluded with a boys and girls combined open race. Addison Burkett and Riley Holahan were the winners of the boys and girls junior varsity races.

