

The Bay Beacon

Police Blotter, page A-6

8 Pages, 1 Section, 3 Inserts

Wednesday, January 2, 2019

50¢

A Year In Review

The Bay Beacon this week is pleased to present a look back at the top stories and photos of 2018, as presented in a week-by-week review of Page 1.

Thank you, readers, for welcoming us into your homes in 2018. Thank you, advertisers, for your support in the past year.

We look forward to continuing to serve you in 2019.

—The staff of the Bay Beacon:
Stephen Kent, Sara Kent,
Bunni Farnham, Cheryle Valentine,
Karon Dey, and Katie Maricle.
Correspondents: Mike Griffith,
Paula Mims and Cynthia Richardson.



The Bay Beacon
5 seek Valp. mayoralty
No contest for 2 commission seats

A frosty weekend

'We bring happiness in'
Bands of volunteers visit nursing homes

The Bay Beacon
Niceville hikes trash rates

Valparaiso named one of state's safest cities

Fire marshal eyes BWB blaze

Two will assume commission seats in March

On to the Olympics
Speed skater to compete in Korea

The Bay Beacon
College sets \$25M overhaul

A beautiful day on the bayou

City awards \$20,000 in grants to groups

Cold didn't discourage bridge use

Valparaiso commission drops school measure

The Bay Beacon
Prescribed biases benefit Eglin forests

Laumakers would put all of Florida on the same clock
Good-bye to Central time?

Weekend diversions

The Bay Beacon
Arrests soar in Niceville
Police training and drug dog credited

For art's sake

Citing expenses, Niceville begins charging for reclaimed water

College pitches growth in training programs

Once in a blue, blood moon

The Bay Beacon
District regroup after resignation

Heading to region finals

Bond denied in attacks on wife, son

Breakfast for a cause

Growing airport is hiring

The Bay Beacon
Storm basin's failure muddies waterways

A beautiful weekend to be outdoors

College computer security faulted

Lovely as a tree
The greening of a highway interchange

State seeks comments on plan for bayou

The Bay Beacon
Teacher earns county honor

Can spring be far behind?

Commission eyes mental health issues

College reports books get cheaper

Valparaiso mayoral election nears

The Bay Beacon
Rink to retire after 11 years as local orchestra's director

T-pier replacement nears completion

Panel mulls proposals for Florida Constitution

Citizens air views on Rocky Bayou preserve

National Merit finalists announced for Niceville High School

The Bay Beacon
'The days fly by' post office

Play ball!

Hack fears hobble county utilities payments

In-school vaccine is eyed

Ten streets set to be resurfaced

Hearts in the right place

The Bay Beacon
 Bayou dredging plan hits DEP roadblock

Springing forward

Further probe of schools chief

Valparaiso gets a new mayor

Miss NHS named

The Bay Beacon
 Helping moms in crisis

'He is risen'

Bluewater Bay MSBU eyes condo needs, street signs

Valparaiso government reorganizes under new mayor and commission

Raiders in Elite Eight

The Bay Beacon
 Week-long AF drill tests effects of GPS jamming

Hopping to it

Lawmaker tastes the feeling

3-story hotel proposed

Honor Choir performs

The Bay Beacon
 Ministry helps kids succeed in school

Enjoying the great outdoors

Killer gets life sentence in 1981 slaying

Lawmaker recaps legislative session

Elks celebrate first responders

The Bay Beacon
 Niceville officials eye audit, housing rehabs

Celebrating Mother Nature

BWB panel mulls tax hike

Valparaiso gives property to the Heritage Museum

Woman's Club hosts bingo at Pavilion

The Bay Beacon
 Front-yard henhouse proposal lays an egg

Running for a cause

County aims to relieve summer jams near bridge

College mulls blanket ban on tobacco use

Rocky students lend a hand

The Bay Beacon
 Valparaiso Coke sales center overhaul boosts efficiency

Saturday in the Park shines

Military school to train WMD techs

Okaloosa County OKs measure to expand drainage tax funding

Lady Eagles advance to Regionals

The Bay Beacon
 A mom's faith helps meet challenges

Little League wrapping up season

County airport extends lease, adds workers to meet growth

Garbage collector reshuffles recycling

College graduates 1,861

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The Bay Beacon
 Wednesday, May 16, 2018

North Bay starts firehouse overhaul
 The North Bay Fire Department is in the process of overhauling its firehouse, which is set to be completed in July.

Relay for Life raises funds to fight cancer
 The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event was held in Valparaiso, raising funds to fight cancer.

Niceville council voices support for Crestview bypass funding
 The Niceville City Council has expressed support for funding a bypass for Crestview.

New courthouse set for completion in July
 The new courthouse is set for completion in July.

The Bay Beacon
 Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Ramp closures set for Saturdays
 Ramp closures are set for Saturdays.

Lest we forget
 A memorial service was held to remember those who served.

County considers \$160M sales tax
 The county is considering a \$160 million sales tax.

Bears a bother in Valparaiso
 A bear was spotted in Valparaiso.

Marathon man
 A marathon runner completed his race.

The Bay Beacon
 Wednesday, May 30, 2018

Hurricane Irma toll losses totaled \$1.1M
 The toll losses from Hurricane Irma totaled \$1.1 million.

Niceville High graduates 497
 Niceville High School graduates 497 students.

County hikes speed limits on two local roadways
 The county has increased speed limits on two local roadways.

Holiday concludes on a stormy note
 The holiday season ended on a stormy note.

The Bay Beacon
 Wednesday, June 6, 2018

Prepping for storm season
 Residents are prepping for the upcoming storm season.

Let the summer begin!
 The summer season has officially begun.

County eyes transit woes
 The county is addressing transit issues.

College to add more job-oriented programs
 The college is adding more job-oriented programs.

Motor scooter, car collide
 A motor scooter and a car collided.

The Bay Beacon
 Wednesday, June 13, 2018

Dad's faith moves mountains
 A father's faith has moved mountains.

Cooling off during a warm weekend
 Residents are cooling off during a warm weekend.

Valparaiso leads county in tax-roll increases
 Valparaiso leads the county in tax-roll increases.

Eglin set to unveil new data on jet noise
 Eglin is set to unveil new data on jet noise.

County to seek 10-year sales tax
 The county is seeking a 10-year sales tax.

GOP governor hopeful stumps in Valparaiso
 A GOP governor hopeful is stumping in Valparaiso.

The Bay Beacon
 Wednesday, June 20, 2018

Contests for three seats on school board
 Contests are being held for three seats on the school board.

Summer solstice weekend
 The summer solstice weekend is celebrated.

Ocala eyes bed tax expansion
 Ocala is considering bed tax expansion.

State college sets ban on tobacco use
 The state college has set a ban on tobacco use.

VPS speeds screening
 VPS is speeding up screening.

The Bay Beacon
 Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Full day of fun for the 4th
 A full day of fun was held for the 4th grade.

A sultry Saturday around town
 A sultry Saturday was spent around town.

Valp. officials eye spending 'wish lists'
 Valparaiso officials are eyeing spending wish lists.

Grand jury clears Jackson
 The grand jury has cleared Jackson.

College holds line on tuition
 The college is holding the line on tuition.

Little Leagueurs earn advance to sectionals
 Little Leagueurs have earned an advance to sectionals.

The Bay Beacon
 Wednesday, July 4, 2018

School board hopefuls speak
 School board hopefuls are speaking.

Red, white and bayou
 A celebration of red, white, and bayou.

Traffic jams eased
 Traffic jams have been eased.

Owners get a break on sewer installation
 Owners are getting a break on sewer installation.

Santa's elves set Christmas in July at Pavilion
 Santa's elves are setting Christmas in July at the Pavilion.

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The Bay Beacon
 SR 20 median forelift slated in Bluewater
 Two admit bribery in Eglin work
 Preparing for the school year
 Fire district eyes millage
 NWF State earns bonus for advances
 All dolled up

The Bay Beacon
 Valparaiso officials mull no change in millage rate
 Fun in the sun
 Interchange eyed south of bay bridge
 Niceville man dies in crash
 County seeks funds to control bears
 Girl Scouts earn top honors

The Bay Beacon
 County taxes to rise as millage is stable
 Behind the wheel
 A busy weekend around town
 Trump Jr. to stump for Gaetz
 Valparaiso mulls hike in millage
 Land-use petitions to be aired
 Chamber inducts four into its hall of fame

The Bay Beacon
 Trump Jr. headlines GOP rally
 Sewer board receives a favorable audit
 Valparaiso trims spending requests to balance budget
 Brushing up the asphalt

The Bay Beacon
 Okaloosa may seek new transit services
 School bells ring countywide
 School board hopefuls speak
 Niceville hotel hosted Trump Jr.
 Sewage fouls Toms Bayou

The Bay Beacon
 Computer glitches delay toll processing
 Community sports in full swing
 Early voting has begun in primary
 Niceville Strong holds prayer meeting
 Valp. wrestles with finances

The Bay Beacon
 School resource officers are issued heavier arms
 Welcoming back fall sports
 College chief earns bonus for year's achievements
 Hauler gets picky about recyclables
 NHS students receive VHP Medal of Honor

The Bay Beacon
 Voters set the stage for November election
 Barefoot burglar sought
 Bidding farewell to summer
 Niceville eyes sewer rate hike
 Student charged with making threat
 Bearing comfort

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2019
CALENDAR

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

Extended Booksale

The Friends of the Niceville Library are extending the 1/2 price book sale to January 12. Bookstore is open on Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Linux User Group Meeting

The Northwest Florida Linux User Group (NWFLUG) will hold its next monthly meeting on Monday, January 7 from 5:30 p.m. until no later than 7:30 p.m., in Room 400 of the Crosspoint United Methodist Church in Niceville, Florida. Directions and details of the (always free) planned program can be found on the group's website at <https://nwflug.org>. All interested persons are invited to join us and bring your laptops. Persons planning to attend are encouraged to notify us via email to tom.browder@gmail.com.

Mac User Group Meeting

The January meeting of the Mac Users Group will be held on Monday, January 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the NWF State College Student Services Center - Rooms 308/9. "Quicken - Take Control of Your Finances" will be presented by Nita Wilkinson.

For more information, visit FWBMug.com, or contact Eddie Branch at (850) 240-3146 or edbranch105@gmail.com.

Garden Club Meeting

In preparation for the garden club's flower show, "Kindred Spirits," on April 27, 2019, Flower Show Chairman and floral designer, Carole Martin, will present an overview of the new divisions. Carole will describe the new division, Botanical Arts Horticulture, and also discuss the horticulture, design, educational, and youth divisions.

The Valparaiso Garden Club will meet at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, January 9, at Trinity Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall located at 44 Southview Avenue in Valparaiso.

Visitors and new members are welcome.

Audubon Society Program

The Choctawhatchee Audubon Society will host the Thursday evening program on Jan. 10. This program will be Eagles, Hawks and Falcons of Eastern North America by Greg Greer, Naturalist. Greer will illustrate, identify the birds in free flight and during banding operations and present information on the behavior, migration and population dynamics of this extremely interesting group of raptors. The powerpoint presentation will be held in room 308/309 of the Student Services Building 400 at the Northwest Florida State College Niceville campus. Socializing begins at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. Contact Dave Clausen at (907) 321-3701 for more information. Please visit our website at choctawhatcheeaudubon.org and our

Kinky Boots

Mattie Kelly Arts Center will be performing Kinky Boots, Broadway's huge-hearted, high-heeled hit on Jan. 8 at 7:30 p.m. With songs by Grammy and Tony winning pop icon Cyndi Lauper, this joyous musical celebration is about the friendships we discover, and the belief that you can change the world when you change your mind. Inspired by true events, Kinky Boots takes you from a gentlemen's shoe factory in Northampton to the glamorous catwalks of Milan. Tickets are available from the center's box office at mattiekellyartscenter.org or by calling 850-729-6000.

Facebook page at Choctawhatchee Audubon.

Benefit Breakfast

Twin Cities Elks Lodge #2747 is holding a public breakfast Saturday, January 12, 8 a.m.-10:30 a.m. at 224 Seminole Ave, Valparaiso. Donation is \$8. We will be serving biscuits n sausage gravy, pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs and cheese grits.

The Florida Elks sponsor a youth camp in Umatilla, for children 9-13 years old who can attend at no cost. There are numerous activities from swimming to archery and those that attend always want to return. Our breakfast will help defray some of the cost for the bus that transports the children to the camp. For more information on this activity, camp information or information on joining the Twin Cities Elks Lodge, call the lodge Tues.-Fri. 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 850-729-3557 or just camp information at 850-217-7388. Elks share and Elks care.

Birdwalk

On January 12, the Choctawhatchee Audubon Society will be having a birdwalk in North Okaloosa County. Join experienced videographer and birder Malcolm Swan in an expedition to find warblers, waders, woodpeckers and blackbirds. Meet at the CVS parking

lot in the Oak Creek Shopping Center on John Sims Parkway in Niceville at 7:30 a.m. Wear closed toe shoes and long pants. Contact Malcolm at (210) 343-9082 for additional information. Please visit our website at choctawhatcheeaudubon.org and our Facebook page at Choctawhatchee Audubon.

Seven Money Types Series

In The Seven Money Types workshop series, pastor and author Tommy Brown guides participants through an understanding of the role money types play in the ways they think, feel, and act financially. Each session unleashes confidence in people by giving them the tools and understanding of how they're designed to use money for good and God in the world, while resolving financial tensions. Filled with laughter and aha. moments, participants experience teachings on faith and finances that shatter the walls we often place between God and money.

The workshop will be held every Wednesday for 7 weeks, starting January 16, from 6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. at Generations United Church Sanctuary. Children and student ministries provided.

Join anytime. This is free and open to all adults.

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performance on January 17 at 7 p.m. at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center. It will leave the audience howling for more.

From shelters to showbiz, these amazing mutts unleash havoc and hilarity in a breathtaking, action-packed, comedy dog spectacular, featuring some of the world's most talented four-legged performers.

Tickets are available from the center's box office at mattiekellyartscenter.org or by calling 850-729-6000.

The Power of Perseverance

Lonnie Johnson will speak as part of the President's Speaker Series, an initiative that NWF State College implemented this year to bring renowned speakers to our region, on January 18 at 7:30 p.m.

In his talk, The Power of Perseverance, Johnson will discuss his history and how the ever increasing rate of technology evolution impacts the future.

Johnson served in the U.S. Air Force, where he was awarded multiple medals and helped develop components in the stealth bomber program. Later as a NASA Nuclear Engineer, he received multiple achievement awards for his work in spacecraft system design. Johnson is most well known as the inventor of the Super Soaker squirt gun that received multiple industry awards including Outdoor Toy of the Year.

For more information, visit our website at mattiekellyartscenter.org. This is free and open to the public.

Shoreline Birdwalk

On January 26, the Choctawhatchee Audubon Society will be having a birdwalk along Niceville and Valparaiso shorelines. Join walk leaders Walt Spence and Lenny Fenimore in a tour of old Niceville and Valparaiso in search of aquatic and upland winter residents. Meet at the Mattress Depot in the Bayou Shopping Center off John Sims Parkway in Niceville at 7:30 a.m. Contact Walt at (850) 582-7064 or Lenny at (850) 863-2039 for additional information.

Please visit our website at choctawhatcheeaudubon.org and our Facebook page at Choctawhatchee Audubon.

Opera Brunch Benefit

Music Scholarship Fundraiser, Feb. 23, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Niceville Community Center, tickets \$35 adults and \$20 students.

Pensacola Opera performs songs from "Floencia in the Amazon" and more. Delicious brunch by the Corner Café. And raffle. Hosted by the Choctaw Bay Music Club. Buy tickets at Bayou Bookstore, 1118 John Sims Pkwy, Niceville, or Call 850-527-4200.

Honor Choir Concert

The Twin Cities Honor Choir will be hosting its 23rd Annual concert on Thursday, March 28 at Rocky Bayou Baptist Church. The choir was created in 1995 when a grant was given to create the program. This year the choir is larger than ever at over 100 fifth grade voices from public elementary schools in and around Niceville and Valparaiso.

Students will come together from Bluewater, Edge, Plew, and Lewis Elementary schools. This elite choir was formed through a series of auditions where the participating students were selected. Also singing will be choirs from Ruckel and Lewis Middle Schools, and Niceville High School.

Organizers of the event are music specialists Barry Blackburn (Bluewater), Shirley Andrews (Edge), Suzanne Hartzog (Lewis), Katie McGuire Menges (Plew). The concert is free and open to the public, but donations are highly encouraged. All donations will continue to support next year's concert.

Mamma Mia

The Niceville High School Theatre Department has announced that the Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus' smash musical Mamma Mia. will be their spring musical production. A hit on Broadway for fourteen years and the subject of a 2008 film, Mamma Mia. and its upbeat and lively score has delighted audiences worldwide.

Our department is committed to excellence in theatre productions and performance arts education, and we are excited to present this crowd pleaser to area audiences." Jackson is set to direct with local artist Cameron Daniels as Music Director, and 2018 NHS alum Marykate Cary as choreographer. NHS' production of Mamma Mia. will be presented with permission from Music Theatre International of New York, and will open April 4 with shows on the 5 and 6 of April as well. For further information on NHS' upcoming theatre productions, contact Ritchie Jackson at richard.jackson@okaloosaschools.com.

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Police Blotter

The following accounts of the activities of police are according to records of the Niceville and Valparaiso police departments, the Okaloosa County and Walton County sheriff's offices, other law-enforcement agencies, and the Okaloosa County and Walton County jails.

Arrests

On Dec. 11 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office arrested a 16-year-old boy on charges of leaving the scene of a crash involving damage to property, failing to obey a law enforcement officer's order to stop, and driving without a license.

The boy was also charged with violating terms of community control based on earlier charges of possession of marijuana and marijuana distribution.

On Dec. 12 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office arrested Robert James Nelson, Jr., 31, of 1500 27th St., #B6, Niceville, on a charge of battery causing bodily harm. The arrest was made on a warrant stemming from an incident in Niceville on Aug. 17.

On Dec. 12 Niceville police arrested Ernest Lee Powell Jr., 29, of 644 Crestview Ave., Niceville, on charges of driving while license suspended, first offense, possessing a controlled substance without a prescription, and drug equipment possession and/or use.

An officer stopped an Oldsmobile sedan after noting that Powell, the driver, was not wearing a seatbelt. During the stop, the officer smelled marijuana, and Powell was found to not have a valid driver's license.

Powell admitted to having smoked marijuana earlier in the day, and a subsequent search revealed substances which field tested positive for methamphetamine and cocaine, as well as a substance which was sent to FDLE for identification.

On Dec. 12 Niceville police arrested Nina Seo Cox, 30, of 301 Goldenrod, Niceville, on charges of possessing a controlled substance without a prescription, possession of cocaine, and drug equipment possession and/or use.

Officers responded to a report of a burglary in progress at an address on Ivey Avenue, and upon arrival found Cox inside the front passenger side of a vehicle nearby. Officers saw a digital scale of a type commonly used for weighing narcotics on the front seat. A search found substances which field tested positive for cocaine, fentanyl, and methamphetamine.

On Dec. 13 Niceville police arrested Nicholas Ducati, 40, of 1629 Redwood Ave., Niceville, on charges of shoplifting and marijuana possession not more than 20 grams.

Ducati had taken items from Walmart valued at a total of \$35.92. He was also found in possession of some suspected marijuana which field tested positive for THC.

On Dec. 17 Niceville police arrested Damien Robert Pybus, 18, of 665 Navy St., Fort Walton Beach, on charges of committing a 3rd degree felony with a weapon, possession of a short-barreled gun, rifle, or machine gun, marijuana distribution, possession of marijuana, and three counts of drug equipment possession and/or use.

Pybus was the driver and sole occupant of a vehicle stopped for no working brake lights. During the stop, police observed a large glass pipe of a type used for smoking marijuana in plain view in the vehicle, and an officer smelled the odor of marijuana.

A search revealed a .22 cal. rifle with a sawed-off barrel and a partially filed-off serial number. Also found were 50 grams of a green leafy substance which field tested positive for THC, and a 25-round magazine fitting the rifle. After a Miranda warning, Pybus told police he had just left a friend's house where he had sold \$100 worth of marijuana.

On Dec. 17 April Lynn Steele, 43, of 304 Reeves St., #G10, Niceville, was booked into the Walton County jail on a charge of violation of probation.

On Dec. 18 Niceville police arrested Shea Edward Adams, 24, of 1778 Thomas St., Niceville, on charges of drug equipment possession and/or use. Police responded to a report of a suspicious person at the Comfort Suites Hotel. Officers found Adams in the parking lot, and asked him if he had anything illegal in his possession. Adams admitted to having a "rig"—slang for a syringe used to inject narcotics.

A search revealed a marijuana grinder with suspected marijuana particles in it, and a metal spoon with dark residue. The substance in the grinder field tested positive for THC, and the spoon field tested positive for methamphetamine. Adams said his narcotic of choice is methamphetamine.

On Dec. 18 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office arrested Shannah Lee Short, 36, of 1217 Bayshore Dr., Valparaiso, on a charge of petit larceny, first offense.

On Dec. 19 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office arrested Amber Dawn Arntz, 37, of 211 Ellis Ave., Niceville, on a charge of probation violation, felony.

On Dec. 19 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office arrested Zachary Clay Revell, 30, of 208 20th St., Niceville, on a charge of probation violation, misdemeanor.

On Dec. 19 Niceville police arrested Joseph Lee Bohler, 23, of 165 Grandview Ave., Valparaiso, on a charge of DUI.

Police stopped Bohler for driving 49 miles per hour in a 35 mile-per-hour zone, and during the stop Bohler showed numerous signs of intoxication, failed a field sobriety test, and gave a breath sample which measured at 0.1.

On Dec. 20 Valparaiso police arrested Carlos Jesus Cabrera, 18, of 1469 Live Oak St., Niceville, on charges of unarmed burglary of an unoccupied structure and trespassing a structure or conveyance.

Police responded to a report from people who had seen Cabrera going through a van on their neighbor's property. Cabrera told police that he had entered the van but had not taken anything.

On Dec. 20 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office arrested Corey Logan Chavis, 29, of 39 Willow Ave., Freeport, on an out of county warrant.

On Dec. 20 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office arrested Christopher James Jones, 21, of 430 Roberts Ave., Niceville, on an out of county warrant.

On Dec. 21 Niceville police arrested Robert Alan McKuhen, 28, of 213 Hawthorne Cir., Fort Walton Beach, on charges of possessing a controlled substance without a prescription (heroin/fentanyl), marijuana possession not more than 20 grams, and drug equipment possession and/or use.

On Dec. 21 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office arrested Krystal Renee Bailey, 28, of 111 Sasser St., Niceville, on a charge of probation violation, misdemeanor.

On Dec. 21 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office arrested Ryan Christopher Brown, 33, of 1402 29th St., Niceville, on charges of probation violation, misdemeanor.

On Dec. 21 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office arrested Jeffrey Lee Davis, 36, of 1714 26th St., Niceville, on three counts of failure to appear for a felony offense.

On Dec. 22 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office arrested Jesse James Barker, 32, of 111 Sasser St., Niceville, on two counts of probation violation, misdemeanor.

On Dec. 22 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office arrested Jeffrey Daniel Goodwin, 29, of 593 Hill Ln., Niceville, on a

charge of possessing a controlled substance without a prescription.

On Dec. 23 Niceville police arrested Jacob Michael Jensen, 21, a cook, of 300 Kazmira Ct., #D, Niceville, on a charge of marijuana possession not more than 20 grams.

A police officer made a traffic stop after Jensen's vehicle ran a stop sign and nearly collided with the officer's patrol car. The officer found Jensen to be in possession of some suspected marijuana which field tested positive for THC.

On Dec. 23 John Edward Bowers, 50, of 223 Bayberry Dr., Niceville, was booked into the Walton County jail on a charge of violation of probation, misdemeanor. He was released on bond later that day.

On Dec. 20 Valparaiso police cited Sara Anne Poremba, 28, on a charge of DUI.

An officer observed Poremba driving very slowly, with her vehicle making a grinding sound. Further investigation revealed that the vehicle was missing both tires on the driver's side, and was driving on the rims.

The officer made a traffic stop, during which Poremba showed numerous signs of intoxication, failed a field sobriety test, and provided two breath samples, which measured at 0.188 and 0.191.

Summons

On Dec. 16 Niceville police issued a criminal summons to Mindy Lynn Cleveland, 39, of 205 Florida St., Niceville, on a charge of retail theft shoplifting. Cleveland had been seen taking items valued at \$40.39 from Walmart.

Other

On Dec. 12 Niceville police responded to an address on 27th St. and helped someone get a stuck top off a propane bottle.

On Dec. 13 Valparaiso police received a report from someone who said their dog had died, apparently from poisoning due to ingestion of antifreeze, which apparently occurred while the person had been walking the dog to Florida Park.

On Dec. 14 Niceville police responded to the Cefco store on College Boulevard, where a slippery substance had been spilled on the road at the intersection of College Boulevard and Highway 85, causing vehicles to lose traction. A Department of Transportation crew was summoned, and used a quick-dry substance to absorb the liquid.

On Dec. 15 Niceville police were summoned to A Proper Wash on John Sims Parkway, where the manager reported that someone had been dumpster diving and had left a mess on the property.

On Dec. 15 Niceville police responded to an address on 27th St. to assist the fire department in responding to a structure fire. Sparks had been observed coming from outlets in the home, apparently due to an electrical system malfunction.

On Dec. 15 Niceville police responded to an address on Valparaiso Boulevard, where someone had found a baggie full of a green leafy substance in a recycling bin.

On Dec. 15 Niceville police responded to an address on Date Palm Circle, where a resident expressed concern about a neighboring child who kept climbing her fence. The resident was afraid that her dog might harm the child. Police advised the child's babysitter of the issue, along with a request to pass the information on to the parents.

On Dec. 18 Niceville police responded to the Wildwood Apartments regarding a report of someone defecating on the property. Further investigation, however, revealed no further evidence of such an incident.

On Dec. 15 Valparaiso police responded to a disturbance at a location on State Road 397. The matter was resolved without an arrest.

On Dec. 16 Niceville police received a report from someone whose mailbox had been hit by a vehicle.

On Dec. 17 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office responded to an address on Ansley Drive regarding some found narcotics.

On Dec. 17 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office responded to an address on Kazmira Court regarding a grand theft.

On Dec. 18 Niceville police responded to the traffic circle near Walmart, where they helped resolve a case of "slight road rage."

On Dec. 18 Niceville police responded to an address on 48th St. regarding the theft of a black 18-speed Trek mountain bike with red lettering.

On Dec. 18 Valparaiso police responded to an address on N. State Road 85 regarding a report of someone taking materials from a dumpster at a business, without permission.

On Dec. 18 Niceville police responded to an address on Powell Drive, where someone had taken an outdoor extension cord from a backyard.

On Dec. 18 Niceville police responded to Hollaway Roofing on

North Highway 85, regarding the theft of some building materials.

On Dec. 18 Niceville police responded to an address on Spence Circle regarding a report of multiple people banging on someone's door and asking if she was home.

On Dec. 19 Niceville police responded to an address on Peachtree Way regarding a burglary to a vehicle.

On Dec. 19 Niceville police responded to an address on Alderwood Way regarding a burglary to a vehicle.

On Dec. 19 Niceville police responded to an address on Cottonwood Court, regarding a burglary to a vehicle.

On Dec. 20 Valparaiso police received a report from someone who said he had damaged his vehicle when he struck an object in the road in Marianna the previous night.

On Dec. 20 Niceville police responded to an address on Yacht Club Drive regarding a report of someone playing pranks on residents.

On Dec. 20 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office responded to an address on Sasser Street regarding a theft.

On Dec. 21 Valparaiso police responded to the Matador Club regarding an altercation between two women. No arrest was made.

On Dec. 21 Niceville police responded to an address on Beverly Drive regarding a report of possible prowlers.

On Dec. 21 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office responded to an address on John Sims Parkway regarding a narcotics misdemeanor.

On Dec. 21 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office responded to an address on North State Road 85 regarding some found narcotics.

On Dec. 21 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office responded to an address on White Point Road regarding a grand theft.

On Dec. 22 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office responded to an address on North State Road 85 regarding a narcotics case.

On Dec. 22 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office responded to an address on Brookhaven Way regarding a report of battery.

On Dec. 22 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office responded to an address on East State Road 20 regarding shoplifting.

On Dec. 23 the Okaloosa Sheriff's office responded to an address on Hickory Street regarding a report of battery.



Damien Robert Pybus



Newspaper page with headlines: Okaloosa County tax levy set to rise 6%, Welcome to the FIELD VALOR, Honoring Florida's fallen, Fire board votes to hike tax levy, Nicville High Homecoming Court.

Newspaper page with headlines: Mullet Fest acts posted, Nicville High School Homecoming, Valp. sets hikes in taxes, fees, Youth council wins state honor.

Newspaper page with headlines: Gemütlichkeit Oktoberfest is set for Friday, Saturday, Past is prologue at the Heritage Museum, Fla. DOT computer woes delay bridge data, Valp. suspends city's fire chief, Rocky Bayou Homecoming Court announced.

Newspaper page with headlines: College offers staff bonuses, Broad stripes, bright stars, Thousands enjoy Oktoberfest, Groups seek city money, Valp. mulls changes following chief's exit, Nicville pastor becomes U.S. citizen.

Newspaper page with headlines: Proposed amendments on state ballot reviewed, TSA Pre signups offered, Pups meet pumpkins, Fire board approves millage, budget tax rate is unchanged, College expo highlights jobs.

Newspaper page with headlines: 42nd Mullet Festival set Three days of music, food and fun, Hurricane Michael sideswipes Twin Cities, Masons to offer Child ID program, Student leads annual prayer event, In Michael's wake.

Newspaper page with headlines: Corroded support cable found in bridge, Community rallies to extend storm aid, Homage to the lowly mullet, Wrong reports of damage sparkled enquiry, 'Monster gator' bagged by hunters in bayou, Saturdays are meant for PAL soccer.

Newspaper page with headlines: Voters face long ballot, Home for young families in crisis nears opening, Officials promote sales tax increase.

THE INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER -by Mike Griffith

What would you like to accomplish in 2019?

Location: Ollie's



"I've accomplished most of my own goals, so now I look forward to helping my children accomplish theirs." Mike Odom, 49, Crestview, contractor



"Further my education." Kyra Kerrigan, 23, Niceville, LPN



"Get my house fixed from Hurricane Michael." Austin Hackimer, 43, Panama City, medical technician



"Survive, and live another year." Vernon Terry, 68, Rock Hill, SC, retired



"I'd like to lose weight. I was doing pretty well until the holidays." Kathy Casey, 71, Niceville, retired



"Learn to run track." Linell McKissick, 7, Navarre, Holly-Navarre Primary School student

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

Northwest Florida State College Continuing Education. Registration Now Open! Classes held at multiple NWF State College locations: Niceville, South Walton, DeFuniak Springs, Crestview. Brochure and more information can be found at www.nwsc.edu/ContEd.

Apartment project announced. A Niceville company said it would build a 305-unit apartment complex in the city's northeast quadrant. The project, by Marin Development Inc., is financed by Transcontinental Realty Investors Inc., Dallas, according to a company statement. Called The Enclave at Deer Moss Creek, the upscale buildings will be situated on the Ruckel tract, a 1,114-acre, largely undeveloped area east of Forest Road. Groundbreaking is set for August, with leasing to begin in 2021, according to the developer.

The Bay Beacon. Work begins to replace span over Toms Bayou. Celebrating Native American heritage. 911 call functions merging. Storm refuge. City shepherds hospital evacuees. Niceville team aids hurricane victims.

The Bay Beacon. Okaloosa County completes its share of state vote recount. Honoring those who served. Sheriff warns of jury-duty swindle. \$24 million courthouse approaches completion.

The Bay Beacon. Home for the holidays. Off-deployed airman reunited with family. Celebrating county's new courthouse. Cracking down on trashy yards. Creativity on display. Artists show their works. Vote recount is completed.

The Bay Beacon. The bee's knees in Valp. An apiarist spreads the word. Let the reindeer games begin. F-22s find temporary home at Eglin. Delays still plague bridge traffic data. Elks give dictionaries to students.

The Bay Beacon. College spends heavily to speed enrollment. Funds sought for Niceville Landing project. Tis the season for winter sports. Special delivery. New postmaster reaches out to customers.

The Bay Beacon. For those '55 and better'. Niceville Senior Center opens. Yule of Yesteryear delights. County gov't moves to ban workplace smoking by employees. Alleged burglar armed with pistol. Ruckel students honor the fallen.

The Bay Beacon. Valp. mulls future of fire department. Christmas on parade. Collecting clothes for kids. Solar power station completes first full year.

The Bay Beacon. County OKs new bus pact. Mergers of 911 call systems. Everlasting light. Woman is wounded in reported drive-by shooting. Valparaiso acts on rundown buildings.

Rocky Bayou spelling bee winners



Pictured are the FACCS (Florida Association of Christian Colleges and Schools) Regional Spelling Bee winners from Rocky Bayou Christian School. Back Row L-R: McKenzie Newsom, Phoebe Riches, Kailey Yang, Calix McCune, Brandon Nosker. Front Row L-R: Briel Coley, Eleanor Gagnon, Ayush Patel, Ava Coffee, William Hanson. Not pictured: Colton Greer.



St. Paul spreads Christmas cheer

St. Paul Christian School prepared 65 Christmas baskets to deliver to residents of Belvedere Commons in Ft. Walton Beach.



Mid-Bay Rotary delivers care packages

There are 65 care packages on the way to deployed military members. Each care package contains multiple snack foods, playing cards, etc. Especially significant, each care package contains a hand-written note thanking the deployed service member for their service to our country. Thanks to military, civilian, and family members of the 96th Logistics Readiness Squadron (LRS) and to Mid-Bay Rotary Club members and their spouses who helped with the assembly of the care packages. In addition, Mid-Bay Rotary Club presented an \$800 donation to help offset the cost of mailing the care packages. In particular, Mid-Bay thanks American House Senior Living Communities at Bluewater Bay for the use of their wonderful facility for the care package effort and for furnishing a great variety of morning breakfast items. Pictured: Mid-Bay Rotary members and spouses and 96th LRS Military, civilian and spouses assemble care packages. Mid-Bay Rotary spouse Janice Jean with one of her personalized notes that was inserted into a care package.



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College holds ribbon cutting

Northwest Florida State College held a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony for their new Raider Central recently. Raider Central is part of the College's reimagined Student Success Center that was designed to be a modern concept where students receive all services in one location. The Student Success division of the College offered a guided tour of Raider Central after the ceremony. Pictured from left to right are NWF Trustee Maj. Gen. Don Litke, USAF Ret.; NWF SGA President Drew Hannah; NWF Trustee Mrs. Charlotte Flynt; NWF Board of Trustees Chair Mr. Brian Pennington; NWF President Dr. Devin Stephenson; Florida College System Director of Learning, Innovation and Success Dr. Angela Long and NWF Board of Trustees Vice-Chair Maj. Gen. Rudy Wright, USAF Ret.



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