Economy hints at better times

By Mike Griffith

Recession Correspondent

Monetary easing, the Federal Reserve Board of Governors and the Treasury Department, have noted significant economic trends. Jan. 12 at the Northwest Florida, Valparaiso. The topic is, "What’s in Your Garden, Friendly Natives or Evil Eaters?" Free. Info: 678-2842 or 678-2615.

Economy hints

A sometime schoolteacher has been arrested for "squatting," or living in a four-bedroom vacant Niceville home without the owner’s knowledge. Robert George Harris III, 47, who gave his address as 2709 Edgewater Drive, Niceville, was arrested by sheriff’s deputies Jan. 3 on charges of burglary of an unoccupied dwelling, grand theft, and theft, obtaining property over $50,000, according to a report from the Okaloosa County Sheriff’s Office. Harris, who allegedly had electricity service restored to the previously vacant home, told deputies that he was ready to defend it with an assault rifle. Harris is a substitute teacher with the Okaloosa County School District since 2006, but has taught

Early voting features site in Niceville

By Del Lessard

Recession Staff Writer

Early voting for Florida’s Jan. 31 Presidential Preference Primary—as well as municipal elections in Valparaiso—will start Saturday. For the first time, an early-voting site will be open in Niceville. Early voting will end Jan. 28, three days before Election Day, Jan. 31.

Only Republican registered voters may cast ballots in the party’s hotly contested presidential primary, said Okaloosa County Supervisor of Elections Paul Paul Lux.

Because the Democratic Party has only one presidential candidate, incumbent Barack Obama, Florida does not have a Democratic presidential primary this year. For the same reason, no

Council backs plan to award no-bid pact

By Mike Griffith

Recession Correspondent

Without seeking other bids, the Niceville City Council has approved the first of three read- ings of ordinances removing Waste Management’s contract with the city for residential and commercial trash pickup and disposal.

Meeting Jan. 10, the council tentatively approved the exten- sion of Waste Management’s existing contracts, repairing a

Pentagon details F-35 problems

By Del Lessard

Recession Staff Writer

Development and testing problems with the multi-billion-dollar F-35 Joint Strike Fighter program could lead to further delays in the fielding of produc- tion aircraft at Eglin Air Force Base and elsewhere, senior Pentagon officials have con- cluded.

The findings come at a time when the administration in Washington, D.C., is reported to be considering defense budget cuts, including a possible slow- down in acquisition of the in-service, supersonic, stealthy war- plane, which is expected to be the workforce of the nation’s tactical airpower through the mid-21st century.

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Harper described the national economy as “upward” and said that expectations of slow, rather than rapid, economic growth have become “the new normal” throughout the nation. He also said he is concerned that the national debt has passed $15 trillion, which he called a “tip- ping point” at which the debt

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According to Air Force documentation by the end of 2011, air. However, none of the eight Eglin airplanes flew from the Pentagon's largest. Air forces at cockpit panels while flying.

Two new F-35s accepted into service for Marine Corps arrived at Eglin Air Force Base last week. Picture, one of the craft makes a pass over Destin before landing at Eglin. A recent Pentagon study identified problems in the $37 billion defense problem that threaten cost and slow production.

New problems discovered during F-35 development are, the report's Pentagon authors concluded, a rate more typical of early design experience on previous aircraft development programs.

So far no fundamental design flaws have been found that are sufficient to preclude further production of the planes, the quick look report concluded, although it identified five free problems that could have major consequences:

1. Helmet-mounted display. It's a system that consolidates and presents sensor information onto the pilot's helmet visor so he has a clear view of both the ground and the skies.

2. Integrated power package. One such package malfunctioned on a test aircraft in 2011, causing a precautionary grounding of the small fleet, since lifted.

3. Anhedral gear system on the F-35C. The failback on the Navy version reportedly failed eight out of eight times, possibly forcing a significant redesign of the aircraft. On landing, the plane can blow off the runway if an arresting cable on the deck of an aircraft carrier, bringing the aircraft to a quick halt so it doesn't wind up in the water.

4. Fuel drop system. Testing has shown that fuel drum in flight can pool on the aircraft skin, producing a fire risk, rather than blowing off into the air. Fuel is often dumped in flight to lighten planes that are too heavy to land, such as those making emergency landings immediately after takeoff.

5. Integrated power package. One such package malfunctioned on a test aircraft in 2011, causing a precautionary grounding of the small fleet, since lifted.

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An unspecified problem that is shrouded in Pentagon secrecy.

Other issues with potentially major consequence and still likely to be discovered during future testing—which includes some of the more rigorous flight tests—include a problem with the flight testing of the aircraft's horizontal stabilizers, including, excluding aircraft butting, design flaws that mean some parts won't achieve desired lift, and navigating, targeting and releasing weapons. There is no “back-seat” weapons officer or navigator. There is no “back-seat” weapons officer or navigator.

The Pentagon's largest. Air forces are expected to spend less time peering down the pilot's helmet visor so he has a clear view of both the ground and the skies.

The quick look report also identified five free other issues where the individual cost impacts are seen, as moderate, but taken together could cause significant cost increases. The concerns include software, management and maintenance problems, computerized "mainte-

Harris III
ECONOMY

Harper said that future economic recovery will be "gangbusters," and Panama City and Fort Walton Beach led the rest of Northwest Florida in job growth.

Government activity, Harper said, is still the largest job generator in Northwest Florida, mainly due to the military bases in the region. While the military is a large source of jobs, especially higher-paying jobs, military employment remains "flat," with little prospect for large growth. The fastest-growing job fields in the next few years, Harper said, will be real estate sales agents, food preparation and services, and tourism management.

He said that the banking industry is also recovering, but the greatest prosperity is in large national banks rather than in community or regional banks, as the large banks were better able to take advantage of federal subsidies and stimulus programs since 2008.

Housing prices in Northwest Florida, which dropped dramatically during and after 2008, have now returned to the levels they were at in 2004 and 2005, and Harper expects them to continue climbing, but very slowly. "This is a great time to buy a home," he said, "if you can qualify for a loan."

Larry Sassano, president of the Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County, spoke about local projects to lure new businesses to the county. He said the EDC is a "public-private partnership," run by a board of directors and staffed by four employees. The EDC, Sassano said works with state agencies and local business and political leaders to attract businesses to Okaloosa County. The "targeted industries" of most interest to the EDC, he said, include aerospace, defense, information technology, life sciences, manufaturing and engineering, renewable energy, and corporate headquarters. The development and building of unmanned aerial vehicles, said Sassano, is of special interest within the aerospace industry.

Projects to attract new businesses, Sassano said, begin with leads about companies that may be interested in coming to Okaloosa. The EDC then gathers specific information about the company of interest, to include what economic and social benefits the company can bring to the county, and how the company’s own needs are for a friendly business environment. The EDC works confidentially with target companies to evaluate their needs, arrange site tours and information, and arrange economic incentives from local governments. "We are all about creating jobs," Sassano concluded.

Scarlett Phaneuf, of the Walton County EDC, said her county’s program to retain and attract new businesses that in Okaloosa, except that Walton is considered a more rural area than Okaloosa, which requires a different approach and tends to attract different kinds of businesses. Local governm ents in Walton County are business-friendly, said Phaneuf, and the county has established industrial parks or “enterprise zones” in or near Freeport, DeFuniak Springs, and Mossy Head. Currently, she said, the Walton EDC is helping to locate a new brewery in South Walton County, a chemical manufacturer in Freeport, and possibly a redistribution center there as well.

HELP WANTED NEWSPAPER DELIVERY

Earn extra cash of $45 to $140 or more each week in your spare time! The Bay Beacon seeks a reliable, independent contractor to insert, bag, and deliver in e xact change order, a good driving record, a Florida driver’s license, proof of current liability insurance. No collection duties. Earnings vary according to route place of residence. To apply, call the Bay Beacon for an information sheet and to fill it out an application.

John Steib, 1181 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville, FL 32578 (Parkway East Shopping Center (Pep Boys))

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

The new Student Services Center on the Niccum campus is a 3-story, 75,000 square foot facility that includes an academic hub of life science & a community college annex. The top floor houses the college’s prestigious Leadership Institute & specialized facilities for conferences, community events & meetings. For Open House information and times for activities see www.nwfcc.edu/openhouse.

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

OPEN FOR TOURS & INFORMATION

This building includes facilities for Early Childhood Education & Child Development Center, Children’s Social Services/Blackwell Resource Library, Fine & Performing Arts—Art Exhibition, Costume Shop, Dance Studios, Recitals, Recording Studio, Theater, Utah Program, Food Services & Facilities/Rental/Conference Facilities, Film/Video Design & Photography, Healthcare Programs—Nursing, Dental, Radiography, Computer Science.

Learning Resources Center—Library

On sale tomorrow, January 19th!!

Business

Public Safety—Fire Science, Paramedic, EMT, Correctional & Law Enforcement Academies

Scientists—Biological, Physical, Observational Student Activities/Conferences

Teaching Learning Center—Elementary/Secondary, Middle School/Math/Science

Women’s Educational Resource Center
**Police Blotter**

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**Fire Department Reports**

**North Bay**

**WE DO AUTO REPAIR**

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<th>Service</th>
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<td>Roadside Service</td>
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**Standard Oil Change**

| Standard Oil Change | $29.95 |

**Safe Total Market Home Delivery**

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**COUNCIL**

Council members approved the early renewal saying that the city council that evening, saying.

**Arrests**

Tara Jane Fernack, 27, of 902 Ray Lynn Allbritton Lane, was arrested by Niceville police Jan. 8 on a charge of driving while license suspended.

Robert Thomas Angle, 26, of 11740 Salina, Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police Jan. 12 on a charge of driving while license suspended.

Marc Anthony Perez, 30, of 404 W. 4th St., Apt. 44, Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police Jan. 11 on a charge of driving while license suspended.

**Thieves**

A vehicle belonging to an out-of-town resident was burglarized. It was parked in the 1200 block of North Bayshore Drive Jan. 10 meeting.

**Criminal Mischief**

Three suspects vandalized the north and south parts of Niceville's Turkey Creek nature trail early on a horse jack and a tire.

**Fire Department**

The Bay Beacon & Express

1181 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville (850) 678-1080 • Fax: 720-3255 info@baybeacon.com

**Arrests**

Ronald Dean Anthony, a business owner, was arrested by Niceville police Jan. 8 on a charge of driving while license suspended.

**Criminal Mischief**

The city council approved the early renewal saying that the city council that evening, saying.

**Arrests**

To aid in our mission to keep everything you value Safe. Sound. Secure.

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To aid in our mission to keep everything you value Safe. Sound. Secure.
What do you think about the US postal rate hike scheduled for January 22, to include “forever” stamps going from 44 to 45 cents, and priority mail going from $4.15 to $5.15?

“I think they should raise the same. I don’t see a reason to raise them with the economy the way it is.”

Kim Putney, 26, Valparaiso, stay-home mother

“I don’t see any increase. It goes up every time you turn around.”

Larry Cordie, 50, DeFuniak Springs, truck driver

“We don’t have the effect of removing a passenger’s clothes. TSA says it has permitted for a cell phone transmission. Each of the millimeter-wave scanners costs about $190,000, a cost paid by TSA, Allen said. The new full-body scanner, in use at many other airports, uses radiation exposure as that posed by natural cosmic rays in two minutes of flying at altitude on an airplane.

The millimeter-wave imaging machines replaces privacy concerns of replacing passenger-specific body image with generic outlines of a person. The generic image is the same for all passengers. Any potential threat that are detected by the scanner will show up on the corresponding area of the generic image. While standing in the scanner passengers at the Okaloosa airport get to see the same image on a computer monitor that TSA officers see.

The TSA requires passengers under going a scan to raise their hands and spread their legs. It also recommends removing all items from pockets and certain accessories such as wallets, belt, hardware, money, keys, and cell phone.

The device detected something wrong, a security agent determined that the machine, which was a basic desktop unit, was not working.”

Regina Perkins, 20, Cresthew, mother

“The scan was wrong.”

Stacey Barkerman, 43, Baker, bus driver and food service worker

“Everything is going up. I personally still pay the bill’s with checks rather than online. I guess it’s just another way for the government to get more of our money.”

Stacey Barkerman, 43, Baker, bus driver and food service worker

“I think the postal service will soon be a thing of the past, with checks rather than electronic alternatives like email and Facebook.”

Ashley Jackson, 27, Niceville, mother

“I think the Postal Service is constantly going up. It’s so many fees, it’s no shocker.”

Brittany Newman, 26, Cresthew, stay-home mom

Transportation Security Administration Images displayed by a full-body scanner of the type newly installed at the Okaloosa airport. Yellow areas indicate possible threat necessitating a search.

SCANNER

From page A-4

“Security threat was detected, the passenger and TSA agent see the genetic body outline with area where the anomaly was detected highlighted. The image is not stored, printed or transmitted, according to the agency. The TSA requires passengers undergoing a scan to raise their hands and spread their legs. It also recommends removing all items from pockets and certain accessories such as wallets, belt, hardware, money, keys, and cell phone.

An 18-year-old Niceville college student who flew from the Okaloosa airport Jan. 7, three days after the scanner was put into service, recalled his experience with the device. “I was asked to put my hands over my head and stand for about five seconds,” she said.

“The machine detected something wrong, a security agent gave me a pat-down, the student recalled. The security agent determined that the problem was my watch and something metallic about his buttons. She then showed me the image of the machine which was a basic hardware outline highlighting the area where metal was detected.

Surveillance video showed two white males entering Turkey Creek South at 12:34 a.m. Jan. 9, with one subject holding a plastic shopping bag. Two other cameras on the boardwalk showed a third male had joined the first two. All three were seen walking down the boardwalk area.

The surveillance cameras never recorded the three leaving. Police checked local retail stores for anyone had purchased blue and red spry paint, but turned up no leads. The city estimated the cost to clean the damage at $1,000.

BLOTTER

From page A-4

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The voice of Niceville, Bluewater Bay and Valparaiso since 1992

WHY YOU CAN’T LOSE WEIGHT

The answer to the question has more to do with your individual body chemistry than what particular diet works best. In fact, there isn’t one diet perfect for every body. Our individual heritage and genetic makeup predisposes us to what foods are best for our body needs. That is why we need to be changed in everyone for their body chemistry.

The one most noteworthy for weight loss is leptin. Leptin is a hormone in your body that tells your brain to stop eating, when you burn fat, and regulates the function of other hormones. If leptin is out of balance despite your best efforts, you will not lose weight. Your brain will not get the message to burn fat for energy, instead you will continue to be a sugar burner. The problem with this is you will not use fat, but utilize the sugars for sugar and will break down muscle tissue, which your body converts to sugar. This causes your weight to increase in a downward spiral. Remember: fat doesn’t make you fat, it is the inability to burn it in our clinic we use patient history and a blood test for measuring leptin to determine diet that best for them. Chances are, that diet wasn’t metabolically correct for your body chemistry.

Another essential parameter that dictates what diet is best is often overlooked. It is the type of new food you choose. Your brain will not get jsonify to and be turned off. If you choose foods that are high in sugar and will break down muscle tissue, which your body converts to sugar, you will continue to be a sugar burner. The problem with this is you will not use fat, but utilize the sugars for sugar and will break down muscle tissue, which your body converts to sugar. This causes your weight to increase in a downward spiral. Remember: fat doesn’t make you fat, it is the inability to burn it in our clinic we use patient history and a blood test for measuring leptin to determine diet that best for them.

Give us a call to register Call 850-678-8048

Maximized Living Extreme Makeover

Where: Chiropractic Associates
705 W. John Sims Pkwy. • Niceville, FL 32578
When: Thursday, January 19, 2012
Time: 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Cost: $30.00
To Register Call 850-678-8048

Hear amazing testimonials from past participants on the first night of class.

Seminar Includes: Resource Guide/Cookbook including Recipes, Shopping List, Exercise, Toxicity (Recipe night to follow on January 23, 2012.)
VOTING

From page A-5

A minor-party candidate is on the primary ballot.

Meantime, all registered voters who are registered Democrats, Republicans, Mary Esther, or Doxin may vote early in municipal elections, Lux said, at any of the four early voting sites.

To make it easier to vote early this year, Lux said, a fourth Okaloosa County early-voting station has been added, this one in Niceville.

Early voters can cast their ballots at any of four polling places in the county:

—Niceville City Council Chambers, 208 S. Pine Drive, Niceville.
—University of Florida’s REEF, 350 North Poquito Road, Shalimar.
—Bob Sikes Library, 1445 Conner Lane, Crestview.
—Supervisor of Elections Office, 802 Wilson Street, Suite 100, Fort Walton Beach.

Hours for early voting Jan. 21-28 are:

—Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
—Wednesday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
—Last day is Jan. 31, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Any person standing in line at close of business will be allowed to vote, according to Lux.

Jan. 31 was the last day to register or change party affiliation before the Jan. 31 primary. On Election Day, voting will take place 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 52 precincts countywide.

Nine Republican presidential candidates were listed as qualified by the state’s Division of Elections, Michelle Bachmann, Herman Cain, Newt Gingrich, Jon Huntsman, Gary Johnson, Ron Paul, Rick Perry, Mitt Romney, and Rick Santorum.

Bachmann, Cain, and Huntsman have withdrawn since they qualified for the Florida ball-

tot. In Valparaiso, voters of any party or no party may vote at any of the city’s nonprofit elections for city commission. Five qualified candi-

dates vying for two seats: Kay Hamilton, incumbent Thomas G. Miller, Joe Morgan, Keith Randall Roberts and incumbent Neal Shermer.

Registered voters may also request an absentee ballot by tele-

phone, mail, email, fax, or per-

sonally delivered to the Supervisor of Elections office by 7 p.m. on election day in order to be counted. Absentee ballots must be postmarked by the Secretary of State’s office. By 7 p.m. on election day, the Supervisor of Elections office must have declared it received the absentee ballot with a signature that was affixed by the voter.

The early-voting site in Niceville is next to the county courthouse, near the traffic light at 40th Street and Emerald Drive.

Castaneda and the entire staff at Emerald Coast Family Medicine takes care of families from newborns to seniors.

As a physician who provides care for entire families, Dr. Castaneda aims to provide personal, inclusive and continuous care for individuals during all stages of the life. Currently, his practice is accepting new patients.

ECFM get to know their patients by thoroughly listening to medical concerns and following through by assisting with health care decisions.

Trained in family medicine, Dr. Castaneda can provide diag-
nosis and treatment for full range of health conditions and concerns. These include, but are not limited to: diabetes, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, heart disease, obesity, cardio vascular screening, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, skin ailments, thyroid disorders, and mental health issues related to anxiety, depression or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. On-site ultrasound services provide additional convenience to patients. In addition, well-child and ado-

lecent check-ups are also avai-

lable, to include school physi-
cals, sports physicals and immu-
nizations. Flu shots are also available for patients of ECFM.

According to Dr. Castaneda, “Obesity leads to heart disease and diabetes and is closely approaching smoking as the leading cause of many cancers.” For this reason, helping patients with weight management is an important concern of Dr. Castaneda. ECFM provides weight-loss management through individually customized programs. Dr. Castaneda’s weight-loss program Dr. Castaneda provides is an indi-

vidually tailored, healthier alterna-

tive to yo-yo dieting on your own.

ECFM accepts most forms of insurance and will process the paperwork for patients. Same-

day appointments are available for acute care concerns, provid-

ing a time-effective alternative to long waits at the emergency room.

Emerald Coast Family Medicine is located at 143 S. John Sims Parkway, Valparaiso, 850-279-3300.

“Patient BEFORE Emerald Coast Family Medicine weight loss management program.”

“Patient AFTER Emerald Coast Family Medicine weight loss management program.”

Advertising Feature

Dr. Castaneda of Emerald Coast Family Medicine is a board-certified family physician dedicated to the comprehensive health care of the entire family.

For more than 10 years, Dr. Castaneda has been ensuring the health of his patients from newborns to seniors. During the past four years, he has opened an ongoing relationship with patients in Bluewater Bay, Valparaiso, Niceville and other surrounding communities.

With an emphasis on prevention, taking and health promotion, Dr. Castaneda aims to provide personal, inclusive and continuing care for individuals during all stages of the life. Currently, his practice is accepting new patients.

As a physician who provides care for entire families, Dr. Castaneda goes above and beyond expectations to develop a respectful and trusting patient-doctor relationship that is sincere, warm, kindness and engaged communication enables him to connect to them on a personal level.

Dr. Castaneda and the entire staff at Emerald Coast Family Medicine are committed to providing a patient-centered care for entire families, Dr. Castaneda aims to provide personal, inclusive and continuing care for individuals during all stages of the life. Currently, his practice is accepting new patients.

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Dominated landscape features
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Panhandle Outdoors LIVE, a
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Obituary

Ruth Eubanks Langston

Ruth Eubanks Langston, 97, of Niceville, Fla., passed away Thursday morning, Jan. 5, 2012, at Demer City Hospital in Niceville.

Ruth was born in Pitt County, N.C., on Sept. 29, 1914, to Tim and Mary Lou Eubanks. She attended Lenoir-Rhyne College in 1932 and graduated salutatorian of her class from Concentration Church in Jacksonville.

Ruth and Bill were engaged this past July while vacationing and hiking in Switzerland. They will be married on July 21, 2012, at Immaculate Conception Church in Jacksonville.

Ruth was employed in the audit and master degrees from the University of Florida, School and a 2010 graduate of Niceville High School and a 2010 graduate of St. Paul Lutheran Preschool in Niceville, and has qualified in the Florida Panhandle. Planquest the first Detin Dessert, Fell 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hilton.

Dessert Dessert is a 1-year old based on Girl Scout Cookies. All guests will benefit local Girl Scouts. Tickets are $75.

Chiefs from around Dessert will prepare special desserts using Girl Scout Cookies. Guest will sample the desserts and vote for their favorite. Chef Tim Crews will be head judge, along with Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle CEO Rachel M. Allen. The event will feature music by Jones and company, along with a silent auction and heavy hors d’oeuvres.

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The quilts will be displayed all day and are dedicated to children. Guild members made more than 900 quilts for children in 2011 and are dedicated to children. The quilts will be displayed all week, from March 31, at Sandestin Resort.

Call Pat, 729-7772, or Lynn, 897-7372, for instructions on the Quilt Show. Check flyingsneedles. org for information about the Retreat. Call Sandra, 862-6388, for more information about the retreat.

Scouts plan dessert tasting to raise cash

The Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle Planquest the first Detin Dessert, Fell 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hilton.

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The Depu Brothers

The Emerald Coast Concert Association will present the Depu Brothers, four violinist brothers, and whose sound is a blend of bluegrass, classical and rock Jan, 21, 7:30 p.m., at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville. Tickets, $20 in advance, $25 at the door, are available at Mattie Kelly Arts Center Box Office or by calling 729-6000. Info: 305-392-0956 or emeraldconcerts.com.

The Popcorn and Politics Party at the Democratic Women’s Club will have an election lecture topic, “Salty Memories.” The lecture is free and open to the public; 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Thursday, Wednesday and Thursday programs are planned.

On Jan 18 and 19, at the Niceville Library and Children’s Park will join forces for “A Snow Day.” The Snow Day event will start at 10:30 a.m. and at 11:30 the park will host a snowman building contest.

Art Workshops available

The arts of Lyric Motion will be on display through Jan. 31, at Cape, Blairello, 14 Bayshore Drive, Niceville. As a member of the local Color Artist’s Group and the Plein Air Artists of Florida Society, Blairello will offer free workshops for children and adults, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Thursday-Sunday. Info: 858-2255.

The McIlroy Gallery will host the “World Apart,” a two-piece show featuring the works of Donna Branch and Dave Maw.

In the H. L. Blairello building, the Drawings Gallery, viewers will see the work of seven local artists; “Cassini, the Magic Box,” an intimate view of decorated miniature.

The Galleries are always free and open to the public.

Tickets are $58.

“R Patterns”

“Being a salt lake and lake is very unique area to have for Sandra Henderson, an information about Saltwater fishing,” she said.

The title of the lecture is “The Real Truth about Saltwater Fishing,” and how to catch them and open to the public on Jan. 18. Sandra Henderson has been a fishing and game warden.

For information regarding this lecture call 850-9356 or email emeraldconferences.com.

The Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra will present Joggings, a natural concert production of the musical, will be performed at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, main stage. Jan. 19, 19-9 p.m. Tickets are $22 in advance, $25 at the door, are available at Mattie Kelly Arts Center Box Office or by calling 729-6000.

Concerto winners perform

The Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra will present the winners of the Concerto Competition, will be held in the main stage, will perform the violin concerto, the piano concerto and the cello concerto, with the program at 7 p.m. The morning is free and open to the public.

Tickets are $25 and available at the box office.

“Simply Sinatra”

“Simply Sinatra,” starring Steve Lippia, will be performed at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $45.

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Skydiving champ wins gold, sets records at national meet

Nicolle native Travis Thornton won two gold medals and set national and state collegiate skydiving records Dec. 29 at the 2011 U.S. Parachute Association National Collegiate Parachuting Championships at Skydive, Arey in Ely, south of Phoenix.

Nearly 100 fearless collegiate skydivers from around the country put their books aside over the winter break to compete at the national championships, pushing their actual skills to the limit and competing for the title of national champion in four spectacular skydiving disciplines. Formation Skydiving, Vertical Formation Skydiving, Sport Accuracy and Collegiate Free Fall.

Sponsoring a team at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., regionals and nationals are the ultimate goals for the team. Travis said this was the most complete team he has put together with a total score of 0.65 meters.

Thornton has skydived more than 3,000 feet in the air more than 3,000 times. He has a minor in business administration with a major in history.

On Jan. 21, 2011, Travis joined the U.S. Air Force Academy and the school immediately announced a new program for those interested in becoming a skydiver.

The program will begin with a four-week camp, followed by an open competition in May. The winner of the competition will be named the Skydive of the Year.

The final STARS registration will take place Saturday, Jan. 29, 9 a.m.-noon at Northview Middle School, Building LRC, Room 131, for boys and girls U8 (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th grades).

For more information, call Bill Dinning at 243-7223 or e-mail bldinning@comcast.net.

Sports Briefs

The Coast Guard Boarding Safety Course, conducted at the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Florida, will take place at Coast Guard Station Daytona on the Okaloahoma Island Saturday, Jan. 28, registration begins at 8 a.m. Class runs from 8:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Registration is required by Jan. 25. It is $35 per participant and includes the exam, FWC Safe Boating Card, lunch, handouts, games, awards, and/or cash prizes.

The Bluewater Bay Sailing Club plans a Bluewater Fun Race Saturday, Jan. 21, Captain’s meet, 10 a.m., at the Baytowne, and a runners’ social at L.J. Schooner’s, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. It starts at 1 p.m. and all boats will participate as a single class.

The Destin 50 Beach Ultra, Destin 50 Beach Ultra Deployed Shark Run, Son of a Beach 5K and Son of a Beach 10K will all begin at 7 a.m.

On Sunday, Feb. 19, a 50 mile run will begin at 8 a.m., followed by an “Athlete Challenge,” a CrossFit-inspired event that will include running, lifting, push-ups, and other strength exercises.

On Sunday, Feb. 19, a 50 mile race pace dinner party will be served from 5:30-8 p.m. at Graffiti in Shalimar, and a runners’ social will take place at the L.J. Schooner’s, 6 p.m.-9 p.m. All races and registration destin50@live.com or call 850-977-5329.

Skydive Bartow: You can fly from Bartow to anywhere in the world.

Sports Briefs

Skydive Bartow: You can fly from Bartow to anywhere in the world.

The Red Bar, Grayton Beach.

Travis Thornton joins his skydiving crew in a formation during the U.S. Parachute Association National Collegiate Parachuting Championships at Skydive, Arizona.

Skydive Bartow: You can fly from Bartow to anywhere in the world.
Homes for Rent

- $500 per month, call 897-4897.
- Established business, have a reliable vehicle, a Tuesday night. You and deliver newspapers a reliable independent
- Earn extra cash of $45
- Shopping Center across Parkway, Niceville • Application. The Beacon
- and to fill out an for an information sheet collecting duties.
- and proof of current Wednesday, January 18, 2012
Niceville, Tate girls tie, 1-1

Niceville High School freshman Elisah Craft outruns her Arnold soccer opponent Friday night at Twin Oaks, above. The two schools ended the game tied, 1-1. Below, Jessica Chavis heads the ball out of a swarm of Arnold players.

Eagles shut out Tate

Niceville High School’s Marcos Melendez-Zambrano moves the ball away from Tate defenders during the Eagles’ 3-0 victory over the visitors Friday at Twin Oaks, left. Below, Eagle David Williams frustrates the Tate players by keeping the ball moving toward the Tate goal.

More sports, B-4

Darlene Martin, RN, BSN, COE
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Beacon photos by Norman Wolf

Teachers in the News

Knights lose to Choctaw

Rocky Bayou’s Grace Stoner rushes for the ball Jan. 10 as teammate Maria Jammer watches. The Knights lost the game to Choctawhatchee, 4-0.

Photo by Scott Schaeffer

NHS falls to Bulldogs Thursday

Niceville High School’s Tashi Brown shoots from within a pressing crowd of Crestview players Thursday at home, drawing a foul.

Crestview won the hard-fought contest, 56-39.

Beacon photo by Sarah Clausen

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Mary Beth Love

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Beacon photos by Norman Wolf