The Bay Beacon this week is pleased to present a look back at the top stories and photos of 2013, as presented in a week-by-week review of Page 1.

Thank you, readers, for welcoming us into your homes in 2013. Thank you, advertisers, for your support in the past year.

We look forward to continuing to serve you in 2014.

Make a New Year’s Resolution you can enjoy-
Read More Books!

Bayou BOOK CO.
Since 1986
Oak Creek Shopping Center • Niceville • (850) 624-6252
www.bayoubookco.com

Need Eye Glasses to Read? Smart LensesSM

Dr. Darren Payne’s Smart lens Procedure can produce clear vision without eye glasses at all distances (close up, far away, & in between)

Call for a Smart Lens Evaluation with Dr. Darren Payne

MULLIS EYE INSTITUTE

Darren Payne, MD
Board Certified
Eye Surgeon & Cornea Specialist

Call Today at:

Niceville Location
115 Bailey Dr. • 679-5338

Crestview Location
930 N. Ferdon Blvd. • 682-5338

Stabilize Your Dentures Instantly!

Why Now? Why Wait? Why not turn your dreams of a more comfortable and attractive smile into a beautiful reality? Start smiling again with a simple, gentle, non-surgical procedure. Restore your comfort and confidence while speaking and eating. In one procedure you can walk out ready to enjoy the foods you wish, without the long healing times and high costs typically associated with conventional implants.

GULF COAST DENTAL
Stevens G. Robinette DDS
650 Hwy 90, 
1202 Brookside Dr. Suite 100
Niceville, FL 32578
www.gulfcoastdental.com

Call Today!

Like us on Facebook

READY TO ENHANCE YOUR CURB APPEAL?
Upgrade your old existing driveway with Stylish Cobblestone Pavers or we can remove and repour your driveway.

Polly’s Concrete Products
www.pollysconcrete.com

$100.00 OFF
Cobblestone Paver Driveway

$50.00 OFF
Formed & Poured Driveway
there was someone waiting for me with a copy of the Bay Beacon, and my $50
Bluewater Bay 897-4466
sign at the "triangle" intersection.
Aerial exercise

The Valparaiso Planning Commission has proposed that the noise committee be
posed that the noise committee be
affiliated with the Noise Committee, told the panel.

In an attempt to reduce jet
noise, experience an early departure from the plane.  Pictured, the Valparaiso
unit's base north of Niceville.

Dennis Meine, Okaloosa
County Director, added that this is
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
expected to drop dramatically,
About 40 people watch the Bluewater Bay MSBU Board meet July 16 to review a proposal to reduce the millage rate to $2.00/1,000.

Valparaiso mayor drafts charter changes

Air Force responds to mayor on F-35 noise

Col. Bud Day recalled as ‘a hero’

First users of railway to be on foot

Schools prepare for new year
Representative Herden, one of the original members, presented "Fun of family fun" event, featuring accessories sale at the community center.

Members of the local Civil War reenactor group Walton Guard fix bayonets during a drill Sunday in preparation for a reenactment.

The East Niceville Fire Department responded to a call at 12:51 p.m. Wednesday for a fire at an unspecified location on State Road 20 East in Niceville.

The driver of a Walmart 18-wheeler tried to make a U-turn, but the cab got stuck on the shoulder of State Road 20 East, just south of state Highway 20, Niceville. The driver attempted to drive off the shoulder onto the grassy median, but the truck got stuck in the grass.

Questions about the accident should be directed to the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office, 850-244-9000.

Low rates are just around the corner.

- Convenient local office
- Money-saving discounts
- Low down payments
- Monthly payment plans
- 24-hour service and claims
- Coverage available by phone

Insurance for all your needs.

Auto-Owners Insurance

Your #1 Fans...

Auto-Owners Insurance and your local independent agency have been a winning combination since 1914. We’ll work with you to insure your home, auto, business and life and keep everything you value Safe. Secure.

Niceville's Newspaper

The Beacon

The Finest in EYE CARE

Darren Payne, MD

- Eye Health Club Member of Niceville Medical Center
- 15 Years Experience
- A Friendly and Caring Personality

Lee Mullis, MD

- Over 25 Years Experience
- National Leader in Phakic No-Stitch Cataract Surgery
- A Kind and Friendly Eye Doctor

We Specialize in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Eye Conditions Associated with Aging, including:

- CATARACTS
- DROOPY EYE LIDS
- MEDICARE
- ASSIGNMENT ACCEPTED
- RETINA PROBLEMS
- GLAUCOMA

MULLIS EYE INSTITUTE • Call for an appointment

115 Bailey Dr., Niceville • (850) 678-5338
930 N. Ferdon Blvd., Crestview • (850) 682-5338
Most DoD employees go back to work. "Helping Handers" hold a "100 days" event.

Naples Halves Garbage Package

Fleur de Lis, 10010 Bayside Blvd.

Mullet Festival to open Friday

RedKen Color & Products

SAVE $2,000. STORY, A-6.

The voice of Niceville, Bluewater Bay and Valparaiso since 1992.

(850) 678-1080

info@baybeacon.com

10 Pages, 2 Sections, 4 Inserts

BAY AREA

PSYCHOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS

Berholt & Tallman, PA

INDIVIDUAL • MARRITAL • FAMILY COUNSELING

Most major insurances accepted and filed, including BCBS, Tricare and Medicare.

Vegas • 850-729-0303

1417 N. Perkin Drive, Suite One

www.BayAreasPsychConsult.com

ALL AROUND THE TOWN

Helping you navigate through life

THE BAY BEACON

Wednesday, January 1, 2014

Page A-6

Okaloosa eye millions in RFP money

Mullet Festival Grounds

Thunderbird Intertribal

tourism department is quitting

Year's holiday season.

By Mike Griffith

sought during

the job.

"Plants for Fall and Winter"

will meet at the

oranges, and vegetables.

rs, & cement fiber board.

For the 2013-14 year, classes will

with their transitions back to

life."
**Engagements**

April Dawn Burks and Brian Patrick Ward

April Dawn Burks and Brian Patrick Ward are happy to announce their engagement and forthcoming marriage. April is the daughter of Enmay and Clance Burks of Cairo, Ga. She graduated from Valdosta State University with a Master of Education in 2003. She is employed at Valdosta High School as a math teacher. Brian is the son of Al and Wanda Ward of Niceville. He graduated from Florida State University.

---

**Weddings**

Kathleen and William Higdon

Kathleen and William Higdon of Fort Walton Beach and Ron and MaryJo Higdon of Niceville would like to announce the marriage of their children, Kathleen Higdon and William Higdon. The marriage ceremony was held at Harbut’s Convention Club on September 21.

Kathleen is a 2005 graduate of the Choctawhatchee High School IB Program. She received a B.S. Degree in Bio Science and is a 2005 graduate from Florida State University. She received her M.S. Degree in Nurse-Midwifery from University of Central Florida in 2003. She is employed at Valdosta State University with a Master of Education in 2003. She is employed at Valdosta High School as a math teacher.

William is the son of Al and Wanda Ward of Niceville. He graduated from Florida State University.

---

**Niceville High All-State chorus selected**

The following students were selected from Niceville High School for participation in All-State Honor Chorus for the 2013-2014 school year: Matthew Beale, Lyndon Clifton, Taylor Evans, Jared Herzog, Kirsten Herson, Ben Huston, Maggie LaFratta, Jacob LyteHaven, Angela Marco, Taylor Nelson, Tia Patel, Seth Pecore, Daniel Schlegel, Gabrielle Schrack, Isabelle Schrack, Zac Schwantz, Randy Sterling, Am Walker and Lance Worship.

---

**Ursula Williams has Yard of the Month**

Niceville Garden Club chose Ursula Williams’ yard, at 1301 Royal Palm Dr., as Yard of the Month for January. The Niceville Garden Club meets at 6 p.m. every fourth Tuesday of the month at the Niceville Public Library, 335 Partin Dr.

---

**Who’s News**

Michael G. Christakos, a 2009 graduate of Niceville High School, earned his Bachelor’s degree in Computer Engineering from the University of Florida in Gainesville on Dec. 14. Christakos is a member of the Kappa Phi Epaulon social fraternity. He will enter graduate school in computer engineering at the University of Central Florida in Orlando beginning in January 2014.

---

**Therapy dog promotes literacy at library**

Baci, a trained therapy dog, was at the library Dec. 4 to sing Christmas carols with young readers. Baci has a regular program at the Niceville Public Library called “Read with Baci” designed to promote literacy among young readers who can select a book to read with him and his trainer Valerie Cahn. For more information call 279-4803 ext. 1014.

*Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith*
Get to know my family.

To be nice to my family — I have a bit of a temper.

“Not to eat so much.”

“Quit smoking.”

“Get to know my family better.”

“To finally retire.”

Shirley Kasinger, 72, Niceville, housewife

Felicia Kinter, 26, Niceville, mother

Margaret Curry, 65, Defuniak Springs, senior beauty advisor

Chris Gibbs, 22, Niceville, sales associate

Ronald Murray, 52, Niceville, daily associate

John Simmons, 67, Destin, engineer

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

Edge gets gift for science

The Emerald Coast Post of The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) has presented Edge Elementary School with a $500 donation for the advancement of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Edge Elementary School intends to use the funds to purchase science supplies for their kindergarden through third grade classrooms for daily science instruction.

Nicewell boy receives Christmas wish

Joel Strickland got an early Christmas present from CCS Bank, Upbeat Music in Crestview and BaZing security when his mom, Dawn Strickland, e-mailed them on the BaZing Facebook page in response to a query. Joel Strickland had wished for a full set of drums, and now he gets to play in a band. Pictured, Joel shakes hands with the president of CCS Community Bank, Alan Wood.

Immanuel Anglican Church

Sunday Morning Services

10:30am — Traditional Holy Communion with Holy Consecration

8:30am — Contempory, / Children worship experience

Youth Outreach

“Advent Challenge” Monday — Friday, 6:00pm — 8:00pm

Pant & Praise Wednesday, 6:30 pm — 8:30 pm

HeartKick

Wednesday Nights starting Jan 15

Time for the “YMCA style” classes.

www.immanuelmv.org — CCS Blvd and Indian Bay Trail, Destin • 850-897-0824

First Baptist Church of Valparaiso

First Baptist Church of Valparaiso

SUNDAY SERVICE

9:00am — Sunday School

10:30am — Sanctuary

Nursery Care Provided

SUNDAY SCHOOL

First grade Jan. 12, 2014

478-1204 • WWW.STPAULNICEVILLE.COM

- 30 Yrs. Experience

—by Mike Griffith

The voice of Niceville, Bluewater Bay and Valparaiso since 1992

Engaging God, Connecting with Others, Serving All

Where quality makes the grade!

- 66 Years Experience

Our 365-Day Guarantee

- Locally owned & operated

—by Mike Griffith

The voice of Niceville, Bluewater Bay and Valparaiso since 1992

Engaging God, Connecting with Others, Serving All

Where quality makes the grade!

- 66 Years Experience

Our 365-Day Guarantee

- Locally owned & operated

—by Mike Griffith

The voice of Niceville, Bluewater Bay and Valparaiso since 1992

Engaging God, Connecting with Others, Serving All

Where quality makes the grade!

- 66 Years Experience

Our 365-Day Guarantee

- Locally owned & operated

—by Mike Griffith

The voice of Niceville, Bluewater Bay and Valparaiso since 1992

Engaging God, Connecting with Others, Serving All

Where quality makes the grade!

- 66 Years Experience

Our 365-Day Guarantee

- Locally owned & operated

—by Mike Griffith

The voice of Niceville, Bluewater Bay and Valparaiso since 1992

Engaging God, Connecting with Others, Serving All

Where quality makes the grade!

- 66 Years Experience

Our 365-Day Guarantee

- Locally owned & operated

—by Mike Griffith

The voice of Niceville, Bluewater Bay and Valparaiso since 1992

Engaging God, Connecting with Others, Serving All

Where quality makes the grade!

- 66 Years Experience

Our 365-Day Guarantee

- Locally owned & operated

—by Mike Griffith

The voice of Niceville, Bluewater Bay and Valparaiso since 1992

Engaging God, Connecting with Others, Serving All

Where quality makes the grade!

- 66 Years Experience

Our 365-Day Guarantee

- Locally owned & operated

—by Mike Griffith

The voice of Niceville, Bluewater Bay and Valparaiso since 1992

Engaging God, Connecting with Others, Serving All

Where quality makes the grade!

- 66 Years Experience

Our 365-Day Guarantee

- Locally owned & operated

—by Mike Griffith

The voice of Niceville, Bluewater Bay and Valparaiso since 1992

Engaging God, Connecting with Others, Serving All

Where quality makes the grade!

- 66 Years Experience

Our 365-Day Guarantee
First Day Hike
The first hike at Fred Grant Rocks Bayou State Park for the new year will be Wednesday Jan. 1 from 10-11 a.m.
The hike will be held on the Red Cedar Nature Trail with a long and the degree of difficulty moderate. Participants must register at the Red Cedar position at 10 a.m. If Park ranger is not present for check-in. Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable shoes. A short section of the outer loop is to include water, camera, sunscreen and bug spray. Park entrance fees are waived to participate. Call for information 855-0144.

Engagement
University with a Master of Arts in 2001. He is employed at Valdosta State University. He is a former editor on the English department.
The wedding was held Crossroads Baptist Church on Dec. 28. The couple plans to move to Florida, Ga.

WEDDING
Medical Sciences from the University of South Florida in 2009 and graduated in 2012 from the University of West Florida School of Allied Health and Life Sciences. She works at the North Okaloosa Medical Center in Fort Walton as a medical technologist.

Wanda Gail Bailey Sasser was born in Pensacola, Okaloosa County. She was the daughter of the late Willard E. and Wanda Gail Bailey. She was a graduate in 2009 and 2012 from the University of West Florida in Pensacola. She worked in the North Okaloosa Medical Center in Fort Walton as a medical technologist. In 2013 he graduated with a Master’s in Forensic Engineering and received a Graduate Certificate in Technical and Professional Communication. He works at Eglin Air Force Base. They reside in Niceville.

Career
Wanda Gail Bailey Sasser was born in Pensacola, Okaloosa County. She was the daughter of the late Willard E. and Wanda Gail Bailey. She was a graduate in 2009 and 2012 from the University of West Florida in Pensacola. She worked in the North Okaloosa Medical Center in Fort Walton as a medical technologist. In 2013 he graduated with a Master’s in Forensic Engineering and received a Graduate Certificate in Technical and Professional Communication. He works at Eglin Air Force Base. They reside in Niceville.

Career
Wanda Gail Bailey Sasser was born in Pensacola, Okaloosa County. She was the daughter of the late Willard E. and Wanda Gail Bailey. She was a graduate in 2009 and 2012 from the University of West Florida in Pensacola. She worked in the North Okaloosa Medical Center in Fort Walton as a medical technologist. In 2013 he graduated with a Master’s in Forensic Engineering and received a Graduate Certificate in Technical and Professional Communication. He works at Eglin Air Force Base. They reside in Niceville.

Career
Wanda Gail Bailey Sasser was born in Pensacola, Okaloosa County. She was the daughter of the late Willard E. and Wanda Gail Bailey. She was a graduate in 2009 and 2012 from the University of West Florida in Pensacola. She worked in the North Okaloosa Medical Center in Fort Walton as a medical technologist. In 2013 he graduated with a Master’s in Forensic Engineering and received a Graduate Certificate in Technical and Professional Communication. He works at Eglin Air Force Base. They reside in Niceville.

Career
Wanda Gail Bailey Sasser was born in Pensacola, Okaloosa County. She was the daughter of the late Willard E. and Wanda Gail Bailey. She was a graduate in 2009 and 2012 from the University of West Florida in Pensacola. She worked in the North Okaloosa Medical Center in Fort Walton as a medical technologist. In 2013 he graduated with a Master’s in Forensic Engineering and received a Graduate Certificate in Technical and Professional Communication. He works at Eglin Air Force Base. They reside in Niceville.
Office identified the three vic-

service. A nursery up to local

Multiple

Ostrowski at recruit-

study. For more informa-

welcome. 585-281-0405.

will as an interactive
cookies and hot cocoa as

Parkway. There will be

to create a

by the choir and soloists.

Eve service

its 23rd annual

will hold its

Holy Name of Jesus

and Rocky Shores Drive will

signs posted

reading of an ordinance that

important thing was to review the

was

for

Statement of

approve the

Chief Joe Miller

permission to sign off on

the check for the purchase of a

Gibson & Associates Inc.

mended approval of a zoning

Miller

for

Chief

Title, having beaten every

title, having beaten every

Please see HOSE, page A-7

Gibson & Associates Inc.

EDS, page A-7

Gibson & Associates Inc.

Top Quality Performers
Three Years in a Row!

Fort Walton Beach Medical Center and Twin Cities Hospital ranked among top hospitals in the country.

At Fort Walton Beach Medical Center and Twin Cities Hospital, our goal is to provide the highest level of care possible every day and earn the trust and confidence of our patients.

We were recently named among the nation's Top Performers on Key Quality Measures by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditator of healthcare organizations in America. We have received this designation for three consecutive years. While we are proud of this award, we realize our patients are the real winners and we wouldn't have it any other way.

Fort Walton Beach Medical Center
PWHMC.com

TWIN CITIES HOSPITAL
TCHospital.com

For a free physician referral 24/7, call (850) 614-7274.

Text ER to 23000 for Average Wait Times.*

*As defined as arrival time until seen by a qualified medical professional.

Love Better Banking In

www.bankccb.com

Niceville
1502 E. John Sims Pkwy. 
(850) 279-3886

Crestview
1290 North Ferdon Blvd. 
(850) 682-0484

Opp
609 Floral Hwy.
(334) 493-2239

Andalusia
225 E. Three Notch St. 
(334) 222-2561