

## *Interactive Sundial Dedicated With First Shadow Ceremony*



**Dotty Blacker cuts the ribbon to open the sundial**

The new interactive sundial at Northwest Florida State College was dedicated with a “First Shadow” ceremony on October 1 at the college’s Niceville campus. Sundials are one of the most ancient of scientific instruments, dating back more than 3,500 years. The large scale artwork, located on the north side of the college’s Robert E. Greene, Jr. Science Building, combines art and science in an educational tool that helps illustrate scientific principles about time and the movement of the Earth.

Dotty Blacker of Valparaiso, a member of the college’s Foundation Board of Directors who helped underwrite the project, and Elizabeth Indianos, an artist from Tarpon Springs who created the sundial, joined college president Ty Handy at a ribbon cutting event which was followed by Dotty casting the first official shadow on the recently completed dial.

“I really loved the idea for this project,” said Dotty, who was involved throughout the project on the planning committee. “It’s a technically unique, interactive art piece that’s both beautiful and a wonderful way for both college students and local school groups to learn about our place in the universe.”

Jon Bryan, an Earth Sciences professor at the college, noted that an instructional booklet and new sundial website – [www.nwfsc.edu/sundial](http://www.nwfsc.edu/sundial) – were created by the college to explain the educational principles behind the dial. He said the sundial’s location was precisely calibrated so that it tells true solar time – which is, for most of the year, a different time than what appears on a watch or clock.

“Understanding why the Sun and your watch will rarely agree is part of the learning the new sundial inspires,” noted Bryan. He explained that sundials allow us to tell true solar time by the constant movement of a shadow that is cast by an object called a gnomon on the dial. Most gnomons are rods that are permanently fixed on the dial. But, on the NWF State College dial, the observer becomes the gnomon as they stand on the dial and interact with it to determine solar time.

INTERACTIVE SUNDIAL DEDICATION . . . page 5

## *Groundbreaking for \$25 Million Student Services Building*

A ceremonial groundbreaking was held October 19 on the Northwest Florida State College Niceville campus for a new \$25.5 million Student Services Building that will be completed in a two phases. The project includes construction of a new 75,000 square foot structure and the remodeling of the existing 32,000 square foot College Mall (Building K), once the new portion is complete.

“This major new project will improve our ability to better serve the college’s more than 17,000 annual student enrollment,” noted Ty Handy, college president.

The two structures will be connected by covered walks around an attractive central courtyard and the completed project will include “one-stop” Student Services such as

registration, advising, financial aid, business office, testing, student recruitment, the college’s Women’s Educational Resource Center, Career Resources Center, expanded food services facilities, as well as community and meeting spaces, conferencing facilities and the college’s Leadership Institute.

“This facility will obviously have a major impact on our main campus and will be a centerpiece not only for students, but also for the community as it will be the site for various community meetings and training opportunities,” noted Sandy Sims, NWF State College Board of Trustees chair. Sims also cited the project’s economic impact and noted that, “The project will generate hundreds of jobs in vital trades during the construction and remodeling phases.”

GROUNDBREAKING . . . page 6



At the Northwest Florida State College Student Services Building groundbreaking, Sandy Sims, chair of the college’s governing board and Brian Pennington, board vice chair (center) were joined by college trustees (left – l to r) Marijo Strauss, Esteena Wells, Dale Rice, Rachel Gillis and Paul Foster and (right – l to r) the college’s Student Government president and vice president, Ashley Cuchens and Lisa Saunders, college president Ty Handy, David Alsop of Sam Marshall Architects, Jay B. Smith – vice president of Ajax Building Corporation, Christine Bishop – Dean of Enrollment Services and Mickey Englett – NWF State College Dean of Students, to empty mini truckloads of dirt from toy construction trucks to symbolically start the \$25 million construction and remodeling project.

## *Cristie Kedroski Named To Lead College Foundation*



**Cristie Kedroski**

Northwest Florida State College (NWFSC) is pleased to welcome Cristie Kedroski as its Director of College Advancement and the College Foundation. She is responsible for leadership and oversight of all functions assigned to the Office of College Advancement, including external fundraising, alumni relations, special events, grant applications, scholarships and the NWFSC Foundation.

“The strength of the Northwest Florida State College Foundation is a testament to the generous support the community has bestowed upon the college,” noted Kedroski. “I am honored to be joining the NWFSC team and I look forward to building upon the solid framework that has been established to advance the college’s educational initiatives.”

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INSIDE: NEW STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING • see page 6

*South Elevation*





**Tim McDonald**

Machining Endowed Teaching Chair in Technology.

David Goetsch, NWFS Vice President of Community Relations and Workforce Development and a long-time family friend, provided a tribute to McDonald at his memorial service. As a corporate trainer, Goetsch often profiled McDonald because he exemplified seven crucial traits for strong leadership. In his moving eulogy, Goetsch noted that he "selected Tim as an example of effective leadership years ago because he was such a good role model for rising stars in our community who want to be leaders. It is these seven traits that made Tim McDonald so widely respected and admired," affirmed Goetsch.

In recognition of Tim McDonald's longtime support for the foundation and his dedication to the mission of the college, Goetsch was invited to share his "Seven C's of Leadership" remembrances of McDonald with *Inspire* readers.

**T**im McDonald, owner of Fort Walton Machining in Fort Walton Beach and board member of the Northwest Florida State College Foundation passed away, at the age of 57, in a tragic plane accident on July 2, 2010. McDonald was active in the community and a generous supporter of Northwest Florida State College where the family created the McDonald Family Scholarship program and the Tim and Jan McDonald/Fort Walton

## In Remembrance Of Tim McDonald

### SEVEN C's OF LEADERSHIP

- 1. CARING.** Tim cared about his company, his customers, his employees, and his community. Because he cared about them, they care about him.
- 2. CHARACTER.** Tim was honest. He lived a life of integrity. If he said it, he meant it. If he promised it, he did it. Because of this, we trusted Tim in an age when trust can be hard to give and even harder to earn.
- 3. COMMUNICATION.** Tim was good at giving the people he dealt with the information they needed to know. But even more importantly, he was a good listener. Another maxim Tim liked was: "God gave us two ears and just one mouth. I figure he wanted us to listen more and talk less."
- 4. CLARITY.** Tim was clear about his vision, purpose, and goals for his company and his life. Those who knew Tim were never reluctant to follow him—he always let us know where he was going, and he was always going to the right place.

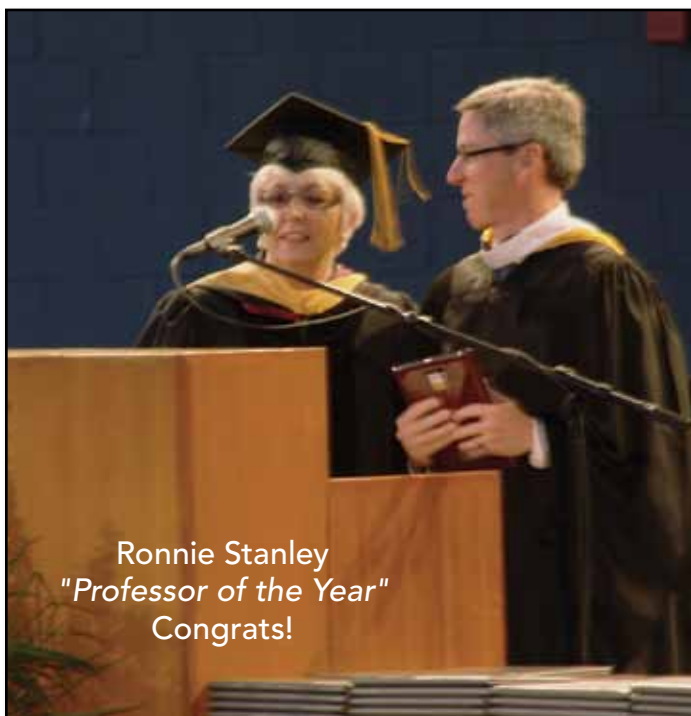
- 5. COMMITMENT.** You do not succeed as Tim did by just giving it a good try or just doing your best. Success is a combination of talent, preparation, and commitment. Of these, the most important is commitment. Tim had a mountain of talent and excellent preparation. But above all, he was committed to the success of his company and our community.
- 6. COURAGE.** It took physical courage to pursue Tim's hobby of flying a World War II era airplane, and Tim had that in spades. But more importantly, Tim had moral courage—the courage to do the right thing even when it hurt to do so. This is one of the traits many friends and family admired most about this good man.
- 7. CREDIBILITY.** Credibility is what you have when others believe in you—when they think you are good at what you do, that you are committed to doing the right thing, and that you care about those who are affected by your actions. Credibility is something that cannot be given, but must be earned. Tim McDonald had a ton of credibility with those of us gathered to honor him, and he earned every ounce of it.

A plaque commemorating McDonald's Seven C's of Leadership now hangs in the office of Fort Walton Machining. McDonald leaves behind his wife, Jan, and three children, daughter, Jill Kerschitz and husband, Frank; granddaughter, Kalli Kerschitz; daughter, Karen Archer and her husband, Michael; granddaughter, Lexi Archer; and son, Timothy M. McDonald, all of Niceville. In addition, friends and family established a new fund with the NWFS Foundation in memorial of McDonald that raised more than \$8,500.

## Kudos & Congrats

**K.C. WILLIAMS**, Director of the college's Mattie Kelly Arts Center Galleries, presented a paper, "Who Are We Here For? Classroom vs. Community", in October at the Southeast College Art Conference in Richmond, VA. The paper addresses how art galleries at small colleges must balance serving the needs of students with those of the surrounding community. She will also present a paper in February 2011 at the College Art Association annual conference in New York City, on "Growing Up Toko: Coming-of-Age Themes in the Work of Yoko Nogami" as part of the "Artist's Progress: Sequential Art and Aesthetic Education" panel.

**RONNIE STANLEY**, Communications professor, was named the 2010 student selected "Professor of the Year" and the college's annual commencement ceremony in May. This is the second time he has been selected by student vote for the award, which is sponsored annually by the college's Alumni Association. NWFS Board of Trustees member and OWJC alumnus Rachel Gillis made the award presentation at commencement.



Ronnie Stanley  
"Professor of the Year"  
Congrats!

Rachel Gillis & Ronnie Stanley

**DR. DEIDRE PRICE**, English faculty member, won a writing contest this fall. Her essay, "Jesus-Jesus," was awarded the Grand Prize for Tyndale House Publisher's *Imaginary Jesus Contest*. The winnings include an all-expense paid trip for two to Portland, Oregon, to spend a day with the author of *Imaginary Jesus*, Matt Mikalatos, visiting sites mentioned in his novel. She also received a Kindle, an iPod Touch, a \$100 gift certificate to Powell's Books, and a copy of the novel signed by the author.

**DR. DAVID SIMMONS**, Humanities & Film professor, co-wrote with colleague, Dr. David Hatch, an essay entitled "Sausage Smoke Leading to Mulligan's Breakfast: Film Adaptation and James Joyce's Ulysses." The essay is published in the new book, *Adaptation Studies: New Approaches*, edited by Christa Albrecht-Crane and Dennis Cutchins, available from Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, and Amazon.com.

**DR. JOYCE A. GOLDSTEIN**, Interim Chief Academic Officer, was recognized in June for her outstanding service on the Board of Directors for the Community Drug and Alcohol Council. She served from 2007 to 2010.

## President's Column



**Dr. Ty Handy**

students who succeed, and a level of community support for the college unlike any I have seen at prior colleges at which I've served. In short, I know I made the right choice in seeking to become the third president of this fine college.

On the horizon, our new Community Services Complex is almost complete and we expect to take ownership before the end of the calendar year. This \$35 million complex promises to open many new opportunities for the college to increase the cooperative efforts that already exist with our service area. A substantial portion of the facility will be owned by Okaloosa County who will locate all of their emergency operations such as a 911 call center, Emergency Operations Center and more to our centrally located campus. Their section of the complex is state-of-the-art and will provide the area highly coordinated emergency operations. The college portion of the complex includes a beautiful 2,350 seat arena, a wellness/fitness

**G**reetings from Northwest Florida State College!

This is the first opportunity I have had to communicate with you through the *INSPIRE* publication. I began my tenure here at Northwest in late June and have spent the majority of my first four months meeting the community and learning the culture of this great institution. I have been very pleased with what I have discovered; a talented and dedicated faculty, a hard-working and committed staff,

center, classroom space and new ROTC facilities. The college portion is also dedicated to support the emergency needs of the community as the entire complex has been constructed to withstand 190 mph winds and will serve as the go-to location in the event of a major hurricane. The college looks forward to a great relationship with Okaloosa County emergency operations and to providing you with a new and valuable resource for your enjoyment and your protection.

I invite you to attend the grand opening of this facility, currently scheduled for January 5, which will be followed by public tours and conference basketball games against Pensacola State College – a "pack the arena" event with free game admission! As part of the opening of the complex and in honor of one of the most heroic men I have ever had the pleasure of meeting, the college will name the classroom wing at the complex, which contains our ROTC facilities, after Medal of Honor recipient Col. Bud Day. The story of this great man's heroism while a POW in the Vietnam War is an inspirational tale of leadership, as is his service to our country and veterans in the past few decades. Watch our Raider athletics website at [www.nwfraid.org](http://www.nwfraid.org) for updates and times for the Community Services Complex grand opening.

Then, on January 14, 2011 we plan to dedicate another important location at the college. In honor of the founding president of Okaloosa-Walton Junior College, Dr. Ed McCracken, the college's trustees have approved naming the loop road that encircles the campus as "McCracken Way". Dr. McCracken's family and friends will be on hand to celebrate our founding president's leadership and vision and I invite members of the community to also join us for this significant celebration.

In addition, in mid-October the college broke ground on a new Student Services Complex. This \$25 million project will feature "one-stop" shopping for students needing administrative support. It will house about a dozen of our most student-focused services so that students can go to one location to have their admissions, financial aid, registrar, business office, and many other needs met. The facility will also feature a new and expanded food court and the third floor of the structure will be home to our Leadership Institute. The institute will feature sophisticated meeting/conferencing space for leadership and other training activities as well as community functions and will be complete with food service capabilities and breakout rooms. Programs such as our community Prime Time personal enrichment series will also use the facilities. We expect to finish construction on the first phase of this project by December 2011 and the entire complex by January 2012.

Finally, I would be remiss if I failed to thank you for your personal support of this great college. Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure are what move this college from "good to great". Our NWF State College Foundation is one of the five largest foundations supporting local-based colleges in the country. This results in financial resources that give students who would otherwise not be able to access a college degree the opportunity to attend a quality local institution and to graduate with little or no debt. I thank you for your past support, I thank you for welcoming me into this great community, and I look forward to working with you and Cristie Kedroski, our new foundation director, as we continue to increase the impact your gifts and this college make on this community.

**MATTIE M. KELLY**  
**CULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTE**  
 AT NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE



*Estuary Festival*

*Symposium*

*Teacher Workshop*



The same weekend as the family festival, the institute also hosted the 3rd Annual Mattie Kelly Environmental Symposium on Choctawhatchee Bay, focusing on the topic "From Beaches to Bayous." Held at the college's Robert E. Greene, Jr. Science building on the Niceville campus, more than 65 scientists, students and those who work in the environmental arena attended to hear guest speakers covering a broad range of topics, including local geology, conservation efforts, and Gulf sturgeon habitat assessment. The keynote speaker, environmental journalist and author Cynthia Barnett, spoke on "Before the Blue is the New Green: Water Sustainability and the Future of Florida."

Later in the summer, seventeen area high school teachers also benefitted from environmental programs sponsored by the institute at a summer workshop series in June. Included were a boat trip to western Choctawhatchee Bay during which the teachers spent the day using scientific equipment to measure water quality parameters, including dissolved oxygen, salinity, nitrogen and phosphorus nutrients, and chlorophyll. The group also used cutting edge software to instantaneously create a map of their data. Following the trip a DVD of the teachers actively using and explaining the equipment was created for each participant to take back to their schools.

Another workshop for teachers focused on "Using Real Water Quality Data in Your Classroom" and provided classroom ready lecture material on harmful algal blooms, eutrophication, and water quality. Teachers received curriculum and instructions that will allow them to incorporate data and mapping software into their classrooms without the use of any expensive equipment, except a computer and internet connection.

The Mattie M. Kelly Cultural and Environmental Institute at Northwest Florida State College is a partnership of the college, the Northwest Florida State College Foundation, Inc., and the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance of Northwest Florida State College, dedicated to the cultural, environmental, historical and instructional goals set forth for the institute by the late Mattie M. Kelly of Destin. For information see [www.mattiekellyinstitute.org](http://www.mattiekellyinstitute.org).

This summer was a busy time for the environmental arm of the college's Mattie M. Kelly Cultural and Environmental Institute – with a successful third annual edition of the Choctawhatchee Estuary Family Festival, a summer workshop for area science teachers and a scientific symposium focusing on the bay.

In May nearly 100 volunteers and 1,300 people of all ages attended the Choctawhatchee Estuary Festival held at Rocky Bayou State Park in Niceville. The event garnered praise despite cloudy weather and included more than 30 displays and activities, including educational displays and hands on activities. Groups hosting displays included the University of West Florida, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Jackson Guard, the Florida Kayaking Association, the Northwest Florida Water Management District, and many more.

As in past festivals, the crab races and T-shirt fish printing were among the favorite activities, especially for children. An e-mail from one local mom expressed the sentiments of the many families who attended the festival – "I just wanted to take a moment to pass on our thanks to everyone who made the Choctawhatchee Estuary Family Festival possible. My 2-year-old son and I had a wonderful time! I was just amazed at the number and variety of events at this festival. .... Wow, what a jam packed 2 hours. We didn't come close to seeing all the booths or participating in everything. This was by far the best event we've been to in a long time!"



*Save the Date!*  
**4th Annual Choctawhatchee  
 Estuary Festival & Symposium**  
*April 29 & 30, 2011*



Julianne Rosset, who holds a BS in Environmental Science, works with Dr. Allison Beauregard, of the Mattie M. Kelly Environmental Institute, to aid in red tide research being conducted in Choctawhatchee Bay.

## College Certified As Firefighter Training Center

The Florida Bureau of Fire Standards and Training has approved Northwest Florida State College as a certified Firefighter Training Center. The college has offered continuing education and training to local fire agencies for the past several years for individuals who are already firefighters. The new certification allows NWFSC to offer the Firefighter Minimum Standards course for the Firefighting Basic vocational certificate for those who wish to begin training in the field of firefighting. The program is a requirement for persons wanting to be certified in the state of Florida as firefighters.

The college immediately began the first class of 20 vocational credit students on September 16. The process of becoming certified as a Firefighter Training Center began with the construction of a fire training burn tower at the Niceville campus in 2008.

Brian Shonk, Dean of Science, Mathematics, Health and Safety at NWF State College noted that the new program would not have been possible without the support of the local fire service community which donated equipment, helped in the planning process and more to make the program expansion a reality.



Volunteer Firefighters train using the NWFSC Burn Tower.

## Fort Walton Chamber Completes Endowment



(l to r) NWFSC Foundation Associate Director Carla Reinlie accepts the donation from Chad Hamilton, Ft. Walton Beach Chamber, and Alan Gieseman, CEO of White-Wilson Medical Clinic.

Five years ago, the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce made the bold decision to endow scholarships for Fort Walton Beach area students to attend Northwest Florida State College and UWF. Each institution received a commitment for a \$20,000 endowment to help support student scholarships that supply tuition, fees and books to a recent high school graduate from both Fort Walton and Choctaw High Schools. "Instead of offering occasional scholarships on a sporadic basis, we wanted to offer consistent support for our local students as they moved on to higher education. Though we knew it would take several years to fully fund the endowments, we were committed to this approach," said Chad Hamilton, 2010 Board Chair.

White-Wilson Medical Center stepped forward to support this project by sponsoring the annual Dr. H. C. White Golf Tournament to raise funds for the endowment. This year, the chamber made the last payment and completed the \$20,000 endowment fund – proudly adding this achievement to the chamber's legacy of community engagement. "We hope that other area chambers will follow our lead and support their local students and their member educational institutions. We're delighted that we could show the way. It's the classic win-win for everyone," said Ted Corcoran, the FWB Chamber's president and CEO.

## Leadership Okaloosa 2009-10 Program Graduates 42 Community Leaders



The Northwest Florida State College Leadership Institute, in partnership with the Crestview, Destin, Niceville-Valparaiso and Greater Fort Walton Beach Chambers of Commerce, presented 42 Okaloosa County business professionals as the 2009-2010 Leadership Okaloosa class on June 15, 2010 during the Leadership Okaloosa Graduation Celebration.

During the graduation celebration David Goetsch, NWFSC Vice President of Community Relations and Workforce Development, presented the Peggy Brockman Leadership Award to Kelli Lusk from the Niceville-Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce for her work on the USO Freedom Lounge Class Project which was one of two projects class members participated in throughout the year. The class raised more than \$84,000 in donations and put in over 750 volunteer hours for the USO Room at Northwest Florida Regional Airport.

This year's program graduates include: Sanja Abshire, Crestview Area Chamber of Commerce; Joshua Allen, Okaloosa County Tax Collector; Rob Bohnsack, First Presbyterian Church; Jim Cerezo, Cox Communications; Suzanne Cumbie, BankTrust; Sarah Dabney, Okaloosa County Tax Collector; Vanessa English, General Dynamics; Laura Finlayson, White-Wilson Medical Center; Jason Floyd, Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc.; Deborah Fontaine, Northwest Florida State College; Holly Fort, Premier Community Bank of the Emerald Coast; Risa Garner, Destin Area Chamber of Commerce; Justin Gordon, Okaloosa County Tax Collector; Balenda Hetzel, Beach Community Mortgage; Michael Howell, Beach Community Bank; Letitia Ittig, Emerald Coast CPA, P.A.; Gail Jernigan, Workforce Development Board of Okaloosa & Walton Counties/ JobsPlus; Bernard Johnson, Gulf Power Company; Jennifer

Laskaskie, Gentiva Health Services; Norman Leonpacher, InDyne, Inc.; Kelli Lusk, Niceville Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce; Andi Mahoney, White-Wilson Medical Center; John Marshall, Fleet, Spencer & Kilpatrick, P.A.; Pamela Martin, Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce; Caroline McCoy, Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County; Cherrylyn Mellott, Okaloosa County Tax Collector; Catherine Michas, Michas, Valentine & Gill, Psychiatric Associates, P.A.; Jason Negron, Cotton, Gates & Negron Law Firm; David Oberliesen, Fleet, Spencer & Kilpatrick, P.A.; Alan Ostberg, InDyne, Inc.; Robert Perry, Turnberry Associates - Destin Commons; Ben Savage, A to Z Security and Sound, Inc.; Debra Sears, Premier Community Bank; Scott Smith, Suncoast Healthcare Professionals; Kelly St. John; Bridgette Thomas, ResortQuest International; Teena Ullrich, AECOM; Lucas Van Tassel, United States Air Force; Phillip Webb, Carr, Riggs and Ingram; Toby Williams, Rocky Bayou Christian School; Alan Wood, CCB Community Bank; Keith Wood, ERA American Realty.

The Northwest Florida State College Leadership Institute operates the Leadership Okaloosa program. The ten month program is designed to enhance the participant's leadership skills and provide community awareness. The class meets one day a month from September to June and participants receive classroom training by a certified instructor and are given opportunities to interact with various key community leaders thought the process. The program also features a trip to Tallahassee for the Legislative Days meetings; tours of area businesses, a group project to benefit the community while focusing on project management, time management and team building skills. Another important aspect of Leadership Okaloosa is the networking relationships forged that leads to long lasting personal and professional relationships.

For information see [www.nwfsc.edu/LI](http://www.nwfsc.edu/LI) or call (850) 729-6880.

## Wilkerson Honored for Board Service

Wesley Wilkerson (left), member of the college's governing board of trustees since 2002, was recently honored for his two years of service as chairman of the board and for his service as chair of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee. Current Board Chair Sandy Sims (right) presented Wilkerson with a memento in recognition of his distinguished board service at the September 21 trustees meeting.



## Faculty Donation Supports Scholarships & Original Play

A cast of 18 Northwest Florida State College theater students from across the region will have the opportunity to present a Proscenium Playhouse production of an original fantasy *"Tales of Airn"* on the mainstage of the Mattie Kelly Arts Center in early December thanks to a donation to the NWFSC Foundation from a college theater faculty member.

The exciting original story follows a young princess and her adventure to save her family and her kingdom from the hand of her evil uncle and is an adaptation of a short story written by Niceville author James Clinton, also known as Clint Mahle, an NWF State College theater faculty member. Mahle made a \$10,000 donation to the college's theater program through the NWFSC Foundation to underwrite the student scholarships and support for the play.

"This is such a unique opportunity for our students, to participate in the experience of bringing an original theatrical work from page to the stage – and the fact that the faculty member himself made the donation so that the students can have this learning opportunity – makes it extra special," said Dr. Cliff Herron, Dean of the college's Humanities, Fine and Performing Arts Division. He noted that Mahle is available to speak to local schools and other groups about language arts, writing the play and producing theatrical works.

Mahle noted that a goal of the donation was to provide seed money so that the funds from each year's Proscenium Playhouse production will be used to fund similar theatrical scholarship opportunities in subsequent years. "This year we

needed to get the Proscenium Playhouse experience for students and local audiences off the ground, but we hope that audience support through attending the play will enable similar events to continue for years to come," said Mahle.

The student cast will present *"Tales of Airn: Book 1"* on December 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m. with a special matinee on December 3 at 10:00 a.m. for school groups. Tickets are just \$6 each for youth and adults and ticket proceeds will go back to the program to help fund another production next year.

The heartwarming fantasy for the kid in all of us is a must-see event for families, children and adults ages 8 and up. Inspired by the performance styles of such groups as Cirque du Soleil, *"Tales of Airn"* is told through exceptional dance, music and narration. Covering the themes of love for family, loyalty, perseverance in the face of adversity, friendship, and brains over violence – the show uses unique aerial acts, acrobatics, dance, puppetry, dramatic lighting, original set design and custom costumes to create a unique world of fantasy.

The NWF State College theater students, who are participating in a special series of theater classes through the scholarship donation to prepare for performing *"Tales of Airn"*, include:



**Niceville** – Shaniquia Anthony, Cameron Daniels, Jamie Roberts, Lizzie Wilson;

**Fort Walton Beach** – Heather Connelly, Natalie Fowler, Melissa Gaccione, Barclay Nichol, Cara Ratliff, Patty Perez-Borroto, Cassidy Thomas, Ashley Wheeler;

**Mossy Head** – Jarrett Demos;

**Navarre** – Candace Isaacs;

**Santa Rosa Beach**

Joshua Juneau, Savannah Lewis, Kyle Poppell; and

**Destin** – Micajah McCollough

## Employee Support For Annual Fund Assist College Programs

The faculty and staff of Northwest Florida State College have raised more than \$28,000 this year in gifts and pledges for current needs of the college, casting a tremendous vote of confidence for the institution, its mission and students.

Since 1964 faculty and staff have led the way in the classroom and behind the scenes, contributing to the educational experience of each and every student and making the college a thriving community. What might not be as evident is that in addition to their contribution of time and talent, many employees also contribute monetarily to the college.

No one knows better than NWFSC faculty and staff what a difference private support makes. One can see the impact every day — opportunities for students, resources for teaching, and improved facilities. All of these are enhanced through donations to the Annual Fund.

This year employee giving has risen to an unprecedented level. A dynamic committee of 37 employee volunteers joined together in March to conduct the annual "Lead the Way!" Faculty and Staff Campaign. "We each asked 5 to 10 of our peers to support college programs we believe in" said Pam Walters, coordinator of the college's Women's Educational

Resource program and member of the volunteer committee. "Employees know first-hand what the needs are and the importance of this campaign," said Candis Carrillo, Professor of Nursing.

The committee was thrilled with the response on campus to the campaign with many giving first time gifts or additional gifts, bringing the total of employee gifts and pledges to \$28,869 for this year.

"This impressive level of generosity is proof positive of our employee's commitment to student success" said Cristie Kedroski, NWFSC Foundation Director.

"The fact that so many of our faculty and staff make gifts to the college, on top of their day-to-day efforts, makes NWFSC a very special place" said Carla Reinlie, Associate Director for the NWFSC Foundation. "Support from faculty and staff is particularly meaningful because it sends a resounding message from those who know the college best."

"I can't tell you how impressed I am by the many contributions of our outstanding faculty and staff" said Ty Handy, NWFSC President. "This level of support demonstrates the extraordinary confidence that faculty and staff have in the future of NWFSC."

"I am delighted Cristie has accepted this position. I am confident she will bring experienced leadership and vision to the foundation," said Ty Handy, president of Northwest Florida State College.

Kedroski earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Florida in business administration and attended middle and high school in Okaloosa County. She is a member of the Junior League of the Emerald Coast and has strong community ties to Okaloosa and Walton Counties. Her husband, Art Kedroski, is a test engineer at Eglin Air Force Base and they have two school-aged children, Kaylee and Kelsey.

### CRISTIE KEDROSKI

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Kedroski most recently served as the Interim Chief Operating Officer for Florida's Great Northwest, a regional economic development organization representing 16 counties in Northwest Florida. Preceding her tenure at Florida's Great Northwest she worked for the Niceville-Valparaiso Bay Area Chamber of Commerce as the Special Events Director.

### INTERACTIVE SUNDIAL DEDICATION

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Dotty Blacker has been instrumental in underwriting numerous other projects at the college with her generous support including two large outdoor sculptures at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center complex, creating an endowed teaching chair in Education, donating works of art to the college's permanent collection and making the lead gift that was the catalyst behind starting construction of the college's visual arts building – now named the Marie Snow Greene Visual Arts building in memory of another arts patron who shared Dotty's love of the arts.

"Dotty was one of the first people I met when I came to the college," said Ty Handy, college president. "Her commitment to the aesthetics of campus is so apparent – the Niceville campus simply wouldn't be as beautiful without her gifts." He noted that with the sundial project – which directly connects art to student learning – makes the artwork all the more meaningful.

For information, contact the NWF State College Science Department office at 729-5376 or see [www.nwfsc.edu/sundial](http://www.nwfsc.edu/sundial).

## Support First Generation Students with an End of Year Gift

Students who are the first in their families to attend college can benefit for scholarships made available through the state's First Generation Matching Grant program. But, the funds are only allocated to those colleges who raise local matching dollars to help make the state scholarship dollars go farther. This year's match opportunity is \$20,429. Designate your end of the year gift to the NWFSC Foundation today for the "First Generation Scholarship program" to help the college raise the necessary private contributions to qualify for the state match. Your contribution will be specifically designated to this important scholarship program to help worthy students who come from families in which there has never been a college graduate – a true investment in the success of the next generation. Contact the Foundation office at 729-5357 for more information.

Update your name, address & email with the NWFSC Foundation

Contact Carla Reinlie or Cristie Kedroski at the NWFSC Foundation Office

850-729-5357

or visit our website at [www.nwfscfoundation.org](http://www.nwfscfoundation.org)



Photo by RHONDA MORONEZ, NWF State College



Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra

Corporate Underwriting & Charitable Giving Sought To Support 24th NFSO Season

The NFSO season also includes a “Baroque Christmas” concert on December 10 featuring the Northwest Florida Symphony Chorus and orchestra performing a marvelous array of some of the finest seasonal music of the 18th century to ring in the holidays in grand style.

The ever-popular “Stars of Tomorrow” concert on February 25, 2011 features winners of the NFSO’s prestigious regional Concerto Competition and a performance of the playful classic by Russian composer Prokofiev, “Peter and the Wolf,” to delight and inspire children and adults of all ages. NFSO founding conductor emeritus, John Leatherwood, will serve as narrator.

The season finale concert on April 30, entitled “Prayer, Beauty and Strength,” features Beethoven’s majestic *Piano Concerto No. 3* with guest artist Anna Bulkina, 2009 Gold Medal winner of the Wideman Piano Competition, as well as a performance of the rarely heard Mozart motet *Misericordias Domini* and the immensely popular and sublime Fauré *Requiem* with the Northwest Florida Symphony Chorus.

Established in 1987, the NFSO is under the direction of Jeffrey Rink, who in addition to serving as the orchestra’s music director and conductor, serves as the college’s Mattie Kelly Distinguished Endowed Teaching Chair in Music and Conducting and has led orchestra performances from Mexico City to Tokyo. The NFSO operates under the auspices of Northwest Florida State College and relies on individual and



Anna Bulkina

corporate gifts to support its educational endeavors for youth and the year-round musical programs. Corporate or individual gifts are still needed to support the remainder of the season and include opportunities to sponsor a soloist, underwrite an entire concert, support educational programs for youth, and more.

The NFSO’s extensive educational programs include a KATS (Kids at the Symphony) endeavor which brings area youth free of charge to each NFSO concert, NFSO musicians who visit area 5th grade classrooms to introduce young students to classical music, the long-standing NFSO tradition of performing free concerts for every 5th grade student in Okaloosa and Walton County, sponsorship with the NFSO Guild of the prestigious regional Concerto Competition for talented young musicians, support of the Northwest Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra and the Junior Orchestra, and other important cultural endeavors.

Support of the symphony through individual and corporate gifts is vital to these educational endeavors and to the year-round musical programs of the symphony. For information on corporate or charitable gifts to underwrite the NFSO, contact the Northwest Florida State College Foundation at 729-5357. For additional information see the symphony’s website at [www.nfsymphony.org](http://www.nfsymphony.org).

The 24th season of the region’s premiere professional orchestra, the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra (NFSO), began gloriously this fall with a September 25 concert featuring international guest artist Tobias Steymans, concertmaster of the prestigious Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra in Munich, Germany and an October 30 concert with Boston-based Maria Ferrante, for a full concert version of the Puccini operatic masterpiece “Madame Butterfly.”

GROUND BREAKING . . . continued from page 1

The new three-story, 75,000 square foot structure will feature various student services functions and the NWFSC Women’s Educational Resource Center on one floor. The courtyard level will house expanded food services and several multi-purpose meeting spaces. Conference and meeting facilities and the college’s Leadership Institute will be located on the third floor. Completion of the new Student Services building is slated for December of 2011 at which time remodeling of the 32,000 square foot College Mall will commence.

The remodeling of the College Mall will include expanded space for the college bookstore, the college’s Career Resources Center, new classrooms, as well as space for various student and college organizations. The courtyard connecting the new building and the remodeled Building K, in conjunction with the surrounding landscape, will feature over 2,150 plantings of 14 native species. This second phase of construction is anticipated to conclude in June of 2012.

At the groundbreaking event, college president Ty Handy was joined by Sandy Sims, chair of the college’s governing board; college trustees Brian Pennington, Dale Rice, Paul Foster, Rachel Gillis, Esteena Wells, and Marijo Strauss; David Alsop of Sam Marshall Architects; Jay B. Smith, vice president of Ajax Building Corporation; Mickey Englett, Dean of Students; Christine Bishop, Dean of Enrollment Services, and the college’s Student Government Association (SGA) president and vice president, Ashley Cuchens and Lisa Saunders, to empty mini truckloads of dirt from large size toy construction trucks to symbolically start the construction project.

Sam Marshall Architects of Pensacola along with partners Orcutt Consulting designed the new building with a distinctive glass curtain wall facade. This insulated impact resistant glass will allow for an abundance of natural light to penetrate the facility while controlling energy use. The

building was designed to meet or exceed State of Florida and National Energy Standards promising to increase energy savings, water efficiency and reduce CO2 emissions. The firm also designed much of the recent construction at the college including the Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Learning Resources Center, Robert E. Greene, Jr. Science Building, and the Community Services Complex slated to open in January 2011.

Ajax Building Corporation is the construction firm for the entire project. A 53-year-old company, Ajax is recognized for its expertise in construction management, design-build and program management of educational, healthcare and commercial facilities, as well as other public and institutional buildings. Ajax is dedicated to building sustainable and high performance facilities — from design to construction and operation — and has two-dozen LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Accredited Professionals credentialed employees on staff.



East Elevation



Humanities Grant Supports Lecture Series

The Niceville Public Library Friends of the Library group and the Northwest Florida State College Foundation, in partnership with the Florida Humanities Council, received an \$8,000 grant to host a series of free public lectures by state and local experts who will explore various aspects of the recent Gulf oil spill from metaphysical, to environmental and economic perspectives. The “Florida Then and Now” series is now in its sixth year in the area.

The next lecture is December 3 when Tim Center, Vice President of Sustainability Initiatives for the state’s Collins Center for Public Policy, will speak at 1:00 pm in the Robert E. Greene, Jr. Science Bldg. auditorium at the NWF State College Niceville campus.

On January 20, 2011, Susan Cerulean, a writer, naturalist and activist will speak at 7:00 p.m. at the Niceville Community Center, about her recent book “Unspoiled: Writers Speak for Florida’s Coast” in which 38 writers, scientists and students share their abiding love of Florida’s Gulf of Mexico coast and its sea life.

On February 17, 2011, Dr. Rick Harper, Director of the Haas Center at the University of West Florida will speak at 7:00 pm at the Niceville Community Center about the center’s efforts to quantify the size and distribution of the effects of the recent oil spill in the Gulf and what the residual damage will be.

On March 17, 2011, Dr. Fritz Davis, Professor of History at Florida State University will speak at 7:00 p.m. at the Niceville Community Center on “Archie Carr: The Man Who Saved Sea Turtles” which tells the story of Archie Carr (1909-1987), who was a world authority on the ecology, migrations, and conservation of sea turtles.

For information on the Florida Then & Now Series contact: Pam Smith (850) 678-5484 or [pamsmith2@cox.net](mailto:pamsmith2@cox.net). The Florida Humanities Council funded programs explore Florida’s history, folklore, environment, literature, music and art through grants provided to libraries, civic groups, universities, colleges, museums and historical societies. All programs are free and open to the public. The Florida Humanities Council (FHC) is an independent, non-profit organization that is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

# New Coaches, Fresh Faces For **RAIDER** Basketball In 2010-11

As both Raider Basketball teams begin their season journey, two new head coaches will be settling in, many new players will make their debuts, and if the preseason is any indication, a ton of wins will be accumulated.

For the women's basketball team, first-year head coach Patrick Harrington, who came to NWF State from the University of Colorado, will look to establish a foundation for future success beginning this season. Harrington inherits four players from last year's 17-8 team and added one sophomore transfer that will make up his five leaders for this year's team. Additionally,



**Patrick Harrington**  
Lady Raiders  
Basketball Coach

the freshman class has really begun to emerge as a talented group that is poised to make a big splash this season. Furthermore, the team chemistry has been absolutely superb with this team and that bodes extremely well for the prospects of having a terrific year. During the non-conference portion of the schedule, Coach Harrington is looking to improve each week and develop his player rotation in preparation for another challenging Panhandle Conference season. If the team continues to progress at the same rate they have during the preseason, the Lady Raiders could very well surprise a lot of people beginning in January.



**Joe Richardson,**  
Interim Basketball  
Coach

It certainly has been a very atypical preseason for the Raiders' men's basketball team. In late September, Coach Bruce Stewart informed his team that he was taking the year off to fight his battle with brain cancer. Shocked and upset, the players were comforted to know that Joe Richardson, who had been the assistant coach since '09, would be named the interim head coach for this season. Fast forward a couple months and the Raiders are feverishly preparing for what looks to be a very good season. Two players return off of last year's conference and state championship team but the recruiting efforts last spring are paying huge dividends. The Raiders nabbed the top junior college prospects in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee and also brought in the highest ranked junior college transfer in the entire country. The Raiders will likely feature a very balanced offensive attack that could see a lot of production from its post players. NWF State opens up the 2010-11 season as the preseason conference favorite, the #1 ranked team in the state, and #5 ranked team in the nation. The Raiders know they have to earn those distinctions, and they are very much looking forward to the challenge.



## Community Services Complex Set To Open In 2011

Open House January 5th



Very rarely, if ever, does something ever live up to the hype. That will undoubtedly change in January of 2011. When the Raider Basketball teams begin their Panhandle Conference schedule this season, they will do so in the finest two-year college basketball facility in the entire country. With over 2,200 seats completely surrounding the pristine parquet floor from every conceivable angle, spectators are sure to be in love with it from the very moment they step foot in it.

The arena features a Raider Club section and Raider Room (Hospitality) that is nearly triple the size of the ones in the existing gym. Additionally, the Community Services Complex will house a brand new 3,600 square-foot fitness room that will serve the college's Wellness classes and other fitness needs. Another great aspect of the complex is that it will house the college's graduation ceremonies each year beginning in 2011.

While there are many other incredible features that have gone unmentioned, words can only do so much. Watch the Raiders website for updates on the scheduled January 5 Grand Opening!

## Stewart Undergoing Treatments, Thankful For Support

Instead of gearing up for another winning basketball season, Bruce Stewart, who has been the head coach for the Raiders for the past 13 seasons, suddenly finds himself in the most important battle of his life. Stewart was diagnosed with stage IV glioblastoma, a very aggressive form of brain cancer, back in late September. Since that time, the 57-year old coach, who holds the record for the most wins in the college's history, has decided to take the season off to focus on his health.



At the beginning of October, Stewart began chemo and radiation treatments at Shands Hospital in Gainesville, FL. His team of doctors have been extremely pleased with Coach Stewart's progress and are astounded that he is able to walk 6 miles per day after the intense treatments he receives on a daily basis. While much is still unknown, one thing that has remained constant is Coach Stewart's determination to succeed.

The outpouring of support from the community, churches, and the Raiders fans have truly made a huge impact on Coach Stewart and his family. All of the thoughts and prayers have been incredible, and we ask that you continue to do so in order to get Coach Stewart back to his favorite place (on the sidelines) next season!

## 2010 Golf Classic Successful

It's the tournament everyone wants to be a part of, and thanks to tremendous support from the title sponsor Fort Walton Beach Medical Center and a bevy of local businesses and individual sponsors, the 2010 Golf Classic proved once again why that is the case. In conjunction with the FWB Medical Center, the Northwest Florida State College's Athletic Department put together their annual golf event in June of 2010 at the Fort Walton Beach Golf Club that still has people buzzing. Every participant enjoyed the competitive, yet relaxing two-day event that captured the essence of community fellowship and outstanding food and entertainment.

The purpose the FWB Medical Center/NWF State Golf Classic is to raise funds for athletic scholarships for the college's male and female student-athletes, and it is a big reason why the Raiders enjoy so much success on the field/court and in the classroom. The reputation this event has created is truly special, and that sentiment grew even larger when it was announced that the tournament once again raised over \$18,000 despite the tough economic times. The marvelous success the tournament enjoyed this year was a mere

reflection of all the fantastic support the college receives from local business and organizations such as the Fort Walton Beach Medical Center and CenturyLink (tournament drink sponsor).



**NWF STATE COLLEGE**

The two-day event was occupied by 26 teams, all competing for incredible prizes provided by Edwin Watts Golf Shops. The Danny's Fried Chicken team ended up taking first place overall with a two day total of 118 (60-58), continuing their rash of dominance in the tournament. Participants were treated to lunch both days, as well as unlimited beverages provided by CenturyLink. Aside from the 26 teams that purchased a sponsorship, the tournament's committee was able to sell 48 additional hole sponsorships. Furthermore, with the help of unbelievable prize donations from local businesses, the Raider Athletics' Department was able to generate \$1,800 via auction packages, which included fabulous golf courses, luxurious resorts, and world-class cuisine. It truly was a first-class event that everyone enjoyed and it's only getting better each and every year. If you are interested in playing in next year's tournament, please contact the Athletic Department at (850) 729-5229 for more details.

### HOLE SPONSORS

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# Leading Women

Symposium & Golf Tournament  
at Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort

The fourth annual "Leading Women Symposium and Golf Event," presented by the Northwest Florida State College Foundation, was held October 18th at Sandestin Golf and Beach Club. The women-only event was a tremendous success with nearly 100 women participating and raising almost \$8,000.

Organized by a dynamic volunteer committee and the NWFSC Foundation, the event helps provide scholarships and funds for the college's Women's Educational Resource Center (WERC), teacher education programs, and support for women to participate in the college's Leadership Institute programs.

Highlights of this year's event were a symposium, brunch and silent auction which featured items from Regions Bank, Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort and John & Jill White Jewelry.



Tournament Winners  
Watts Family & Friends

## Fourth Annual Leading Women Symposium & Golf Event Supports College Scholarships For Women



Women's Educational Resource  
Woman of the Year Shell Davidson (right)  
with Pam Walters (left).

Tracy Lolita Healy was the keynote speaker, an entrepreneur with over \$67 million in retail sales worldwide for her creative and fun collectible drink-ware. She inspired the crowd with "What is Your Moment" – the story of her success.

Introduced during the symposium was NWFSC student Shell Davidson, a single mother of two, working toward her Associate's degree who was named the Women's Education Resource Center's Woman of the Year and who is one of the many women helped through the proceeds from the Leading Women Golf Tournament and Symposium. Also recognized was Erin Watts, an NWFSC Collegiate High School student who assisted in coordinating the event as part of her Senior Capstone Project.

The popular golf event included a 9-hole scramble for those with some golf experience. For those golfers wanting to learn about golf or brush up on their skills, a clinic, sponsored by Lois Lunderman, DDS, with golf instruction and etiquette was also held. The award reception following the tournament and clinic was sponsored by Merrill Lynch, The McGovern Group. Prizes for the 9-hole scramble and the golf were hand-painted martini & wine glasses from Lolita, "The Cocktail Girl."

### EVENT SPONSORS

- |   |   |
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Tournament Winners  
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## National Touring Broadway Shows Featured in 2011



Tickets for the 2011 series of national touring Broadway and Artist shows at the college's Mattie Kelly Arts Center are available now by phone or web from the Arts Center Box Office at box office at (850) 729-6000 or visit the center's website at [www.mattiekellyartscenter.org](http://www.mattiekellyartscenter.org)

Broadway's new smash hit musical, based on the hilarious MGM film, "Legally Blonde" appears January 5. This feel-good song and dance juggernaut earned seven Tony® Award nominations. Tickets are \$50 each.

Nominated for eleven Tony® Awards, "The Color Purple" appears January 16 for both a Sunday matinee and an evening show. Based on the classic Pulitzer Prize-winning novel and the moving film by Steven Spielberg, this soul-stirring musical features a joyous GRAMMY® nominated score of jazz, gospel and blues. Tickets are \$50 each.

## NEW YORK in Niceville

January 27 features an Elvis extravaganza, "All Shook Up" – a zany musical comedy with more than 24 Elvis hits that's been described as "Footloose," "Grease" and "Happy Days" all rolled into one! Tickets are \$35 each.

A leading dance institution of unparalleled global acclaim, the "Dance Theatre of Harlem Ensemble" presents a troupe of 16 dancers on February 7. Tickets are \$35 each adult and \$25 for youth.

Teatro Lirico D' Europa, the stellar European touring company which performs worldwide, will present Puccini's operatic masterpiece, "Turandot," on February 19 with soloists from Opera Bolshoi, Prague State Opera, the New York City Opera and the Metropolitan Opera and more. Tickets are \$45 each.

A two-hour Celtic dance and music extravaganza, "Rhythm of the Dance" ends the national season on March 11 with an internationally acclaimed Irish step dance production. Tickets are \$35 each.

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Please forward correspondence to the NWF State College Foundation, 100 College Boulevard, Niceville, FL 32578 or call 850-729-5357.

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