



**NORTHWEST FLORIDA
STATE COLLEGE**



Northwest Florida State College – Office of Marketing & Public Relations & Raider Athletics
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DATE: December 10, 2010

Grand Opening of Community Services Complex January 5, 2011 features Public Open House, Tours & Free Basketball Game admission

Northwest Florida State College and Okaloosa County will hold a joint Grand Opening on January 5, 2011 for the new \$30 million Community Services Complex located on the college's Niceville campus. The event is free and open to the public and will include an open house and public tours of the facility, free admission to college basketball games and more.

A 120,000 square foot shared facility, the Community Services Complex is located near the southwest corner of the college's 265 acre Niceville campus. The entire facility is hardened to withstand 190-mile-per-hour winds and houses Okaloosa County's new offices for the 911 Call Center and its Emergency Operations Center, a 2,200 seat college basketball arena that will serve dual-duty as a hurricane shelter, a college wellness center, ROTC facilities and other instructional spaces.

The Grand Opening event begins at 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 5, with an opening ceremony on the front steps of the complex, followed from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. with guided tours of the NWF State College Raider Arena and classroom building as well as the Okaloosa County Emergency Operations Center.

Following the open house, the college's Athletics Department invites the public to a "Pack the Arena" event with free admission to women's and men's conference basketball games against Pensacola State College. The public is invited to wear Raider red to show their spirit and to cheer the Raiders to victory in this hot conference rivalry. The women's game begins at 5:30 p.m. and the men's game begins at 7:30 p.m. In between the games, at 7:00 p.m. Raider Athletics will feature special recognitions and spirited fun.

The Grand Opening ceremony will also include recognition of the naming of the Col. George E. 'Bud' Day Wing of the complex, which houses the college's ROTC program. This wing is being named in recognition of more than \$94,000 in gifts donated to the college's Foundation in Col. Day's honor by military veterans from across the nation to support college ROTC scholarships.

The Community Services Complex was designed by Sam Marshall Architects of Pensacola. In addition to the entire facility being hardened to withstand 190-mph winds, other features include a system of geothermal wells which provide for a portion of the facility's heating and cooling, emergency generators, redundant water supply and sewage disposal systems, a crank up antenna, a roof top antenna farm, a state-of-the-art audio /visual system in the EOC, road lighting with LED technology and more.

NWF State College Portion of Facility – Raider Arena & Classroom Building

NWF State Raider Basketball Arena (74,500 square foot):

Northwest Florida State College is accredited to award bachelor's degrees and is part of Florida's system of 28 public state and community colleges. The college's Raiders athletic teams compete as part of the National Junior College Athletic Association and proudly boast one of the finest two-year college athletic programs in the nation. The Community Services Complex houses the Raiders top-ranked women's and men's basketball teams. The Raiders are named in honor of the heroic WWII Raiders flight squadron who trained at Eglin for their historic mission to bomb Japan after the attack at Pearl Harbor.

The 2,200 seat Raider Arena more than doubles the capacity of the college's current gymnasium (1,058 seat capacity) which was built in 1972. The Arena features 1,000 sq. ft. of varsity locker rooms for both Raider women's and men's basketball teams, a state-of-the-art parquet floor, spacious fixed seating surrounding the entire Arena, a large 4-sided scoreboard above center court, and more.

The first home game scheduled to be played in the Raider Arena will be a January 5, 2011 conference game against Pensacola State College. The Raider Arena portion of the Community Services complex will also house offices for the college's Athletics & Wellness/Fitness programs. The Arena is designed to serve as a public shelter in times of emergency such as a hurricane. The college also plans to hold larger events, such as commencement, in the facility.

Classroom Building (20,100 square foot):

The NWF State College classroom building at the Community Services Complex houses a new 3,600 sq. ft. fitness center for college wellness and fitness courses, classrooms, fitness locker rooms, and facilities for the college's Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program. This portion of the facility is directly adjacent to and accessible from the new Okaloosa County Emergency operations center and is designed to serve dual-duty to provide resting and relief space for emergency operations officials during activation of the center during events such as hurricanes. The classroom building also features a 2,900 square foot Raider Room, for the college's athletics booster program, which includes a kitchen that can also serve dual purposes during emergency events.

Additional Background:

Fitness/Wellness Center – The new Wellness Center is 3,600 sq. ft and replaces a current 1,402 sq. ft facility that is located adjacent to the current gym. The new facility will be used primarily by college Wellness classes, (HLP 1081 - a course designed to promote wellness through assessment, instruction and fitness programs which, if applied, help the individual to achieve and/or maintain a high quality of health and fitness throughout life), and for a 1 credit hour Fitness Lab (PEM 2108) that all students may take. NWFSC Wellness and Fitness classes are open for those desiring college credit (Wellness: 3 credit hours, Fitness: 1 credit hour) or for audit status (non-credit). The new facility contains the following new equipment: 6 treadmills, 5 elliptical, 2 bikes, 1 recumbent bike, 1 step machine, 1 summit trainer, a full body circuit of selectorized weight machines, and a full complement free weights. Functioning equipment from the current Wellness center will be shared with NWFSC centers that need fitness equipment for Wellness classes offered at other college locations. The current college Wellness Center is being converted to a classroom.

Gym: The college's current gymnasium, built in 1972, will be left intact for class use, as well as for use by intramural sports and for activities such as the Math Bowl, community fairs, or extra practice space during athletic tournaments, etc. The college's Public Safety Division will move into the offices and classroom space currently occupied by the college's Athletics & Wellness programs and will use the current gym for Public Safety classes in Physical Fitness, Defense Tactics, etc.

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Okaloosa County Portion of Community Services Complex- (25,400 square foot)

Okaloosa County Facilities at this location:

- Public Safety Administration Offices
- 911 Dispatch Center (In Operation 24/7)
- Emergency Operations Center – activates in an emergency (NWF State College classrooms designed to provide sleeping & relief for emergency workers.)
- Hurricane Shelter (in NWF State College Raider Arena), if needed.
- Building constructed to withstand hurricane force winds.

Funding: Approximately \$7 million is Okaloosa County portion; \$4 million from local tax revenues and \$3 million from state & federal grants.

911 Emergency Operations Center Activation:

- Once the EOC is activated, it is manned 24 hours a day.

What Happens in the EOC?

- Functions as the County's Command Post & primary link to State Emergency Operations Center in any & all community-wide emergencies.
- In coordination with the County's leadership & elected officials, develops & implements public safety, health & welfare policies such as state of emergency declarations, evacuation orders, curfews, prohibition of alcohol sales, road closures, shelters, boil water notices, addresses special needs & more.
- Monitors other counties & weather centers in our regions for updates.
- Dissemination of public Information on road closures, school closures, shelter openings, evacuations, etc. Manage distribution of ice, water, food distribution.
- Arrange transportation (Okaloosa County Transit) for emergency evacuations
- Monitor of flood levels; monitor lift stations for overflow and spills, etc.
- Request aid from State & FEMA before, during & after storms.
- Recovery of essential services as soon as possible.

ATTACHMENTS: Aerial photo of Community Services Complex, Grand opening flyer – 2 sided – color and black & white versions – may be printed as a community advertisement on a space available basis by area media. Photo is owned by NWFSC and media may exclude/cut off the commercial photo credit listed at the bottom of the photo if desired

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