UWF History and Archaeology Youth Summer Camps

Blast summer boredom away and join us for Pensacola’s History and Archaeology Camp! This summer, the University of West Florida is offering history and archaeology summer camps for students in upcoming 4th through 9th grades. Instructors for these camps include staff from the Florida Public Archaeology Network and West Florida Historic Preservation, Inc.

Pensacola’s History and Archaeology Camp is a one-week social studies enrichment camp that will immerse campers in history and archaeology. Campers will experience Pensacola’s unique heritage through an archaeology lab, museums, historic sites, and archival collections in downtown Pensacola. Camp curriculum and activities will build a deep appreciation of Pensacola’s rich past and instill stewardship for local cultural resources with hands-on learning, crafts and activities, museum visits and tours! Throughout camp, students will apply reading, writing, science, math, and reasoning skills in fun, real-world applications.

Space is still available! Camp for upcoming 7th-9th graders will take place June 10th-14th and camp for upcoming 4th-6th graders will take place July 15th-19th. For more information or to enroll, please call the UWF Continuing Education Student Support Center at (850) 473-7468 or visit www.uwf.edu/ExploreCamps.
Heritage Awareness Diving in Southeast Florida

This May, FPAN Northwest staff will be traveling to Marathon in the Florida Keys to conduct the Heritage Awareness Diving Seminar (HADS) program!

The Heritage Awareness Diving Seminar is intended to explain the advantages of conserving shipwrecks and other submerged cultural resources, not only to preserve information about our collective past, but also to preserve the vibrant ecosystems that grow around shipwrecks. HADS focuses on providing scuba training agency Course Directors, Instructors, and Instructors with a greater knowledge of how to proactively protect shipwrecks, artificial reefs, and other underwater cultural sites as part of the marine environment. The program consists of one day of classroom instruction and one day of open water diving. Upon completion of HADS, participants can teach the new Heritage Awareness Specialty Course, approved by the PADI, NAUI, and SSI scuba agencies, as well as incorporate underwater historic preservation into other courses.

If you think you might be interested in a HADS program and live in Northwest Florida, get ready to join us in Pensacola on September 12th-14th, 2013. Stay tuned to our events calendar for more information as September gets closer!

FPAN Archaeology Lab Summer Hours

We are pleased to announce that the Public Archaeology Lab at FPAN’s Coordinating Center in downtown Pensacola will be open for the summer on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:00am to 4:00pm! Come help us rough sort artifacts from excavations conducted by the University of West Florida. All ages and all experience levels are welcome. The volunteer program is perfect for students who need volunteer hours for scholarships, individuals and groups interested in a unique way to experience local history and archaeology, as well as all of those who have dreamed of getting their hands dirty participating in real archaeological work!

If you are interested in volunteering in our Public Archaeology Lab contact Nicole Bucchino at nbucchino@uwf.edu or 850.595.0050 ext. 103.

“Dig into Reading” in Santa Rosa County

FPAN Northwest is teaming up with Santa Rosa County Public Libraries this summer to present the “Dig into Reading” Introduction to Archaeology presentation series for kids!

“Dig into Reading” is the theme for this summer’s Florida Youth Library Program and is the perfect opportunity to introduce the youngest members of your family to the wonderful field of archaeology. Learn about what archaeologists do, the kinds of things they find during excavations, and what those things can tell us about people in the past.

Bring the whole family by on any of the following dates to have fun while learning. Presentations are suitable for all ages!

Monday, June 24
2:00pm: Jay Library

Tuesday, June 25
1:00pm: Navarre Library
5:30pm: Pace Library

Wednesday, June 26
1:00pm: Milton Library
5:30pm: Gulf Breeze Library

FLORIDA PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY NETWORK

UPCOMING EVENTS

All events are also online: Event List

May 8th-9th: FPAN Board of Directors Meeting, St. Augustine.

May 10th-12th: Florida Anthropological Society Annual Meeting, St. Augustine.

May 16th-18th: Heritage Awareness Diving Seminar (HADS), Marathon.

May 20th: 7:00pm, Public Lecture: “Nuestra Señora del Rosario y Santiago Apostol: A Spanish New World Frigate,” Bay County Public Library, Panama City.


May 10th-12th: Florida Historical Society Annual Meeting.

June 1st: 10:00am-4:00pm, Historic Pensacola Village and FPAN Open House, Pensacola.

June 10th-14th: 8:30am-12:30pm, History and Archaeology Summer Camp (upcoming 7th-9th grades), Pensacola.

June 17th: 10:30am-11:30am, Introduction to Underwater Archaeology for Kids Lecture and Activity, Washington County Public Library, Chatom, AL.

June 17th: 1:15pm-2:15pm, Introduction to Underwater Archaeology for Kids Lecture and Activity, Washington County Public Library, Chatom, AL.
Blackwater Pyrates Celebrate Milton’s First Florida Heritage Marker

On Thursday, May 2nd, the Blackwater Pyrates hosted the unveiling and dedication of the city of Milton’s first Florida Heritage Marker! FPAN Northwest staff attended the event, which took place on the city Riverwalk with Milton’s Mayor Guy Thompson as a special guest.

The new heritage marker recognizes two important aspects of the Milton’s history. First, it commemorates the many ships wrecked in the Blackwater River during the height of industrial commerce in the area from the late 1800s through the 1930s. The marker also honors Blackwater Landing, the name of the area prior to the establishment of Milton.

The Blackwater Pyrates were awarded the 2012 Stewards of Heritage Award by the Florida Archaeological Council for their continued dedication to the stewardship of historical and archaeological resources in and along the Blackwater River. Throughout the year, the Pyrates also organize local river clean-ups, promote boater safety courses, and organize educational programs. For more information on the Blackwater Pyrates, visit their website!

FPAN Northwest Joins Foursquare

Pensacola has a rich history with many excellent places to visit that are now easier than ever to discover through Foursquare!

Foursquare is a social media website and smartphone app that enables people to create and share lists of their favorite locations. Now you can use it to explore the city’s past by checking out six great lists of history and archaeology-oriented locations to visit. Use this helpful program to plan for a fun weekend with the family, find something to do in your spare time, or get to know the city a little better!

Current lists of places to visit include Historic Pensacola, Pensacola’s Museums, Family Friendly Locations, Rainy Day History, Open Saturdays, and Heat-less History. Simply go to foursquare.com and search for “FPAN.” The available lists will be on the right along with information about upcoming events.
In Review:
Florida Archaeology Month 2013

Florida’s 2013 Archaeology Month in March was wildly successful for FPAN Northwest! We organized and participated in 18 events across the region, reaching people in almost every one of the counties we serve. Our staff was also featured in local media outlets 8 times over the course of the month. As always, we plan for next year’s events to be even bigger and better!

Although Archaeology Month is over, FPAN and organizations throughout the state of Florida will be continuing their celebration of 500 years of Florida history with special events for the remainder of 2013! Visit the FPAN Northwest or Viva Florida 500 events pages to keep up to date about the exciting things you can participate in related to Florida history and archaeology.

Participants line up to begin the annual “Dash through the Past” history scavenger hunt race!

“Dash through the Past” teams scramble to complete their challenges and be the first to finish.

History enthusiasts tour Fort Pickens on their bicycles during “Tour de Fort!”

Families build their own boats at the Bay County Public Library.

FPAN Associate Director Dr. Della Scott-Ireton discusses archaeology and artifacts with visitors to our Archaeology Day at the Constitution Convention Museum in Port St. Joe.

The room was packed for USF graduate student Christopher Hunt’s lecture on Old St. Joe at the St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve!