

The Bay Beacon

Police Blotter, page A-2

10 Pages, 2 Sections, 5 Inserts

Wednesday, August 28, 2013

50¢

UP
COMING

Thurs., 6 p.m.



A dinner to benefit the **Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation's** cultural arts and educational programs will be at the **TradeWinds Restaurant**, 205 Government Street, Niceville. \$50 for Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation members, \$65 for non-members. Call MKAF at 650-2226 for reservations.

Fri., 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.



The **Biophilia Center**, Freeport, presents "Fun with Folk Art" with **Abrakadoodle** making upcycled roosters on canvas. Open to all ages. General Admission is \$8 for adults \$5 for children, under 2 free.

Fri., 10-11 a.m.

Henderson Beach State Park, Destin, invites the public to participate in a celebration of reading and **September's Literacy Month**. Join



park rangers as they read their favorite children's books. Following story time, there will be refreshments and an environmentally friendly art activity. Event weather permitting. Regular park admission fees apply. \$6 per vehicle, limit 2-8 people per vehicle. \$4 single occupant vehicle. \$2 pedestrians, bicyclists, extra passengers and passengers in vehicle with holder of Annual Individual Entrance Pass.

Fri.-Sat., 1-7 p.m.

The **Bloodmobile** will be at the **Niceville Walmart**. All donors will receive a \$10 Wal-Mart gift card.

Calendar, B-2

Niceville nixes more cops, firefighters

Council cites need to hold line on expenses

By Daniel Elsesser
Beacon Staff Writer

The Niceville City Council has rejected requests by the police and fire departments for more personnel.

Members of the council last week agreed with City Clerk Dan

Doucet's statement that there was no room in the city's 2013-14 budget to fund the three police officers and six firefighters the departments requested in their budget proposals.

The three employees requested by the police department

would have cost the city \$124,170 a year, and the six requested by the fire department would have cost \$281,960.

City Manager Lannie Corbin noted during a council meeting Thursday that with the requirements of the Affordable Health

Care Act to take place next year, the city would have to give certain retirement benefits to all city employees, including those working part time. Corbin cited the ACA, the federal law popularly known as Obamacare, as the primary reason for the high cost of bringing in new employees and the reason why it could not be

afforded.

The police department has 24 full-time and six part-time officers, while the fire department has 10 full-time and three part-time firefighters.

In his request, Fire Chief Tommy Mayville said the

Please see NIXES, page A-5

Celebrating 50 years



Beacon photo by Sarah Clauson

Niceville High School will mark its 50th anniversary during festivities immediately preceding its scheduled football game with Rutherford at Eagles Stadium Friday. Pictured, fans got an early start during last Friday's Kickoff Classic.

Niceville High marks its golden anniversary

By Angela Yuriko Smith
Beacon Staff Writer

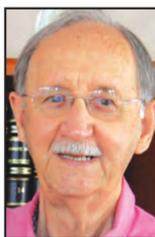
Niceville High School will celebrate its 50th anniversary at its current site on Friday, beginning with a pep rally in the school's gymnasium and ending with a football game that evening pitting the Eagles against Rutherford.

The school's history actually extends back much further than 50 years. Classes were held in a three-room frame building that was named Niceville High

School in 1922.

In 1924 land was purchased for a new high school to be built from George Nathey for \$1 at the site of what is now Edge Elementary School. It burned down during the 1926 Christmas holidays.

Niceville High was rebuilt on the same site by 1928, but the new building, too, didn't last long. A hurricane



Randall Wise

destroyed it in July 1936. Unable to afford to rebuild after two catastrophes, classes were split between a former dance hall and the Valparaiso Community Center.

In the early 50's the school district decided to send Niceville high schoolers to Choctawhatchee High School in Fort Walton Beach.

"I was sad to see the two schools combine," said Niceville Mayor Randall Wise. "And I was happy to see it rebuilt back in Niceville."

In 1964, Niceville High School was built at its current site at John Sims Parkway and Cedar Avenue, and the long bus rides to Choctaw High ended.

Alumni and staff have been preparing since last June to plan the golden anniversary

Please see 50 YEARS, page A-5

Robbery victim, 64, recounts beatings

Three home invaders still on the loose

By Daniel Elsesser
Beacon Staff Writer

Even after an assailant slammed her head repeatedly into her kitchen floor, Lourdes Adams, 64, was able to warn her husband and later run for help after an Aug. 8 assault and robbery in her Niceville home.

Mrs. Adams and her husband, Richard, were attacked Aug. 8 by three masked men wearing gloves upon arriving at their home. The men stole at least \$700. Last week, Mrs. Adams gave the Bay Beacon her account of the couple's ordeal.

Mrs. Adams reached her lake-front home on Kristin Circle, in

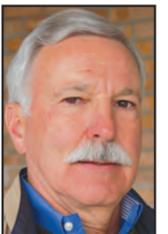
Please see ROBBERY, page A-4

Official: Cut our salary

By Daniel Elsesser
Beacon Staff Writer

An East Niceville fire commissioner believes that he and his fellow board members are over-paid and is pushing for a pay cut.

Ed Dunbar, treasurer of the East Niceville



Ed Dunbar

Fire District, said the \$500 per month received by the elected commissioners of the self-governing district should be reduced.

"I'm not proposing that we

Please see CUT, page A-6

Fast-growing autism school seeks college site

NWFSC trustees eye proposal

By Mike Griffith
and Daniel Elsesser
Beacon Staff

A fast-growing school for children affected by autism has proposed moving to a site on the Niceville campus of Northwest Florida State College.

At the Aug. 20 meeting of the college board of trustees, officials were briefed on a proposed partnership between the college and the Emerald Coast Autism Center, Niceville.

The trustees heard a presentation by Heidi Blalock, chief executive of Emerald Coast Autism Center, who proposed that the center build a facility

on land leased from the college.

Blalock proposed building a 12,000-square-foot facility on the Niceville campus, where her organization could provide therapeutic and educational services to students with autism.

The four-year-old center has 35 full-time and 27 part-time students, ages 18 months to 14 years, according to documents it furnished to the trustees. Teachers work with them on a one-to-one ratio.

Blalock said the autism center has a waiting list, and that there is "a great need for our

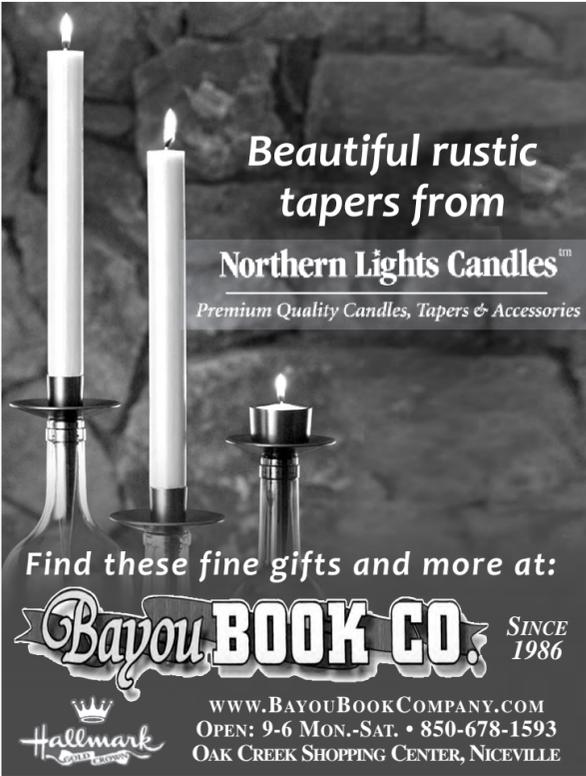
Please see AUTISM, page A-4



Artist's rendering of proposed Emerald Coast Autism Center at Northwest Florida State College, Niceville.

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Police Blotter

The following accounts of the activities of police are according to records of the Niceville and Valparaiso police departments, the Okaloosa County and Walton County sheriff's offices, other law-enforcement agencies, and the Okaloosa County and Walton County jails.

Arrests

Bryan Wayne Vanderpool, unemployed, 26, of 209 Buddy Phelps Drive, Niceville, was arrested by Niceville police Aug. 13 on a charge of criminal mischief under \$200.

A Niceville resident told an officer that an inebriated person later identified a Vanderpool had been banging on the hood of his neighbor's pickup truck. The officer observed dents in the vehicle's hood and an open container of beer on the floorboard.

Police knocked on the door at Vanderpool's residence, but no one answered. Through dispatch, police talked to Vanderpool's emergency contact, who provided police with key to Vanderpool's residence. The complainant positively identified Vanderpool as the person who had damaged the vehicle.

Vanderpool's required court appearance is Sept. 3.

Lonnie Dion Peterson, a landscaper, 36, of 77 Canary Lane, Freeport, was arrested by sheriff's deputies Aug. 20 on a charge of driving while license suspended habitual offender.

A sheriff's deputy allegedly observed Peterson wandering around Bluewater Boulevard, Niceville, Aug. 20 at about 3:55 a.m.

The deputy checked for warrants for Peterson and found that he had been declared a habitual traffic violator by the state of Florida.

About one hour later, the deputy saw Peterson driving a scooter on State Road 20, Niceville.

Peterson's required court appearance is Sept. 24.

Thomas Henry Pride, 18, of 1858 Edge Ave., Niceville, was arrested by sheriff's deputies Aug. 19 on charges of reckless driving first offense, fleeing with disregard of safety of persons or property, petit theft and resisting an officer without violence.

Pride allegedly eluded a sheriff's deputy while the deputy was trying to stop Pride for driving an unregistered dirt bike.

While eluding the deputy, Pride almost struck two vehicles head-on while driving the wrong way down Rocky Bayou Drive.

Pride laid the dirt bike down and ran away, throwing down a

backpack containing items that surveillance footage confirmed were stolen from Walmart.

The next day, the deputy received information on Pride's location and attempted to contact him at his residence. Pride ran out the back door of his residence and jumped into Boggy Bayou. He was eventually taken into custody.

Pride's required court appearance is Sept. 24.

Luke Martin Bayer, unemployed, 20, of 4555 Redbud Trail, Niceville, was arrested by sheriff's deputies Aug. 16 on a charge of resisting an officer without violence.

A deputy was patrolling the area near Caribbean Way, Niceville, regarding a vehicle burglary that had occurred Aug. 15 at approximately 10 p.m.

A deputy observed someone later identified as Bayer walking down Caribbean Way at about 12:49 a.m. Aug. 16 and pulled his car up alongside him while attempting to contact him. The deputy then got out of the vehicle and attempted to make contact with him, while Bayer continued walking without acknowledging the deputy's presence.

Another deputy told Bayer to stop several times, but Bayer looked directly at the deputy and continued to walk. The deputy grabbed Bayer by the wrist and told him to put his hands behind his back.

When the deputy began to handcuff Bayer, he pulled his arms and moved away, getting one arm free. The deputy took Bayer to the ground to subdue him.

Bayer's required court appearance is Sept. 3.

Leonard Dewayne Pendleton Jr., self-employed, 31, of 9174 Sellerville Road, Jay, was arrested by sheriff's deputies Aug. 15 on charges of battery touch or strike and criminal mischief property damage less than \$200.

A deputy responded to the business at 4580 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville, where someone reported seeing a bleeding woman enter the business.

The victim told the deputy that she had been sitting in the passenger seat of a vehicle Pendleton was driving. The two began to argue, and Pendleton allegedly

Fire Department Reports

Niceville

The Niceville Fire Department responded to the following calls from August 19, 2013 through August 25, 2013.

0 Structure Fire	16 Emergency Medical Calls
1 Vehicle Fire	1 Vehicle Crash
0 Other Fire	3 Vehicle Crash with Extrication
0 Illegal Burn	3 Other Emergency Calls
0 False Alarms	0 Hazardous Conditions



STREET	SITUATION	DATE	TIME
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	8/19/13	03:49
Nutmeg Ave.	Medical	8/19/13	21:57
W. John Sims Pkwy.	Medical	8/20/13	01:22
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	8/20/13	03:05
SR 85 N.	Medical	8/20/13	15:39
Ellis Ave.	Medical	8/20/13	19:10
Juniper Ave.	Vehicle fire	8/20/13	21:05
S. Palm Blvd.	Medical	8/21/13	13:56
Als Dr.	Service call	8/21/13	17:36
23rd Street	Cancelled	8/21/13	19:07
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	8/22/13	02:05
E. College Blvd.	Medical	8/22/13	15:13
Nathey Ave.	Smoke scare	8/23/13	08:11
E. John Sims Pkwy.	Vehicle crash	8/23/13	09:39
Coral Dr.	Medical	8/23/13	15:20
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	8/23/13	17:21
Duncan Dr.	Medical	8/24/13	02:14
N. Partin Dr.	Medical	8/24/13	11:30
Coral Dr.	Medical	8/24/13	18:26
McEwen Dr.	Medical	8/25/13	19:35
Valparaiso Blvd.	Medical	8/25/13	21:39

Weekly Safety Tip: **Escape Plans.** Every member of the household should know at least two exits from each room. Plan and practice your escape at least twice a year. Make sure that doors and windows needed for escape are unobstructed and easy to open.

Like the Niceville Fire Department on Facebook

North Bay



The North Bay Fire Department responded to the following calls from August 19, 2013 through August 25, 2013.

Street	Situation	Date	Time
Highway 20	Medical	8/19/13	11:22
E. Rosewood Way	Public assist	8/19/13	14:06
Oakmont Pl.	Alarm system activation	8/19/13	14:27
Antiqua Way	Medical	8/19/13	23:21
Northridge Rd.	Dispatched & cancelled	8/20/13	00:53
Commercial Dr.	Medical	8/20/13	09:36
E. Rosewood Way	Medical	8/20/13	12:54
E. Hwy. 20	Medical	8/20/13	14:51
Sunningdale Cove	Medical	8/21/13	15:25
Glenlake Cir.	Medical	8/21/13	15:39
E. Hwy. 20	Medical	8/22/13	11:02
Calinda Ln.	Medical	8/22/13	12:53
Hwy. 20 E.	Medical	8/22/13	14:02
Hwy. 20 E.	Medical	8/22/13	15:01
Merchants Way	Medical	8/22/13	16:11
N. White Point Rd.	Medical	8/22/13	20:12
Meadowbrook Ct.	Dispatched & cancelled	8/23/13	04:50
Nathey Ave.	Building Fire	8/23/13	08:13
Merchants Way	Medical	8/23/13	09:57
W. Parkwood Ln.	Medical alarm activation	8/23/13	19:40
W. Birkdale Cir.	Public assist	8/24/13	01:38
Birkdale Cir.	Public assist	8/24/13	09:14
N. White Point Rd.	Medical assist	8/24/13	11:30
Windward Cir.	Dispatched & cancelled	8/24/13	13:03
Shay Lin Ct.	Medical	8/24/13	19:36
Highway 20	Medical	8/24/13	21:05
SR 293	Vehicle accident	8/25/13	08:44

Visit northbayfd.org for more information.

began to scream at the woman and strike her multiple times with a fist while driving. Pendleton also ripped the rearview mirror from the vehicle's windshield and ripped the visor from the roof of the vehicle's passenger side.

The deputy observed a bite mark on the victim's arm, blood on her clothes and body and redness under her right eye, which was slightly swollen.

Pendleton's required court appearance is Sept. 3.

James Roscoe Valandingham, 32, of 1345 Treasure Cove, Niceville, was arrested by sheriff's deputies Aug. 15 on a Santa

Rosa County warrant for violation of probation on the original charge of grand theft of a motor vehicle.

Thefts

A Valparaiso resident reported Aug. 16 someone stole two laptop computers worth a total of \$100, a 42-inch flat-screen television worth \$400 and two computer keyboards worth \$50 from a residence on the first block of North Bayshore Drive.

An officer observed a broken window at the residence.

A Niceville resident of the 300 block of Reeves Street reported Aug. 16 someone stole two fishing poles, worth a total of \$40, from his residence.

A Niceville resident of the 2500 block of North Edgewater Drive reported someone knocked her mailbox over Aug. 17 and did a "wheelie" in her front yard Aug. 19.

Other

Ariell Nicole Graham, 24, of 503 Cypress St., Mary Esther, was served a criminal summons by Niceville police Aug. 16 on a charge of retail theft shoplifting.

Graham allegedly attempted to leave the Walmart at 1300 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville, without paying for several grocery items and school supplies that she had concealed in her purse.

Graham's required court appearance is Sept. 3.

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AUTISM

From page A-1

services," due to the growing number of children being diagnosed with autism in the U.S.

The center had revenue of \$1.25 million in the most recent fiscal year, up nearly fourfold in two years.

Trustee Rachel Gillis appeared to favor the proposal, saying such a facility would be a great service to her students, and could also be a worthwhile addition to the college's own teacher-education degree programs, by providing a site for internships and practicums for aspiring teachers interested in special education.

Trustee Paul Foster asked whether it might be better to set up such a center near or co-located

within an existing public school.

Blalock replied that as a private, nonprofit organization, the autism center would face legal and bureaucratic hurdles in trying to work directly with the public school system, judging from discussions she had already had with Okaloosa County School District.

She also said that Florida state laws and regulations allow parents of special education students, including those with autism, the option of opting out of public education in order to pursue better therapy and educational programs for their children, and that the state will provide the parents with funding assistance, called McKay Scholarships, for that purpose.

Public schools incur a loss of state funding every time a stu-



Beacon photo by Daniel Elsesser

Staci Berryman, left, and Heidi Blalock, officers of the Emerald Coast Autism Center, at one of its two Niceville sites, in St. Jude's Episcopal Church. They want to consolidate operations in a proposed new building at Northwest Florida State College.

dent leaves the system.

No decision was made regarding the autism center during the meeting, but Board of Trustees Chairman Brian Pennington said that there appeared to be a "con-

provides therapy and education to children with autism in Okaloosa and Walton counties.

Blalock said Monday that the center's need to move is based on both a need for larger space and a need to alleviate rent costs. It currently operates in Palm Plaza and at St. Jude's Episcopal Church, both in Niceville.

"We've gone from five students to 55" in four years, Blalock said. She said the increase in the scope of the center is largely due to the growing prevalence of autism itself.

"Right now, one in 88 kids has autism," Blalock said. "We've continued to expand because of a need for care. We're both a care center and a school, so we've had to expand a lot."

The Emerald Coast Autism Center proposed an agreement

with the college in which the center would pay for and build the \$1.9 million facility and lease real estate from the college.

Staci Berryman, executive director of the center, said the proposal is in such early stages that it is hard to speculate about lease terms. However, she said the goal is to lease the land from the college at less than market rate.

The center has begun a campaign to raise \$1 million in the next two to three years. A large portion of the funds are expected to come from donations from the Destin Charity Wine Auction Foundation.

According to projections provided by the center, it would borrow to finance the balance of the building cost, paying off the loan over 10 years from operations.

ROBBERY

From page A-1

the Rocky Bayou subdivision, at about 10:30 p.m. Her husband, 68, with whom she had just had a late dinner, was a few minutes behind her.

Mrs. Adams said she pulled her car fully into the garage, and as soon as she emerged someone grabbed her face and said, "Don't say a word."

Mrs. Adams said the man then brought her into her house

and placed her in the kitchen, between the refrigerator and kitchen island. She said the assailant pounded her head on the kitchen floor several times.

Mrs. Adams said she said she heard the garage door opening and realized her husband had arrived home.

"I guess the guy had closed the door behind us," Mrs. Adams said. "I yelled, 'Richard, run!,' but he couldn't hear me, probably because of the garage door going up."

Mrs. Adams said the men

who had been in her house then appeared to abandon some set plan.

"The guy who grabbed me and the other guy who was in the house, I guess they figured things weren't going right, so they ran out of the house," she said.

Mrs. Adams said normally there is not much cash in her house, but her husband had left money in the kitchen because the couple had set it out to take on an out-of-town trip. She said one of the robbers took this

money.

She then heard the assailants demand that her husband give them his wallet, cell phone and keys. The three assailants beat Mr. Adams after he initially refused, she said. He then threw his personal effects at the robbers and they fled.

Mrs. Adams said the money in the kitchen and the money in her husband's wallet totaled from \$700-\$1,000. She said a neighbor found the phone and keys in his yard the next day.

Okaloosa County sheriff's

deputies reported finding Mr. Adams bleeding at the mouth outside his residence at about 10:30 p.m. Mrs. Adams had run down the street screaming for help. She said someone in a nearby house had seen her husband running down the street covered in blood and had called the police.

The couple drove themselves to Twin Cities Hospital that evening. Mr. Adams was bandaged, while Mrs. Adams was given a CT scan, which showed no signs of brain damage from

her head trauma.

Mrs. Adams said sheriff's deputies contacted her Aug. 10, with torn T-shirts found in the area they believed the assailants used as masks. They also showed her gardening gloves found nearby which they believed the robbers had used. However, she said, her assailants had worn rubber surgical gloves.

According to the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office, the incident is still under investigation, with a report pending.



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- References: Riverside Elementary, Edge Elementary, Plew Elementary, Antioch Elementary, Hurlburt & Eglin Youth Center, Kids Discovery, Westwood Retirement, Sterling House, Niceville Boggy Bayou Mullet Festival, Crestview Downtown Main Street Events, Circus, Great American Smoke Out at Destin Commons, Spring flings.

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50 YEARS

From page A-1

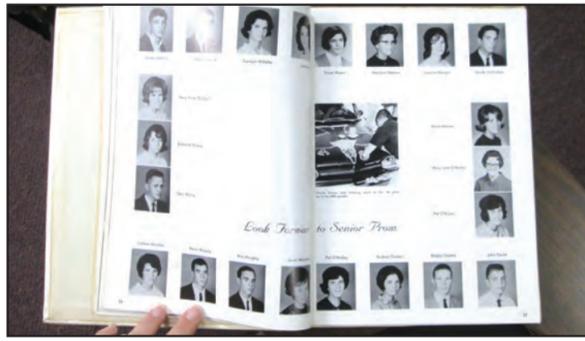
commemoration. Past cheerleaders, athletes and band members have been putting together performances and practicing for an alumni parade that will take place before Friday's game.

Lynda Pannelli moved back to the area in July, just in time to practice with the Twilight Twirlers, the NHS majorette alums whose members range from her own graduating classes, 1979, to that of 2010.

"I had the most fun of my life when I was in band and a majorette for Niceville High



Lynda Pannelli



This Niceville High School yearbook from 1965 shows how much the school has grown over the last 50 years. During the celebrations nostalgic items such as this will be on display for visitors to view.

School," she said.

Mike Willingham, class of 1978, says things have changed a lot since he was in school.

"It was a lot freer," Willingham said of the school in his time. "You could have shotguns in your truck gun rack back then. I don't think we even had a resource officer." All

three of Willingham's children are also NHS graduates.

"It is the best high school in the county," said Mayor Wise. "I'm happy to see them celebrate 50 years."

Following is the schedule of anniversary events scheduled for Friday.

—1:45 p.m.: Pep Rally in

the gymnasium.

—2-4 p.m.: Public tours of NHS hosted by leadership students.

—4-6 p.m.: Tailgate party in NHS cafeteria and patio; participants will purchase game tickets at this time by entering through the ticket booth near the crosswalk or the ticket booth near the 600 building. Food will be available for purchase from the band boosters at the concession stand.

—6:15 p.m.: Alumni parade.

—6:30 p.m.: Pre-game performances with alumni band, cheerleaders and dance team.

—7 p.m.: NHS vs. Rutherford.



Mike Willingham

NIXES

From page A-1

department needed more workers to be prepared for simultaneous emergencies in the area.

Councilman Sal Nodjomian, former installation commander at Eglin Air Force Base, said that the Eglin Fire Department had

been staffed in order to handle simultaneous emergencies, but an analysis proved the practice to be a waste of funding and manpower.

"We actually looked back, and in 25 years, even though we were staffed to handle simultaneous incidents, it only actually occurred once," Nodjomian. "We're not going to do the same

thing in the city. We can't afford it."

Corbin added that because of mutual-aid agreements with the nearby Valparaiso, North Bay, Eglin and East Niceville fire departments, the area is essentially serviced by five fire-prevention organizations.

One notable item left in the budget for the police department

is \$6,000 for a JMAR traffic enforcement monitoring system. Police Chief David Popwell said this system would be mounted on utility poles in areas citizens have complained about speeding and register speeds of passing vehicles, helping officials to decide whether to assign a traffic officer. The device would not record driver information nor be used to

\$6 million hike for school employees

By Daniel Elsesser
Beacon Staff Writer

The Okaloosa County School Board Monday approved new salary schedules for teachers and noninstructional staff that would raise pay by as much as 5 percent.

The board unanimously adopted schedules that would increase pay for teachers with less than 30 years' experience by 5 percent, while boosting the pay of teachers with more than 30 years' experience, and all other school district employees, by 4.7 percent.

The raises are expected to maintain the status of Okaloosa County public-school teachers as among the highest paid in Florida.

Under the new schedule, a

new teacher with a bachelor's degree will start at \$32,803 for nine months' work. The highest paid nine-month teacher—one holding a doctorate and having served 30 years—will be paid \$77,314.

District Chief Financial Officer Rita Scallan said the raises are the result of a state requirement to increase the salaries of teachers and school administrators.

Scallan said the increases, which are subject to approval by two labor unions, would cost the school district about \$6 million this year.

The new pay schedule erases a distinction that awarded less seniority, and thus less pay, to teachers with previous experience outside Okaloosa County.

issue tickets, he said.

Popwell said the purpose of the system is to inform police as to where speed violations commonly occur so they may place officers more efficiently.

City officials cut over \$1.1 million in budget requests from the various departments. Other cuts included \$120,000 requested by the streets department to fund

a hot patch paving truck, \$80,430 to fund three more employees for different departments, and \$9,600 to fund a vehicle allowance for the Niceville Youth Center.

The proposed budget for the fiscal year that will start Oct. 1 envisions \$12.7 million in total revenue, including money from a proposed millage rate of 3.7 mills, the same as the current rate.



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CUT

From page A-1

completely get rid of pay to commissioners," Dunbar said. "I think we should probably bump it down to \$400 (a month) for the chairman, \$300 for the treasurer and \$100 for the others."

Dunbar said previously he may resign from his position as treasurer at the end of the fiscal year, Sept. 30, but retain his seat on the five-person commission until his term ends in November 2014.

Dunbar said the commissioners are paid the maximum allowed by law, "even though the size and complexity of [its] operations is in the bottom quarter of similar districts."

Dunbar noted that elected officials in the adjacent North Bay Fire District, and in the city of Niceville, which has its own fire department, are unpaid.

Dunbar said the money saved

by lowering commissioner salaries could be put to better use.

"By lowering the salaries, we could save about \$18,000 a year," Dunbar said. "That's a lot for increasing firefighter salaries, because it only takes \$12,000 to give them a 3 percent raise."

'By lowering the salaries, we could save about \$18,000 a year.'

—Commissioner Ed Dunbar

Commissioner salaries cannot be discussed without an advertisement two weeks in advance, and Dunbar proposed at the commission's Aug. 12 meeting that the

issue be placed on the agenda for the commission's special meeting Sept. 4. The motion did not receive a second from any commissioner.

Commission Chairman Mike Marcolongo tabled the issue, likely for discussion after the commission completes its budget discussions and sets a final millage rate at meetings Sept. 4 and 9.

"I'm just trying to get the discussion started on this," Dunbar said. "Where it goes once it gets started, I have no idea."

Dunbar noted that changes in commissioner pay require a super-majority board approval, meaning four of the five commissioners would have to approve the reduction in order for it to take effect.

Marcolongo asked Dunbar to gather letters from residents of the East Niceville district indicating a public desire to lower commissioner salaries.

Dunbar has sent out emails to at least 35 people requesting input on the issue.

"I just want to public feedback," Dunbar said. "Just to see whether people think yes or no on this."

Commission Vice Chair John Root said commissioner salaries do not concern him.

"I don't care either way," Root said. "I served on the commission for 12 years without pay."




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And frankly, the customers can't wait either- after your first trip to Wholesale House, you'll never want to buy anything full price again. Bill and Teri stock their outlet through a wide selection of manufacturers including Target, Home Depot, JCPenny, Kohl's, Macy's and QVC, just to name a few... and everything is 50% off retail price! "Our priority is value," affirms Teri, "value through price, customer service and especially quality of our products." Name brand goods are offered in all departments from furniture, to decor, to home improvement, appliances, bed and bath, outdoor and more. The best part? New merchandise

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For example, a Fall River seven-piece outdoor dining set was originally priced at \$574.99 and is now selling for \$287.49 at Wholesale House. Whether you're trying to make a new place feel like home, buying the essentials, going off to college or giving your living space a fresh look, you'll want to stop to shop. And when it comes to reputable appliances, kitchenware and gifts, closeout and discontinued products at Wholesale House guarantees big savings.

As the only liquidation outlet this side of the Alabama-Florida border, Wholesale House's owners wanted to stay in Niceville to start their family business. With two children and three grandchildren, Bill and Teri find their passion in meeting new neighbors and new customers. Located conveniently in Bayou Plaza, they plan on participating in community events in the near future.

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Who's News

The Okaloosa County Republican Party congratulates its Past Chairman, **Barbara Wall** of Niceville, on having been reappointed to the Florida Commission on the Status of Women.



Barbara Wall

Tracey Novak of Niceville, graduated from Troy University in May with her Master of Science in Nursing with a concentration in Family Practice. She is board certified and licensed in Florida. She spent an eight month internship with Dr. Goldberg, D.O. She is currently employed by the Crane Center in Destin.



Tracey Novak

Jessica Griesheimer of Niceville has received national honors from the National Society of High School Scholars. She is a student of Collegiate High School, Niceville.



Jessica Griesheimer



Reading brings fun and prizes

Lauren Murray was the grand prize drawing winner for the Niceville Public Library's 2013 Teen Summer Reading program. Lauren is one of several teens who participated in the reading program this summer. The more books read, the more entries each teen was able to enter into the grand prize drawing, which was held on Wednesday, August 14.

Women's Equality Day celebrated

The Okaloosa County Commissioners presented the Okaloosa County Commission on the Status of Women (OCCSW) with a Women's Equality Day Resolution Aug. 20.

This year, the OCCSW held a ceremony and reception recognizing the 2013 Inductees to the Okaloosa Women's Hall of Fame on Women's Equality Day. Inductees to the Women's Hall of Fame were honored Monday, Aug. 26, at the Northwest Florida State College.

One of the honorees this year was Niceville native Rogene Anchors Hasty. Among her achievements, she was appointed by former Governor Bob Graham to a regional education committee that helped secure a nursing program that resulted in one of the first four-year degrees available at Northwest Florida State College.

Other inductees included Mary E. Burnette, the first African-American teacher in the current Okaloosa County School



system and Destin mayor, Sarah "Sam" Seevers.

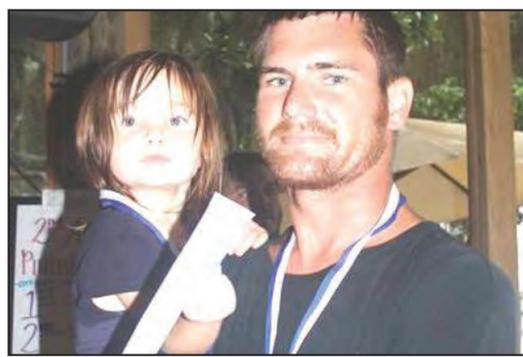
The Okaloosa County Commission on the Status of Women (OCCSW) was established by the Board of County Commissioners in 1995 for the purpose of recognizing and honoring women who have made significant contributions to the improvement of women and citizens of Okaloosa County.

The OCCSW membership is composed of appointments by county commissioners and representatives of various women's organizations. Each year they take nominations for the

2013 Hall of Fame inductees from left, Jerry Payne and Dr. Daarel Burnette accepting on behalf of Mary E. Burnette, Mayor Sarah "Sam" Seevers and Niceville native Rogene Anchors Hasty.

Okaloosa County Women's Hall of Fame, conduct special activities during Women's History Month, provide a speakers bureau addressing various women's issues, and partner with Jobs Plus and the Workforce Development board in the "Suit Up to Move Up" program to provide appropriate clothing for ladies trying to get off welfare and into the workforce.

For more information about the OCCSW, contact Shirley Pigott at chair@occs.org, or visit the organization's website, occsw.org.



The tournament champions, Ava and Jake Griner.

Showdown at Pinfish Nationals

The 2nd Annual Bluewater Bay Marina Pinfish Grand Nationals were held on Saturday, August 17, at the Bluewater Bay Marina Complex. Fifteen teams of anglers participated in the event despite the rainy weather. Taking first prize with a 10 fish aggregate weight of 2.55 lbs was team Jake and Ava Griner. Tying for 2nd place were Kaylea and David Harbin tied with Case and Austin Woodard with the weight of 2.05 lbs.



2nd place tournament champions Case Woodard and Kaylea Harbin.



Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

NHS alumni spin batons, memories

Majorette alumni from Niceville High School were practicing their routine Aug. 22 in preparation for the school's upcoming 50th anniversary. Calling themselves the Twilight Twirlers, the ladies will be marching in the Alumni Parade at NHS Friday, Aug. 30.



Hospital leaders receive Patriot Awards



Danny Cain

Twin Cities Hospital CEO David Whalen, pictured center, and Twin Cities Emergency Room Director Danny Cain, were presented Patriot Awards by Chief Petty Officer Phyllis Evans of US Coast Guard Sector Mobile, Alabama and Mr. Terry Dawkins, ESGR Volunteer.



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2013 CALENDAR

E-mail items to info@baybeacon.com

Blood drives

Northwest Florida State College, Niceville Aug. 28 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. All donors will receive a \$10 online voucher.

Northwest Florida State College, Niceville Aug. 29 from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. All donors will receive a \$10 online voucher.

Benefit dinner

A dinner to benefit the Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation's cultural arts and educational programs will be at the TradeWinds Restaurant, 205 Government Street, Niceville Thursday, August 29 at 6 p.m. \$50 for Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation members, \$65 for nonmembers. Ticket price does not include gratuity. Call MKAF at 650-2226 for reservations.

Folk art fun

The Biophilia Center presents "Fun with Folk Art" with Abrakadoodle making upcycled roosters on canvas, Friday, August 30 from 11:30-1:30 p.m. Open to all ages. General Admission is \$8 for adults \$5 for children, under 2 free.

Books on the beach

The Department of Environmental Protection's Henderson Beach State Park invites the public to participate in a celebration of reading and September's Literacy Month Friday, August 30, 10-11 a.m. Come join our park rangers as they read their favorite children's books. Following story time, there will be refreshments and an environmentally friendly art activity. Event weather permitting. Regular park admission fees apply. \$6 per vehicle, limit 2-8 people per vehicle. \$4 single occupant vehicle.

\$2 pedestrians, bicyclists, extra passengers, and passengers in vehicle with holder of Annual Individual Entrance Pass.

NHS 50 year anniversary

Everyone is invited to Niceville High School, 800 E John Sims Pkwy, Niceville, on Aug. 30 to celebrate the school's 50th anniversary starting at 1 p.m. with a pep rally in

Labor Day Weekend BLOOD DRIVE

DONATE BLOOD



As Labor Day approaches, more blood needed

School has started and the Labor Day weekend is just ahead. Blood needs have continued to increase, a trend expected to continue through the Labor Day weekend. Loyal blood donors and first time donors are urged to visit any of the blood drives happening in the area. See calendar for more details.

Learn geocaching

The Biophilia Center presents "Intro to Geocaching." Join in using GPS or smart phone technology to explore the great outdoors, Saturday, August 31 at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Open to all ages. General Admission is \$8 for adults \$5 for children, under 2 free.

Blood drives

The Bloodmobile will be at the Niceville Walmart Aug. 30-31 from 1-7 p.m. All donors will receive a \$10 Wal-Mart gift card.



Volunteers, community, aid history yard sale

Community volunteers Lenora Sullivan, Catharine Marini, NHS Key Club member Jackie Gauthier and Niceville-Valparaiso Kiwanis member Bill Landsberg were a big help during the annual Inside/Outside Yard Sale Spectacular at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso, on Saturday, August 24. The museum depends on volunteer support and donations from the community to make the event a success each year. Proceeds benefit historic preservation.

Concerto competition now open for submissions

The Northwest Florida Symphony Guild, in conjunction with the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra (NFSO) and Northwest Florida State College, announce the 27th Annual Concerto Competition, which is open to students of orchestral instruments, keyboard and voice who are 23 years of age or younger. The contest is open to students who are legal residents in 33 counties in Northwest Florida, including Okaloosa.

The NFSO is the Emerald Coast's premiere professional orchestra. Youth who enter the Concerto Competition compete for prize money and the opportunity to perform with the NFSO in a "Stars of Tomorrow" concert to be held on Feb. 7, 2014, at the Mattie Kelly Fine and Performing Arts Center in Niceville. Awards and prize money range from \$500 to \$1,500.

Interested competitors can find rules and application forms online on the NFSO website at nfsymphony.org. Performers must submit a videotaped performance of their selection by Sept. 16, 2013.

Finalists will be notified by Sept. 29, and the live final competition will be held on the campus of Northwest Florida State College on Oct. 19. All applicants are required to provide their own accompanist for the competition. There are three divisions: Junior, for students through the 8th grade, Senior, for grades 9-12, and College, undergraduate students to age 23.

For more information about the Concerto Competition contact faculty coordinator Lois Van Dam at vandaml@nwfsc.edu or 729-6009 or the college's Fine Arts Office at 729-5382.

Warren-Cunningham

Mr. and Mrs. Earl (Brad) Cunningham of Bluewater Bay announce the engagement of their daughter, Lisa Marie Cunningham, to Cori Alan Warren, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Warren of Lake Wales.

Lisa is a graduate of Webber International University with a BS and MBA in Sport Management. She is employed by the YMCA of the Suncoast,

Hernando County Branch in Spring Hill as Senior Programs Director.

Cori is a graduate of Rollins College with a BS in Physics. He is employed by Mustang Vacuum Systems in Sarasota as an Applications Engineer.

A destination wedding is planned at the Beaches Resort in Turks and Caicos Island on November 9, 2013.



Cori Alan Warren and Lisa Marie Cunningham

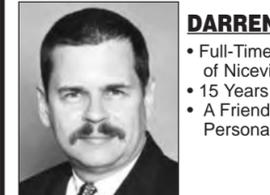
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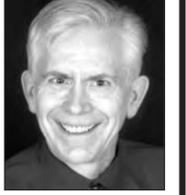
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Beacon CLASSIFIEDS

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NEWSPAPER DELIVERY
 Earn extra cash of \$45 to \$140 or more each week in your spare time! The Bay Beacon seeks a reliable independent contractor to insert, bag, and deliver newspapers Tuesday night. You must be over 21 and have a reliable vehicle, a good driving record, a Florida driver's license, and proof of current liability insurance. No collecting duties. Earnings vary according to route and work load. Stop by the Bay Beacon for an information sheet and to fill out an application. The Beacon 1181 E. John Sims Parkway, Niceville • 678-1080 (Parkway East Shopping Center across from PoFolks)

Help Wanted

Experienced Hair Stylist needed to join our team! Ritz Salon, BWB, 897-4466.
 Looking for a home or a job? Be sure to check the classified section every Wednesday in the Bay Beacon.
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Homes for Sale

Homes for Sale

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CITY OF NICEVILLE NOTICE OF FIRST PUBLIC HEARING
 The City of Niceville is considering applying to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for a FFY 2013 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) of up to \$700,000. These funds must be used for one of the following purposes:
 1. To benefit low and moderate income persons; or
 2. To aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; or
 3. To meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and where other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.
 The activity categories for which these funds may be used are in the areas of housing, neighborhood and commercial revitalization, or economic development (new jobs). Eligible uses of funds include such physical improvement activities as housing and commercial building rehabilitation, clearance, water and sewer improvements, street improvements, drainage, housing site development, parking, and loans to businesses. Additional information regarding the range of activities that may be undertaken will be provided at the public hearing.
 For each activity that is proposed in the State of Florida, at least 70% of the funds statewide must benefit low and moderate income persons.
 In developing an application for submission to DEO, the City must plan to minimize displacement of persons as a result of planned CDBG activities. In addition, the City has adopted a plan to assist displaced persons.
 The public hearing to receive citizen views concerning the community's housing, economic and other community development needs will be held on Tuesday, September 10, 2013, during a Regular City Council meeting which will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 208 N. Partin Drive, Niceville, FL. This is a handicapped accessible facility. Non English speaking, deaf, or visually impaired persons needing an interpreter or any handicapped person requiring special accommodation should contact Mr. Dan Doucet, at (850) 279-6436 (TDD# (800) 955-8771) or (800) 955-8770 (Voice) no later than two days prior to the meeting.
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Legal Notices

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Legal Notices

FAIR HOUSING PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
 The City of Niceville will conduct a fair housing meeting for the public and local elected officials on Tuesday, September 10, 2013, during a Regular City Council meeting which will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 208 N. Partin Drive, Niceville, FL. This meeting is intended to provide the public and local elected officials with information concerning fair housing requirements. Anyone interested in understanding the importance of fair housing should attend.
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Please write ad on form. Include phone number as part of ad. Minimum charge \$11.00* for up to 10 words. Each additional word 20¢. Attach more paper if needed.					
First Word					\$11.00
	\$11.20	\$11.40	\$11.60	\$11.80	\$12.00
	\$12.20	\$12.40	\$12.60	\$12.80	\$13.00

*Base price includes \$5 weekly discount for walk-in or mail-in prepaid ads. Please make checks payable to the Beacon Newspapers. Ads are non-refundable.
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Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith

Final summer Stitch-In

The Sand Dunes Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America had their final Stitch-In of the summer Thursday, Aug. 22. The guild meets monthly with day and night meetings at Niceville United Methodist Church. Pictured from left, Pam Burke, Cynthia Hardesty, Linda Anne Buehler and Laura Gamble enjoy the quiet camaraderie. For more information, call Laura at 496-3466.

Book signing at Niceville Library

Local author Louis S. Borek was on hand to sign copies of his new book, "A Brooklyn Boy's Stories," Friday, Aug. 23 at the Niceville Public Library. Pictured from left, he is joined by his wife, Francyn, and Pat Morgan, an interested passerby.

Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith



Church buffet raises funds

The Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church was packed for their charity buffet dinner Saturday, August 24. Filipino dishes and desserts were served. Proceeds were split between the Disabled American Veterans Association and a parishioner in need. For more information please call 678-3000.

Beacon photo by Angela Yuriko Smith



Chamber serves those who serve

The Niceville Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce held a cookout in support of the Hurlburt Field First Sergeants, Friday, August 9. Volunteers from the Chamber's Military Affairs Committee helped prepare food and serve the First Sergeants. The cookout was part of the 2013 Cookout Series presented by the Chamber and the Military Affairs Committee.

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MATTRESS DEPOT PLUSH <table border="1"> <tr><th>COMPARE</th><th>SALE</th><th>FINAL COST AFTER COUPON</th></tr> <tr><td>TWIN EA PC...</td><td>..\$299</td><td>..\$119 ..\$69</td></tr> <tr><td>FULL EA PC...</td><td>..\$499</td><td>..\$199 ..\$99</td></tr> <tr><td>QUEEN SET ..</td><td>..\$699</td><td>..\$499 ..\$199</td></tr> <tr><td>KING SET ..</td><td>..\$999</td><td>..\$799 ..\$399</td></tr> </table> <small>When purchased in sets.</small>	COMPARE	SALE	FINAL COST AFTER COUPON	TWIN EA PC...	..\$299	..\$119 ..\$69	FULL EA PC...	..\$499	..\$199 ..\$99	QUEEN SET\$699	..\$499 ..\$199	KING SET\$999	..\$799 ..\$399	MATTRESS DEPOT SPECIAL PURCHASE ASTOR PILLOWTOP <table border="1"> <tr><th>COMPARE</th><th>SALE</th><th>FINAL COST AFTER COUPON</th></tr> <tr><td>TWIN EA PC...</td><td>..\$399</td><td>..\$169 ..\$119</td></tr> <tr><td>FULL EA PC...</td><td>..\$599</td><td>..\$239 ..\$139</td></tr> <tr><td>QUEEN SET ..</td><td>..\$799</td><td>..\$599 ..\$289</td></tr> <tr><td>KING SET ..</td><td>..\$1199</td><td>..\$879 ..\$479</td></tr> </table> <small>When purchased in sets.</small>	COMPARE	SALE	FINAL COST AFTER COUPON	TWIN EA PC...	..\$399	..\$169 ..\$119	FULL EA PC...	..\$599	..\$239 ..\$139	QUEEN SET\$799	..\$599 ..\$289	KING SET\$1199	..\$879 ..\$479	MATTRESS DEPOT BOCA BREEZE Gel Memory Foam <table border="1"> <tr><th>COMPARE</th><th>SALE</th><th>FINAL COST AFTER COUPON</th></tr> <tr><td>TWIN MATTRESS ..</td><td>..\$899</td><td>..\$449 ..\$349</td></tr> <tr><td>FULL MATTRESS...</td><td>..\$999</td><td>..\$579 ..\$379</td></tr> <tr><td>QUEEN MATTRESS...</td><td>..\$1099</td><td>..\$699 ..\$399</td></tr> <tr><td>KING MATTRESS ..</td><td>..\$1399</td><td>..\$999 ..\$599</td></tr> </table>	COMPARE	SALE	FINAL COST AFTER COUPON	TWIN MATTRESS\$899	..\$449 ..\$349	FULL MATTRESS...	..\$999	..\$579 ..\$379	QUEEN MATTRESS...	..\$1099	..\$699 ..\$399	KING MATTRESS\$1399	..\$999 ..\$599
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