

# THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS

80th Year, Vol. 25 • Winner of 9 state awards for journalism excellence in 2008



Where to put 1.5 million new people in the region?  
See page 6

Fright Nights at the old jail begin Saturday  
See page 16



PHOTO BY JIM MCGAULEY

## Fire from faulty dryer levels Baxter trailer...

A faulty laundry dryer was the apparent cause of the blaze that destroyed James Crews' single-wide mobile home the evening of October 19. Firefighters arrived at the northern county residence at 26335 CR 127 near Baxter 13 minutes after being dispatched about 11:00 pm and found the structure engulfed in flames. A venting 100-pound propane tank was allowed to burn itself out before firefighters extinguished the fire. "The tenant [Linda Brown] stated she smelled smoke coming from the laundry area and saw flames coming from the dryer," said county Fire Chief Richard Dolan in his report. "It appears to be accidental in nature, because of mechanical failure of the dryer." The contents of the home were not insured, he noted.

## Cancer is no barrier Chase an inspiration to her peers

KELLEY LANNIGAN | FEATURES  
features@bakercountypress.com

Except for the fact that she has battled cancer, Chase Haydu is like any other 10-year-old.

She loves trendy clothes and animals, likes to go for pizza with friends and enjoys school, especially her science classes. Her heart's desire is to meet her idol, University of Florida quarterback Tim Tebow.

Chase is one determined young lady. Even the cancer that hit her so hard last February and resulted in numerous operations and weeks of radiation and chemotherapy did not keep her from playing soccer with the YMCA during the 2009 season.

Her example has so impressed fellow team members that they honored her recently by all wearing pink shirts bearing the slogan, "Chase Inspires Me."

Since then, she has spoken at a meeting of the American Cancer Society and was recently interviewed by Jacksonville's Channel 12 and Channel 4 TV stations.

"I want to be a doctor when I grow up or maybe join law enforcement," she said. "Something in a helping profession."

The last thing Betsy Haydu expected to be told when she took her badly dehydrated daughter to the emergency room at Wolfson Children's Hospital in Jacksonville to treat

a stomach virus was that the problem was cancer.

The examining doctor felt something strange in the girl's abdomen. X-rays and a CT scan followed.

In short order, Chase was diagnosed with Wilms Tumor, a rare form of cancer that affects children and targets the kidneys. In Chase's case, the tumor had compromised the abdominal cavity as well. She was admitted to the hospital and four days later underwent surgery to remove a watermelon-sized tumor which had engulfed one kidney. Lymph nodes and a section of her colon were also removed.

"Things just did not go well from the beginning," said Mrs. Haydu. "After the surgery, Chase needed strong pain medication but wasn't getting any because there was a hole in the intravenous tube. No one noticed the medication leaking out on the floor under the bed.

"She just endured it for hours after the operation, although I don't know how," Mrs. Haydu said.

Two difficult weeks dragged by. The young girl developed pneumonia. Then, infection set in and the colon abscessed, resulting in a second surgery. Because it was necessary for the incision to heal from the inside out, the wound was left open. A meticulous routine requiring packing the abdominal cavity with sterile gauze padding and changing it frequently.

"She was kept in a sterile environment and anyone entering the room had to be covered from head to

toe," said Ms. Haydu.

Medications were routinely administered through a port implanted in the subclavian artery in her chest. Rounds of chemotherapy

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PHOTO BY COURTESY OF THE HAYDU FAMILY  
Chase, 10, in her YMCA soccer team's uniform.

No injuries  
in school  
bus wreck  
on S.R. 121

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ONLINE POLL RESULTS  
How was the Baker County Fair this year?  
65.4% Going downhill  
19.2% Better than ever  
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## 'Under 40s' spark interest in the GOP, Libertarian parties

JOEL ADDINGTON  
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The two newest political groups in Baker County may also be the youngest, dispelling the notion that people under 40 are disinterested in government.

The Baker County Young Republicans, a group opened to those between 18 and 40 years old, and the Libertarian Party of Baker County, which has two officers under 30, held their first meetings this month at local eateries.

Twenty-two people attended the Young Republicans gathering at Calendar's October 13 and heard from two county commissioners. Ten others interested in the local Libertarian Party met five days before at the Waffle

House where Jeff Hunt of Jacksonville, a member of the state party's executive committee, was the featured speaker.

Clint Shivers, 29, of Macclenny serves as treasurer for the Libertarian Party of Baker County. He said attendance at the inaugural meeting was pretty good, "especially for a third party."



Disconnecting from the two party system

As a registered Libertarian, Mr. Shivers was recently contacted by the party's regional leader Phil Laibe, who hoped to get a local arm of the party started here.

He and another local man, Richard Nader, soon met with Mr. Laibe and started the county-level affiliate of the Libertarian Party of Florida. Mr. Nader

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## 'House arrest' pact is signed by county

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The county's expanded house arrest program, expected to save more than \$270,000 for taxpayers annually, will begin operating next month under management of Baker Community Counseling Services [BCCS], the local nonprofit that also oversees court-mandated drug counseling.

The Baker County Commission effectively launched the expansion known officially as the Detainee Management Accountability Program October 19 by adopting 5-0 an agreement with BCCS stipulating, among other things, how it will be funded.

Defendants whom the court deems suitable for house arrest, namely those with minimal criminal history and accused of minor crimes, can be placed on house arrest and monitored by electronic ankle bracelets for far less money than the cost of housing them at the new jail north of Macclenny.

BCCS director Chris Thomas said eligibility criteria would be similar to that of inmate work crews often used to mow right-of-ways and pick up trash while under supervision of the sheriff's office.

In fact, program participants who aren't already employed will be required to join the inmate crews daily.

"They need to be giving back," Mr. Thomas told county commissioners.

Detainees will be restricted in their movements and only permitted to be in five locations — at home, church, work, their local grocery store or the BCCS office.

The cost of the program will be \$22 per day per detainee. With

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"It's ultimately the judges' and state attorney's call."

— Chris Thomas  
BCCS director

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# Re-visiting comp plan

## Group is revising economic element

JOEL ADDINGTON | NEWS EDITOR  
reporter@bakercountypress.com

An addition expected next year to the county's blueprint for future growth, the comprehensive plan, could impact the type of new businesses locating here, how fast existing companies grow, and ultimately, what the average local income will be.

The comprehensive plan's new section on economic development is being drafted by a citizen committee in tandem with a handful of other public panels to brainstorm changes to the several-hundred-page plan that addresses things like land use, transportation, housing, conservation and recreation.

An update of the document is required every 10 years by state statute and follows an evaluation by county staff on how well the plan has served the county and how closely its policies have been followed by local officials.

Proposed amendments to the plan, including the new economic development element, are an outgrowth of that review. Citizen input committees began meeting this month to hammer out the additions, deletions and adjustments that will guide development in Baker County through 2020.

The first step for the economic development committee was to look over the goals, objectives and policies that a handful of similar counties have identified to stimulate commerce in their areas. The review included economic development elements from Pasco, Alachua, Taylor and Putnam counties' comprehensive plans.

The group consisting of Chamber of Commerce Director Darryl Register, County Manager Joe Cone, bank president John Kennedy, insurance agent Jack Baker Jr. and county Planning Director Ed Preston convened for the second time October 14 and discussed portions of the plans they hoped to incorporate, like a summary page, and other parts



PHOTO BY ADDINGTON  
Darryl Register, Jack Baker and John Kennedy discuss the comp plan.

to set aside. "Putnam County I thought was way too specific," said Mr. Register. "The idea is to be broad enough so that you won't have to come back and change it year after year."

However, goals related to leveraging the county's existing assets, like ample supplies of undeveloped land and timber, shouldn't be overlooked, committee members said.

Policies encouraging nature-based tourism like hunting, fishing and horseback riding; or new industries tied to timber, such as wood-based biofuels production, could find their way into the plan.

Mr. Register, as director of the county's

Economic Development Commission as well as the chamber, said he often focuses two criteria when pursuing projects — those that increase the county's property tax base and its average wage.

Mr. Preston defined economic development a little different. "It's anything to get people here and drop some cash," he said.

Five other committees with five to six members each also started examining other areas of the comprehensive plan this month. Their tasks should conclude in November with recommended changes being forwarded to the Local Planning Agency, and then onto the Baker County Commission for final adoption.

The recommendations will also include ways to monitor and measure any new goals or policies being put in place, said county planner Carolyn Bissonette, who is managing the update.

"For example, a housing policy might be to increase the workforce housing stock," she said. "The underlying data would be inventories of what housing stock is currently available to that population."

The updated comprehensive plan is due to the state's Department of Community Affairs by January 2010.

# Looking at population trends

JOEL ADDINGTON  
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Raising awareness for the roughly 1.6 million additional people and 650,000 new jobs expected in the northeast Florida region through 2060, and the growth challenges they pose, was the purpose of County Check, a regional land use planning exercise organized by the Northeast Florida Regional Council at the Ag Center on October 16.

About 20 people from Baker County, either living or working here, took part in the exercise that asked participants to assign yellow Lego blocks, each representing housing for 1500 new residents, and red Lego blocks, denoting 1200 new jobs, to large maps of Northeast Florida.

The group had to decide where the anticipated growth should occur on the tabled-sized maps, which had no county boundaries to push those involved to think about growth regionally, instead of locally.

"Think outside the box," said organizer Margo Moehring, the regional council's director of strategic initiatives. "Place the blocks however you think [the region] should be, not necessarily how it is or how you think it will be."

The same exercise was completed last May as part of Reality Check First Coast. That event included 300 people from across the seven-county region and took place in St. Augustine.

The County Check last week was the first in a series of local follow-ups to Reality Check that will run through November.

Before the exercise began, Ms. Moehring presented results from the initial exercise, which are available online at www.realitycheckfirstcoast.com. County Checks are also designed to garner additional public input for regional planning efforts by the council.

Ms. Moehring said that while County Checks won't change the results of the Reality Check exercise, they will help in formulating the council's new strategic plan for the region. It hasn't been updated since the mid-1990s, she said.

The council uses the plan to guide its reviews of Developments of Regional Impact, such as the now stalled Cedar Creek project northeast of Glen St. Mary.

The County Check group last week divided into three smaller groups, each with its own map. The blocks, as well as colored string representing new roads and other means of public transportation, were set aside as each group drafted a list of five or six "guiding principles" like conserving natural resources or providing affordable housing. Then they went to work spreading growth throughout the region.

Chamber of Commerce Director Darryl Register attended both the Reality Check and County Check exercises.

"At the first event where all the counties were represented, most tables started placing their Legos in the center of the map, Jacksonville, and then did the outlying areas," he said. "This time all three tables started in Baker County then went around the region and did Jacksonville last."

Macclenny resident Mike Yarbrough hoped more participants would've limited growth in coastal areas.

"The coastal high hazard problem with hurricanes and evacuation routes and high insurance premiums was not a topic anyone wished to discuss," he said. "They went right on putting up buildings and concentrating larger numbers of people in harm's way all along the coast because that is



PHOTO BY ADDINGTON  
Jesse Davis, Brenna Durden and Joe Cone during County Check.

where they said people preferred to live."

The results of each group will be made available on the Web site within a few weeks and include things like the average number of people and jobs placed in Baker County, different development patterns used during the exercise and any consensus on guiding principles. Participants will then be able to review the results and react to them via survey questions.

The general public can also provide input by going to the Web site and completing the Grow Smart survey. For additional

information, please contact Ms. Moehring at (904) 279-0885 ext. 161.

## Fair winners

Two names were accidentally omitted from the list of livestock winners at the Baker County Fair in last week's paper.

Beyonka Combs was the winner of the Senior Swine Showmanship and Brandon Combs won the Junior Swine Showmanship.

Check it out...  
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# Carolina man arrested for not reporting as sex offender

A South Carolina man described as a lifetime sex offender was arrested in downtown Macclenny about midnight on October 12 for failure to report his presence in Florida within 48 hours.

Deputy Larry Clark questioned Danny Polchow, 41, of Summerville, SC after spotting him at the intersection of US 90 and 5th St. and learned via computer of the suspect's conviction in North Carolina for molesting a 7-year-old.

Mr. Polchow, who the deputy described as nervous and shaking, said he was on his way to Houston, Texas and that he had been in Florida two and a half days. According to the deputy, he is required as a sex offender to seek an update of his driver's license within 48 hours of arriving in another state.

Failure to do so is a third-degree felony.

In other felony arrests:

- Tiffany Kelley, 31, of Glen St. Mary was booked for possession of controlled drugs without a prescription after she hailed a county deputy post-midnight on October 16.

Deputy Robert Simpkins said Ms. Kelley waived him down while standing in the roadway near South Boulevard and 9th St. in west Macclenny, a neighborhood known for frequent drug activity.

The officer said he spotted a pill bottle when the woman opened her purse, and the label indicated it contained .5 mg. doses of the anti-anxiety drug Xanax. Deputy Simpkins arrested Ms. Kelley, who he said appeared to be disoriented, after finding 24 other pills of three varieties of narcotics in the same bottle, plus 17 more Xanax pills of a higher dosage.

- County jail inmate David Zipperer was charged with bringing contraband in the late afternoon of October 15. Jail Deputy Mike Lagle said he received a tip that the inmate had brought in cigarettes from work release, and a search revealed two in a plastic bag.

The offense is a third-degree felony.

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# Former pastor arrested

A retired Baker County pastor was arrested the evening of October 12 for domestic violence against a 17-year-old daughter and against his wife when she attempted to intervene.

Both victims told police that Charles Edward Anderson, 44, argued with the daughter over the way she did household chores when he returned home off CR 23A that evening. The girl said she ran from the house when her father removed his belt and came toward her.

"[The daughter] stated that she ran outside to get away from him because he has a bad temper and is violent at times and she is afraid of him," reads the report by Deputy Randy Davis.

The daughter said when she went back inside, Mr. Anderson pushed her against a wall and shoved her to the floor, then did the same thing to her mother Tina, 42, when she intervened and went for a phone to call police. The accused then grabbed the phone and a phone book from her.

Interviewed separately, Mrs. Anderson told Sgt. Brad Dougherty she stepped between her daughter and husband out of fear "he would go too far with the spanking and she was scared of

what he would do to [her daughter]," reads the report.

She said Mr. Anderson grabbed her around the head and neck, then threw her to the ground causing knee bruises.

"Tina stated there has been a long history of abuse from Charles but that she has never reported it before because he is a pastor at a local church," the report further relates.

Also present during the incident was the couple's son, age 10, who according to the report suffers from a mental disability. Sgt. Dougherty said when he told the children their father was going to jail, "the [son] made facial expressions and hand gestures showing he was very relieved."

Mr. Anderson was booked on two counts of domestic battery, first-degree misdemeanors, and later released on bond.

In other domestic violence cases:

- A warrant was issued for the arrest of Andrew Johnson, 22, of Macclenny for allegedly attacking his pregnant girlfriend Charelle Jana, 25, during an argument at their E. Ohio St. address the afternoon of October 12.

Deputy Brandon Kiser said

he observed bruising and swelling about the left eye of Ms. Jana where she said she was struck repeatedly by the boyfriend, who a witness indicated was hiding in a bedroom at the residence.

Deputy Kiser searched the interior and said Mr. Johnson apparently fled via a bedroom window.

- A 12-year-old Sanderson girl who had been suspended from school for fighting was arrested for domestic battery on her mother the morning of October 16.

The mother, age 31, had just returned from school with the youngster when she allegedly attacked her about the chest using her fists, then ran from the residence off Gaskins Circle after tossing her belongings out into the yard.

Contacted later by Deputy Shouse, the girl alleged her parents beat her. He noted she was released from the Youth Crisis Center for runaways several days earlier.

- A criminal complaint was filed October 15 against a Baxley, GA man for violating a court order to avoid contact with his ex-wife.

Thomas Curry, 67, allegedly phoned Carolyn Curry, 52, at her residence off Carver Loop near Glen St. Mary and threatened to kill her for seeing another man.



Charles Anderson

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# Arrests, charges after trio of fights

Two people were arrested and criminal complaints were filed against two others for involvement in a series of unrelated attacks in several Macclenny neighborhoods the past week. All of the subjects are female.

Angie Burroughs, 43, was taken into custody the evening of October 14 at her residence on MLK Dr. after a witness confirmed that she attacked Yentl Surrency, 25, outside the latter's residence on North Boulevard about 9:00. Ms. Surrency is eight months pregnant and Deputy Robert Simpkins was told the two were arguing over a boyfriend they have in common.

Deputy Simpkins and Deputy Matt Riegel both noted that Ms. Burroughs briefly resisted being handcuffed when they returned to her residence to arrest her. She was booked for battery and resisting arrest without violence.

The accused allegedly struck Ms. Surrency several times and pulled her hair. She complained of stomach pains and was examined at Fraser Hospital.

In other cases:  
• Laronda Ellis, 22, was charged with battery on a 12-year-old female during an altercation on Sycamore St. in west Macclenny the evening of October 16. Deputy Larry Clark was told Ms. Ellis accused the girl of stealing her cell phone, then struck her in the face.

• Criminal complaints were filed against Ricci Gaskins, 22, for battery and Margo Gaskins, 20, for assisting her in an alleged attack on Zateya Paige, 21, at an apartment on E. Ohio the evening of October 17.

The elder suspect struck Ms. Paige repeatedly about the face, then grabbed her by the hair and threw her to the floor, said witness Aimee Farmer, who was caring for six small children there at the time.

The second suspect denied to Deputy Clark that she was involved, but both the victim and witness said she came to the apartment just prior to the incident, and watched from a distance after the assailant entered.

• A complaint was filed by NEFSH employee Stacy Marshall, 38, of Starke, alleging she was struck on the head from behind by a 54-year-old female patient.

The incident occurred the morning of October 14 when Ms. Marshall was handing out patient schedules. The employee sought treatment for head pains.

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## School bus is sideswiped on 121

Fire and rescue crews raced to the scene of a collision involving three vehicles including a school bus the afternoon of October 14 and were relieved to find no injuries and a minimum of physical damage. Trooper Jeffrey Hattle of the Florida Highway Patrol charged Carroll H. Bennett of Lithia, FL with careless driving for sideswiping both the bus driven by Renee Graham with three children aboard, and another vehicle driven by Dawn Luffman of Glen St. Mary. The accident happened at 4:10 at the intersection of SR 121 and Estates Dr., just south of Interstate 10.

## Drug, shoplifting arrest

An 18-year-old Macclenny woman was arrested for theft and drug possession after she reportedly shoplifted a six-pack of beer from the Fastway Food Store on Woodlawn Road the evening of October 16.

Store owner Rubina Ali said suspect Amber Cremeans of Southern States Nursery Road, a regular customer, took the merchandise from a store room and exited the store. Ms. Ali stopped the woman outside and said Ms. Cremeans returned the beer before fleeing on foot about 9:30 pm, according to Deputy Shawn Bishara's report.

Daryll Gatlin, 24, of Baldwin accompanied the suspect during the incident. When questioned he said he didn't know the suspect was stealing beer as he bought a 12-pack for them, but did see Ms. Cremeans return the merchandise outside, the officer said.

Mr. Gatlin also had two purses and some clothing in his vehicle belonging to the suspect, which were turned over to police.

Inside the purses were 114 prescription pills and other drug paraphernalia, including a pill crusher and a two-inch piece of straw, states the report.

When Ms. Cremeans was located at her residence, the officer said she smelled strongly of an alcoholic beverage and admitted the pills belonged to her though she had no prescription.

The Main Street Market was vandalized that evening as well, sometime after 6:30 pm and before 8:40 am October 17, though nothing appeared missing.

An employee of the W. Macclenny Ave. market called police when she found a broken window on the east side of the business. She said several drawers had been rifled through and things were moved.

In other property crimes reported this past week:

- Melvin Smith Jr. said the homemade utility trailer he left behind his Sanderson residence in August was no longer there after he returned October 11.

The victim's sister-in-law said she noted an older model truck at the home, 14046 CR 122, around noon on October 10. The 13-foot trailer is black with a wooden deck and valued at about \$800.

- The tag to Harold Stokes' trailer went missing from the Macclenny dirt pit on the south side of Steel Bridge Road were his employee Michael Bowie of Jacksonville left it for several

days. Mr. Bowie reported it missing the morning of October 14.

- A 1984 Oldsmobile Cutlass reported stolen in Suwannee County turned up wheelless with a broken window and missing radio at the Sanderson residence of Raymond Paige, 14172 Annie Mae Paige Rd.

Mr. Paige flagged down Deputy Scotty Rhoden at Cuz's One Stop the morning of October 13, saying the vehicle appeared after he returned home the previous evening about 8:30 pm.

## CR 125 'No seat belt' driver repaving to begin had 12 suspensions

An improvement project on County Road 125 in Glen St. Mary began this week with daytime lane closures expected between US 90 and Glen Haven Lane, about two miles north of downtown Glen.

The 2.3-mile long roadway will be resurfaced and nearly 60 drainage pipes or culverts located alongside the roadway will be retrofitted with slanted ends to meet the latest safety requirements. Crews will spend the first two to three weeks on the job working on the drainage pipes and minimal traffic impacts are expected.

However, when the resurfacing begins in about three weeks, motorists should expect daytime lane closures after 8:30 am each weekday for the duration of the 70-day long project.

Lanes will be open between 6:00-8:30 am weekdays to minimize traffic delays for those headed to school or work. The contractor does not plan to work weekends.

The cost of the project is \$583,450 and is being funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is managing the project for Baker County and has hired V.E. Whitehurst & Sons, Inc., of Williston as the contractor.

The project is one of 50 in Northeast Florida supported with the federal economic stimulus funds.

A motorist stopped in north Macclenny because he wasn't wearing a seat belt turned out to be an habitual traffic offender with a dozen prior license suspensions.

Deputy Patrick McGauley said he spotted Ernest Smith, 40, of Baldwin driving a 1998 Ford northbound on SR 228 the afternoon of October 12 and stopped him near the new county jail. A computer check revealed the prior suspensions and Mr. Smith was taken into custody. A relative claimed the vehicle.

In similar cases, Richard Mullins, 27, of Clay City, Kentucky was stopped for speeding on Interstate 10 about 4:15 am on October 13 and a computer check showed his license with five prior suspensions in his home state.

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# Raiford Road's 26th festival

## Estimated 1200 there

**KELLEY LANNIGAN**  
FEATURES  
features@bakercountypress.com

Raiford Road Church's Fall Festival, started by Sunday school superintendent Willard Garvin 26 years ago, has offered families an afternoon of fun, food, recreation and fellowship every year since.

This year's festival held October 17 catered to nearly 1200 visitors. Best of all, everything, including food, is always free. The festival embodies the church's desire to share its love of Jesus with the world and the people of Baker County.

"It's Raiford Road's gift to the community," said Barb Harvill, a church member working at the festival last Saturday. "We believe this is what the first century Christian church was like in its spirit of sharing and giving. We want to make it possible for all families — rich, poor, young and old to enjoy a safe and happy afternoon of celebration and fun."

The congregation donates prizes, food, candy and cakes that are given away. Weeks before the festival, members start bringing in bags of candy, which quickly add up to hundreds of pounds.

"It's astonishing the amount of candy that comes through this place," said Ms. Harvill. "The local retailers must love us."

The festival is a family affair and geared toward children. Families register at a table at the entrance to the festival when they arrive and fill out a visitor's form. The information helps provide the church office with a count, particularly of children who attend, and helps predict the size of festival attendance for the next year.

"Mavis Griffis, one of the church's founding members, is our traditional greeter," said Ms. Harvill. "She is *always* at the registration table to welcome people to the festival."

During registration, kids are given a tote bag to hold the prizes and candy they collect throughout the afternoon. They're also signed up for a game to guess how many jelly beans are in a jar and a drawing for a prize is held at a later date. Everyone is invited to sign up for another drawing to win a \$50 gift certificate to the Cracker Barrel restaurant.

Lots of brightly decorated booths manned with teen and adult volunteers invite kids to challenge their skills. Food is abundant at the festival as well, and some volunteers sign up to do the same food duties over and over. According to Ms. Harvill, her son and daughter-in-law, Butch and Kay Harvill, along with friends Dan and Christy Sellers, have been cooking the funnel cakes for so many years, it's become a family tradition.

The line of people waiting for funnel cakes was always the longest as the crispy fried batter is the most popular treat at the festival.

"We've got it down to a science," said Butch as he shot batter into the hot oil of the cooker with a narrow nozzle, creating a criss-cross pattern. In a few minutes the funnel cake was golden brown. Wife Kay scooped it up onto a paper plate. Then it was passed down the line, where it was showered with powdered sugar and handed to the next grateful recipient.

The cakewalk is also a popular booth and participants often go home with two cakes.

"Our members bake and donate so many cakes that sometimes we give away more than one as a prize," said Ms. Harvill.



Sasha Manolo and son Logan play golf.

PHOTO BY KELLEY LANNIGAN

# Tenant signed up for TV

Several cases of fraud and forgery were reported recently to the sheriff's department, including an allegation by a landlord that a former tenant secured a cable TV service in his name.

Lee Gross said he received a bill for nearly \$300 from Direct TV for cable at a rental unit once occupied by Christina Fuller, 42, of Baldwin. He accused her of obtaining the service fraudulently, and Deputy Jeff Shouse filed a criminal complaint based on Mr. Gross' statement.

The allegation was reported October 12.

In other cases, Lettie Whitener called police when she suspected she was duped out of \$226 that was supposed to be used to repair her grandson's vehicle.

Ms. Whitener, 80, told Deputy Patrick McGauley she received a telephone call the afternoon of October 13 from a person she believed was her grandson, who lives in Lake Wales. He indicated he was sending a friend to her residence in Macclenny to pick up the money.

Ms. Whitener said a white male about 25 years old and nearly six feet tall showed up at her house for the money driving a dark colored car. When she later checked with her grandson, he claimed to know nothing of the matter.

Robbie Dorminey, 58, of Jacksonville was named in a criminal complaint for defrauding Walter Johns of Macclenny of \$550 paid by check in late July as down payment on a generator he never received.

Sheriff's investigator Steve Harvey made several attempts to contact Mr. Dorminey following the complaint on October 13. Mr. Johns likewise said he had been unsuccessful making contact with the accused.

John Manucy of Sanderson

said he was notified he owed \$1097 for a past due electric bill in New York. The collection agency had his Social Security number and address, and said the bills ranged back to November, 1994.

Mr. Manucy told Sgt. Thomas Dyal he was 12 years old in 1994.

A criminal complaint for

forgery was made naming Yelena Breedlove of Jacksonville for writing a \$120 check to Kelli Higginbotham of Macclenny on September 15. The victim, who made the complaint October 14, said the account was closed.

The check was for hair salon services.

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## David Beck, 59, dies October 10

David L. Beck, 59, of Macclenny died Saturday, October 10, 2009 at Baptist Medical Center in Jacksonville after an extended illness. He was born November 6, 1959 in Tampa to the late Teddy L. Beck and Frances Maloy Beck.



David Beck

Survivors include wife Evelyn Long Beck; daughters Crissy Lyn Beck of Rome, TX and Katrina Renea Beck of Trumann, AK.

The funeral service for Mr. Beck will be held October 27 at New Hope New Congregational Methodist Church with Rev. J.C. Lauramore officiating. Ferreira Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

## Catherine Cichoski interred on Saturday

Catherine J. Cichoski, 76, of Macclenny died September 25, 2009 in Jacksonville.

She is survived by son FHP Trooper Henry J. Cichoski Jr. of Macclenny; daughters Virginia Sharrow of Zephyrhills, FL and Melissa Fenstermacher of Sunbury, PA; grandchildren Nicole and Jeremy Fenstermacher and Charles Sharrow,

Mrs. Cichoski was laid to rest on October 17 11:00 am in Chapel Hill Gardens Cemetery in Dade City beside her late husband, Henry J. Cichoski.

## Myrtle Groves, 92, of Manning

Myrtle Starling Groves, 92, of Macclenny died October 15, 2009. She was born in the Manning community of Baker County and resided in Macclenny for the past 66 years. She was a homemaker and former sales representative for Avon products.



Myrtle Groves

Mrs. Groves was a member of the First Baptist Church of Macclenny. She was preceded in death by parents James Daniel and Mary Raulerson Starling; husband John T. Groves; daughter Dorothy Faye Groves; brothers Joe, Ira, Ellery, Elvin and Earl Starling; sister Mabel Walker.

Survivors include sons Wayne (Betty), Wilbur (Shirley) and Johnnie T. (Patsy); sisters Eleanor Lyons and Nadine (Leo) Thornton; 11 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren; nine great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held October 18 at her church with pastor Dr. Edsel Bone officiating. Interment followed at South Prong Cemetery. Guerry Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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## Judy Harris, 60, dies October 14

Judy Denise Harris, 60, of Glen St. Mary died Wednesday, October 14, 2009 at Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville following a long illness. She was born January 5, 1949 and resided in Glen all her life. She was a very loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother and homemaker.



Judy Harris

Mrs. Harris was the daughter of John and Mazie Prevatt. She was formerly employed as a medical transcriptionist at Northeast Florida State Hospital and was a member of the Macclenny Primitive Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by infant sister Betty Joan Prevatt and brother Maurice Arlie Prevatt.

Survivors include her husband of 42 years, Roger Dewitt Harris; daughter Michele (Michael) Powell; son Michael (Brenda) Harris; sister Peggy (Sonny) Register of Sanderson; brother Vernon (Shirley) Prevatt of Glen; sister-in-law Ovedia Prevatt of Glen; grandchildren Brookelyn Johnson, Brianna Davis, Christian Powell, Garrett Layton, Ashley Rhoden and Kelsey Harris; great-grandchildren Alexis Rios and Alayna Davis, all of Glen St. Mary; numerous nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was held October 17 at her church with Elder David Crawford officiating, assisted by Elder John Mizell. Interment followed at Woodlawn Cemetery. Guerry Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## 'Taco' Hamilton Sr., 43, of Glen dies

Michael Lynn "Taco" Hamilton Sr., 43, of Glen St. Mary died Thursday, October 15 in Jacksonville after a short illness. He was born December 14, 1965 in Leesburg, Virginia and moved to Jacksonville in 1976. Michael resided in Baker County since 1990.



Michael Hamilton

Mr. Hamilton enjoyed fishing, playing poker, having family barbecues and most of all, he enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and brother. Michael was dearly loved by his family and friends and will never be forgotten. He was preceded in death by parents Edna and James W. Hamilton; brother James Hamilton.

Survivors include wife Patricia Hamilton of Glen; children Michael Jr. of Macclenny, Christopher of Maxville, Crystal and Michelle, both of Glen; brother Richard Hamilton; sister Diane Hamilton of Macclenny; seven grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

There will be no funeral per Michael's wishes.

## E. Virginia Long, 84, of Macclenny

Ethel Virginia Jones Long, 84, of Macclenny died October 14, 2009. She was born in Ferndale, West Virginia to Walter Vincent Mullens and Clara Elizabeth Hicks. She was a resident of Baker County for the majority of her adult life and a member of Soul's Harbor Church of God.



Virginia Long

Virginia was an excellent homemaker and loved to take care of her family, shopping and vacations. She was predeceased by son James E. Jones Jr.

Survivors include children Norma Key of WV, Sharon (J.F.) Beavers, Charlotte (Gary) Cook, and William "Bill" Jones, all of Macclenny; 11 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral service for Mrs. Long was held October 17 at 11:00 am at her church with pastors James Scott, Shane Smith and David Thomas officiating. Interment followed at Macedonia Cemetery in Macclenny. Ferreira Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

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## A celebration of life

A daughter, a sister, a wife, a mother, a grandmother, or perhaps a business colleague, and best friend. Each of these describe my mother, Linda Gayle Linton. But above all, she was a woman of wisdom, compassion, grace, beauty, and selflessness.

Linda Gayle Tanner Linton was born in Tampa, Florida in 1944. She was one of four children born to Evelyn Johns Tanner of Macclenny, Florida and the late Remer Tanner. She had two sisters, Diane Greatrex of Beverly Hills, Florida, and Frances Headrick of Lake City, Florida and one brother, Larry Tanner of Macclenny, Florida.

On a lovely September evening in 1965, she married her husband of 43 years, Robert Lamar Linton. In this, Linda gained a mother and father-in-law, Betty and the late Robert Linton, and a sister-in-law, Frankie Stewart, all of Marianna, Florida. After several years of marriage, Lamar and Linda had three children, Robert Christopher Linton of Branford, Florida, Daleann Linton Worthington of Jasper, Florida, and Jerrette Lamar Linton of Mayo, Florida.

She worked with Lamar many years in the logging business in Branford and owned a Napa auto parts store in Jasper. Linda lived, worked, and loved the quaint town of Jasper so much that she made Jasper her primary residence with her husband Lamar. For over 25 years they lived in Branford, Florida, where they raised their children and presently have a farm.

Linda was able to witness many wonderful things in her life, such as the marriages of their oldest son Chris to Brandi Waters, their only daughter Daleann to Doyle Worthington Jr. and their youngest son Jerrette to Frankie Starling.

Through the years, she enjoyed seven grandchildren: Taylor and Lucus Linton, the children of Frankie and Jerrette Linton; Reagan, Chloe and Trevor Linton, the children of Brandi and Chris Linton, and Anna-Marie and Doyle Worthington III., twins of Daleann and Doyle Worthington.

Six weeks after being diagnosed, Linda lost her battle with cancer on September 6, 2009. Her memorial was held at Burnham Christian Church in Jennings, Florida, where she was a member, on September 9, 2009. Johnny Brown and Elder Arnold Johns officiated at the beautiful morning service. Following the ceremony, a luncheon social was hosted by numerous ladies in the church community in the fellowship hall.

We will miss her so. Donations can be in her name to Burnham Christian Church, 4520 NW County Road 146, Jennings, Florida 32053.

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### Mamie Sands, 90, avid gardener

Mamie Lee Sands, 90, of Macclenny died October 18, 2009 after a long illness. She was born in Moniac, Georgia to Millie Thrift on December 1, 1918, and lived most of her life in Baker County and Moniac. Mrs. Sands was a member of Moniac Baptist Church.



Mamie Sands

Mamie loved gardening, cooking and listening to bluegrass music. She was predeceased by husband of 39 years, Frank J. Lee; husband of 28 years, Clyde Sands; grandsons Clifford Neil Lee and Douglas Frank Lee.

Survivors include sons Clifford (Ruth) Lee and Carlton (Barbara) Lee, both of Macclenny; daughter Minnie Yarbrough of Macclenny; brother Main (Ida Pearl) Outlaw of Macclenny; one niece; five grandsons; two granddaughters; 14 great-grandchildren and nine great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held October 21 at 3:00 pm at V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services Chapel with Dr. Joseph "Ricky" Dyal officiating. Interment followed at Woodlawn Cemetery.

### Lake City revival

A free gospel concert featuring numerous groups and a Baker County artist will be held this Saturday, October 24 at the Columbia County fairgrounds in Lake City. The three-hour show begins at 6:00 pm.

Gail Moore of Baker County is among the performers. The headliners for the Columbia County Jubilee include Crabb Revival, The Martins and comedian Aaron Wilburn.

Ms. Moore is among eight area vocalists and groups.

**We publish obituaries & pictures FREE!**

### Sincere thanks

The family of Arlie Barton is grateful everyone for their prayers, cards, flowers, food and words of kindness that helped us through our painful loss.

A special thank you to Rev. Tommy Anderson and Rev. Clifton Barton Jr. for their prayers and words of encouragement at the service. Thank you to Rairford Road Church and The Road to Calvary Church for providing the delicious meals. Our heartfelt thanks for the love and kindness shown to us from various departments of our NEFSH work family.

A special appreciation to V. Todd Ferreira and staff for the ability to provide personal and professional service in our time of need.

God Bless You All,  
The Arlie Barton Family



**In Loving Memory of Michael Glen Johnson**  
4/16/1961-10/22/2006

"A Message to Heaven"  
Just want to say we miss you so much. You live on in our hearts.

WITH LOVE FROM YOUR FAMILY



**In Loving Memory of Rita Stokes**  
2/27/1959-10/21/2008  
"I'm Free"

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free. I'm following the path God laid for me. I took His hand when I heard Him call, I turned my back and left it all. I could not stay another day to laugh, to love, to work or play. Tasks left undone must stay that way. I found that place at the close of day. If my passing has left a void, then fill it with remembered joy. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss. Ah yes, these things, I too, will miss. Be not burdened with times of sorrow. I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow. My life's been full, I savored much — good friends, good times, a loved one's touch. Perhaps my time seemed all too brief; don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your heart and share with me; God wanted me now, He set me free.

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Jesus answered, "Verily, verily I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." John 3:5

**In Loving Memory of Hamp Register**  
12/17/1917-10/21/1999

Ten years have passed, a lot has happened and they've gone by fast. Still each day you're thought of, forever in my heart, remembered in love.

SARAH

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88.1 The Promise

**SOCIAL NOTICE SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

Birth announcements, wedding notices and social events must be submitted within four weeks of the event. All news and advertising must be submitted to the newspaper office prior to 5:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to publication, unless otherwise noted or arranged. It is requested that all news items be typed or emailed to insure accuracy in print.

**CONTACT US**

By phone at 904.259.2400 or by fax at 904.259.6502. You can stop by our office located at 104 S. Fifth Street, Macclenny, FL or mail your submission to PO Box 598, Macclenny, FL 32063. We are available online at www.bakercountypress.com



From left, FFA sponsor Greg Johnson, Kassidy Long, Clayton Lyons, Kyndall Brooks, Matt Cantrell, Timmy Gibson, Dillon Cornn, Dillon Burnsed and Dustin Phillips.

## 6th straight district title for FFA

The Baker County FFA Forestry team swept the district tournament on October 15, competing at Austin Cary State Forest in Waldo and clinching the title for the sixth consecutive year. The eight team members have been preparing since the beginning of school for the competition.

The BCHS chapter fielded two teams and won first and second in the district against 15 teams from Bradford County, Palatka, Keystone, Middleburg and the Lofton Center. The win qualifies BCHS for the state contest on November 12-13 in Perry.

"For the past two years the BCHS chapter has placed second in the state contest," said sponsor Greg Johnson. "I have great expectations for this group of students at the state level this year."

Each team member competes in six areas of the industry which include general knowledge, tool identification, map interpretation, forest disorders, dendrology

and timber volume estimation. Out of 18 award areas and ribbons, the Baker County FFA won 14 at the district level.

The award winning team consisted of:

✓ 1st place team: Matt Cantrell — high individual of the contest, first place in map interpretation, dendrology, forest disorder identification, second in tool identification and third in general knowledge;

• Dillon Cornn — first in general knowledge and second in map interpretation;

• Kyndall Brooks — second in forest disorders;

• Clayton Lyons — third in

### Appreciates \$\$\$

The Baker County High School AFJROTC "Angel Flight" would like to say thank you to the citizens of Baker county for their support during the county fair. Many people came by the booth to purchase Wildcat bracelets and/or tickets for the raffle of a Florida Gators or Georgia Bulldogs blanket.

The proceeds from this and several upcoming fund raisers will be used to send cadets to Washington, DC. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

map interpretation.

✓ 2nd place team: Kassidy Long — third in timber estimation;

• Timmy Gibson — second in dendrology and third in forest disorders;

• Dillon Burnsed — first in tool identification and second in general knowledge.



### Welcomes baby girl!

Bart Swearingen and Jesse Bales of Glen St. Mary are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Shaylee Mae Swearingen. She was born September 4, 2009 at Baptist Hospital. Shaylee weighed 7 lbs. ½ oz. and was 19½ inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Cathy & Tim Hooper of Glen and Ronald & Sheryl Bales of Wellborn. Paternal grandparents are Tommy & Diane Sigers of Glen and Howard Swearingen of Taylor.

## Trick or Treat on Main Street

Downtown Macclenny businesses are sponsoring a Trick or Treat on Main Street Saturday, October 31 from 1:00-3:00 pm. There will be signs in the windows of the participating businesses.

### School Lunch MENU

October 26 - October 30

Offered everyday:

Cold lunch plate of chef salad with wheat roll or crackers and dessert (when offered) 1% lowfat white milk, ½% lowfat flavored milk, orange juice.

*Monday, October 26*

**Breakfast:** Cereal with slice of toast, fruit juice, milk

**Lunch:** Beef stroganoff over egg noodles with a homemade wheat roll or breaded patty on a bun, choice of 2 sides: golden corn, lettuce and tomato slices, chilled fruit choice and a roasted peanut cup (gr. 7-12)

*Tuesday, October 27*

**Breakfast:** Pancake and sausage on a stick, fruit juice, milk

**Lunch:** Tasty chili with beans, and a homemade wheat roll, tuna salad sandwich, choice of two sides: baked potato rounds, raw veggies with ranch dressing, fruit choice

*Wednesday, October 28*

**Breakfast:** Chicken biscuit, fruit juice and milk

**Lunch:** Hamburger or hot dog on a bun, choice of two sides: baked french fries, lettuce and tomato slices, creamy coleslaw

*Thursday, October 29*

**Breakfast:** Breakfast burrito, fruit juice, milk

**Lunch:** Slice of pepperoni pizza or ham with blackeye peas over rice with a homemade wheat roll, choice of two sides: seasoned mixed vegetables, tossed salad with dressing, chilled fruit juice and gelatin with whipped topping

*Friday, October 30*

No school - Teacher planning day

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE BAKER COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS**

The Baker County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, November 3, 2009 at 6:00 pm or as soon thereafter as possible to consider for adoption the proposed text amendment to the Baker County Land Development Regulations. The public hearing will be held at the County Administration Building, 55 North Third Street, Macclenny, Florida. All interested parties may appear and be heard with respect to these amendments which are titled as follows:

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 2009 - \_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING ARTICLE X SECTION 10 OF THE BAKER COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO PROVIDE FOR AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE BAKER COUNTY LAND PLANNING AGENCY; PROVIDING THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF SAID ALTERNATE MEMBER; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING DIRECTIONS TO THE CODIFIER AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A copy of the full Text Amendment may be inspected by any member of the public in the BCC office, address stated above. In accordance with Section 286.0105, F. S.: "If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the County Commission with respect to any matter considered at this scheduled meeting or hearing, the person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purposes the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based."

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the Administration Department at (904) 259-3613 at least 48 hours prior to the time of the hearing.

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Deadline Monday at 5:00

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*A very special thank you...*

The members of the Baker County FFA and 4H chapters would like to publicly thank the following businesses and individuals who paid over \$82,000 for our market animals at the 2009 Baker County Fair.

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**SPORTS NOTICE SUBMISSIONS**

We welcome your sports submissions for youth league, traveling league or individual athletic achievements. The paper reserves the right to publish submissions. It is requested that all news items be typed or emailed to insure accuracy in print.

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## Schedule sub no competition Wildcats win 36-0 against Solid Rock academy

BOB GERARD | SPORTS

Though the Baker High Wildcat football team ran its record to 6-1 with a 36-0 win over Solid Rock Christian Academy at home last Friday, it was not the romp that Wildcat fans expected.

In fact, with the exception of two big plays early in the game, the Christians played the Wildcats surprisingly well and trailed by only 15-0 at the half.

Solid Rock is a first-year school from Miami and thus playing a limited schedule this season. They have traveled north to take on University Christian and the Wildcats. UC defeated them 35-0, but very little is known about the team.

The Wildcats started the game like they did the previous week with a quick strike. They got another whiplash touchdown from Harold Moore, who struck within 16 seconds of the game's opening on a 61-yard touchdown return. The Christians were rocked by the quick score, but not knocked out of the game.

Add that to the Cats not playing at the top of their game and it became a frustrating half for Coach Bobby Johns.

"Without that big play on the kickoff we'd be going in up 7-0," he said.

The Cats were guilty of looking ahead to this week's game with Raines and it showed in their execution October 16.

"We were all looking ahead to Raines. If I'm looking ahead, everybody is looking ahead and it was an example of us not being ready to play — no question," said Johns.



Running back Harold Moore eludes tackler.

PHOTO BY JOE DARASKEVICH

Solid Rock had not encountered a defense as quick and physical as the Wildcats and couldn't manage much on offense. Neither their running or passing game were very effective against one of the area's top defensive units, and they had to rely on their defense to keep things close.

For the first half they did that pretty effectively. The Wildcats moved the ball well and scored a second touchdown on a 4-yard Darwin Ruise plunge, but they weren't able to score a lot of points against a determined Solid Rock defense.

"Most of it was us not playing well," said Johns. "They would

jump around and move around and we would miss a block and they would make a tackle."

For the first half, the Christians frustrated the hometown crowd that expected a big lead by half time.

Coach Bobby Johns had hoped to be able to get the game in hand early so he could substitute freely and give some of his second string players valuable game time. But it didn't turn out that way and the Cats kept their first string in the game until deep into the third period.

Coach Johns changed his strategy in the second half, saying, "We tried some things in the shotgun that we wanted to work on and in the second half Darwin got up under center and we ran the ball right at them."

The change worked immediately and the Wildcats drove the ball 50 yards to pay dirt. Moore and Rueben Jackson pushed down the field on a 6-play drive. Ruise hit Tymachee Givens at the 4 and then ran it in for the score.

"We just got tired of messing around with them," said Johns.

Solid Rock quarterback Dominic Smith had some success against the Wildcat secondary but couldn't sustain a drive and the Cats got the ball right back.

Harold Moore took the punt and ran 50 yards for the touchdown to put BCHS up 29-0.

The final score resulted from a BCHS drive from the opponent's 45 yard line and was highlighted by a 32-yard touchdown scamper by Moore.

With the exception of Moore, the Wildcats were not particularly impressive in a game against the first year team.

The Cats can't be blamed if

they looked ahead to this week's key district match-up with the Raines Vikings. Both teams go into the contest with 2-0 district records and it's a game that Johns pointed toward at the start of the season.

"We thought Ribault would be good, but we didn't know a lot about them. But we know Raines would be a big game," said the coach.

Raines has size, speed and physicality. "To say they are huge is an understatement," said Johns.

The Cats host Raines at Memorial Stadium on Friday at 7:30 pm.

## 'Big' Raines on deck

Huge. If you were to pick out a word that fits the Raines Vikings, it would be huge. Or gigantic. Or maybe massive. Any of those would fit.

The Vikings are big and strong and physical and the Baker High Wildcats know from past experience they will be in for a battle on Friday when they play host to the powerhouse. Their offensive and defensive line hovers around the 300 pound mark with 6'2 defensive tackle Louis Nix weighing in at 320.

The Vikings are loaded with talented players and with numerous Division 1 prospects. Nonetheless, with losses to Jackson, White and Sandlewood, the Vikings have struggled a little this year.

It's the second year in a row that the storied program has had the talent, but hasn't been able to eke out a lot of wins. Last year the Vikings went 2-8 and the Wildcats handed them a 26-6 loss at home in Jacksonville.

The Vikings have already bettered last year's record with a 3-3 mark, including victories over Baldwin, Suwannee and Lee.

They are much improved and their 49-14 victory over the Bulldogs demonstrates that.

Last week, quarterback Herman Tapley connected with his brother Sean for a pair of touchdowns in the win over Lee. Sean Tapley is an experienced receiver; Herman Tapley tossed for 209 yards that night.

Running back Freeman Dozier is also a threat for the Vikings. Though they relied more on Tapley's arm versus Lee, Dozier is capable of breaking big runs.

Defensively the Vikings are led by tackle Nix. The Division 1 prospect blew through the Lee Generals offensive line for several sacks on Friday. They also have speed and good hands at defensive back. Leroy Pate can pick off balls thrown in his direction and knows what to do with a ball in his hands.

To top it off, both the Wildcats and the Vikings are 2-0 in the district, and a victory could go a long way to securing the district title and a spot in the playoffs.

If you want to see some hard-nosed football, the place to be on Friday night is Memorial Stadium.

## Results of opponents

Here's how some of the Cat opponents past and future did on the weekend:

- Crescent City was handed only its second loss of the season at the hands of Melbourne Central Catholic. The Raiders lost 34-14 to the central Florida powerhouse.
- Bradford County handed PK Yonge a 44-6 loss at home in Starke.
- Ribault pounded the Forrest Rebels 44-7 as they had another big day throwing the ball. The Trojans

have a big game next week against the Suwannee Bulldogs.

- The Raines Vikings got a big win over old time rivals the Lee Generals. The Vikings shut down the Generals and took away a 36-8 win at the Graveyard.

- ACD traveled to Gainesville to take on Oak Hall. It was a pleasant trip for the Apaches as they rolled 72-3. After losing their opener to Yulee, ACD has reeled off five straight. Three opponents were off.



## In the Locker Room with Coach Bobby Johns

Here come the Vikings!

This is the week we have all looked forward to the entire season.

In fact, we looked forward to this game so much that we forgot to show up and play last week against Solid Rock. If they had been a more advanced football team, we would have been in trouble. Thank goodness we made it through that game with a win and no one hurt.

This week, it is all on the line! If we beat Raines, we are a lock for the playoffs or a district championship, and we would move to 3-0 and have beaten the only other undefeated team in the district. We would also hold the tie-breaker against Ribault.

That would set up a showdown with Suwannee next week for the outright district crown. We have a tremendous task ahead of us with an unbelievably talented Raines team with two Miami commits, a South Carolina commit, and one of the top underclassmen defensive end prospects in the state.

It will be a huge game and I sincerely hope our home crowd comes back this week and everyone in the stands is wearing red!



Coach Bobby Johns

We need to make it look like a sea of red as we prepare for one of the biggest challenges we could possibly face.

I tell our kids that champions live for games like this one; not for games against teams that we are supposed to beat, but teams where we are out to prove we are the better team. We have some good players of our own who don't

get much respect. Here is their chance to earn it.

Hope to see you there. Go Wildcats!

### BCHS SCHOOL PORTRAITS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

If you did not have a chance to purchase your student's school portrait on picture day,

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The Wildcat Cross Country teams (from left) Bradley Mareth, Christopher Tran, Dylan Kett, Cory Sweeney, Noah Davis, Dana McDowell, Tristan Payne, Carissa Ward, Autumn Jackson and Alexandria Rhode.

## Cats sweep meet at home

JOE DARASKEVICH | SPORTS

Cross country teammates begin each race together and then congratulate each other at the end, but every runner on the BCHS team realizes that five kilometers of isolated running is more about team pride than their individual stride.

"First and foremost, we want to create a team atmosphere," head coach Charles Ruise said. "The team comes first and individuals come later. When the team rises to the top, our individual times will take care of themselves."

The girls' team got one of its best individuals back for a meet on Thursday, October 15, when Alex Rhode returned from an illness to place second overall with a time of 22:05.

The race was Rhode's first since September and Ruise is confident her times will be quicker in the weeks leading up to the district meet November 5 at Bishop Kenny.

"She's the pace setter for us," Ruise said. "If she can finish at the top it gives our team a good chance to succeed."

Both teams succeeded last Thursday in the home meet that featured Yulee and Hilliard. The boys finished first with 23 points, Yulee finished second with 32 and Hilliard ended up with 49.

The girls won with 21 points with Hilliard and Yulee taking second and third.

The girls' leader returned to action last Thursday, but Chris Tran has been emerging all season as the clear-cut top runner on the boys' side. He finished first overall with a time of 21:21 and is always a favorite to win any race he enters.

"The boys having Chris Tran maintaining his finishes has been huge," Ruise said. "We've been securing team titles with him finishing near the top every time."

Ruise is proud of his top runners and thinks Rhode can represent Baker County in the regional meet. He also understands the importance of the team's supporting cast.

"I've got to give a lot of props to Autumn Jackson because last year she was one of our beginning runners," Ruise said. "Her times

don't indicate her improvement, but she's really come a long way to become a contributor on this year's team."

Another runner who's been a real team player is Carissa Ward. Her determination has been noted throughout the season as she has battled respiratory ills all year.

"It was a major help having her in our lineup the other day," Ruise said. "She's our caboose and really gets the girls motivated. 5K is no joke and to see her battle to finish has been inspiring for the rest of the team."

The boys will look to Bradley Mareth, Corey Sweeney and Dillon Kett to turn in good times in the district meet and the girls hope Kayla Eligino can keep up her quick pace. With those runners, along with the Davis siblings, Noah and Catherine, the Wildcats are setting up nicely for the districts in November.

"We finally got our girls' team filled out with Alex back," Ruise said. "So now the rest of the season should feel a little more down hill."

## Haunted old jail returns

Halloween fright nights at the old county jail will be at 7:00 pm on Saturday, October 24 and then again Friday and Saturday, October 30 and October 31. The Baker County Historical Society and the Baker County High School History Club have teamed up again to bring you the scare of your life!

All proceeds from the haunted jail, tours and refreshment sales contribute to the History Club's annual trips, and the Old Jail's preservation and restoration. A less frightening candlelight tour of the former sheriff's office and quarters next door offers interesting history about the Old Jail.

Come and join us each night for an experience you won't forget at West 42 McIver Street next to the Taber Library!



Members of the Baker High history club ready and waiting for Fright Nights to begin this Saturday at the old jail. Proceeds benefit the club.

Dear Walmart,

I sincerely apologize for taking things that did not belong to me. My stupidity at that moment made me act in a reckless way. In hindsight, I know I did the wrong thing. I sincerely regret my actions and honestly hope that you would be able to forgive me. I would like to assure you that I shall never resort to such an unethical means in the future.

Sincerely, Angelica Nobles

### Healthy Choice Restaurants

Local restaurants along with the Baker County Health Department have joined together to offer healthier choices when eating out! Ask your server at any **Healthy Choice Restaurant** about these healthy options:



- **Take Half Home** (boxing up half of the meal)
- **Cook to Order** (offering grilled instead of fried or no butter added)
- **Heart Healthy** (section of the menu offering low/reduced fat foods)
- **Healthy Substitutions** (allow to substitute vegetables, fruit, salad, or rice for French fries)

Look for the Healthy Choice Restaurant logo at these restaurants:

- Muse Café • Baker Grill • Calendar's Pizzeria and Sports Bar
- Connie's Country Cooking • DD's Sports Grill • Fraser Food Store
- Pier 6 Seafood & Steak House • Ronie's Food • Sam's Crystal River Seafood
- Sandwich USA • Subway • Taylor'd Cuisine Catering & BBQ
- Wings Galore & More • Woody's Bar-B-Q

\*The Multi-State Learning Collaborative: Lead States in Public Health Quality Improvements is managed by the National Network of Public Health Institutes with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

**Baker County Health Department**  
480 W. Lowder St., Macclenny, FL 32063  
(904) 259-6291

## Senior week at LCCC

Senior Emphasis Week for persons 55 and older will be held on November 2-4 in the Lake City Medical Center Auditorium on the Lake City Community College campus. This event will include health education, fun, food and games.

The schedule includes a daily continental breakfast and time to visit with friends at 8:30 am. Guest speakers and student presentations will begin at 9:00 and lunch will be served each day with the activities ending at 1:30 in the afternoon.

There is no cost for program participation. A potluck covered dish luncheon will be held the final day where guests may bring a favorite food to share with the group. You do not need to bring a food item in order to participate in the activities or the luncheon.

If you have any questions call Henrietta Pope, LCCC professor of nursing at (386) 754-4319. Bring a friend and neighbor to participate with you.

### Helping hand

Carol Burnsed and family are trying to start an organization to raise money, clothes, furniture and appliances for needy families in the area. Leftover items will then be sold at a fund raiser yard sale to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas for these families.

For more information or to donate items, please call Carol at 259-3747.

### Many thanks

I would like to thank Kent Williams of Diamond Timber Company for purchasing the Grand Champion hog at the 2009 Baker County Fair. His support of the Baker County youth is greatly appreciated.

SINCERELY,  
TAYLOR TRULUCK



SUZANNE NORRIS  
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
MARKET PRESIDENT

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