

Saturday  
Dec. 5

# LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE

Parade begins  
6:00 pm

Festival begins at 10:00 am • Fireworks & Fireworks at 6:00 pm • Historical Society Open House 1-5:00 pm  
Macclenny Ave. closes at 6:00 am from 121 to Third St. ~ Community Tree Lighting following the parade at City Hall

# THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS

80th Year, Vol. 31 • Winner of 9 state awards for journalism excellence in 2008

50¢

DECEMBER 3, 2009 THURSDAY

## Most local government travel down

### Schools budget up to \$171K

JOEL ADDINGTON  
NEWS EDITOR  
reporter@bakercountypress.com

The travel budgets for most government employees here have remained relatively steady during the last few years, but the cash spent on conferences, training and other work-related travel has been dropping, according to records obtained by *The Baker County Press* during the past two months.

The decreases in travel spending between the 2007-08 fiscal year and 2008-09 ranged from a 38 percent drop within the school district to a nine percent reduction among county employees. Both agencies also had the highest travel expenditure totals of the eight municipal branches included in the survey.

The school district spent \$102,815 on travel-related expenses two years ago, but greatly reduced that total a year later to \$63,271. Yet, the district budgeted more

Almost every branch of government in Baker County spent less on travel during the 2008-09 fiscal year than during the previous year. Shown are the changes in travel spending for most of the municipal divisions operating here.



than \$171,000 for travel in the 2009-10 fiscal year, which is \$5000 more than last year.

District Finance Manager Marcelle Richardson said much of the spending pays for teacher and administrator training in their respective areas of expertise. She belongs to the Florida School Finance Officers Association and spent four days in early November at one of its biannual conferences. It was four days in Orlando at \$79 a night.

**“I don't even turn that in. It comes out of my own pocket.”**



— Sherric Raulerson  
Superintendent of Schools  
on per diem expenses

open if she hadn't gone, she said, “Nothing. You just won't have the information

you need to do things.”

For her part, Superintendent Sherric Raulerson said she foregoes per diem reimbursements when traveling on the job.

“I don't even turn that in. It comes out of my own pocket,” Ms. Raulerson said, citing her efforts to be frugal with public funds by not re-filling a now vacant assistant superintendent position, for instance.

The Baker County Commission and its various departments lowered their travel spending by \$2277 in 2008-09 and budgeted \$28,600 for this year. So far, travel

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## County may use wetland tradeoff

JOEL ADDINGTON  
NEWS EDITOR  
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The Baker County Commission may get into the wetland mitigation business using some of the 482 acres of wetlands at St. Mary's Shoals Park north of Glen.

The board was presented with a proposal from a Jacksonville environmental consulting firm December 1 to evaluate the park's potential for wetland mitigation banking, a process that assigns a “credit” value to the wetlands, which if maintained or improved properly can be used to offset destruction or disturbance of wetlands elsewhere that would otherwise be protected.

The evaluation from Peacock Consulting Group will cost \$1500 and the Baker County Council on Aging [COA] has pledged to cover the initial cost in exchange for whatever credits it will need to mitigate about 1.3 acres of wetlands it owns on Buck Starling Road.

The COA bought 5 acres behind Winn Dixie last June and hopes to construct a new senior center on the parcel, including the wetlands, said COA board members Barbara Yarbrough and Bob Lambright.

However, neither knew exactly how many credits might be needed to do so, but were confident there's enough wetlands at Shoals Park to go around.

The county has needed wetland mitigation credits in the past, too.

“On Reid Stafford we weren't able to complete [paving] the west end of that road because we ran into some wetlands,” said County Manager Joe Cone, adding later that a park project was abandoned for the same reason.

“I think it would be a wise expenditure to have those credits in the bank when you need them,” he said.

The proposal from Peacock Consulting's president Byron Peacock outlined two tasks, the first simply to do a preliminary assessment of the park's potential for mitigation, specifically that needed by the COA.

What could happen next, and how much it might cost, concerned county commissioners and led them to table the matter.

“I'd like more clarification on if we're going to get any credits out of this,” said Commissioner Mark Hartley.

The second task included in Mr. Peacock's proposal was for any additional services, like attending meetings with county staff and the environmental agencies responsible for wet-

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## Variance on I-10 traffic is approved

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NEWS EDITOR  
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The Florida Department of Transportation notified county officials last week that after more than a year of waiting, Baker County's variance request to increase permitted traffic volumes on the interstate was approved.

After six months of negotiations between the county and FDOT, the department's secretary signed a variance agreement in November 2008 that allowed another 12,600 daily trips between Sanderson and the Nassau County line from job-creating developments before costly improvements like adding lanes or interchanges are required by landowners.

But for much of the last year, FDOT had been seeking a resolution with the sole objector of the variance, the financially-marred developers of the Cedar Creek project, which had

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## Wildcats' last quarter

## push falls short

-See page 14

## \$512K library addition opens

### Ribbon cutting was held November 19

KELLEY LANNIGAN  
FEATURES  
features@bakercountypress.com

The new \$512,000 addition to the Emily Taber Library officially opened to the public following a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony November 19.

Prior to the ribbon cutting, County Commissioner Alex Robinson commented to a crowd of approximately 50 people about completion of the new wing.

“This represents lots of hard work by many people,” he said. “A project like this is impossible without a grant. We kept the pressure on our legislators to secure it, we waited our turn and the end result has paid off. And, the library got its elevator.”

Baker County Chamber of Commerce director Darryl Register read a letter sent by US Senator Bill Nelson in which he regretted being unable to attend the dedication and opening of the new addition. Mr. Nelson sent his best wishes for the future and commended Baker County for having a community vision and working to make it happen.

The spacious new main room is now open to the public and is where the new stairs and elevator are accessed. The old staircase is no longer for public use.



PHOTOS BY KELLEY LANNIGAN  
At left Librarian April Teele and commissioner Alex Robinson the moment the ribbon is cut. Above Lee Covin checks out the new elevator.

The original floor plan called for a large space dedicated to outreach and children's reading programs, a popular summer activity sponsored by the library. Ultimately, that space had to be omitted to bring the project in under budget.

The new addition does contain a separate room with french-style doors that can be used for small groups and other purposes.

The main space of the new addition is not yet outfitted with shelving, which will require at least \$25,000 to purchase. One three-by-seven foot, double-sided shelf unit costs about \$600, according to library director April Teele.

“We'll just have to take it slow and add them as we can,” said Ms. Teele. “New shelving will allow us to add DVDs and other items to our holdings which we can't yet do without the proper way to store and manage them.”

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ONLINE POLL RESULTS  
Should the City of Macclenny employ persons with criminal histories?  
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44.1% Yes

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# AccuWeather® Forecast for Baker County

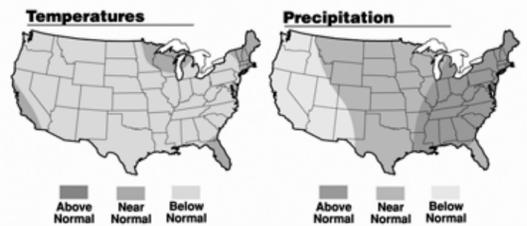
AccuWeather.com

## 7-Day Forecast

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Beautiful with sunshine and patchy clouds	Partly sunny	Mostly cloudy, rain possible; breezy	Sunshine and patchy clouds	Times of clouds and sun	Mostly cloudy	Warmer with rain
High: 66° Low: 43°	High: 62° Low: 42°	High: 60° Low: 38°	High: 67° Low: 42°	High: 66° Low: 45°	High: 66° Low: 55°	High: 77° Low: 49°

## Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

December 3 - December 9



## Tides

Cedar Key	Dec. 3	Dec. 4	Dec. 5	Dec. 6	Dec. 7	Dec. 8	Dec. 9
First high	1:05 a.m.	1:52 a.m.	2:42 a.m.	3:37 a.m.	4:39 a.m.	5:50 a.m.	7:15 a.m.
First low	8:37 a.m.	9:24 a.m.	10:11 a.m.	10:58 a.m.	11:46 a.m.	12:03 a.m.	1:16 a.m.
Second high	3:22 p.m.	4:07 p.m.	4:51 p.m.	5:34 p.m.	6:18 p.m.	7:03 p.m.	7:50 p.m.
Second low	8:21 p.m.	9:08 p.m.	10:00 p.m.	10:58 p.m.	—	12:37 p.m.	1:31 p.m.

Jacksonville Beach	Dec. 3	Dec. 4	Dec. 5	Dec. 6	Dec. 7	Dec. 8	Dec. 9
First high	8:23 a.m.	9:14 a.m.	10:06 a.m.	10:59 a.m.	11:53 a.m.	12:24 a.m.	1:26 a.m.
First low	2:04 a.m.	2:53 a.m.	3:43 a.m.	4:38 a.m.	5:37 a.m.	6:42 a.m.	7:49 a.m.
Second high	8:43 p.m.	9:35 p.m.	10:30 p.m.	11:26 p.m.	—	12:48 p.m.	1:46 p.m.
Second low	2:50 p.m.	3:38 p.m.	4:28 p.m.	5:22 p.m.	6:19 p.m.	7:17 p.m.	8:16 p.m.

Mayport	Dec. 3	Dec. 4	Dec. 5	Dec. 6	Dec. 7	Dec. 8	Dec. 9
First high	8:56 a.m.	9:49 a.m.	10:42 a.m.	11:37 a.m.	12:08 a.m.	1:10 a.m.	2:14 a.m.
First low	2:01 a.m.	2:51 a.m.	3:44 a.m.	4:43 a.m.	5:50 a.m.	7:00 a.m.	8:09 a.m.
Second high	9:18 p.m.	10:13 p.m.	11:09 p.m.	—	12:33 p.m.	1:31 p.m.	2:33 p.m.
Second low	2:53 p.m.	3:43 p.m.	4:37 p.m.	5:36 p.m.	6:37 p.m.	7:37 p.m.	8:34 p.m.

St. Augustine	Dec. 3	Dec. 4	Dec. 5	Dec. 6	Dec. 7	Dec. 8	Dec. 9
First high	8:29 a.m.	9:20 a.m.	10:12 a.m.	11:05 a.m.	11:59 a.m.	12:30 a.m.	1:32 a.m.
First low	2:06 a.m.	2:55 a.m.	3:45 a.m.	4:40 a.m.	5:39 a.m.	6:44 a.m.	7:51 a.m.
Second high	8:49 p.m.	9:41 p.m.	10:36 p.m.	11:32 p.m.	—	12:54 p.m.	1:52 p.m.
Second low	2:52 p.m.	3:40 p.m.	4:30 p.m.	5:24 p.m.	6:21 p.m.	7:19 p.m.	8:18 p.m.

## Sun and Moon

Sunrise Thursday ..... 7:09 a.m.  
 Sunset Thursday ..... 5:28 p.m.  
 Moonrise Thursday ..... 6:55 p.m.  
 Moonset Thursday ..... 8:35 a.m.



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2009

## Almanac

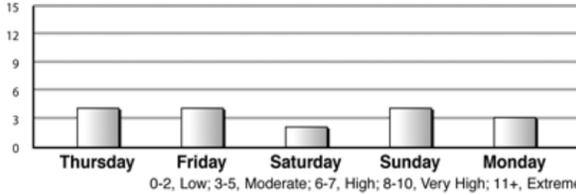
Jacksonville week ending Monday, Nov 30.

**Temperature**  
 High/Low for the week ..... 74°/34°  
 Normal high/low ..... 70°/48°  
 Average temperature ..... 55.4°  
 Normal average temperature ..... 58.9°

**Precipitation**  
 Total for the week ..... 0.29"  
 Total for the month ..... 0.85"  
 Total for the year ..... 53.35"  
 Normal for the month ..... 2.34"  
 Normal for the year ..... 49.70"

## AccuWeather.com UV Index™

Values indicate the exposure to the sun's Ultraviolet Rays. Shown are the highest values for each day.



## Solunar Table

The solunar period schedule allows planning days so you will be fishing in good territory or hunting in good cover during those times. Major periods begin at the times shown and last for 1.5 to 2 hours. The minor periods are shorter.

	Major	Minor	Major	Minor
Dec 3	11:07 a.m.	4:51 a.m.	11:38 p.m.	5:23 p.m.
Dec 4	12:12 p.m.	5:56 a.m.	—	6:27 p.m.
Dec 5	12:48 a.m.	7:03 a.m.	1:19 p.m.	7:34 p.m.
Dec 6	1:56 a.m.	8:10 a.m.	2:25 p.m.	8:40 p.m.
Dec 7	3:01 a.m.	9:14 a.m.	3:28 p.m.	9:42 p.m.
Dec 8	4:00 a.m.	10:13 a.m.	4:26 p.m.	10:39 p.m.
Dec 9	4:54 a.m.	11:06 a.m.	5:18 p.m.	11:30 p.m.

## River Levels

Statistics are for Jacksonville through 7 a.m. Monday

	Flood stage	Monday	24-hour change
St. John's at Jacksonville	—	10.89	+0.18
St. Marks at Newport	7.0	6.11	none
Aucilla at Lamont	9.0	5.54	+0.21
Santa Fe at Fort White	24.0	21.20	none
Suwannee at White Springs	77.0	50.73	-0.03



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# County travel costs down I-10 traffic load variance granted

«From page 1» expenditures have totaled \$3305 with the fiscal year ending in September 30, 2010.

Like many of the other government offices, travel spending by the county is largely occupation-specific training, often required by state law.

For example, it's mandatory for animal control officers to be re-certified annually for use of tranquilizer guns, said County Manager Joe Cone, while his attendance at the annual conference of the Florida City and County Management Association is not.

Much of the county's travel budget also covers a \$150 a month stipend for county commissioners. Mr. Cone said each of the five board members receives \$50 for cell phone usage and \$100 as a flat fuel reimbursement.

The standard reimbursement for travel is 44 cents a mile.

Travel spending at the sheriff's office was \$11,358 during the 2008-09 fiscal year and is budgeted for \$13,650 this year, or about \$400 more than was spent in 2007-08.

Many of the expenses last year were from hotel stays related to bi-annual conferences hosted by the Florida Sheriff's Association, which also organizes training workshops and other professional seminars throughout the year.

For instance, this year's winter conference at the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort was attended by Sheriff Joey Dobson, Operations Chief Gerald Gonzalez and Administration Chief Brian Bishop. Lodging and travel for each cost close to \$600. Registration

for the conference was another \$350.

Clerk of Courts employees spent \$7662 on travel in the 2007-08 fiscal year and \$5346 during the following 12 months. This year's budget allows for \$6500.

Again, travel to conferences or seminars made up the bulk of spending, including Clerk of Court Al Fraser's November 2008 trip to a financial technology seminar in Orlando, which cost \$367.

"I learn a lot more after the sessions in the hallways," he said, recalling a seminar about new investment strategies. "We just put money in CDs with the best rates we can find."

Mr. Fraser's professional group — the Florida Association of Clerks and Comptrollers — held its summer conference in Tampa last June. The registration fee was \$180 and plus another \$596 for lodging.

The Tax Collector's office has been spending the least on travel at \$700 last year and \$947 the year before. However, \$2000 is allocated for that purpose in this year's budget.

Administrator Barbara Yarbrough attributed the bulk of the expenses to Tax Collector Gene Harvey's annual re-certification, which she said is required by the Department of Revenue. The recertification this year cost taxpayers \$199 for gas and meals in Orlando over two days and \$249 in 2008 during five days in Daytona Beach.

Office staffers also travel for continuing education classes, but that's recently stopped. "We haven't been sending anyone

lately because we're trying to save on our budgets," said Ms. Yarbrough.

The Supervisor of Elections office was the only department that increased its travel allotment after the 2007-08 fiscal year, when it spent \$4726.

This year's summer travel expenses rose to \$5143, closer to the amount budgeted for this year, \$5500.

This year's summer conference of the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections cost \$855 and was attended by elections supervisor Nita Crawford and two staffers, Carol Ruise and Debbie Cain.

"We only go to what we're required," said Ms. Crawford.

## Library...

«From page 1»

The library staff seeks generous patrons who will make donations toward shelf acquisition.

One suggested shelves could be purchased in memory of a loved one or as a Christmas gift in someone's name. Families could sponsor a shelf, the way pews and other items are purchased for churches.

«From page 1» proposed about 6000 residential units northwest of Glen.

They took exception to the agreement's provision barring already approved developments like Cedar Creek from taking advantage of the interstate's increased capacity, a key factor in calculating how much developers must pay to offset traffic impacts they create.

Cedar Creek's former manager Adrian Development of Coral Gables, Fla. had finalized a development agreement with the county in September 2008, committing to roughly \$65 million worth of transportation improvements over 15 years.

The variance agreement, however, targets commercial, retail or industrial development by reserving most of the additional capacity on I-10 for those uses. The deal also commits the county to encourage construction of alternate east-west routes to remove local vehicles from the interstate.

But as progress stalled on the Cedar Creek development, so did negotiations with FDOT on the variance, which were aimed at avoiding a hearing before an administrative law judge.

In a letter to FDOT staff dated

November 19, the real estate consulting firm representing Cedar Creek's new manager, the New York-based investment group Oracle Partners, withdrew the developer's petition for a hearing, effectively finalizing the variance.

Since its inception, the measure has been considered an important component in attracting the transportation logistics industry to Baker County. It's envisioned that such facilities could service rail and truck traffic originating from the Jacksonville Port's continued expansion into Asian shipping markets.

Property owners with land adjacent to the interstate, rail lines or both; are in the best position to make that vision a reality.

Roberts Land & Timber of Lake Butler has about 1500 acres near the intersection of US 90 and I-10, and was one of the chief backers of the county's variance application.

"It's a huge asset for us to market the property to users, who without the variance would take one look at the mitigation cost

and be done," said Avery Roberts, the company's president. "A lot of people have put a lot of effort into this variance. I think for the future of Baker County, as the economy turns around, it will be a great opportunity for job growth. It's great to finally have it in place."

Initially, Roberts Land & Timber is proposing about one million square feet of industrial space for what's been dubbed Woodstock Park, but 10 million square feet is planned by build-out along with a centralized water and sewer system.

Dallas-based Jackson-Shaw Co. is planning another industrial park on 750 acres east of Macclenny on the south side of US 90. It includes about 2.5 million square feet in its first phase.

Without the variance, FDOT would only permit about 7 million square feet of industrial space before insisting on expensive, developer-funded improvements. But with it, the threshold is pushed to almost 20 million square feet.

"We're just waiting on the phone to ring," Mr. Preston said.

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The Town of Glen St. Mary is accepting resumes for the appointment of a Council Member for "Group 2". Applicants must be registered voters residing within the Town Limits. On your resume please list reasons why you would like to be a Council Member. All applicants will be interviewed by Council on Tuesday, December 15, 2009 at the regular Town meeting at 7:00 P.M. Resumes can be dropped by Town Hall at 10046 South Glen Avenue Monday - Friday 8:30 A.M to 12:30 P.M. or mailed to P.O. Box 519, Glen St. Mary, FL 32040.

**Deadline is December 11, 2009.**

# OPINION

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters are welcome, but must contain the signature of the writer, a telephone number and city of residence. Letters must reflect opinions and statements on issues of current interest to the general public.

The newspaper reserves the right to reject any material which in the newspaper's judgement does not meet standards of publication.

## 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.

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# What we've learned from Cedar Creek

## IMPRESSIONS

Jim McGauley

The pending foreclosure on 2200 acres of woodlands west of Glen St. Mary at one time destined to become the Cedar Creek development of 6000 residences for the over-55 set, The Villages Lite if you will, makes it appear now that won't happen.

Judging from what one picks up in general conversation, there's a lot of people in Baker County who won't be crying tears over the situation.

What happened?

Well, what happened was the collapse of the housing market and the general downturn in the economy that triggered it. Or was it the other way around?

Regardless, the slump we're in now has thrown not just a damp towel but a soggy dripping one over a lot of Cedar Creeks across this broad landscape — from Neptune Beach to San Diego and all points in between north and south.

The Cedar Creek concept, a self-contained residential, commercial, recreational and cultural enclave of likened souls nestled in the benign climate of northeast Florida, was predicated on a premise that has crumbled the past 18 months. That would be the housing market.

The driving capital basis for the project was the ability of near-and post-retirement couples in Indiana and Ohio to sell their existing homes and bring the equity south. Before the collapse, it was entirely feasible that middle class couples seeking a life away from snow tires and high oil heating costs could cash out up there and re-invest down here.

No more.

The handwriting has been on the wall since early this year when Adrian Development of Coral Gales missed an initial \$500,000 mitigation payment due to Baker County. By then it was clear what had happened to the housing market in 2007 and 2008 wasn't a temporary downturn. It was real and it was going to be with us for a while.

So now the original property owner Davis and Davis of Macclenny is moving to foreclose this week on Adrian, its investor partner Oracle Partners and an engineer/design firm. That will likely be the death knell of Cedar Creek.

So, what's the up-side?

For beginners, Baker County learned a lot about state law requiring developers pay their own way in infrastructure costs for roads, schools, fire departments, and local governments were all brought into the process. It was an experience they would not have had otherwise.

Cedar Creek got a lot of us thinking about what Baker County should look like in the next century, and at a series of public

hearings the public got a chance to say it wanted the rural lifestyle preserved as much as feasible given the massive influx of population atop what's already here.

It also was an experience we would not have had otherwise.

The foreclosure and market collapse is good news for a sizeable slice of the current popula-

tion that don't want anything like Cedar Creek to happen in Baker County during their lifetime — or those of their children and grandchildren. They like things just the way they are, and that sentiment exists in all communities.

Others among us — yours truly included — just wanted it done right and welcomed the growth

on a controlled, organized basis. The residential portion was fine, but we wanted land set aside for job-producing industry and service businesses.

What all of us have now that 2009 is drawing to a close is breathing time. Baker County's geographic positioning in Florida almost guarantees its allure will

be obvious to others once things pick up again. Maybe Cedar Creek, or a concept similar to it, will re-emerge.

Whatever happens, we know more now — far more — than we did a decade ago about what could happen to us and how we have control over how it happens.

You could say that's progress.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Passing allowed

Dear Editor:

Congratulations to the Wildcat football team and all of the defensive coaches on a successful season. This year was supposed to be the year the Cats became more balanced on offense, but guess what[?] — the same results — veer right, veer left.

It's disappointing to me and I'm sure to some of the fans to watch the predictable offense that [coach] Bobby Johns runs. He waited until we're down 20 points late in the fourth quarter to pass the ball against a good Tallahassee Godby team.

Can someone please let Coach Johns know that the fourth quarter isn't the only quarter we are allowed to pass the ball. The first quarter is available also.

Ray Edwards  
Macclenny

### Thanks city

Dear Editor:

Once again, downtown Macclenny has been decorated, helping us get into the Christmas season (I emphasize Christmas since much has been done to change this). Thanks to [fire chief] Buddy Dugger and the other city firemen for continuing the tradition again this year. Good job!

Eldon Landers  
Macclenny



## Not so fast-Spam considered a 'delicacy' on Pacific islands

### THE BACK PORCH

Kelley Lannigan

I was cruising the canned meat section in the grocery store recently, looking for things to help stretch my food budget dollars.

That's when I started looking at Spam, an object that had basically dropped off my radar for the last three decades.

We had this odd canned concoction occasionally when I was a kid. From time to time, it appeared on the breakfast table fried, along with eggs, grits and toast.

My mother sometimes substituted it for the tuna or chicken when making a meat salad. When grated and mixed with mayonnaise, chopped egg and celery, it

made a tasty sandwich spread.

We thought so, at least. Kids don't really care where food falls on the culinary standard scale. If they're hungry and it tastes good, then it's fine with them.

However, Spam never was a mainstay on our dinner table. It occupied a novelty niche in our diet, if anything. We kids enjoyed opening the can, which at that time was done with a "key" that came attached to the top.

The key had a slot on one end through which a tab on the can was fitted. This you rolled, which pulled out a thin ribbon of metal into an ever-increasing coil and finally separated the top section from the lower.

My extended foray at the grocery store's canned meat section carefully reading the Spam label has resulted in an education for me. I later went to the Internet and discovered that this potted meat product has undergone quite an evolution since my childhood.

It comes in a plethora of varieties influenced by what region of the world it's sold in. There is Garlic Spam, Spam Hot n' Spicy, Spam with Bacon, Honey Spam and Spam Oven Roasted Turkey, just to name a few.

Having come under fire from time to time by consumer watchdog groups for its high sodium content and less than heart-healthy fat content, you can now find varieties such as Spam Less Sodium and Spam Lite.

Spam has long been the brunt of long-running "mystery meat" jokes and suffered from the stigma of being thought of as "poor man's food," usually consumed by the economically disadvantaged.

I confess I've joked about it myself a time or two. Yet, in some places, the opposite is true.

Residents of Hawaii, the territories of Guam and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Is-

lands (CNMI) consume the most Spam per capita in the United States. The perception of Spam is very different in these locals.

According to the Internet, Spam was introduced into these areas as well as the Philippines and Okinawa during WWII, when fresh meat for the soldiers was hard to come by. Surpluses of Spam eventually found their way into the native diets.

In Hawaii, it's so popular it's known as Hawaiian steak. Saipan, the principal island of the CNMI, has the world's only McDonald's restaurants that feature Spam on the menu (Burger King in Hawaii has recently followed suit).

Back to my foray in the grocery store.

I was highly amused and slightly dumbfounded after reading a paragraph on the back of the Spam can I examined. It was under a recipe on the label for making quesadillas with Spam. This is what it said:

"Do not be fooled by the simplicity of this recipe. Yes, it is easy to make, but the flavor is complicated and exotic. Like something that fills your senses and pulls at your heartstrings and then flies away, wanting to be chased. And you will chase it, oh yes, you will."

I'm not kidding. That is actually printed on the label. I ended up buying the Spam, but Puh-lease! You can dress it up with fancy marketing language as much as you want - it's still processed meat in a can.

Truth be known, Spam is no worse than a hot dog, and we eat tons of those without a second thought. And I have discovered the empty can has a valuable utilitarian function - it makes a great scoop for dry cat food.

**Advertising Deadline**  
**Monday**  
**5:00 pm**  
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## How 'bout a Slanket?

I love the holidays — Thanksgiving and particularly Christmas. I'm not really big on New Years because it is a holiday about nothing, but I tolerate it.

I love the food and fun and the whole feel of celebration. But there is one thing that I don't love, and that's picking out gifts.

I'm just so bad at it. I am the guy — ladies, you all know one — the guy who specializes in picking out the wrong gift.

I once gave my wife a food processor for Christmas. See what I mean?

So this year I'm going to do all my shopping in one place. I'm going to a Web site that specializes in those great little gadgets you can only buy on television infomercials. Should be a big hit.

"I'm sooooo cold."

All Thanksgiving holiday my daughter wandered around the house complaining.

"I'm freezing to death. Feel my hands." She proceeds to shove her personal icebergs down the back of my neck.

"I'm freezin'."

She's getting a Slanket for Christmas. They come by many names in the online commerce world — Slanket, Snuggie, but they are all the same — blankets with sleeves.

Who knows what entrepreneurial genius came up with this bit of tackiness. Who might have said while sitting on the couch and watching football, "Boy, I wish my blanket had sleeves. Then I could drink beer and eat chips and still be cozy warm!"

I've never actually seen a Slanket. Can you move in them? Can you walk around the house in your Slanket, or is it like a hospital gown with your back end sticking out getting chilly?

If everyone in the house got Slankets, we could really save on our light bill. We'd knock the thermostat down to 60 without anyone complaining.

"I'm so cozy. Are you cozy? Pass me another brownie."

My daughter is fashionable so I think I'll just have to get her the leopard print Slanket. One down, three to go.

Son Spencer is interested in politics so I'm naturally thinking the Sarah Palin book from Amazon. Wrong.

I'm leaning toward the Barack Obama Chia. Nothing screams online gift like a Chia and a presidential Chia at that. There's so much you can do with your Obama Chia. You can harken back to his days at Harvard when he was in his 20s and let your Chia grow an Afro. You can celebrate a year in office by cutting him close and stylish.

Actually, this is one of the most tasteless items I can imagine. When I first saw it advertised I thought it was a joke.

Dylan is my practical son and I believe for him I'll give a couple of practical gifts. He likes to keep his car just so and a ShamWow would be a perfect gift. According to the late Billy Mays, a ShamWow soaks up anything and still remains remarkably dry to soak up more. Of course, this doesn't seem like much of a Christmas gift, not when you compare it to a Slanket and a presidential Chia, so I need to get him something else.

How about a Drain Snake?

It's a little flexible piece of metal with barbs on the end to run through your clogged drain. Give it a twist and out comes the clog. Actually, that looks like a pretty good gift and I wouldn't mind having one myself. This is much better than the unbent coat hanger I have to use. Hint, hint.

## THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS



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# Man admits to beating Says his victim molested a relative

Police arrested a Macclenny man the evening of November 29 for beating another man, and he readily conceded to a deputy sheriff he had targeted the victim because he suspected him of molesting a young relative.

Nicholas Harrison, 24, was jailed for aggravated battery of Tyrone Turner, 50, during a confrontation between 7:30-8:00.

Deputy Brandon Kiser interviewed Mr. Turner at the emergency room of Fraser Hospital, where he was being treated for multiple facial cuts and bruises, plus bruising to his mid-section and a broken finger. Mr. Turner later that evening was flown to Memorial Medical Center in Jacksonville after suffering what was described as a mild heart attack.

Deputy Kiser noted in his report it wasn't initially clear whether the heart attack was related to the beating.

Mr. Turner told the officer he was leaving his sister's residence on South 4th St. when he was attacked by the suspect, who lives nearby and two other white males.

Interviewed later, Mr. Harrison insisted no one else was with him at the time, and admitted he was angry at Mr. Turner for the alleged molestation.

In other arrests, Kenneth Goethe, 31, of Macclenny was charged with aggravated assault for threatening another man with a knife during an argument off Ben Rowe Circle the evening of November 27.

He allegedly approached Jason Dupree, 30, at the latter's residence after Mr. Goethe's vehicle had to be pulled from a ditch. Complainant Eileen Hammock told Deputy Matt Sigers she had earlier removed three young children belonging to the suspect from his vehicle because he was driving drunk, and that Mr. Goethe had followed her to the Ben Rowe residence.

After the suspect had left with his girlfriend Felicia Hewett at the wheel, Ms. Hammock said he repeatedly called and text messaged threats to stab both Mr. Dupree and Sariah Hammock.

Interviewed the next day at his apartment on Ohio St., Mr. Goethe initially said he didn't

remember what transpired the previous evening, then denied pulling the knife. Acquaintances Adam Christmas and Ms. Hewett were also there and initially denied the allegation before recanting.

Deputy Sigers noted in his report that Mr. Goethe was intoxicated during the interview.

The Department of Children and Families was notified of the incident because of the presence of the three children and several others during the altercation.

• Criminal complaints for battery were filed against Lee Battles, 19, and Brandy Manning, 26, following an altercation on Grisholm St. in south Macclenny the afternoon of November 27. Both gave Deputy Larry Clark conflicting versions of events.

• Similar complaints were filed against female students, ages 13 and 14, following a fight at the Baker Middle School track the morning of November 23. Campus deputy Tracie Benton said the two are friends, and the feud was ignited by an exchange on the MySpace Internet social network.

# Arrest after he's thrown out of bar

A patron at the Country Club Lounge on South 6th in Macclenny was arrested for disorderly intoxication when he protested being thrown out of the bar just after 1:00 am on November 29.

Deputy Patrick McGauley said he was patrolling near the lounge and saw Jonathan Stafford, 23, being escorted by bouncers out of the building. He was being unruly, cursing and making threats to the employees when arrested.

Mr. Stafford was taken to jail, then to Fraser Hospital where he was treated for a badly bruised eye that had swollen shut from an earlier fight.

The officer also noted the suspect had been warned the previous evening to stay away from the residence of his father after becoming involved in a fracas there.

In other cases, Johnathan Collett, 24, of Macclenny was booked for disorderly intoxication after the same deputy found him drunk and wandering along Hillcrest Dr. off Woodlawn Rd. about 10:10 the evening of November 27.

Mr. Collett denied he was the person reported by neighbors riding a bicycle in the area, cursing loudly and moving construction signs onto the right-of-way. However, his shoes matched prints near the signs.

• Mehri Brinjani, 19, of Jacksonville was arrested late on November 28 for giving a false name when questioned by a county deputy at the Country Club Lounge.

Cpl. Ben Anderson said bar employees asked him to check Ms. Brinjani's identification because they suspected she was underage. She initially gave the officer a false name, then tearfully admitted she was underage.

Cpl. Anderson noted in his report that the suspect was intoxicated.

# Fight after she posted bond

A criminal complaint for domestic battery was filed against a Glen St. Mary man for allegedly tackling his girlfriend during an argument at their residence off Altman's Way the evening of November 29.

Steven Tanner, 38, had left the residence accompanied by his 10-year-old son by the time police arrived about 9:00 and was not located later that evening.

Live-in girlfriend Angela Nettles told Deputy Patrick McGauley that Mr. Tanner became angry and began throwing items around the residence, and threatened her 16-year-old son when he intervened to protect his mother.

The son told the deputy his mother was brought down by a tackle, and that Mr. Tanner cursed and threatened him when he went to her defense.

The couple argued after Mr. Tanner was bailed out of the Duval County jail one day following his arrest on an outstanding warrant.

Two of Ms. Nettles' other children, daughters ages 11 and 13, witnessed the altercation and the deputy described them as "emotionally distraught." He notified the Department of Children and Families because of their presence.

The complaints are for domestic battery against Ms. Nettles and domestic assault against the son.

In other cases:  
• The 16-year-old son of a Macclenny woman was arrested for domestic battery after he slapped her and shoved his girlfriend, age 17, during an argu-

ment at a Minnesota Ave. address the morning of November 23.

Deputy Brad Dougherty caught up with the youth in a wooded area where he fled shortly after the 10:00 incident, and he admitted accosting both the mother, age 40, and the girlfriend during an argument over a doctor's appointment.

• Complaints for domestic battery were filed against both parties following an argument at a residence off Durland Rd. near Glen the morning of November 28.

Mariah Trosper, 18, said she was angry at boyfriend Timothy Weathers, 20, because he had gone out the night before with "a friend and two girls."

The girlfriend demanded Mr. Weathers leave the residence and told Deputy Johnny Hodges she grabbed a piece of wood to defend herself when Mr. Weathers came toward her. He then snatched the wood from her and threw her to the floor.

Ms. Trosper said she went to the kitchen for a knife, and the boyfriend left the residence. He was found by the officer shortly after walking on CR 23C and gave essentially the same version of events as the girlfriend, except that she brandished the knife and threatened to kill him.

The complaint against Ms. Trosper is for aggravated assault and against Mr. Weathers, domestic battery.

DCF was notified in that case as well because two young children were present.

# Accused of abusing their bulldog

A Macclenny couple was named in a criminal complaint November 29 alleging animal abuse because they abandoned their bulldog at a south city trailer park.

Aletha Crozier called police that afternoon complaining she could not get near the dog dropped off about 3:00 by Corey Fetz, 28, and Laura Anderson, 25, former roommates of the complainant, who resides at Rhoden's Trailer Park off Barber Rd.

Ms. Anderson had asked Ms. Crozier to look after the animal for a few hours, and advised she was not allowed to have it at her

new residence. The caretaker said the dog was aggressive and would not allow her near to change a feeding dish.

Deputy Matt Sigers said he found the dog cooped up in a cage too small to allow movement inside, and an interior floor littered with feces and urine. The officer also estimated 30 roaches, both dead and alive, were in a nearly empty water dish.

Ms. Crozier said she phoned police when Ms. Anderson failed to retrieve the dog that afternoon as promised.

Because the animal posed a danger when approached, it was tranquilized before being taken

to the county pound.

At the time of Deputy Sigers' report later that evening, the dog's owners had not been contacted.

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# Accused thieves are found

Police arrested a St. George, Ga. man and his nephew at a north Macclenny trailer park and charged them with trespass and resisting arrest by hiding inside one of the trailers the evening of November 11.

Frederick Yocum, 34, and Anthony Yokum, 18, of the same address, are expected to be charged in Charlton County, Ga. with theft of a flat-screen television and Playstation from the elder Yocum's brother Joseph, 30, who faces a count of criminal mischief for damaging a 1988 Chevrolet Blazer belonging to his brother.

Deputy Matt Sigers was called to the trailer park about 8:00 when the younger brother created a disturbance by knocking window glass out of the vehicle with a tire iron.

He was aware his brother and nephew were hiding in a trailer belonging to Christine Grimes, who soon arrived on the scene and gave officers permission to search it.

They found Anthony Yocum hiding in a closet, and Deputy Sigers said he used a taser gun on Frederick Yocum to get him from under a bed. The older suspect would not show his hands when ordered, but complied after the taser shot.

Police also found the television taken in the St. George burglary in one of the closets. The Playstation was not in the trailer.

The older Yocum denied knowledge of the theft, and said he allowed his nephew to use his vehicle the previous night.

In other arrests for grand theft, Christine Self, 37, of Glen St. Mary was charged with stealing jewelry from the home of her cousin on November 25 and pawning it in Macclenny.

A family member tipped off victim Carolyn Gnann that

Ms. Self, who lives nearby, had pawned rings, a necklace and chain at Baker Guns and Gold Pawn. Ms. Gnann reported the burglary on November 27, and named the cousin as a possible suspect because she behaved suspiciously when at the residence off Westside Loop the day before Thanksgiving.

Deputy Johnny Hodges said Ms. Self came to the Gnann residence while he was there and admitted taking the property and pawning it.

In other recent cases:  
• An ex-girlfriend was named as a suspect in the theft of legal papers from the residence of Jeffrey McCalvin on November 29.

The victim's 15-year-old son told police Tiffany Crawford, 22, of Sanderson was expected at the home off Crews Rd. to retrieve Christmas decorations, and instead allegedly ransacked the interior and was seen carting off the documents.

A criminal complaint for petty theft was filed.

• Joseph Peters reported \$3050 in property including a laptop computer, jewelry, television and game station taken from his residence off Circle G Lane on November 24.

He told police he was away between 10:00 am-6:15 pm and returned to find a rear window pried open.

Mr. Peters' wife told police she saw a teen who lives in the neighborhood and two others peering in rear windows several days earlier. Deputy Jeff Shouse spoke with the mother of the teen, who said he'd been at her house all day.

• Karen Lipnick reported on November 25 that her unoccupied residence off Tim Crews Rd. had been entered through a side window sometime since September

when she moved to Sanderson.

Among property missing were 2500 feet of copper wire valued at \$4500, a water heater, television, furniture and well pump. Value of all the property was placed at \$5825.

• Hosea Ruise said his 15-foot fishing boat, motor and trailer were taken from his property off MLK Dr. in Macclenny during the early morning hours of November 29. Value of the loss was placed at \$3000.

• A refrigerator valued at \$800 was taken from beside the residence of Virginia Strickland on C.W. Webb Rd. southwest of Macclenny during the early morning hours of November 26.

## Free child IDs

The Dawkins Masonic Lodge in Macclenny is sponsoring a free child ID program on Saturday, December 5 from 9:00 am-5:00 pm.

Parents or guardians are asked to bring their children to the lodge for a photograph, voice recording and a short video that the parents then keep as a permanent record in the event their child goes missing. The information will be contained on a CD.

Refer questions to either Stan Harvey at 864-0001 or Tom Adams at 614-2383. The lodge is located on US 90 next to Burkins Chevrolet.

# Suspect in check forgery

A criminal complaint was filed November 23 against an ex-boyfriend for forging a \$150 check written on the account of a Jacksonville woman who is also his ex-girlfriend.

Jennifer Mohr notified the sheriff's department that day when she learned the check had cleared her bank account and had been cashed at Country Federal Credit Union in Macclenny by the father of John Griner, 29, who had been house sitting for the victim while she was away.

Deputy Larry Clark was told by the father that his son was "on the run" and attempts to contact the son were not fruitful. The complaints allege check fraud, a third-degree felony, and petty theft.

In another fraud case, this one involving a debit card, someone used one belonging to Jeffery Tinkle of Macclenny to make three purchases on November 22 totaling \$370.

The victim last used the card at the Exxon Store on US 90 west in Macclenny, and believes it may have been lost or stolen there. One of the transactions was for \$300 to Comcast.

## Art auction

The Baker County High School Fine Arts Club will again this year sponsor a Christmas brunch and art auction. The event will be on Saturday, December 12 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm at the school auditorium.

For more information, contact Marilyn Harrell or Tiffany Armoreda at 259-6286.

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**SOUTH SIXTH STREET, MACCLENNY**

# Young relative of ex-school chief in car with a pot stash

The driver of a vehicle stopped in north Macclenny the afternoon of November 29 for erratic driving ended up in county jail charged with felony possession of marijuana and paraphernalia, and the sole passenger in the vehicle he was driving was his 1-year-old daughter.

Deputy Brad Dougherty said when he approached the 1991 Mazda driven by Michael Dickins, 27, after stopping it at 4th St. and Ohio, the car's interior was filled with marijuana smoke, and the child was in the rear seat. The child turned out to be the granddaughter of former school superintendent Paula Barton, who was summoned to the scene and assumed custody of her.

Mr. Dickins, of Sanderson, was booked at county jail on the drug charge, for driving on a license twice suspended for failure to pay fines and having the wrong tag attached to his vehicle.

Deputy Dougherty said he got behind the southbound Mazda when he saw it speeding on North 5th, then followed it onto North Boulevard and North 4th. He stopped the car after a computer

check revealed the license plate belonged on another vehicle.

Mr. Dickins initially said the Mazda belonged to someone else, and could not produce registration and insurance documents. Deputy Dougherty said the driver appeared to be agitated and nervous, and granted permission for him to search the Mazda.

Inside, the officer found 25 partially smoked marijuana cigarettes, a wooden rolling tray with pot residue, an electronic scale with residue and 100 grams of

marijuana in a plastic bag.

Deputy Dougherty said he was acquainted with Mr. Dickins from a past case, and knew the child was Ms. Barton's granddaughter. The child's 23-year-old mother Nancy, who is Ms. Barton's daughter, was out of state.

The Department of Children and Families was notified about the incident due to the presence of drugs and evidence that marijuana had been smoked in the vehicle.

# Wetland tradeoff?

«From page 1

lands mitigation banking, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and St. Johns River Water Management District.

That phase would be directed by Mr. Cone and billed to the county on a time and materials basis of up to \$110 per hour, per the proposal.

Before proceeding with the proposal, the board instructed Mr. Cone to request additional information from Mr. Peacock to be presented at the commission's next meeting December 14.

In other business this week: Commissioners decided to pursue a tax cut for homeowners who make additions or improvements to their properties to house a parent or grandparent at least 62 years old.

The Florida legislature delegated enactment of the tax cut to local governments after the "granny flats" legislation became effective in 2003.

"We've had a lot of inquiries on this and with the aging population it's no surprise there's legislation allowing us to do this," Mr. Cone told the board.

To qualify for the tax cut, property owners must submit an application annually, parents or grandparents must be at least 62 years old and the living quarters must have been constructed or reconstructed after January 7, 2003, Property Appraiser Tim Sweat said.

The tax cut works similar to a homestead exemption, in which there's a reduction in the taxable value of a property. However, the amount of the granny flat reduction is equal to the increase in taxable value from the addition or renovation of the living quarters.

A draft ordinance was presented to commissioners Tuesday and will be advertised for public hearings before final adoption by the board.

Mr. Cone also notified the commission about two supplemental grants from the Florida Department of Transportation for repaving projects on Woodlawn Rd. and CR 229 south from Interstate 10 to the Union County line.

Both had already received close to \$2 million from the state's Small County Road Assistance and Small County Outreach programs.

About \$172,000 in additional funds will help extend the CR 229 paving north of I-10 to US 90 and widen it two feet on both sides.

Though still in the design phase, the Woodlawn Rd. repaving will benefit from another \$220,210, a roughly 42 percent increase from the original grant. The supplemental funding is expected to widen that roadway as well.

The board adopted two resolutions accepting the money.

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO. 2008-CA-13 DIVISION**

TAYLOR, BEAN AND WHITAKER MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff,

vs.

MELISSA SIMMONS, et al, Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated November 24, 2009 and entered in Case No. 2008-CA-13 of the Circuit Court of the EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT in and for BAKER County, Florida wherein TAYLOR, BEAN AND WHITAKER MORTGAGE CORPORATION, is the Plaintiff and MELISSA SIMMONS; STACEY SIMMONS; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON BEHALF OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT - MIDDLE; are the Defendants. I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at THE FRONT DOOR OF THE BAKER COUNTY COURTHOUSE at 11:00AM, on the 23rd day of December, 2009, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

**THAT PART OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 21 EAST, BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA AS LYING NORTH OF REID STAFFORD ROAD (A COUNTY MAINTAINED RIGHT-OF-WAY), BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN AT THE NW CORNER OF LOT I OF "RIDGE ESTATES" AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 14 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA AND RUN THENCE N 00 DEGREES 06 MINUTES 46 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE WEST LINE OF THE SE 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 8 A DISTANCE OF 189.50 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 26 OF SAID SECTION 8; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 12 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 8, A DISTANCE OF 153.85 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 26 OF SAID "RIDGE ESTATES" THENCE SOUTH 88 DEGREES 38 MINUTES 13 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID "RIDGE ESTATES", A DISTANCE OF 1324.03 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. LESS AND EXCEPT ANY PORTION LYING WITHIN RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR REID STAFFORD ROAD.**

**TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 2003 DYNASTY MANUFACTURED HOME, SERIAL NUMBER H851802GLR.**

**A/K/A 10881 REID STAFFORD ROAD GLEN, SAINT MARY, FL 32040**

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of this Court on November 25, 2009.

Al Fraser  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: Jamie Crews  
Deputy Clerk

Florida Default Law Group, P.L.  
P.O. Box 25018  
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018  
12/3-12/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 09-106-CA**

SUNTRUST MORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff,

vs.

HECTOR I. MEDINA, et al, Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Final Judgment Scheduling Foreclosure Sale entered on November 24, 2009 in this case now pending in said Court, the style of which is indicated above.

I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in the front door of the BAKER County Courthouse, 339 E. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny, FL 32063 at 11:00 a.m., on the 26th day of January, 2010, the following described property as set forth in said Order or Final Judgment, to-wit:

**LOT 10, CYPRESS POINTE, UNIT 1, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGES 90 THROUGH 92, INCLUSIVE, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

**a/k/a: 480 ISLAMORADA DR S. MAC- CLENNY, FLORIDA 32063**

**ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.**

ENTERED AT BAKER County, Florida, this 25th day of NOVEMBER, 2009.

AL FRASER  
As Clerk, Circuit Court  
BAKER, Florida  
By: JAMIE CREWS  
As Deputy Clerk

SPEAR & HOFFMAN P.A.  
Dadeland Executive Center  
9700 South Dixie Highway, Suite 610  
Miami, Florida 33156  
Telephone: (305) 670-2299  
12/3-12/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO: 02-2009-CA-0144**

NEW SOUTH FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK, F.S.B., Plaintiff,

vs.

JAY D. CALVERT and  
AMY C. CALVERT  
f/k/a AMY C. BREWER, HIS WIFE; et al, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated November 24, 2009 entered in Civil Case No. 02-2009-CA-0144 of the Circuit Court of the 8th Judicial Circuit in and for Baker County, Florida, wherein NEW SOUTH FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK, F.S.B. is Plaintiff and JAY D. CALVERT, et al., are Defendant(s).

I will sell to the highest bidder for cash, to the highest bidder for cash, except as set forth below, at the front door of the Baker County Courthouse, 339 E. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny, FL at 11:00 o'clock a.m. on the 19th day of January, 2010 the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit:

**The South 1/2 of Lot 3, Block 52 of TOWN OF MACCLENNY, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book D, Page(s) 800 of the Public Records of Baker County, Florida.**

**Street Address: 431 East McIver Avenue, MacClenny, Florida 32063**

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated this 30th day of November, 2009.

AL FRASER  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: Bonnie Palleschi  
Deputy Clerk

Daniel S. Mandel, Esq.  
DANIEL S. MANDEL, P.A.  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
2700 N. Military Trail, Ste. 355  
Boca Raton, FL 33431  
Tel: (561) 826-1740  
Fax: (561) 826-1741  
12/3-12/10

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Baker County District School Board will hold the following **PUBLIC HEARING** on Monday, December 7, 2009, in the Baker County School Board Meeting Room located at 270 South Boulevard East, Macclenny, Florida, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

- Approval of the following New and Revised School Board Policies
- 3.120 Public Information and Inspection of Records
- 3.160 Charter Schools
- 4.120 Instructional Materials Selection
- 5.100 Student Control
- 5.130 Zero Tolerance for School Related Crimes
- 6.120 Year of Service Defined for Administrative and Instructional Personnel
- 6.133 Assisting Teachers to Become Highly Qualified
- 6.180 Contracts: Instructional and Administrative Personnel
- 6.216 Deferred Retirement Option Program ("DROP")
- 6.440 Telephone Calls, Electronic Communications and Facsimiles
- 7.140 Purchasing Policies and Bidding
- 7.170 Authorized Travel Expenses
- 7.200 Investment of Funds
- 8.010 Safety
- 8.120 Purpose and Functions of the Transportation Program
- 8.255 School Breakfast Program
- 9.150 Community Service

**THE PUBLIC IS INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.**

The documents will be available for preview at the Baker County School Board Office located at 392 South Boulevard East, Macclenny, Florida beginning Wednesday, November 4, 2009 (8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.).

Sherrie Raulerson  
Superintendent of Schools

11/5-12/3  
**2008 Storms Disaster Recovery CDBG Stakeholder Meeting (Rescheduled)**

A stakeholder meeting between Baker County, the City of Macclenny, and the Town of Glen St. Mary will be held to discuss unmet needs and coordinate the best use of 2008 Storms Disaster CDBG funding. Baker County has been awarded \$395,781 from HUD and the Florida Department of Community Affairs to undertake eligible recovery activities related to damages caused by Tropical Storm Fay. Eligible activities include infrastructure and public facility projects, commercial revitalization and housing rehabilitation and replacement.

The meeting will be held at the Baker County Commission office, 55 N. 3rd Street, Macclenny, FL 32063 on Tuesday, December 8, 2009, at 10:30 a.m.

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

**BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA INVITATION TO BID FIVE MOTOR GRADERS- PURCHASE**

The Baker County Board of Commissioners desires to accept bids on five (5) new motor graders. Bids will be accepted through December 16, 2009 until 3:00 p.m. Specifications may be obtained at the Baker County Administrative Building, 55 North Third Street, Macclenny, Florida 32063. All bids submitted shall be on the bid forms provided and returned in a sealed envelope, clearly marked in the bottom left hand corner with "Sealed Bid-Motor Graders." The Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to accept the bid in the County's best interest.

12/3

www.bakercountypress.com

**PHOTOS WITH SANTA WITH PETS & CHILDREN**

**Saturday, Dec. 5**  
Walgreen's Parking Lot  
11:00 am - 3:00 pm  
\$5 -5x7 (packages also available)  
Sponsored by: Heros for Homeless Animals

\*Please defend helpless animals by reporting abuse, neglect, dog fighting and puppy mills to your local shelter.\*

# Legal Notices

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO. 02-2009-CA-000207**

GREEN TREE SERVICING LLC, Plaintiff,

vs.

UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, TRUSTEES OF SARA O'NEAL, DECEASED; KEITH O'NEAL, HEIR; JONATHAN O'NEAL, HEIR; NATALIE MAXWELL, HEIR; IF LIVING, INCLUDING ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAID DEFENDANT(S), IF REMARRIED, AND IF DECEASED, THE RESPECTIVE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, AND TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE NAMED DEFENDANT(S); WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL BANK- MID-STATE TRUST II, BY AND THROUGH WILMINGTON TRUST OF FLORIDA, N.A.; WHETHER DISSOLVED OR PRESENTLY EXISTING, TOGETHER WITH ANY GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, OR TRUSTEES OF SAID DEFENDANT(S) AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST DEFENDANT(S); UNKNOWN TENANT #2; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Granting the Motion to Reset Foreclosure Sale (NOT ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 5, 2010) dated November 18, 2009 entered in Civil Case No. 02-2008-CA0144DIV of the Circuit Court of the 8th Judicial Circuit in and for Baker County, Macclenny, Florida. I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the East Door of the Courthouse at the BAKER County Courthouse located at 339 East Macclenny Avenue in Macclenny, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on the 18 day of January, 2010 the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:

**LOT 10, BLOCK D-1, SUBDIVISION OF BLOCK "D", WILLIAM KNABB ADDITION ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 41 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated this 20th day of November, 2009.

AL FRASER  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: Jamie Crews  
Deputy Clerk

LAO OFFICES OF DAVID J. STERN, P.A.  
900 SOUTH PINE ISLAND ROAD, SUITE 400  
PLANTATION, FL 33324-3920  
12/3-12/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO: 02 2008 CA 000146**

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR TO JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A. AS TRUSTEE PLAINTIFF

VS.

LARRY ROGERS; JANA ROGERS; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS: MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC.; JOHN DOE AND JANE DOE AS UNKNOWN TENANTS IN POSSESSION DEFENDANT(S)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated November 24, 2009, entered in Civil Case No. 02-2008 CA 000146 of the Circuit Court of the 8th Judicial Circuit in and for Baker County, Macclenny, Florida. I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the EAST DOOR OF THE COURTHOUSE at the BAKER County Courthouse located at 339 EAST MACCLENNY AVENUE, 1ST FLOOR in MACCLENNY, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on the 26 day of January, 2010 the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:

**LOT 19, OF ALLEN LANDS, AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGES 58 AND 58A OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated this 25th day of NOVEMBER, 2009.

AL FRASER  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: Jamie Crews  
Deputy Clerk

LAO OFFICES OF DAVID J. STERN, P.A.  
900 SOUTH PINE ISLAND ROAD, SUITE 400  
PLANTATION, FL 33324-3920  
12/3-12/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO: 02-2009-CP-0018**

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF: STERLING F. HOWELL,

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the estate of STERLING F. HOWELL, deceased, File Number 02-2009-CP-0018, is pending in the Circuit Court for Baker County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 339 East Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, Florida 32063. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmaturred, contingent or unliquidated claims, on whom a copy of this notice is served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmaturred, contingent or unliquidated claims, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is December 3, 2009.

JOSEPH CHARLES MAY  
Personal Representative

FRANK E. MALONEY, JR., Esquire  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
445 East Macclenny Avenue  
Macclenny, FL 32063  
(904) 259-3155  
Florida Bar No.: 142990

12/3-12/10

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**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA. CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO. 022007CA000030XXXXXX**

OHIO SAVINGS BANK, Plaintiff,

vs.

MONICA N. WILSON TAYLOR; et al., Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated November 5, 2009, and entered in Case No. 022007CA000030XXXXXX of the Circuit Court in and for Baker County, Florida, wherein Ohio Savings Bank is Plaintiff and MONICA N. WILSON TAYLOR; GERALD T. TAYLOR, JR.; CYPRESS POINTE OF MACCLENNY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED, are Defendants. I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Front Door of the Baker County Courthouse, 339 East Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063 at Baker County, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on the 7th day of January, 2010, the following described property as set forth in said Order or Final Judgment, to-wit:

**LOT 20, CYPRESS POINTE, UNIT 1, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 90, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

DATED at Macclenny, Florida, on November 6, 2009.

AL FRASIER SANDS  
As Clerk, Circuit Court  
By: Jamie Crews  
As Deputy Clerk

SMITH, HIATT & DIAZ, P.A.  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
PO BOX 11438  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339 1438  
Telephone: (954) 564 0071  
11/26-12/3

# Probation in arson case Woman, ex-husband torched trailer

A Macclenny woman drew a five-year probation and will have to pay half of \$44,200 in restitution after pleading no contest in circuit court November 16 to attempted first degree arson.

Brandi Manning, 25, had originally been charged with a more serious arson count, along with making a fraudulent insurance claim. The second charge remained as part of the plea pact that includes doing 50 hours of community service with a local fire department.

Judge James Nilon ordered Ms. Manning to undergo mental health evaluation and make good on the restitution along with co-defendant and ex-husband Vernon. He withheld adjudication of guilt and also ordered the defendant to take parenting classes.

According to the court record, the couple conspired to set fire to a double wide mobile home on Noah Raulerson Rd. on March 12, 2007. It was the third time fire fighters were called to the address, and the second incident took place just three days before the fire that destroyed the structure and seriously injured a Glen St. Mary fireman in the process when he fell through the floor.

Authorities say the fire on March 9 was also deliberately set, but was extinguished by water from a plastic water pipe that melted in the heat. The initial fire call was five months earlier.

In other recent circuit court sentences, Glen Rafuse of Macclenny was placed on house arrest one year, followed by a two-year probation after pleading no contest to multiple fraud, forgery and theft counts, all stemming from a time period when he was doing court-ordered community service for attorney Maria Rogers

of Neptune Beach. Ms. Rogers also is a conflict public defender who practices in Baker County.

She fired Mr. Rafuse on May 11 of this year after learning he had the month before stolen \$1142 in refund credits from her charge account and forged endorsements on two checks worth \$240 and deposited into the account of his wife Starline.

Judge Nilon ordered the defendant to repay \$764, submit to random drug and alcohol testing and take parenting classes.

The judge sentenced David Brannen to one year in state prison after the defendant admitted violating probation in 25 cases dating back to 2008. Mr. Brannen violated terms of his probation for multiple counts ranging from driving on a suspended license to theft of a firearm and forgery.

Court records indicate he failed a required urine test by testing positive for cocaine.

Lash Mette will be on probation three-and-a-half years following release from an 18-month prison sentence following his no contest plea to felony driving on a license suspended or revoked as an habitual offender.

William Tatum entered the same plea to burglary, grand theft and felony criminal mischief, and was ordered to serve an 18-month sentence running at the same time as one from Duval County.

A two-month confinement in county jail followed by 18 months on house arrest were ordered for Christopher Webb in return for his plea to resisting police, criminal mischief and disorderly conduct. A charge of battery was dropped as part of the plea agree-

ment.

Judge Nilon ordered a two-year probation for Charles Guernsey after his plea to aggravated battery with a deadly weapon and gave him time already served in county jail for domestic battery. He must also avoid alcohol and drugs and undergo evaluation for anger management.

Charles Hopkins will be on probation a year plus undergo anger management counseling and avoid contact with his wife following his plea to battery. The state dropped a more serious charge of aggravated battery on a pregnant victim.

Crystal Parker will be on drug-offender probation for three years for sale and delivery of marijuana and possession with intent to sell. She pleaded no contest and was adjudicated guilty.

Five other defendants admitted during two court sessions last month to violating earlier probations:

Henry Brewington will serve a nine-month sentence in county jail followed by two years on house arrest for violating probation on 2008 cases of felony battery and felony driving on a suspended license.

Judge Nilon revoked probation in the case of Ronald Miller, then ordered a nine-month lockup in county jail. Kenneth Harvey will be in jail six months for violating on a 2008 charge of grand theft.

A six-month house arrest was ordered for Gary Mosley for violating on a drug charge, and the judge ordered Sebastian Newton to attend two Alcoholics Anonymous meetings weekly for violating on felony drunk driving.

Curtis Snellgrove will serve just over a year in prison for violating on a drug possession conviction, and serve the time concurrent with a Dixie County case.

Warrants were issued to take Rosemary McDowell and Franklin Kennedy into custody after they failed to appear for court dates.

# 2 arrests for errant driving

Two motorists were arrested in south Macclenny over the Thanksgiving weekend for reckless driving and a third driver successfully fled on foot from a deputy after stopping his vehicle in a driveway off Joan St.

Lt. Scotty Rhoden said he chased a vehicle driven by Swain Riggs Jr., 20, of Glen St. Mary several blocks to South 9th St. after first noticing it behind him on Lowder St. with loud music emanating from the interior.

The officer noted that Mr. Riggs ran several stop signs and accelerated above the posted speed limits before pulling over following the brief chase about 8:00 on November 29.

Additional charges of failure to stop, violating the law on excessive noise and failure to wear a safety belt were also filed.

Another Macclenny motorist who drove erratically on South 6th just before 9:00 the evening of November 27 ended up in jail with multiple charges.

Deputy Patrick McGauley said he observed a 2003 Nissan driven by Sandra Mobley, 29, speeding northbound toward Lowder when it stopped after nearly going through the intersection despite a red light.

Ms. Mobley explained her erratic driving by saying she was going home after an argument at the Country Club Lounge. She was also charged with a seat belt violation, improper lane change and running the red light.

Deputy Matt Sigers chased a 2003 Chevrolet several blocks through intersections with stop signs the evening of November 29 before the driver jumped out after stopping on Joan St. and fled through neighboring yards.

The officer described him as a black male wearing a black shirt and jeans.

A 17-year-old male passenger in the Impala said he did not know the driver's identity.

# Suicide gunshot death

A Sanderson man died the morning of November 28 of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Police were called to a residence off Ginny Lane near Glen St. Mary about 11:19 and found Alfred W. Godwin, 42, seated in his Nissan pickup parked near a residence with a single gunshot wound to his right temple. Near the console of the seat was a .38 caliber pistol with one spent casing and two live rounds in the chamber.

Four witnesses told Deputy Johnny Hodges identical versions of events leading up to the shooting. They said Mr. Godwin was seated with them at an outdoor fire before he went into the nearby residence for about five minutes, then exited and walked to his vehicle parked in the driveway with a cell phone in his hand. Moments later they heard a single shot.

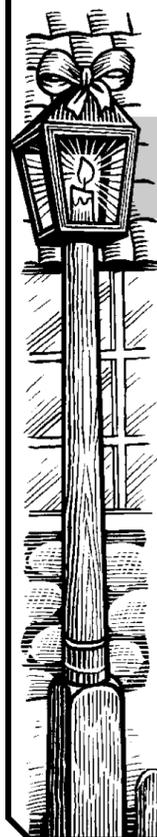
Among those at the scene was Mr. Godwin's daughter, who said he had been despondent over a recent separation from his wife.

When rescue personnel arrived, they found a weak pulse and transported Mr. Godwin to Fraser Hospital where he later died.

## TWILIGHT HOLIDAY SHOPPING in Downtown Macclenny

**TUESDAY NIGHTS**  
**December 8, 15, 22**  
**until 8:00 pm**

Pick up your map of participating businesses at the Chamber office or downtown merchants.



- Studio One Hair Salon
- Buttons and Zippers
- Calendars Pizzeria & Sports Bar
- The Local Needle
- Designers' Daughters
- Amuse Cafe & Emporium
- Reflections Photography
- The Ivy Cottage
- Cottage Gifts and Consignment
- Dixie Outfitters
- Southern Charm
- Sports Shak
- eXtreme Outdoors
- Main Street Market
- Smarty Pantz
- Three Palms Resale
- Burkins Chevrolet
- Prudential Financial
- DD's Sports Grill

# Shed is looted of equipment

The sheriff's department is investigating the theft of more than \$4000 in equipment, mostly saws, from a shed on the property of Camp Tracey in north Baker County.

Victim Oliver Scott told Deputy Daniel Nichols the theft occurred between November 22-23 and included a band saw, five chain saws and two other saws. A plasma cutter valued at \$1100 and belonging to Camp Tracey was also taken. Total worth of the missing items was \$4240.

There was no sign of forced entry into the locked shed, but a lock on a nearby gas pump was severed and an estimated 20 gallons taken.

Police were able to make impressions of tire tracks leading from the scene.

In other reports, a 27-year-old male mental patient is the object of a complaint for felony criminal mischief and destruction of property at Northeast Florida State

Hospital.

The patient allegedly ripped out overhead plumbing and wiring behind a wall in Building 27 the evening of November 24.

Michael Crews, security chief at NEFSH, estimated the damage in excess of \$1500.

Two persons were named in complaints for shoplifting at the Walmart Supercenter in Macclenny over the Thanksgiving holiday, including Justin Farmer, 27, of Jacksonville.

A store security worker called

police after seeing Mr. Farmer take merchandise ranging from wall plates to a dimmer switch and blank DVDs without paying for them the evening of November 25.

The suspect was confronted by Deputy Koty Crews in the store parking lot.

Earlier that afternoon, a 17-year-old female from Macclenny was detained for stealing two packages of batteries.

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## Grand opening, BBQ at Burkins Chevy

A grand opening and ribbon cutting were held at the newly acquired Burkins Chevrolet the evening of November 24, followed by a catered BBQ dinner. In center of photo holding the ceremonial scissors is Larry Burkins, who purchased the new and used car dealership recently from Ray Odom. It had previously been known as Pineview Chevrolet. To Mr. Burkins' left is Darryl Register, director of the Baker County Chamber of Commerce, and others in the photo include chamber board members and members of Mr. Burkins' family including wife Stacey, his parents Bob and Susie Burkins and in-laws Barbara and Eddie Allen of Gurdon, ARK, who prepared the BBQ.

## Macclenny couple arrested in Brevard with a stolen pickup

A Florida Highway Patrol trooper arrested a Macclenny couple after the pickup truck they allegedly stole was disabled with a flat tire in Brevard County early on November 24.

Joseph McClenaghan, 55, and Mary O'Neill, 52, will be charged with grand theft of the vehicle from owner Judith Bickford, with whom they lived on Ivy St. in Macclenny until the previous evening.

Ms. Bickford notified the sheriff's department about 2:00 the morning of November 24 when she noted her 1998 Chevrolet S-10 had been taken, and that the couple moved out. The vehicle's ID information was entered into a crime computer and about 4:00 that morning police were notified it had been located along with the suspects.

In other vehicle thefts, a 1997 Chevrolet pickup belonging to John Mann and taken from his residence off Boyce Rd. south of Sanderson was found abandoned in St. Marys, Ga. in the early morning hours of November 24.

The vehicle had been reported stolen overnight on November 23, along with \$2900 worth of tools and equipment including a portable welder.

• George Parish said a stereo valued at \$2000 was taken from his 2003 Dodge pickup parked outside his South College St.

residence in Macclenny. He told police he was awakened by the sound of barking dogs during the night November 23 and discovered the burglary that afternoon.

• A complaint for criminal mischief was filed November 25 against Ventura Rodriguez, 49, of Macclenny for damaging a vehicle belonging to girlfriend Brenda Acosta during an argument.

• Jonathan Anderson of Glen St. Mary reported someone

tossed a brick through the rear window of his 1995 Chevrolet Suburban the afternoon of November 28. It was parked outside Winn Dixie in Macclenny at the time.

• A 2005 Chevrolet SUV belonging to Amber Blandford of Middleburg sustained scratches and dents when it was keyed in the parking lot of the S&S store on South 6th in Macclenny the afternoon of November 28.

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## Legislative meeting off

The state legislative delegation meeting with Representative Janet Adkins and Senator Charlie Dean at the county commission chambers December 7 has been cancelled. The Florida legislature is convening for a special session to discuss commuter rail projects in Central and South Florida. It's expected to run from December 3-11.

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**Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Marion & Bryona**



Love, Grandma & family

**Do you need CPR/First Aid?**

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We can accommodate your personal or business needs by scheduling classes at your location.

Call for information & registration  
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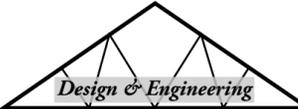


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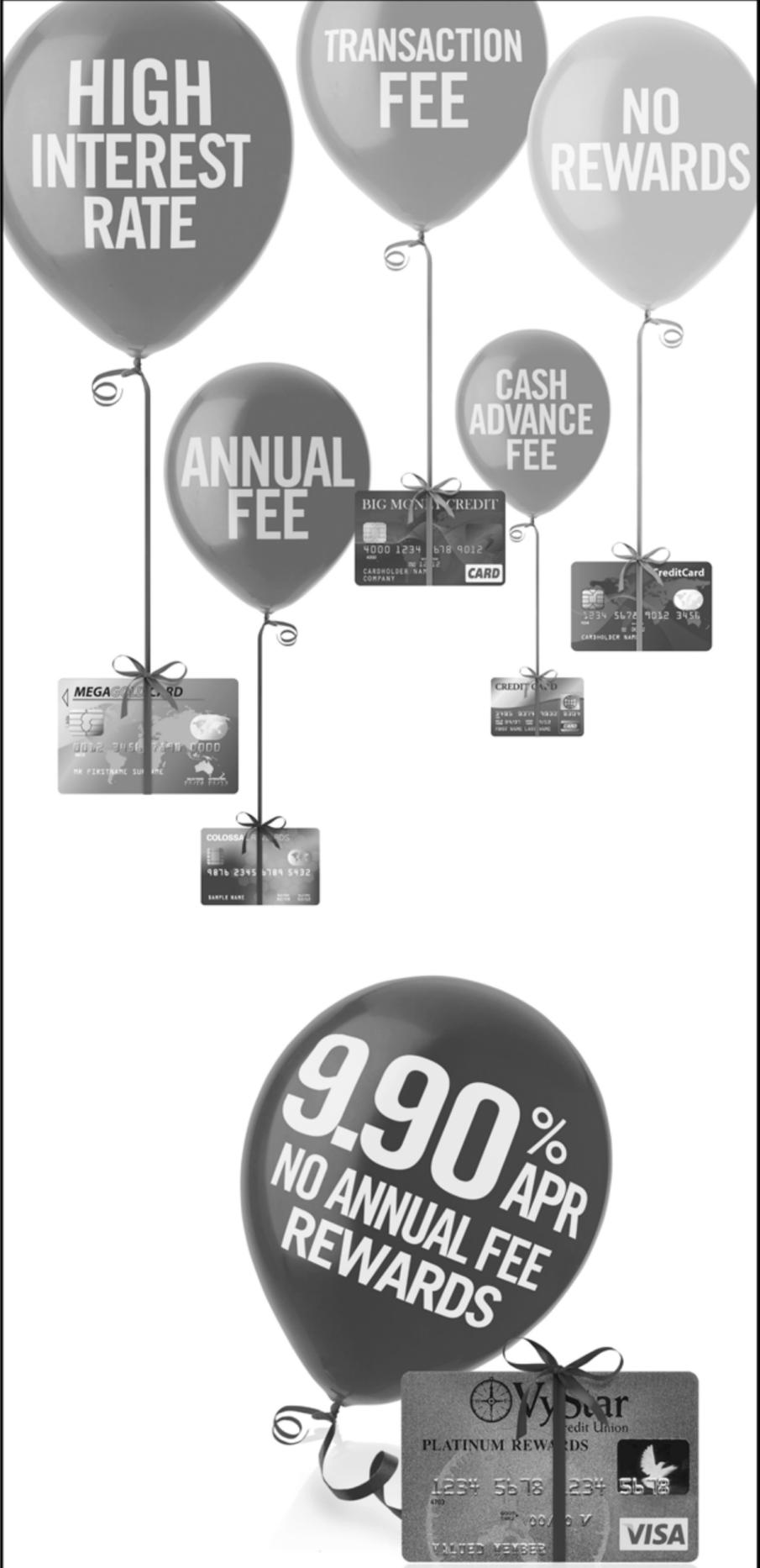
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# SOCIAL

**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

## 60th anniversaries - times two

**KELLEY LANNIGAN**

**FEATURES**

features@bakercountypress.com

When Joe and Evelyn Barber's son Gary married Kathy Davis, daughter of Ralph and Dorothy Davis, their two branches of Baker County families became inextricably bound.

For decades, the Barbers and the Davises have been part of the same family — living, laughing and loving together. On December 1, surrounded by family and friends, the couples observed their 60th wedding anniversaries in a joint celebration at Hilltop Restaurant in Orange Park.

Both couples shared their sentiments with *The Press* recently, reflecting on marriage, how their community has changed, and what brought and kept them together.

When asked about what first attracted each one to the other, Mr. Davis had a ready reply.

"Well, it weren't her money, I can tell you that," he said, teasing his wife. "Honestly, if you want to know the real truth, Dorothy run me down in the street!"

"I decided he was marriage material when he got his own car," his wife teased back.

Mrs. Barber looked affectionately at her husband Joe.

"Joe and I got married without a dime in our pockets," she said. "I have to agree, it wasn't about



PHOTO BY KELLEY LANNIGAN

The couples today. From left: Joe and Evelyn Barber, Dorothy and Ralph Davis.

money." Both couples married in 1949, the Davises in November, the Barbers in December.

**How they met**

In April, 1945, 17-year-old Dorothy Bradley went for an automobile ride with her girlfriend.

The girlfriend was dating Ralph Davis' older brother who was in the Navy. When the brother had to return to the naval station one evening, Ralph drove him in the family's car. Dorothy's girlfriend was going also and asked her to come along.

"I climbed into the seat beside Ralph and the rest is history," said Mrs. Davis.

Joe Barber and Evelyn Thrift were classmates at Macclenny High School, but paid each other little attention before they graduated in 1949.

That quickly changed and a romance blossomed. Today, they live on Barber Road in Macclenny, near the house Mr. Barber grew up in and in which they were also married.

"Joe and I lived at his father's house for two years after we married," said Mrs. Barber. "We had friends who went to Alaska for a while and we lived in their house, too. Then we were finally able to build us a little shack of our own!"

Mr. Barber couldn't resist spilling a long held secret about his wife.

"She doesn't really know this, but I married her 'cause I couldn't get anyone else," he said.

**Family ties**

The Barbers have two children, four grandchildren and five

great-grandchildren.

The Davises have three children, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Both couples contend that their mutual life-long commitment to family has been the key to successful marriages and happy lives.

**Hard times**

"We can tell you about hard times, too," said Mr. Barber. "Electricity didn't even come to the county until 1948. The sidewalks downtown were wooden planks."

"Everybody farmed a little, had some livestock, worked in turpentine. That was about all there was," said Mr. Davis. "Joe was raised in Macclenny, a city boy. I was out in the country. If I wanted to come into town, I had to ride a mule."

Both men remember when cows roamed freely about the countryside.

"Macclenny wasn't fenced in. Cows would sleep downtown at night," said Mr. Davis.

"We did get some concrete sidewalks eventually," said Mr. Barber. "On Highway 228 there's two sections where you can still see hoof tracks where the cows walked across it while it was still wet."

**Happy times**

"There was a theatre on 5th Street where you could see a show for a dime," recalled Mr. Barber.

"In those days you could get a big bottle of Coke for a dime, too. But I only ever got to drink half of it. She (Dorothy) got the other half," said Mr. Davis.

"I drank first, so I got the best half," said Mrs. Davis.

When asked about how the priorities of youth were different from those held today, Mrs. Davis said she believes her generation's goals focused more on family than career.

"Marriage and a family, that's what we were hopeful in accomplishing. That's what we worked toward. It's what was important to us. We really didn't want anything else," she said.

"Heck, at that time we hardly realized there was anything beyond Baker County," said Mr. Barber.

"One thing is for sure," said Mr. Barber. "You can leave, but no matter how many times you leave, you always come back."

"Our lives in Baker County have been very good," said Mrs. Davis. "It's all been pleasant, all wonderful."

Mrs. Barber summed it up best.

"Here's to the next 60 years!"

## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

**December 4**

District-wide: Progress Reports. BCHS: Girls' Basketball @ Yulee, 6:00 p.m.

**December 8**

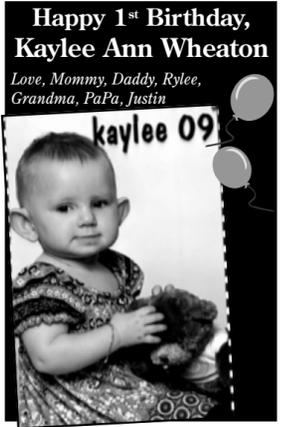
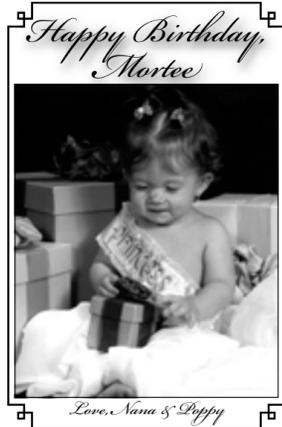
BCHS: Girls' Basketball @ Baldwin, 6:00 p.m. BMS: Basketball vs. Live Oak (H), Girls - 5:30 p.m., Boys - 6:30 p.m. MES: Griffin & Lough Christmas Program. WES: Good Morning show club Mtg., 8:00 a.m.

**December 9**

WES: "Just Say No!" Club Mtg., 8:00 a.m.

**December 10**

BCHS: Girls' Basketball vs. Bishop Snyder (H), 6:00 p.m. BMS: Basketball vs. Madison (H), Girls - 6:00 p.m., Boys - 7:00 p.m. Holiday Band Concert. MES: ESE Bingo for Books, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. WES: Merrie Melodies Club Mtg., 8:00 a.m. Family Reading Night,



### School Lunch MENU

December 7 - December 11

Offered everyday: Cold lunch plate of chef salad with wheat roll or crackers and dessert (when offered) 1% lowfat white milk, 1/2% lowfat flavored milk, orange juice.

*Monday, December 7*

**Breakfast:** Breakfast pizza, fruit juice, milk

**Lunch:** Golden comdog or glazed ham slice with macaroni and cheese and a homemade wheat roll, choice of two sides: baked beans, raw veggies with dressing, chilled fruit juice and a roasted peanut cup (gr. 7-12)

*Tuesday, December 8*

**Breakfast:** Breakfast pizza, fruit juice, milk

**Lunch:** BBQ ribbette on a bun or baked Italian lasagna with a slice of homemade Italian bread, choice of two sides: tossed salad with dressing, steamed green peas, chilled fresh fruit and a slice of homemade cake

*Wednesday, December 9*

**Breakfast:** Cinnamon toast, fruit juice and milk

**Lunch:** Oven-baked chicken or beef nuggets both served with rice and gravy, choice of two sides: seasoned cabbage, tossed salad with dressing, chilled fruit juice and a slice of cornbread

*Thursday, December 10*

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

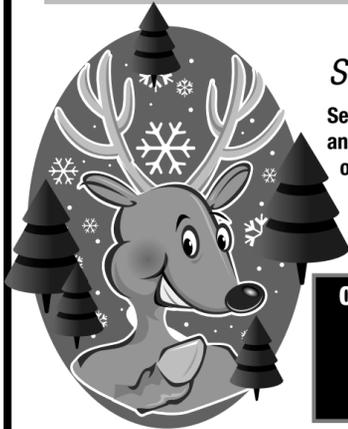
**Lunch:** Tuna salad sandwich or chunky turkey noodle soup with a homemade wheat roll, choice of 2 sides: baked potato rounds, seasoned pole beans, chilled fruit choice

*Friday, December 11*

**Breakfast:** Waffles with syrup, fruit juice, milk

**Lunch:** Shepherd's pie with a homemade wheat roll or deli turkey and cheese sandwich on a bun, choice of 2 sides: lettuce and tomato slices, steamed broccoli, baked potato rounds

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# OBITUARIES

**CHURCH AND OBITUARY NOTICE INFORMATION**

Obituaries must be submitted in a timely fashion and have a local connection. Pictures are printed with obituaries free of charge. The newspaper reserves the right to publish photos based on quality. It is requested that all news items be typed or emailed to insure accuracy in print.

**CONTACT US**

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**Lindsey Altman dies November 4**

Lindsey C. Altman, 72, of of Cumming, Georgia died at his new home November 4, 2009. He was a native of Baker County and longtime resident of Manassas, VA before moving to Cumming.

Mr. Altman was born November 14, 1936 to J.B. and Edith Altman of Glen St. Mary. He attended school in Baker County and graduated from Berry College. He was the founder of Key Properties, President of Manassas Rotary Club and charter member of Manassas Bull Run Rotary Club from 1988 until his death.

Survivors include his loving wife of 50 years, Jean Altman, daughters Andrea Ford and Linda Miscio; brother Larry Altman of Glen St. Mary.

The burial was held November 9 at Stonewall Memory Gardens in Manassas. Pierce Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**Barbara Batten, 72, of Starke dies**

Barbara Batten, 72, of Starke died November 23, 2009 at Shands of Jacksonville with family and friends close by her side. She was born on May 30, 1937 to Woodrow Wilson Moody and Emma Hinkle Moody. Barbara was many things to many people; from Mama to Nana to Aunt Bobbie, everyone knew her as a woman of great faith and devotion, not only to her Lord and Savior in her Baptist faith but also to her entire family. She had a generous heart and never minded showing you just how much she cared.



Barbara Batten

Mrs. Batten was predeceased in death by brother Julian Lee Moody; grandchildren Dee Dee Kay Bowen and Amanda Lee Cross.

Survivors include her devoted husband of 35 years, Stanley Batten of Starke; children Karen Louise Allen of Bryceville; Linda (David) Kilby of Starke and Billee (Stephanie) Weddle, both of Starke, Okey (Penny) Jones of Muncie, IN, Donald (Denise) Weddle of Sanderson; brother William Moody; sisters Kay Woods and Jennie Mitzle; 14 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren; aunt and matriarch of her family Dutchie Thompson; best friend of 40 years Gloria Phillips; countless nieces, nephews, and cousins.

The funeral service was held at 5:00 pm on November 28 at Archie Tanner Funeral Services in Starke with Pastor Al Dorminey officiating. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the American Heart Association or the Diabetes Association as Mrs. Batten held both charities dear to her heart.

**We publish obituaries & pictures FREE!**

**'Redman' Godwin Jr., 42, of Glen dies**

Alfred "Redman" Godwin Jr., 42, of Glen St. Mary died November 28, 2009. Mr. Godwin was born March 14, 1967 and was a life-long resident of Baker County. He was preceded in death by parents Alfred Wiley Godwin Sr. and Janice Mildred Johns.



Alfred Godwin

Survivors include his wife of 10 years, Nicole Godwin; children Rhonda, Joshua, Tori, Colby, Brandon and Kalyn; sisters Tina Norman, Gina Norman and Carol Rhoden; brothers Phillip (Yvonne) Norman Jr, and Eugene (Regina) Newmans; step-mother Carolyn Godwin; two grandchildren.

The viewing is December 3 from 6:00-8:00 pm at Sanderson Congregational Holiness Church. The funeral service will also be at the church on December 4 at 11:00 am with Rev. Oral Lyons officiating. Cedar Bay Funeral Home in Jacksonville is in charge of arrangements.

**Paul Raulerson, 88, WWII veteran**

Paul Archy Raulerson, 88, died November 26, 2009. He was born in Taylor on October 18, 1921 to William and Alice Raulerson and lived most of his life in Jacksonville.

Mr. Raulerson served in the Army during WWII. He loved hunting, fishing, gardening and the Florida Gators. He was retired from St. Regis Paper Mill, and was predeceased by Flossie, his former wife of 19 years.

Survivors include wife Doris; sons Marcus Raulerson, Terry Raulerson and Ritchie Raulerson, all of Jacksonville; daughters Kathleen Richards of Jacksonville and Patricia (Thomas) Hepler of Yulee; step-daughter Brenda (Fred) Bachert of SC; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; several nieces, nephews, other relative and friends.

A graveside service with military honors was held December 1 at 1:00 pm at Restlawn Cemetery in Jacksonville with Rev. Glynn McCall officiating. Cedar Bay Funeral Home of Jacksonville was in charge of arrangements.

**Linda Grear, 67, of Macclenny dies**

Linda Kay Sadler Grear, 67, of Macclenny died Thursday, November 12, 2009 from complications due to lung cancer and a stroke. She was born to the late Bard Sadler and Dorothy Stull Sadler on February 20, 1942. Mrs. Grear graduated from Lee High School in Jacksonville in 1960. She enjoyed volunteer work and was especially active with disaster recovery work. She was most recently a member of the Red Hat Society "Sassie Ladies", Emmaus, Camp AMP for children, president of the women of the church and a volunteer with the Baker County Pregnancy Center. Singing in the choir and her handiwork were always passions in Linda's life.

She was preceded in death by husband Jack Jarrell.

Survivors include her loving husband, Robert Grear of Macclenny; daughters Dorothy Anne Jarrell and Elizabeth Faye Jarrell (Steven) Arredondo; step-daughters Karen Grear (Harry) Krause and Lisa Grear; sister Mary Anne Anders; two grandchildren; two nephews; many other beloved family members and friends.

The funeral service was held at 10:00 am November 17 in the chapel at Jacksonville Memory Gardens Funeral Home with Rev. Tom Pope officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the Baker County Pregnancy Center or Community Hospice Northeast Florida.

**Thanks so much**

The family of Mamie Lee Sands thanks everyone for their support following the loss of our beloved mother. We appreciate all your thoughts and prayers. A special thanks to Moniac Baptist Church for the bereavement dinner coordinated by Bill and Dee Williams. We are grateful to Dr. Rickie Dyal, brother Lacy Crews and his wife for their participation in the services. The exceptional services of Todd Ferreira and his staff during our loss will always be remembered.

Sincerely,  
Carlton Lee, Clifford Lee and Minnie Yarbrough

**Sanderson Congregational Holiness Church**  
CR 127 N., Sanderson, FL  
Sunday School 10:00 am  
Morning Worship 11:00 am  
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 pm  
Wed. Evening Prayer Serv. 7:30 pm  
Pastor: Oral E. Lyons

**Donna Harrison, dies November 27**

Donna S. Harrison, 48, died Friday, November 27, 2009. She was born in Brunswick, GA to Cornelius and Foymae Franks on March 18, 1961, lived in Macclenny for a few years but spent most of her life in Jacksonville. She attended church at Calvary Christian Center in Orange Park.



Donna Harrison

Survivors include her companion of 14 years, Sid Bowers; sons Neil Harrison and Brian Harrison of Jacksonville; daughter Brandi Harrison of Macclenny; brother Lyn Shaw of Tallahassee; sisters Lynda Walker of Lawtey and Debbie (Troy) Groves of Macclenny; step-son Michael Bowers of Jacksonville; special niece Gerri Kreiser of St. George; seven grandchildren.

The memorial service was held November 30 at her church with Pastor John Frances officiating. Hardage-Giddens Town and Country Chapel in Jacksonville was in charge of arrangements.

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Intersection of CR 125 & 250 in Taylor • 259-8353  
Sunday school ~ 10:00 am  
Sunday service ~ 11:00 am  
Wednesday night Bible Study ~ 6:30 pm  
Family style dinner ~ 1st Sunday of the month following service  
Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.  
Pastor Bobby & Faye Griffin

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Bible Study (Wed.) . . . . . 7:30 pm  
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**Calvary Baptist Church**  
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Preaching Service 11:00 am  
Sunday Night Service 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Service 7:00 pm  
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According to the U. S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, the average cost of a funeral is approximately \$8,495.\*  
**This total may include such expenses as:**  
• Vault  
• Cemetary  
• Casket  
• Graveside  
• Professional Services  
**Additional costs may include:**  
• Unpaid Medical Bills  
• Unpaid Debt  
• Taxes  
• Nursing Home  
• Medicare Deductibles  
Social Security only pays \$255 for burial expenses, if you qualify.\*\* Settlers Life Insurance Company's Final Expense Life Insurance Plans may help provide the necessary funds to pay these final burial expenses. Based on your answers to a few medical questions, you may qualify for up to \$25,000 of permanent whole life insurance.  
\* U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, May, 2001  
\*\*According to Social Security Rules and Regulations 404.390  
**Guerry Funeral Home**  
420 East Macclenny Avenue • Macclenny, FL 32063  
**William "Bill" Guerry**  
(904) 259-2211 • (800) 835-4508

### 'Buddy' Kirkland, 60, of Brunswick

Walter 'Buddy' Kirkland Jr., 60, died late Tuesday evening, November 24, 2009 at the Southeast Georgia Regional Medical Center in Brunswick following an extended illness. A native of Duval County, he had lived in Waycross for many years before moving to Brunswick three years ago.

Mr. Kirkland made rustic cypress furniture for the last 20 years and also worked in the commercial fishing industry. His first love was camping and fishing, but he also loved his dogs Candy and Tiny, his cat Tigger, plus gardening and working with flowers.

Mr. Kirkland was a Baptist, the son of the late Walter Sr. and Leona Burch Kirkland. Mr. Kirkland was also preceded in death by brother Jerry Durrance.

Survivors include wife Cindy Harris Kirkland of Brunswick; daughter Cyndil Kirkland and fiancé Henry Lee Sylvester II of Blackshear; sons David Kirkland of Alamo, Billy Kirkland and fiancé Dana Huggins, Jimmy (Evelyn) Kirkland, and Brandon Kirkland, all of Hoboken, GA; Waylon (Paola) Scot of Killeen, TX; sister Eva Joyce (Larry) Sigers, of Macclenny; nine grandchildren; one great-grandchild; several nieces, nephews and other relatives.

The funeral service for Mr. Kirkland was held at 11:00 am November 28, at the Pearson-Dial Chapel. Interment followed at Sardis Cemetery in Charlton County. Pearson-Dial Funeral Home of Blackshear was in charge of the arrangements.

### Donald Mann, 75, retired ironworker

Donald Mann, 75, of Sanderson died Friday, November 27, 2009 at his residence following an extended illness. He had resided in Sanderson all of his life and was the son of Frank H. Mann and Callie Bennett Mann. Mr. Mann worked as an ironworker in the construction industry for 31 years until his retirement in 1996. He was a member of local Ironworkers Union #597 of Jacksonville. He loved farming, fishing and hunting.

Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Sara J. Mann of Sanderson; daughter Lisa Jane (Donnie) Simmons of Jacksonville; son Donald Ray (Robin) Mann of Sanderson; sisters Doris (Bob) Durham of Jacksonville, Ella Mae (Roger) Edwards of Bennell, FL and Judy Pierce of San Antonio TX; brothers Melvin Mann and Jack (Lennie) Mann, both of Macclenny and Frank J. (Vera) Mann Jr. of Sanderson; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held November 30 at the Christian Fellowship Temple with Revs. David and Tim Thomas officiating. Interment followed at Cedar Creek Cemetery in Sanderson. Guerry Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

### A Memorial to our Little Hero Rylee Christine Wheaton December 3, 2008

Today is special, my first birthday. Memories will never go away. Do not grieve for me, for now I am free. Know that I am following the path God laid for me. I took His hand when I heard Him call. I turned my back and left it all. If parting has left a void, then fill it with remembered joy. Be not burdened with times of sorrow. Remember the sunshine that is tomorrow. A million times we have needed you, a million times we have cried. If love alone could have saved you you never would have died. In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still. In our hearts you hold a place that only your twin can help fill. It breaks our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone. Part of Mommy and Daddy went with you the day God took you home.

MOMMY, DADDY, KAYLEE, PAPA, GRANDMA, JUSTIN

Check it out...  
bakercountypress.com

### Mable Smith, 80, of Maxville dies

Mable Harris Smith, 80, died Monday, November 23, 2009. She was a native and life-long resident of Maxville and the daughter of Ceifus and Evelyn Blackburn Godwin. She was a long-time member of First Baptist Church of Maxville.



Mable Smith

Mr. Smith was a loving mother and grandmother and will be dearly missed by all. She was preceded in death by husbands Winfred Harris and Roy Smith.

Survivors include daughters Evelyn (Wayne) Stubbs, Jeanette (Junior) Higdon and Sue (Daniel) Harris, all of Maxville; five grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

The funeral service was held at 11:00 am November 28 at her church with Rev. Richard Fish officiating. Interment followed at Long Branch Cemetery in Maxville. Cedar Bay Funeral Home of Jacksonville was in charge of arrangements.



In Loving Memory of  
Candice Taylor Blanks  
1/22/96 - 12/1/2007

Two years have come and gone since God took you home. The many times we've cried and how we long to be by your side. We feel your spirit when the wind blows. We feel your love when the sun shines warm upon our faces. We know we'll be together in Heaven someday. Until then we will wait and hold you in our hearts where you will always stay and be our beloved Tay-Tay.

LOVE,  
MOM, DAD, TIM, TYLER AND TANNER



In Loving Memory of  
Kyle Newmans  
12/5/1989 - 10/5/2008  
Happy 20th Birthday

We love and miss you so much as every day passes.

LOVE,  
MAMA, DADDY, KRISTA, KOREY, BAYBAY, CHEYANNA, NANNAY REATHA, NANA CAROLYNN AND PAPA, ALL AUNTS AND UNCLES, COUSINS AND FRIENDS



In Loving Memory of  
Louis L. Stewart  
Sunrise - Sunset  
November 16, 1936 - December 3, 2008

"Our Dear Father"  
We love you and miss you very much, may God bless you in your final resting place. Thank you for everything..

LOVE,  
CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN, GREAT-GRANDS, AND CLOSE FAMILY FRIENDS

*Welcome*  
**First Baptist Church of Sanderson**  
CR 229 S., Sanderson FL  
Sunday School . . . . . 10:00 am  
Sun. Morning Worship . 11:00 am  
Sun. Evening Worship . . 6:00 pm  
Wed. Eve. Bible Study . . 7:00 pm  
Pastor Bob Christmas  
<http://www.fbcofsanderson.org>

**Macclenny Church of God**  
**Jesus: The Way, The Truth and The Life**  
Sunday School 10:00 A.M. Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.  
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 A.M. Wed. Eve. Worship 7:30 P.M.  
**Pastor Rev. Shannon Conner**  
North 6th Street - Macclenny • 259-3500

**CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP TEMPLE**  
Independent Pentecostal Church  
Seventh St. & Ohio Ave., Macclenny

Senior Pastor David Thomas 259-4940 Associate Pastor Tim Thomas 259-4575

Sunday School 10:00 am  
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am  
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm  
Radio WJXR 92.1 Sunday 9:15 am

**Youth Programs**  
Sunday School 10:00 am  
Common Ground - Sunday 11:00 am  
Common Ground - Wed. (Teens) 7:00 pm  
God Kids - Sunday 11:00 am  
God Kids - Wednesday 7:00 pm

www.christianfellowshiptemple.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEBRA CARRINGTON

### Christmas Queens crowned Nov. 21

The Macclenny Fire Department held its 17th annual Christmas Queen Pageant November 21 at the middle school. Winners included (back row from left) Teen Princess runner-up Lacey England, Teen Princess Madison Knabb, Preteen Princess Leslie Nipper, Queen Trista Burnham, Queen runner-up Jamie Lee Norman, Preteen runner-up Karlie Payne and Little Miss runner-up Kyrie Hollman; (front row from left) Pee Wee runner-up Haley Hodgson, Pee Wee Princess Molly Barlow and Little Miss Princess Katie Owens. They will all be featured in the Christmas Parade December 5.

### Yuletide concert, art show at LCCC

A combined Christmas art show, reception and choral concert will be held the evening of December 3 at the Levy Performing Arts Center on the campus of Lake City Community College.

A reception in the lobby opens the event at 5:00 pm and the College Choir concert starts at 7:00. It will include traditional and contemporary Christmas music by the group, soloists and smaller ensembles.

The program, reception and light refreshments before the concert are free.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEANN BARNETT

### Hometown crowd gives a hand to Coach Covington

Tom Covington of Macclenny (left) was recognized by the crowd in his hometown of Murray, KY on November 13 during a playoff game between the Murray Tigers and Caldwell County, KY. Mr. Covington, a star running back at Murray High in the late 1940s, was the first player inducted several years ago in the school's Sports Hall of Fame. Mr. Covington coached football at the former Macclenny High School from 1957-1968 and earlier this year was selected for the Wall of Fame at Macclenny Park for his involvement in sports. He is a retired teacher and school administrator. Pictured with him is great-nephew Brad Barnett of Murray.

### Basic skills test

The adult basic education test will be administered on Friday, December 11 at 9:00 am, at the Family Service Center next to Keller Intermediate School. Come between 8:30 and 9:00 to register. You must bring a picture ID, \$15 cash or check.

Please call 259-4110 with any questions.

We print obituaries with a picture free of charge.

**Mt. Zion N.C. Methodist Church**  
121 North † 259-4461  
Macclenny, FL  
Pastor Tim Cheshire

Sunday School 9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am  
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00 pm



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

### Cemetery luminary

Boone's Creek Cemetery luminary will be held Saturday, December 12, 2009 at 6:00 pm. The cemetery is located north of St. George, Georgia off State Road 121. Look for cemetery sign.

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**THE OFFICE MART**  
110 South Fifth St.

**BETHLEHEM LIVE 2009**  
Saturday and Sunday ~ December 12 & 13 ~ 7:00 - 9:00 pm  
Located 5 miles south of St. George off SR 121  
Come tour the city of Bethlehem, then join us as we act out the birth of Jesus as told in the book of Luke.  
It's an outside event, so dress comfortably.  
BRING A FRIEND • FREE ADMISSION  
A petting zoo will be available for the kids.

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**One and Two Bedrooms**  
**Baldwin Grove APARTMENTS**  
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T.T.D. 1-800-955-8771 • Handicap Equipped

RENTAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO QUALIFIED APPLICANTS  
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Baldwin, Fl.  
Now Taking Applications  
1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments

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# THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS CLASSIFIEDS

**DEADLINES:**  
Placement, correction or cancellation of ads may be phoned in anytime before Monday at 5 p.m. for publication on Thursday.

To place, correct or cancel an ad by phone, call **904-259-2400**  
Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
or email [classifieds@bakercountypress.com](mailto:classifieds@bakercountypress.com)  
or online [www.bakercountypress.com](http://www.bakercountypress.com)

To place, correct or cancel an ad by mail, send a copy of the ad exactly as it should appear, payment and phone number where we can reach you.  
**PO Box 598**  
**Macclenny, FL 32063**

**RATES:**  
**Line Ads:**  
20 words for \$6.00 cash/check  
20 words for \$7.00 Visa/MC  
20¢ each additional word  
**Service Ads:**  
15 words for \$8.00 cash/check  
15 words for \$9.00 Visa/MC  
20¢ each additional word

## Advertising Info.

Classified ads and notices must be paid in advance, and be in our office no later than 4:00 pm the Monday preceding publication, unless otherwise arranged in advance. Ads can be mailed provided they are accompanied by payment and instructions. They should be mailed to: Classified Ads, The Baker County Press, P.O. Box 598, Macclenny, FL 32063. We cannot assume responsibility for accuracy of ads or notices given over the telephone. Liability for errors in all advertising will be limited to the first publication only. If after that time, the ad continues to run without notification of error by the person or agency for whom it was published, then that party assumes full payment responsibility. The Baker County Press reserves the right to refuse advertising or any other material which in the opinion of the publisher does not meet standards of publication.

## For Sale

- 52" Phillips-Magnavox** projector sytle with remote, works good, \$250. 259-7826, 626-5101. 12/3p
- 25'x36'** garage trusses \$1500 OBO. 259-3300. 3/12tfc
- 2005 Viper 90**, child's four-wheeler, very good condition, great Christmas gift, \$600. 1986 Yamaha Moto 90 four-wheeler, needs work or use for parts \$250. 259-6403. 12/03p
- Got roaches?** Buy Harris Famous Roach Tablets or Powder. Eliminates roaches or your money back, guaranteed. Available at Bennett's Feed. 10/15tfc
- Old Kenmore electric stove**, \$35. 259-6143. 12/3p
- Oak firewood**, cut and split to fit modern heaters and fireplaces. Can deliver, full size long bed truck load \$110, you pick up \$100. 653-1149. 11/26-12/3p
- Artists! Oils, acrylics**, water colors, Canvases, drawing pads and much more! On sale now. The Office Mart, 110 S. Fifth Street, 259-3737. tfc
- Guns**, AK-47, pump shotgun 12 gauge, Ruger 10-22 Customizer, S&W model 19-3. 259-8188. 12/3p
- Enjoy the unique shopping** experience of the Franklin Mercantile. Open Thursday - Saturday 10-5 through holidays, at the R.R. crossing in Glen. 259-6040. 12/3tfc
- 2006 16' x 6.5'** double axle trailer \$1100. 904-333-1312. 12/3-12/17p
- Infant car seat with base**, Graco, blue and beige, \$25. 588-3628. 11/26tfc
- Big group sectional** with queen size bed, two recliners, tables, \$275. Queen size mattress \$50. For information call Davina Arwine at 904-239-0040. 12/3p
- Three Palms Resale**, 20% off store-wide, December 1 - 12th. Next to Aardvark Video. 11/26-12/3p
- Kirby vacuum cleaner**, shampooer and all attachments, \$400. 653-1843 or 217-1116. 12/3p
- Savage 243** synthetic stock with scope \$250, 25-06 Remington 700 with Leopold scope and stainless steel barrel \$800, Bushmaster AR-15, camouflage \$900, Russian M38 308 caliber \$275, Japanese 6.5 caliber airplane sights \$275, Traditions camouflage 50 caliber muzzle loader \$200. 451-4567. 12/3p
- Great selection** of affordable hand-painted ornaments, original designs, personalized while you shop the historic Franklin Mercantile. Visa/MC and gift certificates. 259-6040. 12/3tfc
- Glass top dining room table** with four captain's chairs, with lighted china cabinet and glass shelve, very nice \$800 for all. 259-2753 or 910-5434. 12/3c

## Automobiles

- 2000 Subaru Forester** with many extras, very clean and always serviced regularly. Priced well below book value at \$4500. Work 904-786-4041, home 912-843-2706. 12/3p
- Mechanic on wheels**, auto and truck repair, give me a call. 571-0913. 12/3p
- 2005 Chevy Silverado LS**, all power, spray-in bed liner, short wheel base, 5.3 engine, automatic, 37,000 miles, \$13,700. 259-7826, 626-5101. 12/3p
- 1991 GMC Jimmy** 4x4 excellent condition, 350 motor, rebuilt automatic transmission, completely redone \$3495 OBO. 904-415-1168. 12/3p
- 1990 Chevrolet Silverado Z71**, four wheel drive, red and white step-side with red interior, automatic V8, power steering, power brakes, power windows, power door locks, heat/air. Extras include new tires, extra tires and rims, diamond plated tool box, \$5,000. 904-259-5094. 12/3p

**1986 Mazda** long bed pickup, 1998 Audi A4 1.8T, \$1500 for both, OBO. 904-653-1403. 12/3p

## Carpool

Looking for someone interested in carpooling to Bolles in Jacksonville. Call 525-5700. 12/3-12/10c

## Animals

- Chihuahuas**, tiny, pure bred, health certificates, mom and dad present, males \$200, females \$250. 259-8188. 12/3p
- Dogs: all types** from puppies to adults. Animal Control, \$65 adoption fees will apply. 259-6786. 11/20tfc
- Happy Jack Mange Medicine** promotes healing and hair growth to any mange, bare spot on dogs and horses without steroids. Glen Cash Store 259-2381. [www.happyjackinc.com](http://www.happyjackinc.com) 11/19-12/10p
- Just in time for Christmas**, only two left, purebred Lab puppies, one black, one brown, shots and wormed \$100 each. 259-4384 or 259-8000. 12/3p
- Yorkies, ready for Christmas** eight weeks on Dec. 6, two male, two female, shots and wormed, P.O.P., health certificates, \$500-\$600. 651-4724. 12/3-12/10p

## Lost

- Orange male tabby cat**, Turner Cemetery Road, Glen St. Mary. Call 904-259-5119 ask for Carol, or 904-894-7763 ask for Mary. 12/3-12/10p
- Blue pit bull**, goes by Bella, last seen in Glen St. Mary November 25, has been spayed, \$100 reward - no questions asked. Call 759-2912. 12/3p

## Help Wanted

- Notice to readers:**  
The newspaper often publishes classified advertising on subjects like work-at-home, weight loss products, health products. While the newspaper uses reasonable discretion in deciding on publication of such ads, it takes no responsibility as to the truthfulness of claims. Respondents should use caution and common sense before sending any money or making other commitments based on statements and/or promises; demand specifics in writing. You can also call the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP to find out how to spot fraudulent solicitations. Remember: if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. - The Baker County Press
- Dump truck drivers needed**, experienced only. 334-8739. 12/3-12/24p
- Clinical Positions**, busy Jacksonville homehealth care company seeks clinical personnel for the Baker county area. In need of RN, LPN, OT, COTA, PT, PTA, SLP and HHA personnel. PRN with potential for FT position. Send resumes to: [figura@qhbcfl.com](mailto:figura@qhbcfl.com) or fax to 904-391-1755. No phone calls, please. 11/26-12/3p
- We are looking** for a creative person with above average literacy skills to fill a part-time graphics position. Knowledge of Adobe Creative Suite and Mac skills a must. Send resume with references (and work product examples if available) c/o Graphics, P.O. Box 598, Macclenny, FL 32063. 10/15tfc
- Skilled A/C mechanic**, must have experience in service work, ductwork, and A/C installation. Apply at [dependable32063@necom.net](mailto:dependable32063@necom.net) 10/15tfc
- Heavy duty diesel mechanic** needed, Travel Centers of America, Baldwin location, 1024 US 301 South. Driver's license required. Please apply to Mark Holmes, Shop Manager. 904-266-4281, ext. 22. 10/1tfc

**500 DOLLARS & DEED** is all you need to move into your new Manufactured & Modular Home



**CALL 866-605-7255 Murray**

## Career Opportunities

**Wanted: Career motivated students** if you are seeking a new career in a high demand field, then get your degree or certificate in logistics and supply chain management. Instant scholarships available for qualified students. Classes start 1/6/10. Call Lake City Community College 386-754-4492. 12/3-12/17c

## Real Estate

**Notice to Readers**  
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familiar status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.  
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll free telephone number for the impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

- 13 acres**, well, septic tank, barn, fenced, in Glen St. Mary, \$132,000. 408-1077. 12/3p
- 20 acres** on Bill Davis Road at \$6500/acre with 450 ft. road frontage. Call Zack Parsons at 352-262-2336. 12/3-12/31p
- 3 BR, 2 BA** 1995 doublewide mobile home recently remodeled on 3+ acres, zoned for another home or mobile home, great location, \$116,000. 334-4987. 12/3p
- One acre lot** in Macclenny II, price reduced, owner consider financing. 904-234-3437. 11/5-12/3p
- Huge 4 BR, 3 BA** 2001 modular home on four acres, close to town, completely remodeled, \$125,000. 334-4987. 12/3p
- FSBO**, 7½ acres on quiet dead-end road, mature oaks, zoned conventional or mobile home, one acre per dwelling, \$112,500. 259-5877. 6/18tfc
- 264.5 acres**, 875 ft. road frontage on Bill Davis Road, \$2,225/acre for everything. 352-262-2336. 12/3-12/31p
- 3 BR, 2 BA** brick with rec room, two car garage, 1800 SF on 1¼ acres, work shop and fruit trees, in Hills of Glen. Call 259-6540. 11/12-12/3p
- 66.57 acres** with 875 ft. road frontage on Bill Davis Road, \$4,000/acre. Call Zack Parsons at 352-262-2336. 12/3-12/31p
- MacGlen Builders, Inc.** Brick homes in Macclenny from \$145,000-\$210,000. 813-1580. 11/13tfc
- 200 acre operating** quail plantation, 4 BR, 2 BA 22,00 SF lodge, includes all equipment, furniture and structures, \$6250/acre. [www.bakerquailplantation.com](http://www.bakerquailplantation.com) 352-262-2336. 12/3-12/31p
- 3 acres, high and dry**, fish pond, homes or mobile homes, set-up included, owner financing. 912-843-8118. 2/22tfc
- FSBO 4 BR, 2 BA** brick home approximately 2100 SF on 2.82 Acres. Fireplace, tile, plantation shutters, 20x20 workshop, many upgrades, very nice. Neighborhood restricted to homes only, \$286,000. By appointment only. 237-0060 or 259-3963. 5/14tfc
- 3 BR, 1 BA** house on three lots in Baldwin, needs some repair, \$48,000. 904-259-9221. 12/3-12/10p

**50% OFF FIRST MONTHS RENT** for qualified applicants

**1 & 2 BR Apartments NOW AVAILABLE**  
1 BR \$500, 2 BR \$550,  
Quiet, established neighborhood

**4 BR, 2 BA House**  
Quiet neighborhood,  
no smoking,  
service animals only,  
\$850/month

**CALL 259-8444**  
FOR MORE INFORMATION

## YARD SALES



**Thursday and Friday**, 125 north 2½ miles, Bob Burned one block to Oak Ridge.

**Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9:00 am-1:00 pm**, Woodlawn Road to Grant, left then right on Adams. Lots of gently used Christmas presents for kids, lots of toys, lounge, shoes, clothes, dressers, tools, everything. No early birds.

**Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 8:00 am-1:00 pm**, 4668 Barber Road. Furniture, household items, clothing, too much to list.

**Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9:00 am-?**, 3658 Pete Johnson Road. Household, clothes, lamps.

**Friday, 8:00 am-?**, Maxville Senior Center, 18065 Pennsylvania Avenue, Baldwin. Across from fire station. Huge sale, cheap prices.

**Friday, 8:00 am-4:00 pm**, 235 N. 4th Street, Macclenny. Bo and Mary Walker's home.

**Friday and Saturday, 8:00 am-?**, 8305 CR139B, Glen. Lots of stuff.

**Friday and Saturday, 7:00 am - noonish**, 561 Timberlane Drive, Macclenny. This is a moving sale combined with several total house clean outs including the following great items: Spring Field Armory XD40 handgun/pistol - .40 cal., 50" big screen TV, furniture - couches, dresser with mirror, comforters, etc, teacher supplies, computers and peripheral equipment, tons of misc. office supplies, clothes - baby, toddler, teen, adult, toys - most newborn - six years, baby items - changing table, bassinet, etc, much, much, more. Everything must go so be prepared to make an offer.

**Friday and Saturday, 8:30 am-noon**, 5587 N. Tall Pine Road. Come do your Christmas shopping. A little bit of everything.

**Friday and Saturday, 8:30 am-?**, Corner of Hwy. 90 and Thomas Sweat Road, Sanderson. New crafts, household items, new gifts for Christmas.

**Friday and Saturday, 8:00 am-2:00 pm**, 5962 Bill Davis, 4.2 miles from four-way stop on Mud Lake Road.

**Saturday, 8:00 am-1:00 pm**, Macclenny II, 4107 Dogwood Street. Lots of stuff.

**Saturday, 8:00 am-4:00 pm**, 10545 CR127 Sanderson, three miles north of highway 90. Weight lifting set, children's toys, playhouse and Little Tykes playground, covered swings, apple kitchen decor, dishes, country decor, clothes, wedding dress, knick-knacks galore.

**Saturday, 8:00 am-?**, 701 US highway 301 South, Baldwin. A little bit of everything, holiday decor, clothing, sports memorabilia, etc. Multi-family

**Saturday, 8:00 am-1:00 pm**, 507 S. 7th Street.

**Saturday, 7:00 am-noon**, 8043 Stewart Road off Woodlawn Road. King size comforter, full size pottery barn comforter set and quilt and accessories, twin comforter, lamps, curtains, mens large clothing, hunting clothes, girls size 12-16 clothes, ladies small-medium clothes.

**Saturday, 8:00 am-?**, Christmas yard sale, Corner of US 90 and Mt. Vernon, across from Pit Stop. Toys, women's clothes, girls clothes sizes 0-6 month, 4Tand 5T and other miscellaneous items.

**Saturday, 8:00 am-2:00 pm**, 7582 Old Nursery Road. Lots of almost new toys, power wheels dune buggy, crab sandbox, crib, changing table and more.

**Saturday, 8:00 am - noon**, Magnolia off Miltondale. Corner desk, foosball table, scrub pants, brand new skate board and T-shirts, round table with chairs, doll house, desk, movies, infant girl clothes to size 3, 1997 Ford F150 4x4, 75 gallon fish tank fully equipped, X-box 350, drum, guitar, microphone, full size bed. 860-2095. No early birds please. 3-5 family

**Saturday, 8:00 am-1:00 pm**, On highway 23A across from old golf course. Look for signs.

**Saturday, 8:00 am-?**, 12354 W. Confederate Drive in Glen. Air hockey table \$150, books, misc. household items. etc.

**Saturday and Sunday, 7:00 am-2:00 pm**, 5818 camphor Road off George Hodges. Multi-family

**Saturday**, 261 N. 4th street. Lots of items, small dresser, boys clothes, Christmas items and a whole lot more.

**Saturday, 8:00 am-1:00 pm**, 6829 Otis Yarbrough Road, Glen. Lots of stuff.

**Saturday, 8:00 am-noon**, 376 Magnolia Drive off of Miltondale Road. Girls clothing size 6 and shoes, home interior pictures, cow collectibles for kitchen and lots of other items.

**Saturday, 8:00 am-noon**, US 90 and 125 in Glen. Like new clothes, household items. Becky McDuffie

**Two lots in Copper Creek**, Unit III. Call 813-1580. 12/11tfc

**2 BR, 1 BA** house in Macclenny, central H/A, new roof/siding, \$62,000 OBO. 3 BR, 1 full bath, two ½ baths, doublewide with screen porch, central H/A, two ponds and barn on 3½ acres, fully fenced, Georgia Bend, \$62,000 OBO. Two for one deal of a lifetime - 2 BR, 1 BA house with central H/A plus 2 BR, 2 BA singlewide with central H/A on 1½ acres, Georgia Bend, \$58,000 OBO. Call 904-259-6101. 12/3p

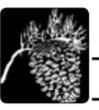
Check it out... [bakercountypress.com](http://bakercountypress.com)

**YARD SALE**  
Friday & Saturday 9-?  
Miltondale to Azalea Dr.  
Kids clothes & toys,  
household, etc.

## NOW HIRING

Full time Collections Clerk  
Part time Teller

*Must have experience to apply.*  
Apply in person



**COUNTRY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

602 S. Sixth Street, Macclenny • 259-6702

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## Cats' fourth quarter comeback falls short

BOB GERARD | SPORTS

As the BCHS Wildcats discovered earlier in the year against Trinity Christian, penalties and turnovers will doom even the best football team. In a performance eerily reminiscent of the Trinity game, the Wildcats made a bright start Friday night against Tallahassee Godby in the state regional finals, only to have the spark snuffed out by fumbles and questionable penalties.

In the end, Tallahassee Godby continues on in the playoffs with a 26-19 win, while the Cats return home to think about what might have been.

The Wildcats never gave up and with a little more time on the clock just might have pulled off one of the biggest comebacks of the year. Down 24-6 with nine minutes left in the game, quarterback Kendrick Sampson came off the bench to engineer a miracle comeback similar to the one he made against Suwannee County. It almost worked, but the fourth turnover of the game, an interception with seconds to go, stopped a potentially game-winning drive.

The Wildcats started the game so well that the Baker County fans, who outnumbered the Godby faithful at Gene Cox Stadium, were in fine voice. They watched Harold Moore crack a 40-yard

run into Godby territory at the 45-yard line. A penalty moved the ball on to the 39 and Godby looked to be back on its heels. But as the usually sure-handed Rueben Jackson fought for extra yardage on a plunge up the middle, the ball squirted free and Godby recovered.

The Cat defense, which has been game winners all season long, was determined to get the ball right back and stopped 1000-yard rusher Lavarrie Johnson. But they got overzealous and a late hit penalty moved the ball into Baker County territory.

Godby was stalled when Jackson, Trek McCullough and Cory Wheeler stopped Johnson cold and the Cougars missed a field goal attempt.

On the next series, the Wildcats advanced all the way to the Godby 30 behind strong running from Jackson, quarterback Darvin Ruise and Moore. But they were stopped on a fourth down conversion and Godby got the ball back.

It was a hard hitting game, though not as scrappy as the previous weekend's battle with Madison County on the Wildcat home field.

What Godby had going for it that Madison didn't was a pinpoint passing attack. Though Cat coach Bobby Johns pointed out that the Cougars could throw

the ball but "beat you with their running," quarterback Dennis Andrews harassed the Wildcats all night long with long bombs.

If a play didn't work, Andrews came right back to it, which on two occasions amounted to touchdowns. The first Godby score was a toss to the end zone to receiver Jamel Murray. The play was called back for a penalty, but Andrews went right back to it on the next play and converted the score.

Murray gave the Wildcats fits all night long. While the Cats keyed on star receiver Chris St. Hillaire, Murray made the most of single coverage.

The Wildcats pulled right back with a fine run by Darvin Ruise, who faked to Jackson up the middle and broke containment for the score. The extra point was blocked, however, and the Cougars maintained a one-point lead.

The Wildcats mounted a drive close to midfield on a long run from Moore, but a second fumble — this time with the ball slipping from the hands of Moore — stopped them cold.

Johnson set up the second score for the Cougars late second quarter with three straight runs down the Wildcat 1-yard line. Form there, Andrews ran it in on a quarterback sneak.

The Cougars got the ball back



Darvin Ruise during Friday night's game in Tallahassee.

to start the second half and it was more of the same. Andrews found St. Hillaire on a long pass to the Cat 16. Johnson ran it in on 21-yard sweep and the point after put the Cougars up 21-6.

The Wildcats were still just two scores down, and an interception of Andrews by Darvin Ruise gave them back the ball. Still, they were deep in their own territory and the veer was not working well against the Cougars. After the drive stalled, a bad snap near the end of the third period gave Godby a safety and a 23-6 edge.

Godby extended it to 26-6 with a 13-yard field goal with under 13 minutes in the game.

With the running game not operating on all cylinders and time running out, Kendrick Sampson came in. Operating out of the shotgun, Sampson responded by hitting Moore on a 30-yard pass play to the Godby 12. Sampson then found Ruise in the end zone and Sampson converted the extra point to narrow the gap to 26-13.

With nine minutes left in the

game, things suddenly got very interesting. The Wildcat defense responded to the score by stopping Godby flat.

Moore and Sampson picked up a couple of quick first downs with their feet and Sampson found Klute Duval at the 25-yard line. On the next play, Sampson rifled one to tall receiver Thomas Sirk in the end zone for the score. The PAT was blocked and BCHS trailed by only a touchdown, 26-19.

That's how the game and the Wildcat's 2009 season finished. With time running out and the Wildcats driving downfield, Sampson's pass was intercepted by Godby's Quayshun Smith and that sealed the game.

It was the end to an impressive season for BCHS. They had some incredible wins including a pair of signature victories over Suwannee and Madison. Though the playoff run ended prematurely, the Cats provided a lot of excitement this season and did the school and county proud.

## Ladycats continue winning streak

The Lady Wildcat basketball team stayed undefeated this week with a pair of impressive wins. The girls had plenty to be thankful for over the holidays with a home win versus Union County and a road win over Bradford County in Starke.

"I've been 0-4 and trust me, 4-0 feels a lot better," said Head Coach Franklin Griffis.

The Cats defeated Union County at home November 19 by a 11 points with the final score showing 57-46. The Tigers kept it close through three quarters before the Cats went on a 14-9 run in the fourth period to seal the victory.

BCHS was led by Destiny de la Pena's 18 points and 10 from Brittany Burns. Kiana Parker and Meagan O'Steen each had a dozen rebounds.

The girls had their biggest offensive night of the young season on November 23 with a 72-63 overtime win over the Tornadoes in Starke.

The Tornadoes came back from a 10-point deficit at half-time to chip away at the Wildcat lead throughout the second half. They tied the score with seconds left to force the overtime period tied at 60.

"We got a little careless handling the ball," said the coach, "but once we got back in it in overtime we took over like we had at the beginning of the game."

BCHS dominated the Tornadoes in overtime. Chelsey Ruise had 21 points to lead the scorers. Four Wildcats were in double figures with de la Pena tossing in 16 points, Kiara Battles added 11 points, Kiana Parker 10 and Burns 8.

"Kiara has been playing really well," said Griffis. "She's been playing good defense and scoring on the inside."

Parker had 15 rebounds and Battles 7 to lead the defense.

The Lady Wildcats will try to extend their win streak when they travel to Yulee on December 4. Tip off is at 6:00 pm.

"I expect Yulee to look pretty similar to us," Griffis said. "They lost a big inside player to graduation but have a pair of guards who can score."

## Boys basketball season opens

BOB GERARD | SPORTS

Sports fans don't get a moment to take a breath as we move from one season into another. With the excitement of Wildcat football over we now get to change our focus to the hardwood, where an experienced Wildcat basketball team will take to the court this Thursday on the road against district foe Baldwin at 7:30 pm. The Cats will entertain Ridgeview on Friday at 7:30 pm in the BCHS gym in the home opener.

The Baker Wildcat varsity basketball team finished last season 21-8 and Coach Charles Ruise is confident that he has a lot of firepower to put on the court this year. He returns six starters from last year's team if he picks up Darvin Ruise from the football team.

Returning are juniors Chris Walton, Blaine Finley, Marquis Ruise and seniors Darvin Ruise, Marcelle Gayden and Brandon Robertson.

His core of seniors will be looked to for a lot of leadership on and off the court. Ruise particularly has been a surprise for the Cat round ballers. A natural athlete, he is skilled both offensively and defensively. "He's an excellent rebounder. He's a surprising finisher inside and will bring us the experience we need in the post to finish games this season," said the coach.

Coach Ruise is encouraged about his returning juniors. Walton is one of the team's most explosive players, a good finisher in the open court and a solid defender.

Finley is the team's biggest three point threat, and an all around player and a strong leader on the court.

Robertson at 6'5" is one of the team's top inside players. "He's worked hard this summer and in preseason on his footwork in the post to help establish that solid presence inside and on the boards," said Ruise. "His defense has improved a great deal."

A number of underclassmen joining the team will bring depth and scoring potential. Chris McCray has been a top defender. "He thinks defense first, but is athletic and shoots the three," said Ruise. "He attacks the basket but he loves to play defense."

Marcell Gayden has made a lot of progress over the summer and his defense, rebounding and shooting have all improved. The big man in the paint is rangy 6'8" center Donte Jennings, who brings shot blocking, rebounding

and scoring potential.

Issac Johnson is quick, defends with passion and understands the game well. He passes the ball well and gets his teammates involved in the game, according to the coach.

"Overall we feel real strong about our athletes this year," said Ruise. "They've all worked hard and it's our plan to make this season an exciting one."

The Cats are in nine-team district this year separated into a North and South sub-division. Baker High, Baldwin, Bishop Snyder and West Nassau are in the South and the Cats will host the tournament.

The North sub-division includes Crescent City, Keystone Heights, Interlachen, Union County and Bradford. Keystone will be the host for the north tournament. Ruise foresees the possibility of a Bradford/ Baker rematch for the district title.

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**ALL YOU CAN EAT FRIED SHRIMP**  
with purchase of a beverage. Not valid with any other specials or offers. Expires 12/31/09.  
**\$14.99**

**SEC CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**FLORIDA VS. ALABAMA**  
**FOOTBALL SPECIALS**  
Saturday, December 5 at 4:00 pm  
Call for great Take-out & Game Day Wing Specials!

**SWAMP HAPPY HOUR**  
Monday - Saturday 4-7 pm  
**2 FOR 1 DOMESTIC DRAFTS** **\$5 PITCHERS**  
Domestic brands only

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