

## Volleyball team opens the 2011 season at 3-1

See page 14



## Volunteer reaches inmates with Christian message

See page 7

75¢

SEPTEMBER 8, 2011 THURSDAY

# THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS

82nd Year, Vol. 20 • Winner of 7 state awards for journalism excellence in 2010

## Undercover buys result in the arrests of 3

**JOEL ADDINGTON**  
NEWS EDITOR  
reporter@bakercountypress.com

A man and woman were arrested for selling drugs at their residence off Bob Kirkland Road after investigators served a warrant there September 2.

Undercover buys during the last two weeks from 12908 Bobby Ray Lane were used to build the case against Amanda Kennedy, 21, and Victor Jackson, 25, said the sheriff's chief investigator Chuck Brannan.

Ms. Kennedy faces two counts of sale and possession of marijuana while Mr. Jackson was charged with sale and possession of crack cocaine and sale and possession of marijuana.

Officers seized \$690 in cash and less

than 20 ounces of marijuana from the scene.

The same day a 66-year-old Glen St. Mary woman was arrested on a similar charge, but for sale and possession of a controlled substance.

Inv. Brannan said Jane Kemp of 7625 Odis Yarbrough Rd. was netted in the recent undercover buys as well.

In other recent arrests by investigators:

- Jade Matteson, 29, of Bryceville was charged with a single count of grand theft August 29 for allegedly stealing a four-wheeler from Henry and Paula Crews of Cuyler Road.

A warrant for grand theft has also been



Amanda Kennedy



Victor Jackson



Jane Kemp

The four-wheeler has not been recovered.

- A couple from Hendersonville, TN faces charges here related to the theft of about \$6000 worth of stolen jewelry and blank checks.

Tabitha and Thomas Clendening, ages 32 and 28 respectively, were staying at the home of Monica Berardo of Sanderson, but allegedly left with the stolen property on June 29.

Investigators recently secured warrants for their arrest in Gallatin, TN on grand theft charges.

Inv. Brannan said the suspects are resisting extradition and therefore local authorities must obtain authorization from the Tennessee governor's office before returning them here.

## Deputy uninjured in wreck

A county deputy escaped uninjured the morning of September 6 when he lost control of his cruiser on CR 229 north of Sanderson while answering what turned out to be a false alarm burglary call.

Deputy Jeremiah Combs was southbound in his 2007 Ford about 5:00 am when the vehicle plowed through standing water on the pavement near Willie Griffis Rd. The vehicle left the roadway and struck a tree and

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### BAKER COUNTY SESQUICENTENNIAL SEPTEMBER 24

## One-day exhibit of Barber's work

*During observance Sept. 24*



**KELLEY LANNIGAN**  
FEATURES  
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One of the many highlights of the upcoming Baker County Sesquicentennial Celebration September 24 will be an exhibit of paintings by the late Gene Barber, a noted local artist, horticulturist and community historian.

Mr. Barber died in 2005, leaving behind a legacy of art and influence that still resonates with many people of the county he called home.

An assortment of art from the collections of friends, family and local businesses will be on display at St. James Episcopal Church at 50 W. Minnesota Avenue from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm the day of the celebration.

The exhibit will close temporarily during the Sesquicentennial parade at 10:30 am and then reopen afterwards.

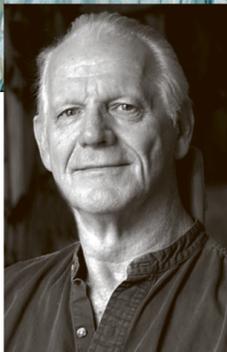
Mr. Barber taught art at Baker County High School for many years and gave art lessons at his home and studio in downtown Macclenny. He was an active participant in arts groups in Jacksonville as well.

His paintings often featured scenes of rural life in Baker County, portraits and the or-



PAINTING BY GENE BARBER

At left is the late Gene Barber and above his painting, "Moniac Cabin."



chids he loved to grow.

His most noteworthy creation is a massive three-panel mural, now permanently displayed in the lobby of the courthouse chronicling the county's history from prehistoric times to the present day.

When Carol Baker, a long-time student and friend of the artist, moved to Baker County 38 years ago she assumed she would have to commute to Riverside in Jacksonville for art lessons. When she discovered Mr. Barber was teaching in the community, she was delighted.

"I thought I had died and gone to heaven," she said.

Ms. Baker was Mr. Barber's student for years and under his

tutelage went on to establish her own mural business and study under several artists in New York City.

"Gene was my mentor," she said. "He was such a personable teacher, always encouraging students to do what excited them artistically. It was he that suggested I do pen and ink renderings of many of the old homesteads around the county, even locating and arranging for me to see them."

He even encouraged her, at one point, to take on her own students. When she hesitated, feeling she was competing with him, he brushed off her concerns.

"Gene was a remarkable teacher and a remarkable person," she said.

Lin and Magi Taber of the Glen St. Mary Nurseries Company have one of Gene Barber's paintings in the dining room of their historic home.

The painting features a glimpse of a traditional Crack-

er-style house through a grove of cypress oaks. The artist painted white Cherokee roses growing around a path lined with the oaks and leading to the house.

The painting reminds Mr. Taber of the Old Florida of his youth and there are several houses much like the one in the painting still standing on his property today.

"The painting was for sale at a local festival or some similar event," said Mr. Taber. "When I saw it I just had to have it."

Another former student, Cathy Mendolera, became enamored with Mr. Barber's art as a teenager and then later of the man himself.

"He was my hero, fabulously talented and the epitome of all things simply southern," she said. "He was generous with his work, too. You could always count on Gene to donate a painting for a raffle to raise money."

See page 2»



## Veers off Woodlawn, strikes trees

The driver of this 1999 Chevrolet was hospitalized after he ran off Woodlawn Rd. the morning of September 2 and struck a tree off the westbound shoulder. Christopher Jordan, 19, was the sole occupant of the vehicle that was traveling east at about 10:00. After it crossed the center line and into the opposite lane, the car ran down a dirt embankment and into a ditch before striking two trees. Lt. Bill Leeper, spokesman for the Florida Highway Patrol, said Mr. Jordan has a history of epilepsy, indicating it may have been a contributing cause. Charges are pending.

### BAKER COUNTY COMMISSION

## Admin. building plans pend bids

**MIKE ANDERSON**  
PRESS STAFF

A few years after the state appropriated \$800,000 to help build a new county administration building, county commissioners were still not quite ready this week to make a firm decision to proceed with the project despite having recently spent about \$23,000 on a set of revised plans.

"We're at a go or no-go decision point," County Manager C.J. Thompson told commissioners during a board meeting on September 6. "The plans are finished."

A decision is expected later this month or next month after bids have been received from contractors.

The architect in charge of designing the structure, Erik Kasper, told the board a few weeks ago that the engineering work would be completed by the end of August and that construction could begin as soon as permits were pulled.

Mr. Thompson told commissioners that he advised the architect to hold off on obtaining permits until he had spoken with the board to determine whether they wanted to move forward with the project or not.

Commissioners indicated a clear preference for completing the project, which was originally part of a plan to alleviate crowding at the courthouse. The state grant was predicated on a commitment to provide office space in the existing county administration building for state attorney's office staff once the new structure is built.

"I'm in favor of honoring the previous commitment made by this board and move forward," said Chairman Michael Crews.

Commissioner Gordon Crews expressed a similar sense of responsibility to the courthouse.

"We're obligated to provide space for them," he said.

If the county decides to hire a contractor to build the 9,800-square-

See page 2»

## Three schools fall short on annual goals to improve

See page 4

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ONLINE POLL RESULTS

Are you excited about the county's 150th celebration on September 24?

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83.7% No

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# Speeding driver had 7 suspensions

A motorist stopped for speeding on US 90 near Olustee just after noon on September 2 was an habitual offender driving on a license with seven prior suspensions.

Deputy Matt Yarborough clocked an eastbound 2003 Saturn driven by Odies Turner, 39, of Jacksonville at 72 mph in a 50 zone about 12:20, and got behind the vehicle before it turned into the parking lot at the Fastway convenience store.

Mr. Turner exited the vehicle and ignored initial commands to halt before he was questioned by the deputy, who learned via a computer database of the suspensions. He also ticketed Mr. Turner for speeding.

In other arrests, Miranda Milne, 27, of Jacksonville was taken to jail for drunk driving after Deputy Daniel Nichols observed her northbound 2009 Nissan swerving in and out of its lane on CR 23A near Macedonia.

The officer was responding to a careless driving report the evening of September 2 and pulled the vehicle over near the intersection with CR 23C. He said Ms. Milne smelled strongly of alcohol and was unsteady on her feet, failing several field sobriety tests.

Once at county jail, her blood alcohol level measured .276, more than three times what the state considers intoxicated.

• William Stewart, 26, of Macclenny was arrested for disorderly conduct after he allegedly pounded on the side and door of a residence on Bob Kirkland Rd. during the early morning of September 2, then damaged the yard when he drove off.

Deputy Jeremiah Combs was answering a call made by Miranda Williams of Sanderson, who was baby sitting at the residence just before 3:00 am when Mr. Stewart attempted to gain entry.

The officer stopped the suspect near the scene.

• A complaint for misdemeanor marijuana possession was filed early on September 4 naming Aaron Miller, 24, of Jacksonville for having three marijuana cigarettes in a pack when the vehicle he was riding in was stopped in downtown Macclenny.

Deputy Nichols said he stopped a 1992 Mustang driven on US 90 by Jacob Fleischman, 21, of Jacksonville because of a faulty tail light. He detected an odor of marijuana wafting from the vehicle's interior, and Mr. Miller admitted to having the cigarette pack containing the joints, two of which were partially smoked.

Mr. Fleischman was ticketed for the light violation.

• Another passenger in a vehicle stopped by police ended up in jail because of warrants outstanding in Camden County, GA.

Deputy Yarborough stopped a 2001 Chevrolet the afternoon of September 4 and learned via routine computer check that Salina King, 34, of Jacksonville was wanted for credit card fraud.

# Husband arrested in domestic squabble

Police arrested a Macclenny man during the early morning hours of September 1 and charged him with domestic battery on his wife during an argument that escalated after she told him she was considering moving out.

Deputy Chad Montean subdued Thomas Walker, 33, outside his residence on Blue Hole Rd. south of the state line about 2:30 after his wife Christina Self, 39, called police.

Mr. Walker ran from the residence when he saw police approaching and was apprehended a short time later.

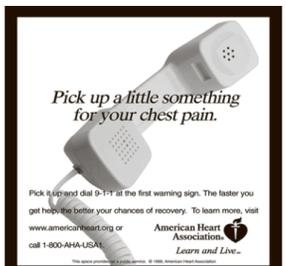
Deputy Robert Simpkins noted minor abrasions and cuts on Ms. Self's hip and head from when she said he pushed her against a porch railing, then slammed a door on her head.

The victim's 15-year-old daughter was at the residence at the time and backed up her mother's version of events. Mr. Williams insisted his wife struck him on the neck and chest, and that he was unaware she was in the doorway when he closed it.

In another domestic battery case, Tommy Lairsey, 52, was arrested for attacking his brother James White, 61, after coming home drunk in the early morning hours of September 4.

Mr. White told Deputy Rodney Driggers his brother kicked open a side door to gain entry to the residence on Woodlawn Rd. south of Macclenny about 2:30. The brother said he refused to allow Mr. Lairsey to enter and earlier had warned him not to come home drunk after earlier incidents.

Deputy Driggers noted a laceration on Mr. White's head and a swollen eye from where he claimed he was beat about the head and neck. He also accused his brother of pushing him through a porch hand rail.



# Tries to shoplift entire cart

A Bryceville woman was arrested about midday on September 2 as she attempted to leave Walmart in Macclenny with a cart full of groceries.

Cami Johns, 31, was observed by a store employee placing 20 items from groceries to personal care products into a shopping cart, then going over to the garden center section where she then placed them into shopping bags.

Ms. Johns was then followed to the in-store Subway where she purchased a sandwich before attempting to exit the store.

Deputy Earl Lord's report placed the value of the items at \$236. Ms. Johns was booked at county jail for petty theft.

The next afternoon, Donna Mobley, 39, of Macclenny was arrested at the same store for attempting to steal a \$15 pair of sunglasses.

A security employee said he observed her take the glasses from a rack, remove the price tag and place them on her head.

Walmart security told Deputy Matt Yarborough that Ms. Mobley has been involved in similar thefts in the past.

# Deputy...

From page 1  
fence on the east side of 127.

There was heavy rainfall in the area at the time.

Maj. Gerald Gonzalez said Deputy Combs was responding to a call at a residence on CR 229 south of Sanderson. The occupant reported hearing and seeing someone on her property and had locked herself in a rear room.

"Upon arriving at the scene of the burglary call, it was determined that a burglary had not occurred, and there was no evidence to indicate a burglary had occurred," said Maj. Gonzalez, the sheriff's department operations chief.

Damage to the cruiser was estimated at \$7000.

Since there were no injuries or other vehicles involved, the sheriff's department is conducting the accident investigation. Deputy Combs is on temporary suspension pending a review of the incident to determine if department policies were violated.

# Barber...

From page 1

Like so many others, she owns some of the artist's original works. One, painted in 1965, depicts a moonlit night scene of swamps near Ocean Pond. Another is from a series of paintings showing the artist with his beloved dog Rascal.

Ms. Mendolera's painting shows Mr. Barber with Rascal as a puppy. It also shows the artist in later years when he used a motorized wheelchair and Rascal having grown old and gray.

"As students we'd ask him, 'How can I be a better painter,'" Ms. Mendolera recalls. "His answer has always stuck with me. He'd say, 'Just be yourself, only better.'"

Gene Barber paintings grace some of the government buildings in Macclenny, among them the Baker County Commission offices and the Baker County Chamber of Commerce.

Two years ago, when a Gene Barber painting titled "Looking back in time" was donated to a Christmas auction sponsored by the Baker County High School art department, Darryl Register, director of the chamber, was the highest bidder.

The painting became part of a small collection of Barber's work displayed at the office in downtown Macclenny.

"It was important to me to acquire the painting because Gene played such a vital role in preserving so much of the history of our county," he said.

The painting is also special to Mr. Register because it's a self-portrait. The artist painted himself gazing down a country road, looking back in time at the county he so loved.

# Decision pends bid amount

From page 1

foot structure, Clerk of Court Al Fraser said it won't be completed solely with state grant funds, which now total around \$700,000.

"You are not going to build that building for \$700,000," Mr. Fraser told commissioners. "The board is going to have to come up with some (additional) money."

Finally, the board agreed to have the county manager advertise the project and solicit bids from general contractors. Once they know how much the project will cost, then they can decide whether to bite the bullet and finish the job or pull the plug on the project and return the state's money.

"All right, we'll start working on it," Mr. Thompson said.

If the project is postponed it would be the second time that has occurred in two years. A budget crunch forced the plans to be temporarily halted in 2009 when then-County Manager Joe Cone said there wasn't enough money in the county's coffers to finish it.

Instead, county staff was moved into the former sheriff's administration offices and annex building, including the building department, grants department, environmental services and planning and zoning.

The architect told commissioners in June that the new county building, which is to be located on a 6-acre site next to the sheriff's complex on CR 228, could be built for approximately \$95 per square foot, which would put the total cost at about \$931,000.

In other business, the board:

• Approved an agreement with the University of Florida's College of Medicine and Dr. William F. Hamilton for medical examiner services to Baker County at an annual cost of \$23,622, in addition to separate fees for autopsies and related services.

However, Chairman Michael Crews noted his reluctance to approve the agreement because it means the county will have to help fund a portion of a 3 percent salary increase from the state to offset a requirement that all employees, including medical examiners, pay 3 percent toward their own retirement.

Mr. Crews said it disturbed him that the county had "no choice but to pay it," yet the county cannot afford to give its own employees a 3 percent raise to compensate them for the state-mandated retirement contribu-

tion.

• Approved a consultant contract with Scott Crews, fire safety inspector for the City of Macclenny, for fire safety services for the county at a rate of \$20 an hour, including site plan and construction plan reviews, fire protection systems reviews and other related services.

The contract was set for a term of 90 days to give the county time to advertise for a qualified person to fill the position on a permanent basis.

• Appointed Philip Zamarron to voting-member status on the county's Local Planning Agency. He had been serving as an alternate member. Scott Lyons was appointed to fill the alternate seat.

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

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# The renaissance at Ground Zero

## THE BACK PORCH

Kelley Lannigan

The massive construction site that is Ground Zero has been shrouded from the public view for some time as workers rebuild the World Trade Center.

But a fascinating program series produced by Stephen Spielberg called *Rising: Rebuilding Ground Zero* has given viewers an inside look at the work being done to reclaim and renew the site of the greatest terrorist disaster the United States has ever known.

Two perfect square recessions, each an acre in size and descending 30 feet below the surface of the earth mark the location where the Twin Towers once stood.

Referred to as "the footprints," each granite-lined cavity has begun to murmur with the constant rush of flowing water, making them the largest man-made waterfalls in the world.

The waterfalls are the centerpiece of what will be Memorial Plaza. When the plaza officially opens on September 12, visitors will see bronze panels that surround the falls containing the names of employees, firemen, policemen and visitors who were present when the Twin Towers came down.

They will see names of passengers and crew of American Airlines flight 277 which crashed into the Pentagon, the names of passengers and crew on United Airlines Flight 93 that crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania and the six people who lost their lives when the World Trade Center was bombed in 1993.

Hundreds of swamp white oaks will surround the waterfalls creating a tranquil green space for visitors and the employees who will eventually again inhabit Freedom Tower and other buildings still under construction.

On a recent evening I stood outside of Ground Zero where even at night, scores of people work amid the whirl and clank and grind of massive machinery, determined to bring the World Trade Center back from the grave.

Beyond those walls I knew the new oak forest stood and among it, the "survivor pear tree" whose broken and burned trunk clung to life for two weeks before it

was unearthed from under tons of metal and concrete and glass rubble. Nurtured and restored, it is a very special symbol of hope and resurrection.

Something else survived the horror and destruction of 9/11 as well. A nearly life-sized outdoor bronze sculpture of a businessman in the act of double-checking the contents of his briefcase that sat on a bench across the street from the World Trade Center plaza. Rescued from oblivion, Double Check now sits on a granite wall at One Liberty Plaza in



Double Check

PHOTO BY KELLEY LANNIGAN

the financial district near Wall Street, still close to Ground Zero.

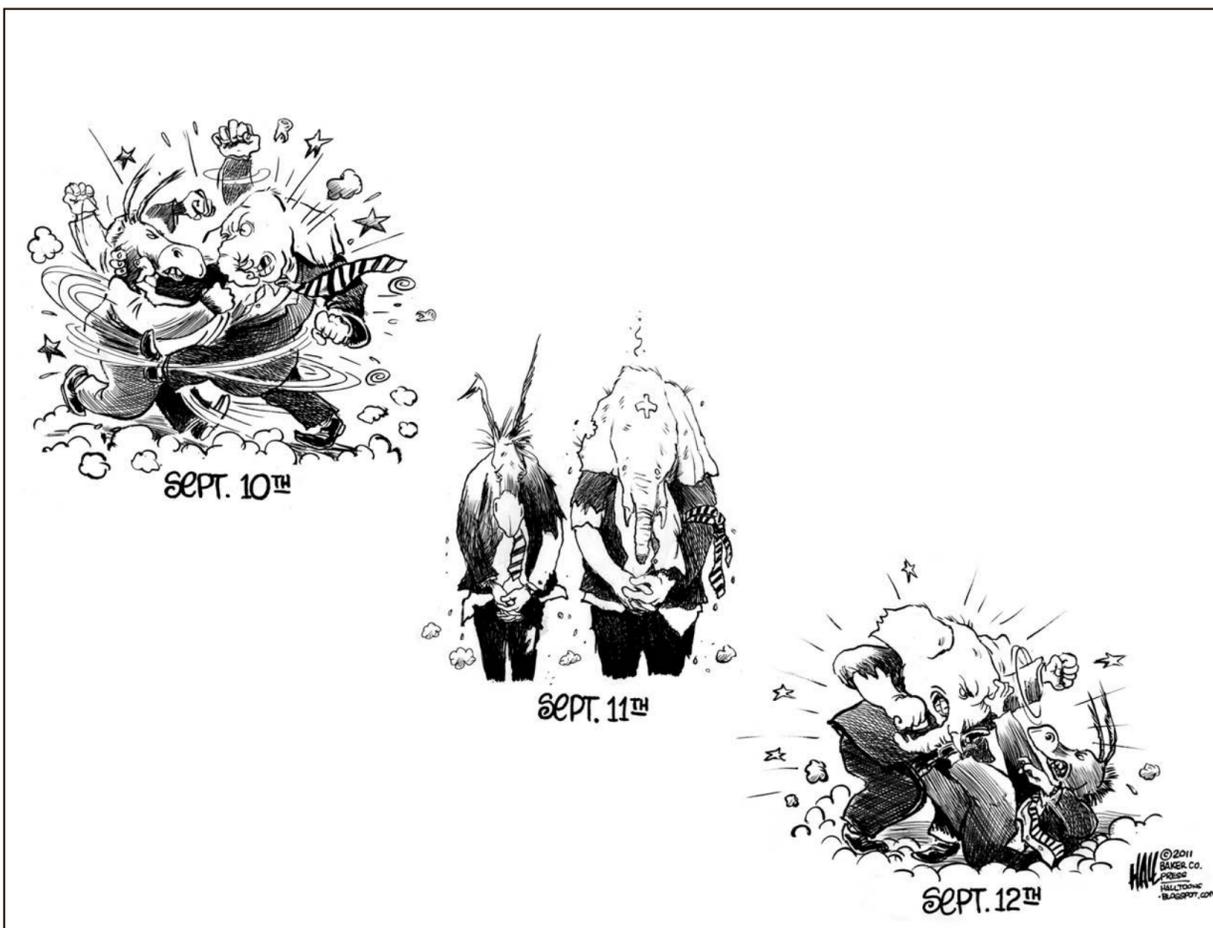
As a young man, my father trained on Wall Street for three months in 1962 in preparation for his career at Merrill Lynch. I knew the company's symbol, a huge bronze bull statue, was somewhere near Ground Zero.

I went in search of the famous bull, turned a corner and came face to face with Double Check instead. I had read about this statue, but I never expected to see it. For a second, it took my breath away.

Five months ago, I lost my father. He worked for Merrill Lynch for more than 40 years. The firm had originally provided the funds to commission a sculptor to create Double Check.

I stared at the statue, touched it and for a moment felt an eerie connection between the living and the dead.

I can't help but think, as he intently studies the contents of his briefcase, Double Check sometimes manages a glance up toward Ground Zero, keeping tabs on the construction there and waiting, with the patience only known to a statue, for the business of life, once more, to resume.



# How we held up an election

With the Sesquicentennial coming on in about two weeks, it's time for another glance down memory lane at some little known Baker County history. I wish I could claim to have dug this up, but at least I can give credit where credit is due. Most of my information

came from Gene Barber with a little extra leg work from me, but not enough to get me out of breath.

✓ Did you know that Florida once held up the results of a presidential election for over a month?

Sure, you say. Everybody knows that. Bush and Gore in 2000. It was finally decided in the Supreme Court.

Well, that's true. You can watch it all take place in the wonderful film *Recount* with Kevin Spacey. But I'm talking about the first time Florida held up the election, and the time when Baker County played a big part in deciding who was the president of the United States.

Let's set the stage. It's 1876, eleven years after the end of the Civil War. Reconstruction is firmly in place and federal troops still occupy most of the South. Republicans have run the government since Lincoln was elected in 1861. The South is staunchly Democrat, as it will be for the next 100 years, to the degree that at one point they will be called Dixiecrats.

But things are changing. Even Northerners are getting tired of having troops in the South and the Democratic Party is gaining strength north of the Mason-Dixon. Two Northern governors, Samuel Tilden of New York and Rutherford B. Hayes of Ohio, are running for president. The elec-

tion is too close to call.

In a repeat of Bush/Gore, the Democrat Tilden wins the popular vote. But Hayes wins the Electoral College. It all depends on a few disputed counties in the South. One of those is Baker County.

Gov. Marcellus Stearns of Florida was shocked to discover that Baker County sent three different sets of "official" results to Tallahassee after the election. One set showed Hayes, the Republican, winning by a landslide. The other showed Tilden winning by a large margin and the third went for Hayes by a small margin.

Stearns, a Reconstruction Republican, was baffled and suspicious. Though he would love to declare for the fellow Republican Hayes, Baker County had never voted Republican and the chances of that happening were slim.

Stearns had his people telegraph the county seat in Sanderson, but they could not get through. They kept trying and soon decided that the telegraph

lines had been cut. Hmm.

Stearns dispatched officials to Sanderson but they never arrived because the train tracks had been ripped up. Hmm.

These were the wild and woolly days of politics. We complain today about negative campaign ads. During the Hayes/Tilden campaign in Baker County, it was said that political activists on both sides just "went missing" or "disappeared into the swamps never to be seen again."

The Klan was very active and blamed for a lot of what was going on. Democrats blamed Republicans and Republicans blamed Democrats.

What it boiled down to was that in Baker County and a couple of counties in Louisiana and Mississippi, there was no way to determine which votes were the real votes. It was left up to the election committees in the states.

Strangely enough, Republican Governor Stearns didn't leap to ratify for Hayes. He didn't like the mischief that was going on in his state and wanted to get to the bottom of it. But he was also a shrewd politician and had a hidden agenda.

Stearns met with Hayes officials and cut a deal. He would ratify the contested votes for Hayes if the new president would remove all federal troops from the South and end Reconstruction.

He agreed and Stearns certified the Baker County votes for Hayes, despite the fact that Baker County had never voted Republican and wouldn't for another hundred years. The special election commission awarded him the hotly contested election and within a month of taking office, Hayes removed all Federal troops from the South.

Here's where the history takes a confusing and controversial turn (as if the rest wasn't). Soon after the election Barber reports that the courthouse at Sanderson burned to the ground along with the election records. That in itself is suspicious. Others contend it never happened and even Barber was a little iffy about it in later years.

It's certainly another twist in the already twisty tale.

So there you have it. How Baker County helped influence the results of a presidential election.

## MY SIDE OF THE MATTER

ROBERT GERARD



### Facebook fans

#### 'What you had to say ...'

*Republicans often dominate much of the public political discourse in Baker County. And as the Grand Ole Party goes about nominating its candidate to face President Obama in the November 2012 election, we asked our Facebook fans on September 2 who they liked best in the GOP primary race. Here's what they had to say ...*

Leslie Wahlstrom Teeter: "None ... I am scared for the future."

Patricia Bailey Strohmetz: "I know, me too. I would say none of them too :("

Aaron Scott: "On the way home, my second-grader said, 'Dad, I've got just two words: no homework!' Ha! He enjoyed it."

Cam Hayes: "Nyancat."

Shannon Coyle: "Ron Paul!"

Scott Shannon Perry: "100% but truly a kindergartner could do a better job than the childish man running the country today."

Jason Randall: "Remember in 2004 when the Democrats decided

that anyone was better than Bush, and had nothing but terrible candidates? Well, the GOP have decided this is a good running model for 2012."

Clayton Yarbrough: "Not excited by anyone in the field but I will vote for anybody who makes the Republican ticket since I will never vote for Obama for anything."

Buck Wright: "Willie Nelson."

Warren Thomas Pope: "Herman Cain."

Dennie Dee Ledford: "I don't 'like' any of them but I do think this debate will be very entertaining. :)"

Nina Carr: "Only thing I know is who I am not voting for. Right now no one on the Republican side has me excited, but my vote will go to a Republican."

Nick Apromollo: "Ron Paul is the answer."

Jay Cannaday: "Herman Cain!"

Greg Sheppard: "Ron Paul — just wondering who would be his running

mate."

Jay Cannaday: "Hopefully someone interested in defending this country, which Paul is not."

Scott Shannon: "My main gripe with Ron Paul is how flipping stupid he is when it comes to his views on drugs... Nobody in their right mind would legalize heroin."

*The day before we asked our fans, "What's the most exciting, interesting or unusual thing to happen in your neighborhood recently?"*

Matthew Rhoden: "I watched my neighbor get arrested ... again."

Julie Brinson Combs: "I had to stop for a bunch of turkeys to cross the road Monday morning on the way to work."

Christina Ladymasterchief Harris: "I saw a remote controlled car flying down the street with a lit roman candle on it."

Alyssa Nicole Fernandez: "Interesting: the sign on the front of our neighborhood, Rolling Meadows by the fairgrounds, that says 'Road Closed to Thru Traffic' is spelled incorrectly. Where it should say Thru, it says Thur. My family always has a laugh."

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## THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS



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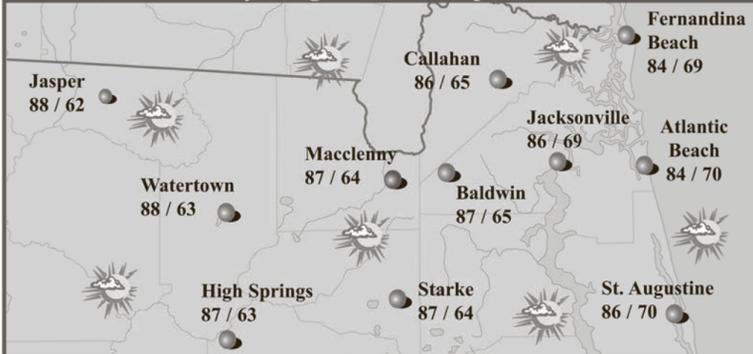
### The Baker County Press Weather

Sept. 8, 2011

#### Seven Day Forecast

	<b>Thursday</b> Mostly Sunny High: 87 Low: 64
	<b>Friday</b> Mostly Sunny High: 88 Low: 65
	<b>Saturday</b> Mostly Sunny High: 90 Low: 68
	<b>Sunday</b> Mostly Sunny High: 88 Low: 69
	<b>Monday</b> Mostly Sunny High: 89 Low: 68
	<b>Tuesday</b> Mostly Sunny High: 92 Low: 70
	<b>Wednesday</b> Partly Cloudy High: 90 Low: 71

#### Today's High & Low Temperatures



#### Last Week's Local Almanac

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip	
Tue, 8/30	93	68	90/72	0.00"	Precipitation . . . . .0.45"
Wed, 8/31	86	72	90/72	0.00"	Normal precipitation . . . . .1.72"
Thu, 9/1	86	70	90/72	0.00"	Departure from normal . . . . .-1.27"
Fri, 9/2	90	64	90/72	0.00"	Average temperature . . . . .78.9°
Sat, 9/3	90	63	90/72	0.00"	Average normal temperature . . . . .80.9°
Sun, 9/4	88	66	90/71	0.17"	Departure from normal . . . . .-2.0°
Mon, 9/5	93	75	90/71	0.28"	

*Data as reported from Cecil Field Airport*

#### Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	
Thursday	7:09 a.m.	7:43 p.m.	
Friday	7:09 a.m.	7:42 p.m.	
Saturday	7:10 a.m.	7:41 p.m.	
Sunday	7:10 a.m.	7:39 p.m.	
Monday	7:11 a.m.	7:38 p.m.	
Tuesday	7:11 a.m.	7:37 p.m.	
Wednesday	7:12 a.m.	7:36 p.m.	

#### St. Mary's River Levels

	Now	Change
Moniac, GA	4.26 ft.	0.00 ft.
Macclenny	1.28 ft.	-0.02 ft.

#### Hunting/Fishing Times

Day	Peak Times	
	AM	PM
Thu	8:53-10:53	8:23-10:23
Fri	9:38-11:38	9:08-11:08
Sat	10:22-12:22	9:52-11:52
Sun	11:04-1:04	10:34-12:34
Mon	11:30-1:30	11:00-1:00
Tue	11:45-1:45	11:15-1:15
Wed	—	11:57-1:57

www.WhatsOurWeather.com

#### Weather History

**Sept. 8, 1988** - Eighteen cities in the south central and eastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, including Roanoke, Va. with a reading of 42 degrees.

### BAKER COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

# Missing the mark on progress Three schools fall short of improvement goals

**JOEL ADDINGTON**  
 NEWS EDITOR  
 reporter@bakercountypress.com

The district's three highest grade level schools — Keller Intermediate, the middle school and high school — failed to reach benchmarks set in their state-mandated School Improvement Plans for 2010-11.

With input from school advisory councils consisting of faculty and parents, each school is required to write an improvement plan and identify specific goals, usually based on student FCAT performance, attendance and discipline, to measure improvement year-to-year.

Principals from each district school reported their results the evening of September 6 to the school board.

Keller Intermediate, which was labeled a D school by the state this year, was only able to achieve one of the 13 goals included in its 2010-11 improvement plan, perhaps the most lofty of which was to become an A school.

"That can happen when you set your goals so high," Gail Griffis, Keller's principal, told board members that evening. "... It's very disappointing, but we're not done."

Keller slipped 2 points in the percentage of students meeting high standards in reading, from 76 to 74 percent, and in math, from 69 to 67 percent.

The school lost 10 percent in the same benchmark for writing and 4 percent in science. The share of students making learning gains in reading and math also fell by 6 and 10 percent, respectively.

Ms. Griffis pledged to continue setting high goals for her students and faculty, and was applauded by board member Patricia Weeks for her tenacity.

"If there's one thing about Gail, she's a fighter," commented Ms. Weeks.

BCHS principal Tom Hill left board members with a similar message after telling them the high school failed to meet seven of 11 objectives in its improvement plan, though progress on three of the goals couldn't be determined until next month.

Mr. Hill noted that while FCAT scores rose in a number of areas — like the percentage of 9th and 10th graders making reading

gains or reading at grade level, which each jumped 3 percent — the improvements fell short of the benchmarks in the improvement plan.

The aim to reach 80 percent of 9th and 10th graders scoring at grade level on the math FCAT, however, was met in 2010-11 when 81 percent of those students did so, compared to 77 percent the previous year.

"If we set the bar at where we thought we'd go, we would not be where want to be ... I believe in setting the goal at where we need to be," he said, adding later that the state continues to raise standards for students, particularly in reading, each year.

"Your board understands fully the situation you're up against," said board member Dean Griffis while encouraging Mr. Hill. "By 2014, we all know we'll have to have every student performing at grade level. And I hope we do."

The middle school also missed most of its goals, partially meeting two of 13 in the school's improvement plan.

The school set out to have 30 percent of students score a 4 and 15 percent a 5 on the FCAT math test's 5-point scale, but only the latter goal was reached.

The other goal partially met was to increase the number of parent volunteers and the number of volunteer hours. While the number of volunteers surged more than 500 percent, the hours dropped nearly 9 percent.

"I'm going to set my goals high again next year and I may be sitting here telling you the same thing — that we haven't met our goals," said BCMS principal Sherry Barrett. "But we're not going to set them lower just so we know we'll meet them."

Westside Elementary, Macclenny Elementary and the Pre-K/Kindergarten Center were the district schools to meet most of the goals from their 2010-11 improvement plans.

The Pre-K/Kindergarten Center hit seven of its eight benchmarks, including those related to reading and writing skills, but missed its goal for attendance.

"Attendance is still something we need to work on," said the center's principal Bonnie Jones.

The school saw a 2 percent increase in the number tardy students.

Westside Elementary reached most of its objectives from the

school improvement plan in academic areas and pushed its attendance rate from 95 to 97 percent. The number of students serving out-of-school suspensions, however, spiked from one the previous year to eight in 2010-11.

Macclenny Elementary met 23 of its 25 benchmarks.

In other business this week, the board:

- Adopted the 2011-12 property tax, or millage, rate of 7.833 mills and accompanying budget of \$54.2 million.

The property tax rate is equal to about \$7.83 per \$1000 of taxable property value. That means a homesteaded property valued at \$150,000 with the \$50,000 homestead exemption and a taxable value of \$100,000 would pay about \$783 in school district levies.

- Approved a host of consultant contracts as follows: Rock Rhoden of Macclenny for BCMS assistant football coach at \$1500 through November 9, Freddie Smith of Macclenny for BCHS assistant football coach at \$2,575 through June 30, 2012, Lonnie

Andrew Norman, Jr. of Macclenny for BCHS assistant boys basketball coach at \$1595 through June 30, 2012, Phoebe Nipper of Glen St. Mary for BCHS flag corp at \$525 through June 30, 2012, Jonathan Gaskins of Sanderson for BCHS assistant boys basketball coach at \$1390 through June 30, 2012, Justin Burnham of Glen St. Mary for BCHS assistant band director at \$1030 through June 30, 2012, Jerrod Rhoden of Macclenny for substitute instruction in BCHS's new Global Logistics course at no charge through June 8, 2012 and Mary Brandenburg of Gainesville for K-5 writing instruction and training at \$800 per day (not to exceed two days) through October 28.

- Approved three out of state field trips for the BCMS football team, coach and athletic director to St. Mary's, GA for a football game September 13, the BCHS drama club to the Petit Jean Performance Festival in Morrilton, Arkansas the last week of October and the BCHS chapter of Future Farmers of America to the 84th National Convention in In-

dianapolis October 18-22.

- Adopted the 2010-11 Annual School Health Services report reflecting services provided by school nurses and other health-related activities at area schools.

Marcheta Crews, the district's health services specialist, said the largest increases included in the report were treatments for allergies and asthma, which accounted for three quarters of all reported health conditions.

The report also shows that the district spent nearly \$335,000 on health services in 2010-11, which is just under the amount budgeted for the 2011-12 fiscal year beginning October 1.

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**PUBLIC HEARING**

Pursuant to an application submitted by Michael and Christina Crews to be granted a Special Exception on property located on County Road 229 South, in Section 36, Township 3S, Range 20, containing approximately 16.47 acres in Baker County, FL. The Baker County Board of County Commissioners, will consider the request at a public hearing scheduled for Monday, September 19, 2011 at 6:00pm in the County Administration Building, 55 North Third St., Macclenny, FL. All interested parties may appear and be heard with respect to the Special Exception request. The purpose of the request is to be granted a Special Exception to the Baker County Land Development Regulations in reference to Section 8.04.09B New Flag Lots. Written comments for or against the Special Exception may be sent to Baker County Planning Department, 360 E Shuey Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063. Faxed comments may be sent to (904)259-5057. Copies of the Special Exception may be inspected by any member of the public in the Planning Department, address stated above. According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the Administration Department at (904) 259-5123 at least 48 hours prior to the time of the hearing.

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Pursuant to an appeal submitted by Duncan and Jill Walters, appealing the Baker County Land Planning Agencies decision to deny a special exception request to allow for the operation of a dog kennel. The request was submitted in accordance to the Baker County Land Development Regulations, Section 3.04.09.02(1) Kennel, Ordinance 2005-42 Section 8.03.01(1) As to Subdivision Regulations. The property is located on King Ruise Road in the West Glen Estates Subdivision east of Cowpen Road, in Baker County Florida. The Baker County Board of County Commissioners will consider the request at a public hearing scheduled for Monday, September 19, 2011 at 6:00p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, at the Baker County Administration Building, 55 North Third Street, Macclenny, Florida. On the above-mentioned date, all interested parties may appear and be heard with respect to the appeal of the determination of the request for a special exception. Written comments for or against the request may be sent to the Baker County Planning and Zoning Department, 360 E. Shuey Avenue, Macclenny FL, 32063. Faxed comments may be sent to (904)259-5057. Copies of the request may be inspected in the Planning and Zoning Department by any member of the public. According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing special accommodations or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the Administration Department at (904) 259-5123 at least 48 hours prior to the time of the hearing.

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# UF opens family medical clinic

## One of 20 in region

**JOEL ADDINGTON**  
NEWS EDITOR

reporter@bakercountypress.com

University of Florida Jacksonville Healthcare Inc. has branched out with a new primary care center in Macclenny, the latest addition to some 20 family medicine clinics in Duval, Nassau and Clay counties.

UF Crossroads Family Medicine opened its doors at 802 S. 6th St. in the Crossroads Shopping Center on August 22 and Dr. Kenneth Obiaja is seeing patients and settling into his first solo practice.

"It's going very well," Dr. Obiaja said later that week.

The doctor and UF assistant professor of Community Health and Family Medicine holds a master's degree in public health.

Dr. Obiaja is also well-traveled.

The Nigerian native received his medical degree in Cuba in 1999 before returning to the west African nation to practice medicine until 2002 when he became a student at Florida International University in Miami. He received his master's in public health in 2004.

The doctor worked doing HIV prevention education in Broward County until 2007 before joining the University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center as a research associate.



Dr. Kenneth Obiaja (center right) with clinic staff (from left) Jennifer Smith, Heather Hamilton and Sylvia Cook.

PHOTO BY JOEL ADDINGTON

He spent a year doing cancer prevention in low-income neighborhoods in Miami-Dade County. He started his residency in family medicine at the University of Miami and Jackson Memorial Hospital in 2008 and finished last June.

He resides in St. Augustine with his wife, two daughters, ages 13 and 7, and 6-month-old son.

Dr. Obiaja, who speaks Spanish and French, is joined at the clinic by office manager Heather Hamilton, front desk clerk Jen-

nifer Smith and medical assistant Sylvia Cook. The clinic accepts patients from newborns to seniors and is open 8:00 a to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday.

The office accepts Medicare, Medicaid, PPO coverage and most major private insurance carriers like Aetna, Blue Cross Blue Shield, United and AvMed.

University of Florida Jacksonville Healthcare, Inc. chose to expand in Macclenny because it lacked a presence here and some medical services available locally

are only accessible on a part-time basis, said the organization's director of planning and development Renee Moyd.

"We have employees who live in the community and we didn't have any presence there and saw a need," she explained, adding that local patients can be "funneled" to Shands on Jacksonville's north side.

"We're probably one of the easiest hospital's to reach with the changes made to the interstate," said Ms. Moyd.

# His eagle is adorning Hornsby shirts

**KELLEY LANNIGAN**  
FEATURES

features@bakercountypress.com

Colten Anderson, a second grader at Macclenny Elementary, has been flying with the eagles since school started.

His drawing of the Hornsby Island Eagles was recently selected to be featured on T-shirts, coffee mugs, tote bags, caps and a host of other marketing merchandise.

The Hornsby Island Eagles became famous in 2009 when nature enthusiast Doug Carrick, whose house is near the eagles' nest in British Columbia, Canada, set up video cameras and began streaming live the nesting activities.

The result was the Hornsby Eagles Group Project Society, which produced a public website for the live eagle cam feed and a discussion forum for observers.

Colten found out about his good fortune when he attended open house right before school began.

"I was in shock," said Colten, speaking from his classroom at Macclenny Elementary on August 25.

He is a member of teacher Janet Sabaka's second grade class, which last spring began actively watching the eagles.

The eagle cam is observed by people from Canada, the United States and England and the accompanying forum contains a "Kid's Corner" allowing students to participate.

Macclenny Elementary has its own page on the forum. That's how Colten's drawing came to the attention of the website's administrators.

"There has been a huge educational component to this," said Ms. Sabaka. "The kids have learned so much about the life cycle of eagles, but also about geography as well. Their participation has involved observation, asking questions through the forum's chat room, writing in expository and narrative styles and creating artwork."

Eagles use the same nest year after year. Students watched as they refurbished it last spring and then as the female eagle, known as Mrs. Hornsby, laid two eggs.

Both parents took turns sitting on the nest. The eggs actually hatched while the students were on spring break, but when they returned they were delighted to see the two new baby eagles, named David and Alexandra, in the nest.



Janet Sabaka and Colton Anderson with eagle merchandise.

PHOTO BY KELLEY LANNIGAN

As the days and weeks went by they watched as the eagles fed, nurtured and protected the babies. They saw the babies grow to the beginning of fledging stage. Then summer break began.

Ms. Sabaka monitored the babies' continued progress and saw them finally leave the nest for good last July.

"Members who participate in the forum log in, read the children's writing, view their art and leave very nice comments which the children can read," said Ms. Sabaka.

She says Colten's drawing got the attention of the forum administrators because of the amount of detail it included.

He drew the parent eagles — dad bringing a fish at mealtimes and mom protecting the nest and babies. He also drew the babies, the wide angle and close-up cam-

### COLTEN'S EAGLE ESSAY

The eagles are the national bird and a type of raptor. They take care of their babies. Eagles like to fly. Dad eagle likes to bring sticks or fish to the nest. The babies like to fight. And mom likes to hit the dad with sticks. They eat like 6 or 7 times a day.

Mom has a wicked hairdo. Dad has a smooth head and the babies have plain gray bodies. The mom and dad both have black and white feathers.

Eagles hatch from eggs. An eagle's feet are called talons. They have 3 or 4 foot wings. They live all over North America.

eras, an intruder threatening the nest and, to the amusement of the administrators, even gave a nod to eagle pooping etiquette.

"Baby eagles are born instinctively knowing not to poop in their nest and the class had a huge discussion on this subject, as you can imagine," said Ms. Sabaka, laughing.

Intruders to the nest got the kid's attention as well and they learned that the momma eagle gives an alarm call and the babies know to immediately flatten themselves in the nest to keep from drawing attention.

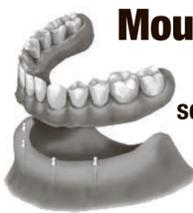
"I've seen eagles before because I have a big field in my back yard," said Colten. "I've seen them flying and up in a tree. I liked watching the eagle cam because the dad eagle would bring a fish and feed the babies. I liked

watching them fighting and playing and when they'd back up and put their little backsides over the nest to poop. Now I'm really interested about watching other things going on in nature."

When asked what his family thought about his drawing being selected he said, "my mom, she's so excited about this maybe being in the newspaper."

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# Facebook recipe page takes off

## Baker County ladies 'cooking' on social network

JOEL ADDINGTON  
NEWS EDITOR  
reporter@bakercountypress.com

Velveeta ... fudge?

"It's cheese and chocolate. It doesn't go together to me, but I'm going to try it," said Norma Jean Hartline. "It's supposed to be amazing ... And it's very unhealthy."

The dessert's recipe calls for cocoa, Velveeta and a heap of butter and sugar, among other ingredients. It's one of more than 100 recipes posted to the Easy Home Cooked Recipes Facebook page created last month by Ms. Hartline of Glen St. Mary and her friend and former co-worker Kristin Simmons of Macclenny.

They founded the page as a place where Facebook users could swap quick and easy recipes, tweak and experiment with them and share comments about the results.

"I wanted other people's recipes," explained Ms. Hartline two days after publishing the page. "I wanted to be able to come home and throw these things together and make a meal."

The Mint Magazine production manager and mother of two, and step-mother to two more, all ranging in age from 11 to 22, said their inspiration for convenient cooking came from another site dedicated to sharing crock pot recipes.

It all started when Ms. Hartline, 41, was talking on the phone to her best friend and Ms. Simmons' mother, Christina Griffith, about a crock pot recipe for lima beans.

"I got to thinking about it ... and thought, 'We could put this on Facebook,'" said Ms. Hartline. Then Ms. Simmons, 23, got on the line and they began to hatch a plan for the Easy Home Cooked Recipes Facebook page.

The women spent five years working together at Mint Magazine and carpooling to Jacksonville Monday through Friday. Ms. Simmons recently left the job to pursue a registered nursing degree. She also created a simple logo for the page.

"I wanted a down-to-earth, amateurish logo," said Ms. Hartline.

The page was published on August 30. Then it spread like wildfire.

"That next morning I had four likes," she said. "It went from four to 150 and just kept going and going. Then I started networking it and going to other people's pages and saying I liked their recipes and asking them to click to like our page."

Within two days, the Easy Home Cooked Recipes page had been "liked" by more than 1000 Facebook users.

When users click the like button on a page, it's reflected on the users' pages and they receive notifications when a new recipe is posted to Easy Home Cooked Recipes.

More than 1600 users "liked" the page by



PHOTO COURTESY OF NORMA JEAN HARTLINE  
Kristin Simmons (left) and Norma Jean Hartline at the latter woman's home.



September 6.

"It's huge," Ms. Hartline said late last week after breaking 1000 likes and 67,000 views. "I'm surprised I have 300 friends on my regular Facebook. And those are just the people I know ... It's just crazy. I would never believe it."

Ms. Simmons, who recently married and now attends Florida Gateway College in Lake City while pursuing freelance photography work, was also very enthusiastic about the page's popularity.

"It's been really cool to see the interaction we've gotten back from it," she said. "It's something we'd really like to grow ... We're really excited about it."

Both women said the Velveeta fudge reci-

pe, shared by Jennie Mae Wroubel of Green Cove Springs, was one of the oddest dishes posted to their page. Many more, however, are variations of more common fare like chili, casseroles, pasta dishes, meatloaf and soups.

Facebook users post their favorite recipes to the page and other users can ask questions or leave comments for the original poster. Ms. Hartline and Ms. Simmons manage the page, re-posting recipes to its discussion section to build a directory of recipes.

They are also encouraging visitors to post photos of their finished dishes along with the recipes. The photo section of the page helps categorize the various foods, too, even if there's no photo to accompany the recipe.

Photos on Facebook are arranged in titled albums, and Ms. Hartline has been culling similar recipes into various albums. So far there's albums for alcoholic drinks, side dishes, main dishes, casseroles and sandwiches.

After clicking on the desired album, users can hover their cursors over a particular photo (either of the dish itself or the Easy Home Cooked Recipe logo) and the name of the dish will appear. Clicking on the desired dish will give users access to the recipe for that dish.

Ms. Hartline envisions busy soccer moms cruising the grocery store and going to Easy Home Cooked Recipes on their smart phones to get ideas for the evening's dinner. She and her partner want to eventually spin-off the Easy Home Cooked Recipe Facebook page into a stand alone website.

"It's just a fun hobby that we hope something will come of it," said Ms. Simmons.

Though neither woman considers herself a chef, they are hardly novices, either.

"I dabble a little bit," said Ms. Hartline, who grew up on a farm in Baker County and remembers picking vegetables and watching her mother spend most of the day in the kitchen.

"The problem with a lot of recipes I've tried before is they're so hard to do, and having a 40-hour-plus job, it's hard," she said. "For me, it's hard to cook all this stuff and buy all this stuff."

Ms. Simmons says she's not much of an experimenter when it comes to cooking, "but if you give me a recipe, I can make it all day long and make it as good as it's supposed to be."

One recipe she recommends, chicken divan, is from a book of recipes that Macclenny Elementary School put together.

"I've tried it and my husband is obsessed with it. It calls for cream of chicken soup and mayonnaise and I've changed the flavor up with cream of mushroom," she said. "It's quick and easy. It's something everybody can make with the stuff in their pantry."

## WANTED

Old photographs of Baker County buildings, landmarks & residents prior to 1960 for completion of Gene Barber's book on the history of Baker County. PHOTOS WILL BE RETURNED ASAP Also photos of military veterans and families from Baker County Call 259-2400 for more information.

## Legal Notices

The St. Johns River Water Management District (District) gives notice of receipt of the following permit application(s):

### Standard General and Standard ERP Permit Applications

RH Davis Oil Company Inc, PO Box 387, Macclenny, FL 32063, application #40-003-128733-1. The project is located in Baker County, Section: 1, Township: 3 South, Range: 21 East, and includes 11.77 acres. The Environmental Resource Permit application is for construction of a surface water management system to serve a commercial development known as Davis Travel Center. The receiving waterbody is South Prong Saint Marys River.

The file(s) containing the permit application(s) are available for inspection Monday through Friday, except for District holidays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Districts Headquarters, 4049 Reid St., Palatka, FL 32177-2529. You may also view files at one of the District's Service Centers, but you should call Service Center staff in advance to make sure that the files are at a specific Service Center. Service Center contact information is available online at [floridastwater.com/contactus/offices.html](http://floridastwater.com/contactus/offices.html). Additionally, most permit application file documents can be viewed online at [floridastwater.com/permitting/index.html](http://floridastwater.com/permitting/index.html). To obtain information on how to find and view permit application file documents, go to the HELP tab in E-Permitting and click on Support and FAQs and then follow the directions provided under "How to find a Technical Staff Report (TSR) or other application file documents."

The decision on Standard General and Standard permit applications will be made at the District's Service Center where the application is processed, unless the application is upgraded to an individual permit as explained below. A substantial objection to a Standard General or Standard permit application must be made in writing and filed with (received by) the Director of Regulatory Support, P.O. Box 1429, Palatka, FL 32178-1429, or by e-mail application.support@sjwr.com within 14 days of notification of the application. Please include either the Permit Application number or the Project Name in the objection. Notification of the application is either the fifth day after the date on which the written notice is deposited in the U.S. mail (for those persons who receive actual notice by U.S. mail), the day the notice is emailed (for those persons who receive actual notice by email), or the date the notice is published in the newspaper (if actual notice is not provided by U.S. mail or email). A "substantial objection" means a written statement directed to the District that identifies the objector, concerns hydrologic or environmental impacts of the proposed activity, and relates to applicable rule criteria. A timely substantial objection cause the Standard General or Standard permit application to be considered an application for an individual permit. If the District receives a timely substantial objection from you, then you will receive written notice of the District's intended decision on the permit application.

Please note that decisions on individual permit applications will be made either by the District's Executive Director or designee (for those applications which are recommended for approval) or by the District's Governing Board (for those applications which are recommended for denial). For individual permit applications, you are advised to notify the District within 14 days of notification of the application(s) if you have questions, objections, comments, or information regarding the activity proposed in the permit application. If you make a written request to the District for additional information regarding a specific permit application, you will be provided an opportunity to obtain the available information. Please note that filing a written objection does not entitle you to a Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, administrative hearing.

Notice of intended (proposed) District Decision will be provided to persons who have requested individual notice. A request for individual notice of intended (proposed) District Decision on the application must be received by the District's Director of the Division of Regulatory Support prior to the date the notice of intended (proposed) District Decision is generated.

Victor Castro, Division Director, Regulatory Support  
St. Johns River Water Management District

9/8

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS OF THE NORTH FLORIDA BROADBAND AUTHORITY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

The North Florida Broadband Authority ("NFBA") announces meetings of the NFBA Operations Committee that all interested persons are invited to attend. The NFBA is a legal entity and public body created pursuant to the provisions of Section 163.01, Florida Statutes, and an Interlocal Agreement among Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Putnam, Suwannee, Taylor, Union and Wakulla counties and municipalities of Cedar Key, Cross City, Lake City, Live Oak, Monticello, Perry, White Springs and Worthington Springs, Florida. The NFBA's Operations Committee meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 8, 2011; and at 10:00 a.m. on the following Wednesdays, September 28, 2011; October 26, 2011; November 30, 2011; and December 28, 2011 all at the Cabot Lodge Board Room, 3726 SW 40th Boulevard, Gainesville, FL 32608. The NFBA's Operational Committee meeting is to conduct general business. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the NFBA with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, such person will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding or have any questions please contact Faith Doyle, Clerk to the NFBA Board at (877) 552-3482 or (407) 629-6900 at least two (2) business days prior to the date of the meeting.

9/8

### NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued in the County Court of Baker County, Florida, on the 18th day of August, 2011, in the cause wherein, COUNTRY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, was plaintiff, and DONALD FARMER, was defendant, being Case No. 2006-108-SC in said Court, I, Joey B. Dobson, as Sheriff of Baker County, Florida have levied upon all the right, title and interest of the party named in the Writ of Execution, Donald Farmer, in and to the following described personal property, to-wit:

2000 Ford Ranger Pickup Truck  
VIN: 1FTYR10V8YTBZ3713  
(NOTE: Anyone interested in viewing the vehicle being sold may do so 45 minutes prior to the time of the sale.

9/8

I shall offer this property for sale, at Higginbotham's Towing & Recovery, 7611 W. Mount Vernon St., Glen St. Mary, FL, County of Baker, State of Florida, on September 27th, 2011 at the hour of 11:00a.m., or as soon thereafter as possible. I will offer for sale all of the defendant, Donald Farmer's, right, title and interest in the aforesaid personal property, at public auction and will sell the same, subject to taxes, all prior liens, encumbrances and judgments, if any, to the highest and best bidder for CASH IN HAND. The proceeds to be applied as far as may be to the payment of costs and the satisfaction of the above described execution. (NOTE: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Baker County Sheriff's Office at (904) 259-0245 prior to the date of the sale.

JOEY B. DOBSON,  
Sheriff of Baker County, Florida  
By: Pamela L. Davis, D.S.

8/25-9/15

## Chamber banquet

The Baker County Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual membership banquet on Tuesday, September 27 at the family life center at First Baptist Church in Macclenny.

The program begins at 6:30 pm with hors d'oeuvres and the guest speaker is Macky Weaver, vice-president of sales and marketing for the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Members are requested to RSVP by calling 259-6433 or emailing [bblackshear@bakercchamberfl.com](mailto:bblackshear@bakercchamberfl.com) on or before September 16.

## Bassmasters of the year

The Baker County Bassmasters held their annual awards dinner August 16 at Cracker Barrel, awarding the team of Freddy Burnett and Shannon Mobley the title of 2011 Angler of the Year. It's their fourth title in more than a decade with the club. A meeting for new members will take place in mid-November at Extreme Outdoors. Call Mr. Burnett at 371-0209 for more information.

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

## Vendors and entries sought

The Baker County Sesquicentennial Committee is planning a one-day celebration of Baker County's 150th anniversary in Macclenny on September 24.

It will be an all-day affair beginning at 10:30 am with a parade and ending that evening with a street dance featuring some great Nashville country bands. There will be demonstrators, re-enactors and live entertainment all day in downtown Macclenny.

The committee seeks vendors and participants in the parade. For more information, call 259-1861 or go online to [www.150yearsofbaker.com](http://www.150yearsofbaker.com).

## Duty in Africa

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Michael P. Pitt, the son of Cynthia L. Pitt of Macclenny and Paul M. Pitt of Nashville, Tenn., is stationed aboard the guided missile frigate *USS Samuel B. Roberts* that recently arrived in Tanzania to begin its engagement with Africa Partnership Station (APS).

Pitt is a 1999 graduate of Baker County High School and joined the Navy in August 1999.

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**The 72nd ANNUAL MEETING of the members of Okefenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation will be held Saturday, September 10, 2011 At the Brantley County High School Highway 82 West - Nahunta, GA.**

**Registration from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. with Door Prizes for members**

**Musical entertainment provided by The Good News Quartet 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.**

**PLUS! Entertainment & Safety Photo Ids for the kids**

**Refreshments**

**Official Business Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.**

*All registered members present will be eligible For drawings for many attractive gifts including:*

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8/25-9/15

**LOT 31 A PARCEL OF LAND, LYING IN AND BEING A PART OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST, BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 6 AND RUN THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 56 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID SECTION 6, A DISTANCE OF 1520.09 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE PARCEL OF LAND HEREIN DESCRIBED, CONTINUE THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 56 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SECTION 6, A DISTANCE OF 100.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 01 DEGREES 52 MINUTES 03 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 275.56 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF 50 FOOT RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS, THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 24 MINUTES EAST, ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 100.11 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 1 DEGREE 52 MINUTES 03 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 270.79 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.**

**A/K/A 5852 WOODLAWN CEMETARY ROAD, MACCLENNY, FL 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 sixty (60) days after the sale.

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of this Court on September 1, 2011.

Al Fraser  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: Julie Combs  
Deputy Clerk

Florida Default Law Group, P.L.  
P.O. Box 25018  
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018  
F08058731 COUNTRY-CONV B/C---Team 2

\*\*See Americans with Disabilities Act  
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact:

Ms. Jan Phillips  
Human Resources Manager  
Alachua County Family/Civil Courthouse  
201 E. University Avenue, Room 410  
Gainesville, FL 32601  
Phone: 352-337-6237  
Fax: 352-374-5238

9/1-9/15  
**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.02-2009-CA-0124**

HARVEY SCHONBRUN,  
Plaintiff,

vs.

RUTH WORTHINGTON and DAVID WORTHINGTON, wife and husband,  
Defendants.

### NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure and an Order Resetting Foreclosure Sale entered in the above styled cause, in the Circuit Court of Baker County, Florida, I will sell the property situate in Baker County, Florida, described as:

**Lot 1 in Block 55 of the Town of Macclenny according to plat of said Town on file in Deed Book "D", Page 800 of the Public Records of Baker County, Florida.**

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at the main entrance of the Baker County Courthouse, 339 East Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, Florida, at 11:00 a.m., on the 26th day of September, 2011.

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 31st day of August, 2011.

AL FRASER  
CLERK OF THE COURT  
s/ Jamie Crews  
Deputy Clerk

9/8-9/15

# Award for prison outreach work 'Mama Gail' Kirkland CCA's Volunteer of Year

**JOEL ADDINGTON**  
NEWS EDITOR  
reporter@bakercountypress.com

Gail Kirkland is the mother of six children and grandmother to a dozen more. But the Georgia Bend resident is also known as "Mama Gail" to more than 40 other young men who are locked up in prison, including an inmate on death row.

She sends them Bibles, writes them Happy Birthday letters and mails other regular correspondence, always with an unaddressed envelope and stamp so they can respond easily.

"It's all about the Lord," she said of her ministry-by-mail activities. "It's getting the Word into their hands and then getting them teaching materials."

The Bibles are provided by Taylor Church with help from other congregates like Wendell and Janice Combs and Kim Strickland. They also attend a weekly service at Lake City Correctional Facility where Ms. Kirkland leads a Christian-based prison outreach program.

She was honored recently for her volunteer work with inmates at the facility, where she's spent 11 years befriending, counseling and educating prisoners.

The long-time homemaker was among seven volunteers selected for the Pete Speckman Volunteer of the Year award from the Corrections Corporation of America, which runs more than 60 prisons across the country including the one in Lake City.

Ms. Kirkland was nominated for the award by the prison's chaplain and Macclenny resident Tim Cheshire. The inmates she works with said they appreciate her frankness and passion for Christ.

"She never lies or mistreats us and opens our eyes to the spiritual battle around us," said Christopher Taylor, an inmate at Lake City Correctional.

Another offender at the facility, Lamont Downs, said, "She teaches straight from the Bible and is not opinion driven. That's exactly the type of influence a young Christian needs."

The other award recipients, hailing from Arizona, Kentucky, Kansas, California, Georgia and Florida, joined Ms. Kirkland



PHOTO COURTESY OF CORRECTIONS CORPORATION OF AMERICA  
Gail Kirkland receives the Pete Speckman Volunteer of the Year award from Mr. Speckman on August 17 in Nashville, TN.

in Nashville, TN on August 17 for a recognition ceremony and brunch with the company's brass and the award's namesake, Pete Speckman, plus a tour of the company's headquarters.

"[Mr. Speckman] is a little itty-bitty English fellow, but he's really dynamic," said Ms. Kirkland when interviewed by *The Press* last week about her experience as a mentor to young male offenders.

The award was established in 2009 to honor those in the company's prison outreach programs. Mr. Speckman is the director of prison outreach for School of Christ International.

Ms. Kirkland began her ministry at Taylor Church in 1997. She founded Addictive Behavior Broken from Above, or ABBA, after her youngest son became addicted to drugs. She said he was using for two years before she and her husband Kenneth discovered the problem.

"Needless to say we got a crash course in substance abuse," said Ms. Kirkland, a Tennessee native before living in Carrollton, GA and across the Georgia line after her marriage in 1983.

Today the son is off drugs, has two tours in the Air Force under

his belt and resides in Atlanta.

But the ABBA ministry continued, serving as an alternative to the idea that addicts will always be addicts.

"As Christians, we don't believe that," she said.

A second support group started in 1999 in Glen St. Mary and received a visit from the Lake City Correctional chaplain, Mr. Cheshire. He later invited the ministry to hold weekly services at the prison in 2001.

"It was identical to the ministry on the outside ... The focus was that you're where you're at, in prison, because of the choices you've made," she said.

Four years later, a faith-based program consisting of two classes was added to the weekly service. One is a character-building class called "Principles of Living," and the other known as "School of Christ," consists of learning to be a Christian directly from the Bible.

"I make it very real while keeping the focus on the Lord," said Ms. Kirkland. "I try to make it as relevant to where they are and what they're doing as I can, so they know it's real."

When asked if she's ever been scared or frightened while work-

ing with inmates, Ms. Kirkland said, without hesitation, "Never."

That's partly because she believes she's been called by God to prison outreach and partly because she counsels young men, who often see her as a mother or grandmother figure in their lives.

Lake City Correctional houses men ages 18-25.

"If you treat them with respect, they will treat you with respect," she said. "I'm very straight with them when I teach."

Her experience with one prisoner, a young black man named Terrence, was particularly rewarding. She called him a "poster boy" for faith-based prison outreach programs.

Terrence was serving time for a violent crime, but became a good mentor to fellow inmates and "really a person of faith," she said.

Other inmates often would ask her to pray for them before a court hearing and ask God to bring them a favorable result. Terrence, on the other hand, never made such a request.

"When I asked him why, he said 'I don't want to leave one minute before God thinks I'm ready, because I'm not going to come back,'" she recalled. Today Terrence is a business owner and family man in Quincy, FL.

"He is the epitome of 'you can do it, if you do it.' But you have to want to do it," Ms. Kirkland said.

Even after 11 years volunteering at Lake City Correctional, she said it's still a special moment when the inmates get her message and "grab a hold of it and start encouraging the other guys."

They'll start to approach her after services, asking to talk or if they can pray together. She receives letters from inmates elsewhere, too, saying they appreciate her correspondence because she makes them feel like family.

"That just warms your heart," Ms. Kirkland said.

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF

## Memorial for Mr. Belford

The public is invited to attend the opening of the first phase of a memorial park in honor of Rashard Belford, who died after being run over by a vehicle during a fracas in his west Macclenny neighborhood last April.

It will be September 16 at 4:30 pm at the corner of Minnesota Ave. and MLK Drive. For more information, please call Tommy Rollins at 312-8336 or Marissa Rollins at 316-9680.

## Art for seniors

The Baker County career and adult education center is offering acrylic painting art activities for citizens 55 years and older who meet additional eligibility criteria.

Classes are held at 523 W. Minnesota Ave. in Macclenny on Mondays, 1:00-4:00 pm, beginning September 12. Art supplies are included. Pre-registration is required as seating is limited. For more information call (904)259-0403.

## Benefit yard sale

The organization that supports school bands will hold its third annual yard sale on Saturday, September 10 at Celebration Park in Glen St. Mary.

Donations of saleable items are sought and can be dropped off that morning at 8:00 when the sale begins. It lasts until 2:00 that afternoon.

For more information, call the Baker County Friends of Instrumental Arts at 275-3051.

## '81 reunion

The Baker County High School class of 1981 reunion is planned for the evening of September 24 at the Steele House on the Glen St. Mary Nurseries property.

It begins at 6:00 pm and lasts until 11:00 pm and the cost is \$15 a person.

For more info email suzi-combs@yahoo.com or akrhoden@necfcom.net

## Hunter safety

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is in need of volunteer hunter safety instructors in Baker County to teach hunter safety. All instructors are volunteers.

If you are interested call (386) 758-0525.

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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**

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](http://www.bakercountypress.com)

## Arlie Combs Jr., 49, of Macclenny

Arlie Windol Combs Jr., 49, of Macclenny died Sunday, September 4 at the VA Medical Center in Lake City following an extended illness. Mr. Combs was born in Jacksonville and lived most of his life in Duval County before moving back to Macclenny three years ago. He was a self-employed plumber and carpenter for most of his life and a member of Wesconnett United Methodist Church of Jacksonville.



Arlie Combs

Survivors include daughter C. Brandice (Steven) Etheridge of Statesboro, AR; father Arlie Windol Combs Sr of Macclenny; mother Nancy Anderson of Maxville; grandmother Evelyn Combs of Macclenny; brother Darren (Debbie) Combs of Jacksonville; step-sisters Debra McCall of Jacksonville and Lisa Anderson of Jacksonville Beach; grandchild Jonathan Etheridge.

A graveside funeral service will be held Friday, September 9 at 1:00 pm at the Jacksonville National Cemetery. Visitation will be from 6:00 to 8:00 pm Thursday, September 8 at Guerry Funeral Home in Macclenny.

## Sarah Torode, 88, of Kingsley Lake

Sarah Elizabeth Torode, 88, of Kingsley Lake died Monday, September 5, 2011 at Windsor Manor Nursing Home in Starke. She was born on August 11, 1923 to the late Charles William and Minie (Mitchell) Poythress, and was a homemaker. Mrs. Torode was a longtime resident of the area and a member of the First United Methodist Church of Starke where she was a member of the Women's Circle and taught Sunday School for many years. Mrs. Torode was also a past member of the Jr. Woman's Club and the Woman's Club of Starke. She was preceded in death by her husband Mr. John A. Torode in 2001.

Survivors include children Sally Torode of Jacksonville, John Torode (Tracy) and Richard Torode of Starke, and Carl Torode (Christie) of Kingsley Lake; sister Luta Kilgo of Macclenny; grandchildren Megan, Mary, Shelley, Amanda, Shaina, and great-grandson Ryker Sean Welch.

The funeral service will be held Thursday, September 8 at 2:00 pm at her church with Pastor Mike Moore officiating. Burial will follow at the Kingsley Lake Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Methodist Children's Home or the Methodist Youth Dept., P.O. Box 157, Starke, FL 32091.

Jones-Gallaher Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

## Pearl Painter, 99, of Jacksonville dies

Pearl Painter, 99, of Jacksonville died August 26, 2011 surrounded by family. She was born in Painter, AL on October 9, 1911 and touched many lives by her sweet spirit, smile and contagious personality.

Mrs. Painter was a member of First Coast Christian Center and was preceded in death by her husband of 66 years, Arthur Painter; son Charles Painter; grandchild Stanley Nickhah.

Survivors include children Jackie Painter, Joan Painter (Larry) King, Pat Painter (Ron) Lowder, Paul (Kim) Painter of Jacksonville, Bonita Painter (John) Higgs of Glen St. Mary, Anthony (Edwina) Painter of Keystone Heights; sister Lois Evans of Albertville, AL; 17 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was held August 31 at Hardage-Giddens Funeral Home in Jacksonville. Internment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

## Betty Lou Melvin, 84, of Macclenny

Betty Lou Melvin, 84, of Macclenny died August 31, 2011. She was born in Miami to the late John Raymond Mick Sr. and Gertie Daughtry on June 5, 1927. She was a resident of Baker County since 1996 after moving from Hendersonville, NC. Mrs. Melvin was a legal clerk for 20 years at the Miami Dade County courthouse. She enjoyed quilt making, sewing, the book club in Hendersonville, NC and raising orchids. She was predeceased in death by husband James F. Melvin Sr. and brother John Raymond Mick Jr.

Survivors include children James F. (Amanda) Melvin Jr. of Macclenny and Sharon Ann Melvin of Massachusetts; brother Terry Mick of Lake City; sister Gerie Null of Broward County; four grandchildren and one great-grandson.

A graveside service was held September 6 at Shepherd Memorial Park in Hendersonville. V. Todd Ferriera Funeral Services is in charge of arrangements.



## In Loving Memory of John Barton

8/17/1943 - 9/10/2010

**"He only takes the Best"**

*God saw he was getting tired and a cure was not to be. Therefore He puts his arms around him and whispered "Come to me."*

*With tear-filled eyes we watched him suffer and fade away. Although we loved him deeply, we would not make him stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating, hard-working hands put to rest. God broke our hearts to prove He only takes the best.*

Earth's loss, Heaven's Gain

WANDA  
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## In Loving Memory of Catherine Virginia Pitts

9/05/1937 - 1/16/2006

**"Remember Me"**

*Remember me in the spring time when the flowers are in full bloom, when the robin sings his song of love and the roses are fresh with morning dew.*

*Remember me in the summer time when the trees are strong and green, when God has touched the earth with colors that one can only dream.*

*Remember me in the winter time when the first snowfall touches the ground, with sparkling crystals from Heaven that no artist's brush has ever found.*

*Remember me in the fall of the year when God told the earth to sleep, for the flowers to rest and the bulbs not to bloom and the willow not to weep.*

*Remember me with laughter something we did that you recall. Yes, remember me with laughter, not tears...Or don't remember me at all.*

-Written by Marie Bush

EVERY DAY WE MISS YOU MORE  
LOVE,  
#1 AND #2, SHEILAH, DEBORAH,  
AND ALL THE FAMILY



## In Loving Memory of Mr. Todd Allen Paige

4/29/1968 - 9/05/2009

*It's been two years today, but it seems like yesterday you slipped right out of our lives. But you left us with memories of you.*

*Love you always. We miss you dearly!*

LOVE,  
DAD, MAMA, DARRIAN, KEVIN, ALVIN AND BRADLEY

## Heartfelt thanks

The family of Ralph (Pete) Peterson thanks everyone for the prayers, food, cards, and flowers. Thanks to Christie, Vanessa, Jennifer, Will and Andy — he loved you all. Thanks also to the nurses at Macclenny Nursing and Rehab, and special thanks to Eddie Griffis for the service that was perfect. I personally want to thank the "Lunch Bunch"

Wife Cathryn Peterson  
Son Jerry Peterson  
Daughter-in-law Debra Peterson  
Grandsons Joshua, Dustin,  
and Jordan

## The Road to Calvary

Corner of Madison & Stoddard  
Glen St. Mary

Rev. Tommy & Doris Anderson  
Youth Director Margie Howard  
Phone: 904-259-2213

Sunday School: 10:00 am  
Sunday Morning Service: 11:00 am  
Sunday Evening Service: 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Night: 7:30 pm

## Saint Peter's in the Glen

ANGLICAN CHURCH

9:00 am Adult Sunday School  
10:00 am Sunday Worship/  
Holy Communion  
7:00 pm Wednesday Study/  
Holy Communion

Glen St. Mary, Florida  
1/2 mile South of I-10 on CR 125,  
right on Nursery Road the historic  
Budder Mathis House

## Sanderson Christian Revival Center

Pastor: Harold Finley

Sunday School 10:00 am  
Sunday Service 11:00 am  
Sunday Evening 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Service 7:30 pm

Come see the exciting things the Lord is doing.

Corner of Sapp Rd. and CR 229

## Revival at Olustee

Vineyard of Love Ministries in Olustee at US 90 and Lulu Rd will host a revival September 12-16 at 7:30 nightly. Guest speakers include Clifton Barton Jr. on Monday; Bobby Griffin on Tuesday; Josh Daniels on Wednesday; Randall Griffis Jr. on Thursday; Joe Ruise on Friday.

On September 18 at 11:00 am there will be a special service followed by dinner on the grounds.

DINKINS NEW  
CONGREGATIONAL  
METHODIST CHURCH  
CR 127 N. of Sanderson  
Sunday School 10:00 am  
Sunday Morning Service 11:00 am  
Sunday Night Service 6:00 pm  
Wed. Night Service 7:30 pm  
Pastor Allen Crews  
Assistant Pastor Timothy Alford

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

**New Hope Church, Inc.**  
23-A to Lauramore Rd. & Fairgrounds Rd.  
Sunday School 9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am  
Sunday Children's Church 11:00 am  
Sunday Evening Services 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm  
Pastor J. C. Lauramore welcomes all

**THE LORD'S CHURCH**  
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  
Pastor Bobby & Faye Griffin  
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Macclenny, FL  
Office: 904-259-3548  
Check us out on the web!  
[www.christianfellowshiptemple.com](http://www.christianfellowshiptemple.com)



## In Loving Memory of James Alvin Ratliff, Jr.

6/28/1957 - 9/08/2010

*It has been a year and you're always on my mind and in my heart.*

*God saw he was getting tired, and a cure was not to be. So He put his arms around him and whispered, "Come to Me."*

*With tearful eyes we watched him suffer and fade away. Although we couldn't bear to lose him, we could not bid him stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating, hard-working hands laid to rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best.*

LOVE,  
SHARON, CHARLES AND FAMILY

MACCLENNY  
CHURCH OF CHRIST  
573 S. 5th St. 259-6059  
Sunday Bible Study 9:45 am  
Fellowship 10:30 am - 11:00 am  
Worship Services 11:00 am  
Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm  
Minister  
Sam F. Kitching



## Calvary Baptist Church

Pastor Donnie E. Williams, Sr.

Sunday School 10:00 am  
Preaching Service 11:00 am  
Sunday Night Service 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Service 7:00 pm

523 North Boulevard W.

a few blocks north of Hwy. 90 in Macclenny

[www.calvarybaptistmacclenny.com](http://www.calvarybaptistmacclenny.com) •• 259-4529

# Housing ministry is expanding

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

John and Doneita Grimm, directors of the housing ministry at Raiford Road Church, are delighted in the fact that the program, which observes its first anniversary on September 23, has already exceeded her expectations.

"The housing ministry has been able to rise to needs we didn't anticipate in the beginning, which has been very fulfilling," said Ms. Grimm.

Raiford Road's temporary housing facilities are located on church property on SR 121 South of Macclenny and Ms. Grimm, a counselor certified through the National Association of Nouthetic Counseling lives on site with her husband.

The counseling views psychological problems as spiritual problems, which it teaches can be solved by devotion to Christ.

The housing ministry's main purpose is to shelter and help displaced people, especially single women, to master and apply Biblical principles to their lives and move forward toward becoming self-sufficient. The program helps married couples and families as well.

During the their stay, which can be up to three months, the church assists and supports them as they work toward becoming confident and self-sufficient while finding employment and securing their own housing.

But others, not specifically the target of the ministry's initial mission, have been getting help as well.

In the last year, the ministry has provided shelter for an extremely disadvantaged elderly couple living without electricity and healthcare, and a funeral service when one of them died.

They were able to assist a homeless, unmarried couple in obtaining a marriage license, then perform their wedding ceremony. The couple then participated in the housing ministry's program while they got on their feet and worked toward securing jobs and housing.

The ministry was even able to provide a few nights housing for some of the visiting members of the Life Action Revival team until their host families were available.

Future Now, a high school ministry that visited Macclenny, also found shelter through the housing ministry when their local accommodations came up short.

For people participating in

the housing ministry's program, there have been triumphs such as the single mother who earned her GED while a resident, as well as a few less fortunate outcomes.

"The first year has not been without its challenges," said Ms. Grimm. "Sometimes people need the help but aren't willing to follow the guidelines once they get here so they move on, which is regretful. But no one would choose to work in the church if it was always easy and we're learning as we go. I'd say the experience has not aged us, but it definitely has matured us.

"The success of the program for those who embrace it is that it empowers people to re-enter life much better equipped to be self-sufficient," said Ms. Grimm.

Some only need a couple of weeks to become independent. Others need the full three months. According to Ms. Grimm, most people don't stay the full period, but so far seven women have worked through the entire program.

"Each was able to benefit from the full spiritual counseling program and actually graduate from it," she said. "One woman left here and immediately entered a similar program in St. Augustine that lasts a full year. She became determined to change her life

completely with the church and God's help. We are so pleased to have been a part of that."

Ms. Grimm is also excited about the future prospects of the housing ministry.

"I'd like to see our counseling services expand and grow even bigger to serve the community," she said. "And by the new year, a third housing facility for families should be complete."

For Ms. Grimm, a touching outcome of the program is the number of women helped by the housing ministry who have gotten back on their feet and by their own choice began attending Sunday service at Raiford Road, some even bringing relatives.

"They were able, through the Christian principles taught through the housing ministry, to restore those damaged relationships," she said.

By far the biggest reward for the counselor is seeing people benefit from the program and leave fully equipped to move forward in life.

For more information about the Raiford Road Housing Ministry call Doneita Grimm at 305-6874.

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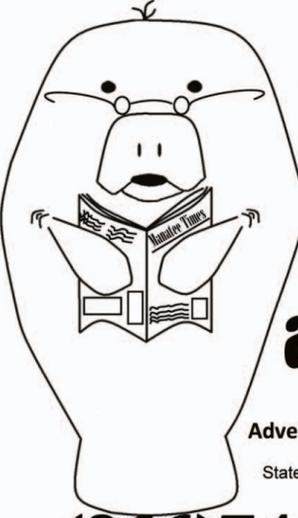
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## Budget meeting

The governing board of the New River Public Library Cooperative will hold its budget meeting September 8, 5:00 pm at New River Solid Waste facility on SR 121 north of Raiford.

The board will hold its regular meeting immediately following the budget meeting.

## Soil board to meet

The Baker Soil and Water Conservation District board will meet on Tuesday, September 20 at the Baker County Extension Service from noon until 1:00. The public is invited.

**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

I have learned the most incredible thing! I have to share it with you. There is a God who loves us. He created this whole world for us. He gives us families, husbands, wives, children all to make us happy. Homes, jobs, cars, all just for us. What do we have to do? Just believe! Believe He is who He says He is, believe He will do what He says He will, and love His son. He sent His son to die for us. That's what Jesus did. He opened a way for us to have a relationship with God, His Father and ours.

The Bible is instructions. He gave it to us so He could give us his instructions to live this life He has given us, so we don't hurt ourselves. B-I-B-L-E, Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth. The Bible is His way of talking to us; prayer is our way of talking to Him. He wants a relationship with you just like anyone else who loves you.

You see God created this world just to have a relationship with us, all the way through eternity. This life we are now living is a dress rehearsal for eternity. He is seeing who will follow His rules, which will do it His way. He doesn't want robots or yes-men and women. That's why we have brains and hearts. He wants people who love Him for Him.

If you don't accept him now and His ways in this life you don't get a second chance in the next life.

Hell is real. Think about it. There is a war going on between good and evil. If good has an afterlife, I would say evil does too. Two kings only one has won, God! Satan is just deceiving you if you think otherwise. Even he knows he has lost. Think about this, what is written here. You have too much proof not to believe. You don't lose anything, you gain so much more. It's not for the here and now it's for eternity. Forever and ever. It's not even about what we think it's about what we believe. Do you believe in Eternity, or do you believe this is all there is? God is real, Jesus is real, and the Holy Bible is true. Jesus is The Way, The Truth and The Life, forever and always.

## REVIVAL

THE DRUG KING WITH AN EMPIRE  
**Evangelist Bill Saye**

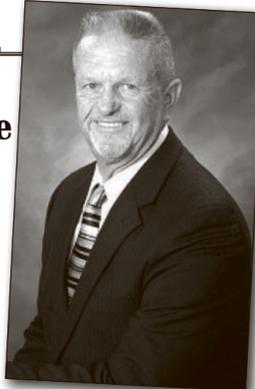
September 11-14  
Sunday 10:45 am & 6:00 pm  
Mon. - Wed. at 6:30 pm

**First Baptist Church of Macclenny**  
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Hear this dynamic man of God share his life story and how God set him free from organized crime, drugs, prostitution, murder, prison and betrayal. A story of forgiveness you will never forget.

**FREE PIZZA FOR YOUTH—Teenagers Bring a Friend Night - Mon., Sept. 12**  
Pizza Supper @ 5:30 pm - Revival @ 6:30 pm

**FREE FAMILY DINNER Wed., Sept. 14—Hamburger & Hot Dog Meal**  
Dinner served 5:00 - 6:15 pm - Revival @ 6:30 pm



## 1861 BAKER COUNTY SESQUICENTENNIAL 2011



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**ART CONTEST**  
Baker County 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Graders  
**Theme:**  
**The Battle of Olustee**  
Drop off entries at  
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1165 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Macclenny

**ESSAY CONTEST**  
BC 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders  
**Theme:**  
**Why history is important**  
Drop off entries at  
Gibson McDonald,  
1468 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Macclenny

Visit [www.150yearsofbaker.com](http://www.150yearsofbaker.com) for full details.

**REVIVAL**

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

with Evangelist Dave Jones

**September 11-14**

Sunday service 11:00 am & 6:00 pm  
Dinner on the ground following the morning service  
Monday - Wednesday 7:00 pm

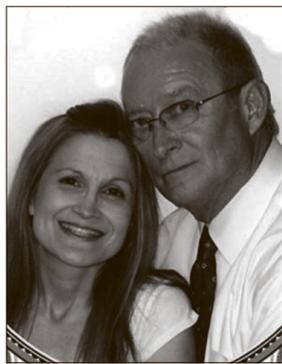
Nursery provided  
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**SOCIAL NOTICE SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

Birth announcements, wedding notices and social events (military service notes and school graduations) 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](http://www.bakercountypress.com)



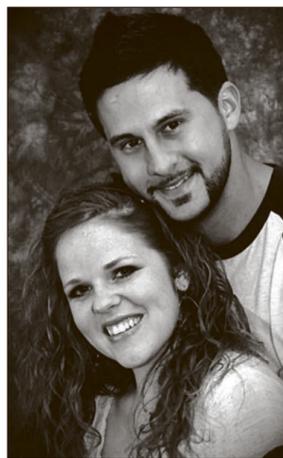
Dinkins - Burris

**September 10 vows**

Danese Collins-Burris of Bryceville and David Dinkins of Glen St. Mary are pleased to announce they will be married on September 10, 2011 at the Macclenny Church of God.

The bride is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Larry G. Collins of Crestview, FL and the groom is the son of Nathaniel Dinkins and the late Jean Dinkins of Glen.

Following a honeymoon in Charleston, SC, the couple will reside in Macclenny.



Richardson - Hunter

**Vows September 17**

Gordon and Cathy Richardson of Sanderson are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter Sara to Brian Hunter. Brian is the son of Elizabeth and Perry Gray of Glen St. Mary and Rick and Debbie Hunter of Sanderson.

The wedding will take place at the Christian Fellowship Temple on September 17 at 4:00 pm with a reception following. All friends and family are invited.

The couple will reside in Macclenny.



Rosa Lee Williams

**78th birthday**

Come join the family of Rosa Lee Williams as it celebrates her 78th birthday on September 10 at 3:00 pm at the Agriculture Center.

Everyone is invited to help us make memories.

**Family reunion**

The Williams, Battens and Crews family reunion will be held on September 10 at 12:00. It will be in the fellowship hall of First Baptist of St. George. Call Teresa Griffin at (904) 782-1846 with any questions.

**School Lunch MENU**

September 12 - September 16

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

**Monday, September 12**

**Breakfast:** Turkey sausage pancake wrap, orange or pineapple juice, milk  
**Lunch:** Chili with beans and roll or turkey hap and cheese sandwich, choice of 2 sides: baked potato rounds, raw vegetables, fruit mix, milk choice

**Tuesday, September 13**

**Breakfast:** Breakfast burrito, peach slices, milk  
**Lunch:** BBQ chicken with steamed rice and gravy or beef nuggets, choice of 2 sides: steamed cabbage, tossed salad with dressing, chilled fruit mix, with a slice of golden corn bread, milk choice

**Wednesday, September 14**

**Breakfast:** Sausage biscuit, pineapple juice, milk  
**Lunch:** Taco salad with a homemade whole grain roll or grilled ham and cheese sandwich, choice of 2 sides: steamed corn, lettuce and tomato blend, seasonal fresh fruit, milk choice

**Thursday, September 15**

**Breakfast:** Enriched cereal with a slice of toast, orange juice, milk  
**Lunch:** Sloppy Joe on a bun or baked chicken nuggets with a homemade whole grain roll, choice of 2 sides: steamed green beans, whipped potatoes with gravy, chilled pears, milk choice

**Friday, September 16**

**Breakfast:** Toasted cheese sandwich, apple juice, milk  
**Lunch:** Beef and bean burrito or beef vegetable soup with a grilled cheese sandwich, choice of 2 sides: baby limas, raw vegetables with dressing, seasonal fresh fruit, milk choice

## 'Into the fire' vs. Trinity

**BOB GERARD | SPORTS**

The *Florida Times-Union* recently called the Baker High Wildcats' 2011 football schedule the toughest in the area and with good reason. The Wildcats handled the #5 team in Georgia, the Westminster Wildcats, handily on Saturday with a 34-6 drubbing in Carrollton, Georgia.

It is out of the frying pan into the fire for the Wildcats this week as they host the Trinity Conquerors. The defending state champions come to town after stewing all year long about last year's 34-27 loss on their home field.

The Conquerors lost only two games on their way to the state title. One was BCHS and the other the powerful Madison Cowboys. But the loss to the Cowboys was in Madison, not on their own turf. They would like nothing better than to hand the Wildcats the same defeat they suffered.

The Conquerors are tough, but without two of their catalysts from last year's state title run. Andre Buie, who put the game on his back last year and almost brought the Conquerors back, is at West Virginia where he was immediately bumped to the Mountaineers' first team tailback. Ahmed Christian, who also gave the Cats some worries, is a defensive back for South Carolina.

But when you're talking about Trinity Christian it is more of a reloading rather than a rebuilding situation. The Conquerors started the season with a cakewalk over Barrington Christian. Quarterback Oshay Carter led Trinity to a 54-0 halftime lead. The defense took the ball away five times from Barrington and it looked as if it could get even worse for the visitors, who were worn out mentally and physically.

They threw in the towel at halftime and forfeited the re-

mainder of the game.

Trinity lost 16 starters to graduation and it is very difficult to replace the likes of Buie and Christian. But Coach Verlon Dorminey is smart, experienced and crafty, and knows how to get the best out of his players.

Carter had three pass completions against Barrington and each ended with a touchdown. He is not a natural passer, but more of runner who can throw, and he hit Isiah Ford twice for scores in the 13-12 win over Raines in the fall jamboree. With the runners he has at his back he doesn't have to rely on throwing the ball.

The Conquerors return fleet runner Marvel Taylor, who had one score on Friday. Senior Lynn Griffin, who will join Wildcat receiver Kendrick Singleton at Southern Miss next fall, is a strong, quick running back who can bounce to the outside or run off tackle.

Junior Nick Washington is a Division 1 prospect who is very dangerous at running back and steady at safety. He will probably have the dubious honor of trying to guard Singleton.

The question mark for the Conquerors is in front of Carter. Dorminey is replacing all of his starting offensive line, and that is a big task for any team. They will have to stand up to relentless pressure from the Wildcat front that harassed Westminster quarterback Danny Catan all after-

noon on Saturday. Carter might be quicker than Catan but also is more one-dimensional.

Defensively, a lot of the players go both ways. Briyan Eady heads up a good linebacking corps and 6'2 255 lb Selwin Carroll anchors the line.

The plus factor for the Wildcats is that Trinity has played two times this season and has yet to play a full game. The varsity played a half against Raines and another against Barrington, so fatigue might be a factor by the fourth quarter, particularly if it is a hot, muggy night.

It should be a heck of a game. Kickoff is at 7:30 pm at Memorial Stadium, and the halftime program includes a tribute to high-scoring FCAT students and their teachers.

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Deadline Monday at 5:00

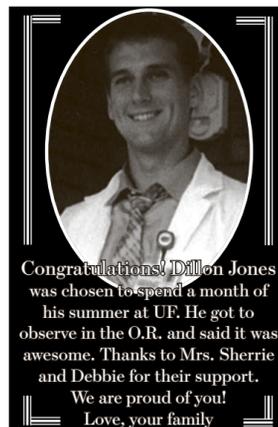
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Congratulations! Dillon Jones was chosen to spend a month of his summer at UF. He got to observe in the O.R. and said it was awesome. Thanks to Mrs. Sherrie and Debbie for their support. We are proud of you! Love, your family



**Happy 30th Anniversary!**

Ted & Sherry Paterson

September 12, 2011

**Frederick Douglass Family Reunion**

**Sunday, September 18**

**Lake Butler Community Center**

155 NW Third St., Lake Butler, FL 32054

Hours: 11:30 am to 3:00 pm, Luncheon at 12:30 pm

In Lake Butler, off State Road 100 turn north on Lake Avenue at the courthouse.

The Community Center is at the lake.

We encourage you to come and ask you to bring a covered dish to share.

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## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

**September 8**

BCHS: JV Football at Columbia, 5:00 pm; ROTC sponsored- 10th Anniversary Observance of 9-11, Auditorium, 6:00-7:30 pm BCMS: Cheerleaders competition, 3:00 pm; Volleyball at Lake City, 5:00 pm KIS: FAIR Testing, 12:00 pm; Yankee Candle Sales

**September 9**

oBCHS: Pep Rally, 1:00 pm; Football vs. Trinity, 7:30 pm; Volleyball Silent Auction at Football Game, 7:30 pm KIS: FAIR Testing, 12:00 pm, Yankee Candle Sales

**September 12**

KIS: FAIR Testing, 9:00 am; Yankee Candle Sales MES: GATES Testing

**September 13**

BCHS: Volleyball vs. Terry Parker, 5:30 pm BCMS: Football at St. Marys, 5:00 pm KIS: FAIR Testing, 12:00 pm MES: GATES Testing; Boy Scouts Meeting, Cafeteria, 7:00 pm

**September 14**

KIS: FAIR Testing, 12:00 pm, Yankee Candle Sales MES: GATES Testing

## We will never forget

**9.11.01**

In honor of all first responders and first responder volunteers who work or live in Baker County

New Life Church invites you and your families to join us for a special service in your honor.

**9.11.11**  
10:45 am  
at

**New Life Church**  
Hwy. 121 N., Macclenny





**SPORTS NOTICE SUBMISSIONS**

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

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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](http://www.bakercountypress.com)

## BCHS rolls over Westminster, 34-6

**BOB GERARD | SPORTS**

Carrollton, Georgia is a long way to go for a football game. It was six hours by charter bus, but Coach Ryan Sulkowski was convinced the excursion would help players bond as a team and test themselves against Georgia's #5 ranked Westminster Wildcats. In the end, the Catfight was never really in doubt.

The Wildcats from Baker County thoroughly outmanned the Wildcats from Westminster as they rolled to a 34-6 win, scoring three touchdowns in a three-minute span. Westminster had talent and determination, but it couldn't match up against a BCHS team that wore them down with strength, versatility and endurance.

If there was any disappointment in the game it was that the Cats slipped up at the end and allowed Shelton Collier a 105-yard interception return for a touchdown late in the fourth quarter. It should have been a shutout.

BCHS was that dominating. The game was back and forth at the opening as both teams tried to feel out what the other had to offer. It was clear that Westminster had talent, partic-

ularly with hard-nosed running back Parker Tutthill, who made some good runs in the early going before BCHS adjusted and shut down his effectiveness.

Quarterback Danny Catan struggled and was picked off by Jared Lee. The Wildcat defense troubled the Westminster signal caller all afternoon and he didn't have the time to set up and make his throws count.

The Cats got the first opportunity to break the duck on the scoreboard in their initial drive. Kyle Alexander had a good punt return to the Westminster 38-yard line. Kendrick Singleton ran to the 28 and a 10-yard late hit penalty moved the ball to the 18 of the Westminster Wildcats. The Cats drove all the way to the 4 but the drive stalled and a bad snap forced the usually reliable Jeremy Wannamaker miss what for him was a gimme field goal.

The Lee interception set up the first score. Thomas Sirk dropped into shotgun formation, but a second bad snap sent the ball sailing over his head. Sirk picked it up and found Malone Hadley, who had alertly come back toward his embattled quarterback. Hadley took the pass around the Westminster 20 and

raced through the teeth of the defense into the endzone. Wannamaker's PAT was good and the Wildcats were on the board.

Tutthill gave Westminster a good return to the 36 and the Georgia Cats drove into BCHS territory. But Westminster was plagued by penalties all afternoon and the drive stalled.

BCHS struck next with a clever 62-yard drive. Singleton and Sirk switched places, with Singleton behind center and Sirk out at wideout. It worked like a charm as Singleton converted a pair of running plays down to the Westminster 33-yard line.

The drive seemed to stall but Sulkowski had the team go for it on fourth down and a quick screen to Singleton broke to the 16-yard line. Three plays and a face mask penalty later, Sirk ran it in from two yards out.

The Wildcats quickly scored again when Cameron Hicks turned over the kickoff return after Dalton Dyal delivered a jarring hit at the Westminster 33. Sirk was pressured but felt it coming and stepped up into the pocket and hit Singleton over the middle and the senior wideout ran it in for another score.

The Cats shut the Georgians

down in three plays, the capper coming on a CC Jefferson sack, and when BCHS got the punt back Alexander ran it into Westminster territory at the 40-yard line. Sirk ran to the 32 and a personal foul put the ball 10 yards closer. Sirk hit Singleton and a facemask penalty put the ball at the 4-yard line. From there Sirk ran it in for a 28-0 lead.

In the space of about three minutes the game had gone from scoreless to out of the Georgians' hands at halftime.

It was an impressive first half that saw the Wildcats dominating the line of scrimmage on both sides of the ball. Sirk had lots of protection and picked apart the Westminster Wildcats with pinpoint passes. Equally as impressive as his accuracy was the ability by Kendrick Singleton and Malone Hadley to run with the ball after the reception.

Defensively, the Wildcats harassed Westminster quarterback Catan with rushes from Jefferson, Rickie Tharpe, Hunter Sullivan, Lee and Roland Jefferson. They shut down Tutthill and Cameron Poje and the Georgians really never threatened after the first series of the second half.

The Westminster Wildcats came out fired up at the start of the half and drove to the BCHS 6-yard line. The drive stalled when they went for it on fourth down. Alexander had a great stop on the running back at the 4-yard line.

BCHS then drove 96 yards down field with Sirk culminating the onslaught with a great 45-yard pass to Singleton up the middle despite a Westminster blitz. Singleton caught the pass over his left shoulder and ran it in for the score.

The Georgians scored late in the half but it was too little, too late.

Sirk was 16-22 passing for 289 yards and a trio of touchdowns. Singleton had nine catches for 145 yards and two touchdowns and Hadley had three catches for 95 yards and a score. Jared Lee led the defense with 11 tackles and an interception. Jefferson had a pair of sacks and 6 hurries. Alexander had 5 1/2 tackles and Falon Lee four tackles.

The Cats won't have much of a break this week as they host state champions Trinity Christian at 7:30 pm on Friday at Memorial

**Budget FY 2012  
New River Public Library  
Cooperative**

**ESTIMATED REVENUE**

State Aid	\$320,000
Local	\$2,000
Interest	\$250
Misc. Income	\$250
USF Reimbursement	\$5,000
Cash Carryover	\$240,000
LSTA Federal Grant	\$41,630
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$609,130</b>

**ESTIMATED EXPENSES**

Salary Director	\$49,042
Wages Other	\$68,044
FICA	\$8,957
FRS	\$5,509
Health Insurance	\$14,900
Legal/Contractual	\$121,332
Audit	\$7,475
Office Rent	\$12,000
Communications	\$22,800
Supplies	\$10,000
Workers Comp	\$3,000
Insurance	\$6,900
Postage	\$3,900
Travel	\$500
Repair & Maintenance	\$2,000
Fuel & Maintenance	\$10,525
Contingency	\$2,000
Automation	\$4,000
Program Support	\$2,500
Advertising	\$1,040
Dues	\$4,000
Equipment (over \$1,000)	\$4,000
Library Materials	\$7,200
Equipment (under \$1,000)	\$13,685
Budgeted Reserve	\$223,821
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$609,130</b>

The tentative, adopted and/or final budget are on file in the above office. The public hearing to approve this budget will be held on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 5:00 pm at the New River Solid Waste Facility, SR 121 north of Raiford.

## Coach: about 'teambuilding'

**BOB GERARD | SPORTS**

Six hours on a bus and 100+ degree heat radiating off Field Turf at Carrollton Stadium was worth it, says Wildcat head coach Ryan Sulkowski after his team's 34-6 win over Atlanta Westminster in the Florida/Georgia Classic Saturday.

"It was more about teambuilding than it was about the game," said Sulkowski. "They got to think nothing but football for the better part of two or three days. It benefited this team more than you can imagine."

Of course the game didn't go too badly either as the Cats dominated their opponents.

"I was pleased with the effort and overall preparation. It gave us a chance to clean up some of the mistakes we had against Baldwin [the previous week]," said Sulkowski.

One of the obvious improvements was in the penalty situation. The Wildcats had 35 yards in penalties while their opponents had well over 100 yards. Sulkowski credits much of the teams improvement to what he calls the "core group" of veteran players.

"They know how we want things done around here," said Sulkowski. "It's a different feel from last year."

The Cats move from playing the #5 ranked team in Georgia to the #4 ranked team in Florida and defending state champs in Trinity Christian on Friday at 7:30 pm at Memorial Field. They know it will be a big game against a team that hasn't lost a game in a year. Sulkowski is trying to hold down the hype while at the same time promoting preparation.

"I was watching film of Trinity the night before the Westminster game. You have to keep ahead of it. It's like a chess game," he said.

The Conquerors lost 16 starters from last year's team, but Sulkowski knows they are still dangerous with speed and tradition. "They're still Trinity," he said.

Trinity is still an unknown commodity because the coach hasn't seen them play a full game. They played a half in the jamboree against Raines and a half against Barrington Christian, which forfeited after going down 54-0. But Sulkowski isn't sure if that will affect their conditioning. "It all depends how hard they worked over the summer and in fall practices," he said.

One of the variables going into

Friday that concerns Sulkowski is the mental aspect of the game. "It's easy to buy into the hype, but we tell them if you get too far up and get hit a few times it's a long way to fall. So we try to manage the hype."

He thinks his team has its head firmly on its shoulders. "I've really enjoyed their demeanor going into the games - their approach. They get it and know that they have to work hard if they're going to make it all the way to Orlando and the state championships," said the coach.

But that's a long way to go for a team with the toughest schedule in the area. It all starts this

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**PUBLIC HEARINGS NOTICE**

**Tentative Five Year Work Program  
District Two  
Fiscal Years Beginning July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2017**

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District Two, is conducting public hearings pursuant to Section 339.135(4)(c), Florida Statutes, to consider the Department's Tentative Work Program for the Fiscal Years 2012/2013 through 2016/2017, and to consider the necessity of making any changes to the Work Program, to which all persons are invited to attend and be heard.

**1. Live Oak Hearing:** Specific notice is provided to the County Commissions for Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee and Taylor counties serving as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for their respective counties.

**DATE AND TIME:** Thursday, October 6, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Live Oak Passenger Depot  
210 N. Ohio Avenue, Live Oak, FL

**2. Lake City Hearing:** Specific notice is provided to the Gainesville Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (MTPO) and the County Commissions for Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy and Union counties serving as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for their respective counties.

**DATE AND TIME:** Monday, October 10, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** FDOT District Two Office, Madison Room  
1109 South Marion Ave., Lake City, FL

**3. Jacksonville Hearing:** Specific notice is provided to the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), the Jacksonville City Council and the County Commissions for Baker, Clay, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns counties serving as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for their respective counties.

**DATE AND TIME:** Thursday, October 13, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** FDOT Jacksonville Urban Office, Training Facility  
2198 Edison Avenue, Jacksonville, FL

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability or family status. Persons who require accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Mr. Bill Henderson, District Planning & Environmental Manager, Lake City District Office at 1-800-749-2967 at least seven (7) days in advance of the Public Hearings.

Written comments from the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's), County Commissions and other interested parties will be received by the Department at the Public Hearings and up to October 28, 2011 following the hearing. Comments should be addressed to:

Mr. Alan R. Mosley, P.E., District Two Secretary  
Florida Department of Transportation, District Two  
1109 South Marion Ave. Mail Station 2000  
Lake City, FL 32025-5874  
Telephone 1-800-749-2967

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# Cats' conditioning trumped size

At first, the game between the Baker County Wildcats and the Westminster Wildcats up near Atlanta last weekend was like a boxing match where the com-

petitors tested each other with jabs looking for openings and weaknesses. But it was Baker County that found the chink in the other Wildcats' defensive armor and capitalized on the way to a 34-6 win that really could and probably should have been a shutout.

Though the Cats weren't bigger than their opponents, they were certainly both stronger and fitter and it made a lot of difference as the game progressed and the high 90s temperature wore down players unaccustomed to the intense heat. After a long summer in the high temperatures, BCHS was ready.

It wasn't long before the Cats were pushing around their namesakes from Georgia. And that made all the difference in the world.

Thomas Sirk could have picked in the backfield because the offensive line was giving him such good protection. On those rare occasions when he did get pressure, he either stepped up in the pocket or used his speed and mobility to run for good yardage.

In a true game situation it was clear why Coach Ryan Sulkowski has praised his team's mastery of the spread offense. They opened up the Westminster defense like a can of beans.

Sirk, who had 289 yards passing, found Kendrick Singleton again and again for big gains. When Singleton wasn't catching the ball, Malone Hadley was giving them fits.

Defensively, the Cats never

allowed Westminster to find a rhythm. It was clear they had some talented players, but the defense just kept a lid on them and wouldn't let them find a comfort zone. Baker High did give up a 105-yard interception run for a touchdown near the end of the game but that was a freak play.

Impressive. Especially when you consider this was a team ranked #5 in Georgia in their classification.

The long wait for the start of the college football season is over and I am a happy fellow. My two favorite teams, the Seminoles and Baylor Bears, are winners and the rest of my family's favorite, the Gators, also got off to a good start.

The Seminoles beat Louisiana-Monroe 34-0 but you can't really tell anything by that. They

beat a much inferior opponent like they should. Next week they play Charleston Southern and Barber College in another gimme. It won't be until the following week when they face #1 Oklahoma that we'll see how good they really are.

The Gators looked good in their 41-3 win over Florida Atlan-

tic. Jeff Demps and Chris Rainey were particularly impressive. As for quarterback John Brantley, the jury is still out. He threw for 229 yards and a touchdown but also threw a pair of interceptions. Next week is UAB and following that is Tennessee. We'll know by then what to expect.

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# Volleyball Cats at 3-1 Wins over Lee, Trinity, Forrest

The Lady Wildcat volleyball team kicked off its season last weekend when it took part in the Volleyball Classic at Paxon on August 27. Coach Heather Sulkowski's Lady Cats split in two games, losing to the hosts but defeating Lee. They came back with a pair of wins this past week over Trinity and Forrest.

The Wildcats lost to the Golden Eagles of Paxon in a hard-fought five-game match. Paxon won the first game 21-25 but the Cats came back with a pair of wins. They beat Paxon 25-22 in the second game and cruised to a 25-8 win in the third.

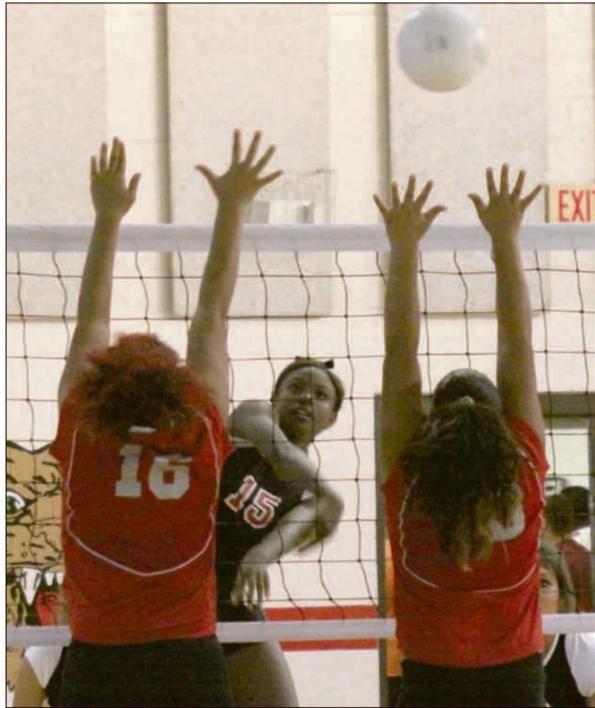
To their credit, the Eagles regrouped, beating BCHS 21-25 and 8-15.

Kayla Holland led the Cats with 12 kills, 5 aces and 9 digs. Brooke Robertson had 8 kills and 5 aces. Logan Raulerson had 23 assists and 6 digs.

The Cats were successful in their second match, defeating Lee in three games, 25-7, 25-14 and 25-14. They excelled in the serving game with 26 aces as a team.

BCHS defeated Trinity on the road on Tuesday, August 30, 3-1. They won the first two games 25-23, 27-25 but lost the third 21-25 before coming back to take the match with a 25-15 win.

Kayla Holland led the way in the tight match with her first double-double of 10 kills and 11 digs. Logan Raulerson put up 19 assists and Chelsey Ruise had 9 kills and 4 blocks. Cati Frazee led



Chelsey Ruise (middle) during the Ladycat's game against Forrest High.

PHOTO BY JUD JOHNSON

the defense with 16 digs.

The varsity cruised to a 3-0 win of Forrest on Thursday, September 4 at home with a 25-7, 25-13, 25-11 score line. Stephanie Collett, Holland and Ruise led the offense with five kills apiece. Caitlin Smith added a match high nine aces on the night.

That brought them to 3-1 so

far in the young season.

JV split with Trinity, winning the first match 25-15, 25-13 but losing the second 18-25, 13-25. They defeated Forrest 25-9, 25-12.

The Lady Cats will host Terry Parker at on September 13 with games at 5:30 and 6:30 pm.

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## Medals in AAU twirling

Two Baker County girls won medals in the AAU baton twirling Junior Olympics in New Orleans last month. Kyrie Holman (left) was awarded a silver medal in one-baton solo, a bronze in basic marching and copper in military marching. Mallory Cain (right) took a gold in one-baton solo, silver in two-baton and gold in x-strut. Kyrie, 11, is a sixth grader at BCMS and Mallory, 12, a seventh grader. Both are on the Bobcat majorette team. Kyrie is the daughter of Jim and Tara Holman and Mallory is the daughter of John and Amy Cain, all of Glen St. Mary.

PHOTO COURTESY OF AMY CAIN

## Future opponents off to strong start

While the Wildcats were up in Georgia pounding on the #5 ranked team in the state the Westminster Wildcats to the tune of 34-6, their future opponents were also in action. Here's a look at how things went.

This week the Wildcats take on the vaunted Trinity Christian Conquerors. The state champs lived up to their name as they pummeled Barrington Christian Academy 54-7 in a half of play. By the half, Barrington couldn't take the brutal beating any longer and forfeited the second half. Trinity had forced five turnovers and scored at will.

Bradford County got off to a great start by defeating Palatka 12-9 in overtime. Bradford scored first with a field goal but Palatka took command with nine straight points in the second quarter. Austin Chipoletti scored on a 11-yard run to tie the score and won the game in overtime with a 22-yard field goal.

Sandalwood pounded last week's BCHS opponent Baldwin 42-6. The Saints were up 35-0 at the half and had over 400 yards offense.

Clay went down to Fleming Island 42-21 as transfer quarterback Dante Roberts shone for the Eagles with five touchdowns. The transfer from Palatka was too much for the Blue Devils to handle. John Cooper led the way for Clay with 166 yards rushing.

Bolles rolled to a 55-21 rout of Palm Bay Bayside to give Corky Rodgers his 399th win. They will have a challenge next week when they take on American Heritage in Delray Beach.

John Wolford threw four touchdowns and 258 yards as Bishop Kenny beat Middleburg 31-7.

Paxon opened up the season with a 14-13 win over Interlachen and Forrest beat Oakleaf 14-13 in their opener.

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