



SUV hits parked car before crashing into fast food restaurant

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Boys basketball snags first win over Crescent City at home

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75¢

DECEMBER 15, 2011 THURSDAY

THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS

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Six stores busted for selling to underaged

JOEL ADDINGTON
NEWS EDITOR

reporter@bakercountypress.com

Six convenience stores were caught selling alcohol, chewing tobacco or both to minors during a buy-bust operation last week by the sheriff's department and the Florida Division of Alcohol and Tobacco.

Three sheriff's investigators and an agent from the state office sent a 15-year-old and 17-year-old to as many local stores as possible on December 6 to purchase the products, BCSO chief investigator Maj. Chuck Brannan said this week.

Florida law prohibits the sale of alcohol to persons under 21 years of age and the sale of tobacco products to persons younger than 18. Violating the law is a misdemeanor and resulted in criminal citations filed against the clerks who sold the products.

The owner and clerk of the Citgo gas station at US 90 and Interstate 10 near Olustee, Yong I. Andzeiczak, was cited last week for after selling beer and tobacco to one of the teens.

Maj. Brannan said it was the third time she's been cited, the most recent coming last February, and thus, she faces a mandatory seven-day liquor license suspension and a fine that he estimated to be \$1500.

Two male teens who pulled up to one of the stores targeted in the operation smelling like marijuana were also handed citations, according to Maj. Brannan.

He said a 17-year-old from Glen St. Mary was charged with possession of marijuana and possession of tobacco by a minor. The second male, 16, was also charged with tobacco possession.

Both suspects had cigars with them, Maj. Brannan said.

The other clerks cited for selling alcohol or tobacco to minors last week:

- Robert S. Pietrowski of Macclenny Mart at the southwest corner of US 90 and SR 121 was cited for selling both products.

- Jerrod Andrew Yeomans of Raceway on Woodlawn Road was cited for selling both products.

- Jessica D. Payne of the Fastway on Woodlawn Road

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Dean is in, Adkins out on new legislative district maps

See page 4

Meth suspects have local records

JOEL ADDINGTON
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Two men with criminal histories in Baker County face felony drug charges connected to a meth lab discovered in Baldwin on December 7 when state probation officers checked in on Cody Eugene Hodges.

Mr. Hodges, 23, was serving six months on house arrest, to be followed by a year on probation, at the time of his arrest at the Hawkins Motel, 275 E. US 90.

The sentence was imposed November 8 after he pleaded no contest to a grand theft charge

from last May. The state dropped counts of criminal mischief and burglary as part of the plea pact.

The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and its bomb squad responded to the motel about 9:30 am after probation and parole personnel saw drug paraphernalia in plain view inside Mr. Hodges' motel room, ac-



Cody Hodges

ording to a statement released by JSO.

"The investigation revealed that suspects Hodges and [Justin Wade] Hendrix were operating a meth lab inside one of the hotel rooms," the statement reads.

Mr. Hendrix, 32, also has a criminal history in Baker County.

Court records show he received three months probation in July, 2010 for driving on a suspended license and later violated the terms of that probation.

Mr. Hodges was released from county jail last August after serving a one-year sentence



Justin Hendrix

marijuana possession in August, 2009.

Baker County court records also indicate Mr. Hodges lived in Macclenny and later in Baldwin, while Mr. Hendrix resided

in Bryceville.

At the Baldwin motel room, JSO officers found crack pipes, ephedrine, hypodermic needles and various chemicals used in manufacturing methamphetamines, JSO reported.

The total bond for both men was set at \$52,509 each — \$25,003 on the charge of possession of amphetamines with intent to sell, \$25,003 on the charge of possession of chemicals with intent to manufacture a controlled substance and \$2503 on the charge of possession of drug paraphernalia, Duval County court records show.

County leads Florida in teen births 78.5 per 1000 to moms ages 15-19

JOEL ADDINGTON
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Baker County had the highest teen birth rate in the region and the state in 2010, but last week the Northeast Florida Teen Pregnancy Task Force

released a plan for bringing the rate down.

Sixty-three teenagers here gave birth last year, which accounted for 18 percent of all the births in Baker County, statistics from the Florida Department of Health show. That led to a teen birth rate of 78.5 — the highest in Florida.

The teen birth rate represents the number of births to females ages 15 to 19 per 1000 females of that age group. The teen birth rate statewide in 2010 was 32.8 per 1000.

Regionally and in Duval County, teens accounted for 9.5 percent of all births, according to *Teen Pregnancy in Northeast Florida, A Plan for Community Action* from the task force, which counts among its 15 members two local health officials — Healthy Start program coordinator Sue Murphy and the school district's Marcheta Crews.

"We need a change in the culture so that it's not taboo to talk about sex, so it's not taboo to talk about prevention. We need to have that message that it's an easy conversation to have, not a difficult one..."

—Kerry Dunlavy
Baker County Health Department director



PHOTOS BY JOEL ADDINGTON
Above, health department director Kerry Dunlavy speaks at a press conference last week to release a community action plan to combat teen pregnancy. At left are some of the quotes gathered during teen listening tours conducted to better understand what teens think about sex and pregnancy.

Dunlavy at the December 7 press conference in Jacksonville to unveil the action plan. "We need to have that message that it's an easy conversation, not a difficult one that we should shy away from."

The plan is the result of a year-long, regional effort to study teen pregnancy by soliciting input from public and private healthcare professionals, school districts, organizations that focus on teen and child health, and teens themselves, including a group from Sanderson last fall.

And while statistics show the teen birth rate has been dropping in the last two decades, that doesn't necessarily mean fewer teens are getting pregnant, the plan points out.

Estimates from the Guttmacher Institute, which tracks abortion trends nationally and by state, indicate about 45 percent of all teen pregnancies in Florida result in miscarriages or abortions and births make up the remainder, the plan's introduction states. Using the institute's estimates, the task force surmised that the teen pregnancy rate in Northeast Florida to be 66.3 per 1000 females age 15 to

See page 4»



Teen births in St. Johns County were 6.6 percent of all births, in Nassau County they were 12.6 percent and in Clay County 9.6 percent, the plan states.

"We need a change in the culture so that it's not taboo to talk about sex, so it's not taboo to talk about prevention," said county health department director Kerry

Macclenny man dies as cycle strikes deer

A Macclenny man died in the pre-dawn hours of December 7 when his motorcycle struck a deer in west Nassau County.

Justin Pugh, 31, was ejected from his eastbound 2007 Harley-Davidson when it collided with the animal on CR 108 about 6 miles west of US 301. The Florida Highway Patrol said he was on his way to

work at the time and died at the scene.

The collision killed the deer also.

Mr. Pugh moved to Macclenny seven years ago from Wichita Falls, Texas, according to his obituary. His funeral and burial took place in Green Cove Springs on December 12.

Santa breakfast

KELLEY LANNIGAN | FEATURES
features@bakercountypress.com

Baker County Friends of Instrumental Arts held its annual Breakfast with Santa event at the middle school cafeteria December 10.

It marks the fifth year of the event, according to Steve Gaylord, who heads the group's board of directors. The breakfast showcases the middle school and high school bands.

Breakfast With Santa is designed as a family-friendly event and this year's program highlights included children's photos with Santa Claus starring

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PHOTO BY KELLEY LANNIGAN
Band directors Mike Warren, left, and Matthew Jernigan with Santa (Vinnie Ferreira).

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ONLINE POLL RESULTS

Should county commissioners close Barber Road?

84.3% No
15.7% Yes

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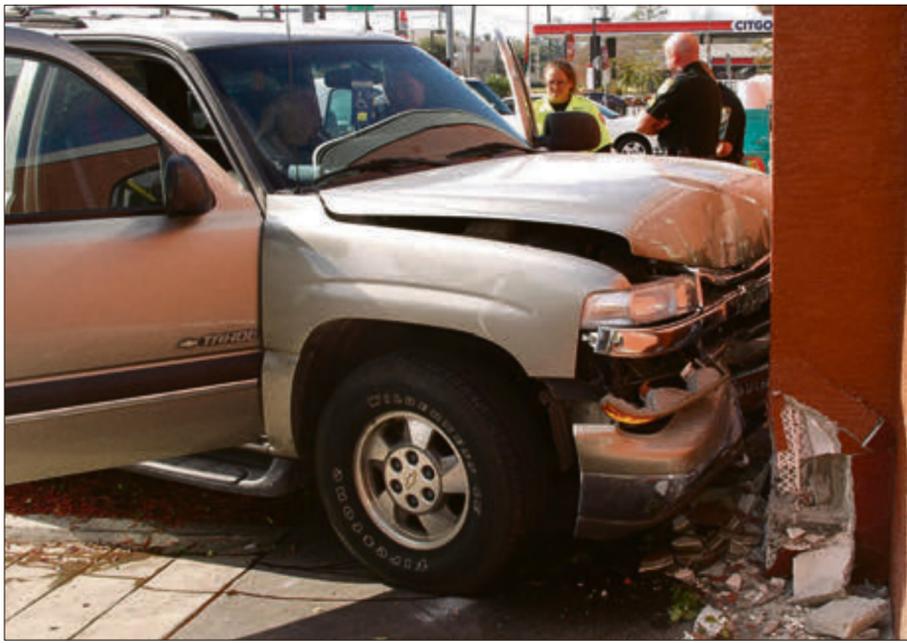


PHOTO BY KELLEY LANNIGAN

Tahoe crashes into McDonald's on 121

This Chevrolet Tahoe backed into another vehicle in the parking lot on the north side of McDonald's on South 6th St. in Macclenny about 1 pm on December 13 before crashing into the restaurant building, according to Sgt. Bill Starling of the sheriff's department. Driver Fay Hodges was leaving when she reversed and struck a parked Jeep Compass. The Tahoe then pulled away from the Jeep, and for an unknown reason traveled across a raised curb and shrubs before hitting the building. Ms. Hodges, 75, of Macclenny sustained minor facial injuries. The owner of the Jeep, JoAnn Cannon, 56, of Glen Ellyn, Illinois, was not injured. Ms. Cannon stopped at the McDonald's en route to Fort Lauderdale. She was inside the restaurant when the incident occurred. "I didn't even know my car was involved until I was getting in my car to leave and one of the restaurant employees came up and told me," she said. Sgt. Starling's official report had not been filed as of late Tuesday, but sheriff's office operations chief Maj. Gerald Gonzalez said charges against Ms. Hodges are pending.

Selling pot at BCMS

A 13-year-old male student at Baker County Middle School was arrested on December 9 for selling marijuana to one student in the cafeteria and attempting to sell it to another.

Campus deputy Allen Markley and school officials were tipped off about noon that the student approached a 14-year-old male student.

The suspect was pulled from his classroom and initially denied having anything illegal, and vice-principal Gary Pelham then found two small baggies with marijuana inside and three empty baggies.

Deputy Markley said they then questioned the student that the suspect allegedly approached

in the cafeteria and he said he declined to purchase it. A third male student, 15, admitted buying marijuana from the suspect but said he flushed it down a toilet when informed that the suspect had been taken to the front office.

He said he paid \$5 for the pot. The suspect was booked at county jail for felony sale of drugs at a school and misdemeanor possession. He was released to his grandfather.

Online - COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Let people know what's going on - post your special event online bakercountypress.com

Breakfast with Santa event

From page 1

Vinnie Ferreira as the guy in the red suit.

A fun moment occurred when high school band director Mike Warren and middle school band director Matthew Jernigan surprised Santa by posing on his lap for a photo together.

Kids also got a chance to chat and have photos made with Taylor Hartley, former Baker County High School majorette and current majorette for the University of Florida. Christmas movies were showing in the auditorium for anyone wanting to take them in and there were also chances to win lots of door prizes.

Members of the BCFIA group and other volunteers served breakfast featuring sausage, bacon, eggs, biscuits, gravy, a fresh fruit bar, juice and coffee. After the meal, attendees filled the auditorium for a chance to hear guest speaker Alan Gary, a drum major in the University of Florida marching band.

He spoke about the opportunities that participating in band can provide and encouraged current middle school band students to follow through with their music to high school and beyond.

"Being in the band provides you a great opportunity for personal development, teamwork and leadership skills," he told the audience. "Not to mention the chance to travel."

Band members from both schools performed several holiday selections, but before starting, the BCFIA presented the middle school with brand new instrument - a xylophone.

Mr. Jernigan admitted to the challenge and the fun of assembling the instrument prior to the con-

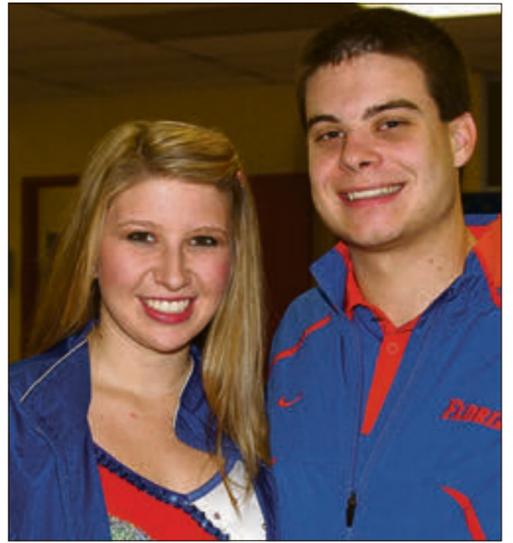


PHOTO BY KELLEY LANNIGAN

Special guests Taylor Hartley and Alan Gary

cert. Both he and Mr. Warren expressed their gratitude for organizations like the BCFIA.

"This is my first teaching job," said Mr. Jernigan. "I'm delighted about coming into a community like this where there is such a strong support group for the school band program. It's a perfect experience for a new teacher and I feel really lucky."

"And I think the middle school band program is in good hands," said Mr. Warren.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

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Olustee office closing first of others here?

The closing of the Olustee post office, the smallest of four in Baker County, is a harbinger of what we can expect in the future as the nation's mail carrier deals with massive deficits in the face of electronic messaging and bloated personnel costs.

The fact that the United States Postal Service also has to deal with overly generous retirement costs that it can't meet is nothing new. Government agencies (though the USPS is technically "independent" under control of Congress) both large and small are realizing they are in over their heads in obligations to present and past workers.

It's another example of why public servants should not be able to collectively bargain with "management" on wages and pensions. The taxpayers are "management" in reality, and they have no seat at the bargaining table.

But those troubling realities are for another day.

For the time being, no one knows how the USPS's efforts to erase a \$14 billion operating deficit (on a budget of more than \$70 billion) this year will affect the remaining three Baker County post offices.

Already, the rural routes that once ran out of Glen St. Mary have been folded into those already run from the Macclenny office, the county's largest. That leaves the Glen office standing alone as a place for post office box patrons and counter service operating on reduced hours.

Out in Sanderson, operation hours have been reduced also, but the rural routes continue and the office will absorb those of Olustee. For counter service and post office boxes, Olustee patrons will be directed to Sanderson (or Lake City).

Olustee is a contract office run out of a small building off US 90 rather than a free-standing USPS office leased from a private own-

er as is the case with the remaining three (the county owns the Macclenny property).

Its closing won't mean much in the overall downsizing picture, but it means something to the people who use it every day. The office, as its postmaster pointed out in last week's edition of *The Press*, is a community hub. It's where people go to find out what's going on in Olustee.

You'll see this played out in small towns across the land-

scape; they'll be the first cut and the smaller they are, the more they'll be missed by the people they serve.

USPS, under intense pressure from Congress, said last week it will close more than 250 mail processing centers and lay off 30,000 workers to stanch the flow of red ink. With the number of mail pieces (an estimated 78 billion this year) expected to fall by half before 2020, the initial layoffs and closing are just the beginning.

It's no stretch to see a Baker County in 2020 with one post office remaining. Or perhaps in

small counties like ours the USPS would revert to a private contractor to maintain post office boxes, run rural routes, sell stamps and accept packages.

The postal service also created a stir last week when it announced that it will no longer guarantee next-day delivery of first class mail. That will no doubt push people more toward electronic bill paying, messaging and invoicing — making the situation worse for USPS.

Circumstances seem to be hastening the demise of one of the nation's time-honored institutions, not to mention what

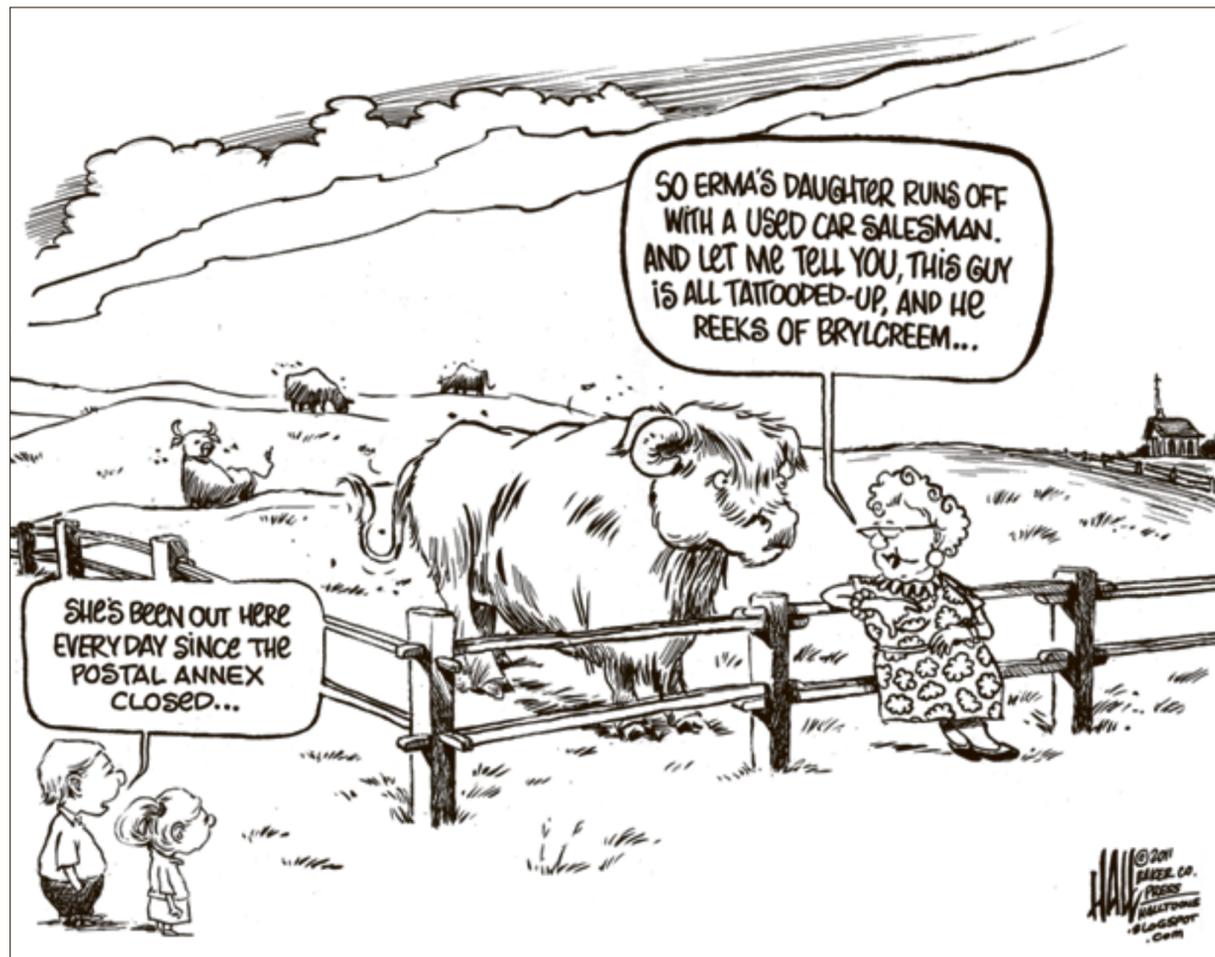
it will likely do to industries like greeting cards.

A USPS spokesperson interviewed for the article in last week's edition couldn't shed much light on what might happen to the remaining offices in Baker County. The agency simply doesn't know quite yet, but surely those decisions are being made somewhere up the chain.

Will it mean that this time next year we'll only have two — or one — post office operating in Baker County? Hopefully not, but the prospects beyond that time frame, well, don't look so hot.

IMPRESSIONS

Jim McGauley



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Permits for projects by utilities?

Dear Editor:

The city and county are trying to come up with viable solutions to increase revenue without dipping further into reserves.

Baker County has several utility companies that pay profits back to owners and shareholders. There are three power companies, three phone companies and a gas company that use public rights-of-way to place their lines without cost to them.

Taxpayers pay taxes yearly and are also required to get permits to make improvements to their property. If utility companies pay franchise fees, why not require them to get permits to place lines on public land for improvements or additions? They could be charged by the foot or type of construction.

Instead of Commissioner Mike Crews trying to enact additional fees on taxpayers for rescue and police, why not look to utility companies that make a profit at public expense?

Larry Burns
Macclenny

Why are we supporting the hospital?

Dear Editor:

A number of years ago, Fraser Hospital made the decision to no longer participate as a provider in the retired military Tri-Care Prime medical insurance program.

As a result, unless it is a life-threatening emergency, anyone covered under Tricare Prime now has to travel 25 or more miles to receive urgent care. Over the last few years, my husband and I have had to go to a Jacksonville hospital ER or the Solantic/Avenica clinics in Jacksonville for injuries such as broken bones, lacerations requiring stitches, sprains etc.

It is pretty painful to travel 38 miles to the hospital with a broken foot, and extremely aggravating to know that less than five minutes from my home is the local county hospital that refuses to treat me as a provider with my insurance company. Part of my county taxes go to support this hospital, but I can't use it. Why are we supporting a hospital that refuses to accept the insurance of many of its county residents?

Debra Milner
Macclenny

Facebook fans

'What you had to say ...'

We turned to Facebook last week to uncover how readers felt about the possible closure of Barber Road. We asked them whether it should be closed, and why or why not. Here's what they had to say...

Jason Knabb: "Yes, the traffic is terrible."

Christina Carter: "If they close that road that has been there forever, what road will be next?"

Katherine Tidwell: "If they are going to continue using county funds to maintain it then no. If they

are going to close the road because it is considered 'private' then the county needs to stop maintaining it just like every other 'private' road in the county."

Matthew Barfield: "Walmart should help with the maintenance. Isn't that where most of the traffic is going?"

Shirley-Winston Sapp: "This problem is the result of Walmart. Hopefully a lesson has been learned and the city and county will now require paved roads and sidewalks."

Prefers a 'dumb' phone

First of all, thank you to all those folks who told me they hoped I felt better after last week's column about slogging through a bad cold. I'm just glad that many people read my column.

I'm always a little amazed by that. I write them every week, but I'm always a little surprised that people take the time to read them.

This week is a hodgepodge of a bunch of stuff I've been wondering about. Nothing just jumps out as fodder for a full column, but there are plenty of odds and ends banging around in my head and occasionally I just have to clear them out to make way for more.

• During our annual *Broadway in Baker Christmas* show this weekend, I stepped backstage to deliver a message to one of the actors. In the darkness I was greeted with this eerie glow. At least five of my actors were staring at their cell phone screens as they waited to go on for the next scene.

I've noticed that phenomenon a lot — cell phone glow. It seems no matter where you look people are on cell phones. Most of them aren't talking on them either. I understand talking on the phone when you need to tell someone something, but most of these people aren't doing that. Many of them aren't even texting — so what are they doing?

Cell phones are so sophisticated that it could be anything — playing games, paying bills, watching a movie or television show, or launching nuclear missiles aimed at Turkmenistan.

Before someone launches squadrons of Angry Birds in my direction, it's not that I'm a complete old geezer stuck in the dark ages of Compaq computers and dial phones. I'm not. I just don't think my smart phone should be smarter than me.

I don't own a smart phone and I don't want one. My phone can barely text and that's fine with me because I only have six or seven people I call anyway.

I grew up reading science fiction by people like Isaac Asimov and Phillip K. Dick about scary machines taking over our lives. As I watch commercials for the Android 4G and the iPhone, I start to wonder if they were right. Machines won't take over our lives by force with big honking robots marching down the street zapping everyone. Nope, they'll take over our lives with millions of fun apps purchased at the app store that we won't be able to live without.

Last year we lost cell phone service at the high school for a couple of hours and it was like the apocalypse. People were frantic that they couldn't contact their friends by text despite the fact that their friends were sitting 20 feet away. They could have talked to them without raising their voice but preferred staring at the screen.

Go figure.

I suppose I can't complain too much. I am writing this on a computer and will e-mail it to *The Press* without leaving my seat.

• On the Food Channel the other day they showed an interesting feature on the Italian Swiss Colony, those people known for Swiss cake rolls, summer sausage, ribbon candy and cheese that people send out for Christmas. I didn't know they were around any more. My grandma used to send us those gift baskets from Italian Swiss Colony. I ate the cake rolls, admired the beauty — but never ate the ribbon candy, and ignored the summer sausage.

For good reason.

It was December. Why did I want to eat sausage made in the summer? I'm sure I've eaten summer sausage in the time since, but I don't know anyone who would consider that as the main focus of a gift.

Who are these people who give us summer sausage? Do we have Amish relatives who think apple butter and fruitcake make good gifts?

I believe that there are only about 120 summer sausages and fruitcakes in the world at any one time and they just keep getting re-gifted. Most of them were made in 1983 and have been making the rounds ever since.

Here's how it works. Somebody gets a fruitcake from Aunt May and then immediately re-gifts it to Uncle Bud, who opens it, frowns and sends it in the mail to his cousin Fred. Fred boxes it up with a nice summer sausage someone gave him and sends it down the line.

That's right — summer sausage and fruitcake is the holiday equivalent of a chain letter.

I'm surprised that there isn't a fruitcake and summer sausage app for the iPhone so you can eliminate the middle man.

Now there's an idea.

MY SIDE OF THE MATTER

ROBERT GERARD

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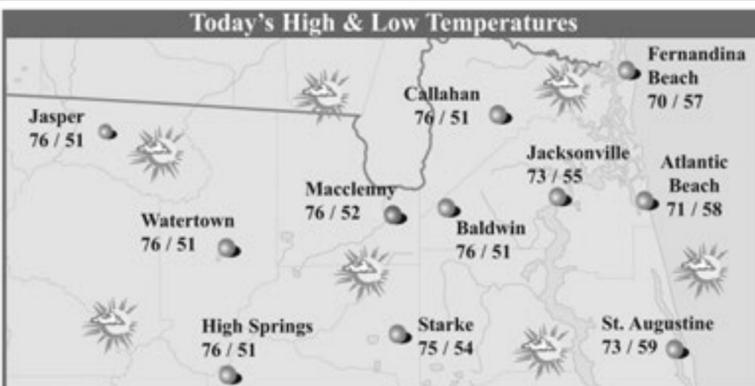
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The Baker County Press Weather

Dec. 15, 2011

Seven Day Forecast	
	Thursday Mostly Sunny High: 76 Low: 52
	Friday Mostly Sunny High: 77 Low: 53
	Saturday Mostly Sunny High: 74 Low: 46
	Sunday Partly Cloudy High: 68 Low: 41
	Monday Partly Cloudy High: 70 Low: 45
	Tuesday Mostly Sunny High: 75 Low: 44
	Wednesday Partly Cloudy High: 72 Low: 44



Sun/Moon Chart This Week				
	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	
Last 12/17	Thursday	7:17 a.m.	5:30 p.m.	
	Friday	7:18 a.m.	5:30 p.m.	
	Saturday	7:18 a.m.	5:31 p.m.	
New 12/24	Sunday	7:19 a.m.	5:31 p.m.	
	Monday	7:19 a.m.	5:32 p.m.	
	Tuesday	7:20 a.m.	5:32 p.m.	
	Wednesday	7:20 a.m.	5:33 p.m.	

Last Week's Local Almanac				
Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip
Tue, 12/6	77	50	69/47	0.00"
Wed, 12/7	81	41	69/47	0.00"
Thu, 12/8	59	32	69/46	0.00"
Fri, 12/9	68	46	69/46	0.00"
Sat, 12/10	59	50	69/46	0.00"
Sun, 12/11	59	52	68/46	0.00"
Mon, 12/12	61	52	68/46	1.38"

St. Mary's River Levels			Hunting/Fishing Times		
	Now	Change	Peak Times		
Moniac, GA	5.20 ft.	+0.42 ft.	Day	AM	PM
Macclenny	1.86 ft.	+0.21 ft.	Thu	2:39-4:39	3:09-5:09
			Fri	3:28-5:28	3:58-5:58
			Sat	4:16-6:16	4:46-6:46
			Sun	5:05-7:05	5:35-7:35
			Mon	5:57-7:57	6:27-8:27
			Tue	6:51-8:51	7:21-9:21
			Wed	7:48-9:48	8:18-10:18

Weather History
Dec. 15, 1945 - A record December snowstorm buried Buffalo, N.Y. under 36.6 inches of snow, with unofficial totals south of the city ranging up to 70 inches. Travel was brought to a halt by the storm.

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County leads in teen births...

From page 1
 19. The task force hopes to reduce the region's teen birth rate with specific strategies aimed at preventing teen pregnancy and detailed in the plan, including engaging parents, improving access to adolescent healthcare, curbing repeat teen pregnancy using in-home mentors and support groups for pregnant teens, implementing community-based teen pregnancy prevention programs to augment existing school-based programs, and advocating for changes in state law that prohibit lessons on contraception in public schools.

"At least we've moved the conversation on the need to the change the state statute that pretty much mandates abstinence-only sex education," said Joy Burgess of the Chamberlain College of Nursing in Jacksonville and co-chair of the task force.

Because families play such a large part in teens' lives, making sure parents are prepared to discuss sex and other health issues with their teens is just as important, task force members stressed.

"Even though [sex] is all around us, it's hard for us to talk about," said Carol Brady, executive director of the Northeast Florida Healthy Start Coalition, which convened and supported the task force. "That's something that local agencies could really get involved in with parents."

Ms. Brady pointed to a program developed by the Duval County Cooperative Extension office — Teening Up — as one resource available for parents today.

"It's definitely under-utilized," she said. "We have to figure out a way to disseminate that better."

Another strategy outlined in

the 48-page plan, one that task force members believe is more suited to Baker County, is the use of comprehensive sex education curriculum designed specifically for churches and other faith-based organizations in the community.

A staffer at the Nassau County Health Department has been trained in such a program and may be willing to train others in the region, Ms. Brady said. The plan calls for similar efforts at Jacksonville Housing Authority apartment complexes as part of a community-based approach to preventing teen pregnancy.

"This has really brought forward an issue that's in Northeast Florida, but really in the rural communities," said Ms. Dunlavey while thanking the task force and Healthy Start for its efforts and involvement in Baker County.

Selling to underaged

From page 1
 was cited for selling chewing tobacco.

- Jeraj Ashokhai Patel of Quick-N-Handy at Lowder Street and Miltondale Road was cited for selling chewing tobacco.
- Samantha Lynn Johns of Cheap Butts on US 90 in Sanderson was cited for selling chewing tobacco.

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We may lose Adkins and keep Dean

JOEL ADDINGTON
 NEWS EDITOR
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New district maps released in recent weeks by the Florida House and Senate redistricting committees show Baker County outside of Janet Adkins' House district, and surprisingly, inside Charlie Dean's Senate district.

Sen. Dean (R-Inverness) offered his constituents here an emotional farewell last month during the annual state legislative delegation meeting in Macclenny, fully expecting to no longer represent Baker County after the 2012 election cycle.

When the Senate committee released its proposed district maps two-and-a-half weeks later, the former sheriff was reportedly shocked and pleased by the results, said Chamber of Commerce Darryl Register, who has been following the redistricting process and attending committee meetings in Tallahassee.

The Senate's maps also keep Baker County in US Rep. Ander Crenshaw's district. The Florida House and Senate both have released Congressional district maps, but Baker County's fate is less clear in the seven proposed maps from the House.

One of them keeps Rep. Crenshaw (R-Jacksonville) as the

county's representative in Washington, D.C. while another retains all but the southeast corner of the county inside his district.

The remaining five maps, however, show Baker County in a new district that encompasses many of the rural counties in north central Florida like Columbia, Union, Suwannee, Lafayette and Hamilton counties, among portions of others.

The House and Senate are expected to reach a compromise on the Congressional district map, but each chamber has agreed not to propose maps for the other chamber's districts.

The House's maps for its own members surprised Rep. Adkins (R-Fernandina Beach), whose district was redrawn to exclude Baker County. She said members were not asked for their input on the proposed House maps, and if she had her way, she would've kept her district as it is today.

"The members did not have input into those maps," said Rep. Adkins last week. "They were drawn by staff to the best of their ability to comply with the state constitution and the amendments that voters passed. No one was asked what they wanted. At this point that is completely irrelevant."

Last year Florida voters passed redistricting amend-

ments to the state constitution mandating that districts be drawn to be as compact as possible, to follow existing county and geographic boundaries as much as possible, all while protecting minority-majority districts.

Still, Rep. Adkins said, "I was surprised by the way [my] district was drawn."

When asked whether she believes the proposed maps will remain as they are through the end of the redistricting process, she said, "It's hard to say."

Ms. Adkins said in early January her chamber's redistricting committee will be narrowing its five proposed House district maps down to three maps, after which amendments will be taken.

"But it's clear the only amendments that will be considered will be those that make districts more compact and in compliance with the constitution," she said.

At the end of January, the House redistricting committee is expected to select one of the three maps to be voted upon by the full chamber.

"I care deeply for the people in Baker, Bradford, Union and Clay," said Rep. Adkins. "We've certainly worked hard to represent these counties and fought for their interests. If I had my way, we would keep the district the way it is. But it's not about me and my personal preference. I've taken an oath to uphold the constitution and the people spoke in 2010 and said we want compact districts."

Today Rep. Adkins' C-shaped District 12 stretches from Nassau County southwest to Baker County before turning south and east to encompass Union County, Bradford County and a portion of Clay County.

Should the House maps remain largely as proposed, Baker County would likely end up in the district of first-term House Rep. Elizabeth Porter (R-Lake City).

"Baker County spoke very clearly that they wanted to remain whole and be kept with similar communities. And the good thing is that both of those things happened," said Rep. Adkins.

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Rate of grads is similar to state

JOEL ADDINGTON
NEWS EDITOR
reporter@bakercountypress.com

The high school's graduation rate rose 4.3 percent in 2010-11 according to the latest graduation and dropout rates from the Florida Department of Education released December 12.

Florida's graduation rate increased modestly by 1.1 percent from 79 percent to 80.1 percent. Here the graduation rate climbed from 75.9 percent in 2009-10 to 80.2 percent for 2010-11.

BCHS principal Tom Hill remained optimistic this week that the school will shake its current D grade given the higher graduation rate and better student performance on last year's FCAT.

"I expect to see an improved school grade, but I can't tell you what grade that will be because I simply don't know," he said. "But, we will see an improved grade in a week or so."

The highest graduation rates in Northeast Florida came from Nassau County (93.8 percent), St. Johns County (92.2 percent) and Union County (92.7 percent). Duval County posted a graduation rate of 71.2 percent, Clay County 82.9 percent and Bradford County 71.6 percent.

For the 2008-09 school year, Baker High's graduation rate was 85.3 percent, the highest rate since the state's transition to a new graduation rate formula that excludes General Education Diplomas, or GEDs, in 2005-06.

Under the old graduation formula that counted GED recipients as graduates, Baker County graduated 82.8 percent of its students in 2010-11, a jump of 5.5 percent from the previous year.

"We're very appreciative of our students and teachers. It's something that's absolutely spectacular," Mr. Hill said of the increased graduation rate.

He credited the rise to efforts made in identifying students at a high risk for dropping out and helping them earn enough credits to graduate by taking classes after school.

"We identify students that are struggling with attendance or grades or behavior. Generally if they're struggling in one area, they're struggling in others. But we identify those kids and bring them in and try to get them credit recovery," Mr. Hill said. "If we can't get them in the classroom due to absences, we attempt to contact the parents at home and meet with them to discuss what we can do to improve their child's chance of success."

The high school's dropout rate for 2010-11, 2.5 percent, remained higher than the state-wide rate of 1.9 percent. Still, last year's dropout rate is 1.3 percent lower than the 2009-10 dropout rate of 3.8 percent.

The state also tracks graduation and dropout rates by race.

The graduation rate at BCHS for white students was nearly 20 percent higher than the rate for black students in 2010-11. The school graduated 83.3 percent of its white students and 64.3 percent of its black students that year.

Meanwhile, 4.3 percent of black students dropped out as did 3.8 percent of the Hispanic student population. Among white students, 2.2 percent dropped out last year.



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LAND PLANNING AGENCY

LPA recommends permit for animals

MIKE ANDERSON
PRESS STAFF

"Good fences make good neighbors" is a mid-17th Century proverb also quoted in a Robert Frost poem nearly 100 years ago. It still holds true today, even in Baker County.

Nobody ever complained about James Miller's goats until a few of them escaped through a hole in his fence and invaded a neighbor's flower garden off Chestnut Road, which prompted a complaint to the county.

Since the recent garden mishap just north of Interstate 10 between Macclenny and Glen St. Mary, Mr. Miller has mended his fence and his relationship with the neighbor who complained. After the complaint was filed, however, the county notified Mr. Miller that he was in violation of the zoning code by having a horse and six goats on his property without a required special use permit.

Afterward, Mr. Miller filed a petition with the county seeking the permit and permission to acquire more goats and horses, plus a mule, 25 chickens and two pigs on his 8.6-acre parcel in a sparsely-populated residential neighborhood.

"This is not for commercial use," Mr. Miller testified during a hearing before the Land Planning Agency [LPA] on the evening of December 8. Rather, he said, the animals would all be "pets."

He said he understood why the neighbor complained after three of his goats got loose and "were eating her flowers." But he said that won't happen again now that the fence has been repaired.

Mr. Miller's petition was conditionally granted 3-1, following a lengthy discussion, during which the only objections came from LPA board member Larry Porterfield about the number of animals Mr. Miller wanted to keep on his land with limited shelter space and the potential for future complaints about offensive odors.

"You'd have to use a shoe horn to get them all in the (barn) door," Mr. Porterfield said. He also noted that the board had recently turned down a request for a dog kennel in a rural neighborhood near Sanderson because of a concern about offensive odors. He suggested that adding that horses, a mule, goats, chickens

and pigs would surely smell as bad, or worse, than dogs.

Board chairman Pat Collier reminded Mr. Porterfield that denial of the dog kennel request was also based on the fact that the proposed kennel would have been a commercial enterprise and that the dogs probably would have become a noisy nuisance.

The Miller residence is one of four dwellings on his property, which includes three occupied rental trailers, abutting the Turkey Creek Retreat Unit Three subdivision. The parcel, which also contains two barn-type structures and a chicken pen, is near the western end of George Hodges Road and has frontage and access on the unpaved portion of Chestnut Road.

In addition to a fence around his property, his land is cross-fenced to allow him to contain the animals in particular areas. Most of the time, Mr. Miller said, they will remain on three acres of pasture land on the western end of the parcel where there are no dwellings, though occasionally he will allow them to roam "loose in the whole yard, about six acres."

To allay any concerns about pigs getting loose and damaging neighbor's yards, Mr. Miller said he had "never raised a pig" and probably never would get one even though the permit allows up to two. But if he does, he said, he would secure them in an area surrounded by "an electric fence" to make sure they couldn't escape.

He said he had talked to all the neighbors in the vicinity of his property, including the lady who had complained about his stray goats, and that 11 had signed his petition in favor of the permit.

Mr. Miller got most of what he requested but not everything.

Instead of his request for five additional horses and one mule, the LPA board told him he could have a total of five in any combination he chose. The county zoning code limits the number of horses or ponies to five, by special exception, on five acres or more of land zoned for residential use.

In other business, the LPA board discussed a proposed ordinance recommended by the Planning and Zoning Department to allow large tracts of land to be divided any number of times into individual parcels 20 acres or larger without being subject to subdivision regulations.

Planning and Zoning Director Ed Preston said the proposal could encourage the development of new homes on properties made more marketable by eliminating costly subdivision requirements, such as platting and paving roads.

Baker County has about 140,000 acres of timberlands held in a very few ownerships, Mr. Preston said, and dividing these large tracts more than once, under current land development criteria, technically trips subdivision regulations.

"This ordinance is designed to allow these large tracts to be divided any number of times," Mr. Preston said, as long as the resulting parcels are at least 20 acres in size and each new parcel has direct access to an existing paved or unpaved county road.

Currently, the county allows two kinds of subdivisions: large developments with dozens or hundreds of small lots on paved roads and served by water and sewer utilities, and those with 10-acre lots on privately-owned dirt roads.

According to a staff report submitted to the LPA board, the proposed ordinance lies somewhere in the middle.

"This proposed ordinance claims middle ground between the one extreme of prohibiting more than one division of a large tract unless roads are created and platting requirements are met," the staff report said, "and the other extreme of 10-acre exempt lots on new private unpaved roads."

The new 20-acre and larger parcels are expected to continue to be used as timberland and support single-family residences with minimal impacts to the existing dirt roads, the report said.

John Kennedy, a retired banker representing a group of property owners with about 35,000 acres of timberland in Baker County, spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance at the LPA meeting. Eliminating platting requirements would make development

of land more feasible, he said.

"Everybody's trying to spur a little bit of growth," Mr. Kennedy said, adding that the proposed ordinance would make it a little easier to sell land for development in today's restrictive economy.

"It would give you more opportunity," he said. "There's still no demand."

After discussing the issue for nearly an hour, the LPA postponed action on the proposal until next month because the ordinance did not accompany the staff report. Mr. Preston said the ordinance language had not been drafted completely but would be ready for the next presentation.

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Tasers runaway driver

Probation violator had 4 suspensions

A county deputy employed a Taser gun to subdue a Baxter man who ran into an east Macclenny neighborhood after he was stopped for a traffic violation. Christopher Cole, 22, turned up wanted in Baker County for violating probation for grand theft and was driving on a license with four prior suspensions. Deputy Matt Yarborough stopped the 1995 Chevrolet driven by the suspect after observing it stopped in the middle of the roadway on US 90 east of Macclenny the afternoon of December 5. The deputy moments before passed to the right of the vehicle, believing it was readying a turn into a driveway. He noted in his report that the Chevrolet remained stopped on US 90 for 45 seconds. Deputy Yarborough said he caught up with Mr. Cole as he attempted to scale a yard fence, and used the Taser when the suspect continued to resist after being taken to the ground. In addition to the license and probation violations, Mr. Cole was charged with resisting arrest without violence. In other arrests: • Ralph Mackey, 53, of Sanderson was jailed for drunk driving after his swerving 1997 Chevrolet pickup was pulled over on north CR 127 the evening of December 9. Deputy Daryl Mobley said the vehicle description matched that of a suspect in a domestic distur-

bance, and he observed the pickup cross the center line and veer off onto the right shoulder before pulling it over. Mr. Mackey failed field sobriety tests and later at county jail refused to take a breath test. He was also ticketed for a seat belt violation and failure to maintain a single lane. • William Curran, 47, of Glen St. Mary and Timothy Grantham, 46, of Macclenny were arrested for disorderly intoxication the evening of December 10. Employees at both the Glen Laundromat and nearby Dollar General store on US 90 told Deputy Randy Davis the two were creating disturbances about 6:30 and walking in the area with open beers. • Deputy Jeremiah Combs arrested Mark Crews, 30, at midnight on December 8 and charged him with disorderly conduct at a residence on Laura-more Rd. north of Macclenny. The deputy was called to the address following a disturbance involving the suspect and his girlfriend. The intoxicated Mr. Crews was described as belligerent and refused to calm himself. • Clinton Andrews, 35, was arrested at the corner of US 90 and CR 125 in Glen on December 9. Deputy Yarborough learned that he had outstanding warrants in Duval County for failure to pay child support, and in California for felony probation violation.

Battery, knife threat arrest

A Macclenny man was arrested for aggravated assault with a knife and domestic battery on his girlfriend during an argument that began at their south city home over clothing she had purchased. Police were called to the Grisholm St. residence of Shirley Ruise, 46, just before noon of December 6 and were told by both her and two witnesses that she had been struck repeatedly about the head and face by Willie Winton, 50. He is also charged with threatening to kill her with a long-bladed knife that Ms. Ruise said she initially grabbed to keep it away from him. Deputy Robert Aberly said Ms. Ruise had a swollen lip. In other incidents, a criminal complaint for aggravated battery was filed early on December 10 against Octavius Thompson, 23, of Baldwin for an attack on John-

ny Moring, 30, of Macclenny. Deputy Jacob Satterwhite interviewed Mr. Moring in the emergency room at Fraser Hospital about 2 am where he was being treated for deep lacerations near his eye and cheek, which he claimed were inflicted during a fight with Mr. Thompson at the Club 229 Juke north of Sanderson. Mr. Moring said he was struck with a sharp object during an argument over a female. He identified the alleged assailant from a photo lineup. • Tiara Roberson, 23, was arrested for domestic battery on her ex-boyfriend Rodrick Roberts, 24, of Macclenny after an alleged attack at Ohio and 6th Sts. the afternoon of December 11. Both parties denied to Deputy Daryl Mobley that the argument turned violent after Mr. Roberts showed up with new girlfriend

Ophelia Belford to deliver clothing to the 1-year-old daughter he has with Ms. Roberson. Ms. Belford, 24, of Sanderson said the ex-girlfriend struck Mr. Roberts and tore his shirt. The officer said the victim's clothing was torn and noted scratch marks on his chest. • Kameron Morris, 18, of Glen St. Mary was arrested at Baker County High School the afternoon of December 5 following an attack on a 15-year-old fellow student. The victim told campus deputy Matt Riegel he was struck several times about the head following an argument that had taken place in the classroom of teacher Gary Cook. Mr. Morris in a subsequent interview admitted to attacking the youth, who he claimed was bullying him.

Woman says up to \$4900 was stolen from purse

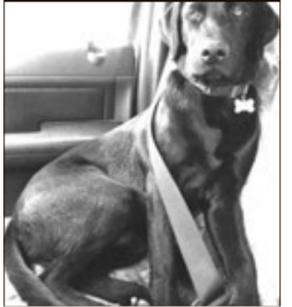
A Hilliard, FL woman told police her purse was looted of between \$3900-\$4900 while parked near buildings she owns on South 6th St. in Macclenny. Carolyn Wilkie reported the theft on December 5 and told Deputy Jacob Satterwhite it could have occurred in the prior two days. The purse was stored in her unlocked pickup truck and she suspects some day laborers who were employed on a construction project may be responsible. Ms. Wilkie said between \$3000-4000 and blank checks were inside the purse, and another \$900 in cash and the key to a safety deposit box were in a side pocket. She told the officer she did not notice the missing money and key until she was balancing her checkbook. In other reports involving vehicles, Edward Roling of Lake City reported a shotgun valued at \$313 was taken from his parked 1995 Jeep between 3-5 pm on December 3. He reported the loss to Deputy Earl Lord the next day. The SUV was parked at a hunting camp off L'il Dixie Dr. in the north county. • A 2008 Dodge sedan was struck on the passenger side door by what appeared to be a pellet on MLK Dr. in west Macclenny the morning of December 6. Ashley Norman told Deputy Robert Aberly she was returning to Keller Intermediate School where she works about 9:50 when she heard what sounded like a rock hit the side of the vehicle. A passenger was seated nearby at the time. There was no damage estimate. • Lorri Starling told Deputy Chris Walker someone is cutting parts off a wrecked vehicle on her property on Richard Griffis Rd. She named a suspect.

Unoccupied home in west city looted

A Macclenny woman returned to a former residence after an absence of nine days to find that nearly \$4200 in property she left behind had been stolen. There was no sign of forced entry at the address of Elizabeth Johnson on MLK Dr. but the interior had been ransacked, according to Deputy Robert Aberly. The victim listed \$3000 worth of CDs and DVDs, a fish tank valued at \$175 and a window air conditioner worth \$230 among the items taken. She told the officer she recently moved from the address and had last been there on November 27. In other residential thefts, three dogs chained up at a residence off CR 125 north were apparently stolen during a 27-hour period ending the afternoon of December 7. Jamie Taylor of Sanderson told Deputy Tony Norman she returned to the residence of her mother about 3:30 pm to discover that a red nose pit bull, an American pit bull and a red healer were gone. No value was placed on the animals. • An X-Box and game valued at \$365 belonging to Shane White of Macclenny were taken from his apartment on E. Ohio St. An acquaintance of the victim, Reginald Moore of Macclenny, reported the theft when

he returned to the address about 2:20 am. Mr. Moore told Deputy Jacob Satterwhite he misplaced a key given to him by Mr. White and left the apartment unlocked. • A criminal complaint for shoplifting was filed about midday on December 10 against Dana Taylor, 43, of Gainesville for attempting to shoplift \$46 worth of merchandise from Walmart. A store security worker stopped her as she tried to leave without several items she placed in a bag and two cases of beer she concealed under a large bag of dog food.

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CIRCUIT COURT

20-months for buying drugs

A Middleburg man who was snagged in a set-up drug buy in Macclenny a year ago was sentenced on December 6 to 20 months in prison. Eric Eddy, 34, will be on house arrest with stricter sanctions as a drug offender for a year following release. Circuit Judge Phyllis Rosier gave him credit for 279 days he already served in county jail. The sheriff's office used a confidential informant to set up the purchase of 120 Oxycodone pills by Mr. Eddy and co-defendant Walter Jewell, 33, also of Middleburg, in the Walmart parking lot on December 17, 2010. The defendants paid \$1200 for the pills before police closed in and found them in possession of other prescription medication. The state dropped a count of possession of drugs with intent to sell, and allowed the defendant to plead to possession and purchase of a controlled substance. In other pleas that day, Lavar Chaplin, 22, of Jacksonville admitted to violating probation on a 2010 charge of bringing marijuana into Baker Correctional

and will be in county jail 364 days minus a month already served. The original offense took place in May of last year. • Matthew Eddins pleaded no contest to grand theft of a phone and jacket from another patron at Mac's Liquors in Macclenny in May of this year. Judge Rosier ordered him to serve six months on house arrest, followed by a year on probation. He is banned from the lounge as well. • Sandra Mobley pleaded no contest to child neglect and sale

of a controlled drug and will serve six months in county jail, followed by a six-month house arrest with drug offender sanctions. The state dropped a companion drug sale charge as part of the plea agreement. • The judge ordered Michael Harris to do 30 hours of community service in addition to a one-year probation for felony driving on a suspended license. He pleaded no contest and adjudication of guilt was withheld.

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PHOTO BY BRAD WEEKS

Whiskers raise more than \$1300

Sheriff Joey Dobson presented money raised during the sheriff's office annual beard contest and fund raiser earlier this month to JJ Sweet, the lead Baker County advocate for Hubbard House, a Jacksonville-based domestic violence shelter and counseling center. Officers donated cash for the privilege of growing out their facial hair for the months of October and November. Then the officers were judged on their beards. Ben Anderson won for best goatee, Buddy Harvey for fullest beard and Kolby Crawford had the neatest beard, in the judges' estimation. The event raised \$1320 this year, which Ms. Sweet said was the most in the drive's nine-year history. "We're thankful for the help and support the sheriff's office supplies year round, but especially during this time of year," she said.

Offenders seek volunteering opportunities

Offenders serving time on house arrest or who otherwise have been ordered by the court to perform community service hours are soliciting opportunities to help churches, nonprofit organizations or public agencies and fulfill their community service obligations.

Any such organization seeking to enlist the help of offenders should contact Chris Thomas at 259-0264 or Steven Jones at 654-8314.

'Playin' it safe ...'

County deputies are looking out for behavior — good behavior.

Police will be handing out certificates good for \$5 off purchase price at any Subway Sandwich location to children playing safely on Baker County streets, sidewalks and parks.

It's a promotion called "Playin' Safe" to promote habits like wearing helmets while biking and using crosswalks.

Parenting self-help class starts

A new support group for the parents of children up to toddler age is planned to begin January 5.

The "Parents Helping Parents" group from 1-3 pm at the health department, 480 W. Lowder St., will give moms and dads a chance to swap helpful tips about potty training, disciplining, safety and baby cues.

The group meetings are free and incentives will be available for participating parents, including gifts and snacks. Health department personnel will be on hand for the meetings to offer their suggestions about healthy and safe child development.

"A lot of learning can occur when you feel comfortable and supported ... I'm really excited about that," said Sue Murphy, the Healthy Start coordinator for Baker county.

For more information about Parents Helping Parents or to register, call Andrea Birget at 259-8267 ext. 2253.

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Caught stealing a Yule tree; had drugs

Police arrested a Macclenny woman for felony possession of prescription drugs early on December 8 shortly after she and two others were caught stealing a Christmas tree from a downtown lot.

Deputy Steven Smith said he stopped a pickup truck driven by Rhonda Bradshaw, 43, shortly after observing it driving away from the lot on the north side of US 90 about 12:20 am. The driver told the officer she bought it earlier and had come to pick it up, but could not produce proof of the purchase.

During a routine search, Deputy Smith said he found four Xanax and Oxycodone pills in Ms. Bradshaw's jacket pocket for which she did not have a prescription. He also found a synthetic cigarette containing marijuana.

The driver was also charged with misdemeanor possession and petty theft.

Two persons with her, Lonna Lauramore, 21, and Jason Parish, 25, both of Macclenny, were named in a criminal complaint for petty theft of the tree.

In another drug-related arrest, Casey Lauramore, 19, of Macclenny was charged with misdemeanor possession of a glass smoking pipe.

Deputy Jacob Satterwhite said he stopped Mr. Lauramore and a male juvenile companion about 10:45 the evening of December 9 as they walked near Ohio and 8th St. in the north city.

The officer said he spotted the pipe inside Mr. Lauramore's jacket.

Annual luminaires

The Whispering Pines Homeowners Association located off of Milfordale Road will have its annual Christmas Luminaires on Saturday, December 17 beginning at 6 pm.

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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

Edward Brown of Glen St. Mary

Edward Jackson Brown, 72, of Glen St. Mary, FL went home to be with his Lord on December 10, 2011 with his family by his side. Mr. Brown was a native of Mobile, Al. and made Baker County his home for most his life. He was born on October 16, 1939 to the late Werley L. and Sally Lilly Cook Brown.



Edward Brown

Mr. Brown was a Baker County High School graduate in the class of 1958, a United States Air Force veteran and retired from the Northeast Florida State Hospital in 2003. He Brown enjoyed fishing, watching football, gardening and spending time with his family and friends. He is predeceased by brothers Jimmy, Hursell, Ronnie, and Gary Brown; sister Evelyn Brown Zong.

Survivors include his loving wife of 52 years Annie Jo Brown of Glen St. Mary; children Glenn (Marie) Brown and Berry (Allison) Brown, both of Glen St. Mary, Keith (Windy) Brown of Moniac, Ga, Lisa Brown (Emmett) Noblitt and Michael (Sunny) Brown, both of Glen St. Mary; brother Larry (Phyllis) Brown and brother-in-law; Donald Zong.; grandchildren; Christina, Gary, Emmett, Jr., Jacklyn, Chrystal, Brian, Heather, Foster, Trenton, Brooke and McKenzie.; great-grandchildren Marissa, Hunter, Elijah, Hallie, Cole and Reese.

The funeral service was held on Tuesday December 13 at 11:00 am in Sanderson Congregational Holiness Church with pastors Oral Lyons and Ronnie Moates officiating. Pallbearers were Gary Brown, Emmett Noblitt Jr., Brian Brown Jr., Curtis Moates, Foster Brown and Chase Brown. Honorary were Jeff Creekmore, Dwayne Moates, Everett Pringle, Al Fraser, Rickey Hodges and Edwin Rodriguez. Interment followed at South Prong Cemetery, Sanderson.

Arrangements were by Ferreira Funeral Services of Macclenny.

Robert Harris, 50, of Lake City

Robert Rollin Harris, 50, of Lake City died Sunday, December 11, 2011 at the home of his mother in Lake City following an extended illness. He was a native of Starke and had resided in Macclenny for over 40 years before moving to Lake City five years ago. He worked as a carpenter in the construction industry most of his life. He was preceded in death by his father Willie James Harris Sr.



Robert Harris

Survivors include mother Manda Lee (David) Buck of Lake City; step-mother Judy Harris of Macclenny; sister Jamie Harris of Macclenny; brothers Jimmy Harris of Lake City, Ronnie Harris and Tommy Starling, both of Macclenny, Elbert (Wanda) Bryant and Daniel Bryant, both of Tarbo, NC; pet companion Checkers.

A graveside service was held at 2 pm Wednesday, December 14 at Oak Grove Cemetery with Rev. Tommy Anderson officiating. Guerry Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Justin Pugh, 31, accident victim

Justin William Pugh, 31, of Macclenny, died December 7, 2011 in a motorcycle accident. He moved to Macclenny seven years ago from Wichita Falls, TX and was a graduate of Rider High in Wichita Falls. He studied at Midwestern State University and enjoyed playing basketball and football during his high school years.

Mr. Pugh was employed at Anchor Glass and loved his work. He appreciated music and enjoyed playing guitar. He was a fan of mixed martial arts and grappling. He was devoted to his son Kade.

Survivors include mother Linda Morgan, father Charles Haddon Pugh; sister Jessica Pugh; paternal grandmother LaVerna Pugh; his beloved son Kade William Pugh; and the mother of his son Regina Pugh. His family will always share great memories of Justin and will forever know him as a loving and giving person who touched many lives.

The funeral service was held at 2 pm Monday, December 12, at Russell Baptist Church with visitation with the family prior to the funeral at 12:30 pm. Burial followed in Russell Haven of Rest Cemetery in Green Cove Springs.

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

David Wirth Jr., 30, of Jacksonville

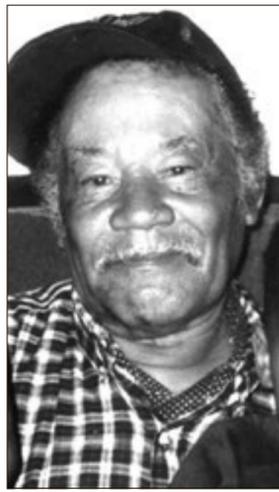
David William Wirth Jr., 30, of Jacksonville died December 9, 2011. He was born in Jacksonville to David William Wirth Sr. and Tina Elizabeth Landry Battles on March 25, 1981. He was a resident of Macclenny through his junior high school years and at the time of his death was residing in Jacksonville. David was an avid Gator and Ohio State Buckeyes fan. He enjoyed spending time with his family most specially his wife and children. He was predeceased by his grandfather Charles David Wirth.



David Wirth Jr.

Survivors include his wife of eight years Tishauna Wirth; father, David William (Renee) Wirth Sr. (USN retired); mother, US Army Captain Tina E. (Walter) Battles of Macclenny; children Davis William Wirth III, Kelly Elaine Wirth and Lauren Ann Wirth, all of Jacksonville; maternal grandparents Robert and Carolyn Landry Sr.; paternal grandmother Margaret Wirth; uncles Robert (Marilyn) Landry Jr. of Harrisburg, PA, Mark (Susan) Landry of Columbus, OH; brothers US Army Sgt. Scott (Diana) Wirth of Riverview, FL, US Navy PO1 Michael (Hannah) Wirth of Port Orchard, WA, Ian Thompson of Madison, WI, Brad Foster of Middleburg; sisters Kathryn Thompson (Shane) Mathews of Valdosta, Alison (William) Messick of Jacksonville, Alaina Thompson of Monroe, WI, Selina (Clifford) Lloyd of Baldwin, Daphne Battles of Sanderson; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

The funeral service was held Monday, December 12 at 2 pm at New Life Church of God in Macclenny with Pastor Frank J. Pintello Jr. officiating. Interment followed at Woodlawn Cemetery in Macclenny. V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.



In memory of my Daddy Fred Perry Sr

1/13/1930 - 12/18/2007

December 18th 2001 you made your journey into Heaven, leaving me with a broken heart and an empty space in my life that no one can every replace. You never know just how important a daddy's role is in life until it ends. I always admired your wisdom, your funny stories and greeting me in the afternoons.

My Christmas has not been the same with you gone. But I have something that a lot of people don't have. Memories, good memories of time spent with a wonderful Daddy. Love and miss you always.

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN,
LOVE, CINDY

In loving memory of James Davis

3/4/1926 - 12/13/2005

Missing you!

LOVE,
ADA MAE DAVIS
AND FAMILY

Merry Christmas to my brother Danny Johns

6/21/1967 - 12/17/2008

We thought of you with love today, but that is nothing new. We thought about you yesterday, and the days before that too.

We think of you in silence. We often speak your name. Now all we have are memories and your picture in a frame.

Your memory is a keepsake with which we'll never part. God has you in his keeping, we have you in our hearts.

I LOVE YOU,
SISTER DONNA CONNER
AND FAMILIES

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE

Monday at 5:00 pm
NO EXCEPTIONS!

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

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

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

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1/2 mile South of I-10 on CR 125,
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Wednesday Service 7:30 pm

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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

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

Welcome First Baptist Church of Sanderson
CR 229 S., Sanderson FL

Sunday School 10:00 am
Sun. Morning Worship . 11:00 am
Sun. Evening Worship . . 6:00 pm
Wed. Eve. Bible Study . . 7:00 pm

Pastor Bob Christmas
<http://www.fbcofsanderson.org>

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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23-A to Lauramore Rd. & Fairgrounds Rd.

Sunday School 9:45 am
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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

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Wednesdays
Wednesday Worship- 7:00 pm

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Happy Anniversary
Ardris Paige

12/12/1993 - 11/116/2010

I treasure this day that we have shared on so many years. It was just at this moment that I saw your smile and you kissed me and we said we loved each other. For many it has been a year but for me it was just today at this moment.

You have been a friend and a husband to me but now you have put me in the hands of the Lord to do the same as you did for me. We shared the good and the bad. Without the bad it wouldn't have made us stronger together.

You haven't left me. It's many nights that you have pulled the comforter over my head or off my head (smile). You played with me many nights to keep me from crying.

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY,
LOVE,
YOUR WIFE TREASE

Food distribution

The emergency food assistance program will distribute commodities on a first come, first serve basis until the food is depleted on Friday, December 16 from 9 am - 12 pm at Northeast Community Action Agency at 84 Lowder Street.



Showing off 1950 tobacco crop

This photo was taken in 1950 at Cleve Harvey's tobacco barn south of Sanderson. He is showing tobacco leaves to two visitors from New Jersey (left) Julia Amstock and Dora Kuntz. Roy Yarbrough is standing to the left of Mr. Harvey and Michael V. Yarbrough is in front.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RUBY BARG

Do you have access to old photos like this? We're interested in the faces and places of Baker County in years past. Bring or mail your photo to us, or scan them for e-mail delivery. Please include your name, a contact number or e-mail address, detailed information on when and where the photo was taken, and the names of the people in the photo [as many as known]. Mail them to the newspaper c/o P.O. Box 598 or bring them by 104 S. 5th St. in Macclenny so they can be scanned, or e-mail to editor@bakercountypress.com. Photos submitted in person will be returned.



PHOTO BY JOEL ADDINGTON

Painting class showcases works

More than a dozen students, including Norma Rae Flansburg (above), in the Career and Adult Education Center's art classes displayed their work at the center the afternoon of December 8 for friends, family, school district administrators and school board members. For the last two years the center has offered grant-funded art and computer classes for free to adults 55 years or older. Instructor Sarah Good said the classes help students develop art and computer literacy while giving them hands-on experience they can put to use at home. "I always liked to draw but had never had classes," explained Ms. Flansburg, 65, of Charlton County, who spent six months in the classes this year. "I'm so thankful for this. I couldn't afford to do it otherwise."

Land sales Sept. through Nov.

The following land transactions were recorded in the Baker County courthouse September - November 28. Values are derived from documentary stamps. Many descriptions are by S(ection) T(ownship) R(ange). If acreage or price are not listed, none were indicated in the documents.

THRIFT, JOYCE F to KNABB LANDS INC in 20-15-21E, \$10

RAULERSON, TANYA M to HOUSEHOLD FINANCE CORPORATION III in LT 16 FOREST PARK SUB 29-25-22E, \$135,162

PETERS, JOHN A to MACCLENNY CITY OF in 19-25-22E, \$10

SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT to CROOK, LARRY A in 29-35-19E, \$30,750

GRIFFIS, JOANN R to GENTILE, SAMUEL S in 36-25-21E, \$10,000

MILENCHICK, REBECCA JENKINS to CONCHA, HENRY R in 06-35-22E, \$172,000

WAYNE FRIER HOME CENTER OF MACCLENNY LLC to CLARK, RUSSELL E in PAR 46 20-25-22E, \$80,000

FEARS, KEVIN to STARLING, EARL T in 15-45-20E, \$41,500

CARPENTER, WILLIE M to CARPENTER, WILLIAM M in 13-25-21E, \$10

GAINEY, BEVERLY B to SHOUSE, MATTHEW S in 19-25-22E, \$168,000

BEHR, DOUGLAS A to FAIRCLOTH, ADAM W in 02-35-21E, \$155,000

MORANS AUTO PARTS INC to PATEL, FALGUNI in LT 14 BLK 26 MACCLENNY, \$70,000

SLATTERY, JAMES T TRUSTEE to HADDOCK, WESLEY G in LT 5 21-15-21E, \$29,250

KLEIN, IRA W to BROWN, BARK III LP in LT 23 BLK 1 OWENS ACRES, \$10

PATTON, SEAN A to PATTON, DEBORAH JO in 21-15-21E, \$10

LEE, JEREMY to SWEAT, LEIGHTON RIDGE in 07-35-22, \$35,251

WILKINSON, CYNTHIA THOUROT to DEWITT, ARIE GWENDOLYN in 02-15-20E, \$10

DREES HOMES OF FLORIDA INC to DOTSON, THOMAS W in 19-25-22E LT 97 ROLLING MEADOWS, \$137,000

JOHNSON, ELIZABETH A to JOHNSON, JOHN WESLEY TRUSTEE in LT 2 18-45-20E, \$25,000

ROBERTS, THOMAS K to TD BANK NA in LT 20 BLK 1 COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES, \$154,954

SLATTERY, JAMES T TRUSTEE to HIGGINBOTHAM, FREDDIE K in 521-15-21E, \$16,300

SLATTERY, JAMES T TRUSTEE to HIGGINBOTHAM, FREDDIE K in 21-15-21E, \$32,500

HAMILTON, DONNA JO TRUSTEE to COLEMAN, YOLANDA LASHAWNDA in 36-25-20E, \$30,000

HAMILTON, DONNA JO TRUSTEE to VANAMAN, WILLIAM J JR in 32-25-21E, \$57,000

KENNEDY, JOHN D to JENKS, ARLEN in PAR 30 PINES ACRES II, \$8,000

DARNALL, JEFFERY D to DARNALL, JEFFERY D in 32-25-22E, \$10

GAINEY, THOMAS LEE to GAINEY, THOMAS LEE in PAR 16 07-35-22E, \$10

ADAMS, THOMAS J TRUSTEE to ADAMS, THOMAS J TRUSTEE in PAR 2 02-35-21E LTS 6 & 7 02-35-21E, \$10

FISH, HAZEL to FISH, TAMARA KAYE in LT 12 BLK 35 GLEN ST MARY, \$10

LYONS, LILLA MAE to LYONS, LONDIE in 29-25-22E, \$10

TUBBERVILLE, JOHNNY A II to CRAWFORD, MICHAEL A in LT 33 HILLS OF GLEN, \$56,900

KIRKLAND JAMES CURTIS to MAYS, CARL L in 05-35-22E, \$67,000

A&R TRUSS COMPANY INC to WILLIAMS, GREGORY DOYLE in 13-35-21E, \$199,000



Mr. Rumsey

Finishes Navy basic

Kevin N. Rumsey, a high honor graduate of Baker County High School in 2011, completed basic Navy training at Great Lakes, Ill. in November.

He will train to be a hospital corpsman in San Antonio, TX.

Mr. Rumsey is the son of Tom Rumsey of Macclenny and Ginger Armstrong of Bradford County.

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Putting Christ Back in Christmas

Sunday, December 18
at 6:00 pm

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God's Kids VIP Puppet Ministry & IMAGE BREAKERS

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12/8-29c

Used Singlewides, 3/2 and 2/1 starting at \$4,995 delivered to your lot. Call 386-418-0424. 13th Street Home Sales, Alachua, FL.

12/8-29c

GED preparation course in January

Registration for preparation classes for GED testing will begin January 4 at the Baker County school district's career and adult education building at 523 West Minnesota Avenue in Macclenny. Daytime classes will be held Monday through Friday 9 am to

1 pm and evening classes, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 9 pm. Pre-registration is required.

Open registration is currently

in progress until December 21 from 8 am - 3:30 pm. For more information about GED classes, contact Wanda Conner at 259-0403.

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COMMERCIAL GENERAL
Corner lot zoned commercial neighborhood on Hwy. 121 North. (Adjoining property available if needed) **\$79,900**

Corner lot in excellent business location on Hwy. 125 S. in Glen St. Mary. **\$49,900**

Excellent business location. Four lots total 1.20 acres with approx. 320 ft. Hwy. 121 frontage. **\$239,900**

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STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Okefenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is John Middleton, General Manager. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Stop 1510, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, 20250-1510; or the Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410; or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

CITY OF MACCLENNY FAIR HOUSING NOTICE

It is the policy of the City Council of the City of Macclenny to promote, through fair, orderly and lawful procedure the opportunity for each person so desiring to obtain housing of such person's choice in the city without regard to race, religion, color, ancestry, national origin, sex, familial status, marital status, handicap or age, and that, to that end, to prohibit discrimination in housing by any person.

The City Manager is authorized to enforce the City's fair housing policy, as contained in Ordinance Number 91-05, as it may be further amended, in accordance with state and federal laws. This ordinance is available for public inspection at the Office of City Manager, Macclenny City Hall 118 East Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, Florida 32063, during normal business hours Monday - Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

A written complaint of any local fair housing discrimination should be made to the City Commission, ATTN: Gerald Dopson, City Manager, 118 East Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, Florida 32063. The written complaint must be received within 30 days of the alleged occurrence. An investigation will be conducted and the City will issue a written report with findings in fact within 60 days of receipt of the complaint. In the case where guilt is assumed, the City may recommend to the State Attorney's Office that a complaint be filed in the appropriate court.

Any aggrieved person may also file a fair housing discrimination complaint with the following State and/or Federal agencies:

Florida Commission on Human Relations
325 John Knox Road, Bldg. F, Suite 240
Tallahassee, FL 32303-4149
Toll-Free Telephone: 1-800-342-8170

or
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20410
Toll-Free Telephone: 1-800-424-8590

For further information, or to register a fair housing complaint, please contact Gerald Dopson, Macclenny City Manager, at 904-259-0972

The City of Macclenny is an Equal Opportunity Housing Agency

Bobby Bowden will attend grid banquet

Dadgum. The Wildcats will get a good talkin' to by former FSU head coach Bobby Bowden, the guest speaker at the Wildcat Football Banquet on January 6.

There is so much to write about this week that I don't know where to begin. The Jaguars had their biggest win of the season, there's a new Heisman Trophy winner, the Broncos keep rolling.

• The Jaguars got four touchdowns from Maurice Jones-Drew

to crush the Miami Dolphins 41-14. They overcame a 14-0 deficit to score 41 straight and Coach Mel Tucker got a game ball.

There were so many positives for the Jaguars. Jones-Drew's highest touchdown total, seven turnovers, Gabbert's best game as a pro — that's a lot to digest after the team looked awful at the start. Maybe things have started to turn around. Maybe.

• I am one happy Baylor Bear. Baylor will have its first-ever Heisman Trophy to display at Floyd Casey Stadium in Waco. Robert Griffin III (RG3) won the Heisman on Saturday, narrowly beating Stanford quarterback Andrew Luck. Luck, who had been the prohibitive favorite all season, was gracious in defeat. Griffin III put up some gaudy numbers for the 9-3 Bears.

He's an impressive guy. He already has a bachelor's degree and will finish his masters in communication studies this summer. He still has a year's eligibility and has petitioned the NCAA to allow a lighter class load because he starts law school in the fall. The NCAA probably doesn't get a lot of those petitions. Baylor fans hope that means he will be back on campus in the fall instead of in the NFL.

• The Denver Broncos did it again. When I heard that they were trailing the Bears 14-0 with four minutes left I shrugged. But then it was 14-7 after a Tebow touchdown.

Hmm. The inside kick was recovered by the Bears. It's over. Well ... Marion Barber had the ball stripped and the Broncos recovered with 2 minutes to go.

Hmmmm. Matt Prater blasts a 59-yard field goal to tie the game.

Overtime. You're kidding me. This couldn't happen again.

It could and it did. Prater nails a 51-yarder to win the game and give the Broncos sole ownership of the AFC West.

Back in the seventies the Bengals were called the Cardiac Kids for their late wins. They'll have to come up with a new moniker for the Broncos.

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SOCIAL & SCHOOL

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



Makinslee Schmehl

Born December 1st

Madysen Brooke Schmehl is pleased to announce the arrival of sister Makinslee Taylor on December 1, 2011 at Baptist Medical Center in Jacksonville.

Makinslee weighed 7 lbs., 8 oz. and measured 19 inches long.

Proud parents are Daniel and Tiffany Canaday Schmehl of Macclenny. Grandparents include Danny and Beth Schmehl and Debbie and Allen Oliver, all of Macclenny.



Yonn - Butler

To wed Dec. 17th

Erik Yonn of Gainesville and Rebecca Swindell of Macclenny are pleased to announce the marriage of daughter Adrienne Ruth of Macclenny to Brendon Michael Butler of Jacksonville. Brendon is the son of Michael and Judy Bennett of Jacksonville.

The wedding will take place December 17, 2011 at 4 pm at 21439 Pleasant Grove Church Road. Family and friends are invited.

Following a honeymoon the couple will reside in Taylor.

Honorary student

St. James Baptist Church honors Tiamara Johnson, the daughter of Tiffany Jones, for her outstanding work in school. She is on the A-B Honor Roll.

In addition to being an honorary student, she is also one of the premier singers in the choir.

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Black & white/Full color

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110 South Fifth St.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

December 15

BCHS: Boy's Basketball vs. Interlachen, 6 - 7 pm, FFA Christmas Banquet, Auditorium, 6 pm
BCMS: Boy's and Girl's Basketball at Suwannee, 5 pm
WES: Good Morning Show Club Mtg, 8:00 am
PK/K: Positive Behavior Support School Store

December 16

District-wide: Early Release
BCMS: Club Day PK/K: Positive Behavior Support School Store

December 17

BCHS: Region 1 Competition Cheerleading at Ridgeview, Wrestling at Columbia, 8:30 am

December 19

District-wide: Christmas Break
BCHS: Girl's Basketball Tournament at Bishop Snyder, 6 pm

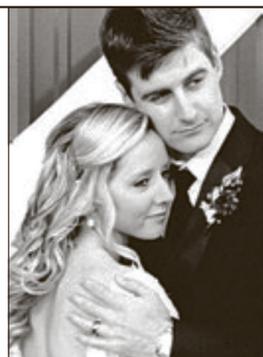
December 20

District-wide: Christmas Break
BCHS: Wrestling at Ed White, 8:00 am, Girl's Basketball Tournament at Bishop Snyder, 6 pm

December 21

District-wide: Christmas Break
BCHS: Girl's Basketball Tournament at Bishop Snyder, 6 pm

Advertising Deadline
Monday 5:00 pm
NO EXCEPTIONS!



Linster - DeWitt

Wed Nov. 5

Kristophor Linster and Anna DeWitt were united in marriage on November 5, 2011. Both the wedding and reception were held at the Keeller property in Jacksonville, Florida. Pastor Kevin Clark officiated the ceremony. The best man was the groom's brother, Colt Linster. The maid of honor was the bride's sister, Jennifer Curtis.

The groom is the son of Patrick and Christy Linster of Jacksonville. He is a graduate of Baker County High School and the University of North Florida where he graduated with a BS in Civil Engineering. He is currently employed with Terracon as a field engineer. The bride is the daughter of Tom and Cathy DeWitt of Orlando. She graduated from International Community School and the University of North Florida with a BSN in Nursing.

The newlyweds honeymooned in Montego Bay, Jamaica and currently reside in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 02-2008-CA-000157
DIVISION:

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT RELATING TO IMPAC SECURED ASSETS CORP., MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-3,
Plaintiff,

vs.

AMY STAVELY, et al,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated November 30, 2011, and entered in Case No. 02-2008-CA-000157 of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Baker County, Florida in which Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee Under the Pooling and Servicing Agreement Relating to Impac Secured Assets Corp., Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-3, is the Plaintiff and Amy Stavelly, Carolina First Bank f/k/a Mercantile Bank, are defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on ALL SALES WILL BE HELD AT THE FRONT DOOR OF THE COURTHOUSE, 339 E. MACCLENNY AVE., MACCLENNY, FL 32063. THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER MUST PAY AT LEAST 5% OF THE SUCCESSFUL BID BY CASH OR CASHIER'S CHECK AT THE TIME OF THE SALE. THE REMAINING BID AMOUNT MUST BE TENDERED BY 4:00 PM ON THE DAY OF THE SALE BY CASH OR CASHIER'S CHECK ONLY, Baker County, Florida at 11:00 AM on the 16th day of January, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure.

LOT 10, COPPER CREEK HILLS, UNIT 3, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGES 69 AND 70, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 6080 COPPER DRIVE, 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 60 days after the sale.

Dated in Baker County, Florida this 5th day of December, 2011.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
Baker County, Florida
By: Jamie Crews
Deputy Clerk

Albertelli Law
Attorney for Plaintiff
P.O. Box 23028
Tampa, FL 33623
(813) 221-4743
10-60214

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. Persons with a disability who need any accommodation in order to participate should call Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352)337-6237 within two (2) working days of receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired, please call 1-800-955-8771; if you are voice impaired, please call 1-800-955-8770.

12/15-12/22
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION
Case #: 2008-CA-000195

U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for the C-BASS Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-CB8
Plaintiff,

-vs-

Matthew A. Martin and Lucinda Martin, Husband and Wife; Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as Nominee for Ownit Mortgage Solutions, Inc.; Carmel Financial Corporation; Unknown Parties in Possession #1; Unknown Parties in Possession #2; if living, and all Unknown Parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named Defendant(s) who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said Unknown Parties may claim an interest as Spouse, Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, or Other Claimants
Defendant(s).

AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling foreclosure sale dated November 22, 2011 entered in Civil Case No. 2008-CA-000195 of the Circuit Court of the 8th Judicial Circuit in and for Baker County, Florida, wherein U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for the C-BASS Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-CB8, Plaintiff and Matthew A. Martin and Lucinda Martin, Husband and Wife are defendant(s), I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at THE EAST DOOR OF THE BAKER COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 339 EAST MACCLENNY AVENUE, MACCLENNY, BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA, 11:00 A.M. on January 4, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOT 56, CYPRESS POINTE, UNIT 1, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGES 90 THROUGH 92, INCLUSIVE, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA.

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

DATED at Macclenny, Florida, this 30th day of November, 2011.

AL FRASER
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
Baker County, Florida
Julie Combs
DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:
SHAPIRO, FISHMAN & GACHE, LLP
4630 Woodland Corporate Blvd.
Suite 100
Tampa, FL 33614
(813) 880-8888
(813) 880-8800

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 the ADA Coordinator; 201 East University Avenue, Room 410, Gainesville, Florida 32601 (352) 491-4490 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification of the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

12/15-12/22

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION:
CASE NO.: 02-2009-CA-000289

WELLS FARGO BANK, NA,
Plaintiff,

vs.

JON W ATWOOD; MERCANTILE BANK DIV OF CAROLINA FIRST; WENDY ATWOOD; UNKNOWN TENANT (S); IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated the 2 day of December, 2011, and entered in Case No. 02-2009-CA-000289, of the Circuit Court of the 8th Judicial Circuit in and for Baker County, Florida, wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, NA is the Plaintiff and JON W ATWOOD, MERCANTILE BANK DIV OF CAROLINA FIRST and WENDY ATWOOD are defendants. The Clerk of this Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the front door of the Baker County Courthouse, 399 E. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny, FL., 11:00 AM on the 16 day of January, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 2 LANCASTER GLEN ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3 PAGE 86 AND 87 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY FLORIDA.

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

Dated this 6th day of December, 2011.

AL FRASER
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
By: Julie Combs
Deputy Clerk

Submitted by:
Law Offices of Marshall C. Watson, P.A.
1800 NW 49th Street, Suite 120
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309
Telephone: (954) 453-0365
Facsimile: (954) 771-6052
Toll Free: 1-800-441-2438
12/8-12/15

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 02-2011-CA-000070

BANK OF AMERICA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff,

vs.

RALPH KING A/K/A RALPH R. KING; VENUS KING A/K/A VENUS A. LOCASCIO-KING; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN TENANT(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY;
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION

To the following Defendant(s):

RALPH KING A/K/A RALPH R. KING
Last Known Address
10412 HOLLIE RD
GLEN SAINT MARY, FL 32040

VENUS KING A/K/A VENUS A. LOCASCIO-KING
Last Known Address
10412 HOLLIE RD
GLEN SAINT MARY, FL 32040

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:

LOT 45, RIVER COUNTRY ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGES 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79 AND 80, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA.

TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 2003 DOUBLEWIDE MOBILE HOME BEARING IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS: 114-39459A AND 114-39459B.

a/k/a 10412 HOLLIE RD, GLEN SAINT MARY, FL 32040

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to, on Marinosci Law Group, P.C., Attorney Plaintiff, whose address is 100 W. Cypress Creek Road, Suite 1045, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309 on or before January 13, 2011, a date which is within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the BAKER COUNTY PRESS and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demand in the complaint.

This notice is provided pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2.065.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 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. Persons with a disability who need any accommodation in order to participate should call Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 within two (2) working days of your receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired call (800) 955-8771; if you are voice impaired, call (800) 955-8770.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Filing was mailed to all the parties in the attached mailing list.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 28th day of November, 2011.

AL FRASER
As Clerk of the Court
By Julie Combs
As Deputy Clerk

Attorney for Plaintiff
Marinosci Law Group, P.C.
100 W. Cypress Creek Road, Suite 1045
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33360
Telephone: (954) 644-8704
Telefacsimile: (954) 772-9601

12/15-12/22

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A R & R, INC
10525 DUVAL LANE
MACCLENNY, FL 32063
Phone (904) 259-4774

The following vehicle will be sold at public auction December 23, 2011 at 10:00 am at A, R & R INC, 10525 Duval Lane, Macclenny, FL 32063.
1995 Chevrolet S-10
VIN # 1G6CS19Z3S8177015

12/15

Notice is hereby given:

Christopher L Schantz
Last known address of:
PO BOX 967
Glen St. Mary, FL 32040

You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Macclenny, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system. If further assistance is needed, contact the Supervisor of Elections at the below listed address or call 904-259-6339.

Nita D Crawford
Baker County Supervisor of Elections
P.O. BOX 505
Macclenny, Florida, 32063

12/15

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
CASE NO. 02-2010-CA-000016

GMAC MORTGAGE, LLC,
PLAINTIFF,
VS.

BENNY C. SEARCY, ET AL.,
DEFENDANT(S).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated November 30, 2011 and entered in Case No. 02-2010-CA-000016 of the Circuit Court of the 8th Judicial Circuit in and for Baker County, Florida wherein GMAC MORTGAGE, LLC, is the Plaintiff and BENNY C. SEARCY, ET AL., are the Defendant(s). The Clerk will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, beginning at 11:00 a.m. to the highest bidder for cash, at the front door of the Baker County Courthouse located at 339 East Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063, on the 1st day of February, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

A PART OF THE NORTH 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4, AND PART OF THE NE 1/4 OF THE SW 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, RANGE 20 EAST, BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTH 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 35 AND THE WESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF EDDY ROAD (A COUNTY GRADED ROAD); THENCE N 26°12'12" W OF SAID WESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 308.69 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE DEPARTING LAST SAID WESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE S 89°28'48" W, 740.72 FEET; THENCE N 00°52'55" W, 392.58 FEET; THENCE N 88°26'42" E, 387.98 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER THEREOF; THENCE S 00°27'45" E ON EAST LINE THEREOF 338.79 FEET; THENCE DEPARTING LAST SAID EAST LINE N 89°00'00" E, 325.09 FEET TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH THE AFORESAID WESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SAID EDDY ROAD; THENCE S 26°12'12" E ON SAID WESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 70.48 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

TOGETHER WITH A 2008 DOUBLEWIDE MOBILE HOME VIN NO. LOHGA 10810244A AND VIN NO. LOHGA 10810244B.

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS OF 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.

Clerk, Circuit Court
Julie B. Combs
Deputy Clerk

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 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. Persons with a disability who need any accommodation in order to participate should call Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 within two (2) working days of your receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired call (800) 955-8771; if you are voice impaired, call (800) 955-8770.

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Cats snag first victory Trounce Crescent City here, 51-37

The Wildcat varsity basketball team notched its first win of the season on Saturday, December 10 with a home victory over Crescent City. The 51-37 victory doesn't really speak to the domination of the Raiders.

BCHS was hitting from the outside and the Raiders weren't able to counteract the hot shooting. Charles Ruise Jr. and Jesse Gardner were both nailing three pointers as BCHS ran out to a 14-4 lead in the early going.

The Cats continued to build on their lead in the second period, despite the fact that the Raiders' top scorer David Curry kept Crescent City close. BCHS took a 27-15 lead into the locker room.

Both teams came out for the second half cold as ice with BCHS outscoring the Raiders 6-3. But the Cats woke up in the fourth period and Gardner hit two more long distance shots.

Ruise and Gardner shared top scoring honors for BCHS with 12 points each. Gardner's all came on three-point shots. Johnny Lamb had 8 points. Curry had a game high 18 points for Crescent City.

"We think that when these young kids get some wind under their sails that they are going to shock some people," said Ruise. "We're hoping that this win will help us turn the corner."

The Cats were not so fortunate earlier in the week when they lost to district rival Forrest 60-40 on the road December 8. Forrest had three players in double



PHOTOS BY JUD JOHNSON

Above, Landon Mitchell drives around defenders as Kelton Givens (above right) looks on. At right, No. 5 Charles Ruise Jr. attempts to disrupt the impound pass.



figures as it used a big first half to hold off a Wildcat run.

The Cats played even with the Rebels in the second half, but Forrest held a 29-17 halftime lead that the Wildcats couldn't overcome.

Daryl Johnson and Lamb were the top scorers for BCHS with 10 points. CeCe Jefferson had 5 points.

BCHS will host Inter-lachen the evening of December 15 in its last contest before the Christmas tournament.

Varsity tips off at 7:30 pm and JV at 6 pm.

Kenny loss, Forrest win

It's been an up and down week for the Lady Wildcat basketball team. They went 1-1 against district foes and ran their record to 7-4.

The girls lost to district leader Bishop Kenny on December 6 but came back and beat Forrest on December 12.

Coach Aaron Summers pegged the Kenny game as important even before the season started. The Crusaders are an all-around solid team with a hot shooting guard. All but one of their players got on the score sheet as they ran out to a 60-36 win.

Kenny ran up the score early and led 29-10 at the half as BCHS just couldn't get going. The Wildcats got hot the second half, outscoring the Crusaders 15-10 in the third period, but it was too little too late.

Kenny padded its lead with a 21-point fourth quarter to put the game out of reach.

Chelsey Ruise led the Wildcats with 22 points. Caitlyn Smith had 5 and Niesha Givens 4 points.

The Wildcats got back to their winning ways with a big district victory over Forrest on December 12 by a score of 68-50. The score isn't indicative of how dominating the Wildcats were as Summers played all of his reserves for most of the second half.

Ruise had her best game of the year, driving the basket and nailing outside shots on the way to a 37-point night. She was particularly effective from outside the three-point arch, sinking six that night.

BCHS had the run of the court in the early going, posting a 27-10 first quarter lead. They were up 44-23 at the half.

Ruise led all scorers. Smith and Marnae Gaskins had 6 points each and Shanice Paige added 6 points.

The girls travel to Orange Park December 14 and will take part in the Bishop Snyder Christmas Tournament December 19 -21.



PHOTO BY JUD JOHNSON

Marnae Givens spins around a Forrest defender.

Bobcats' record now at 6-2

The Lady Bobcats of BCMS have had a good basketball season so far, standing at 6-2 overall and 3-1 in the Florida Star Conference.

The girls began the season by narrowly defeating Hamilton County Middle 20-19. Sixth grader Delicia Washington posted 12 points to lead the Bobcats. It was a tougher outing against St. Mary's Middle School (GA) as BCMS fell 28-21. Washington had 12 points and eighth grader Vornesha Donaldson had 7 points.

Then BCMS got back on the winning track, defeating Lake City Middle School 27-20. Washington led the way again with 18 points and eighth Grader Megan Farmer had 6 points. Yulee Middle was the next team to lose to the Bobcats by a score of 34-16 with Washington putting in 19 points. Megan Farmer added 4, Vornesha Donaldson had 3 and Zoe Hamil, Tristin Lauramore, Lindsey Love and

Abigayle Rice each added 2 points.

The Cats then traveled to Fernadina Beach Middle School and won 28-22. Washington posted 18 points and Megan Farmer added 8.

Then it was on the bus again to Madison County Middle School where the girls notched another win at 30-22 with Washington again leading the way. She had 16 points and Vornesha Donaldson put in 7.

The Bobcats suffered a tough conference loss against Richardson Middle School in Lake City at home 33-28. Washington had 17 points in the game.

The girls bounced back on Monday, December 12 with a 36-32 win over Fernandina Beach Middle School.

Washington had a season-high 27 points and Megan Farmer and Abigayle Rice added 4 points each. Porshua Jefferson and Grace Jones had a strong defensive game.

Wrestlers off to a 4-0 start!

It's been a surprising start to the season for the Wildcat wrestling team. Though they are very young and don't have the experience that some of their opponents bring to the sport, their energy and enthusiasm has translated into a 4-0 start in dual meets.

The wrestlers have been working hard in practice and it's been reaping dividends on the mat. Four Wildcat wrestlers went undefeated in the meets: Cody Miller, Zach Bloxham, Teddy Callihan and Robert Norris.

"If someone would have told me that this early in the season we would be 4-0 in duals and would place third at the Steak n'

Shake tournament, I would have probably said they were crazy," said Coach Ryan Sulkowski. "The kids are really working hard and have come a long way in a short amount of time."

The Cats crushed First Coast 54-22 on December 5 and came back the next day to defeat Atlantic Coast even more impressively. BCHS won 74-6 to go 2-0. They had two more big road wins, defeating Jackson 72-24 and Providence 51-28 on December 6.

There is a lot of buzz about the wrestling team and Sulkowski has a full stable of wrestlers, something that BCHS hasn't always had the luxury of fielding. "We are wrestling pretty well

right now as a team. We have filled all 14 weight classes at each meet, which really helps. The next two weeks will really tell us where we are heading into the holidays," the coach said.

The Cats travel to Columbia on December 17 and Ed White on December 20.

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A gift of goats aids families

KELLEY LANNIGAN
FEATURES

features@bakercountypress.com

Through a missions organization known as Samaritan's Purse, teachers and students at Macclenny Elementary as well as the AWANA youth group at First Baptist Church of Macclenny have raised funds to furnish two needy families with much needed dairy goats.

Samaritan's Purse funnels emergency food, clean water, medical care, livestock and other assistance to people in need, especially in undeveloped countries.

The price of a dairy goat is \$70 and Macclenny Elementary teachers are working toward that goal, having pledged to donate \$1 each.

Cathy Fletcher, receptionist at Macclenny Elementary, spearheads a different holiday project each year at the school.

As missions director of the AWANA youth program at First Baptist Church in Macclenny, she was already involved with that group's current effort collecting money to donate to Samaritan's Purse.

When she suggested raising money to purchase a goat for Macclenny Elementary's 2011 holiday project as well, the school enthusiastically adopted it.

The charity has had such appeal that students in teacher Cheryl Collins' class adopted it as a class project, too.

Ms. Collins didn't even send home a note explaining the project to the parents. The children are handling it all themselves, as evidenced by a class collection jar placed in the front office.

To date they have raised a total of \$38.

Their money isn't enough for a goat, but will go to other things as a poster hanging in the front lobby explains:

"The caring and giving class of Mrs. Collins is donating \$38 to Samaritan's Purse to feed two hungry babies for a week; teach a child to read and write and provide milk for a child for one week."

Children wrote messages on the sign. Some of their sentiments read: "I love to help; God loves you; I love chillen."

"I've been delighted that my school and church undertook this particular project and are both working toward the goal of easing the burden of a poor family in another part of the world. I'm also delighted to be personally involved with both," said Ms. Fletcher.

According to her, the gift of a goat to a needy family in another country is no small thing. The milk it produces can be turned into cheese, yogurt and butter. Surpluses of these products can be sold for much-needed cash. A single goat can greatly ease the situation of people suffering from malnutrition and poverty.

"It's been a wonderful way to teach children at the school and in the church the spirit of giving and to see it put in action," she said.

The AWANA group turned its collecting efforts into a competition between teams of girls and boys of different age groups and collected a total of \$93. Since a goat is only \$70, the \$23 difference will go to purchase another gift for their sponsored family — a dozen chickens.

The amount of money raised by each team determined the winner, but so did the weight, which is why the youth were encouraged to bring in their spare change.

All the loose change collected over the weeks was weighed in a scale made from two metal buckets.

During a church party when the money was weighed and winning teams identified, a goat named Buttercup paid a surprise visit, courtesy of her owner, church member Joey Harrell of Macclenny.

AWANA captain Stan Dukeman said that watching the spirit of giving that grew in the children was a huge personal reward. He hopes the fund raiser for missions can be an annual event.



PHOTO BY KELLEY LANNIGAN

AWANA winning team members with scales, Buttercup the goat and captain Stan Dukeman (kneeling).



Greeted by Veep at Mayport

Vice President Biden made a surprise visit on the morning of December 8, 2011 to Naval Station Mayport to join a homecoming celebration for the crew of the *USS Gettysburg* to welcome home sailors from a seven-month deployment to the Middle East. Macclenny resident Master Chief Mark Riceman (right) was among the crew of the guided missile cruiser and is pictured shaking the Vice President's hand as he departed the ship. Master Chief Riceman has served in the US Navy for 25 years. The photo appears with an article by the Associated Press. Mark Riceman is married to Ann Riceman and the stepfather of Tiffany Strait, both of Macclenny.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NAVY TIMES

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