

# Bobby Bowden at his best

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Legendary college football coach Bobby Bowden, who led the Florida State Seminoles to a national title in 1999 and a dozen Atlantic Coast Conference championships, addressed the 2012 Wildcat football awards banquet January 6.

BCHS football coach Ryan Sulkowski said this week that his players, who met Coach Bowden before the event, were excited and humbled by the experience.

"That is what the banquet was all about, those kids," he said. "And to have a speaker of that magnitude in not describable ... Our kids were honored that he chose to spend time with us for our special night ... He's a great coach and even better man. Our kids have a memory to take with them for a lifetime."

Mr. Bowden shared humorous stories and talked about the role that successful athletics programs

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MVP Thomas Sirk and Coach Sulkowski.

75¢

JANUARY 12, 2012 THURSDAY

# THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS

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## Prison for couple who sold pills to informant

A circuit court judge sentenced a Jacksonville couple to prison on January 3 for trafficking in Hydrocodone pills.

Donald Simmons, 47, drew a four-year term followed by 10 years on probation. He has to serve a minimum of three years, and gets credit for 286 days he has been in jail.



Donald Simmons

Hope Rhoden Simmons, 39, will serve the minimum three years minus 11 days in custody already. They both pleaded guilty to trafficking, and the state dropped counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor and sale and possession.



Hope Simmons

Both were assessed the mandatory \$50,000 fines for trafficking.

Sheriff's deputies arrested the couple on March 24, 2011 in the parking lot of the Macclenny Walmart, where an informant had set up the drug buy. They sold 47 grams of the controlled pain killer for \$300. The threshold for trafficking is 28 grams and above.

The delinquency charges were filed because they had a 3-year-old boy in the vehicle with them when the transaction took place.



Adam Ostasz

In another plea that resulted in a prison term, Adam Ostasz admitted to violating

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## Permits could be needed to park semis in the city

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From left: Principal Tom Hill, Tyler Mobley, Jonny Lambright, Dillon Jones, Jena Sands, Superintendent Sherrie Raulerson and Robert Raulerson in the BCHS gym after the school's new grade was announced January 4.

PHOTOS BY JUD JONSON

## BCHS jumps to a 'B' after two years at 'D'

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Baker County High School made history last week by garnering its highest grade from the Florida Department of Education since the state began grading the school 13 years ago.

Superintendent of Schools Sherrie Raulerson convened teachers, faculty and students in the BCHS gym the morning of January 4 to make the announcement.

She addressed them with school principal Tom Hill alongside balloons, a large foam letter "B," signifying the school's new grade; all while the speakers pumped Kool and the Gang's "Celebrate Good Times."

"It's the first time for Baker County High School, so of course, we're thrilled," Ms. Raulerson said later that day.

The new grade has been pending for

months and Mr. Hill was confident his school would shake its "D" grade. He just wasn't sure how high it would go.

His optimism came from the school's 4 percent jump in graduation and improved FCAT performance, which makes up half the state's formula for grading high schools.

Mr. Hill said celebrations to congratulate BCHS teachers, faculty and students on the achievement are being planned. "The teachers and staff all worked really hard on this, but it's really all about the students," he said.

The remainder of the school grade formula counts the graduation rate, accelerated class enrollment and other factors. The school received 1103 points overall — a jump from 954 last year — on a 1600-point scale.

The largest increase came in the portion of the formula measuring participation in accelerated classes like advanced placement or dual enrollment courses, which rose 19 percent.

That helped the school earn enough points to receive an "A" from the state, though a penalty levied for failing to increase the math and reading scores of 50 percent or more of the lowest performing students brought the grade down to a "B."

The requirement was narrowly missed, however, with 48 percent of those students, who scored in the bottom 25 percent on the previous year's FCAT exams, showing gains.

Progress was made in other areas, too.

The percentage of all students scoring proficient — defined as a 3 or higher on the FCAT's 6-point scale — rose on the math and reading tests compared to the previous year's results.

On the FCAT math exam, taken by 10th graders only, the share of proficient students rose 5 percent. The percentage of freshmen scoring a 3 or higher on reading test rose 2 percent and the share of sophomores doing

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## Injured wheelchair rider dies

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A Macclenny man hit by a truck while riding a motorized wheelchair on SR 228 South on November 16 died from his injuries last week at Orange Park Medical Center.

George D. Crawford, 61, was seriously injured in the 6:15 pm crash and those injuries eventually killed him, the Florida Highway Patrol confirmed late on January 10.

Mr. Crawford was traveling north on the heavily trafficked pavement just north of Barber Road when the 1998 Chevrolet Silverado driven by Anne Manning, 33, of Glen St. Mary was also northbound and struck the left rear of the wheelchair, the Florida Highway Patrol reported.

The victim was ejected by the impact onto the northbound shoulder.

Ms. Manning and other pas-

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## BAKER COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

## Teacher raise range \$300-8600

MIKE ANDERSON  
PRESS STAFF

Parties on both sides of the recently completed teacher's union contract negotiations reacted this week to the new agreement approved by the school board on January 3 with little discussion.

The board passed the contract with pay raises retroactive to July 1, 2011 ranging from less than \$300 a year for those at the bottom of a 25-step salary schedule to over \$8,600 for those who reach the top this year.

Raises were based on how many years each teacher has been in the classroom and their highest academic degree achieved. No across-the-board increases were awarded, however.

After five months of haggling over new contract language and salary schedules, union and district negotiators agreed the final document was the best they could accomplish after state funding for education was sharply reduced statewide in 2011.

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## Trafficking charge: 35 pills in pocket

A Macclenny man who was questioned by a county deputy responding to a suspicious person call ended up jailed for felony possession of 35 Hydrocodone pills he pulled from a pocket.

Deputy Jeremiah Combs said that Joseph Parrish, 27, of Sanderson appeared to be intoxicated the afternoon of January 4 as he had a hard time keeping balance and speaking when confronted on South 5th and Barber Rd.

Mr. Parrish declined to be

checked out by a rescue crew, and instead asked Deputy Combs for a ride home. The officer responded that Mr. Parrish first empty his pockets, and that is when he produced the pills, which were not in a container. He claimed they belonged to his sister.

Because of the quantity of pills, Mr. Parrish was booked at county jail for trafficking, a first-degree felony, and felony possession.

Several other persons were

jailed the past week on misdemeanor drug charges following traffic stops, including Norman Choate, 45, of Bryceville, who had a small amount of marijuana stashed in a cigarette pack.

Mr. Choate was stopped on US 90 east in Macclenny the afternoon of January 7 after deputies noticed his 1992 Ford Explorer did not have a license tag.

He told Deputy Clements Leo he recently purchased the vehicle, which had been sold

earlier at his employer Scrapy Pappy's salvage lot. He was given warning tickets for not having proof of insurance and vehicle registration.

Sgt. Brad Dougherty found the pot during a vehicle search.

Christopher Lewis, 41, of Glen St. Mary was charged with misdemeanor possession of two smoking pipes and a ball of steel wool that were concealed under the carpet of his 2000 GMC vehicle when it was stopped on US

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The Baker County Press Weather

Seven Day Forecast table with columns for day (Thursday-Sunday) and weather details like 'Mostly Sunny' and temperature ranges.

Today's High & Low Temperatures map showing locations like Callahan, Jacksonville, and Atlantic Beach with their respective high/low temperatures.

Sun/Moon Chart This Week table with columns for Day, Sunrise, and Sunset. Includes sub-tables for St. Mary's River Levels and Hunting/Fishing Times.

COUNTRY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION advertisement featuring a Platinum Visa card with a 7.24% APR and various rewards like 'Earn REWARD Points' and 'NO ANNUAL FEE!'.

Teacher raises: \$300 to 8600

From page 1. "I am satisfied with the contract," said Angela Callahan, who is in her first year as president of the Baker County Education Association...

What a 'B' grade truly means

My SIDE OF THE MATTER. ROBERT GERARD. As you probably already heard or read, we had some great news at the high school this past week. For the first time since we've been dealing with the dreaded FCAT test, BCHS scored a B.

BCHS gets 'B'

From page 1. She hopes the school can use the good news as motivation to continue improving, and perhaps become an A school next year. "This really boosted the morale of students," said Ms. Raulerson.

We need your GOLD!

Advertisement for Baker Guns & Gold Pawn, featuring a large image of gold jewelry and text: 'Trust Your Family Heirlooms to People You Know! TOP \$\$\$ PAID for unwanted or broken gold!'.

Advertisement for Camp Tracey Annual Camp Jubilee, featuring a large image of a camp scene and text: 'God Bless America Camp Tracey God Bless Camp Tracey ANNUAL CAMP JUBILEE at Camp Tracey Children's Home JANUARY 16-18 with Dave McCoy | Malcolm Carter | John Swanger Gary Byram | Mark Campbell'.

COMMENT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Letters are welcome, but must contain the signature of the writer, a telephone number and city of residence. CONTACT US By phone at 904.259.2400 or by fax at 904.259.6502.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Test the water at the old dump site

Dear Editor: I read with interest the article on contaminated water at the former county landfill on Steel Bridge Rd., and the test wells have once again done their job. Action pending! It would be interesting to take this one more step. Place monitoring wells around the Knabb Sports Complex [in north Macclenny].

Campaign ads ... 'They lyin'

The onslaught is coming. Grab your kids and take cover. And whatever you do, make sure your DVR is working properly. After Tuesday's New Hampshire primary, we're next. My inbox at the office is already bursting at the seams with political junk mail from all of the Republican nominees.

Criticism misdirected

Dear Editor: Governor Rick Scott is taking a beating in the media locally and statewide. There was a letter to the editor a few weeks ago in The Press criticizing him on the possibility of the new [re-entry] prison in Baker County being privatized.

Unions misleading you

Dear Editor: Public employees don't want to hear Gov. Rick Scott's message — the well is dry, the pig is dead, the cow won't milk. Whether it's the PBA in Broward County or the Teamsters in Baker County, the public employee union contracts are not sustainable.

Union pandering caused postal service fiscal woes

Dear Editor: About 120 years ago, Mark Twain made the observation that, "If pro is the opposite of con, does that make Congress the opposite of progress?" The problem with the US Postal Service is congressionally-inflicted. Congress mandated a totally unreasonable retirement program, pandering to the postal service unions — plain and simple.

Facebook fans 'What you had to say...' section with a Facebook logo and several user comments like 'desperately need new glasses.' and 'Kellina Crews: Bills and, hopefully, savings too!'.

BAKER COUNTY CODE ENFORCEMENT

# To launch search for an owner Of abandoned, unsafe house, trailer, shed

The Baker County Code Enforcement Board will attempt to pinpoint ownership of a house and land on James Britt Rd. that the county staff has cited as being in disrepair and unsafe for occupancy.

The residence, a mobile home and shed, were the property of Peter Juba, now deceased, and building official Robert Hathcox told the board during its regular meeting the evening of January 9 he has been unable to determine who owns it.

Board attorney Will Sexton of Starke suggested a search into estate probates or tax certificates, and Mr. Hathcox will report back next month.

Records from the property appraiser's office show the 1-acre tract and buildings still in Mr. Juba's name with a taxable value of \$24,306.

There was some discussion that evening as to whether the county could raise the buildings as a health hazard, as was the case west of Glen St. Mary several years ago. Mr. Sexton cautioned that the CEB has no authority in that area outside of statutory — with due notice to the property owner and subsequent hearing.

In a second case, the attorney advised Mr. Hathcox that repeat violators of the zoning code who



Front of abandoned house on James Britt Rd.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BAKER COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT

come into compliance before hearing dates can be re-cited with cause and a hearing scheduled for the next CEB meeting.

That, in effect, accelerates the process.

The discussion arose after Mr. Hathcox noted that refuse on the

property of Fotch Staten on Honysuckle Lane west of Glen had been cleared.

He also noted three earlier times the trailer park area has been cited and cleaned, only to violate again the fourth time.

In the only remaining case

this month, property belonging to Finley Wolfe on Jerry Johns Rd. near Macclenny came into compliance before Monday's meeting.

It had been cited for excess refuse and trash.

Mr. Phillips told Deputy Clements Leo two white females inquired about the tool box earlier and offered him considerably less than the \$150 he was asking. Three days later, his son-in-law took \$25 for the box and tools after being told by one of the females that Mr. Phillips had agreed to it.

The victim spoke once via telephone with the suspect female, but when he called again the phone was disconnected and untraceable.

Latrice Givens reported to Deputy Earl Lord that a purse, \$105 cash and identification were taken from her north Macclenny apartment while she slept the morning of January 8. There was no sign of forced entry.

# Arrested for theft, sale of tire rims

A Macclenny man who earlier inquired about purchasing a set of tire rims worth \$500 was arrested on January 6 for stealing them and selling them for scrap.

William Mash, 32, initially denied involvement when questioned by Deputy Jeremiah Combs shortly after Danny Hunter reported that he returned to his residence on Eagle Dr. to find that six rims were taken from his back yard. He had been gone since December 26, the day he says Mr. Mash inquired about them and was told they were not for sale.

Occupants Tina Bell and Ronald Dunn learned that evening that a rear door was pried open and two televisions, tools, a sound system, laptop computer and about 200 DVDs were taken. They told Deputy Tony Norman the loss value was nearly \$2500.

Robert Hunt returned to his residence off Noah Raulerson Rd. the afternoon of January 3 to find a generator valued at \$500

and a \$2000 collection of half dollar coins were stolen.

Deputy Daryl Mobley said two relatives who had been staying at the residence and have a history of drug abuse were named as suspects.

A tool box designed for a truck bed along with \$1200 in air and power tools were reported stolen from the residence of Robert Phillips on Barber Rd. in

Macclenny between January 3-6.

Mr. Phillips told Deputy Clements Leo two white females inquired about the tool box earlier and offered him considerably less than the \$150 he was asking. Three days later, his son-in-law took \$25 for the box and tools after being told by one of the females that Mr. Phillips had agreed to it.

The victim spoke once via telephone with the suspect female, but when he called again the phone was disconnected and untraceable.

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# Couple gets prison for selling pills...

From page 1  
probation in a 2008 burglary case and drew a 34-month term. He gets credit for 424 days already served.

Mr. Ostasz, of Jacksonville, violated terms of house arrest and probation sentence imposed in February of 2009. He was arrested in October, 2010 in Jacksonville for driving on a suspended license. The arrest took place after midnight when he was supposed to be home.

The defendant was given probation for a burglary in the Copper Creek subdivision in Macclenny in June, 2008.

In other circuit court sentences that day:

Judge Phyllis Rosier ordered a 13-month prison term for Timothy Harrison in return for his no contest plea to sale and possession of controlled drugs with intent to sell.

He gets credit for 202 days already served, and the state dropped eight related counts as part of the plea agreement.

A probation term was vacated in the case of Virginia Harvey,

who got 11 months, 39 days for grand theft. She has already been in jail 169 days and gets credit for that.

Adjudication of guilt was withheld after a no contest plea by James Paine for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Three related charges were dropped, and the judge ordered him onto a five-year probation.

The first year he must wear a GPS monitor, and he was ordered to enroll in anger management therapy.

Christopher Cole has already served 178 days of the eight-months in jail he got for grand theft, and the judge gave James Byrd time served for felony driving with a suspended license and resisting arrest.

Gerald Starling will be on house arrest a year for felony driving with a suspended license, and Roland Agenor has already served 105 days of a six-month jail sentence for battery on police and battery by expelling fluids.

An arrest warrant was issued for Cornelius Ruise III, who failed to appear on multiple drug sale charges and resisting arrest.

# Mobile command anchored locally

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Baker County will soon be the home base for a new mobile command center worth more than a quarter-million dollars for emergency management, thanks to a state grant and cooperation among more than a dozen North Florida counties.

The sheriff's office emergency management director, Lt. Adam Faircloth, announced that funding came through to replace his department's current mobile command post at the quarterly meeting of the Local Mitigation Strategy Task Force last month.

The panel consists of city and county officials charged with preparing and planning for emergencies before they occur to minimize potential damage to life and property during a disaster.

The Florida Division of Emergency Management is supplying some \$3.6 million through its Public Safety Interoperable Communications grant program to the Regional Domestic Security Task Force for North-east Florida.

The regional task force spans 13 counties from Jacksonville west to Baker County, southwest to Levy and Marion counties and east through Putnam and Flagler and St. Johns counties.

Though the new mobile command center, expected to cost about \$245,000, will be stationed here and carry a Baker County Sheriff's Office logo, it will also be available for use in the other task force counties.

"It's a big deal," said Lt. Faircloth. "With fire season coming up, that was our big concern, to have it in place by then."

Alachua County is procuring the command center along with projects for other counties, mostly for portable radios and other high-dollar communications equipment.

The purpose of the grant program is to equip emergency responders around the state with the technology to communicate with each other during a large-scale disaster like a terrorist attack or catastrophic weather event. The command center will be programmed with the radio frequencies used in all 13 counties.

Lt. Faircloth said Alachua County bid the command center's manufacture and selected a vendor, but later discovered the vendor was not on a list pre-approved by the state and eligible to receive the grant money.

Alachua County released the bid again in late December and responses are due back by January 23, said Alachua County Sheriff's Office grants administrator Kelly Amerson.

"The delay was unfortunate, but we're fortunate to have this money," she said. "The money was originally going to all go to Jacksonville."

Both Ms. Amerson and Lt. Faircloth believe the eventual vendor will be able to supply the command center by the June 1 deadline stipulated by the grant program.

It will replace the county's current unit, which Lt. Faircloth said was a motor home seized from a drug dealer shortly after Sheriff Joey Dobson took office in 1996 and outfitted with radios, a fax and desks.

"But it was not designed from the ground up to be field operations ready," he said.

Bid documents show the new command center will be about 41 feet long, 13 feet tall and expandable to 14 feet wide. It will have its own power source and a conference table with seating for eight in the operations area.

That area will also include two work stations, LED monitors and cabinets. The other areas described in the bid specifications will house the driver, bathroom, kitchen and dispatch area.

The vehicle will weigh nearly 40,000 pounds.

# Says she was stabbed Same woman claiming carjacking

A north county woman told police she was attacked and stabbed in the kitchen of her trailer home on Anne Rd. the morning of January 7, one week after she claimed her pickup was hijacked by two men who then beat her.

Melissa Conner, 42, was taken to Shands Jacksonville for treatment of a minor stab wound to the lower abdomen and released the same day.

Ms. Conner, during interviews with Deputy Rodney Driggers and later with Investigator Traice Benton, said she was accosted by a "big fat man" about 6:40 am while making coffee. He cut her right cheek and, after she fell to the floor, stabbed her in the stomach before running out a door.

The deputy's report notes that no footprints or other evidence that someone entered or left the trailer was found outside, though he did recover two rings belonging to Ms. Conner.

Her husband Mitchell Conner, 38, told Deputy Driggers he believes his wife fabricated the incident, as did she the alleged carjacking on New Year's morning. He also said his watchdogs were silent that morning, and suggested his wife was angry at him because he would not borrow money from his family to finance a trip for her to see her mother.

In the earlier incident, Ms. Conner told police two white males blocked her path on Orbe Rhoden Rd. and took her truck after striking her both with a fist

and a tire iron. Police found the pickup in a vacant field not far off from where Ms. Conner said she was accosted.

Deputy Jeremiah Combs noted in his report that Ms. Conner's shoes matched prints around the abandoned truck.

In an unrelated report, Ms. Conner was named in a criminal complaint on January 4 for allegedly taking \$82 from a purse belonging to her aunt.

Martha Hill of Ft. Gaines, GA told Deputy Johnny Hodges she left the purse in her vehicle that afternoon while visiting Ms. Conner's children. The suspect remained behind in the vehicle several minutes, and the aunt noticed later that cash had been removed from the wallet.

Ms. Conner denied involvement. Police responded to another theft from a purse or wallet, this one in the early morning of January 9 on South College St. in Macclenny.

Dee Dee Dice of Jacksonville said she awoke about 1:48 to the sound of her car alarm, and told Deputy Earl Lord she also heard breaking glass.

The officer found a large concrete piece had been thrown through the front passenger window. Ms. Dice's purse, which was laying on the seat, was gone along with \$350 cash, checks, credit cards and a driver's license.

# 2nd tower on US 90 stripped of copper wire

The sheriff's department is looking into a possible connection between the theft of copper from a cell phone communications tower west of Sanderson before Christmas and a similar incident about a mile away and reported last week.

The damage estimate for stolen copper lines and vandalism of property was placed at \$2000-3000 by Christopher Sharon, a field operations technician with American Tower Corp. of Jacksonville, who contacted police on January 3.

Mr. Sharon told Deputy Rodney Driggers he had last inspected the tower at 16299 US 90 on December 13. Shortly after, the owner of the leased tract informed the company that the main gate lock had been cut. Several chain links had been severed as well.

There are surveillance video cameras on the property and the representative indicated they would be reviewed for clues.

Deputy Driggers said the suspects in the earlier case, who were caught early on December 17 leaving the property with a trailer load of copper wire and other materials, have not been located for further questioning.

Justin Wacasey and Timothy Jackson, both 24, had High Springs, FL addresses and are out on bond.

In a second case involving theft in a remote area, a member of the Three Bucks Hunting Club north and east of Cuyler reported on January 15 that two trail cameras valued at \$240 were stolen between December 17-23.

The cameras are programmed to remotely take photos of game that wander into their range.

The club member who was not identified told Deputy Robert Simpkins the club has had problems with trespassers on the previously un-leased property who are upset that it has been restricted.

# DUI, drug arrests on I-10

Police arrested two Middleburg, FL men following a traffic stop on Interstate 10 the morning of January 8, one of them for drunk driving and the other for possession of a small amount of marijuana and a smoking pipe.

Deputy Rodney Driggers said he clocked a 2000 Chevrolet pickup speeding eastbound at 90 mph about 7:30, then saw it swerve between lanes several times before stopping it. Driver Jason Manger, 55, was unsteady on his feet and insisted he had but two beers before leaving a hunting camp.

He later failed field sobriety testing and refused to take a breath test at county jail.

Passenger Steve Parrish, 49, was advised he needed to call someone to pick him up since he admitted to drinking earlier, and he instructed Deputy Jacob Satterwhite that his cell phone was in a bag under the front passen-

ger seat. The officer found the smoking pipe in a cigarette pack and the baggie inside. Both charges are misdemeanors.

In other arrests, Jessica Hudnall, 23, of Macclenny was taken to jail for disorderly intoxication after she created a disturbance at the residence of her boyfriend William Stewart on Woodlawn Park Pl. early on January 5.

Deputy Johnny Hodges responded to the 3 am disturbance call and found Ms. Hudnall in the front yard screaming at another female. She refused to calm herself.

Witnesses said Ms. Hudnall had come to the address and became enraged when she discovered the boyfriend was with another woman.

Deputy Chris Walker arrested Colin Moore, 45, of Macclenny for disorderly conduct

# MLK parade

The Martin Luther King Jr. celebration parade will be held Friday, January 13 at 10 am beginning at Keller Intermediate School, 420 S. 8th St.

Following the parade a ceremony will be led by Macclenny's city manager Gerald Dopson and parade marshal and coordinator Rev. Tommy Rollins.

# Attacks man as he attempts to stop her 'huffing' from can

A Jacksonville woman was charged with battery on a Macclenny man who was attempting to stop her from "huffing" aerosol cleaner the afternoon of January 8.

Tracy Webb, 41, was a guest at the residence of Gabriel Vega on Is-lamorada Dr. in the northeast city and he told Deputy Clements Leo he caught her inhaling the cleaning fumes about 4 pm.

Ms. Webb allegedly struck him repeatedly as he attempted to restrain her, then pushed him into a bedroom wall before running into a bathroom and locking the door.

The deputy and Lt. Scotty Rhoden responded to the address and forced their way into the bathroom where they found Ms. Webb again inhaling the spray. She refused to drop the can and they took it from her. She was examined at Fraser Hospital before being booked at county jail.

In other incidents, a Macclenny woman was jailed the morning of January 8 for attacking her brother and her elderly mother.

Sheila Griffis, 47, was angry at her brother Andrew Williamson, 53, for allegedly stealing from her and struck him in the face. When her mother Estelle Williamson, 81, attempted to move away from the confrontation, Ms. Griffis allegedly shoved her onto a bed.

The confrontation took place on Williamson Rd. southwest of Macclenny. Ms. Griffis lives nearby.

Deputy Daryl Mobley charged her with battery on her brother and felony battery on her mother because she is older than 65.

Leslie Starling, 29, of Sanderson was named in a complaint for battery on Earnestine Gaskins the afternoon of January 4.

Ms. Starling allegedly confronted Ms. Gaskins in the parking lot of the Sanderson post office and attempted to pull her from a vehicle driven by her husband Jeffrey Gaskins, who has a child by the accused.

Ms. Gaskins told Deputy Robert Simpkins she resisted and Ms. Starling followed them to Gaskins Circle where she again attempted to provoke a fight.

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Please be advised that Macclenny City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

www.cityofmacclenny.com

# NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED LARGE SCALE AMENDMENT TO THE BAKER COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Baker County Land Planning Agency will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, January 26, 2012 at 7:00 PM in the Baker County Administration Building, 55 North Third Street, Macclenny Florida, to consider for recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners a proposed semi-annual amendment, by ordinance to the Baker County Comprehensive Plan. Copies of said ordinance may be inspected by any member of the public in the Commissioners office, address stated above. On the above mentioned date, all interested parties may appear and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance which is titled as follows:

**ORDINANCE NO. 2012**  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BAKER COUNTY, ABANDONING A PORTION OF THE CEDAR CREEK DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT (AS ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE 2008-24) MAKING A LARGE SCALE AMENDMENT TO THE BAKER COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BY RECLASSIFYING APPROXIMATELY 2,199 ACRES OF PROPERTY FROM HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO 1994.11 ACRES OF AGRICULTURE ZONE A, 195.23 ACRES OF AGRICULTURE ZONE B AND 10 ACRES LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL ON THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP; AMENDING THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS SCHEDULE; AMENDING THE FUTURE TRANSPORTATION MAP; PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY T. R. HAINLINE AS AGENT FOR DAVIS & DAVIS, L.L.P. PROVIDING FINDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING DIRECTION TO THE CODIFIER AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The subject property is located north of U.S. HWY 90, south of Claude Harvey Road, and west of municipal limits of Glen St. Mary.

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

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

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From One Reader To Another...  
**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY**

Declare your love to someone special.

30 words for \$10  
20¢ each word over 30

Printed in the Feb. 9 edition  
**DEADLINE: FEB. 2**

MACCLENNY CITY COMMISSION

To revise truck parking rules

May need permits for semis

MIKE ANDERSON PRESS STAFF

For many years truckers have been allowed to park semi-truck tractors, but not the trailers, on their own property in residential areas in Macclenny despite a city ordinance specifically prohibiting the practice.

Now, city officials have decided to stop being so lenient because complaints are on the rise.

The Macclenny City Commission voted to draft an amendment to the truck and bus parking ordinance on the evening of January 10. The change allows the parking of semi-truck tractors in residential neighborhoods, but only with a permit issued by city hall.

But the vote didn't come until after about 45 minutes of discussion, during which Assistant City Manager Roger Yarborough said a group of truckers came to city hall about 20 years ago asking permission to park their rigs at home.

"We worked out an agreement with them that they would drop their trailers somewhere else and drive their tractor home as long as they had enough room to park it on their own property," Mr. Yarborough said.

But after new subdivision developments with small lots and narrow streets began popping up around town, the number of complaints slowly began increasing, city officials said.

A recent complaint resulted in the city's code enforcement officer going to a neighborhood and finding out that the owner of the truck parked at a residence wasn't even the owner of the property.

"He was a friend and he was sleeping in the truck," Mr. Yar-

borough said. The man was told he had to move the truck and would not be allowed to park it there since he didn't own the property.

City Manager Gerald Dopson said some neighbors object to semi-trucks parked in their neighborhoods because they're unsightly and could depress property values.

"It just doesn't seem like it's appropriate and not conducive to the character of the neighborhood," the city manager said. "In some neighborhoods there's just not enough room to have them."

Mayor Gary Dopson at first said he didn't "have any strong feelings one way or another" about whether the ordinance should be changed. However, he said, he could see how large semi-truck tractors parked in residential neighborhoods could possibly create a problem for emergency vehicles.

Commissioner Vernon Bennett, on the other hand, said neighborhoods are no place for semi-trucks.

"They don't need to be parking on the sides of streets with a truck or a trailer," he said. "It's dangerous."

The ordinance presently allows semi-trucks and trailers to be parked anywhere in the city, including residential neighborhoods, for up to two hours between 8 am and 6 pm. For deliveries.

The ordinance further prohibits any such vehicles on the public streets of the city in residential areas, or upon the right-of-way of US 90 or SRs 121 and 228 between 6 pm and 8 am.

Commissioner Phil Rhoden was somewhat reluctant to place restrictions on where a trucker city officials said.

Rep. Adkins initiates an online survey

As the Florida legislature kicks off its early session this week, Representative Janet Adkins (R-Fernandina Beach) has set up an online survey to gauge voters opinions on a host of issues facing the state.

It includes about 30 questions concerning the environment, education, healthcare, privatization, taxes and the state budget, according to a January 6 press release from Rep. Adkins' office.

"Your responses to these questions will notify me of the issues most important to you and will help me represent you in the 2012 legislative session and in the upcoming year," she said.

The survey can be found at www.janetadkinssurvey.com.

New River meeting

The Governing Board of the New River Public Library Cooperative will hold its regular meeting on Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 5 pm at the New River Solid Waste Facility on SR 121 north of Raiford.

Free tax service

Northeast Florida Community Action Agency is offering free income tax service starting January 27 at 84 West Lower Street, Suite B next to YMCA.

Taxes will be done by appointment only Tuesday-Friday from 9-3:30 and walk-ins on Saturday from 9-2. Call 259-4481 ext. 25 for appointments and information.

Bring a picture ID and Social Security cards for all household members including children, plus all documents relating to tax returns and a copy of last year's return if available.

could park because it might impair his ability to earn a living.

"In this day and time people are struggling to feed their families," Mr. Rhoden said, adding that he didn't see why someone who owns several acres of land shouldn't be able to park his semi-truck in front of his house.

The city manager again made the distinction between a truck parked on several acres and another parked in a subdivision with 60-foot-wide lots and narrow streets.

"Those trucks are out there for everybody to see," Gerald Dopson said.

Mayor Dopson said that anyway the ordinance is worded "it's going to take some common sense to enforce it."

It should only be enforced if someone complains or if a parked truck is "creating some kind of a hazard," he said.

Commissioners unanimously agreed to direct staff to develop

criteria for allowing semi-trucks to be parked in residential areas with certain restrictions and guidelines.

"I'm not talking about giving a permit to anybody that wants to pay for it," Mayor Dopson said. "They'll have to show that they're not creating a hazard and they've got plenty of room (on their own property) to park."

Baker County Sheriff's Office Lt. Billy Miller, who attended the city commission meeting, told commissioners that the proposed amendment would make the jobs of his deputies a little easier when they respond to a complaint about a big truck parked in a neighborhood.

Resolving the problem will be simple: No permit, no parking. As it is, Lt. Miller said, deputies usually don't enforce the ordinance unless a complaint has been reported to the sheriff's department or a dangerous situation is created by a parked truck.

Christmas 4 Kids meant presents for 398 children

Because of the many generous donors, this year the Christmas 4 Kids able to put a smile on 398 children's faces over the holidays.

This program is set up to assist the unfortunate and underprivileged families in our community. It allows Mom and Dad, not an agency or group, to be able to bring Christmas for their children. Words can never express how thankful we are to work with such a great community that cares for each other as ours does.

Also, a big thanks to those of you who donated and wanted to remain anonymous.

Send us letters and make sure they are SIGNED with a phone number.

Advertisement for Scentsy featuring Kim Higinbotham, 904-629-4587, mrs.tow@hotmail.com. Includes text: "Scentsy double hostess credit Call me for all your Scentsy needs."

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Pursuant to an application submitted by Osceola Land & Timber, Corp., a Florida Corporation, to obtain a one (1) year extension of a Temporary Use permit in reference to Section 3.05.51 Temporary Uses of the Baker County Land Development Regulations on property located south of Reid Stafford Road and east of CR 229 in Baker County, Florida. The applicant is requesting an extension to continue temporarily collecting and storing DEP-defined clean debris (concrete and/or roofing tiles) on the site; temporarily store and operate on site a portable crushing machine to crush the debris; and to temporarily store the crushed debris on site until it can be sold. The Baker County Land Planning Agency will consider the request at a public hearing scheduled for January 26, 2012, at 7:00 pm, or as soon thereafter as possible, in the County Administration Building, 55 North Third Street, Macclenny, FL. On the above mentioned date, all interested parties may appear and be heard with respect to the Temporary Use permit request. Written comments for or against the Temporary Use permit request may be sent to the Baker County Planning and Zoning Department, 360 E. Sheue Avenue, Macclenny FL, 32063. Faxed comments will be sent to (904)259-5057. Copies of the Temporary Use request may be inspected in the Planning and Zoning Department by any member of the public. According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the Administration Department at (904) 259-5123 at least 48 hours prior to the time of the hearing.

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Advertisement for Pawnerosa jewelry store. Text: "We buy ALL precious metals- Gold, Silver, Platinum & More! WE BEAT ALL LOCAL GOLD BUYING PRICES BY 10% LOW INTEREST LOANS ARE OUR SPECIALTY! Our interest rates are 5% CHEAPER on pawn! OPEN LATE! Monday - Friday 9 am - 7 pm | Saturday 9 am - 3 pm Located next to Jiffy Lube on SR 121 in Macclenny CALL TODAY! 259-8484"

criteria for allowing semi-trucks to be parked in residential areas with certain restrictions and guidelines.

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Resolving the problem will be simple: No permit, no parking. As it is, Lt. Miller said, deputies usually don't enforce the ordinance unless a complaint has been reported to the sheriff's department or a dangerous situation is created by a parked truck.

Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION CASE NO. 02-2011-CP-048 IN RE: THE ESTATE OF LULA MAE DAVIS a/k/a LULA M. DAVIS, DECEASED.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of LULA MAE DAVIS a/k/a LULA M. DAVIS, deceased, File Number 02-2011-CP-048, is pending in the Circuit Court for BAKER County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 339 East Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. The date of first publication of this Notice is January 12, 2012.

Attorney for Personal Representative: LAWRENCE R. BRUBACH, Clerk of Probate, 712 EDGEWOOD AVENUE, SOUTH JACKSONVILLE, FL 32205. TELEPHONE: 904/249-7892. FACSIMILE: 904/384-2421. FLORIDA BAR #183470

Personal Representative: MARION D. RIVERS, 5150 WILLARD CREWS LANE, MACCLENNY, FLORIDA 32063 1/12

PUBLIC NOTICE Please be advised that due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday the regularly scheduled Baker County Board of Commission meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday January 17, 2012 at 5:00 pm.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO. 02-2010-CA-000158

CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff, vs. LARRY SMITH, UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF LARRY SMITH; LEONIA QUILTER SMITH; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF LEONIA QUILTER SMITH; AKA LEONIA SMITH; IF LIVING, INCLUDING ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAID DEFENDANTS; IF REMARRIED, AND IF DECEASED, THE RESPECTIVE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LENDORS, AND TRUSTEES; AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE NAMED DEFENDANTS; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2; Defendant(s)

NOTICE OF SALE This instrument prepared by: Law Offices of Daniel C. Consuegra 9204 King Palm Drive Tampa, FL 33619-1328 Attorneys for Plaintiff

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA) REQUESTS FOR ACCOMMODATIONS FOR NOTICE OF COURT PROCEEDINGS: If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Ms. Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 East University Avenue, Room 410, Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

IF YOU ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING AND REQUIRE AN ASL INTERPRETER OR AN ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICE TO PARTICIPATE IN A PROCEEDING, PLEASE CONTACT THE COURT INTERPRETER PROGRAM AT interpreter@circuits.flcourts.org

1/12-1/19 PRESS CLASSIFIEDS ONLY \$6.00 cash/check

Deadline Monday at 5:00 THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS

Advertisement for Kathy Ross KENNA PRODUCTS ON SALE. Call Kathy @ 210-9294 to take advantage of these money saving coupons! SAVE on hi-lites, Malibu Treatments \$5.00 per ms or color \$10 Removes hard water & chlorine Total Changes Salon. Biolage | Paul Mitchell | Redken | It's a 10

Legal Notices

Registration of Fictitious Names We the undersigned, being duly sworn, do hereby declare under oath that the names of all persons interested in the business or profession carried on under the name of American Recycling whose principle place of business is 5225 Woodman Road and the extent of the interest of each is as follows:

NAME: Robert Foster, Extent of Interest: Owner 50%; Morris Foster, Owner 50%; Timothy C. Hughes, Owner 50%; Jimmy D. Cole, Signature

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF BAKER. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of January, 2012. Clerk of Probate, Baker County, Florida. As Deputy Clerk

1/12- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO. 02-2010-CA-000013

FIRST FEDERAL BANK OF FLORIDA, Plaintiff, vs. GEORGE A. WILKINSON; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF GEORGE A. WILKINSON; ANY CATHY A. WILKINSON; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF CATHY A. WILKINSON; IF LIVING, INCLUDING ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAID DEFENDANTS; IF REMARRIED, AND IF DECEASED, THE RESPECTIVE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LENDORS, AND TRUSTEES; AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE NAMED DEFENDANTS; JOHN DOE; JANE DOE; Defendant(s)

NOTICE OF SALE Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above styled cause, in the Circuit Court of Baker County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Baker County, Florida, described as:

1/12- PARCEL 26, ALLEN LANDS, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 58, OF THE CURRENT PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA, TOGETHER WITH A 2005 HOMES OF MERIT VINYS FLHML-3F17372888A AND FLHML3F17372888B. AKA

17750 Anne Road Glen St. Mary, FL 32040 at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, front door of the Baker County Courthouse, Macclenny, Florida 32063 at 11:00 AM, on January 31, 2012.

DATED THIS 6th DAY OF January, 2012. 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.

Witness, my hand and seal of this court on the 6th day of January, 2012. CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT By Julie Combs Deputy Clerk

THIS INSTRUMENT PREPARED BY: Law Offices of Daniel C. Consuegra 9204 King Palm Drive Tampa, FL 33619-1328 Attorneys for Plaintiff

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA) REQUESTS FOR ACCOMMODATIONS FOR NOTICE OF COURT PROCEEDINGS: If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Ms. Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 East University Avenue, Room 410, Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

IF YOU ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING AND REQUIRE AN ASL INTERPRETER OR AN ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICE TO PARTICIPATE IN A PROCEEDING, PLEASE CONTACT THE COURT INTERPRETER PROGRAM AT interpreter@circuits.flcourts.org

1/12-1/19 NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS OF THE NORTH FLORIDA BROADBAND AUTHORITY

The North Florida Broadband Authority ("NFB") announces the 2012 meeting schedule of the NFB Board of Directors that all interested persons are invited to attend. The NFB is a legal entity and public body created pursuant to the provisions of Section 163.01, Florida Statutes, and an Interlocal Agreement among Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Marion, Putnam, Suwannee, Taylor, Union and Wakulla Counties and municipalities of Cedar Key, Cross City, Lake City, Live Oak, Monticello, Perry, White Springs and Worthington Springs, Florida. The NFB will hold the following public meetings: January 18, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. and thereafter regular meetings will be held at 10:00 a.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month of 2012. (February 8, March 14, April 11, May 8, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, October 10, November 14, December 12) at the Lake City 2nd floor Council Chambers, City Hall, 205 W. Market Ave., Lake City, FL an informational workshop for last mile providers will be held from 9a.m. to noon on February 1, 2012 at the same location. The NFB Policy and Operations Committee meetings will meet at 10 a.m. on January 23, and the 10 a.m. the last Wednesday of each month of 2012. (February 29, March 29, April 26, May 30, June 27, July 25, August 29, September 26, October 12, November 29, December 26) and 1p.m. on February 1, 2012 at the NFB Project Management Offices, 164 NW Madison St., St. 103, Lake City, Florida. An informational workshop will be held at 9:00 a.m. on February 22, 2012 at the Club House Hall, 161 SW Quail Heights Terrace, Lake City, FL. The NFB Board of Directors meeting will be held to conduct general business of the NFB. If a person decides to appear at any meeting made by the NFB with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, such person will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding or have any questions please contact Faith Doyle, Clerk to the NFB Board at (386) 438-5242 at least two (2) business days prior to the date of the meeting.

1/12-1/19 PRESS CLASSIFIEDS ONLY \$6.00 cash/check

Deadline Monday at 5:00 THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS

'Seemingly minor' choices make a difference

Retired admiral tells JrROTC at BCHS

JOEL ADDINGTON NEWS EDITOR reporter@bakercountypress.com

Thomas F. Hall started his life as a poor boy from a small town in Oklahoma, but he rose to become an Assistant Secretary of Defense in Washington, D.C.

What happened in between was recounted by the two-star admiral, pilot and Vietnam War veteran before more than 50 students in the high school's media center the afternoon of January 5. Most of them were Junior ROTC cadets.

His message: seemingly minor choices in one's life can be the difference between life and death, or love and loss. He talked about some of the close calls he's had while flying, but also how his decision to join the Navy led to his 48-year marriage.

"Every morning look in the mirror, stare at yourself and say, 'What are my choices?'" Mr. Hall, 72, told the group. "And how can my choices make the difference between me living and dying."

He repeated the mantra more than once during the hour-and-a-half encounter, which ended with a question-and-answer session that impressed the visitor.

"You guys have better questions than most of the adults I speak to," said Mr. Hall, who now works as a consultant for a handful of companies.

On one harrowing training mission flown out of Naval Air Station Corpus Christi in June 1964, Mr. Hall was a passenger on a plane that stalled, flipped

upside down and crashed into a local airport.

When the windshield of the plane blew out, shards of glass pummeled the young recruit's head and he was covered in aviation fuel. Fortunately, Mr. Hall said, he'd lowered his visor and strapped himself into a seat. Had he not taken those two actions, he wouldn't have been able to eject and escape the crash with only two bruised knees.

"The other people weren't that fortunate," Mr. Hall continued. "But that day wasn't a day I was supposed to die. That was a day I made the choice of strapping in."



Retired Admiral Thomas F. Hall addresses a group of Air Force Junior ROTC cadets the afternoon of January 5 in the media center at Baker County High School. Mr. Hall spoke and took questions for about an hour and a half. It was his second visit to the school in recent years.

So I lived by the choice I made. Had I been sitting out in the aisle, it'd be someone else talking to you today."

Mr. Hall retired from the Navy after 38 years and served in the Bush administration as the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs beginning in 2002 through the first 100 days of the Obama administration.

His wife, who he met at the Mayport Naval Station, is a Jacksonville native and related to BCHS English teacher Kelley Norman. Last week's visit was Mr. Hall's second to the school in the last few years.

Mr. Hall secured appointments to both the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland and the Air Force Academy in Denver, Colorado after high school. Despite an aversion to boats and a penchant for seasickness, he chose Annapolis.

"I wanted to be a pilot. That's all I wanted to do since I was 5 years old. The problem was, I had no money and I had never really been out of Oklahoma," said Mr. Hall. "So I worked enough in the summer digging ditches to get \$300, which was enough to buy a train ticket."

The cadets evidenced their

curiosity and knowledge about current events, asking questions about the rise of China on the world's stage, the Arab Spring, the threat of terrorism and the recent death of North Korean leader Kim Jong Il.

Mr. Hall recently toured Asia and visited five Chinese cities. He encouraged the youths to study China and warned that should the most populous nation on the planet launch a war, it would be an economic one aimed at meeting the country's ever-growing energy needs, namely oil.

"They are building like you can't believe ..." he said. "But the whole country is polluted. You go outside and they say it's just fog, but you know it's not. It's smog."

He answered simpler questions, too, like why he joined the Navy.

"I'll be honest with you," he said, explaining that the reporting date for the Air Force Academy was two weeks before the reporting date for the Naval Academy. And by choosing the latter institution, he would have two more weeks to spend with his fiancé.

They later parted ways, but the decision also led him to a new relationship. "You just don't know," said Mr. Hall. "By doing that, I made the best decision of my life and met my wife."

When asked what choices he thought the cadets and other youths should be making, the retired admiral was quick to answer: "Become a productive citizen."

Whether it's in the military or civil service or the private sector, Admiral Hall urged them to make a difference in lives of people around them. And get out and vote.

"The youth could really make a difference if everyone of you went out and registered to vote," said Mr. Hall.

Baker County, Fla. opens at BCHS on Thursday

Late in Baker County, Fla.: 1861-1961, the BCHS Drama and Baker County Community Theatre's Sesquicentennial production that opens this week, Gene Barber tells Jim McGauley, "It's important to know your history. To know where you're going, you've got to know where you've been."

That quote is the driving force in the production that celebrates the 150 years of Baker County. The play focuses on the county's first 100 years and tells its story in scenes and songs and vignettes.

All the familiar themes are there; the Battle of Olustee, the Yellow Fever Epidemic, the moonshine years as well as many that aren't so familiar. There are tiny vignettes from articles by Fay Milton and Tate Powell. There's a funny description of the county from an 1885 guidebook. The play even has a traditional old ghost story titled *Raw Head and Bloody Bones*.

Then there's the Baxter Rebellion, that Barber, the show's narrator, calls "the darkest chapter in Baker County's history. The 'rebellion' took place on a day trip to St. Augustine and wound up with over a dozen people dead and the governor calling out the National Guard to march on Baxter and quell the riot.

The production with a cast of 35 actors from 7-70 years of age is full of music from the 100-year timeline, guest singers and fun.



Actors rehearse for Baker County, Fla.: 1861-1961, which begins January 12.



Mark Mason is Press publisher Jim McGauley and BCHS drama director Bob Gerard is Gene Barber. Jeff Rowe is Rufe Thrift,

the deputy killed in the Baxter Rebellion. Mick Schatz is Capt. C. B. McClenny. Sara Beth Gerard is Fay Milton and Steve Kish is Tate

Advertisement for Southern Charm Christmas merchandise. Text: "FINAL DAYS All Christmas merchandise 60% OFF Some exclusions apply. Sale ends soon! Southern Charm 110 South Fifth Street, Macclenny 259-4140"

Home, office tours at nursery

Three historic homes and the office building on the Glen St. Mary Nurseries grounds will be open for tours on January 21 from 1-5 pm.

The homes include the Mathis House, Steele House and Lindwood.

For a \$5 admission fee, members of the history club at Baker County High School will escort visitors in and around the buildings.

The \$5 donation benefits St. Peter's Anglican Church. Call 945-5710 for more information.

The event is timed to coincide with that weekend's productions of *Baker County, Fla.: 1861-1961* at the high school.

Each show will feature guest singers performing songs from the time period. The guests include: Gail Moore, Jan. 12; the Lyons Family, Jan. 13; the Crews Family, Jan. 14; Southern Joy, Jan. 15; Taylor Church, Jan. 19; Mick Schatz, Jan. 20; and Faith Bible Church, Jan. 21.

The show runs Jan. 12-14, Jan. 19-21 at 7:30 pm and Jan. 15 at 2 pm. \$10 reserved seats in the first four rows are available by calling 259-6286. \$5 general admission tickets are on sale at the door. It's sponsored by Country Federal Credit Union.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES 101.5612 THE LOGIC AND ACCURACY CERTIFICATION BOARD WILL CONDUCT THE PRE LOGIC AND ACCURACY TEST OF THE AUTOMATIC COUNTING EQUIPMENT FOR EARLY VOTING AND FOR THE EQUIPMENT GOING TO THE POLLS WILL BE JANUARY 18, 2012 AT 1:00 PM. THE TEST WILL BE CONDUCTED FOR THE JANUARY 31, 2012 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ELECTION. THE TEST WILL BE HELD AT THE BAKER COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS OFFICE, 32 N 5TH STREET, MACCLENNY, FLORIDA.

PURSUANT TO SECTION 102.141 OF THE FLORIDA LAWS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, THE BAKER COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD SHALL MEET JANUARY 23, 2012 AT 10:00 AM IN THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS OFFICE TO START PUBLICLY CANVASSING ABSENTEE BALLOTS. THE CANVASSING BOARD WILL MEET ON JANUARY 27, 2012 AT 10:00 AM AND THEN ON JANUARY 31, 2012 AT 6:00 PM UNTIL WE FINISH CANVASSING ABSENTEE BALLOTS.

NITA D. CRAWFORD SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

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

**CONTACT US**  
By phone at 904.259.2400 or by fax at 904.259.6502. You can stop by our office located at 104 S. Fifth Street, Macclenny, FL or mail your submission to PO Box 598, Macclenny, FL 32063. We are available online at [www.bakercountypress.com](http://www.bakercountypress.com)

## Ruby Berry, 57, of Macclenny dies

Ruby Annette Berry, 57, of Macclenny died January 4, 2012. She was born in Jacksonville to Coleson Johns and Rob in Hall on February 23, 1954. Ann was a church member and loved telling people about the Lord.



Ruby Berry

Survivors include husband Sam Berry; sister Jan Copeland; daughter LaDonna Rhoden; grandchildren Derek Ploucher, Alisha Ploucher and Erica Ploucher. A memorial service will be held January 28 at noon at New Life Church of God.

## George Crawford, 61, of Macclenny

George Dwain Crawford, 61, of Macclenny died January 5, 2012 at Orange Park Medical Center following an extended illness. Mr. Crawford was a lifelong resident of Macclenny and the son of the late Amos and Nancy Mae Bennett Crawford. He was a truck driver for many years and a member of the Macclenny Primitive Baptist Church.

Survivors include six step-children; sisters Janice Crawford of Macclenny, Betty (Millage) Burned of Jacksonville and Bonnie Jean (Finis) McDonald of Katie, TX; brothers Amos Crawford of Lake Butler, Auzzie (Bertha) Crawford and Bobby (Bernice Jean) Crawford, both of Glen St. Mary; several step-grandchildren also survive. The funeral service was held January 10 at 2 pm at the chapel of Guerry Funeral Home in Macclenny with Brother David Crawford officiating. Interment followed at Oak Grove Cemetery.

## Mary Harrington, 74, of Auburn, AL

Mary Ruis Harrington, 74, of Auburn died January 3, 2012 at East Alabama Medical Center in Opelika. She was born in Sanderson on July 14, 1937 and was a member of Society Hill Baptist Church. Mrs. Harrington was preceded in death by her parents Bert Ruis and Margaret Skinner; brother Archie Ruis; sisters Matilda Johnson and Annie Mae Sequine, and grandson M. Jones.

Survivors include husband John Harrington; sister Jewel Reddish; son Douglas (Jane) Brown and Randy (Sharon) Brown; daughters Letricia (Tommy) McInarnay, Penny (Robert) Walters, Brenda (Roy) Cadenehead; stepchildren Vickie Hamby, Mickey (Karen) Harrington, Debra Reach, Sharon (Chip) Davis; 19 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held on Friday, January 6 at 11:00 a.m. at her church with Rev. Mark Carlock and Douglas Brown officiating. Interment followed the service at Society Baptist Church Cemetery. Fredericks Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**Saint Peter's in the Glen**  
ANGELICAN CHURCH

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

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

## Dale Van Sickle of Glen St. Mary

Dale Alan Van Sickle, 61, of Glen St. Mary died January 5, 2012. He was born in Jacksonville to the late Willie E. and Marjorie Van Sickle on January 14, 1950 and was a resident of Baker County for the last 10 years after moving from Jacksonville. He was a member of Oak Grove Primitive Baptist Church.



Dale Van Sickle

Dale was employed at the family business of Van Sickle Machine Shop for many years and most recently as a machinist at Liddy's Machine Shop. He loved spending time with his family, especially his grand babies. He enjoyed fishing and hunting, was an avid Gator fan and could fix most anything. Dale had an infectious laugh and found the humor in everything. He loved to laugh.

Survivors include loving wife of 18 years Peggy E. Van Sickle of Glen; children Michael Kinzer of Atlanta and Jennifer Tetlak of Jacksonville; brothers Billy Van Sickle of Lake City and Brian Van Sickle of Jacksonville; sisters Sandra Gordon, Cheryl Vaughn and Annette Brinson, all of Jacksonville; grandchildren Kayla, Colin, Logan and Sloan; many nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was held on Monday January 9 at 11:00 am at his church with Elder Lynnwood Davis officiating. Interment followed in Oak Grove Cemetery in Macclenny. V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in Dale's name to Community Hospice of NE Florida 4266 Sunbeam Road, Jacksonville, FL 32257.

## Heartfelt thanks

The family of Ulys Davis would like to thank friends, neighbors and relatives for the outpouring of love and support during our time of bereavement. Thanks to Calvary Baptist Church, Christian Fellowship Temple and Macclenny Church of Christ for all the delicious food. Thanks to Sam Kitehing and James Croft for the very inspiring messages during the memorial service. Thanks also to Mrs. Faye Mobley for the great food. Special thanks to Janice and Jack for all the delicious food and hard work during our time of need. Thanks to Todd Ferreira and his staff for the outstanding service provided to us. We will be ever grateful and appreciative for all the prayers, flowers, phone calls, visits and words of encouragement to us during this time.

The Ulys Davis Family,  
Leonard R. Davis,  
Neva Davis,  
Edgar Davis and  
Nita D. Crawford

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**Calvary Baptist Church**  
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Wednesday Service 7:00 pm

523 North Boulevard W.  
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[www.calvarybaptistmacclenny.com](http://www.calvarybaptistmacclenny.com) •• 259-4529



## Heartfelt thanks

We want to thank all the people who attended our little Brantley's memorial on January 5, 2012 and mention the people who weren't in the obituary. They include great-grandpa J.B. and Valorie, great-uncle "Buck", great-granny Jackie, step-grandma Margret, great-grandpa Brevardo, uncle Cuban and great-aunt Michelle, great-uncle Charlie and great-great-pawpaw.

Thank you to everyone who stood by us when we needed all the support. We will forever thank you.

Devan, Tabitha, Devan Jr and Victoria Cohen

## Happy Birthday Bobby Balkcom

1/10/1970 - 8/14/2006  
You were in my arms 42 years ago, a beautiful baby boy - a gift from God. You were with us a short 36 years then you were called home and only God knows why. We miss you and wonder what would have been. I seek peace and understanding and will always have you in a special place in my heart.

LOVE EVERLASTING,  
JANET-MOM, BILL-DAD,  
DAVID, KAREN AND FAMILY

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Sunday Evening Service ..... 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Night ..... 7:30 pm

Press Ad Deadline:  
Monday 5:00 PM

DINKINS NEW CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST CHURCH  
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Wednesday Service 7:30 pm  
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Corner of Sapp Rd. and CR 229

**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

**Mt. Zion N.C. Methodist Church**  
121 North + 259-4461  
Macclenny, FL  
Pastor Tim Chesbire  
Sunday School 9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am  
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00 pm

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Sunday Bible Study 9:45 am  
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Worship Services 11:00 am  
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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  
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Sunday school ~ 10:00 am  
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**New Hope Church, Inc.**  
23-A to Lauramore Rd. & Fairgrounds Rd.  
Sunday School 9:45 am  
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## In loving memory of Watson B. Goodwin

11/15/1944 - 1/13/2007

Watson: Its been five years since you've been gone. You left us to live in your heavenly home. We know you're in Heaven now so happy and free living with Jesus, being with friends and seeing all our family. We know you are watching over us from up above and sending down your everlasting love.

WE LOVE AND MISS YOU,  
MARY, RICKY, KIM, TYLER,  
HEATHER AND MATT  
LARRY, LADONIES  
AND FAMILY



## In loving memory of Joe Newmans

8/28/1931 - 1/11/2009

"He only takes the best"  
Three years ago, God saw that he was getting tired, a cure was not to be. So He put His arms around him and whispered, "Come with me."  
With tearful eyes we watched him suffer, and saw him fade away. Although we loved him dearly, we could not make him stay.  
A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands to rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us He only takes "The Best."

LOVE AND MISS YOU  
"POPPY TURKEY,"  
YVONNE, JENNI, KANON,  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS

## Heartfelt thanks

The family would like to thank relatives and friends for their prayers, visits, cards, flowers and phone calls during the sickness and loss of our husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Our appreciation to Community Hospice for their excellent care the last seven months. Thanks also to Pastor Michael Ramondetta, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Pastor James Rodgers, Pastor Torran Dismuke, Guerry Funeral Home, Joey Dobson and the sheriff's department for their service.

The Jerry Moran Family

# ME's top teacher pick

## KELLEY LANNIGAN FEATURES

[features@bakercountypress.com](mailto:features@bakercountypress.com)

Eleanor Cumpston is Macclenny Elementary's 2012 Teacher of the Year.

She hails from Long Island, New York and earned a master's degree in education at the University of North Florida.

Following an internship at Macclenny Elementary in 1978, she began teaching 5th grade and has worked in the school district ever since.

She described her approach as teaching from the heart.

"I always wanted to share a part of myself with children because I felt like I could give them something they needed to help them learn," she said.

Ms. Cumpston admits she's strict. Her philosophy is this: If she has high expectations, then children generally will rise to meet them.

She loves to see the smile on a child's face when they finally understand something and says the best thing about teaching is the chance to try anew each day.



Eleanor Cumpston

"If one approach doesn't work, you can keep going back to the drawing board until you find a solution," she said.

Ms. Cumpston was voted the top teacher honor once before in 1985. She never expected the honor a second time and described the experience as "humbling."

She was working with her

class assistant (who she taught in third grade) when the announcement came that she was selected. "I turned white as a ghost and just fell into her arms and cried," she said.

The only thing not thrilling about her job, she says, is the sometimes challenging amount of extra paperwork required by the state these days.

She describes each day as different and delights in the bond she shares with children.

"I guess my motherly instinct comes through first and the teacher instinct follows. It's part of my job to reach children on many levels - emotionally, socially, academically, as doctor and momma, as listener and sympathizer - whatever is needed," said Ms. Cumpston.

She acknowledges the importance of recognizing the difference in each child.

Years ago she came across a quote and has always used it as her mantra: "If they can't learn the way we teach them, then we must teach them the way they learn."



PHOTO COURTESY OF BAKER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Seventh grader wins spelling bee

Spelling bee winner Tiffany Samaroo (left), a seventh grader at Baker County Middle School, received Powerspeak, an online language course for Spanish, French or German worth about \$125, a "Champion Speller" pin with a bee and a gift bag of school supplies. The youth won the spelling bee by correctly spelling *posthumus*. She'll move onto the regional spelling bee at the Times-Union Center in Jacksonville February 18, which will follow a breakfast with Mayor Alvin Brown that morning. Fifth grader Ernie Jones (right) was the runner-up in the local spelling bee and won a gift bag of school supplies. The bee included students from fifth through eighth grade. The annual event was held the morning of January 6 at Baker County Middle School. Kelley Lannigan was the word caller.

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Awana for Children 6:45 pm  
Youth Group 6:45 pm  
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**SOCIAL NOTICE SUBMISSION INFORMATION**  
 Birth announcements, wedding notices and social events (military service notes and school graduations) must be submitted within four weeks of the event. All news and advertising must be submitted to the newspaper office prior to 5:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to publication, unless otherwise noted or arranged. It is requested that all news items be typed or emailed to insure accuracy in print.

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**To wed June 24th**

Randy and Sandy Davis of Macclenny are pleased to announce the engagement of daughter Brandi Lynn to Marc Drouin, both of Macclenny. Marc is the son of Jimmy and Donna Drouin of Macclenny. The wedding will take place June 24, 2012 at 6 pm at Holiday Isles in St. Augustine.

**Son born Jan. 4th**

Tammy Hodges Carte of Jacksonville is pleased to announce the arrival of son Hunter Allen on January 4, 2012 at St. Vincent's Medical Center in Jacksonville. Hunter weighed 7 lbs., 8 oz. and measured 20 inches long. Grandparents include Lou and Allen Carte of West Virginia and Faye and the late Dubby Hodges of Macclenny.

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**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

**January 12**  
 BCHS: Wrestling at St. Augustine, 5:30 pm, Drama Presentation "Baker County, FL" Auditorium, 7:30 pm BCMS: Semester Exams Math & Vocational WES: Tutoring/After School Reading Club, 3:15 pm, Good Morning Show Club Mtg., 8:00 am PK/K: School Advisory Council Mtg., 8:00 am

**January 6**  
 BCHS: Girl's Basketball vs. West Nassau (H), 6 pm, Drama Presentation, "Baker County, FL," Auditorium, 7:30 pm BCMS: Make-ups for Semester Exams

**January 14**  
 BCHS: Basketball at Crescent City, 8:00 am, Girl's Weightlifting Sub-Sectional (H), 9:00 am, Drama Presentation, "Baker County, FL," Auditorium

**January 15**  
 BCHS: Drama Presentation, "Baker County, FL," Auditorium, 2:00 pm

**January 16**  
 District-Wide: Martin L. King Holiday BCHS: Tennis & Track Practice Begins Baseball Try-outs

**January 17**  
 District-Wide: School Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, Sanderson Congregational Holiness Church BCHS: Wrestling at West Nassau, 6 pm, Girl's Weightlifting at-Ridgeview, 3 pm WES: Tutoring/After School Reading Club, 3:15 pm MES: School Advisory Council Mtg., 8:00 am

**January 18**  
 WES: Merrie Melodies Club Mtg., 8:00 am

**Just as surprised by Broncs on Sunday**

**FAT LADY ROBERT GERARD**

You are kidding me, right? I didn't just see the playoff game I saw. I couldn't have. All week long I have been hearing nothing except how the Pittsburgh Steelers, with the best defense in the NFL, were going to destroy the Denver Broncos. After all, Tim Tebow, who won seven of eight games in the middle of the season, lost his last three games in abysmal fashion. The Steelers were going to kill him. It wouldn't be a game at all. It would be a massacre. Somebody didn't tell the Broncos. The first quarter, it looked as if all was going according to plan. The defenses were outstanding and neither team looked very good. Pittsburgh hit a couple of field goals and that was that. Then the second quarter hit and Denver came alive. Tebow threw the ball, and shockingly, the receivers stepped up and caught it. Pittsburgh came back because they are a tough, experienced and classy team and no one actually expected they wouldn't. But here's the deal. For the very first time, the Broncos opened up the playbook and played aggressively. In past games they were so conservative they looked like Republican presidential candidates. But, since no one expected them to win, they could let loose and do the unexpected. Just like they showed in overtime. Instead of running the ball from the formation they used all game long, Tebow threw the ball and shocked the opposition as DeMarius Thomas hauled it in and raced into the end zone for a 29-23 overtime win. Whew! What a game. I wonder how this matches up with Tebow winning the NCAA title?



Jubilant Wildcats celebrate after Westside Duals rout.

**Cat wrestlers pin all five in Westside meet**

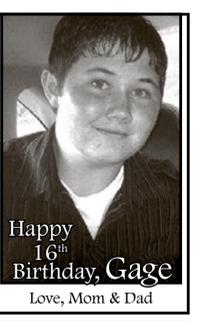
**BOB GERARD | SPORTS**  
 The Baker High Wildcat wrestling team had a tremendous outing at its last meet, winning all 5 matchups in the Westside Duals Tournament on December 30 at Ed White High School. BCHS was dominating in most of its wins but especially tough in the difficult matches. They defeated Fletcher 42-42, snatching the wins with a fall advantage of 14-9. The Cats easily stopped Stanton Prep 54-24 then rolled over Englewood 60-18. They had a tougher time with Mandarin, winning 48-36 and defeated Nease 46-33. The young Wildcats have shown a lot of improvement this season under the tutelage of

**Press Ad Deadline: Monday 5:00 PM**

**GED preparation**

Adult basic education and preparation classes for GED testing are being offered 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 from 8 am - 3:30 pm. For more information about GED classes, contact Wanda Conner at 259-0403.

**We want to know... WEDDINGS & BIRTHS 4 week deadline**



Happy 16<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Gage  
 Love, Mom & Dad

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**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
 Pursuant to a petition submitted by Charles O. Chupp on behalf of Blair Nurseries, Inc. to vacate a platted subdivision known as Siskierke II, recorded in Plat Book 3, Pages 51-53, for the purpose of utilizing the property differently due to lack of sales. The petition is made in accordance to the Baker County Land Development Regulations, Sections 8.06.01. The property is located west of SR 121 S, north of Mud Lake Road, east of CR 125 S, and south of Bobby Sapp Road in Baker County, Florida. The Baker County Land Planning Agency (LPA) will review the petition for recommendation to the Baker County Commissioner's at a public hearing scheduled for Thursday, January 26, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, in the County Administration Building, 55 North Third Street, Macclenny, FL. On the above-mentioned date, all interested parties may appear and be heard with respect to the petition. Written comments for or against the petition may be sent to the Baker County Planning Department, 360 E. Shuey Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063. Faxed comments may be sent to (904) 259-5057. Copies of the petition may be inspected in the Planning Department by any member of the public. According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the Administration Department at (904) 259-3613 at least 48 hours prior to the time of the hearing.

**CR 125 bridge detour**

The Manntown Bridge on CR 125 S, will close to all traffic for approximately four months beginning January 16. The closure will prevent an unsafe condition for motorists while the bridge is being replaced and the roadway approaches are being rebuilt, stated a press release from the Florida Department of Transportation's District 2 office in Lake City, which is overseeing the project. Traffic will be detoured to CR 130, also known as Mud Lake Road, SR 121, I-10 and back to CR 125, during the closure. Only residents of the closed area will be allowed on Woodlawn Road as the intersection at CR 125 will be closed when the roadway approaches are rebuilt. The bridge is being replaced

by FDOT using federal funding. Work began last August and is scheduled to be completed in the summer. FDOT hired Hal Jones Contractor Inc. of Jacksonville to replace the bridge at a cost of \$3.5 million.

**Girls head to Madison for the title**

The Lady Bobcats of Baker County Middle School continued on their winning ways with a 43-6 victory over Wilkinson Jr. High School on January 5. Delicia Washington led the way for the Bobcats with 22 points. Zoe Hamil and Abby Rice each had 4 points, while Tristan Lauramore had 3, and Tyeisha Reed, Jada Jackson and Lindsey Love each had 2. Then on January 9, the Lady Bobcats traveled to Hamilton County for their last conference game of the season and came away with a 38-23 win. Washington posted 26 points, Jackson had 6, Love scored 4 and Rice had 2. The girls finished their season with an outstanding 13-1 overall record, going 8-0 in conference play. They travel to Madison County Middle School to play the Cowgirls in the championship game at 6 pm on January 19.

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

**Bowden's banquet message 'from heart'**

**From page 1**  
 often play in academic achievement. And he gave players some words of wisdom to take with them as they prepare to enter adulthood. The former coach, 82, quoted his favorite piece of scripture from Proverbs, 4:23: Keep your heart with all diligence for out of it flows the spring of life. "Remember everything you do starts with your heart," he said to a few hundred people including Wildcat players, their families and coaches, boosters and other guests gathered at First Baptist Church of Macclenny that evening. "Now when scripture talks about the heart or you hear coaches talk about the heart ... He's not talking about a muscle that pumps blood. He's talking about your will. Your will. You control your will. I will do this; I will not do this, you know ... I'm talking about your emotion, because your emotion makes your feelings ... He's talking about your heart and your mind. Keep your heart will all diligence. "What do we mean by diligence? Keep it clean. If you take evil thoughts into your heart, and how do they get into your heart? Through your eyes and your ears ... So keep it diligent. Keep good thoughts in your heart ... If you got meanness, madness or hatred in your heart, it will lead to murder or fighting, or something brutal. Or if you have lustful thoughts in your mind, it can lead to sin. So keep love in there. And concern about your fellow man. That's what that proverb is talking about."



Above: BCHS football coaches and their wives during Mr. Bowden's talk at the banquet. Pictured from left are Heather and Ryan Sulkowski, Scott and Michelle McDonald, and Rachel and Joey Sulkowski. Below, Sherrie Raulerson, who introduced the famed football coach, presents Mr. Bowden with a plaque.



See video from the Wildcat football awards banquet @ [www.bakercountypress.com](http://www.bakercountypress.com)

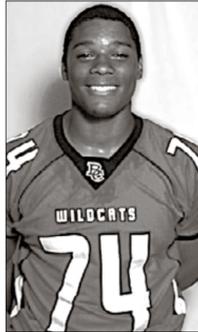
Mr. Bowden coached the Seminoles from 1976 through 2009. His son, Tommy Bowden, the former coach of the Clemson Tigers until 2008, was the guest speaker at last year's football awards banquet. Coach Sulkowski said he called on the younger Bowden to see if his father would be interested in headlining this year's event. "I don't speak at high school banquets. Why? Because you do one and you have to do them all. But I spoke with Tommy — I hope he didn't mess this thing up," Bobby Bowden said soon after taking the podium, which drew laughter from the audience. "So he was here last year and asked me if I'd do it again. I said I would if we can work it out. They were able to work it out, somehow, and I flew in about two hours ago to Jacksonville. It is good to be here." The former coach's remarks followed those of Mr. Sulkowski, who thanked a long list of contributors to the BCHS football program, especially the families of players and coaches. Then school Superintendent Sherrie Raulerson presented the guest speaker with an "official lifetime Wildcat award." "You're now one of us," said Ms. Raulerson, who soon garnered a few chuckles of her own. "This award gets you the VIP section with me at any Wildcat football game, free lunches in the Wildcat cafeteria, and you can come sit with me, not just at a football game; you can come to a baseball game, a volleyball game, any Wildcat event, we'll have a special seat for you. But the only thing about this award is you can't tell Tommy, because I didn't give him this award last year." After an intermission for dinner to be served, the football coaching staff handed out more than 50 honors to conclude the evening. The awards and recipients were as follows:

LEE; Most Valuable Defensive Front, HUNTER SULLIVAN; Most Valuable Defensive Skill, KYLE ALEXANDER; Most Improved Offensive Skill, RICHARD KEINATH; Most Improved Offensive Line, JOSH SMALLWOOD; Most Improved Defensive Skill, ANTHONY JAMES; Most Improved Player, BRANDON HARVEY; Big Heart Award, JACOB STALVEY; Most Valuable Offensive Player, SKYLAR LANE; Academic Award, GARRETT DOTSON.

**Varsity** Most Valuable Offensive Lineman, BLAKE MILLS; Most Valuable Defensive Lineman, CECE JEFFERSON; Most Valuable Wide Receiver, MALONE HADLEY; Most Valuable Offensive Back, FALON

**School Lunch MENU**  
 January 16 - January 20  
 Offered everyday:  
 Cold lunch plate of chef salad with wheat roll or crackers and dessert (when offered) 1% lowfat white milk, 15% lowfat flavored milk, orange juice.  
**Monday, January 16**  
 Martin Luther King Jr Day - No School  
**Tuesday, January 17**  
**Breakfast:** Pancake with Syrup, peach slices and milk.  
**Lunch:** Shepherd's pie with whole grain roll or deli turkey and cheese sandwich on a bun. Choice of 2 sides: tossed salad, steamed broccoli, rosy pear cup, milk  
**Wednesday, January 18**  
**Breakfast:** Scrambled eggs with baked potato rounds, slice of toast and milk.  
**Lunch:** Spaghetti with meat sauce and a slice of Italian bread or hot dog on a bun. Choice of 2 sides: baked fries, green beans, seasonal fresh fruit, milk choice.  
**Thursday, January 19**  
**Breakfast:** Breakfast burrito, peach slices and milk.  
**Lunch:** Pepperoni pizza hot pocket or ham with beans and rice with a wheat roll. Choice of 2 sides: steamed green peas, raw veggies with ranch dressing, seasonal fresh fruit and fresh baked cake, milk choice.  
**Friday, January 20**  
 Teacher Planning Day - No School

**CeCe Jefferson is USAF All-American**



CeCe Jefferson

Baker County High freshman defensive end CeCe Jefferson won first-team honors on the US Air Force Freshman All-America team. Jefferson, who was a major force for the Wildcats this season, is one of only two Florida players on the team. Jefferson was nominated by *The Florida Times-Union*. The 6'4"260 pound defensive end had 10 sacks for the Cats this year and a pair of forced fumbles. He had 22 tackles behind the line of scrimmage, 15 quarterback pressures, 2 fumble recoveries and 44 total tackles. "It is a huge honor for CeCe," said Coach Ryan Sulkowski. "It's been a break-out year for him. I don't know the last time we had an All-American." In other honors, Thomas Sirk and Kendrick Singleton both made *The Times-Union Super*

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**Men's softball league sign ups**

A local men's softball league will begin a 10-game season January 20 and end with tournament. Games will take place on Tuesday and Friday evenings. The cost is \$300 per team due by January 19. For more information, call Joel Burnett at 259-1525 or 571-2943. The league is accepting teams as well as individual players. Mr. Burnett is also organizing an adult men's softball tournament for January 14 to benefit an 11 year old and under boys traveling baseball team. Three teams have signed up and teams consist of 10 players each. The cost is \$150 per team. The benefit tournament will be wood-bat only, 1-1 count no foul, unlimited home runs and use white or yellow 44/375 softballs. There will also be smoked chicken dinners, concessions and raffles available. Contact Mr. Burnett for more information.

**LOST**  
 on Dec. 30 • Female, Jack Russel • around the hills of Glen • If found contact Tina at 259-1606 reward available

Advertising Info.

Classified ads and notices must be paid in advance, and be in our office no later than 4:00 pm on the Monday preceding publication...

For Sale

Office Supplies, printer and fax cartridges, rubber stamps and much more. We specialize in hard to find items.

Got leavers? We can get them out of your way and have your yard looking great.

2 recliners in excellent condition \$50 for both.

Seasoned oak firewood, standard size pick-up load \$100, can deliver for additional \$25.

Fruit trees: Florida King peach, pear, apple and more. Blueberry plants, thornless blackberries, muscadines.

Weslow Cadence C42 space saver treadmill, 2 years old, asking \$200.

Poulan riding lawn mower, 2 1/2 years old. Solid wood dining table, 6 chairs, 2 leaves.

We install 6" seamless gutters. Pressure washing, 259-7335.

Artists. Oils, acrylics, water colors. Canvases, drawing pads and much more.

Whirlpool electric stove, excellent condition, looks brand new.

Seasoned firewood \$80 for half cord delivered.

Camille Beckman hand cream. Root candles, unique gift items.

1997 Monterey Montura, 21" inboard/outboard with bimini top and trailer.

Graco Stroller, blue plaid covering, very nice.

Automobiles

2000 BMW 328i, black with grey leather interior, automatic, V6, very nice.

Miscellaneous

Looking to watch your child 5 days a week to play with my 1 year old grandchild.

Got leavers? We can get them out of your way and have your yard looking great.

Helping Hands of Baker County. For elderly, disabled or widows: need help with housework, washing the car or even walking the dog?

For Rent

Dr. Mark Watson will no longer be practicing at 9218 St. Rd 228, Macclenny, FL 32063.

Avon: Become a representative. Call Kaycee 904-275-3215 or go to www.start.avon.com

Animals

Dogs: all types from puppies to adults. Animal Control, \$65 adoption fees will apply.

Help Wanted

Notice to readers: The newspaper often publishes classified advertising on subjects like work-at-home, weight loss products, health products.

THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS Classifieds



Real Estate

Notice to Readers

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law.

3 BR, 1 BA home on two city lots in Glen. Completely remodeled, new roof, fenced yard, covered back porch \$98,000 obo.

Reduced! Fully furnished riverfront cabin in Glen St. Mary for only \$119,900!

3 BR, 2 BA brick home on 1/2 acre in Glenfield Oaks, a gated community, \$140,000 net. Call 336-3130.

7 acres with set-up in Georgia off of Hwy 185, \$35,000. Possibly owners financing 904-502-0526.

1999 mobile home, 28x60, 4 BR, 2 BA sits on 2.77 acres in Glen St. Mary. \$69,500, 904-728-2885.

1+ acre with access to big St. Mary's river 16x10 storage shed, well, power pole and septic is installed. \$42,500.

1-10 acres, high and dry, fish pond, creek or river front, homes/mobile homes, set-up.

Doublewide mobile home on 3.7 acres, 3 BR, 3 BA, CHA, barn, 2 ponds. No owner financing. \$49,500.

FSBO - Custom built home, 3 BR, 2 BA in city limits. Stucco and stone exterior, two car garage, \$145,900.

4 BR, 2 BA brick home on 1/2 acre in Glenfield Oaks, a gated community, \$145,000 OBO. Call 813-1580.

3.46 acres, north Sanderson, set up for mobile home \$42,000. Owner financing. Call 904-813-1580.

Mobile Homes, 2 and 3 BR, A/C, service animals only \$500-575 plus deposit.

Two properties Rent to Own: 3/2 doublewide in Macclenny \$750/month plus deposit.

3 BR, 2 BA doublewide on large lot, Cuyler area. \$700/month. 904-674-3285 or 904-538-3894.

2 or 3 BR mobile home \$385-\$550; half acre, garage, water, sewer, lawn provided.

MOTIVATED SELLER - MLS# 601327 and 601334 - Vacant land; Lot 28, 13.85 acres; Lot 29, 13.12 acres.

BEAUTIFUL NEW HOMESITES IN MACCLENNY - MLS# 599804, 599805, 599806, 599807

Bank Repo, 4 BR, 2 BA, den, 2128 SF, super big home, very clean \$32,995.

2 BR, 2 BA mobile home in Glen \$700/month, \$500 security. Will work with you on security.

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online www.bakercountypress.com

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Send a copy of the ad exactly as it should appear, payment and phone number where we can reach you.

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Deadlines:

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

YARD SALES Friday and Saturday, Redecorating sale: furniture, home decor, prom dresses, dishes, cleaned out shed.

2011 Blowout, 4/2 doublewide only \$29,995 or 4/2 doublewide only \$34,995 on your land or mine.

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To save thousands on new, used and bank repo manufactured homes visit 13th Street Homes, 12426 NW US Highway 441, Alachua, FL or Call 386-418-0424.

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Huge triplewide! Will sell fast only \$390 per month also come with large porch.

Owner finance, new 3 or 4 BR home set up on your land or mine! \$500 down, \$299/month.

2011 Blowout, 3/2 doublewide only \$29,995 or 4/2 doublewide only \$34,995 on your land or mine.

28x63 3/2, 2x6 exterior walls, 2x4 interior walls, crown molding, set-up, delivery, steps, skirt, A/C.

Bank repo!!! 3 BR, 2 BA triplewide, \$999 down \$377 month!

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City for sale, 28x70 4/2 delivered to property \$7500. Call Jared or Greg 259-4663.

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Wayne Combs, Lic. Real Estate Broker - Cell. 338-4528 Gary Taylor, Realtor - Cell. 568-4800

Locally remodeled riverfront home on 1 acre. Beautiful family rooms, huge back porch screened front porch, RV shelter and cook shelter.

Move-in for the New Year! On pretty 1.2 acre lot. Huge workshop located on westside of Baldwin close to US 90, 301 & I-10.

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

VACANT LAND I acre vacant lot with small oaks ready for your dream home.

Two beautiful 1/2 acre lots with giant oaks, less than a block from boat ramp and park on 6 Mile Creek.

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

Great location for retail business 1404 SF building currently used as a car lot. No sign on property. Zoned commercial general. \$250,000

Excellent corner for business. 92 acre located on US Hwy. 90 zoned commercial general. \$219,900

1107 acres zoned commercial in projected developing area of Baker County. Located near I-10 and Hwy 90. \$440,000

GREAT HOME W/TONS OF POTENTIAL - MLS# 579587 - Brick house on 2.51 acres, 4BR/2.5BA w/office/bonus room; 3 sep fireplaces, loft and dressing room and so much more.

SHORT SALE - MLS# 595799 - 4BR/3BA well maintained double wide on 5 acres on St. Mary's River with trails and woods. Perfect for country living or weekend getaway.

BEAUTIFUL NEW HOMESITE - MLS# 537180 - 10.01 acres; country living in at its best! County maintained road; perfect place to ride the ATVs and horses.

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME - MLS# 543540 - 15 acres completely cleared and graded; zoned 1 home per 7.5 acres; on paved road. \$195,000

VACANT LAND - MLS# 594243 - 2.29 acres commercial. Just off I-10, unlimited potential. Has 3-phase electric and underground water lines to rear of property. \$200,000

ZONED FOR HOUSES/MOBILE HOMES - MLS# 547499 - Vacant land; 11.87 acres. Minutes from I-10, schools, restaurants and shopping. \$55,000

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Wildcats take to the air: shown from left to right are BCHS players CeCe Jefferson, Kameron Mack and Landon Mitchell during the boys' 35-point victory over Keystone Heights January 7.

## Loss to Parker, trounce Keystone Cat varsity basketball

BOB GERARD | SPORTS

The Baker High Wildcat varsity basketball team had some post-holiday optimism on January 5 when it traveled to Terry Parker to take on the Braves, but it quickly faded as the Braves had three players in double figures on the way to a 69-25 shellacking.

Only Charles Ruise Jr. could manage any offense as the run and gun Braves dashed up and down the floor and the Cats fought to keep up. Parker outscored BCHS 23-8 in the first period on the way to a 43-11 halftime lead. They didn't let up in the second half.

Ruise had 12 points for the Cats.

The Wildcats got back on the other side of the scoreboard in great fashion with a commanding 35-point win over Keystone Heights on January 7 at the BCHS gym. The 69-34 win was the biggest margin of victory this season for the young Cats.

All but one of the Wildcats got into the scoring column as Coach Charles Ruise substituted liberally as early as the second quarter.

The Cats got off to a good start, running out to a 13-6 lead in the first quarter. But in the second quarter they broke the game open. They scored 19 points and spread it around between six players, then went into the locker room at intermission leading 32-13.

It didn't get any easier in the third period as BCHS came out running and gunning to outscore Keystone by 12 in the quarter. Darryl Johnson scored 6 points from inside the paint.

Keystone tried to narrow the gap in the final period as Julius Chase got hot and scored 9 points, but it was too little too late.

Johnson and Charles Ruise Jr. had 10 points. Kameron Mack and Landon Mitchell had 9, Jesse Gardner 7, CeCe Jefferson 6 and Johnny Lamb and Kelton Givens had 5 points.

The Cats host West Nassau on Thursday, January 12 before traveling to Crescent City on Saturday. Varsity tips off at 7:30, JV 6 pm.

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