

# THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS

84th Year, Vol. 32 | Winner of 11 state awards for journalism including General Excellence in 2012



## Thanksgiving essay winners announced

See page 11



## Bradford and Paxon best the 4-3 Lady Cats

See page 15

# Shooting by felon said an accident

## Half-brother recovering

JOEL ADDINGTON  
NEWS EDITOR

reporter@bakercountypress.com

An 18-year-old man was jailed after shooting his younger half-brother in the abdomen at a Macclenny residence the evening of November 26.

Joseph Jacob MacQuarrie, a convicted felon originally from Duval County, was playing with a black .40-caliber Taurus handgun about 5:45 pm when he accidentally shot the 13-year-old victim, the suspect reportedly told police.

The youth was taken to UF Health Jacksonville and was recovering in stable condition early this week.

Originally Mr. MacQuarrie attempted to cover up his involvement in the incident.

When police arrived at the Fraser Hospital emergency room, Deputy Trey McCollough overheard the victim telling ER staff he'd been shot at the county fairgrounds, which is near the address of the suspect, his fiancée Tiffany L. Theophile and the owner of the home, Amy E. Theophile, at 11885 Tom Wilkerson Rd.

Mr. MacQuarrie initially gave police the same story. He said his brother called the residence saying he heard a loud noise, fell to the ground and was bleed-



Joseph MacQuarrie

ing badly, Deputy McCullough's report states. The suspect and Tiffany Theophile picked up the brother in a Chevy Cobalt and delivered him to the hospital, Mr. MacQuarrie contended.

But upon further questioning, the suspect began revising his story, which led police to inspect the mobile home on Tom Wilkerson Road. There they found what looked like blood at the entrance to the residence.

The mobile home's owner consented to a search. Meanwhile, Mr. MacQuarrie was recanting his earlier statements at the hospital and later during a recorded interview at the sheriff's office.

He admitted to shooting his brother, telling his brother and fiancée to lie about

how the incident happened and hiding the firearm in standing water under the residence, Investigator Mike Hauge's report indicates.

"[Mr. MacQuarrie] stated he was scared and did not want to go to prison, so he lied about the incident," the investigator wrote.

Witnesses at the home, including two juveniles, corroborated Mr. MacQuarrie's recorded confession. The two juveniles told police they cleaned up blood at the house so that a 15-month-old child also present that night would not come into contact with it. They said they did not know it was illegal to do so, Investigator Hauge stated.

Police later recovered additional guns from the car used to transport the victim to the hospital. Inside the trunk Deputy

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## Biker is killed in interstate accident

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A Macclenny motorcyclist died Saturday at the hospital following an accident on the interstate the day before.

Angel Rodriguez, 33 and a native of Puerto Rico, was critically injured in the single-vehicle wreck on I-10 westbound near CR



Angel Rodriguez

228 and flown to UF Health Jacksonville, formerly Shands, with life-threatening injuries about 2:30 pm on November 29.

Florida Highway Patrol reported Mr. Rodriguez' 2013 Honda drifted for an unknown reason from the left lane onto the road shoulder, lost control and then tumbled into the median.

Damage to the motorcycle was estimated by FHP at \$12,000.

FHP does not believe any other vehicles were involved after a preliminary traffic homicide investigation. A determination about whether the crash was alcohol related is pending, the FHP report notes.

The driver was wearing a helmet.

The westbound lanes of the interstate were closed for about 30 minutes following the accident.

# Union obelisk debate continues at meeting

## Bulk of speakers remain opposed

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What began as a bureaucratic process to place a monument to Union soldiers at the Olustee Battlefield State Park may now become a political one with elected officials from Governor Rick Scott on down set to have a say in the project.

Lew Scruggs, who heads up the Office of Park Planning within the Florida Department of Environmental Protection,

## Drugs for dinner? Suspects attempt to ingest the evidence

See page 7



At right is Mike Farrell, who spoke in favor of the proposed monument; at left is H.K. Edgerton, who spoke against it.

said a recommendation by his staff to place the monument near the entrance of the park would be passed up the chain of command along with comments expressed at a public input meeting held the evening of December 3 in Lake City.

Most of the comments expressed during two-and-a-half hour hearing were against the recommendation.

The sentiment repeated consistently by members of the Confederacy and Sons of Confederate Veterans organizations and others connected to the annual Olustee Battle re-enactment each February was this: Keep the proposed Union monument away from the 3-acre state park, the first state park in Florida, where three monuments stand today.

"We're in no way opposed to a Union monument," said Jim Davis, the state commander of

**"We're in no way opposed to a Union monument. What we're opposed to is a monument ... on that original 3 acres."**

- Jim Davis

Florida Commander of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

the Sons of Confederate Veterans. "What we're opposed to is a Union monument or any other monument on that original three acres. That [tract] is a cultural and historical resource given to the State of Florida by the UDC (United Daughters of the Confederacy)."

In addition to the UDC monument built in 1912, there are two markers to Confederate generals who led troops in the

battle. The UDC monument is a much larger white granite edifice. Its inscriptions reflect the troop totals and number of deceased from both armies, Union and Confederate, and the outcome of the battle — a victory for the South against invaders from the North.

It also lists the Confederate regiments that fought in the battle around the base of the structure, which features the imprint of the Confederate flag.

"That is not a Confederate monument," said Mr. Davis of the memorial. "It was made to both sides. If you look at when the monument was commemorated, there is giant American flag with Union and Confederate veterans there."

Among the 32 speakers that evening, just three spoke in favor of the proposed Union monument.

The small contingent representing the Sons of Union Veterans at the meeting said they're seeking another monument as a tribute to all the soldiers who fought with Union forces during the battle.

They said a large grave marker in the form of a cross and placed in a cemetery outside the state park's boundaries in 1991 pays homage to the Union casualties. Its inscription lists a number of Union regiments as well.

"For the many years I've been there, I've always had the visiting public ask me where the Union monument is on the battlefield. I often tell them there isn't any," said Mike Farrell of the Sons of Union Veterans, who also serves as an exhibitor during the re-enactment. "I'm not talking about the cemetery marker to the dead, I'm talking about a battlefield marker."

The Union group, based in Central Florida, originally proposed installing the new monument — a black granite obelisk standing 10- to 12-foot tall — about 50 feet south of the white granite monument dedicated by the UDC. They believe the appropriate place for such a marker is on the original battlefield where the park is located today.

See page 4

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# COMMENT

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters are welcome, but must contain the signature of the writer, a telephone number and city of residence. Letters must reflect opinions and statements on issues of current interest to the general public. The newspaper reserves the right to reject any material which in the newspaper's judgement does not meet standards of publication.

## CONTACT US

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## Thanksgiving night should be spent at home, not shopping

**IMPRESSIONS**  
Jim McGauley

Thanksgiving and Christmas are in essence serious holidays with serious traditions (as opposed to the more frivolous New Years, Halloween, Cinco de Mayo and Mardi Gras).

Families have their own time-honored rituals they repeat year-after-year as a testament to how revered this time of year is in the hearts of most of us — at least for the near future while "families" still exist.

So when new "traditions" are introduced, it's natural for all of us in the holiday mode to gaze upon them and make a mental determination if they belong in our checklist of "keepers" in the future.

Here's one that needs to go into the trash heap — Thanksgiving Day shopping.

What, after all, is the point of pulling people away from one of the most "family" days of the 365 and drawing them into the malls and big box stores for special savings?

I thought that was what "Black Friday" was for. Even that Day After Thanksgiving has little meaning for most of us in the ranks of the male gender. We wouldn't participate if stores were staffed with Victoria's Secret models handing out flat-screen TVs for \$20. Well, some of us wouldn't.

But Thanksgiving afternoon and evening? Employees at the Macclenny Walmart informed me on Friday that the store was a zoo on Thursday afternoon, complete with a saturated parking lot that spilled onto lots belonging to Phantom Fireworks and the strip center with Starbucks. Cars were parked on the grass on both sides of SR 228, so they said.

The scene was repeated around the country, complete now with the requisite tales of shoppers fighting for merchandise, a bit of trampling here and there, shoplifting and other misbehaviors that result when the goons and miscreants slither into the relative protection of large crowds.

On Thanksgiving evening? We are intended to then be at home popping antacids and home remedies for indigestion, watching football, spending time with relatives and, for those so inclined, making itinerary plans for Black Friday.

And what about the forlorn employees forced to man the registers and aisles when they, too, should be home with their families? If it's a sign of an anemic economy that shoppers will turn out on Thanksgiving night for bargains, it's also likely the economy is the reason retailers can get away with opening their doors. They know disgruntled employees are reluctant to venture off looking for scarce jobs where they get Thanksgiving off.

So, what would happen if we all just decided not to participate? Do you really believe that retailers would persist, knowing that the weeks between now and Christmas are "make or break" and shoppers won't bite at bargains starting on Friday?

Of course they wouldn't. Thanksgiving shopping isn't "worthy" of a place in our holiday traditions. Send it the way of dopey Christmas sweaters — Begone!



## Christmas list recedes with age

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. All through the Publix parking lot ...

The day after Thanksgiving I went to the grocery store to pick up a few things, and when I came out I counted six Christmas trees tied to the roofs of cars.

It doesn't take long for the Christmas spirit to kick in. Before the turkey carcass is even cold on the plate, people were beating a path to the mall.

I hated the fact that stores were open on Thanksgiving night when people traditionally gather around the table. In fact it is one of those rare nights when people gather around the table, and now crass consumerism is doing its best to put the old kibosh on that as well.

Bah! Humbug! That didn't feel right at all. I'm not a "Bah, Humbug" kind of guy in the least. I love holidays, and I think we should get through one without prepping for another.

I went into a store to pick up some Thanksgiving stuff a few days after Halloween and there was none to be had. It had already been pushed aside for Christmas. That irritates me. One holiday at a time, please.

The Lenox Square Mall up in Atlanta was pretty sharp about the whole early-shopping thing. They scheduled the lighting of their giant three-story Christmas tree for Thanksgiving night. That way they got thousands of people in the mall to see the tree and get a jump on early shopping.

Ironically, Black Friday was down this year. It didn't matter too much to me because I don't take part in Black Friday. I don't like the crowds; I always seem to miss the big deals and if I want to see crazed people grabbing and pulling and grasping, I'll wait for the last pumpkin pie on the plate.

Even wife Kelley has turned against Black Friday. When the kids were little, she and Cheryl Hart would leave by 3 am and not be back until 11 pm. Then I would have to dutifully sit on the couch and watch as they went through all their great purchases.

I'd be told the original price, the sale price, the difference between the two and the story of how they had snatched that

Barbie RV from the grasping hands of a 60-year-old grandmother with a cigarette hanging from the corner of her mouth and "a Yankee accent." I would be expected to make all the appropriate noises of appreciation and awe.

Daughter Sara Beth has a little tree this year in the apartment. Because of the small size of the place, we went table top

this year. But the boys brought up their box of Christmas ornaments and they sat around and decorated it like they had when they were 4, 6 and 9. It was great to see. I had to laugh out loud when she described it to someone on the phone as her "Christmas bush." It kind of does have that look about it. Christmas is fast approach-

ing and I can't deny it. My mother-in-law Sara Norman wants my Christmas list. It's a funny thing. As the holiday approaches people ask me what I want. As I've gotten older, that's a harder question to answer.

Son Spencer can crank out a list in no time flat. Son Dylan is a little slower, but is able to list stuff. Sara Beth has always been able to provide Granny with a long list. But I have to struggle to think of anything.

I'm a pretty simple fellow and I don't have a lot of things I can think of that I want. At my children's age I could have filled up a note pad with things, but not so much now.

I guess I can understand my mom a little better when she said, "I don't want anything really. Just a hug."

I've told this story before. One year I got tired of hear-

ing it so I didn't buy her anything and gave her a hug instead. The next year I got a list of five things.

I guess I'd better start thinking of something or I'll only get a hug from Granny.

I enjoy the holiday. I enjoy my kids unpacking their stockings in just the same way they did when they were six. Despite being grown adults, those old traditions are still a very big deal to them.

They used to all pile up in bed together on Christmas Eve for my reading of *The Night Before Christmas*. I did that even when they were in high school and no one complained. I stopped when they were in college, but I can see that this year might just be a "Night Before Christmas" year in our house.

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Bon Detwiler hoped to make the world a better place. That hope died when he was killed by a drunk driver. What should you do to step a friend from driving drunk? Whatever you have to. Friends don't let friends drive drunk.



**THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS**

USPS 040-280  
Post Office Box 598  
Macclenny, FL 32063  
(904) 259-2400

The Baker County Press is published each Thursday by Baker County Press, Inc. Periodicals postage paid under permit issued April 12, 1929 at the post office in Macclenny, Florida.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
\$25.00 a year inside Baker County; \$45.00 a year outside Baker County; deduct, \$5.00 for persons outside Baker County who are 65 years of age or older, military personnel on active duty, and college students. POSTMASTER: send address changes to The Baker County Press, P.O. Box 598, Macclenny, FL 32063.

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This newspaper is printed on recycled paper.

**FACEBOOK FANS**

**'What you had to say ...'**

**Christmas gift spending**

*Christmas shopping season is underway so we wondered about spending habits. We asked our Facebook friends, "On average, how much do you spend per person on your immediate family at Christmas?" Here's a look at some of the comments that rolled in:*

Trisha Rose Hall: My children get throughout the year. But they get three wrapped gifts as did Baby Jesus and one unwrapped gift from Santa.

Cameron Renee Kent: It is Christmas for my children every day pretty much. When the day finally rolls around, the most I spend is \$1000. My parents, Thomas and Mary Kent, Melissa Barber Adams, and papa Steve spoil them more than I ever could!

Lynn Sweeney: This year too broke to spend anything.

Regina Mike Cody: Too much!

Alyssa Nicole Fernandez: Up to about \$50 depending on my budget, but I only have my mom, dad and lil bro, and parents in law and S/O to buy for.

Judy Reier Wheeler: \$100. Spend more for each member's birthday. Their special day. Nine grandchildren and eight children and their spouse.

Wayne Stewart: I spend one paycheck per year on presents. I start with the youngest and work my way up.

Angela Allen Hinson: It's not

**Black Friday experiences**

*We also asked, "How was your Black Friday shopping? Which store did you have the best or worst experience in?" Here's a look at what our Facebook peeps shared:*

John Hardin: I was smart. I went fishing.

Colleen Scharphorn Harvey: Waited in line outside at Home Depot for an hour and they served everyone hot chocolate, coffee, donuts, yogurt and fruit. Very nice. All for a fire pit!

Robert Lancaster: I got stabbed in Best Buy.

Angela Allen Hinson: It's not

**Black Friday when they start at 4:30 on Thanksgiving day. I liked it better when it truly was Black Friday. Not Grey Thursday!**

Tucker Roberts: It was fun. Got a pair of jean shorts from Walmart with two Duck Dynasty cups.

Melinda Crews Sorkness: Mine was great at Beck Chevrolet in Palatka. My hubby bought me a new 2014 Chevy Equinox. I love it.

Kelly Matthews: Considering Obamacare took my shopping money in insurance premium increases, I would say it was horrible! I missed all the good deals.

K Erin Lowry: Walmart was the worst as usual.

Daniel Dugger: Awesome. I got a brand new kitchen from "Sheps." Only set me back \$3.

Roxanne Williams Lloyd: Walmart was wild and crazy this year. Too much for me. Over packed and not enough products to go around for everyone.

Lynne Bolen: Spent it horse camping for the weekend, best "Black Friday" ever!

Amanda N Daniels: Mine was great. Got a few odds and ends but I did shopping the smart way. My shopping was done a month or so ago, so I'm in the clear now.

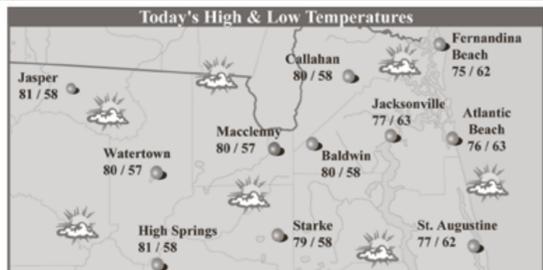
Michelle Corley: Stayed home and heard about everyone's bad experiences like it shouldn't be expected before hand.

Richard Clark: Stayed home too. Wouldn't go to those store on that day even if all the merchandise in the store was free.

Nancy Storch Oliver: Mine was great too, I stayed home.

The Baker County Press Weather

Seven Day Forecast table with columns for Day, Weather, High, Low.



Last Week's Local Almanac table with columns for Day, High, Low, Normals, Precip.

Sun/Moon Chart This Week table with columns for Day, Sunrise, Sunset, Moon phase.

St. Mary's River Levels table with columns for Location, Now, Change.

Hunting/Fishing Times table with columns for Day, AM, PM Peak Times.

Weather History section with a graphic of a tornado and text about a killer tornado in Vicksburg, Miss.

Sam's Crystal River Seafood advertisement featuring a gift card offer and contact information.

Union obelisk: emotions run high...

From page 1 "There's more Union blood in that ground than Confederate," said Buck Custer of the Union group.



Rep. Elizabeth Porter (R-Lake City) addresses the audience.

Opponents of the project in the audience immediately pushed back, calling attention to the regiments listed in the cemetery.

Resistance to the proposed monument surfaced a few months ago after the plan was finalized with state officials, a process that began last February.

Their members began contacting elected officials, including state Rep. Elizabeth Porter (R-Lake City), who represents Baker County in the Florida House, to voice their concerns.

The representative soon sought a meeting so all the stakeholders would have a chance to voice their opinions on where to place the Union monument before a final site is selected.

Staff with the state park's office doesn't recommend either

I'm opposed to any monument to memorialize the Yankee army anywhere south of the Mason Dixon Line.

-H.K. Edgerton

Opposing the placement of an Union monument at Olustee

location, however. In their written assessment of the survey results, the office noted that the space west of the museum is used for artillery units at the annual battle, and thus the monument would conflict with those activities.

The office's recommendation, based on previous public comments and its best professional judgement, was to place the proposed marker in the same general area as the other commemorative memorials.

When asked by the meeting's moderator, Mr. Scruggs, to address the proposed monument plan, Mr. Edgerton called the project a "sacrilege" before exiting the auditorium waving his flag and singing "I wish I was in Dixie" as others from the gallery joined in the chorus.

posed monument at the park shared how much the land on which the state park sits means to their family history.

"This would be a disgrace to my ancestors and my family," said Bruce Porters, a seventh-generation Floridian and re-entrant at the battle his grandfather fought in nearly 150 years ago.

Jamie Linkins, president general of the national UDC organization, said the best place for the Union monument would be to the east of the park on federal land, "as that's where the Union forces came from."

A member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Calvin Hart, pledged to begin raising money to place another Confederate monument next to the proposed Union monument if it's placed inside the park as recommended.

"We're coming," said Mr. Hart. "I'm telling you that right now."

Still others questioned the need for the monument at all. "It's irresponsible to open old wounds..." said one woman against the proposal.

Shooting accidental

Clements Leo found a 12-gauge shotgun and a BB gun. Because of his status as a convicted felon, Mr. MacQuarrie is prohibited from possessing firearms.

The suspect was arrested for three felonies in Duval County in recent years, though the county clerk's office would not release information about his convictions because he was a minor.

He was arrested in 2009 for aggravated assault, in 2010 for burglary and in 2011 for aggravated battery on someone 65 or older, according to the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

Maj. Gerald Gonzalez of the Baker County Sheriff's Office said he believes Mr. MacQuarrie was convicted on all three counts.

Woodlawn Kennels advertisement with logo and contact information.

Christmas cards for the military

The Baker Women's Political Network will hold its annual Christmas Card signing for our military troops this Saturday, December 7 from 10 am-4 pm in front of the Chamber of Commerce office on Macclenny Ave.

We encourage all our friends to join us again in remembering our troops during the Holidays. The cards will be sent to Afghanistan, Iraq and Walter Reed Hospital.

If you have a friend or family member who is serving at either of these places, please drop their address off to us and we can send them cards direct.

Save over \$100/week advertisement with coupon code.

Hugh D. Fish, Jr. J.D. advertisement for legal services.

Gets 5-year probation For her role in rash of home burglaries

One-half of a burglary team caught in January and charged with a half dozen daytime home burglaries north and south of Glen St. Mary were sentenced in circuit court last week to five years on probation.

Judge Mark Moseley gave Julie James Driggers, 44, of Jacksonville credit for 60 days she spent in county jail following her arrest with co-defendant and career criminal Charles Cope after a traffic stop.

Ms. Driggers, who had no prior criminal record, pleaded no contest to multiple counts of grand theft and criminal mischief and is expected to assist the state in its prosecution of Mr. Cope, a nine-time convicted felon who the sheriff's department said has spent a dozen years in prison off and on.

The defendant was also ordered to re-pay an estimated \$160,000 taken from the six victims, the bulk of it (\$150,000) reported stolen from the north

county residence of a former jewelry store owner. During a press conference shortly after the arrest, Sheriff Joey Dobson said police had been looking for a small gray vehicle reported in the vicinity of one of the burglaries by a rural postal carrier.

Deputy Chris Walker spotted a car matching that description on CR 125 north of Glen and apprehended the suspects after they changed places in the front seat because Mr. Cope had a suspended license.

Several items including an automatic pistol were found in the Toyota, and authorities later obtained a search warrant for Ms. Driggers' northeast Jacksonville residence and found yet more jewelry and valuables taken in the break-ins from late November, 2012 to early January.

The couple typically approached homes and knocked on doors to learn if anyone was home, then forced their way in by

prying rear doors. They told people in occupied homes they were searching for a lost dog.

Arrest for break-in at the fairgrounds

The sheriff's department arrested a Glen St. Mary man for breaking into the rodeo concession stand at the county fairgrounds just prior to Thanksgiving.

Deputy Thomas Dyal said he received a tip from a juvenile female who claimed that Justin Herrick, 18, told her he took soft drinks, candy and an estimated \$10 in coins from the building, and that he had them in his possession when she was with him earlier.

The informant, Mr. Herrick and three others were charged late on November 28 with trespassing at a vacant house on Lauramore Rd. Deputy Dyal said he went to the fairgrounds and confirmed that the door was forced open and inventory missing. Mr. Herrick was booked for burglary, criminal mischief and petty theft.

In addition to the suspect and teen, deputies arrested Preston Baker, 23, of Glen St. Mary and Timothy Harris, 31, of Macclenny at the vacant house late on November 27 after a neighbor reported suspicious activity. All were charged with trespassing, and Mr. Herrick with criminal mischief from breaking a window to gain entry.

A complaint for trespass was filed against another juvenile female who cooperated with officers in the investigation. Property owner Christine Thompson of Macclenny told Deputy Jacob Satterwhite a vacant rental trailer nearby also had signs recently that someone was staying there.

In other property-related incidents, Kristie Burkhalter called police on November 29 to report a \$2000 wedding ring was missing from a bedroom dresser drawer at her residence on Southern States Nursing Rd.

She gave Deputy Trey McCullough the names of possible suspects who moved recently from a detached apartment near the residence.

Additional counts of drunk driving involving property damage pend analysis of his blood drawn at Fraser Hospital.

In other arrests, George Fowler, 30, of Jacksonville was charged with driving on a license with 13 suspensions and misdemeanor marijuana possession after his 1997 GMC was stopped near CR 229 and the interstate south of Sanderson the afternoon of November 25.

Arrests for high-speed chases

The driver of the vehicle, Nicholas Byram, 30, of Olustee, was charged with fleeing police, driving on a suspended license, aggravated assault on a deputy and criminal mischief.

The trio had been riding around that night, and apparently entered the private tract owned by John Kennedy of Macclenny via an open gate.

The second chase began with a report of a reckless driver on Interstate 10 between Sanderson and Glen St. Mary shortly after noon on November 26.

Wayne Hutchins, 49, of Starke, was allegedly speeding and weaving on and off the roadway on the interstate before exiting at CR 125 and turning north on Taber Blvd. into Glen St. Mary, witnesses told Deputy Daryl Mobley.

The officer caught sight of the westbound 2006 Chevrolet pickup on US 90 and gave chase as it turned abruptly onto Gilford Davis Rd., where Mr. Hutchins several times sped away after being confronted by Deputy Mobley, along with officers Jeremiah Johnson and Ben Anderson.

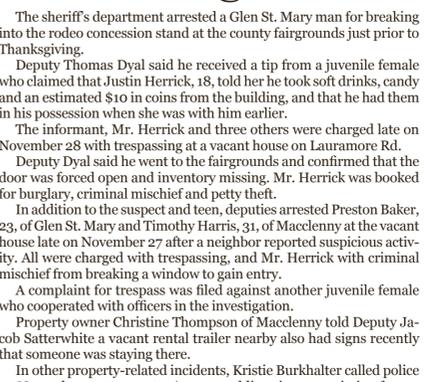
He eventually ran the vehicle through a fence before stopping and exiting the truck at gunpoint. Deputy Mobley said Mr. Hutchins smelled strongly of alcohol and was unsteady on his feet. He was medically cleared before being booked for leaving

the scene of three accidents (colliding with two fences and a mailbox), felony fleeing and criminal mischief.

Deputy Moseley said he observed the southbound truck cross the center line twice. Three passengers were not charged.

Deputy Trey McCullough arrested Kimberly Longnecker, 42, of St. George, GA the morning of November 29 for driving on a license suspended four times for failure to submit to a breath test.

Christmas pageant



Recently crowned in the annual Christmas pageant were: Tiny Miss Bentley Bennett, runner up Braelyn Colbert; Mini Miss Scarlett Stafford, runner up Kenzie Hodges; Little Miss Addison Haddock, runner up Jailee Watson; Grand Supreme Aubrey Dumas; Petite Miss Ave Chanel Smith, runner up Catelynn Sande; Pre-teen Miss Maddie Johnson, runner up Lauren Cales; Miss Teen Madison Haller; runner up Mackenzie Carter; Queen Alexandra Fletcher, runner up Kristian Burnham; and Grand Supreme Alexis Schneider. Now in its 21st year, the pageant was sponsored by the high school's competitive cheerleaders and the City of Macclenny fire department.

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FRUITCAKES advertisement with image of cakes.

Delicious • Homemade Ready for your holiday needs! advertisement.

New Life Church of God advertisement with contact info.

AutoCrafters Collision Repair advertisement.

Country Federal Credit Union advertisement.

Low on Dough? advertisement with image of dough.

We've got the bread! advertisement with image of gingerbread men.

0%\* Christmas Loans advertisement.

Available now through December 31. advertisement.

Image of a pine cone.

Country Federal Credit Union advertisement with address and website.

BAKER COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

# Relieved as Cat wrestling coach

## Hill: It was Sulkowski's decision

MIKE ANDERSON  
PRESS STAFF

Just months using a school district credit card to pay for liquor and food at a Clay County restaurant after attending a high school weight lifting match last spring, the Wildcats' football coach Ryan Sulkowski has been relieved of his secondary duties as wrestling coach.

He made a personal decision that he didn't want to be involved in the wrestling program any longer.

— BCHS Principal Tom Hill

The move, approved by the Baker County School Board the evening of December 2, followed unconfirmed reports two weeks ago that Mr. Sulkowski had been told his contract as football coach would not be renewed next year.

Shortly before the 6:30 pm board meeting began at Pine Level Church in Baxter, officials again declined to answer questions about whether Mr. Sulkowski had been put on notice that his job would end when the 2013-14 school year ends.

Superintendent Sherrie Raulerson would not even discuss the reason for replacing Mr. Sulkowski as wrestling coach midway through the year.

"You'll have to ask Mr. Hill," she said, referring to Baker High principal Tom Hill. According to Mr. Hill, it was not his nor the superintendent's decision. Rather, he said, it was the coach himself who requested the change.

"He made a personal decision that he didn't want to be involved in the wrestling program any longer," Mr. Hill said.

When asked what Mr. Sulkowski's current role is now that the football season has

ended, Mr. Hill said he remains the school's football coach and "teaches four classes a day — team sports and PE (physical education)."

The school board approved the personnel action retroactively. Superintendent Raulerson recommended Mr. Sulkowski's supplemental job as wrestling coach be rescinded effective November 21 for the remainder of the 2013-13 school year.

In a related move, the board promoted former assistant wres-

ty area by the coach.

Coach Sulkowski later issued a public apology during a school board meeting for his lapse in judgment, which he termed simply a "mistake."

In other action during the board meeting this week:

- The 2013-14 Student Progression Plan was adopted in accordance with state law requiring all school districts to develop a plan of action detailing what students must successfully accomplish in order to graduate.

The 50-page document, which was approved without discussion by board members, addresses numerous requirements for students in grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12, including meeting minimum established objectives for each grade before moving on to the next highest grade level.

In addition to basic academic subjects such as math, reading, English and science, middle school students in grades 6-8 must receive a passing grade in at least one semester of civics to be promoted to ninth grade.

Parents and guardians will receive progress reports during the fifth week of each grading period and at the end of each nine-week grading period will receive a report card reflecting their child's level of achievement. After the second and third nine-week grading period, notification will be mailed to parents and guardians of students who are in danger of failing.

School officials say parents (or guardians) will be expected to stay on top of their child's progress, particularly those in high school, to ensure that they are fulfilling the requirements necessary to eventually receive their diploma.

"It's going to be the responsibility of parents to make sure their students are on track to graduate," said Mr. Hill, noting that graduation requirements have changed. "It's important

that parents stay in the loop."

- The 2013-14 Code of Student Conduct was adopted with few changes. One difference is that principals will have more discretion in how they deal with students who violate the code by using cell phones or electronic pagers during school hours.

Previously, principals had no choice but to return confiscated cell phones or pagers to parents or guardians. The new code wording states only that such devices "will be confiscated."

David Davis, the district's director of teaching and learning, said the change simply allows principals to assess each case on its own circumstances and return a cell phone or pager to a student who may have a legitimate reason for having one in school or has never violated the conduct code before.

Another change in the code is aimed at decreasing absenteeism by requiring students with five unexcused absences within a calendar month, or 10 in a 90-day period, to be referred to a Response to Intervention Student Team, in accordance with state law. Previously, referral to such a team was not mandatory.

Should any student accumulate 15 unexcused absences within 90 days, the district must notify the child's parents or guardians in person or by certified letter that a truancy petition will be filed with the county court. Failure to attend a conference to discuss the matter in an effort to resolve the problem will result in "truancy matter being turned over to the court system," the code states.

- An agreement was renewed with the Department of the Air Force for the continuation of the Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit at Baker County High for the year 2014-15.

- The board approved a request to allow the junior varsity and varsity baseball teams to travel to Camden County, GA on March 11 and March 24 to participate in competition with other schools.

### We'll build it! Free child IDs

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Please contact Terry Clardy at 259-6286, ext. 10322 or at 904-673-6395.

Dawkins Masonic Lodge #60 will again this year offer free child IDs the day of the Macclenny Christmas Parade on December 7.

The lodge is located at 233 East Macclenny Ave. (US 90) in the block west of the courthouse.

The service is free and parents are advised to get their children processed before they get face painting.

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# 2013's first half crime rate in county jumps by 50 percent

JOEL ADDINGTON  
NEWS EDITOR  
reporter@bakercountypress.com

By the numbers Semi-annual crime rate change: Baker up 50% Bradford up 105% Columbia up 2.1% Clay down 9.2% Duval down 6% Nassau down 6.2% Union down 15%

Baker County's crime rate jumped 50 percent in the first half of the year, compared to the same period last year, according to statistics recently released by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

The department reports both annual and semi-annual county-level crime figures. Here, the jump for the period between January 1 and June 30 was due in large part to increases in the number of burglaries, aggravated assaults and larcenies reported to law enforcement.

"Increase in crime is taken very seriously," said Sheriff Joey Dobson by e-mail, reacting to the latest numbers. "Prior to the published UCR (Uniform Crime) report, we were aware of the increase and took steps to address the issue."

He said areas experiencing the spike in criminal activity saw more intensive patrols.

"This resulted in the identification and arrest of a number of suspects," said the sheriff. "These suspects included a few groups who were responsible for multiple crimes in multiple counties."

Statewide, the crime index, which tracks seven specific crimes including murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and larceny, fell 5.2 percent during the first half of the year. Only 16 of the state's 67 counties saw increases in those crimes, including Baker County.

Here aggravated assaults rose from 19 to 36 (89%), batteries 10 to 61 (28%) and larceny 16 to 126 (20%). Rape was down from two incidents in 2012 to zero for 2013 and robbery dropped from seven last year to zero this year.

Motor vehicle thefts were up slightly from five to eight. The percentage of cases cleared, however, dropped about 10 percent, from 49 to 39 percent.

"While aggravated assaults have increased, over 80 percent of these crimes were cleared by arrests. Most of the remaining cases resulted in identification of suspects and were referred to the state attorney's office for prosecution," said Sheriff Dobson.

"We are pleased that murder, forcible rape and robbery are at zero," he added. "We are aware that when crime statistics start out very low, even a slight increase can skew upwards when using percentage calculations."

With recent efforts to clamp down on problems areas, the sheriff said he believes the next crime report, for the full year, will show a reduction compared to 2012.

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# Dining on the drugs

## Suspects try to ingest evidence

Two suspects found in possession of illegal drugs the past week were also charged with destroying evidence by placing substances in their mouths. One of them successfully swallowed what he later told Deputy Daryl Mobley was cocaine.

The officer said he stopped a 2001 Chrysler van at Linda and 5th Sts. about 6 pm on November 30 after it ran three stop signs on North Boulevard.

While questioning driver Thomas W. Akridge Jr., 25, of Macclenny about a hypodermic needle he had in his pocket, Deputy Mobley said he observed something in the suspect's mouth. The officer said he placed his hands around Mr. Akridge's neck to prevent him from ingesting the contents but he succeeded in doing so.

The suspect, who was also charged with felony possession, having drug equipment and felony driving as an habitual offender with a suspended license, told Deputy Mobley he swallowed the drug because he has pending criminal cases for sale and possession of controlled drugs and possession of marijuana with intent to sell.

In the second case, Deputy Chris Walker succeeded in getting David Johnson, 49, of Macclenny to spit out a baggie of marijuana after a vehicle stop on North 6th in Macclenny about 3:25 am on Thanksgiving morning.

The officer said Mr. Johnson was a passenger in a vehicle he stopped for having a faulty tail light. He noticed the suspect had a bulge in his right cheek. He was arrested for misdemeanor possession, resisting police and attempted destruction of evidence.

- Adrian Rogers, 26, of Macclenny was jailed on a misdemeanor possession count after Deputy Robert

Simpkins found a partially chewed marijuana cigarette in his mouth, and a small baggie of the drug in his pants.

The officer questioned Mr. Rogers and a 15-year-old male juvenile after they split off from a larger group of pedestrians and entered the Macclenny City Park after hours on November 25.

Deputies routinely patrol that area off 8th St. at night because of drug-related activity at the north city park. Mr. Rogers was on pre-trial release for felony fleeing, and has an extensive criminal record for property crimes.

- Deloris Brewer, 40, of Sanderson was arrested the afternoon of November 26 for driving under the influence of drugs following a reckless driving report from an eastbound motorist on Interstate 10.

Deputy Jeremiah Combs questioned the suspect at Murphy Oil about 4:45 after her 2008 Ford matched a description given to police, and noted she had slurred speech and was unsteady on her feet.

Ms. Brewer said she was returning from a St. Augustine pain clinic and an array of seven prescribed drugs were found in her possession. She admitted to taking three of the muscle relaxers and anti-anxiety drugs that day, and said she was given injections earlier at the clinic.

- Deputy Trey McCullough arrested Preston Burns, 22, of Glen St. Mary in downtown Sanderson late on November 25 after learning he was wanted in Bradford County for sale and possession of marijuana.

The officer said he questioned the suspect about 11 pm after spotting him in the parking lot of Cuz's One-Stop and mistaking him for another man currently wanted by police.

- In another warrant-related arrest, Deputy Michael Clark took Nelson Ruise, 47, of Glen into custody at the Tri-County Probation office in Macclenny the morning of November 25. He was wanted on a Baker County warrant for violating probation for domestic battery and drug possession.

# Employee, friend accused of thefts from beauty salon

An employee of a beauty salon situated in the Macclenny Walmart and an accomplice were arrested on November 30 and charged with conspiring to steal inventory and sell it on an Internet site.

The employee, Troy Burnsed, 35, of Glen St. Mary is also charged with selling two flat irons posted on Baker County Virtual Yard Sale to an unsuspecting Macclenny woman the same day. Also charged with grand theft and dealing in stolen property is Jeffrey Hall, 33, who has the same address as his co-defendant.

Deputy Johnny Hodges said he was contacted by Tarrin Nelson of Crescent City, a district manager of the salon company, after she was tipped off by an employee who recognized both salon products and the background of a rear storage room on photographs posted on Mr. Hall's Facebook page.

Ms. Nelson told the deputy she was aware that Mr. Hall was acquainted with Mr. Burnsed, who the deputy then interviewed at county jail. Mr. Burnsed admitted he allowed his friend access to the rear room where the photos were taken, and they

placed merchandise in bags before leaving the salon.

Mr. Hall was located and brought in for questioning, and he admitted involvement but denied knowing the beauty items valued at \$277 and irons valued at \$117 each were stolen. He claimed that Mr. Burnsed said they were "expired" and when the latter sold the irons to the buyer he arranged to meet at the Macclenny Exxon, he told her he had purchased them at an employee discount.

Deputy Hodges learned that Mr. Burnsed is wanted in Galveston, Texas for illegal use of credit cards. He is also on Florida's sex offender list, and the website indicates he was convicted in 1995 for sexual battery on a child in Duval County. He was also prosecuted in Polk County in 2002 for failure to notify authorities of his whereabouts.

In another Walmart-related incident, a county deputy chased suspected shoplifters from Macclenny into west Jacksonville in the pre-dawn hours of November 29 after they likely stole electronics from the store.

The suspects, a black female and at least two black males, were seen leaving the store about 5:30 am with merchandise inside a grey storage bin. They exited the south entrance and drove off in a Cadillac Escalade and onto eastbound Interstate 10.

Deputy Robert Simpkins said he caught up with the SUV as it left Baker County and chased it at speeds just over 100 mph. The Cadillac swerved in and out of lanes of traffic and nearly crashed at the Lane Ave. exit be-

fore veering off southbound on Cassat Ave. The officer said he last saw it turning into a residential neighborhood.

Deputy Simpkins broke off the chase when neither the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office nor Florida Highway Patrol responded to advisories.

Police were relying on a surveillance video to estimate the value of merchandise taken.

- Deshaun Scaife, 19, of Macclenny was arrested at Walmart the afternoon of November 29 for attempting to leave the store with a \$7.50 pair of men's socks.

A store employee told Deputy Jeremiah Johnson he observed Mr. Scaife conceal the socks in his pants, then transfer them to the purse of a 17-year-old female accomplice. A criminal complaint for petty theft was filed against her.

- A 23-year-old Macclenny woman notified the sheriff's department on November 30 that her Vystar Credit Union account had a fraudulent charge of \$643 for a wireless purchase.

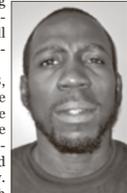
- A sheriff's investigator will look into the source of two bogus Winn-Dixie payroll checks cashed at the Raceway station on Woodlawn Rd. back in September. They totaled nearly \$850 and were reported on November 26.

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# Batters pregnant girlfriend

The sheriff's department arrested a Sanderson man for the repeated beating of his pregnant girlfriend while keeping her confined to her residence against her will the evening of November 28.



Tavaris Donaldson

Taylor Martin allegedly shoved Sgt. Ben Anderson in the chest and was also charged with misdemeanor domestic battery on Jodie Delp of St. George, GA, her 24-year-old aunt, during an argument with her grandmother Josephine Martin.

Deputy Daryl Mobley said the initial argument took place at the grandmother's residence on Lauramore Rd. north of Macclenny when young Martin was brought there after spending the night in jail for a burglary. The relatives then returned with her to the sheriff's office because she was uncontrollable.

- Deputy Tony Norman filed criminal complaints for misdemeanor battery against Kathleen Butler, 26, and Brandi Harrison, 31, following a incident at a residence on Pine Top Rd. near Glen St. Mary late on November 29.

- Ms. Harrison accused Ms. Butler of tossing bleach water on her, and the latter claimed the former doused her with a soft drink.

- Complaints for battery were filed against male patients at Northeast Florida State Hospital, ages 32 and 24, after they gave Deputy Johnny Hodges conflicting versions of events surrounding a fight in the shower the evening of November 30.

Thanksgiving weekend, a juvenile female was jailed for battery on a deputy sheriff attempting to keep her inside a vehicle in the parking lot of county jail the evening of November 29.

Taylor Martin allegedly shoved Sgt. Ben Anderson in the chest and was also charged with misdemeanor domestic battery on Jodie Delp of St. George, GA, her 24-year-old aunt, during an argument with her grandmother Josephine Martin.

Deputy Daryl Mobley said the initial argument took place at the grandmother's residence on Lauramore Rd. north of Macclenny when young Martin was brought there after spending the night in

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FREE Dental Services for Baker County residents On Saturday, December 14 Dr. Derrick Carter and the staff of Macclenny Family Dental Clinic will provide a day of free dental care to Baker County residents ages 18 & older. Most Americans enjoy a good meal or two during the holidays. But staying well-nourished, let alone enjoying food, are challenges for people suffering from untreated dental disease. Untreated dental problems can cause pain, illness and even lead to infections that can be life threatening. There are well-documented links between poor oral health and other chronic diseases, such as diabetes, heart and lung disease, and stroke. For poor adults, obtaining dental care has been an enduring problem. In tough economic times, dental care can be delayed because of cost. 18% of Floridians are uninsured and an even higher percentage are not covered by a dental plan, in addition to 18% of Baker County residents who fall under the poverty category. "Lack of resources to pay for dental services, either through dental insurance or out-of-pocket, is a major barrier to oral health care for many low-income Americans in need of dental care."

## Auction, brunch at BCHS Dec. 7

The annual Marilyn Harrell Art Auction and Brunch will be held at Baker County High School on Saturday, December 7 starting at 10:30 am in the school auditorium.

The event named after the now retired longtime BCHS art teacher features great food and work from local and student artists. Gift certificates, crafts and various mediums will be on display. Tickets are \$7.00.

A portion of the proceeds go to the medical fund for Sara Beth Summers, a BCHS teacher recovering from an auto accident.

## Lodge election

Dawkins Masonic Lodge #60 in Macclenny will elect officers the evening of Tuesday, December 10 at the lodge building on US 90 west of the county courthouse.

A dinner will be held at 6:30 pm and the meeting starts an hour later.

All members of the lodge are urged to keep their Masonic obligation in mind. Everyone should participate.

BAKER BEVERAGE 259-8184 MON. - THURS. 7 AM - 9 PM FRI. & SAT. 7 AM - MIDNIGHT 207 W. MACCLENNY AVE. Crown Royal \$19.99 750ml. \$38.99 1.75L. Captain Morgan Spiced Rum \$10.99 750ml. \$21.99 1.75L. Smirnoff \$10.99 750ml. \$17.99 1.75L. Ciroc 750ml. \$24.99 Jack Daniels \$18.99 750ml. \$36.99 1.75L. Jose \$15.99 750ml. \$32.99 1.75L. EVAN WILLIAMS EGGNOG \$6.99 750ml. JIM BEAM 750ml. Plastic \$10.99 or 2/\$20.00 WE HAVE A HUGE SELECTION OF WINES! Come find the perfect match for your meal! Bacardi Cognition \$10.99 750ml. \$19.99 1.75L. Camus Cognac 750ml. \$19.99 Jim Beam \$13.99 500ml. \$22.99 1.75L. Absolut \$19.99 750ml. \$29.99 1.75L. Patron \$25.99 375ml. \$37.99 750ml. Svedka 1.75L. \$19.99 PoPov Vodka 1.75L. \$12.99 Gilbeys Vodka 750ml. \$7.99



# OBITUARIES

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**10**  
DECEMBER 5, 2013

**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)

**Jessie Childs, 77, dies on November 28th**

Jessie M. Childs, 77, of Macclenny died on Thursday, November 28, 2013. Born in Willacochee, Georgia to the late Alton and Elva Moore, Mrs. Childs was a forty-year resident of Macclenny. She was a homemaker who enjoyed baking, sewing and crocheting. She loved spending time with her family and friends. She is survived by daughters Charlotte (Richard) Mobarak of New Mexico, Susan (George) Nowlen of Macclenny and Barbara Knight of Glen St. Mary; brothers Clarence Moore of Willacochee and Roy Moore; eleven grandchildren and twenty-five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Billy L. Childs, daughter Patty Allen, great-granddaughter Madisyn Nowlen, brother Ronald Moore and sister Barbara Ann Bell. A graveside service was held at 11 am on Monday, December 2, 2013 at the Willachoochee City Cemetery with Reverend Jan Connors officiating. Forbes Funeral Home of Macclenny was in charge of arrangements.

**Lovey Clardy, 79, a former store owner**

Lovey Audrey Clardy, 79, of Sanderson died on Friday, November 29 at St. Vincent's Medical Center in Jacksonville. She was born in Lake City and resided in Jacksonville for over 30 years before moving to Sanderson in 1986. She worked as a waitress, a fruit service worker with East Coast Fruit Co. in Jacksonville and was the former owner of Clardy's Country Store in Taylor for over nine years until her retirement in 1997.

Mrs. Clardy was a Christian and certified food service worker with the State of Florida who enjoyed fishing with her grandchildren and friends and also sewing and embroidery. She was preceded in death by her parents Broward and Lillie Mae Wood Crawford and son Leon Joseph Clardy.

Survivors include her children Calvin (Rosemarie) Clardy of Candler, NC, Terry (Paula) Clardy of Macclenny, Grover Clardy of Glen St. Mary, Gale (James) Lamb and Lillie Mae (Charles) Delight Austin of Jacksonville, Florence (David) Wade of Hoschtown, GA and Pansy (Mark) Rutter of Powhatan, VA; sisters Pauline Crawford of Sanderson and Susie Bell Harrington of Jacksonville; brother Broward Crawford Jr. of LA; 20 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; numerous nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was held at 2 pm Tuesday, December 3, in the chapel of Guerry Funeral Home in Macclenny with Rev. David Leon Wade officiating, assisted by Elder David Crawford. Interment followed at North Prong Cemetery.

**'JB' Conner, 76, brother of local woman**

Joel Benjamin "JB" Conner Sr., 76, of Hilliard died on November 20, 2013. He was born on October 23, 1936 in Hilliard to Fred and Marie Conner, and proudly served his country in the US Army. Mr. Conner retired from the Charlton County Road Department, and was a member of the New Life Baptist Church in St. George, a member of the Callahan Chapter Masonic Lodge 32nd Degree, an avid farmer and a loyal friend to all.

He is survived by daughter Joan Conner Batten; son Joel B. "Buddy" (Jeannie) Conner, grandson Brandon Conner, granddaughter Kristie Conner, all of Hilliard; sister Lona Fish of Glen St. Mary. He was preceded in death by his wife Bobbi Knight Conner, his parents and brother Donald Conner.

The funeral service was held November 23 at 2 pm at the New Life Baptist Church in St. George, GA with pastors James Conner and Richard Fish officiating. Interment followed at Emmus Cemetery in St. George.

Nassau Funeral Home in Callahan was in charge of arrangements.

**Funeral is set on Friday for Mr. Featherston**

Daniel "Danny" Keith Featherston, 53, of Macclenny died on December 2, 2013 at his residence with family by his side. He was born in Columbus, Ohio on June 15, 1960 to Patricia J. Nunn Morris and the late Frank Daniel Featherston, Jr. He was a resident of Baker County for the past 13 years, attended the Living Church of God and retired from Winn-Dixie Distribution Center in 2009 after 10 years of dedicated service as a mechanic. Danny enjoyed traveling to the mountains, camping, being outdoors, hunting, fishing and tending to his plants and yard work. Most of all he enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandsons.

He is survived by his loving wife of 19 years, Donna Perry Featherston of Macclenny; his mother of Montgomery, AL; children Lloyd W. Young, Kendra D. Young and Wesley R. Young, all of Macclenny; brothers Mark Featherston, Matthew (Kelly) Featherston, Steven (Christine) Featherston, David Wilder and Jason Morris; sister Rachel M. (Valdimir) Pimenozs; grandsons Phoenix Carter and Ethen Young.

The funeral service will be held on Friday, December 6 at 1:30 pm at V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services chapel with Pastor Joe Brown officiating. Interment will follow at Macedonia Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Thursday, December 5 from 5 - 7 pm at the funeral home.

He is survived by daughter Joan Conner Batten; son Joel B. "Buddy" (Jeannie) Conner, grandson Brandon Conner, granddaughter Kristie Conner, all of Hilliard; sister Lona Fish of Glen St. Mary. He was preceded in death by his wife Bobbi Knight Conner, his parents and brother Donald Conner.

The funeral service was held November 23 at 2 pm at the New Life Baptist Church in St. George, GA with pastors James Conner and Richard Fish officiating. Interment followed at Emmus Cemetery in St. George.

Nassau Funeral Home in Callahan was in charge of arrangements.

**Funeral Saturday for James Green, 65**

James Herman Green, 65, of Olustee died on Saturday November 30, 2013 at his residence. He was born in Olustee, the son of Sam Green Sr. and Mariah Ross Green, and attended the public schools of Baker and Columbia County. Mr. Green was an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Air Force.

Survivors include son James Green Jr. and daughter Terna Smith; sisters Mary Gyden, Bibian Nealy and Sandra Jefferson; brothers Sam Green Jr. and Joseph Green; seven grandchildren; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for Mr. Green will be at 11 am on Saturday, December 7 at New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church with Rev. Alvin J. Baker officiating. Interment will follow in the Olustee Memorial Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Friday, December 6 at Cooper Funeral Home chapel in Lake City from 6-7 pm.

**Linda Mobley, 66, dies November 26th**

Linda B. Mobley, 66, of Baldwin died on Tuesday, November 26, 2013. She is survived by daughter Sherry D. Crowder; brother John Barber; sisters Sally Crews, Dorothy Barton and Peggy Rau; grandchildren Christa Barber, Caitlyn Crowder and Colton Crowder; numerous nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was held at 10 am on Saturday, November 30 at Grace Baptist Church in Baldwin with Pastor Dewayne Jowers officiating. Interment followed at Brandy Branch Cemetery. Giddens-Redd Funeral Home of Baldwin was in charge of arrangements.

**Dedication set for Glen church**

A ceremony is planned for the afternoon of December 8 to dedicate St. Peter's in the Glen Anglican Church south of Glen St. Mary on property adjacent to the Glen St. Mary Nurseries. Bishop Neil Lebar of the Gulf-Atlantic Diocese of the Anglican Church of North America will be on hand for the

ceremony. The ceremony is planned for the afternoon of December 8 to dedicate St. Peter's in the Glen Anglican Church south of Glen St. Mary on property adjacent to the Glen St. Mary Nurseries. Bishop Neil Lebar of the Gulf-Atlantic Diocese of the Anglican Church of North America will be on hand for the

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Pastor Allen Crews  
Assistant Pastor Timothy Allford

**Sanderson Congregational Holiness Church**  
CR 127 N., Sanderson, FL

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Pastor: Oral E. Lyons

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Evening Services 5:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

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Monuments | Final Expense Insurance

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"A Place To Belong"  
Independent Pentecostal Church

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Wednesday, December 4th  
-6:30 Family Dinner  
-7:00 Adult Worship Services  
-7:00 Youth Worship Services

Sunday, December 8th  
-10:00 Sunday School For All Ages  
-11:00 Morning Worship Service  
-11:00 Children's Church  
-6:00 Evening Worship

Sunday School: 10:00 AM  
Sunday Worship Services: 11:00 AM & 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Evening Worship: 7:00 PM

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.CHRISTIANFELLOWSHIPTEMPLE.COM](http://WWW.CHRISTIANFELLOWSHIPTEMPLE.COM)

**Funeral Saturday for Angel Rodriguez**

Angel H. Rodriguez, 33, of Macclenny died on Saturday, November 30, 2013. Mr. Rodriguez was a supervisor at the Northeast Florida State Hospital who enjoyed sports of all kinds, especially football, along with photography and classic cars. He also enjoyed music and video games. He loved spending time with his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife Joell Rodriguez of Macclenny; son Micah; father Angel D. Rodriguez of Puerto Rico; sister Ashleymar (Gary) Rodriguez-Kennedy of Macclenny; father-in-law Greg (Pat) Salter of Glen St. Mary; mother-in-law Mercy (Lou) Carver of Jacksonville; sisters-in-law Jessica (Chris) Epps and Ashley (Matt) Smith of Navarre, Ann (Stephen) Hellewege of Winter Park, Kristen Greer and Bethany Greer, both of Glen St. Mary; four nephews, one niece and numerous other family members. He was preceded in death by his mother: Margarita Rodriguez Ruiz.

A celebration of his life will be held at 11 am on Saturday, December 7, 2013 in the Forbes Funeral Home chapel in Macclenny. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

**Funeral held Saturday for Jessie Williams**

Jessie James Williams, 77, of Macclenny died Thursday, November 28, 2013 at V. Frank Wells Nursing Home with family by his side. He was born in Macclenny on March 31, 1936 to the late Roland Williams and Estelle Stokes Williams. He was a lifelong resident of Baker County and attended the Road to Calvary Church for many years.

Jessie enjoyed his career at Timuquana Country Club in Jacksonville where he worked in the maintenance department. He also enjoyed playing Bingo. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife of many years, Reggie Williams; and brothers Johnny Williams, Ralph Self, Branson Self and O.T. Williams.

Mr. Williams is survived by his brother George (Cathy) Williams of Glen St. Mary; sisters Velma Gatlin and Shirley (Dan) Paige, both of Macclenny; his step-granddaughter Danenna Young; numerous nieces and nephews.

The funeral service for Mr. Williams was held on Saturday November 30 at 2 pm at V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services chapel with Pastor Tommy Anderson officiating. Interment followed at South Prong Cemetery.

**Dale Young, 60, a former resident, dies November 25**

Dale Edward Young, 60, of Cordele, GA died on Monday, November 25, 2013 at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in Albany. He was a native of Macclenny, the son of Rosa Lee Starling and L. J. Young. He was the owner of Badcock Furniture in Cordele for many years, and was both an avid fisherman and Gator fan. He attended Penia Baptist Church.

Mr. Young is survived by his wife Sheila N. Young of Cordele; mother and step-father Rosa Lee and Arthur G. Belleville of Macclenny; his father L.J. (Faye) Young of Jacksonville; children Bailey Mills and Sarah Mills, both of Salem, AL, Jessica (Chad) Young, Lige Gordon and Josh Taylor, all of Cordele; brothers Mark (Denise) Young, Ricky (Barbara) Belleville and Robbie and Hope Starling, all of Macclenny; sister Lori (Doug) Jones of Macclenny; grandchildren Hannah Taylor and Summer Taylor of Cordele.

The funeral service was held at 10 am on November 30 at his church with Rev. Ray Burnette officiating. Burial was at Oak Grove Cemetery in Macclenny at 4 pm. The family suggests that memorials may be made to Penia Baptist Church - Building Fund, 3738 Old Penia Road, Cordele, GA 31015. Arrangements were by Rainey Family Funeral Services.

When you see a pink and purple sky, think of me and do not cry. I am in Heaven above, shining down on you with goodness and love. You may think I'm gone but do not weep, for I am with you; I do not sleep. I watch over you day and night. You are never out of my sight. Do not regret for I'm not mad. Only love here now, no more sad ... LCR. Lauren, we miss your beautiful smile every day.

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Happy 24th Birthday Kyle

I am sending a dove to Heaven with a parcel on its wings. Be careful when you open it, it's full of beautiful things. Inside are a million kisses wrapped up in a million hugs, to say how much I miss you and send you all my love. I hold you close within my heart and there you will remain. To walk with me throughout my life, until we meet again.

FOREVER LOVED, ALWAYS MISSED  
YOUR FAMILY

# Thanksgiving essay winners

The winners of *The Press'* 2013 Thanksgiving essay contest are Cadee Crawford, Apryl Harvey and Pam Bagley. They \$50 prizes were distributed this week.

Ms. Crawford, 12 and a seventh grader at Baker County Middle, lives in Macclenny and enjoys drawing. She plays the flute in the BCMS band and is learning to play percussion.

The youth said she plans to use the prize money for a new computer keyboard.

Also of Macclenny is Ms. Harvey, 16. She likes to read Nicholas Sparks novels or "anything that's cheap on Amazon for my Kindle." She's worked at Zaxby's in Macclenny for almost a year.

When asked about her plans for the prize money, Ms. Harvey said she'll likely put it in savings.

Ms. Bagley, who also won the adult division of the newspaper's Halloween poetry contest last, is an English teacher at the high school.

The winner's essays all answered the same question, "What are you thankful for this year?"

What follows are the each of winning entries with the author's name and age division:

**Pam Bagley, 19 years old and up**

At this time of year, we traditionally list those things for which we are thankful: sufficient food, shelter, relationships, health. The catalog goes on and on and often shames me when I am reminded of how much I have been given. This year, however, as I consider the current state of many in our county, our country, and our world, I find that I am most thankful for the things I don't have; the troubles from which I have been spared.

I am thankful that I don't dread getting up for work each morning; I love my job. I've been in the education field for over thirty years; however, I began practicing for my career much earlier. As young as age five I assumed the role of teacher to my four younger cousins in our pre-tend "school". Now, even on those rare days when I think that perhaps I've taught long enough, I can think of no other career that would bring me as much joy as teaching does. In this holiday season when many capable, hard-working citizens are unable to find a position for which they have prepared or sometimes any position at all, I am thankful that I am engaged in work that challenges and inspires me.

This holiday I don't have to be dependent on others to prepare and serve the Thanksgiving meal. I was not always so fortunate. Due to unexpected complications of an illness several years ago, I couldn't lift a can of cranberry sauce, certainly not a turkey. I could barely wheel myself to the table; there was no way I could carry serving dishes. I was fortunate, however, to be surrounded by loving friends and family members who took over my accustomed role. This year, I am thankful that I am once again healthy and able to resume my Thanksgiving hostess duties. I pray that those who are in ill health will soon recover and that, in the meantime, they, too, will be encircled by caring, compassionate friends.

This Thanksgiving I needn't mourn loved ones who, for the first time this year, won't be at the table. This hasn't always been the case. Several years ago, I lost my devoted husband of thirty-six years, a beloved teen-aged niece, and a favorite brother-in-law. No matter where I visited that year, there was a sense of loss that dampened the

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Essay contest winners (l-r) Apryl Harvey, Cadee Crawford and Pam Bagley.

joy of the holiday. Over time, the sorrow has been tempered with loving memories of our holidays together. This Thanksgiving I am thankful that I don't have to force myself to celebrate, though I commiserate with those who do.

Many families have a Thanksgiving tradition of circling the table—each member naming something for which they are thankful. No matter our current circumstances, we have all been blessed in some way. This year, however, perhaps we should remember to be thankful not only for that which we have received, but for those difficulties that have not befallen us.

**Apryl Harvey, 16 to 18 years old**

This time of year is a favorite of many. It's easy to be mesmerized by twinkling lights, the aroma of home cooked meals, and huge savings on your Christmas shopping. Unfortunately that makes it all so much easier to forget what this time of year is truly about. Have you given thanks this November for the little things we all often take for granted? Thanksgiving is supposed to be a time for families to come together as a whole, forget all the trivial arguments of that year and spend time with one another. My Thanksgiving this year won't consist of that though, because what I'm most thankful for this year is my brother, Austyn, who's away on military duty.

When my brother arrived home from school his junior year with the decision to join the Army after speaking with a recruiter I was immediately devastated. The thought of the male figure in my household suddenly not being there to protect me anymore tore me apart. I knew however that I had to be strong so I slowly accepted the idea of my brother being gone fifty of the fifty-two weeks of the year. The feelings of fear I had slowly became replaced with pride and admiration. My brother is a medic, a lifesaver, a valiant server in the U.S. Army, but first and foremost he is my brother and I'm thankful to have a daring young hero such as himself in my life.

Of course, for those of you who aren't aware, military men and woman can be stationed all over the globe. I'm aware others have it worse than me with family in places like Japan, Korea, Iraq and Germany. But having one of your closest relatives live virtually as far away as possible while still being in the United States is still quite the hassle. My family and I live in Florida, while Austyn is stationed in Ft. Lewis, Washington. I couldn't wish my brother a happy birthday at midnight due to the time difference. I can't call him when I need him because of guard duty. Being

**Cadee Crawford, 13 years old and under**

"Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough." — Oprah Winfrey.

Being thankful is not something we think about only at Thanksgiving, or at least it shouldn't be. Everyone has someone or something that they are thankful for. For some people it may be clean water and food for others it may be toys and

electronics, but for me I am thankful for my teachers, friends, the holidays, choices, art, dreams, freedom, memories and creativity.

I am thankful for my six teachers: Mrs. Gregory, Ms. Hodges, Ms. Carington, Mr. Davis, Mrs. Davidson and Mrs. Callahan. They try their hardest to teach and prepare not only me, but also all of the other students for the FCAT, the future and whichever career they decide to pursue.

I am thankful for my friends because they are always there for me through the ups and the downs. There is no way I could survive without them.

I am thankful for the holidays because there is no school on these days and I get to spend time with family members that I don't get to see often. My favorite part of the holidays is getting to sleep in late instead of going to school.

I am thankful for choices because instead of being told to do something and having to do it, you have a choice. You will have choices every day, you can choose the right choice or the wrong choice, it is up to you.

I am thankful for art because art is everything. It is all around you every day. When you watch a movie you are watching a piece of art. When you look at the cover of a book you are also looking at art. Most people think that art can only be a painting or a sculpture, when really art can be found around you everywhere.

I am thankful for dreams because dreams are like endless fields of happiness and greatness with no limit. Dreams are your deepest desire, your creativity going wild, and your deepest wishes. One of the most well known dreams is Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech which sets forth his dream of a country where all Americans are truly equal and free. Today his dream is one of the many that have come true.

I am thankful for freedom because freedom is many things, such as the freedom to petition the government, or make requests, freedom of religion and freedom of the press. Freedom means that we can choose our own religion and we can petition or make requests of the government. We can also do more things because of our freedom.

I am thankful for memories because memories leave impressions on your heart and in your soul that form who you are and who you will become.

I am thankful for creativity because creativity is everything all around us every day like a light bulb, electronics, cars, paintings and more. These are examples of creativity because it took creative minds to create all of these things.

In conclusion, these are some of the many things I am thankful for this year.

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-The Baker County Press

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Road. CHA, lawn service included. Serv-
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12/5p

4 BR, 3 BA doublewide on 3/4 acre in Mac-
clenny II. Has own well and septic. For sale
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3 BR, 2 BA mobile home on 1 acre. 5558
Scrub Oak Lane, Turkey Creek I. Living
room, den, back porch. \$750/month, 1st
and last rent, \$600 deposit. 259-3519 or
904-635-6590. 12/5p

2 BR, 1 BA in downtown Macclenny.
\$650/month plus security deposit. Move
in by 12/15/13 and receive 50% off for
December. Call 904-566-1923. 12/5-12p

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Boulevard. \$625/month plus \$625 deposit.
904-874-3361. 12/5p

2 BR, 1 BA mobile home on Pine Oaks
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Street, Sanderson. \$650/month plus \$650
deposit. Call 904-813-1580 or 259-2255.
11/21tfc

3 BR, 1 BA house in Macclenny, close to
everything. \$850/month plus 1st, last and
deposit. 904-238-1908. 11/21-12/5p

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vice animals only. \$850/month plus \$900
deposit. 904-275-2212. 12/5p

2 BR, 1 BA house \$500/month; 3 BR, 2
BA \$650/month. Call for details. 912-843-
2093. 11/28-12/5p

2 BR, 2 BA, \$650/month plus \$500 de-
posit. Extra clean; front porch. Service ani-
mals only; references required. 259-2121.
10/31tfc

2 BR, 1 BA in city. \$600/month plus \$300
deposit. 259-2787. 10/31tfc

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W/D. \$675/month plus \$675 deposit. 904-
591-2790 or 259-3300. 10/17tfc

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month plus 1st, last and \$500 deposit.
259-7335. 10/24tfc

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last and \$300 deposit. 259-7335. 9/5tfc

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7335. 9/5tfc

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11/14-12/5p

Young mom, wife battling cancer

BY AMANDA WILLIAMSON
awilliamson@lakecityreporter.com

For Amber Hyde's three-year-
old son, her absence means his
mother is away at the doctor's
house getting her boo-boos fixed.

But to Hyde, it means weeks
of living at UF Health in Gaines-
ville to undergo chemotherapy,
a stem-cell transplant and an
experimental drug treatment to
fight off Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"I'm thankful to be in remis-
sion," she said. "If my story can
give someone else the strength to
fight, then I've done enough."

The 25-year-old Macclenny
resident discovered a lump in her
neck one afternoon in early 2012
while stopped at a red light. Suffer-
ing through a bad cough, Hyde
cracked her neck and found the
lump. She thought she had pulled
a muscle, but her family physi-
cian knew she needed to have it
checked out.

After a chest x-ray and CT
scan, Hyde was referred to an on-
cologist in Jacksonville. Her first
biopsy, taken from her right arm,
returned negative. But a biopsy
on her neck lymphnode in Febru-
ary 2012 revealed she had stage
II Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"Oh my gosh, I cried," Hyde
said. "I used to be an American
Sign Language interpreter for the
Columbia County School System,
but now I stay at home and fight



Amber Hyde, above, a 25-year-old mother and wife, was
diagnosed with cancer, Hodgkin's lymphoma, last year
and is now in remission.

consists of four different drugs
— Adriamycin, Bleomycin, Vin-
blastine and Dacarbazine.

Before she even finished treat-
ment, Hyde entered remission
for the first time in July 2012.
However, when she returned in
March 2013 for her yearly check-
up, doctors found a recurrence of
the cancer in her neck, the origi-
nal location. A biopsy showed
her Hodgkin's lymphoma had
returned.

Four treatments of ICE (ifos-
famide, carboplatin and etopo-
side) did not help at all.

"I made the decision to come
to Shands on my own," Hyde
said. "What they were doing in
Jacksonville just wasn't work-
ing."

When arriving at UF Health in
Gainesville, her new oncologist
decided to prescribe her a rela-
tively new drug on the market for
fighting Hodgkin's lymphoma,
ADCETRIS (brentuximab). Ap-
proved in 2011, ADCETRIS is the
first drug of its kind. It works by
using an antibody as a homing
signal to bring the chemothera-
py drug to the lymphoma cells,
where the drug enters the cell
and causes them to die when they
try to divide.

Her first thought, Hyde said,
when she found out about the
cancer was for her husband,
Gregory, and her child, Grant.
But Gregory Hyde was just glad
Amber Hyde caught the cancer
so quickly.

"Every day, I thank God for
what everyone is doing," Gregory
Hyde added, "all the doctors, all
the nurses and especially all the
prayers."

At the time of the diagnosis,
Gregory and Amber Hyde had
only been married for a couple

years. They cele-
brated their fourth
anniversary on
Nov. 14.

"We had an
19-month-old
baby. That's
hard," she added.

"We were going
through the same
things that peo-
ple who had been
married for years
and years were....
I get emotional
now. But I got my
port in and we got
through it."

Soon Hyde
was undergoing
ABVD chemother-
apy treatment, a
first-line attack
on Hodgkin's
lymphoma that

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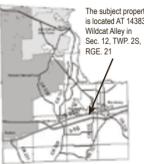
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ing."

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the proposed ordinances, whose title here-
inafter appears, will be presented in a public hearing to the Baker
County Land Planning Agency for review on Thursday, December 19,
2013 at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as possible, at the Baker County
Administration Building, 55 North Third Street, Macclenny, Florida.
Copies of said ordinances may be inspected by any member of the
public in the Commissioner's office address stated above. On the
above mentioned date, all interested parties may appear and be heard
with respect to the proposed ordinances which are titled as follows:



ORDINANCE 2013-
AN ORDINANCE BY THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BAK-
ER COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING
ORDINANCE NO. 91-1, AS AMENDED,
REGARDING THE FUTURE LAND USE
MAP OF THE ADOPTED COMPREHEN-
SIVE PLAN, WITH RESPECT TO ONE
PARCEL OF LAND, BEING APPROX-
IMATELY 10 ACRES IN SIZE, RELATING
TO SMALL SCALE DEVELOPMENT
AMENDMENT PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED IN SECTIONS
163.3161 THROUGH 163.3215, FLORIDA STATUTES, PURSUANT
TO AN APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY GLEN PROPERTY LLC ;
PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE IN LAND USE CLASSIFICATION
FROM AGRICULTURAL B LAND USE TO RESIDENTIAL MEDI-
UM DENSITY; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INSTRUCTIONS TO
THE CODIFIER AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE 2014-
AN ORDINANCE BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION-
ERS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA, REZONING 10 ACRES OF
REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY GLEN PROPRITY LLC FROM AG
7.5 TO RESIDENTIAL CONVENTIONAL 1/2 UNIT PER ACRE;
PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CODI-
FIER, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Persons interested in commenting on the proposed changes may ap-
pear and shall be given an opportunity to speak at the public hear-

# SPORTS



Page  
**14**  
DECEMBER 5, 2013

**SPORTS NOTICE SUBMISSIONS**

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

**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)



The Wildcat's Hayden Gaines (left) during the home match against Jackson November 26.

## Wrestlers split after opener

After dropping their first meet of the season, the BCHS Wildcat wrestling team went 1-1 in their next two meets against Bradford County and Jackson High to move their record to 1-2 on the season.

The Cats could not avenge their season-opening loss when they once again fell to Bradford 47-38 away on November 21. The team had five wrestlers win by pin, and a sixth get a victory by disqualification.

Brandon Harvey won by pin in the 132-pound weight class, and Logan Kish did the same in the 136-pound weight division. In the 145-pound weight division, Johnny Ruise secured a victory via pin. Sean Mulkey and James Carter both won by pin in the 182 and 220-pound weight classes, respectively.

Collyn Green won his 285-pound match by disqualification.

Coach Adam Brunner said the lower weight classes have struggled early in the season, but they are benefitting from getting much-needed live action. Although the Cats lost the overall meet, the coach said he is encouraged by everything he's seen from the wrestlers.

"The kids are still developing,"



The Wildcat's Tyler Brantley (left) grapples with his opponent from Jackson.

Coach Brunner said, "We're getting them coached up on technique. Overall, I still see a promising year."

Mulkey won his match by disqualification in the 182-pound division.

Robbie Martin gave up some size when he moved up from the 120-pound class to wrestle at 126 during the meet. Despite being smaller than his opponent, he fought hard and gave his opponent a tough match. The size difference eventually caught up to Martin, who was pinned with one second remaining in the second round.

285-pound weight class all won their matches in the first round by pin.

Mulkey won his match by disqualification in the 182-pound division.

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## Auburn's 'Flutie' moment

There are always plays that stand out as defining moments in college football. Doug Flutie's toss against Miami for Boston College. Wide right. Wide left. Fumble-rooski. Tim Tebow's basketball pass into the end zone. The Cal/Stanford lateral game.

But, it will be a long, long time before something comes along that tops the final play of Saturday's Iron Bowl between Alabama and Auburn. Alabama tries a long field goal as time expires to try to win the game instead of going to overtime. The ball goes wide right and Auburn return specialist Chris Davis takes the ball nine yards deep in the end zone.

Instead of spreading out on return coverage, Alabama players watched the ball and shook their heads, mentally getting ready for overtime. After all, the game was over, right?

For everyone but Chris Davis. He rocketed out of the end zone, picked up blockers as he went and tipped along the sideline until he was out in the open. No flags — only slack-jawed Alabama players disbelief what had just happened.

Now Auburn will face Missouri in the SEC championship with the Sugar Bowl on the outcome.

Who'd have thought that at the beginning of the season?

Duke will face FSU in the ACC title. Duke. Who'd have thought that?

It's interesting that the BCHS Wildcats have two players in the hunt for a title. Thomas Sirk at Duke and Darwin Ruise at Mizzou hope to pick up a ring. In their way, the #1 team in the country and a team of destiny.

Heck of a weekend. FSU is #1 again. My Baylor Bears won and stick at #9.

The Gators put up a heck of a fight, showing what their defense could have been for a half. But injuries and lack of an offense took their toll. Will Muschamp stays as head coach, but his offensive guys are gone.

I don't know how I feel about Muschamp, but I know how I feel about the Gator offense — boring. For one of the consistently best recruiting teams in the nation to be this boring on offense is a crime.

The Jaguars remain on the winning track, winning three of their last four. They haven't looked good doing it, but a win is a win. We'll take it.



Charles Ruise Jr. sheds a defender on his way to the inside.

## Cats outgun Snyder 55-38



Charles Ruise Jr. rises for slam.

Coach Charles Ruise's BCHS Wildcat basketball team remained undefeated through its first three games of the season with a 55-38 road victory at Bishop Snyder on November 26.

After a slow start from both teams, the Cats blew the game open with a scoring spree in the second quarter. They out scored the Cardinals 22-9 in the quarter behind a barrage of three pointers to take a 31-14 halftime lead. Coach Ruise said an improved defensive effort in the second quarter allowed the offense to thrive.

"We just turned up the pressure," the head coach said. "For the most part, it was our defensive pressure that gave them a problem they couldn't recover from."

The Wildcats repeatedly trapped the Cardinals point guards, causing a number of turnovers.

Coach Ruise also credited the consistent play of the state's top Class 5A scorer in his son Charles Ruise Jr., who once again led the team with 23 points, including nine in the decisive second quarter. It was during that period he also scored on a high-flying dunk off an in-bounds pass play.

Brian Walton also hit double digits with 10 points, while Darius Fisher added eight.

The Wildcats will try to remain undefeated on December 3 when they travel to play West Nassau. Coach Ruise said guard play will be key against the Warriors, but he is confident heading into the game.

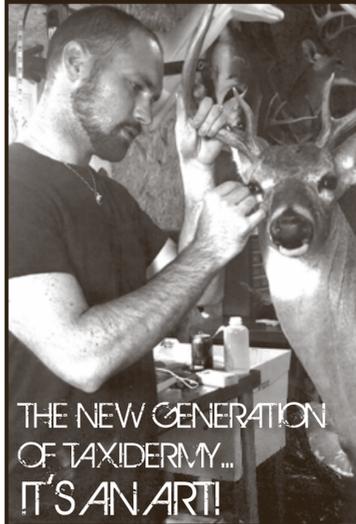
"We feel like we're more than prepared at the guard position," Coach Ruise said. "But they always have some pretty good talent over there that makes us play our best game."

The Cats will return home December 5 for a game against Suwannee County before hitting the road to play Lee two days later.

## DROPTINE TAXIDERMY

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Delicia Washington brings the ball up the court during Tuesday's contest with Paxon.

## Bradford, Paxon best Cats

**JON SHUMAKE**  
SPORTS EDITOR  
[jshu@live.com](mailto:jshu@live.com)

The BCHS Lady Wildcats lost two out of three after winning three straight to move their record to 4-3 overall early in the season.

The girls had their three-game winning streak snapped when they lost 60-43 at Bradford on November 25. Coach Chris Chisholm said the Tornadoes were bigger and faster than the Lady Cats and they played a tough game.

The team still played well offensively despite the loss. Haley Bussell led the team in scoring with 19 points, while Delicia Washington finished just behind her scoring 18.

The Lady Wildcats rebounded from the loss with a dominant 64-24 road victory over Interlachen on December 2. The entire team got to see playing time as the girls cruised to an easy 40-point win.

"It was a good game," Coach Chisholm said. "They fought hard and played really well."

Washington's 28 points helped the Lady Cats roll to the blowout victory. Bussell was second on the team with nine points, while the remainder of the girls scored four points or less.

The team couldn't capitalize on the momentum from the away victory when they hosted Paxon. The girls lost a lopsided contest 75-50.

The Golden Eagles jumped out to a quick 8-0 lead in the first two minutes. Turnovers and foul trouble crippled the Lady Cats throughout the game and kept the team from mounting much-needed runs to close the lead.

Paxon led by as much as 34 in the fourth quarter, but the Lady Cats were able to sink some shots late to make the final score more respectable.

Washington controlled the game offensively for the team as she led the scoring with 29 points. Bussell added 10 points, while Lindsey Love scored six. The Lady Wildcats will try to bounce back with another home game on December 6 against Episcopal. It starts at 6 pm.



## Gingerbread houses for troops overseas

Residents of Macclenny Nursing and Rehab busied themselves the afternoon of December 3 fashioning gingerbread houses to be shipped to troops stationed in Afghanistan this Christmas. In the photo above, Can Jessi Hayes (left) and occupational therapist Amy Phillips assist Elsie Webb with the assembly. Ms. Webb was among a dozen nursing home residents engaged in the activity.

## Free art classes

Free art classes for persons 18 and over will be offered at the Baker County Adult Education Center in Macclenny beginning in January.

The mediums include charcoal drawing, exploring color with pastels and acrylic, and the classes include live demonstrations and supplies.

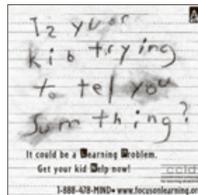
Classes will be from 2-5 pm on Wednesdays, 9 am-12:30 pm and 2-5 pm on Fridays starting January 22.

Also being offered at the center on West Minnesota:

- Acrylic painting for citizens 55 and older starting January 21 from 9 am-12:30 pm and again in the afternoon from 2-5 o'clock. Art supplies are included.
- Computer literacy for beginning and intermediate skills

aimed at persons 55 and older starts January 23 from 9 am-noon and 1-4 pm.

Space is limited in all of these classes and pre-registration is required starting on December 9. For more information, call 259-0403.



## DIABETES OR PROSTATE CANCER?

Your sex life and erection can now survive FREE book by doctor reveals what the drug companies don't want you to know!

Dr. Kevin Hamby, MD, will mail the first 37 men that respond to this ad a free copy of his new thirty dollar book "A Doctor's Guide to Erectile Dysfunction." He's so sure this book will change your life he will even pay the postage and handling. If the popular pills don't work for you, regardless of your age or medical history, you owe it to yourself and your lady to read this book now! Call Toll Free 800-777-1922 24-hrs. and leave your name and address (only).

## TOWN OF BALDWIN SECOND PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Town of Baldwin is applying to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for a grant under the Neighborhood Revitalization Category in the amount of \$650,000 in the FFY2013 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. For each activity that is proposed, at least 51% of the funds must benefit low and moderate-income persons. The activities, dollar amounts and estimated percentages benefit to low and moderate-income persons for which the town is applying are:

Activity No.	Activity Name	CDBG Funds	Estimated LMI Benefit
21A	Administration	\$ 52,000.00	N/A
21B	Engineering	\$ 36,400.00	N/A
03J	Water Line Replacement	\$ 476,600.00	Over 51%
03J	Water Tank/Well Treatment Plant	\$ 85,000.00	Over 51%

The Town of Baldwin's application will request funding to provide upgrades to the Town's looped water distribution system and the Town's existing Water Treatment Plant. Potential upgrades to the existing looped water distribution system may include: the placement of emergency shut-off valves throughout the system to ensure the overall system remains in operation when a localized problem occurs; and localized waterline replacement to include upgraded hydrants at various points throughout the Town.

Additionally, upgrades at the Water Treatment Plant will include a new telemetry system and associated components.

The Town of Baldwin plans to minimize displacement of persons as a result of planned CDBG funded activities in the following manner:

No displacement is anticipated.

If any persons are displaced as a result of these planned activities, the Town will assist such persons in the following manner:

In accordance with the Town's Anti-Displacement and Relocation Policy.

A public hearing to provide citizens an opportunity to comment on the application will be held at the Town Hall, 10 US Highway 90, Baldwin, FL 32234 on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. A draft copy of the application will be available for review at that time. A final copy of the application will be made available at Town Hall, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. — 5:00 p.m., no more than five days before the application due date. The application will be submitted to DEO on or before the application due date. For information concerning the public hearing, contact Lula Hill, Town Clerk, at (904) 266-5030. The public hearing is being conducted in a handicapped accessible location. Any handicapped person requiring an interpreter for the hearing impaired or the visually impaired should contact Lula Hill at least five calendar days prior to the meeting and an interpreter will be provided. Any non-English speaking person wishing to attend the public hearing should contact Lula Hill at least five calendar days prior to the meeting and a language interpreter will be provided. To access a Telecommunication Device for Deaf Persons (TDD) please call (800) 955-8771. Any handicapped person requiring special accommodation at this meeting should contact Lula Hill at least five calendar days prior to the meeting.

Pursuant to Section 102 of the HUD Reform Act of 1989, the following disclosures will be submitted to DEO with the application. The disclosure will be made available by the Town of Baldwin and DEO for public inspection upon request. The disclosures will be available on and after the date of submission of the application and shall continue to be available for a minimum of five years.

1. Other Government (federal, state and local) assistance to the project in the form of a gift, grant, loan, guarantee, insurance payment, rebate, subsidy, credit, tax benefit, or any other form of direct or indirect benefit by source and amount;
2. The identities and pecuniary interests of all developers, contractors, or consultants involved in the application for assistance or in the planning or development of the project or activity;
3. The identities and pecuniary interests of any other persons with a pecuniary interest in the project that can reasonably be expected to exceed \$50,000 or 10% of the grant request (whichever is lower);
4. For those developers, contractors, consultants, property owners, or others listed in two (2) or three (3) above which are corporations, or other entities, the identification and pecuniary interests by corporation or entity of each officer, director, principal stockholder, or other official of the entity;
5. The expected sources of all funds to be provided to the project by each of the providers of those funds and the amount provided; and
6. The expected uses of all funds by activity and amount.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT/HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE/SECTION 3 / FAIR HOUSING JURISDICTION

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**PORK CHOPS**

FAMILY PACK!

**\$2.29** lb.



**Fresh PRODUCE**

**\$1.29** lb.

ALL LOOSE **APPLES**

**59¢** lb.

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**\$1.29**

16 OZ. BAG MINI **CARROTS**

**\$2.99**

5 LB BAG ROSE OR GOLD **POTATOES**



USDA Inspected D.L. Lee Smoked

**PORK CHOPS**

FAMILY PACK!

**\$2.99** lb.



USDA Inspected Fresh Oxtails or

**BEEF SHORTRIBS**

**\$4.99** lb.



Sunset Farms 2 lb. Premium

**SMOKED SAUSAGE**

**\$4.99**



Sunset Farms 14 oz. Premium Sliced

**SANDWICH HAM**

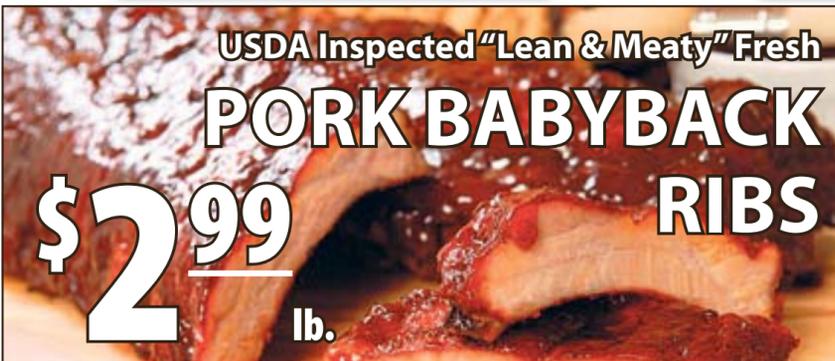
**\$3.49**



USDA Inspected "Lean & Meaty" Fresh

**PORK BABYBACK RIBS**

**\$2.99** lb.



Family Pack - USDA Inspected

**CHICKEN STIRFRY OR TENDERS**

**\$2.99** lb.



2 Pack USDA Inspected Fresh

**PORK SPARERIBS**

**\$1.79** lb.



3 lb. Cedar Creek Smoked

**SLICED BACON**

**\$10.99**

