

## Loss to UC follows sweep at quad meet

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## Freak accident hurts motorcyclist at US 90 and 125

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# THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS

— 84th Year, Vol. 38 | Winner of 11 state awards for journalism including General Excellence in 2012 —

75¢

JANUARY 16, 2014 THURSDAY

## BAKER COUNTY COMMISSION Vows to focus on more jobs in county

MIKE ANDERSON  
PRESS STAFF

The county commission's first public forum of 2014 on January 7, which preceded the first regular commission meeting of the new year, focused on the need to attract new businesses to create more jobs in Baker County so that people don't have to commute to Jacksonville to work.

Two significant land owners in Baker County, Ed Barber and Doug Moore, urged commissioners to do whatever it takes to entice new commercial or industrial developments, including changing land use and zoning policies if necessary.

Mr. Barber, whose family has owned large tracts of land in Macclenny for decades, said county government leaders "should identify where they want (the county) to be, philosophically, and make decisions based on getting there."

Instead of continuing to be a "bedroom community" feeding workers to employers in Jacksonville, he said, Baker County should be able to create enough jobs locally to keep its own residents closer to home.

One reason the county recently experienced a slight de-

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## District rushes out an apology

JOEL ADDINGTON  
MANAGING EDITOR  
[reporter@bakercountypress.com](mailto:reporter@bakercountypress.com)

Native Americans outraged by *The Press'* video of a pre-Thanksgiving "pow-wow" program put on for preschoolers by the high school's history club succeeded last week in getting the school district to issue an apology for the program.

Soon after YouTube blocked the video online on January 7, declaring it violated the website's prohibition against hate speech, the school district re-

See page 2

## NEFSH security officer gets charged in sex assault

See page 7

## '12 drug, alcohol deaths reach 17

### *Pair of drugs most common*

JOEL ADDINGTON  
MANAGING EDITOR  
[reporter@bakercountypress.com](mailto:reporter@bakercountypress.com)

Two prescription drugs — alprazolam and oxycodone — were linked to most of the drug and alcohol-related deaths in Baker County during 2012, the latest year for which figures are available, and many of the deaths were from accidental overdoses, figures from the District 8 Medical Examiner's Office in Gainesville indicate.

The information was shared last week at the monthly meeting of the Baker Prevention Coalition, a nonprofit organization of community partners tasked with reducing drug and alcohol use among the area's youth population. By endeavoring to keep kids away from drugs and alcohol, the reasoning goes, the coalition can help reduce drug and alcohol abuse among the population at large.

The Medical Examiner's Office reported there were 17 drug- and alcohol-related deaths here that year, five from alprazolam, known more commonly by its brand name Xanax, five from oxycodone, three each from methadone and morphine and one attributed to alcohol.

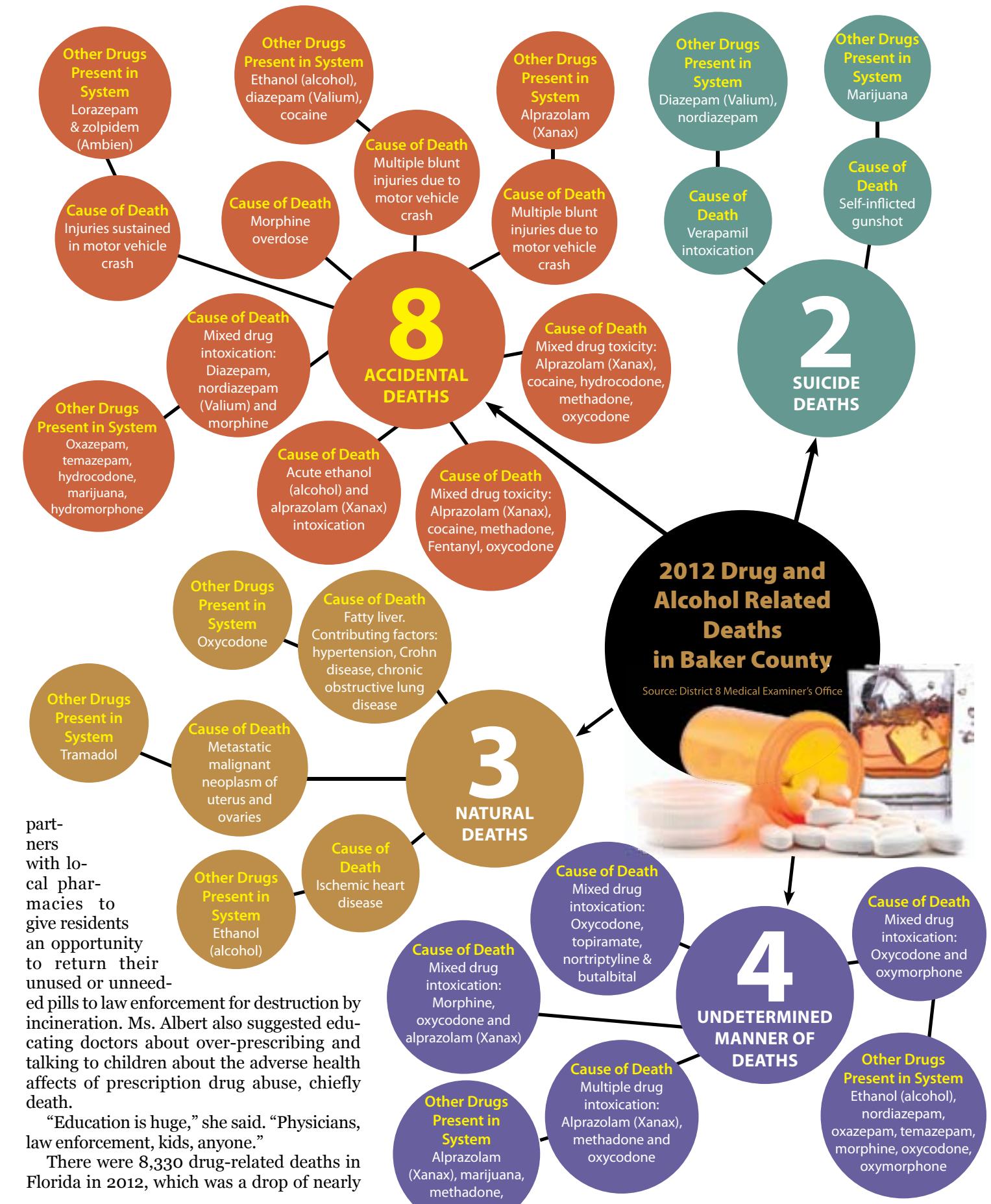
The numbers show there's an "opportunity for action" by the coalition's partners in the fight against prescription drug abuse, said Kerri Albert of the Nassau County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, who made a presentation at the meeting on prescription drug abuse trends.

Ms. Albert said coalition members should encourage physicians to use the state's prescription drug monitoring database, which tracks what doctors are prescribing and to whom, so as to limit over-prescribing by doctors and "doctor-shopping" by addicts, who may seek multiple prescriptions from various doctors.

Doctors must register with the system, but it's not mandatory that they query the database before prescribing medication to patients, said Ms. Albert. Georgia does not have a similar tracking system, added Baker Prevention Coalition director Tracie Sides, making it relatively simple for local residents to seek prescription pills across the state line.

Ms. Albert also recommended advocating for "drug take back days."

Here the Baker County Sheriff's Office



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Spelling bee winner Keilley Sweat with moderator Rebecca Lambright.

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

#### ONLINE POLL RESULTS

Do you think the school district should have apologized for BCHS history club's 'pow-wow' event?

67% No  
28% Yes  
5% Undecided

Visit our website and vote each week in our online poll.

## Re'cognition' as bee winner

JOEL ADDINGTON  
MANAGING EDITOR  
[reporter@bakercountypress.com](mailto:reporter@bakercountypress.com)

Fifth grader Keilley Sweat won the Baker County spelling bee last week, outlasting 44 fifth through eighth graders to secure a trip to Jacksonville for the regional bee sponsored by *The Florida Times-Union* next month.

The Glen St. Mary resident correctly spelled "cognition" and then "fiasco" to seal the victory and win an online encyclopedia subscription.

"I'm really happy I won," said the unassuming youth.

Ms. Sweat said she reads a lot and her family quizzed her leading up to the competition, held January 10 at Baker County Middle School with a dozen or so parents in the audience, including the bee champion's folks Shelley and Keith Sweat. Her younger siblings Jayden and Seth cheered her on as well.

The spelling bee lasted three rounds.

In the final round, two spellers, including runner-up Krystn Kingsley, an eighth grader, mis-

spelled "manatee" and then "grizzle" to give Ms. Sweat a chance to win by spelling two consecutive words correctly.

Prior to the roughly half-hour bee, middle school principal Sherry Barrett thanked all the students and bee coordinators for their hard work. Each speller won his or her class or team to become eligible for the district-wide bee.

"These ladies work very hard on this. It's not just thrown together the day of," she said of the event. "They work hours and hours on this."

The district bee was organized by the middle school's Tiffany Harvey and Jessica Cittrell, as well as Janet Davis from Keller Intermediate School.

The spelling bee's judges were retired district faculty members Alana Harvey, Carol Lund and Mary Kay Unkelbach. The bee moderator was Rebecca Lambright.

Ms. Sweat and her family will be hosted at a breakfast prior to the regional spelling bee in Jacksonville on February 15 at the Main Library downtown. There she will compete against spellers from 15 area counties.

See more photos from the bee on page 10.

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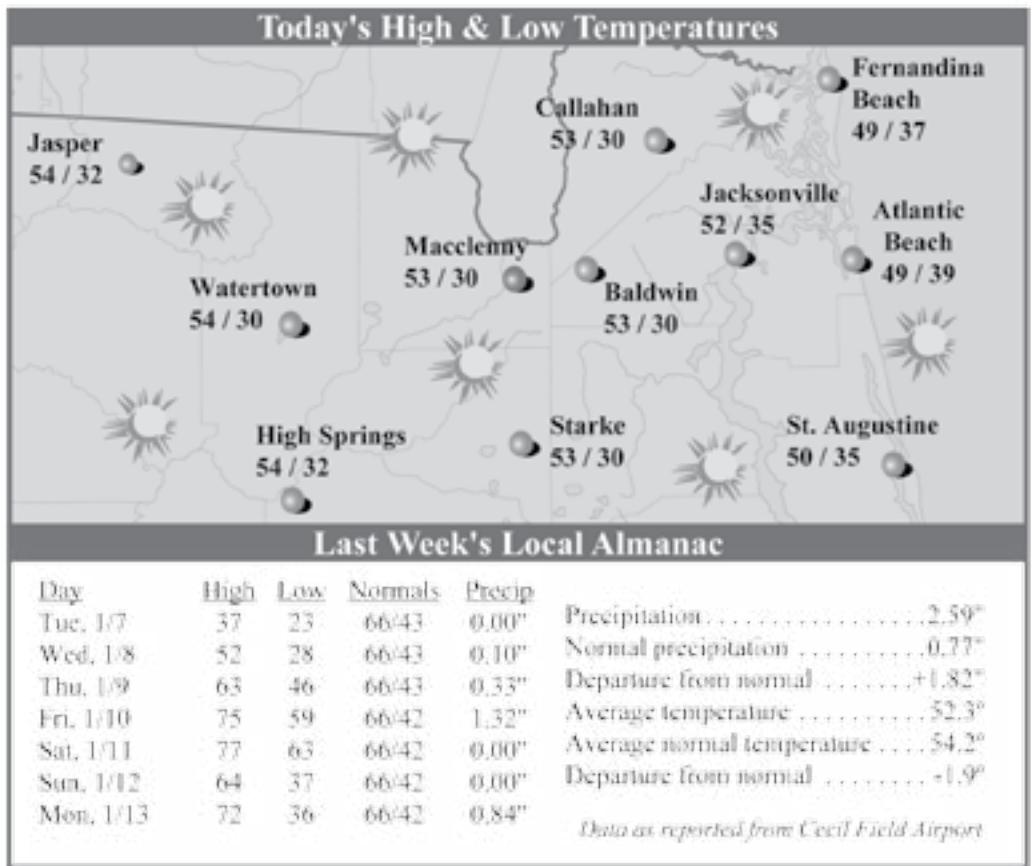
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## The Baker County Press Weather

## Seven Day Forecast

Sunny	High: 53 Low: 30
Mostly Sunny	High: 59 Low: 27
Sunny	High: 56 Low: 30
Sunny	High: 61 Low: 33
Sunny	High: 68 Low: 39
Sunny	High: 66 Low: 42
Mostly Sunny	High: 67 Low: 43



Sun/Moon Chart This Week	
Last 1/24	Day
New 1/30	Sunrise
	Sunset
	First 2/6
	Full 2/14
	Wednesday
	7:25 a.m.
	5:51 p.m.
	7:25 a.m.
	5:53 p.m.
	7:24 a.m.
	5:54 p.m.
	7:24 a.m.
	5:55 p.m.
	7:23 a.m.
	5:56 p.m.
	7:23 a.m.
	5:57 p.m.

St. Mary's River Levels

Day	Now	Change
Monica, GA	9.10 ft.	+0.22 ft.
Macclenny	8.66 ft.	+0.29 ft.

Hunting/Fishing Times

Day	AM	PM
Thur	---	11:50-1:50
Fri	12:35-2:35	1:05-3:05
Sat	1:19-3:19	1:49-3:49
Sun	2:03-4:03	2:35-4:33
Mon	2:46-4:46	3:16-5:16
Tue	3:29-5:29	3:59-5:59
Wed	4:14-6:14	4:44-6:44

Weather History

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Description
Tue, 1/7	37	23	66/43	0.00"	Precipitation..... 2.59"
Wed, 1/8	52	28	66/43	0.10"	Normal precipitation..... 0.77"
Thu, 1/9	63	46	66/43	0.33"	Departure from normal..... +1.82"
Fri, 1/10	75	59	66/42	1.32"	Average temperature..... 52.3°
Sat, 1/11	77	63	66/42	0.00"	Average normal temperature..... 54.2°
Sun, 1/12	64	37	66/42	0.00"	Departure from normal..... +1.9"
Mon, 1/13	72	36	66/42	0.84"	

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## Board vows to focus on jobs...

From page 1

crease in population, Mr. Barber said, probably is because people are moving to be closer to their jobs to avoid high gas prices that make commuting too expensive.

"They would be better off if they could live here, work here, shop here," he told commissioners.

Mr. Barber, an environmental consultant, further suggested the county reexamine its policies regarding land development to make it easier and more expeditious for people to obtain licensing and permits for new developments.

"I'm not talking about any particular project," he said, adding that proposed developments "should have to prove that they won't hurt the county."

Commissioners did take action on one issue, however.

At Mr. Croft's urging, the board voted unanimously to send a letter to the Florida Division of Recreation and Parks stating the county's opposition to any additional monuments being erected at Olustee Battlefield.

"We intend to," said Mr. Moore, who owns residences and thousands of acres in Duval and Baker counties. He said he was glad to hear commissioners' positive comments and looked forward to the next meeting and he thanked Commission Chairman Jimmy Anderson for scheduling the public forum.

Mr. Anderson, who recently was elected chairman, resurrected the public forum policy this month, following its discontinuance by former chairman Mark Hartley a year ago.

Commissioner Croft and other opponents argue that a Union monument already exists at the three-acre park — the one first erected by the United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1912 which notes the number of Union casualties in the battle — and another noting several Union regiments who fought in the battle at a nearby cemetery.

He said he believes the forums are important and supply commissioners with ideas

and insights into what citizens think about how county government should function.

After the one-hour public forum, the county board met in regular session at 5 pm for a brief meeting. The agenda was light, as several issues were postponed until the next meeting on January 21, including a proposed ice-making machine to avoid the cost of buying packaged ice and a proposed ordinance banning adult novelty stores.

As for the latter, County Attorney Rich Komando said he has obtained copies of municipal ordinances designed to prohibit adult novelty stores in other areas throughout the state of Florida. He said he would try to have a report and recommendation ready for the board at the next meeting.

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Please be advised  
that Macclenny City Hall will be closed on  
Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>  
in observance of  
Martin Luther King Day.  
[www.cityofmacclenny.com](http://www.cityofmacclenny.com)

## Rushes out apology

From page 1

leashed a written apology, which was posted to the home page of the high school's website.

The Baker County School District regrets any offense caused by the recent video that was posted by *The Baker County Press*, a local newspaper. The district's goal is to provide appropriate educational learning opportunities for all students without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age or gender. It was never the district's intent to offend or disrespect anyone or any culture. The district apologizes to anyone that has been offended.

Superintendent Sherrie Raulerson did not respond to a request for comments on the apology, including details about why the district chose to issue a public apology and who made the decision.

The apology goes to pledge that in the future, the school district will endeavor to ensure that future educational activities of this nature will be depicted in a more historically accurate manner.

Some Native Americans in the area have said they would be happy to help the district do so.

The "pow-wow" program video was republished on the newspaper's website, [www.bakercountypress.com](http://www.bakercountypress.com), after YouTube blocked it. *The Press* routinely uploads videos of local events to YouTube and then embeds the videos on its website, rather than using its servers to store the video files.

For the latter, County Attorney Rich Komando said he has obtained copies of municipal ordinances designed to prohibit adult novelty stores in other areas throughout the state of Florida. He said he would try to have a report and recommendation ready for the board at the next meeting.

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## HOW DO YOU MISS A BILLION DOLLARS?



## 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 be concise and 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.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## 'Secret ballot' vote reflects on manager

Dear Editor:

You do not have to be in Washington to see "shady politics" in action. You only have to go as far as Macclenny City Hall to see "good ole boy" back room deals being made and the Florida Sunshine Law being violated.

City Manager Phil Rhoden said "This is the way we have done it in the past (referring to the recent secret ballots appointing a new commissioner)," explaining he did not want anyone to feel pressure or be influenced by another commissioner's intent to support another applicant. He added that there is peer pressure at times, whether spoken or not.

Mr. Rhoden should know that doing the "right thing" is sometimes difficult and never easy. It's called "leadership."

According to *The Press*, knowingly breaking the Sunshine Law is a criminal offense punishable by up to 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

Due to Mr. Rhoden's lack of leadership and good judgement, and possible criminal negligence, it is time for a new city manager. The citizens of Macclenny deserve a manager who displays good leadership, knowledge of lawful governmental procedures as well as respect for open government.

It's time for a change at City Hall.

Billy "Boo" Marsh  
Macclenny

## Video on YouTube pointless

Dear Editor:

I found the secret ballot vote concerning the Sunshine Law amusing. Macclenny City Attorney Frank Maloney does not know the law himself; his idea is to give a copy of the law to the newest board members.

He should review the law himself since we taxpayers are paying the bill for his advice and council. Maybe we need a new city attorney who looks out for the interests of the citizens. Our city attorney should know the law!

Chuck Parliament  
Glen St. Mary

## Correction

In last week's edition *The Press* reported in error the share of First Coast Women's Services clients who chose abortion or lost touch with the organization at "more than half."

Rather, among FCWS' 1907 clients in six years, there were 885 "leaning toward abortion," and of those 89 percent chose life, said the organization's director Lori Dugan.

It was no more than that and — this is important — the students, their club sponsor and everyone else associated

with the event, including Pre-K officials, never pretended that it was.

It would have remained little more than the annual pre-holiday festival lesson in how

if a video of it hadn't been posted on the newspaper's website via YouTube and another link via the newspaper's Facebook account.

Circulated then in the arena of social media, the trouble began.

Native American purists demanded the video be taken down as insulting to their culture because of inaccuracies as to costume, dance techniques, face paint and so on.

The newspaper was vilified for being so callous, and many critics charged openly that it was a concerted effort to make fun of Native American culture.

It was no more than that and — this is important — the students, their club sponsor and everyone else associated

with the event re-printed on page one of last week's edi-

tional.

It's time for a change at City Hall.

Call someone a "racist" and you toss a flaming dart at them that gets you off the hook of discussing an opposing view.

Look around; those tactics are widely — and many times successfully — used today as a veiled avenue to stomp on free speech and stifle a free exchange of opposing views.

So anyway, the zealots succeeded in getting YouTube to remove the video of an innocent and well-intended history club performance before kindergartener and younger students as "hate speech."

Really?

A smile is back on Old Dad's face

our girl. Often they are people who don't even know her, or us for that matter, but they feel the need to help in any way that they can. At times, people even tear up talking about her, whether they know her personally or not.

I admit to not being able to fully grasp who so many people have been

## Two medications most common

From page 1

9 percent compared to the previous year, and in the vast majority of that year's cases, more than one drug was involved, according to a report released last September by the Medical Examiners Commission, the statewide body tracking causes of death.

"A drug is only indicated as the cause of death when, after examining all evidence and the autopsy and toxicology results, the medical examiner determines the drug played a causal role in the death," the report states. "It is not uncommon for a decedent to have multiple drugs listed as a cause of death."

In the 17 cases in Baker County that year, "mixed drug intoxication" was listed as the cause of death in six instances, or 35 percent. Among those was a 42-year-old died from a cocktail of alprazolam, cocaine, hydromorphone, methadone and oxycodone. The manner of death was deemed "accidental."

In other cases, a 71-year-old who died from heart disease had alcohol in his system and was lumped into the drug-related deaths for Baker County, but the manner of death was noted as "natural." Marijuana was found in the body of a male killed by a shotgun wound to the head. Though ruled a suicide, it was included in the count of drug-and-alcohol-related deaths here, too.

Nonetheless, among the 17 cases, alprazolam and oxycondone were the most common drugs found to be either present in the deceased or a cause of death.

One or both of the drugs was listed as the cause of death in five of the local cases, or about 30 percent. Toxicology screens found one or both of the drugs present in nine of the cases, or about 53 percent.

Statistically there were 1417 deaths in which alprazolam was present, but only 45

percent of the deaths were caused by the drug, the Medical Examiners Commission's report states. Similarly, with 1426 deaths in which oxycodone was present in Florida, 48 percent were caused by the substance.

With methadone the share of deaths in Florida caused by the drug jumps to 68 percent, and with heroin to 92 percent.

Ms. Albert said Florida was once only second to Ohio in the number of pain clinics located in the state. Many of the most abused medications are used to treat severe pain.

The most recent local survey results from 2012 show just 1.4 percent of middle schoolers and 2.8 percent of high schoolers self-reported using prescription pain relievers in the last 30 days, which is slightly lower than the 1.7 percent and 2.9 percent statewide. Use among middle school children was up by three-tenths of a percent from 2010 while the high school's rate fell 1.7 percent.

Alcohol use, meanwhile, was reported by 15.4 percent of middle schoolers and 25.8 percent of high schoolers here, compared to 13.2 percent in middle schools and 34 percent in high schools across Florida.

Prescriptions is the more rampant among the youth I deal with," said Ryan Brannan, director of the county's Teen Court program, adding anecdotally, at least, usage seems "very high."

Ms. Sides, who prior to heading up the coalition worked with the now defunct Community Behavioral Healthcare Services, a mental health treatment center formerly affiliated with Northeast Florida State Hospital.

"When the mental health clinic was open we had a really big push to get people off of Xanax and a lot of times the doctors would use klonopin to ween them down. The difference in the two drugs is the half-life. With Xanax, it quickly goes through your system and you want to do that drug again. With klonopin, it lasts a lot longer ... And the health department confirmed that as well.

To review Baker County's 2012 Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey results, please scan the QR code at right or visit <http://www.def.state.fl.us/programs/samh/publications/fysas/toSurvey/Baker%20County.pdf>



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## Motorcyclist injured in freak accident on 90

A freak accident at the busy US 90-CR 125 intersection in downtown Glen St. Mary just as nearby Baker County High School was dismissing for the day on January 13 sent a motorcyclist to Fraser Hospital with a leg injury. The Florida Highway Patrol late Tuesday had not yet released the names of the injured man nor the occupants of a Chevrolet pickup (far left) that crossed from the southbound lane of 125, struck a curb, clipped a utility pole and slid into the motorcycle facing west and waiting to turn onto 125 northbound. After impact, the motorcycle struck a GMC Jimmy (middle background) and its occupants were uninjured also.

## Undercover drug arrests

The sheriff's department culminated a series of undercover drug buys reaching back to last May with formal charges for felony possession and sale filed against seven persons last week, all of them but one with Baker County addresses.

All the charged stem from purchases by persons working for police and using funds issued to them after the buys were arranged by telephone.

Sheriff's investigator Matt Yarborough said this week all but one of the defendants have been arrested on warrants.

They include:

• James Tolliver, 29, of Macclenny for selling \$60 worth of hydrocodone pills from his residence at the Northwood Apartments the afternoon of May 9. He is also charged with sale of \$20 worth of marijuana from the same location the evening of June 27.

• Christie Rawlerson, 39, of Macclenny, charged with sale of \$70 worth of hydrocodone pills from her West Railroad St. address the evening of July 22. The charge is ramped up because the location is within 1000 feet of both a church and school.

• Tammy Peterson, 30, of Macclenny, for selling \$10 worth of marijuana the afternoon of September 3 to a buyer at her residence on Owens Acres Rd. in the west city.

The report indicates she initially agreed to sell

\$40 in prescription pills she wasn't able to acquire.

Ms. Peterson faces a more serious felony for sale of \$150 worth of hydrocodone and morphine pills to the same buyer the afternoon of October 10 at the Kangaroo Store across from the county courthouse.

• Megan Pleasant, 19, of Jacksonville for the alleged sale of two morphine pills for \$60 in both the morning and afternoon of June 19 at a residence on Leon Dopsom Rd. north of Sanderson.

• Voniquia Spatcher, 23, of Glen St. Mary, charged with selling \$84 worth of hydrocodone pills the afternoon of September 5 at the My Fuel at the corner of US 90 and Sixth St. in Macclenny.

• Robert Knuckles, 42, for selling \$60 worth of hydrocodone pills from his residence on Walter Davis Lane north of Glen the afternoon of September 10.

• Jimmy Yarborough, 56, of Sanderson, charged with sale of morphine pills for \$60 the afternoon of September 6 and again the evening of October 23 when he allegedly sold \$20 worth of hydrocodone pills.

Both purchases took place at his residence on CR 127 North.

Reports indicate two other investigators, Michael Hauge and John Hardin, were involved in setting up the buys.

## Video helps nab shoplifter

Using a description from a surveillance video, county deputies tracked down a shoplifter in downtown Macclenny the evening of January 9 and also charged him with possession of marijuana and a smoking pipe.

A manager at CVS summoned police after the suspect, Joseph Starling, 18, of Macclenny, left the store about 6:40 pm without paying for two cans of refrigerated

coffee drinks.

Deputy Chad Montean radioed a description of the suspect based on the video, and Mr. Starling was confronted walking on US 90 several blocks west. He told Deputy Marc Heath he took the drinks because he was thirsty.

A store clerk called police, and told Deputy Jeremiah Combs Ms. Stokes attempted to return the items after she was admonished by her boyfriend.

In a second case, Teresa Stokes, 35, of Glen St. Mary was arrested in the late morning of January 11 for taking 18 DVDs valued at \$30 from Baker Gun, Gold and Pawn on South 6th St.

A store clerk called police, and told Deputy Jeremiah Combs Ms. Stokes attempted to return the items after she was admonished by her boyfriend.

## Father, son team arrested for theft, selling scrap metal

A Macclenny father and son face multiple felony charges in both Baker and Duval counties for allegedly stealing metal from a Jacksonville business then selling it at an east Macclenny scrap yard.

William Hank Padgett, 40, and William Franklin Padgett, 23, happened to be at Scrappy Pappy's yard on US 90 in the early afternoon of January 7 when a Jacksonville police officer was there investigating the theft of metal of Integrated Environmental Technologies on US 301 earlier.

The officer had traced scrap including auto parts, batteries and lawn mowers to the Macclenny site via Commercial Metals on Lane Ave. in Jacksonville, where the local business routinely transports materials it has purchased.

Deputy Tony Norman filed a complaint on January 10 naming Jacob O'Neill as the person responsible for stealing a lawn mower from a shed at the residence of Alec Finley on Glenn Williamson Rd.

The mower, valued at \$100, was pawned by the suspect on January 8 for \$40. The complainant is for dealing in stolen property, petty theft and false representation of ownership.

• Deputy McCullough arrested Daniel Brown, 24, of Sanderson for theft of gasoline from a 2002 Chevrolet pickup truck belonging to Donald Gonzalez in the early morning hours of January 12.

The metal was reportedly stolen from Integrated Environmental on January 3.

Based on those transaction records, the Padgetts were arrested for five counts of dealing in stolen property, and the elder Padgett for five additional counts of false representation of ownership to the scrap dealer.

The transactions totaled \$1285.49 including three sales on January 3 and two more on January 6.

The Padgetts will also be charged with burglary in Duval County.

For the second time in a four-day span, a Northeast Florida State Hospital patient was named in a felony battery complaint for attacking an employee.

Anarsi Babar, 28, is accused this time of turning on worker Dustin Norman, 21, of Raiford during the early morning hours of January 9 and striking him repeatedly about the head and face.

Deputy Brandon Kiser interviewed Mr. Norman at the emergency room of Fraser Hospital shortly after 1 am where he was treated for abrasions and several nose fractures. The employee said he was observing Mr. Babar "one-on-one" in a room when the attack occurred.

Deputy Jeremiah Johnson said Mr. Privett, boyfriend of the boy's mother, had abrasions on his head consistent with the attack he said occurred when he turned off an electrical breaker after the boy refused his request.

The boy was later released to his father in Georgia.

• A criminal complaint filed the evening of January 10 names Anthony Bondi, 52, of Glen St. Mary for domestic battery on live-in girlfriend Marlo Scott, 53, during an argument at their River Hills Rd. address. The accused had confronted Ms. Scott about an alleged inappropriate relationship.

A neighbor signed a statement affirming the boyfriend shoved Ms. Scott in the mid-section, then left the address cursing and yelling before Deputy McCullough arrived.

• Both Monica Johnson, 18, and the father of her child, Kayla Blackburn, 25, of Baldwin was charged with being in Walmart the evening of January 10 in defiance of a trespass order issued when she was caught shoplifting in May.

Deputy Johnny Hodges was called to the store by a security

employee who recognized the suspect in the jewelry department about 8:30 pm.

• Both occupants of a 1993 Nissan pickup found mired in a ditch on Laverne St. in Macclenny the evening of January 10 were arrested for underage possession of alcohol and having open beers in the vehicle.

Deputy Jeremiah Johnson identified them as Kaleb Newmans, 19, and a 17-year-old male, both with Macclenny addresses. He was detained until police arrived.

Mr. Lee was arrested for disturbing the peace and resisting police without violence.

In other recent arrests, Kayla Blackburn, 25, of Baldwin was charged with being in Walmart the evening of January 10 in defiance of a trespass order issued when she was caught shoplifting in May.

Deputy McCullough arrived.

Sheriff's investigator Tracie Benton said employee Betty Roberts, 44, of St. George, GA is accused of striking the patient, a 28-year-old female, a dozen times in the face with a clipboard during an altercation back on October 31.

The boyfriend told Deputy Chad Montean that he and Ms. Johnson began an argument in Gainesville that continued until they arrived at the mother's address. She and their 1-year-old son were picked up by her grandmother following the confrontation during which the boyfriend said she pulled a knife and Ms. Johnson that she was struck and held in a headlock.

Fellow employees told a DCF investigator that Ms. Roberts "bragged" about her actions following the incident.

He said several persons were loitering in the area when he went inside the store, and police were awaiting a surveillance video.

• Crystal Cole reported the

panels of all four doors on her 2005 Toyota were torn off overnight on January 10 while it was parked outside her Hickory St. residence in the Macclenny II subdivision.

3:00 pm: 0-6 yrs. old

6:00 pm: 7-20 yrs. old

at Baker County Middle School

**Age Divisions:**

0-3 years

4-6 years

7-9 years

10-12 years

13-15 years

16-20 years

**Entry Fees:**

Beauty: \$50

Optionals: \$10 each or all for \$50

Photogenic

Most Beautiful

Prettiest Eyes

Best Hair

Best Smile

Best Dressed

Best Personality

You must enter all categories to be eligible for overall.

Applications may be picked up at any of the schools.

10<sup>th</sup> Annual Baker County Sweet Heart Pageant

February 8, 2014

3:00 pm: 0-6 yrs. old

6:00 pm: 7-20 yrs. old

at Baker County Middle School

**All contestants receive a crown.**

2 overall winners will be chosen and a winner and runner-up in each age division.

**OUT-OF-TOWN JUDGES**

Deadline to register January 31

Must attend one of two meetings at BCMS: January 24 or January 31, 6 pm

For more information contact Jeanette at 904-465-0506

Overall winners crown

## Arrest after evading light

A motorist spotted by a sheriff's investigator cutting through the parking lot of a car wash in west Macclenny to evade a traffic light was arrested the afternoon of January 8 for driving on a license with three suspensions and one revocation.

The license of Justin Miller, 20, of Glen St. Mary was suspended then revoked for drunk driving, and suspended again for failure to pay fines, according to Investigator Michael Hauge.

The officer stopped the 1988 Oldsmobile driven by the

suspect in Reid Stafford Rd. south of Sanderson after observing it swerve from its travel lane on CR 229 shortly after 9 am. Ms. Weichman was also ticketed for having a traffic light.

• Captain Starling, 29, of Macclenny was arrested the afternoon of January 9 for driving on



# OBITUARIES

**CHURCH AND OBITUARY NOTICE INFORMATION**

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

**Eunice Cravey funeral Thursday**

Eunice Wheeler Cravey, 91, of Sanderson died on Monday, January 13, 2014 at her residence following a brief illness. She was born in Lake City on December 14, 1922 and lived in Olustee for many years before moving to Sanderson 30 years ago. She was the former postmaster at Olustee and worked with her husband at the Olustee Battlefield State Park for over 15 years until her retirement.

Mrs. Cravey was the oldest member of the Olustee Baptist Church and was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star in Macclenny. She was a proud mother and grandmother and enjoyed cooking and baking for family and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas "Tom" English Cravey and daughters Carolyn Rhoden and Julie Roberts.

She is survived by daughters Susan (Tim) McKelvey of Yulee and Krista (Vernon) Nielsen of Glen St. Mary; son Tommy Cravey of Lake City; sisters Dorothy Johnson of Gainesville, Charlotte Collins of Ft. White, Alice Anderson, Betty Ann Stumpf and June Walker, all of Lake City, and Thelma Chauncey of Zephyrhills, Fla.; brother C.A. Wheeler of White Springs; eight grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren and very special neighbors Ricky and Georganna Griffith of Sanderson.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 am on Thursday, January 16 at her church with Rev. Kenneth A. Edenfield of Lake City officiating. Interment will be at Woodlawn Cemetery in Macclenny. Visitation will be from 5-8 pm on January 15 at Guerry Funeral Home in Macclenny.

**Ruby Pittman, 68, of Baldwin**

Ruby Pittman, 68, of Baldwin died on January 8, 2014 after an extended illness. She was born in Pineytop, FL to Melvin and Annie Farmer on November 22, 1945 and resided in Baldwin since 1961. Ms. Pittman retired as a UTRS supervisor at Northeast Florida State Hospital after 32½ years of faithful service. She was preceded in death by her parents, son Kenneth Leroy Pittman and grandson Kenneth Leroy Pittman Jr.; brothers Thomas and Charlie Belford, Lawrence Baker, Elisiah and Johnny Farmer; sisters Bessie Coleman and Mary Farmer.

Ms. Pittman is survived by husband Leroy Pittman Jr.; daughters Pamela Pittman, Troye (Darryl) Donaldson; grandchildren Galen, Deangelo and Markala Pittman; four great-grandchildren; sisters Carrie Jones, Rozann (Edward) Rouse, Betty (Alphonso) Brown and Luanne (Vern) Williams.

The funeral service for Mrs. Pittman will be held on Saturday, January 18 at 11 am at Emmanuel Church of God in Christ in Macclenny with Pastor Joe Ruise officiating.

**Jim Wilk, 68, dies January 10**

James "Jim" Harrison Wilk, Sr., 68, of Macclenny died on January 10, 2014. He was born in Jacksonville on September 17, 1945 to the late Edward Joseph Wilk and Mary McCloud Wilk. He had been a resident of Macclenny since 2005 after moving from Mandarin, Florida. Jim and his brother John were co-owners and operators of the family business, Wilk Forwarding Company, which their father founded.

Jim enjoyed his career, spending time with his family, and going on many cruises, especially to Alaska and Hawaii. He loved trains and was an avid model railroader. He also collected books and railroad memorabilia. In his younger years, he was an adventurous rock climber, which took him to the University of Utah in the fall of 1964. There he studied to become a geologist.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Jarah C. Wilk of Macclenny; son James "Jimmy" Harrison Wilk Jr. of Jacksonville; brother John Joseph Wilk of Mandarin; sister-in-law Jayn C. Schollander (Wendell) of Winston-Salem, NC; brother-in-law Dr. Jay Sherrill Cochrane (Sara) of Hiawassee, GA; a nephew and several nieces.

A celebration of Jim's life will be held Saturday, January 18, from 2-4 pm at V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services in Macclenny. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Jacksonville Humane Society in his memory.

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Loving God  
Loving People  
Serving Our Community  
Come Join Us  
95 N. 5th St. (SR228) Macclenny, FL ~ Sunday Worship 11am

**Calvary Baptist Church**  
Pastor Donnie E. Williams, Sr.  
Sunday School 10:00 am  
Preaching Service 11:00 am  
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Service 7:00 pm  
523 North Boulevard W. I a few blocks north of Hwy. 90 in Macclenny  
www.calvarybaptistmacclenny.com • 259-4529

**CONTACT US**

By phone at 404.259.2400 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 Online at www.bakercountypress.com or email editor@bakercountypress.com

**Kenny Wood, longtime local banker**

Kenneth "Kenny" Leo Wood, 49, of Macclenny died on January 12, 2014 at St. Vincent's Medical Center in Jacksonville. Kenny was born in Jacksonville on January 30, 1964 to the late Leo Eugene Wood and Nina Lee Hurst Wood. Kenny was a lifelong resident of Baker County and graduated from Baker County High School in 1982. He worked in the banking profession for the past 35 years and was an original associate of SunTrust Bank, currently TD Bank. He was the last active employee of that era.

Kenny enjoyed living life to the fullest, traveling and seeing the world, including the Caribbean, Hawaii, Australia, New Zealand and the United States. He was an outstanding tennis player and enjoyed dancing and competing all over the country with West Coast Swing. His other hobbies included snow and water skiing and drawing with pencil and paints. Kenny was preceded in death by his sister Pamela Lynn Crews.

Kenny is survived by his wife of 8 years, Patty Wood of Macclenny; his sister Paula (Henry) Clegg of Glen St. Mary; several nieces and nephews.

The funeral service will be held Thursday, January 16 at Souls Harbor Church of God at 2 pm with Bishop Daniel Sturgill officiating. Interment will follow at South Prong Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Wednesday, January 15 from 5-8 pm at V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services in Macclenny.



**Community Full Gospel Church**  
12664 Mud Lake Rd.  
Sunday School 10:00 am  
Sunday Morning 11:00 am  
Sunday Evening 6:00 pm  
Tuesday Evening 7:30 pm  
Pastor Tommy Richardson | 904-275-2949

In loving memory of  
Derrick Thompson  
1/15/1977–1/18/2000

That "dash" represents all the time that he spent alive on earth. And only those who loved him know what that little line is worth.

We LOVE and MISS YOU,  
DAD, MOM and FAMILY

**SHARE YOUR JOY & RECORD YOUR FAMILY HISTORY!**  
Submit birth, weddings & 50th+ anniversaries via email to editor@bakercountypress.com or at 104 S. 5th St., Macclenny 4 week deadline on submissions.

**First Baptist Church of Sanderson**  
CR 229 S., Sanderson FL  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 am  
Sun. Morning Worship ..... 11:00 am  
Sun. Evening Worship ..... 6:00 pm  
Wed. Bible Study ..... 7:00 pm  
Dr. Roy Vining

**Saint Peter's in the Glen**  
ANGLICAN CHURCH  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist  
7:00 pm Wednesday Services  
4 mile South of I-10 on CR 125  
Glen St. Mary, Florida

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

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

**The Road to Calvary**  
Corner of Madison & Stoddard  
Glen St. Mary  
Rev. Tommy & Doris Anderson  
Youth Director Rebecca Lauramore  
Phone: 904-259-2213  
Sunday School: ..... 10:00 am  
Sunday Morning Service ..... 11:00 am  
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 pm  
Wed. Evening Prayer Serv. 7:30 pm  
Pastor: Oral E. Lyons

**Christian Fellowship Temple**  
"A Place to Belong"  
We would love to connect with you here at CFT to help you grow in your relationship with Christ and serve our community! Christian Fellowship Temple is an independent Pentecostal church located at 251 West Ohio Ave. in Macclenny, Florida.  
For more information or to find out how to contact us, visit our website at www.christianfellowshiptemple.com  
CFT SERVICE TIMES:  
Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>  
-6:20 Family Dinner  
-7:00 Adult Worship Services  
-7:00 Youth Worship Services  
Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>  
-10:00 Sunday School (All Ages)  
-11:00 Morning Worship Service  
-11:00 Water Baptism  
-11:00 Children's Church  
-6:00 Evening Worship


**Gospel sing**

The Baxter Community Baptist Church will host its monthly gospel sing on January 17 starting with a supper in the fellowship hall at 7 pm.

The sing will immediately follow in the sanctuary. Everyone is welcome.

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

In loving memory of  
Launa Bree Monds  
06/02/2006-01/18/2008

Even after six years, not a day has gone by without you on our minds. We miss you so much every single day, but we take comfort in the fact that, one day, we will all be together again. Until then, you will always be on our minds and forever in our hearts. We love you so very much, Launa Bree.

LOVE ALWAYS,  
DADDY, MOMMY, LOGAN,  
LAYNE and LAWSON

We publish obituaries & pictures FREE!

**New Hope Church, Inc.**  
23-a on Lauramore Rd. & Fairgrounds Rd.  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Services 5:00 p.m.  
**Pastor J. C. Lauramore**  
welcomes all  
4 mile South of I-10 on CR 125  
Glen St. Mary, Florida

**Sunday**  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Services 5:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Mother Mary Lee Ruise, children and grandchildren

In loving memory of  
James (Russell) Robertson  
1/13/1940-1/14/2013  
Happy Birthday!

One year has passed since we had to tell you goodbye. Jesus came and took you home to be with Him in Heaven. We all miss you, but we know you are with Our Lord and are in no pain. We feel a presence of you each and every day. You may be gone, but you are not forgotten.

LOVE YOU,

WIFE BONNIE; CHILDREN  
RUSTY JR., CINDY, CHERI  
AND SCOTT; GRANDCHILDREN  
AND GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

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Family style dinner ~ 1st Sunday of the month  
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Check us out on Friendster!

Check us out on Plaxo!

Check us out on Xobni!

Check us out on AllMySocialMedia!

# SOCIAL

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



Rhemington Ruisse

**Brother arrives**

Minister Randolph and Sandra Gaskins-Ruisse of Macclenny are pleased to announce the birth of son Rhemington Rance LuMark Ruisse on December 20, 2013 at St. Vincent's Southside in Jacksonville.

He weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. and joins siblings Tyler, Rhadya, Rhyana and Rhaya.

Grandparents include Elder Japan and Edith M. Ruisse, Deacon LuMark Gaskins, Deacon Harold and Barbara Jefferson, all of Baker County.



Photo courtesy of Cathy Hooper

## Williston ends JV Hi-Q team's post-season run in Ponte Vedra

An academic team from Williston High School in Levy County hosted the Baker County High School's junior varsity Hi-Q team on January 8 in Ponte Vedra, ending a largely successful season for the team. The JV squad went 6-0 in the regular season before taking its first loss at the divisional tournament hosted here at Christian Fellowship Temple last month. By going undefeated, however, the team earned a spot in the conference championship tournament last week, where the JV team fell 170-260 to Williston in the first round. "It was tough," said coach Cathy Hooper. She was pleased to see several hundred people turnout for the event though. She said Williston had very smart youth on its team. "Josh Carter (of BC) gave that kid a run for his money," Ms. Hooper said. "Caleb Griffin played really well, too." Pictured from the conference championship above are JV players (front from left) Donavan Bryant, Larry Morris, Mr. Carter, Mr. Griffin and Sara Hillard with coaches Ms. Hooper and Mark Bryant. Not pictured from the team is Tyria Haygood.



PHOTOS BY JOEL ADDINGTON

## Students vie for the title of best district speller

Pictured from last week's Baker County School District spelling bee at the middle school the morning of January 10 are (above) Maci Fisher after spelling her word, (below left from left) spelling bee judges Alana Harvey, Carol Lund and Mary Kay Unkelbach; and speller Emilee Blanton eyeing the judges after spelling her word. See even more photos from the bee at [www.bakercountypress.com](http://www.bakercountypress.com).



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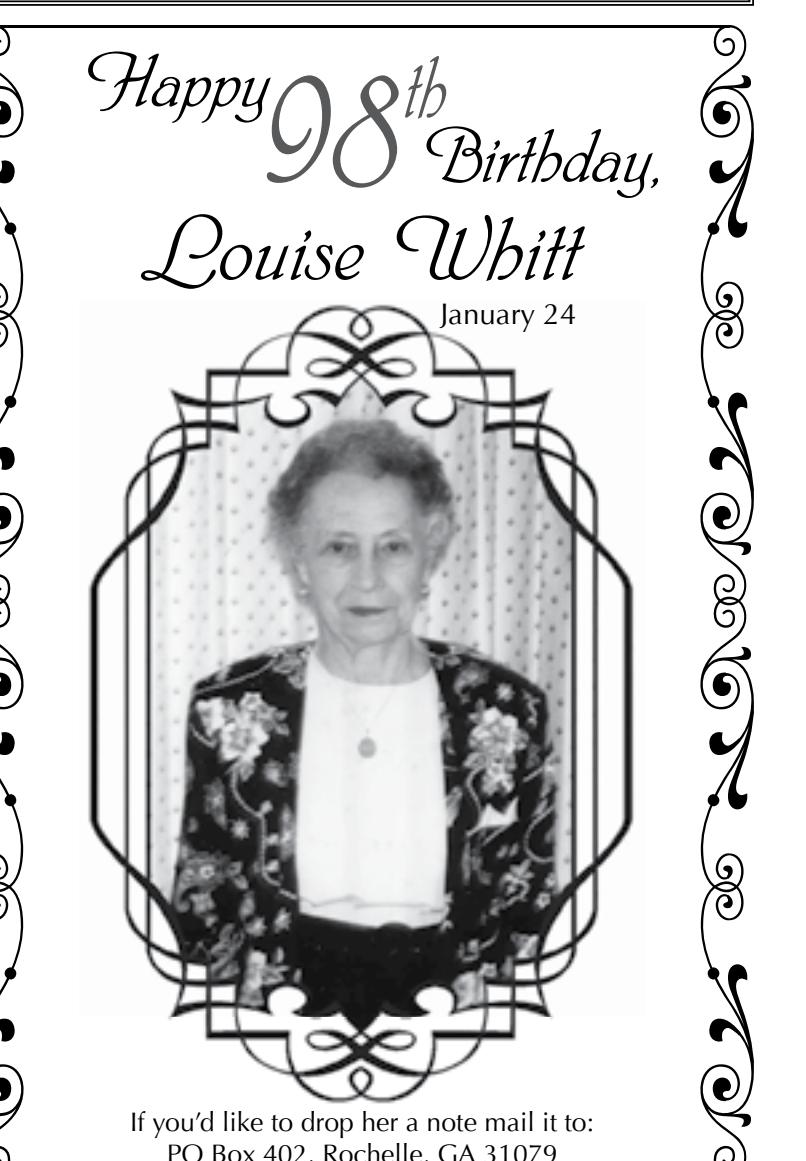
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# SPORTS

#### 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 Online at [www.bakercountypress.com](http://www.bakercountypress.com) or email [jonshu@live.com](mailto:jonshu@live.com)

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Photo by Jud Johnson

Charles Ruisse Jr. jumps through the defenders for the shot.

Photo by Jud Johnson

## Twin blowouts for Cats

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

The BCCHS Wildcats extended their winning streak to six games with blowout home victories over Middleburg and Lee on back-to-back nights to improve their record to 13-2 on the season.

After narrowly overcoming West Nassau earlier in the week, the Cats returned to their potent offense with a 65-36 win over Middleburg on January 9. The Wildcats quickly jumped out to an 8-0 lead in the first quarter and held a 12-point advantage at halftime. Although the Broncos closed the deficit to eight points near the end of the third quarter, Baker County was never in any danger of falling behind.

The Cats went on a 28-5 run during the third and fourth quarters to shut down Middleburg's comeback attempt and seal their fifth straight win. The team led by as much as 31 in the final frame before the Broncos closed the gap in the closing minutes.

Charles Ruisse Jr. continued his incredible scoring season with 21 points against the Broncos, slightly more than his 20.4 points-per-game average through January 6. Three-point sharpshooter Jesse Gardner added 13 points, while Brian Walton reached double digits with 10.

The Wildcats' easy 51-32 victory over the visiting Lee Generals on January 10 was almost a carbon copy of the first meeting between the teams during December's First Coast Classic tournament.

Lee's slow-paced half court offense kept the game close for much of the first quarter as it limited the usually high-scoring Wildcats' offensive opportunities. Baker County's defense prevented Lee from scoring, which eventually set up the home team on the other end.

The Cats went on a 19-0 scoring run through the end of

the first quarter and the first

half of the second quarter to pull away from the Generals and take a 20-point halftime lead. The offensive run re-ignited when Walton scored two of his 12 points that night. He had a great all-around game as he also added eight assists and seven rebounds.

Baker County preserved its lead in the second half as the team was content with trading baskets with the visitors. The Generals called off their defense for the majority of the final three minutes as the Wildcats held onto the ball and killed the clock to secure their

six consecutive win.

Ruisse Jr. had a team-high 18 points while also hauling in six rebounds. Gardner finished third on the team with 10 points, while Brandon Lewis is led the team with nine rebounds.

The Cats were on the road for the first time in 2014 when they traveled to Terry Parker on January 14. See next week's edition for a recap. The team returns home for a District 3-5A match-up against Paxton on Friday, January 17.

Purchase this photo at [www.bakercountypress.com](http://www.bakercountypress.com)

Photo by Jud Johnson

CeCe Jefferson goes up to reject the ball.

## Head coach list down to five

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

"We are looking for a person that has both professional and personal good moral character," the principal said in an e-mail. "We are searching for an individual that governs his decisions by what is in the best interest of children. The new head coach must also have multiple years of successful head coaching experience."

Principal Hill hasn't put a timetable on when he and Mrs. Coggan will make their decision on who to offer the head coaching position to, but he doesn't want the search to be drawn out.

"It is important to have a new head coach in place as quickly as possible, but we must take the appropriate time to ensure the correct selection is made," he said. "We hope to make a decision in a timely and appropriate manner. Once the interviews and reference checks are completed, we will select a candidate to offer the position to."

The principal declined to release the names of the final five applicants.

## Lady Cats near .500 mark

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

young team that will continue to grow."

Washington once again led the Lady Cats in scoring with 28 points.

The lone blemish on the Cats' week was a close 43-37 loss at Bishop Kenny on January 9. The girls held an 11-point lead at halftime, but the Crusaders surged back in the second half due to the game's physicality and Baker County's lack of experience, according to Coach Chisholm.

"We just didn't get the calls in the second half," he said. "They played a great game and they played hard. But they're a

young team that will continue to grow."

With the momentum beginning to shift in their favor, the Lady Wildcats will look to build upon their hot start in the new year with three upcoming road games. The team traveled to Episcopat on January 14 and will make a trip to Baldwin on January 17. The girls' road trip wraps up when they visit Forrest on Martin Luther King Day. See next week's edition for further coverage.

### Baker County Little League BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS

Ages 4-16

at the  
Knabb Sports Complex  
Boardroom

#### SIGN-UP DATES:

Saturday, January 18.....10 am-12 pm  
Thursday, January 23.....6-8pm  
Saturday, January 25 .....10 am-12 pm  
Tuesday, January 28.....6-8pm  
Saturday, February 1.....10 am-1 pm

Please bring proof of residency and a copy of the child's birth certificate. Fee: \$70 first child, \$50 each additional child

BCLL will impose a \$25 late fee per child after the final sign-up.

**BOOT CAMP**  
starts  
January 13

Photo by Jud Johnson

&lt;p

# Classifieds

TO PLACE AN AD...

DEADLINES

## BY PHONE

**Call 904-259-2400**Hours to place, correct or cancel ads:  
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

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**classifieds@bakercountypress.com**

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

## FOR SALE

**Seasned oak firewood**, ½ cord \$70, full cord \$130. Delivered and stacked. 904-316-4225. 1/9-30p

**Entertainment center**, antique style \$150; full size mattress/box springs \$80; chainsaw \$50; edge trimmer \$30; antique style red and gold sofa \$100; drun set \$75; banjo \$50. 904-586-5791. 1/6p

**Sleep number bed**, queen size. Barely used, like new. \$1800. 904-553-1247. 1/9-16p

**Like new motorized wheelchair**. Petals for \$32,000, asking \$3000; refrigerator, good condition \$125; 12,000 BTU A/C, like new, used 1 month. \$200. 259-4250 or 904-316-7491. 1/6p

**Artists, Oils, acrylics**, water colors, canvases, drawing pads and much more. On sale now. The Office Mart, 110 S. Fifth Street, 259-3737. t/c

**Camille Beckman hand cream**, Root candles, unique gift items. Southern Charm 110 S. 5th Street. 259-4140. 1/6p

**Office Supplies**, printer and fax cartridges, rubber stamps and much more. We specialize in hard to find items. The Office Mart, 110 S. 5th Street. 259-3737.4/28fc

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**Public Auction**, Schmitt Casters & Equipment Company Inc. LIVE & ONLINE Tuesday, January 28th at 10am, 1299 W. Beaver Street, Jacksonville, FL 32204. Tremendous amount of New Material Handling Equipment. Forklift, Boat Trailers, Racking, Scrap Metal, Steel Casters, Dollies, Conveyor & much more. ABC Case No. 16-2013-CA-010616. Details at www.moecckeructions.com (800) 840-BIDS. 15%-18%BP \$100 ref. cash dep. Subj to confirm. AB-1098 AU-3219, Eric Rubin. 1/6p

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# 11 lady lifters onto sectionals

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

The BCHS Lady Wildcat weightlifting team placed 11 of its 15 members to the sectional meet by finishing in the top four of their respective weight classes in the subsectionals at Bishop Snyder on January 10.

Baker County competed against 13 other schools at the subsectional and the team had a successful showing as a whole. The Lady Cats had four first-place, three second-place and four third-place finishers at the meet to advance to the

next round of the state series. Sydnee Watson in the 110, Hayliegh Crawford in the 119, Mackenzie Hand in the 154 and Lacey Nettles in the 154 all finished atop their respective weight classes.

Kelsey Anderson finished behind Crawford for second place in the 119 class. Madyson Perry-Ruiz in the 129 and Glenna Godwin in the 183 also finished in second place in their weight classes.

The third place finishers were Kristian Carter in the 101, Kayla Sapley in the 110, Kayla Alford in the 169 and Jackie Anderson in the 183.

Now the team turns its attention to the sectionals on January 25, also at Bishop Snyder. The girls will be lifting against 27 other teams for a chance to advance to state. Since there are no classifications for school sizes in girls' weightlifting, there are no limits to the size of schools Baker County could be competing against. Clay, Bartram Trail and St. Augustine will be some of the toughest competition at the sectional meet, weightlifting coach Scott McDonald said.

"We've got some work to do in the next week-and-a-

half before the other half of the sectional," he said. "There are some very good teams over there."

Coach McDonald will work with the girls to help fix any technique errors before the sectional meet, which could improve their overall totals. Overall strength won't change that much in the short time until the next meet, but the correct technique could add five or ten pounds to a lifter's total, the coach said.

There will be 10 lifters in each weight class at the sectional meet, with the top three in every class advancing to the

state meet on February 8 in Kissimmee. Coach McDonald said he expects the Lady Cats to have lifters at state.

"We have some girls who are in the top three right now," he said. "There are also girls who are border line and near the bottom of the list of the 10

girls in the weight class. I just ask the girls to give it the best that they have and we'll see where we fall within the section."

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## UC loss follows a sweep at quad meet

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

The BCHS Wildcat wrestling team competed with mixed results in two home meets on January 13 and 14 by winning a quad meet before losing to University Christian.

The Cats' wrestlers had a great day in a quad meet on January 13 as the team was able to defeat Interlachen, Raines and Bradford for a perfect record at the meet. Coach Brunner said the team had strong showings from Collyn Green, Jonathan Ruise and James Carter.

The Wildcats weren't as successful the following day as they fell to the visiting University Christian 54-20. Although they didn't win the overall meet, the team still had wrestlers who came out victorious

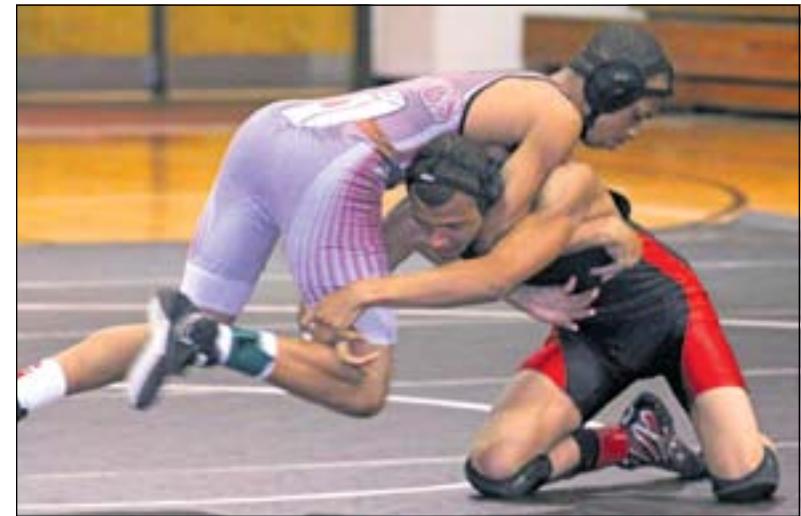


PHOTO BY JUD JOHNSON

Johnny Ruise (right) goes low on the attack.

in their individual matches.

Sean Mulkey won by technical fall in the second round in the 182-pound division after dominating his opponent for the majority of the bout. He tried to secure a pin in the late portions of the opening round, but he was unable to do so before time ran out. He continued to control the match in the second round before it was stopped.

In the 132-pound class, Brandon Harvey won by points 9-5 when the match went all three rounds.

Louis Handte in the 138 and Caleb Griffin in the 152 weight classes also won their matches via forfeit.

The team will remain busy in the coming weeks as they begin to prepare for the district meet on February 1. The Wildcats will travel to the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind on January 16 and then compete in a 10-team tournament two days later.

Coach Brunner said the team will have to overcome injuries in the closing weeks of the season, but the wrestlers are working hard to end the season on a positive note.

"The kids are working as hard as they can to do the best with what they have," Coach Brunner said. "We want to go out and put on a show and finish the year out strong."

## SPECIAL EXCEPTION

Mr. Ghandi Ayoub is requesting a special exception for the property he is leasing at 101 S. 6th Street, Macclenny, FL 32063. This property is zoned Commercial General and is currently used as a convenience store (Smoker Friendly). The special exception is for a 3APS Liquor License. The store has a 2APS for beer and wine only. The 3APS would allow for the packaged sales, only in sealed containers of liquor also. There would be no consumption on premises. There will be a Zoning Adjustment Board Meeting held on February 3, 2014 at 5:00 pm at City Hall. Any support or objections may be heard at this time.



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