



Wildcats roll in Classic Page 19



Margaretta Firewise Page 13

THE BAKER COUNTY PRESS

\$1.00

89TH YEAR | VOLUME 18

AUGUST 23, 2018

AT A
GLANCE

► **THINGS TO DO**

AUGUST 23

BCHS JV Wildcat football vs Ridgeview
6 p.m.

Memorial Stadium
169 W. Shuey Ave.
Macclenny, FL

The JV Cats kick off their season against Ridgeview at Memorial Stadium.

AUGUST 24

Senior citizen prom
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Agricultural Center
U.S. 90
Macclenny

The Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee and Baker County Council on Aging is once again sponsoring a senior citizen prom set for August 24 at 6 p.m. at the Ag Center. "Fall in Love with Seniors" is the theme and the event will include food, music and dancing.

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► **MORE NEWS**



Pushing to be a starter
See page 17

Go vote ...

Which GOP front-runner do you support for governor?

Adam Putnam
59%

Ron DeSantis
41%

bakercountypress.com

School board hopefuls Q&A

Page 5



Dies in police standoff

JOEL ADDINGTON
MANAGING EDITOR
reporter@bakercountypress.com

A Sanderson man was killed by police last week on Whipperwill Lane in the southwestern county after he reportedly shot his neighbor and then fired on officers who were attempting to convince him to exit his residence.

The man killed was Charlie Lee Hodges, 58, a welder with a history of violent criminal offenses in Baker County. Sheriff Scotty Rhoden said the next day Mr. Lee shot at deputies from his open doorway and the officers returned fire, killing the suspect.

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FDLE processes the shooting scene on Whipperwill Lane last Thursday morning, August 16.

Photo by Joel Addington

Charged in felony abuse of his child

Baker County detectives arrested a north county man and woman on August 16 and charged them



Kenneth Haley



Carmen Yeomans

with child abuse and child neglect for what were described as frequent beatings on a 6-year-old boy who showed up at Westside Elementary bearing bruises and lacerations.

Booked later that morning for felony abuse were Kenneth Haley, 38, and Carmen Yeomans, 59, described as the victim's grandmother. Both were taken into custody following questioning by police at their residence on Eulie Lane off CR 127.

Deputy Jeremiah Combs said he was made aware by the boy's teacher of bruising behind his left ear and above his left eye, and a small laceration on his forehead. When the teacher quizzed him about it, she said he replied "I got in trouble" for using a computer at school.

The officer contacted the Department of Children and Families, and two case workers went to the school to interview the boy.

After initially claiming he caused the wounds by hitting himself, the boy confessed his parents used a paddle to "spank" him on "the bottom, on his legs, on his arms, his hands and his head."

At one point, the deputy noted that he heard one of the DCF workers "gasp" when the boy pulled down his pants and revealed "severe bruising and several scabs ... some leaking pus,"

See page 2

False ad links Brannan to Dems

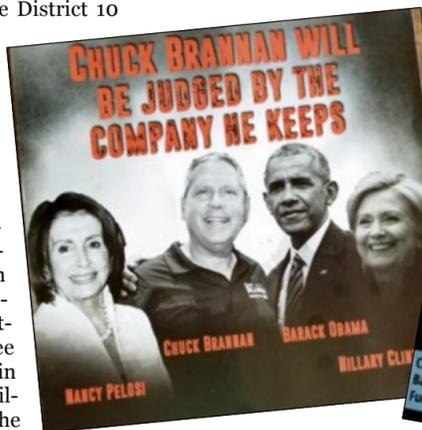
JOEL ADDINGTON
MANAGING EDITOR
reporter@bakercountypress.com

The Republican primary for state house District 10 took a nose dive into the muddier and seedier side of politics in recent weeks when mailers from Lake City business owner and candidate Marc Vann and a newly-formed political committee named Truth in Politics hit mailboxes across the district.

The mailers attempt to use union support for Mr. Vann's primary opponent, Macclenny resident Chuck

Brannan, as evidence he is politically in line with national leaders of the Democratic party, which is false. One of the mailers in-

cludes



a fake image (at left above) of Mr. Brannan with former president Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and U.S.

House minority leader Nancy Pelosi. It's been disavowed by Mr. Vann and decry by Mr. Brannan.

Mr. Brannan said his opponent has used the same theme, how-

ever, in his own mailers and during a political forum at Florida Gate-

way College this month. He said there have been a total four mailers with the same dishonest theme distributed in the weeks leading up to the primary next Tuesday, most recently last Saturday when the mailer with the fake group image was delivered in Baker County. The chairman of a closed political committee that was also named

ever, in his own mailers and during a political forum at Florida Gate-

See page 3

Brown-Lawson vie to be Dem's choice

This week *The Press* sent a handful of questions about Baker County to the two front-runners in the Democratic primary for the District 5 Congressional race after the campaign for former Jacksonville Mayor Alvin Brown, the challenger in the race, sought an interview with the newspaper ahead of Tuesday's primary. He faces incumbent Al Lawson (D-Tallahassee), who was elected in a special election in 2016 following the redrawing of District 5 boundaries.

Below are the questions and their edited answers:

Press: As a small, conservative rural county with a low tax base and an aversion to increasing the tax burden on local citizens who earn per capita 58 percent less than the average Floridian, Baker County has struggled to

Q&A



Alvin Brown



Al Lawson

establish the infrastructure needed to diversify the local economy and local

employment opportunities.

Half of the county's workers commute out of county for work. The largest employers here are Walmart and the government — a prison, a mental hospital and various branches of local government.

Central water and sewer utilities do not exist outside the county seat of Macclenny, which itself has a sewer system installed in the 1940s, and the same goes for paved roads, public amenities, etc.

What would you do in Congress to change this dynamic?

Brown: I will fight for smart investments in our infrastructure — from our roads and bridges, to our public schools — and attract economic

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Abuse: Workers ‘gasp’ at boy’s injuries

From page 1

which the boy said were made by his father using a paddle.

The interviewers then

called in the boy’s sister, 7 and also a student at Westside, who Detective Combs described as “well-kept and groomed and all around in good spirits.”

After initially claiming her brother’s wounds were self-inflicted, the girl then described a litany of abuse on her brother, including being whipped with a wooden spoon or paddle, being allowed 15 minutes to eat his dinner, being forced to eat his own vomit and being threatened by the grandmother to banish him to the dog pen “for being bad.”

The girl also described how her brother is made to sleep on a pallet next to his father’s bed while tied to a string or rope to keep him from going into the kitchen to eat candy.

She said her brother is forbidden to use the bath-

room during the night, and was whipped with the paddle for urinating on himself.

Following the interviews, several officers accompanied the DCF workers to the Eulis Lane address where they questioned Mr. Haley and Ms. Yeomans, and also searched the residence looking for other children.

They found several items that were consistent with the children’s statements, including a broken spoon paddle, the string used to tie the boy on the pallet and blood on his pillow.

A large block of wood formed into the shape of a paddle was also found. It had a dried, dark-colored substance on it suspected to be blood.

Mr. Haley, who is on probation for child abuse in Bay County, FL, admitted during questioning to paddling the child and tying him up at night. Ms. Yeomans admitted she was aware of the abuse and did nothing to stop it.

Both suspects remain in jail this week, Mr. Haley with no bond and Ms. Yeomans with a bond of \$50,000.

In an unrelated case of an arrested parent, a 38-year-old Sanderson mom was jailed August 17 for not appearing in court on a misdemeanor count of failing to ensure her 9-year-old child attended school for roughly three months at the start of the calendar year.

The state attorney’s office filed the charge back in April after Nicole D. Winston’s initial arrest, then a warrant was issued in May for failing to appear.

Shoots neighbor before standoff

From page 1

Sheriff Rhoden said the neighbor, later identified as Walter M. Thompson Jr., 68, was taken from his home across the street from Mr. Hodges’ address to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

Larry Sluder, who lives two doors down from Mr. Thompson, said he heard Mr. Thompson was shot in the leg.

After the initial shooting, however, Mr. Hodges barricaded himself inside his residence at 1618 Whipoorwill Lane where a standoff ensued. The road is off John Mann Road west of CR 229 South near the county line.

“We tried everything we could to get this individual to surrender to us without any harm to him or our deputies,” Sheriff Rhoden told News4Jax. “I would ask our community, if you would, to remember this family and our officers in their prayers.”

After allegedly shooting his neighbor, Mr. Hodges was said to be armed, possibly with a shotgun, and was inside his truck stuck in the mud, dispatchers advised responding officer Deputy Morgan McDuffie, according to a highly-redacted report released by the sheriff’s office early this week.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) was at the scene the morning after the incident processing evidence for its investigation of the police-involved shooting that

killed Mr. Hodges and the sheriff’s office inquiry on initial shooting.

The sheriff’s office routinely calls in the state agency to process crimes scenes where people are killed.

Mr. Sluder recalled that about 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 15 he heard a “big gun go off” that he said sounded like a black powder gun. He said a short time later his grandson heard nine more shots coming from the same direction.

As Mr. Sluder and his wife left for church, sheriff’s office units began arriving.

“They were on the bullhorn trying to get him out,” he said of Mr. Hodges and police.

Mr. Sluder said he heard there was an argument about money between the deceased and his on-again, off-again girlfriend, who is Mr. Thompson’s niece.

“They’d separate for a little while and then get back together and fuss and fight,” he said. “That’s what brought that on yesterday. What I heard, and I don’t know how true it is, but they said that she got some money from Lee and that’s what he was — he was going to kill her ...”

Mr. Hodges was found guilty of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon in 2012 and was sentenced to one year in jail. He had convictions for battery, improper exhibition of a dangerous weapon and resisting arrest dating back to 1996.

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Patient charged in attack

The State Attorney’s office recently filed one count of felony battery on a Northeast Florida State Hospital patient for striking an employee with force sufficient enough to result in three fractures to the left side of his face.

Based on a report of the incident filed when it occurred on May 26, employee Jason McIntyre, 32, of Macclenny was attempting to calm patient Daniel Burke, 51, when he was attacked. Mr. Burke had been arguing with another patient on Ward 57E at the time.

In other recent arrests, Noah Starling, 20, of Middleburg was arrested on August 15 on three counts of conspiracy to commit grand theft by paying others to cash checks stolen from Tom Royston, 69, of Maxville.

According to a report submitted by Detective John Blanchard, Mr. Starling paid Crystal Miller of Maxville and Heather Behm of Macclenny to cash checks for \$350 and \$400 at Vystar in Macclenny, and Steven Behm of Macclenny to cash another for \$600 at First Federal in Macclenny. The transactions took place in April, and the accused paid each of them \$100.

• Trooper Ryan Davenport of the Florida

Highway Patrol arrested Amanda Weichman, 31, of Tamarac, FL for felony driving on a license revoked as an habitual offender.

The trooper said he stopped Ms. Weichman’s Chevrolet on August 13 on W. Minnesota in Macclenny after learning the license tag belonged on another vehicle.

• A Macclenny driver was arrested August 18 for driving on a suspended license and failing to stop at an agriculture station by officer D. Fritz of the Florida Department of Agriculture, who was at the station at 1600 SR 121 about 8:20 that evening.

The officer said Randall L. Johns, 52, passed the station without stopping in a 1994 Chevy cargo van with Georgia plates. He trailed the driver to SR 2 at Helen Thrift Road where a traffic stop was conducted.

A license check showed Mr. Johns driver’s license was suspended indefinitely in 2015 and was arrested for transport to the Baker County jail. The van was released to its owner.

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Political advertisement paid for and approved by Gloria Walker for Circuit Court Judge, Eighth Circuit, Non-Partisan.

The Baker County Press Weather

Five Day Forecast

Thursday
Isolated T-storms
High: 93 Low: 74

Friday
Scattered T-storms
High: 91 Low: 76

Saturday
Scattered T-storms
High: 89 Low: 74

Sunday
Isolated T-storms
High: 91 Low: 76

Monday
Isolated T-storms
High: 89 Low: 78

Tuesday
Mostly Sunny
High: 93 Low: 80

Wednesday
Sunny
High: 96 Low: 81

Today's High & Low Temperatures

Last Week's Local Almanac

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip
Tue, 8/14	93	75	91/70	0.04"
Wed, 8/15	90	72	91/70	0.58"
Thu, 8/16	97R	70	90/70	0.02"
Fri, 8/17	97	72	90/70	0.13"
Sat, 8/18	97	72	90/70	0.01"
Sun, 8/19	97	72	90/70	0.00"
Mon, 8/20	95	72	90/70	0.00"

Precipitation 0.78"
Normal precipitation 1.60"
Departure from normal -0.82"
Average temperature 83.6°
Average normal temperature 80.1°
Departure from normal +3.5°

Data as reported from Cecil Field Airport

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	8:01 p.m.
Friday	7:00 a.m.	8:00 p.m.
Saturday	7:01 a.m.	7:59 p.m.
Sunday	7:01 a.m.	7:58 p.m.
Monday	7:02 a.m.	7:56 p.m.
Tuesday	7:03 a.m.	7:55 p.m.
Wednesday	7:03 a.m.	7:54 p.m.

St. Mary's River Levels

Location	Now	Change
Moniac, GA	6.24 ft.	-0.13 ft.
Macclenny	9.13 ft.	-0.22 ft.

Hunting/Fishing Times

Day	Peak Times	
	AM	PM
Thu	10:26-12:26	10:49-12:49
Fri	--	11:13-1:13
Sat	11:36-1:36	11:59-1:59
Sun	12:21-2:21	12:44-2:44
Mon	1:06-3:06	1:28-3:28
Tue	1:50-3:50	2:12-4:12
Wed	2:34-4:34	2:56-4:56

Weather History

Aug. 23, 1933 - Dry thunderstorms ignited more than one hundred fires in the Wenatchee and Okanogan National Forests of Washington State. Hot, dry, and windy weather spread the fires, a few of which burned out of control through the end of the month. More than 100,000 acres burned.

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Candidate smeared in false ad

From page 1

Truth in Politics said he was upset by that mailer and one more that listed his former committee's address rather than the address of the active committee under the same name.

The result was that Jason Steele, the chair of the closed Truth in Politics committee and a former state lawmaker turned political consultant, received "hundreds of calls" from angry District 10 constituents supporting both candidates, he said.

Mr. Steele said multiple times he was "furious" that someone — presumably the men behind the new Truth in Politics committee, chair Kristopher Gomez and treasurer David Hernandez, both of Doral, FL near Miami — would use the name and address of his closed political committee.

"I've sent thousands of mailers over the years but I've never gotten this many calls from the community," said Mr. Steele Monday.

He responded by sending an email August 15 with the subject line "Campaign Violation and misuse of my address on former CCE [committee of continuing existence] Truth in Politics" to Mr. Hernandez. It said that Mr. Steele was disturbed by a phone call he received from someone accusing him of sending a mailer, images of which he attached to the message.

"As you can see you are using my ad-

dress," wrote Mr. Steele in all caps. "I would appreciate you correcting this problem ASAP, and cease using anything that may be misconstrued by the general public as my work product. I clearly do not want to have anything to do with this committee ..."

Mr. Steele said he was considering filing a complaint with the Florida Elections Commission regarding the misuse of his address. If found to be in violation of state election laws, the committee could be fined up to \$1000 per violation.

A call to the new committee revealed its voice mail was full. A call and email to a CPA in Doral named David Hernandez was not returned. A review of the public filings by the new Truth in Politics committee showed no campaign finance activity through August 10. The committee has also failed to file two campaign treasurer's reports or notices of no activity on time. The filing due July 27 was received August 8. The filing due August 3 remained outstanding as of early this week.

No fines were imposed for the first missed deadline because no activity had taken place during the reporting period, a letter from the state shows.

Still, the damage has been done to any voters who may not know much about Mr. Brannan or his politics, but also those supporting Mr. Vann's campaign, which may take the blame for the mud-slinging.

Both men took to social media to address the mailers.

"In the last few weeks, four completely false, malicious and libelous mailers hit our mailboxes in an attempt to funnel votes to my opponent," Mr. Brannan posted to Facebook on August 18. "My photos have been stolen and Photoshopped to appear with liberal Democrats whose beliefs and agenda I strongly oppose. Some have been paid for directly by my opponent and some by 'soft Tallahassee PAC money' that illustrate that is wrong with our system and what I'm fighting to change."

Mr. Brannan is the chairman of the Baker County Republican Party, a member of the state Republican Executive Committee and, in his words, "a Republican who worked to help elect Donald Trump and was invited to and attended the inauguration ..."

Two days prior Mr. Vann wrote for his Facebook page: "Today, our district received a negative mail piece against my opponent, Chuck Brannan. You have my word that my campaign had nothing to do with this mail piece. I have denounced this action, and I demand that whoever is responsible for this to stop immediately."

District 10 includes Baker, Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee counties as well as a portion of Alachua County. Early voting has started and the primary election will be August 28.

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Four arrests for resisting

Baker County deputies jailed four persons recently for resisting arrest, both with and without violence, including an intoxicated Georgia man who made aggressive advances and had to be tased before he was subdued the evening of August 16.

Cpl. Marc Heath was tipped off by a citizen that Christopher Graves, 46, of Nicholls, GA was creating a scene at Moody's Chevron in downtown Macclenny. The deputy said Mr. Graves' Dodge pickup was parked at a gas pump with music blaring from the interior.

When confronted by the deputy, he allegedly stared at the corporal's name tag, tensed up and pulled away while cursing loudly and assuming a fighting pose with balled fists.

When he refused to calm down, Cpl. Heath fired a taser shot and the suspect pulled the taser probes off before going to the ground under threat of a second shot. He was taken into custody after being subdued by the deputy and Sgt. Patrick McGauley.

Mr. Graves was booked

for felony and misdemeanor resisting arrest, threatening the officer, disorderly intoxication and possession of two marijuana pipes.

- Priscilla Gentry, 30, was arrested late on August 17 for felony resisting Deputy Shane Dickens by grabbing his right forearm and scratching him drawing blood when they arrived at county jail. She is also charged with biting Felicia Chestnut of the jail staff.
- Deputy Dickens and Cpl. John Murphy responded to a report that Ms. Gentry was lying in the roadway near CR 125 and Parmalee Street. When they questioned her, she became argumentative, cursing and pulling away to avoid being handcuffed.
- Deputy Dickens arrest-

ed Ryan Barnes, 21, of Sanderson the early evening of August 14 after he became disruptive at the Fraser Hospital emergency room.

The officer said ER staff would not discharge him without a ride or escort due to his intoxicated state.

- Sgt. Ben Anderson took Dylan Manning, 23, of Macclenny to jail the evening of August 13 when he became argumentative while being questioned outside his residence on C.W. Webb Road.

The deputy responded to a complaint of reckless driving, and traced the vehicle and tag number to Mr. Manning's residence just before 7 p.m. He is charged with misdemeanor resisting.

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for School Board District 4

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My goal as a school board member will be to spend time at the schools working with the teachers, students and non-instructional staff to see how we can work together and what improvements can be made to better our school system and the safety of our children.

I am a strong advocate of vocational education. All students should be prepared for and provided opportunities for life after graduation. I would also like to see more expansions on volunteers and mentor programs in our schools. I would love to have the opportunity to work closely with the state representatives and legislatures to increase funding for our schools and staff. When students succeed, we all succeed. Our children are our future. God Bless!

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MACCLENNY CITY COMMISSION

Mill rate will remain at 6.3 — again

Ninth year at the same

MIKE ANDERSON
PRESS STAFF

Change is not something Macclenny city leaders easily embrace, at least not when it comes to levying an annual property tax rate on residents and business owners who also pay county property taxes.

The city manager has recommended the existing millage rate remain the same in 2018-19 for the ninth consecutive year at 3.6 mills, or \$3.60 for every \$1000 of taxable valuation, as the city enters the start of the new fiscal year on October 1.

The current rate is included in a proposed \$4.9 million general fund budget, which exceeds the current budget by \$533,229.

Ad valorem millage, more commonly known as property taxes, is expected to produce about \$850,008 in the coming year — \$54,705 more than this year. Officials attributed the increase mainly to new residential construction.

Although commissioners voted July 10 to tentatively set the maximum tax rate at 3.9 mills, which would produce about \$70,000 in additional revenue next year, they and the city manager had pledged to pass a new budget using the same millage rate.

“We can lower it but we can’t go up. The intent is to bring the budget in at 3.6 mills,” City Manager Phil Rhoden stated at the July meeting.

Mr. Rhoden released his budget recommendation following the city commission’s monthly meeting on August 14, at which time the board voted to lift a moratorium on water and sewer impact fees next year.

The city suspended the imposition of impact fees some time ago in an effort to promote new residential de-

velopment and agreed in November, 2017 to extend the fee waiver another year at the request of home builders.

But now that the economy is on the upswing and the city’s population is growing again, officials say it’s time to start levying those impact fees again, a move also recommended by city auditors to boost revenue.

“We’ve had an explosion of growth fueled partly by the absence of impact fees,” said Mayor Mark Bryant, noting that the city will still have “the lowest fees” around compared to communities in five surrounding counties.

The city manager said impact fees recommended by city engineers for water and sewer service on a “standard” residential dwelling will total \$1367. He said he does not anticipate any negative impact from the fees.

“We don’t think it will be detrimental to growth at all, and we do feel that growth should pay for itself,” Mr. Rhoden said.

The following is a list of utility impact fees in other nearby communities: Clay County Utility Authority, \$2185; St. Johns County, \$4316; Town of Baldwin, \$1455; JEA (Jacksonville Electric Authority), \$3308; City of Lake City, \$5190; and City of Starke, \$1844.

The vote to lift the moratorium in Macclenny follows a similar action of the city in November, 2017 when water and sewer hookup charges were increased for the first time in more than two decades to help fund city-wide sewer renovation projects.

The city’s proposed total operating budget of \$7.8 million includes the \$4.9 million general fund — which covers expenses for such things as public safety, streets and recreation, solid waste, building department, information services and city hall workers — and a \$2.8 million utility fund to operate the water and wastewater treatment and distribution systems.

In addition to the impact fee reinstatement, commissioners last week also adopted a new one-year agree-

ment with the Baker County Sheriff’s Office for law enforcement services in the city.

The current agreement, Mr. Rhoden said, was “a little non-specific,” while the new agreement states that the city is contracting with the sheriff “for the purpose of acquiring enhanced services for its citizens above and beyond the standard scope of law enforcement services provided to all Baker County residents.”

It further stipulates that the city “requests that the sheriff provide no less than one deputy sheriff inside the city limits at all times unless there is a need for the deputy to respond to a life-threatening event outside the city limits.”

The agreement goes on to state that the city “agrees that the determination for the deputy sheriff to leave the city shall be made by the ranking supervisor ... on duty at the time of the event.”

In the past, Mr. Rhoden said, the deputy assigned to patrol the city wasn’t obligated to be in the city at all times. For example, they might go “shoot radar” on I-10 now and then.

But the new agreement, he said, “specifically obligates them to be here,” except in life-or-death situations outside the city limits.

Commissioner Danny Norton, for one, said he liked the wording in the proposed agreement, adding, “This is getting some bang for the buck and now it’s in writing.”

Mr. Rhoden said he will ask the sheriff to notify the city any time the assigned deputy is called out of town to respond to “a life threatening event,” but he thought that would happen rarely.

“I think it’ll be very minimal the number of times that would happen,” he said.

The agreement also states the city wants the sheriff to provide “necessary staff at all pre-agreed upon city-sponsored events to ensure the safety and well-being of its citizens (i.e. Christmas Parade, Ghost in the Oaks, etc.)”

Commissioners approved the document “as to form,” since a space where the appropriation was to go was left blank. The city manager told the board that he would include the amount in the proposed budget later in the week, which he did.

The budgeted amount for the sheriff’s office was set at \$180,000, down from \$295,598 in 2017-18, in a continuation of a trend toward lower appropriations for law enforcement over the past few years.

The yearly amount for law enforcement has gradually been pared down from a high of \$491,100 in 2016 because city officials said budget cuts had to be made due to the city facing millions of dollars in an extensive overhaul of its aging sewer system.

If commissioners feel they need more time to work on the budget another workshop will be held at 6 p.m. August 28. A public hearing will be scheduled for a first vote on the new budget and tax rate at 6 p.m. September 11, followed by final adoption at 5:45 p.m. on September 25.

Also during the August 14 meeting the commission:

- Approved an ordinance authorizing a 30-year non-exclusive electric service franchise agreement with Clay Electric Cooperative Inc., headquartered in Keystone Heights.

The move, which would make Clay Electric the second electric franchise in Macclenny, was prompted by the city’s annexation last year of a proposed housing development on Woodlawn Road — Lakes of Woodlawn — that lies within Clay Electric’s service territory. Florida Power & Light Co. currently is the only electric utility in the city.

Under the terms of the agreement Clay Electric will pay the city 6 percent of all its billings to residential, commercial and industrial electric customers in Macclenny.

THINGS TO DO

From page 1

BCHS Wildcats vs St. Augustine

7 p.m.
Memorial Stadium
169 W. Shuey Ave.,
Macclenny

The BCHS Wildcats, the defending District 5-5A champions and Class 5A runners-up, open the regular at Memorial Stadium against St. Augustine.

AUGUST 25

Free bike helmet giveaway

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
The Florida Department of Transportation and Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida is partnering to improve bicycle safety in Baker County by giving out free helmets and other safety gear on August 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Heritage Park. It’s part of FDOT’s Safe Routes to Schools program. No registration is required.

Hunter safety class in Macclenny

1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is offering a free hunter safety course completion class (to be completed after the online class) in Macclenny. Register online and you’ll be notified of the location. Bring your online class completion form to the in-person class. All firearms, ammunition and materials will be provided free of charge. Bring a pen or pencil and paper. Children younger than 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Anyone born after June 1, 1975 must pass the hunter safety course before being issued a license to hunt with a firearm or bow in Florida. For more information about hunter safety courses, visit MyFWC.com/HunterSafety or call the FWC’s Regional Office in Lake City at 386-758-0525.

AUGUST 27

BCMS Lady Bobcat volleyball vs Lake Asbury

5:30 p.m.
Baker County Middle School
The Lady B-Cats begin their season at home against Lake Asbury.

AUGUST 30

BCMS swim tri-meet

4:30 p.m.
Baker County YMCA
The BCHS swim team opens its season in a tri-meet against Columbia and Baldwin.

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Hit-and-run: Box truck strikes Jeep

JOEL ADDINGTON
MANAGING EDITOR
reporter@bakercountypress.com

An elderly Glen St. Mary driver and her two passengers were uninjured when struck by a Ryder truck on the interstate Monday afternoon, which the Florida Highway Patrol is investi-

gating as a hit-and-run.

According to FHP crash investigator Trooper Jeffrey Thomas, the 2019 Isuzu Ryder box truck, whose driver was not identified, was heading west about two miles east of U.S. 301 in the right lane when it made an improper lane change and hit the 2016 Jeep Compass

driven by Gwendolyn Walls, 77.

Neither she nor passengers Edward Walls, 72, or Brittany Anderson, 28, were hurt. All were wearing seat belts and the Jeep immediately stopped after the

crash, which damaged the right side mirror and right front vendor of the Jeep.

Trooper Thomas said the Isuzu should have damage to its left side and a witness saw it exit on 301.

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These organizations are firefighters, police officers, corrections officers, the elected State Attorney, building contractors, gun owners, and others. I have been accused by my opponent in false mailers and Photoshopped pictures, of being allied with Obama and Clinton — that is ridiculous! I am a staunch conservative and support our president 100%. I received the support of the hard working men and women who serve us every day. The truth is, my opponent sought the same endorsements and they chose me. I am proud to have their support and would be honored to have your support.

Paid by Chuck Brannan, Republican for State Representative

School board candidates sound off

Ahead of next week's primary District 4 school board candidates Charlie "Artie" Burnett, the incumbent, and second-time challenger Jody Anderson answered several questions about education policy and Baker County schools specifically. Below are the questions emailed to the candidates last week and their responses.

What's your philosophy on public education?

Artie Burnett: Public education should be free and of the highest quality affordable by the population of a community, county, district. Our children are our future! School security.

Jody Anderson: Making it a top priority to put our public schools back on top.

With the recent security upgrades made last summer, are schools secure enough, and if not, what more should be done to protect students and school employees?

Anderson: The safety measures done over the summer were a great step in the right direction. We need to continue to strive to keep our children and school personnel safe.

Burnett: Our security upgrades have greatly improved the security of our schools. Upgrades to our physical layouts, upgrades to security systems, and increased security personnel, i.e. 4 new resource officers. With school security being the hot topic that it currently is, (and this is a good thing for a terrible reason) I fully expect more recommendations from panels and committees of security experts around the state and in Tallahassee for us to consider.

What is the appropriate role of a school board member?

Burnett: As a policy maker for the school district that enables the staff of the school district, both instructional and non-instructional, to best educate, nurture and build confidence in our children to be able to face the world as adults. Also, as an intermediary when necessary for children and parents with district personnel.

Anderson: Being at the schools, being active and listening to see what the board could do to help better our school district.

What state mandates on Florida's public schools would you work to roll back or reverse, why?

Anderson: If elected I will check in on mandates and see if any need to be reversed or rolled back.

Burnett: Most important is standardized testing. A couple of years back the amount of testing required by the state had gotten beyond ridiculous. There have been some improvements, but we can continue to need more done to reduce the time our students spend testing rather than learning.

In what areas of the budget would you like to see the school district invest more money?

Burnett: I would like to be able to allocate more money to technology and more vocational programs. We have been able to improve our technology level, but we have more to do to keep up with advancements in technology for businesses and industries. We are excited about a new drone program being started with our ROTC and Embry Riddle Aeronautical school. I would like to get more vocational programs to have the

Q & A



Artie Burnett



Jody Anderson

students who want to start their career after high school to be job ready.

Anderson: In teachers and staff employees of our school district.

Besides funding, what are the biggest challenges facing public schools in Baker County in your view?

Anderson: Population, overcrowding in the classrooms, and bullying.

Burnett: Most of all our challenges ultimately come back to needs of more funding. However, we have some of the hardest working, innovative, loyal and dedicated staff who are always looking for new, better and less expensive ways to educate.

In your view, what have been the biggest successes for the schools in Baker County in recent years?

Burnett: This past year we had one of the largest group of seniors to graduate with highest honors both in number and in percentage of the class as we ever have.

I think our school district is producing some of the most capable students for both higher learning and the job market as we ever have.

Anderson: Upgrading of school security, adding to the aviation field and electrical apprentice program.

If elected, or reelected, what school board policy would you work to change first, if any?

Anderson: If elected I would check into them to see if any of them need to be adjusted or changed.

Burnett: I have no targeted policy on my agenda. I simply want to continue to do what is best for the children.

Mr. Burnett, you've talked about the need for significantly more money for a new school and hope that the state will pay for it. Under what circumstances would support a tax or impact fee increase to pay for a new school should the state not allocate enough money?

Burnett: Our county is so small that a tax or impact fee increase would not raise enough revenue to cover the enormous expense of building a new school. We will need to work with the legislature to obtain grants from the state and federal sources to raise this kind of revenue.

Mr. Anderson, you've consistently said you wanted to be a voice for the students, parents, faculty and the public regarding local schools. You've pledged to listen to them to help guide your priorities if elected. Often times,

however, views among these groups can differ. How will you set your priorities on controversial or contested issues?

Anderson: My goal is to listen and I will learn to prioritize needs based on what happens now versus what takes time.

Mr. Burnett, you've said you'd like to see more flexibility in student expulsion hearings so that more students can be kept in school. In terms of a policy, what does that look like in practice compared to what happens today?

Mr. Burnett: We have added more flexibility over the past 8 years and I believe it has helped in managing the student population and giving second chances before children are brought before the board for an expulsion hearing.

Mr. Anderson, what concerns you about standardized testing and why?

Mr. Anderson: Teachers want to teach their subject contents out instead of having to teach for tests.

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SCHOOL BOARD District 4

QUALIFIED:

- School Board member since 2010
- Associates Degree - Lake City Community College, graduated Magna Cum Laude with a 4.0 GPA
- Bachelors Degree - Florida State University with a major in finance and banking, and minor in public administration & accounting
- Baker County resident for 42 years

FISCAL CONSERVATIVE:

- The school board has not increased the tax rate while I have served
- Tax rate reduced slightly each year I have served on the board
- We have managed to do this while dealing with a serious recession

RELIABLE AND DEPENDABLE:

- Employed with the state of Florida in corrections for the past 36 years
- Married to Martha Lloyd Burnett for 32 years
- Father of 27 year old, Charlie Burnett IV and 13 year old, Maranda Burnett

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I feel being a member of the Baker County School Board has allowed me to use my education, experience and fiscally conservative values to positively and effectively serve my community. With your vote, you can be assured I will continue to do my best. I look forward to continuing to serve you as we face the challenges of today and tomorrow.

My roots in Baker County go back over 100 years to when my great-grandfather John Burnett bought a farm north of Sanderson near Cedar Creek and moved his family there, which included my grandfather, Charlie Burnett, around 1914. My father, Charlie "Mac" Burnett was later born at home in Sanderson in a house that sat between the hard road (Hwy 90) and the railroad. So, my passion for and commitment to Baker County and the people living here runs deep.

MACCLENNY CITY COMMISSION

Fire department to stop answering county calls

MIKE ANDERSON
PRESS STAFF

For years the Macclenny Fire and Rescue Department has served as the first responder on hundreds of calls from nearby residences and businesses in unincorporated Baker County neighborhoods at no cost to the county.

But now that the county soon will begin receiving hundreds of thousands of dollars in higher annual fire assessments the city's generosity is coming to an end.

The city commission authorized City Manager Phil Rhoden on August 14 to move forward with plans to stop answering calls outside the city limits and turn over first responder responsibilities to the county after January 1, 2019.

"We'll still have a mutual aid agreement with the county. We're just changing who will be the first responder," said Mr. Rhoden.

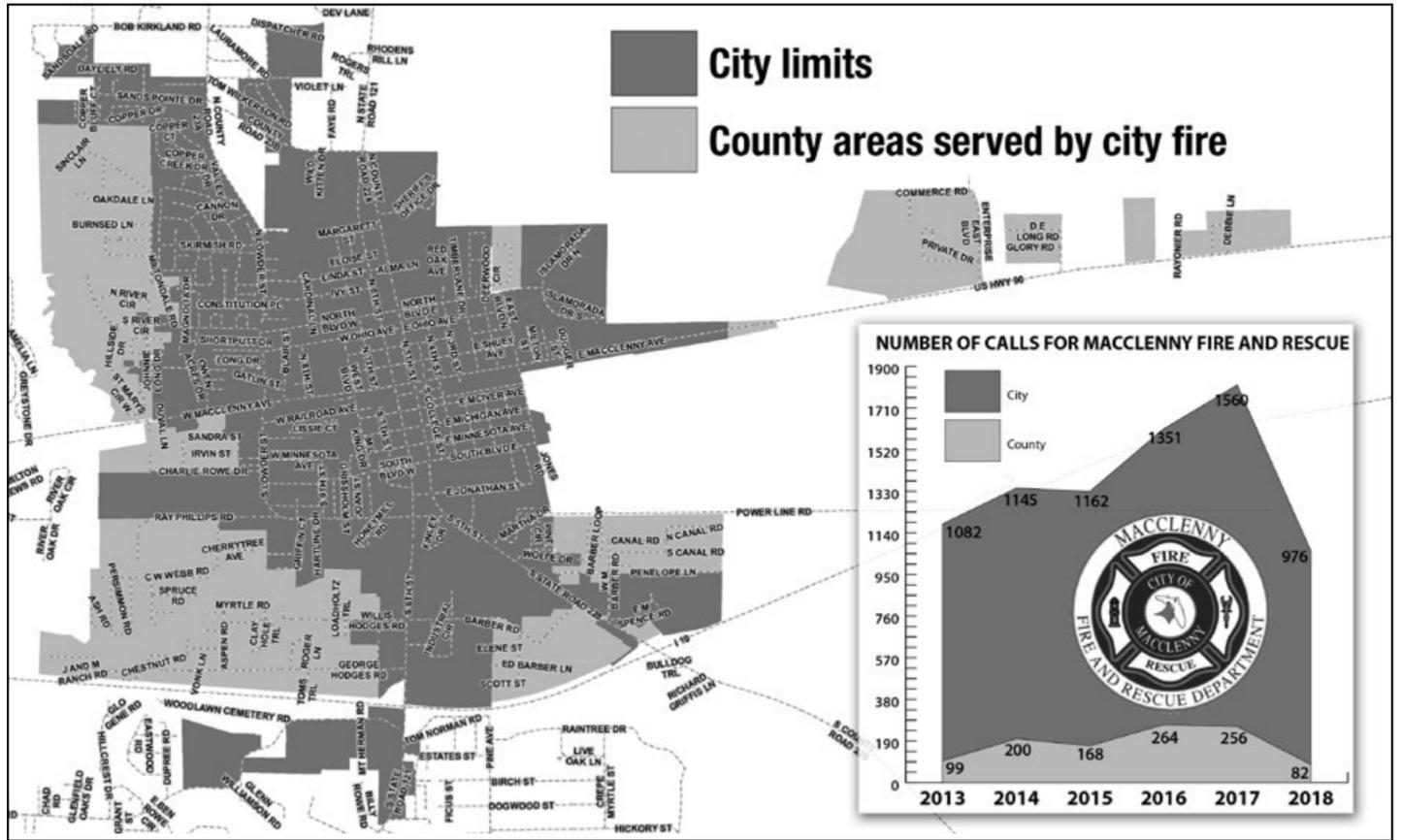
The city agreed years ago to provide protection to adjoining county areas to ensure that those residents and business owners would receive help as quickly as possible, rather than risk the loss of lives or property due to slower county response times.

The city manager said the county areas protected by city fire and rescue personnel include 568 residences as well as a number of commercial properties, including the Walmart Distribution Center off U.S. 90 and the Walmart Super Center on SR 228, both of which will pay much higher county fire assessments next year.

"They (the county) are getting paid for the service, yet we're providing the service," said Mr. Rhoden, adding that the county will receive about \$27,000 "from the two Walmarts" next year.

After paying \$30 a year the past three decades, homeowners will see assessments rise to \$80 next year and continue rising through 2023 to \$107.05, with the biggest single jump — to \$103.67 — coming in the third year to fund additional firefighters and stations in 2021.

Meanwhile, owners of commercial and industrial



properties will pay the lion's share of the higher assessments based on the size of their buildings. For example, fees for structures of 80,000 square feet or larger will jump from \$1100 a year to \$13,600 next year.

But aside from the fact that the county benefits financially from fire assessments while the city receives no assessment money for the services it provides county property owners, the city manager and city commissioners agreed that the city's primary legal and moral obligation should be to its taxpayers.

If a house or a business catches fire in the city while city fire crews are busy on another call at the same time in the county the city could be sued for damages, officials said.

"I think we could be considered liable since we're the first responder," Mr. Rhoden said.

"It's not fair to city taxpayers," said Mayor Mark Bryant, noting that the county "should be on notice to make sure their resources and staff are ready by January 1. We

"It's not fair to city taxpayers... [The county] should be on notice to make sure their resources and staff are ready by January 1. We can't be all things to all people any longer."

—Mayor Mark Bryant
City of Macclenny

can't be all things to all people any longer."

At that point the city manager cautioned against getting into a verbal spat with the county over the issue, saying it would be "overstepping our bounds telling the county what they need to do" and expressing a desire to maintain a cooperative and friendly relationship with the county.

Mayor Bryant responded that this was the first time he had ever disagreed with Mr. Rhoden, adding, "I'm just asking them (county officials) to get their ducks in a row, as a friendly reminder."

He also reiterated the fact that a "mutual aid agreement will remain. The city just will no longer be the first responder outside the city." Commissioner Sam Kitch-

ing also urged city officials to choose their words carefully to avoid "creating antagonism between the county and the city. Words do have consequences and we need to move cautiously and try to work with the county to the best of our ability."

Commissioner Danny Norton said he totally supported the move to end the city's role as first responder outside the city limits and that the county's underfunded fire department was not the city's responsibility.

"They (county officials) have ignored their fire department for 30 or 40 years," he said.

The cost to operate the city fire department has increased greatly over the years partly due to providing hundreds of free service calls

in the county. The proposed fire department budget for 2018-19 is \$1,505,908, up from \$1,322,967 this year.

When the city manager asked Fire Chief Buddy Dugger last week if he thought the county could be prepared by the first of next year to provide first responder service to the areas now covered by the city, the response was immediate.

"No, sir, I don't," the chief said, but he added that with the new assessment revenue coming due next year it's time for the county to step up and "start providing first-class service."

It was clear from some of the fire chief's comments that he was a little put out by the county's failure to ever compensate the city for calls made to protect county taxpayers.

"We've never got one gallon of diesel fuel back from the county to put in the trucks," he said.

Something else that didn't sit well with some commissioners and the fire chief was a comment that Mr. Rhoden said County Manager Kennie Downing made to him during a recent conversation about a proposal for the Town of Glen St. Mary to contract with the City of

Macclenny for fire protection instead of paying fire assessments to the county.

He said the county manager basically told him that perhaps the city "should stay in your area and we'll stay in ours."

Chief Dugger said for the county manager to say something like that seems "ungrateful to me."

Meanwhile, if county residents whose property is contiguous to the city want to continue receiving fire and rescue response directly from the city next year they are "welcome to request annexation into the city and receive excellent fire service and not pay the county assessment," Mr. Rhoden said.

Or, if the county wants to begin paying the city for fire protection that, too, is negotiable, he said, adding: "It's an option we would be glad to consider."

According to data provided by Macclenny's assistant fire chief Scott Crews, the city responded to 6300 total calls from 2013 through 2017, including 987 — 15.6 percent — to properties in the county. As of August 20, the city had handled 976 calls, including 82 in the county, this year.

Ex-football player suing over injury

A former Baker County High School football player is suing the school district, a regional district consortium and an ex-teammate for damages related to a disabling injury he claims resulted from a confrontation on the practice field four years ago.

Corey Paine in the six-count pleading says his broken jaw had to be re-constructed after he was struck on the side of his face by teammate Martin Lee Higdon on August 8, 2014 as the Wildcats practiced with helmets and pads under former coach Thomas MacPherson.

The plaintiff alleges no one on the coaching staff rendered first aid or called for medical attention, only that he was told to sit down and given a

plastic cup to split blood into while the squad continued to practice for an additional 40 minutes.

Mr. Paine contends that Mr. Higdon ignored a play-ending whistle and first struck him with a dummy guard shield. Mr. Paine pushed him away, then was struck again on the left side of his helmet, and again after Mr. Higdon removed his helmet and struck him in the face and jaw two or three times.

The result after Mr. Paine's grandfather took him to the emergency room was a jaw wired shut following surgery to insert a reconstruction plate.

The plaintiff says for the next 45 days he was able to eat and drink only through a straw, and he lost over 60 pounds. He was unable to gain back the

weight and resume playing football.

Other than the school district and Mr. Higdon, the lawsuit brings in the Palatka-based Northeast Florida Education Consortium as a co-defendant. It is a 13-county co-op of small and rural districts including Baker.

Plaintiff's attorney Iryna Kharlap of Jacksonville alleges her client's injury resulted from negligent training by the Baker County district, negligent hiring, training, retention and supervision by the consortium and battery by Mr. Higdon.

The action was filed in circuit court on August 8, four years to the date of the incident.

COUNTY COURT

Dispositions from August 15

The following case dispositions were ordered by Judge Joey Williams during regular county court session on August 15:

- Jordan Adams, driving on a suspended or revoked license (DWLS); court costs, \$300 fine.
- Jonniesue Bailey, resisting arrest; six-month probation.
- Teresa Bland, disorderly conduct; 25 days in jail, six-month probation, attend group addiction meetings; attend GED class.
- Majauskas Camardese, petty theft; failed to appear,

warrant issued.

- Jocelyn Cunningham, failure to leave information after crash, leaving accident scene; failed to appear, warrant issued.
- Terry Dugger, DWLS (two counts); 141 days in jail, 50 hours community service, obtain license.
- Glenda Garcia; DWLS; charge dropped.
- Whitney Givens, DWLS; court costs, \$150 fine.
- Jack Hodges, DWLS; failed to appear, warrant issued.
- Keith Hunt, petty theft;

27 days in jail.

- Brett Johnson, battery, petty theft (two counts); failed to appear, warrant issued.
- Carl Rhoden, resisting arrest; 134 days in jail.
- Shanna Rhoden, resisting arrest; charge dropped.
- Noah Starling, possession of drug paraphernalia (two counts) 68 days in jail.
- Michael Taylor, leaving accident scene, DWLS; 60 days in jail.
- Dequaries Ward, resisting arrest; 180 days in jail.

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SCHOOL BOARD

Union contracts get approved

Supplemental pay increased, revised leave policies

JOEL ADDINGTON
MANAGING EDITOR
reporter@bakercountypress.com

The two employee unions for Baker County school district workers approved new contracts this month following similar approvals by the school board during the summer, all with little fanfare or controversy.

This year was a so-called open year for the contracts, which means the entire document was up for amendment and negotiation by union and management representatives, which only happens once every three years.

In the intervening years, explained teachers union president Angela Calahan, the items open for negotiation include wages and benefits and two other priorities for both sides. The new contracts reduced the number of issues up for negotiation in non-open years to one.

Specifically, in the teachers' contract, the union got salary increases and higher one-time bonuses and higher supplemental pay. For instance, the supplements for having a master's degree rose by \$74 to \$2700 and those for a doctorate degrees jumped \$102 to \$4900.

A new \$450 supplement was added for bullying prevention clubs at the high school and middle school. The Pre-K Kindergarten yearbook supplement increased \$75 to \$600 and the school added a bus duty supplement of \$1200. The Youth Power club supplement at the middle and high school jumped \$75 as well to \$300.

Leave for bereavement and compensatory time was also added to the list of leave time that cannot affect the \$200 perfect attendance incentive for teachers each semester. However, the district was able to secure language that states so-called "comp time" cannot be used to extend holiday breaks, nor during state assessment days, nor in more than two-day increments.

The new language also caps comp time at 40 hours and bars transferring or redeeming comp time from year to year. Comp time must also be approved by administrators, the new language shows.

Teachers with the proper license endorsements will now be eligible for a \$500 annual bonus if they drive a minimum of 10 "extra-duty" trips a year,

like transporting teams to competitive events.

Teachers on jury duty who are dismissed before the school day concludes must also now return to work, per new contract language, provided they also take a lunch break.

The contract for non-teaching employees, referred to as "education support professionals" in the bargaining unit's new contract, had several minor changes, too, like the elimination of a potential fourth-year of probationary employment.

After three years on probation, workers will either have annual employment status or not be rehired. During the probationary period, workers can be fired without cause or resign without prejudice.

Seniority bonuses for bus drivers will be paid by June 30 under the new deal, rather than the first pay period of the following school year as previously written.

The district also agreed to pay for annual bus driver physicals.

Under the new contract for education support professionals, the time period during which comp time must be taken was extended from 45 days after it's earned to one year. Comp time must now also be used before sick or annual leave time and any unused comp time will be paid.

Those in the bargaining unit are also now eligible for terminal sick leave pay, which is a payout of the accumulated sick leave at the time of retirement when retirement coincides with a termination of employment.

The payout, however, includes a multiplier based on years of service. For instance, an employee who retires with three years of service would receive their daily rate of pay multiplied by 35 percent, while those with 13 or more years would receive the daily rate times 100 percent, or twice the daily rate, for each day of sick leave.

Previously only the teachers bargaining unit was eligible for terminal sick leave payouts.

Both bargaining units will also have to have their paychecks direct deposited starting July 1, 2019, per the new employment contracts.

In other recent school board business:

- The board approved a state-mandated "annual equity update report"

that compares the racial and gender mix of teachers and administrators to that of the student body. It also compares the gender mix among high school and middle school athletic programs compared to the study body.

The report notes disparities in both the racial and gender measures.

The employment equity portion of the report shows that while 12 percent of students were black in the 2017-18 school year, only 2 percent of teachers and 10 percent of assistant principals are black.

There were no black principals or district-level administrators.

The student body was split 48 percent female and 52 percent male but 82 percent of the teachers were female and 18 percent were male. Similar disparities were reported in all levels of employment.

"Currently it is becoming more difficult to fill teacher vacancies in general with certified teachers," reads the report. "With the difficult tests required for certification, as well as low teacher pay throughout the state, it is difficult to retain and attract certified teachers."

The district pledged in the report to continue recruiting employees from underrepresented ethnic and gender groups.

In high school athletics, the disparities still existed, but they were much smaller. BCHS varsity players were 56 percent male and 44 percent female, but the student population is 51 percent male and 49 percent female.

In middle school athletics, the players were 52 percent male and 48 percent female, which nearly mirrored the study body.

• At the request of Ann Watts, director of Career and Adult Education, the board removed several pieces of woodworking equipment from the department's inventory and donated the items to Northeast Florida State Hospital.

The equipment was used in a state-funded training program for patients with disabilities, but the funding was cut in 2016 and there are no known plans to reinstate it.

• Superintendent of Schools Sherrie Raulerson also reported that the start of the 2018-19 school year went "really smooth."



Mr. and Mrs. Cossio

Wed August 9

Todd and Pattie Haner of Glen St. Mary and Dr. Carlos Cossio of Athens, GA are pleased to announce the marriage of their son Carlos M. Cossio Jr. of Athens to Maria Fabiola Pladano Gutierrez of Maracaibo, Venezuela.

The bride is the daughter of Amparo Gutierrez and Jose Pladano of Alava, Spain.

The couple will reside in Georgia.

Advice for smaller businesses

Mark Yarick with the Small Business Development Center of the University of North Florida will have a mobile office set up at the Chamber of Commerce every other Thursday, beginning on Thursday, August 23. The SBDC provides business owners with confidential consulting and training in all aspects of business management and growth. They serve all stages of business from established and growing businesses to emerging and aspiring businesses. There is no cost for business consulting or information. If you would like to set up an appointment with Mr. Yarick, contact the Chamber at (904) 259-6433. For more information on the SBDC, visit www.sbdc.unf.edu.

Dates, times for fair contests

The 2018 Baker County Fair — with the theme "Freedom, Flags and Friends" — is just around the corner. Below is the schedule for entries in the table setting, home arts, baker goods and horticulture contests. The fair will start at 6 p.m. on Friday, September 14 and run through Saturday evening September 22.

• The tablesetting contest will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 13. The tablesetting contest is open for participants from age 8 and up. For first time participants, an orientation is recommended.

• Check in for the home arts contest entries will be on Tuesday and Wednesday September 11 and 12 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

• Baked goods contest entries will be accepted Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning from 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. only.

• Horticulture entries will be accepted Tuesday, September 11 from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. and on Wednesday, September 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

• Entries can be picked up for home arts and horticulture on Sunday, September 23 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Questions should be directed to Nancy Masterson — leave a message (904) 962-4937.

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Utility bill help

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Sunday 4:45, 7:05

Wednesday-Thursday 7:15

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JASON STATHAM in



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Saturday 5:10, 8:10
Sunday 4:50, 7:05

Wednesday-Thursday 7:30

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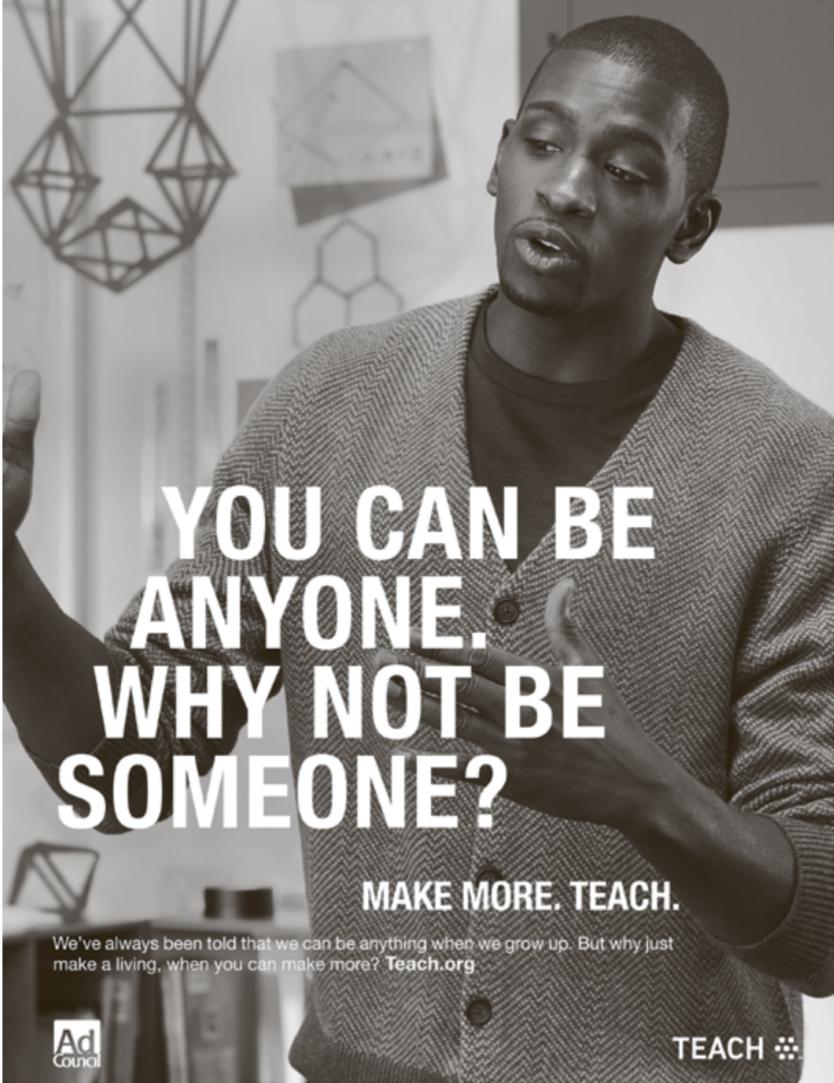


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SAMPLE BALLOTS

PRIMARY ELECTION • AUGUST 28

Official Primary Election Ballot, August 28, 2018
Democratic Party, Baker County, Florida

• Instructions: To vote, fill in the oval completely next to your choice. Use only a blue or black pen.
• If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot. Do not cross out or your vote may not count.

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 5TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (Vote for One)	COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Alvin Brown <input type="radio"/> Al Lawson	<input type="radio"/> Nicole "Nikki" Fried <input type="radio"/> Jeffrey Duane Porter <input type="radio"/> Roy David Walker
GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (Vote for One)	CIRCUIT JUDGE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GROUP 8 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Andrew Gillum Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> Gwen Graham Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> Jeff Greene Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> Chris King Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> Philip Levine Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> Alex "Lundy" Lundmark Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> John Wetherbee Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> David Robertson <input type="radio"/> Julie Waldman <input type="radio"/> Gloria Walker
ATTORNEY GENERAL (Vote for One)	SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER DISTRICT 4 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Sean Shaw <input type="radio"/> Ryan Torrens	<input type="radio"/> Jody Anderson <input type="radio"/> Charlie "Artie" Burnett

Official Primary Election Ballot, August 28, 2018
Republican Party, Baker County, Florida

• Instructions: To vote, fill in the oval completely next to your choice. Use only a blue or black pen.
• If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot. Do not cross out or your vote may not count.

UNITED STATES SENATOR (Vote for One)	COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente <input type="radio"/> Rick Scott	<input type="radio"/> Matt Caldwell <input type="radio"/> Denise Grimsley <input type="radio"/> Mike McCalister <input type="radio"/> Baxter Troutman
GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (Vote for One)	STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 10 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Don Baldauf Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> Ron DeSantis Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> Timothy M. Devine Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> Bob Langford Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> John Joseph Mercadante Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> Bruce Nathan Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> Adam H. Putnam Not Yet Designated <input type="radio"/> Bob White Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> Chuck Brannan <input type="radio"/> Marc Vann
ATTORNEY GENERAL (Vote for One)	CIRCUIT JUDGE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GROUP 8 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Ashley Moody <input type="radio"/> Frank White	<input type="radio"/> David Robertson <input type="radio"/> Julie Waldman <input type="radio"/> Gloria Walker
	SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER DISTRICT 4 (Vote for One)
	<input type="radio"/> Jody Anderson <input type="radio"/> Charlie "Artie" Burnett

Official Primary Election Ballot, August 28, 2018
Nonpartisan Party, Baker County, Florida

• Instructions: To vote, fill in the oval completely next to your choice. Use only a blue or black pen.
• If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot. Do not cross out or your vote may not count.

CIRCUIT JUDGE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GROUP 8 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> David Robertson <input type="radio"/> Julie Waldman <input type="radio"/> Gloria Walker
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER DISTRICT 4 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Jody Anderson <input type="radio"/> Charlie "Artie" Burnett

Q&A: Lawson-Brown

From page 1

opportunity and industry to all areas of the district.

I would support the 10-20-30 plan that would set aside at least 10 percent of a federal program's funds to counties where 20 percent of the population has lived below the poverty line for 30 years. The 10-20-30 plan provides much-needed relief to our rural communities, such as Baker County, that have suffered through a consistent lack of federal resources leading to poor infrastructure and persistent poverty.

For decades, the rich in this country have gotten richer, income inequality has widened and millions of poor and middle-class Americans have been left behind. Until we tackle this problem, the devastating reality of inequality and poverty in the U.S. will continue. I am running for Congress because I believe in policies that will work for all Americans — not just the top one percent — and I will fight tooth and nail for higher wages and economic opportunity for everyone.

Lawson: I grew up in a rural county and served primarily rural communities during my 28 years in the Florida Legislature. I know first-hand the issues rural communities have regarding a low tax base and the need for more economic development in these communities. That's why, during my time in the Florida House, Senate and, now, Congress, I have focused on securing additional resources for infrastructure improvements while also working with the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to create more jobs in the farming industry.

In Congress, I have focused on increasing and improving rural broadband presence; securing additional funding for wastewater programs while also bringing new jobs to rural counties.

Press: A whopping 70 percent of Baker County voters cast ballots for President Trump in 2016. Local GOP officials say he has a cult-like following among fellow party members. How do you intend to turn out the 5300 registered Democrats here or convince the 1625 registered independents here to vote for a Democrat for Congress in the general?

Brown: Since entering this race in January, I've traveled to all eight counties to listen to the voters in every corner of the 5th Congressional District. Time and again, it's clear that the issues at top of mind for the people of North Florida — regardless of political party — are creating good-paying jobs, strengthening our public schools and expanding access to quality, affordable health care.

The people of the 5th Congressional District de-

serve a leader who will get up each morning, driven by the desire to serve, to make their lives better and their children's futures more safe and secure — not an ineffective career politician who can't be bothered to show up for work.

In Congress, I will fight for the folks of North Florida each and every day. From my strong commitment to public education and deeply-held belief that the quality of a child's education should not depend on the zip code in which they live, to the dire need for Congress to take real action on addressing the systemic poverty in our communities, I will work hard every day to give a voice to the voiceless and bring a servant leadership approach to every issue.

We need leaders who are not afraid to stand up to Donald Trump. Unlike my opponent, I will not back down from fighting for progress and I will always advocate for policies that are in the best interest of the people of the 5th District.

Lawson: It really isn't about party affiliation when it comes down to it. Throughout my time in the Legislature and in Congress, I have worked across party lines to work efficiently for the citizens of North Florida.

Press: Mayor Brown, your opponent has a reputation for working across party lines. What have you worked with Republicans to accomplish?

Brown: As Mayor of Jacksonville, and during my service in the Clinton Administration, I worked closely with local, state, and federal officials across the political spectrum to deliver on progressive values.

Our elected leaders have a responsibility to advocate on behalf of all of us — not just a privileged few. It's long past time for Members of Congress to set aside their bickering and do the job they were elected to do.

From supporting our service members and veterans, to stemming gun violence and investing in our public schools, the pressing issues facing our community aren't about partisan politics.

Press: Representative Lawson, you have a reputation for working across party lines. What have you worked with Republicans to accomplish since being elected to Congress?

Lawson: I have several accomplishments working across party lines to deliver for the citizens of North Florida. One example that comes to mind is securing \$85 million to feed more than 300,000 families days after Hurricane Irma. During that process, I was able to work with Congressman Ted Yoho and Congressman John Rutherford to ensure that this community was put first. That was

needed. This included my commitment to the timber industry and agriculture — and helping people to rebuild their homes, businesses, their lives.

Press: Do you support any changes to federal gun laws, and if so, what kind of changes and why?

Brown: I strongly support the Second Amendment, but the gun violence epidemic has plagued communities across the country for far too long. I am committed to common-sense gun safety that will keep our children safe, including banning high-capacity magazines and assault weapons, getting rid of laws that make it far too easy for dangerous people, including domestic abusers and those with restraining orders, to get their hands on guns; and closing the gun-show loophole. I am honored to receive Moms Demand Action's recognition as a Gun Sense Candidate.

Lawson: Yes. I grew up in the county, in Gadsden County. I do support the 2nd Amendment and people's right to own guns. I believe that we should have common-sense gun reform: that is, universal background checks. I also don't know any hunter who needs an AR-15 to shoot a deer.

Press: In your view, what are the most pressing issues/challenges facing rural north Florida, and what would you do to address these issues/challenges if elected/re-elected?

Brown: Jobs and the economy: Working families are the backbone of our economy. In Congress, I will always promote policies that help us build a fair economy that works for all — not just those at the top. We must make smart investments in our infrastructure — from our roads and bridges, to our public schools — and attract industry to all areas of the district.

Countless families across North Florida live paycheck to paycheck as wages in this country have not kept up with the cost of living. Together, we can make higher wages, equal pay for equal work, stronger retirements, paid family leave, access to quality, affordable health-care, and investments in all corners of the district a reality. These commonsense ideas will create economic opportunity and, ultimately, make our communities stronger and healthier.

Lawson: We must continue to work to provide opportunities that are created by education and infrastructure. Education will give students a better chance. Infrastructure allows for job creation and better quality of life. In fact, both education and infrastructure will improve the quality of life for students and the whole community for the present and the future.

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Threatens wife with a handgun

JON SHUMAKE

A Macclenny man was arrested the morning of August 19 for allegedly brandishing a handgun and threatening his wife.

Jacob Cope Jr., 73, was taken into custody on one count of felony aggravated assault with a deadly weapon after victim Sheila Morrison-Cope, 64, said the two were involved in an argument and he armed himself with a firearm. Mr. Cope was eventually seen walking from around the back of the North 40 Circle residence carrying a bag, and Deputy John Finley Jr. and Cpl. Randy Davis moved closer with their firearms drawn, according to police.

Mr. Cope complied with commands to drop the bag, which contained two semi-automatic handguns and two revolvers, all of which were loaded.

Ms. Morrison-Cope said she was standing in the bathroom when Mr. Cope came in angrily, and she found him sitting at the kitchen table with a 9 mm handgun. She said she asked him what the gun was for, and he replied, "Maybe it's to shoot you," Deputy Finley reported.

The suspect denied threatening his wife and said he was only there to retrieve his guns from the residence.

The firearm allegedly used in the crime was placed into evidence. Two revolvers, a semiautomatic handgun and three long rifles were confiscated for safekeeping.

In another incident, a Macclenny man was jailed the night of August 18 for domestic assault after he allegedly threatened to hit his ex-wife with a concrete wall fixture.

Garry Rosamonda, 66, was "extremely disorderly and belligerent" when speaking with Deputy Shane Dickens upon the officer's arrival. He was being loud and disruptive and told the deputy he needed to leave immediately.

Victim Karen Rosamonda, 59, said the suspect has repeatedly threatened her, at which point Mr. Rosamonda shouted, "That's a lie officer." He was then handcuffed and escorted to Deputy Dickens' patrol vehicle.

The victim said the two were on the front porch of their Cardinal Lane residence when an argument began and he threatened to strike her with the wall fixture. She said she immediately called 911 and that Mr. Rosamonda told her he was a member of the Mafia and ordered a "hit" on her.

Mr. Rosamonda reportedly said, "She will pay for this," while being placed in the patrol vehicle, but then said he wanted his lawyer when asked for clarification, Deputy Dickens said.

In warrant-related arrests:

• Lewis Chancy Jr., 27, of Glen St. Mary was arrested on August 14 on a warrant for domestic battery that stemmed from an incident three days prior in which he allegedly dragged his girlfriend out of bed by her ankles and around the inside of their residence.

Kristian Wilkerson, 27, said Mr. Chancy became upset and began to "destroy" their Ray Rogers Road residence. She was emotionally upset and crying, and had bruises and redness on her right forearm and left torso

area, police noted.

Mr. Chancy fled the area prior to officers arriving.

• Jeffrey Dean, 54, of Macclenny was jailed the morning of August 15 on a Duval County warrant for

violation of probation for domestic battery.

• John McNutt Jr., 26, of Sanderson was taken into custody the morning of August 14 on two Duval County warrants for obtaining or

attempting to obtain a controlled substance by fraud. He was located as a passenger during a traffic stop on Abernathy Circle about 9:10 a.m.

LEGAL NOTICES



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 18-CA-20

HARVEY SCHONBRUN, TRUSTEE, Plaintiff,

vs.

CLARENCE E. MCDANIEL, SHIRLEY JOHNSON, and MARCUS G. MCDANIEL, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on August 9, 2018, in the above styled cause, I will sell the property situate in Baker County, Florida, described as:

LOTS 1, 2, AND 3 IN BLOCK 31 OF THE TOWN OF GLEN ST. MARY, AS PER PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 1, OF SAID TOWN ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF BAKER AND STATE OF FLORIDA.

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at the front door of the Baker County Courthouse, 339 East Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, Florida, at 11:00 a.m., on October 18, 2018.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

Dated this 13th day of August, 2018.

Stacie D. Harvey
Clerk Of The Court
By: Tina Carrington
Deputy Clerk

Harvey Schonbrun, P.A.
1802 North Morgan Street
Tampa, FL 33602-2328
Phone 813-229-0664
Fax 813-228-9471

8/16-8/23c

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 02-2018-CA-000095

JOHNNY EPPS, Plaintiff,

vs.

ONEDIA GUNTER, deceased and her heirs, assigns, widower, devisee, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming through, by under, or against her, or any of them all the unknown persons;
CORINE WRIGHT, deceased and her heirs, assigns, widower, devisee, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming through, by under, or against her, or any of them all the unknown persons;
JAMES EPPS, deceased and his heirs, assigns, widow, devisee, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming through, by under, or against him, or any of them all the unknown persons;

JERINE BIVINS, deceased and her heirs, assigns, widower, devisee, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming through, by under, or against her, or any of them all the unknown persons;
LEON WOOLBRIGHT, deceased and his heirs, assigns, widow, devisee, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming through, by under, or against him, or any of them all the unknown persons;
CHRISTINE CURRY, deceased and her heirs, assigns, widower, devisee, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming through, by under, or against her, or any of them all the unknown persons;

NATHAN EPPS, deceased and his heirs, assigns, widow, devisee, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming through, by under, or against him, or any of them all the unknown persons;
Defendants,

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: Any known or unknown natural person, and, when described as such, the unknown spouse, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming by, through, under, or against any known or unknown person who is known to be dead or is not known to be either dead or alive: ONEDIA GUNTER, CORINE WRIGHT, JAMES EPPS, JERINE BIVINS, LEON WOOLBRIGHT, CHRISTINE CURRY and NATHAN EPPS.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to Partition the following real property in Baker County Florida described as:

SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF NORTH-WEST QUARTER OF SECTION TWO IN TOWNSHIP THREE, SOUTH OF RANGE TWENTY EAST, CONTAINING 40 ACRES, MORE OR LESS

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to the action on the Petitioner's Attorney whose name and address is HUGH D. FISH, JR., at P.O. Box 531, Macclenny, Florida 32063, on or before September 10, 2018, and file the original with the Clerk of Court, either before service on the petitioner's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

WITNESS my hand and Seal of this Court on this 9th day of August, 2018.

Stacie D. Harvey
As Clerk of the Court

By: Tina Carrington
Deputy Clerk

Hugh D. Fish, Jr.
PO Box 531
Macclenny, FL 32063
904-259-6606
8/16-9/6c

PUBLIC NOTICE

**A pre-bid walkthrough for bids on eight homes:
2 Rehab requiring structural repairs.
6 Demolition and New Construction of 6 homes requiring new well and septic.**

This will be conducted as part of the SHIP Housing Rehabilitation Project on **August 30, 2018** starting at **9:30 am**, beginning at the Baker Community Development Department 360 E Shuey Ave, Macclenny, Florida 32063. Bidders must complete the site inspection of the homes before a bid will be accepted. The deadline for sealed bids to be received is **September 7, 2018 4:00 pm**. Bids should be addressed or hand-delivered to: Baker Community Development Department, c/o Baker County SHIP Administration at 360 E Shuey Ave, Macclenny, FL 32063. For more information, or to request bidding instructions or a bid form, please call the Baker County SHIP Program at 904-259-3354. Bids received after the time and date specified will not be accepted and will be returned unopened to the Bidder. WBE/MBE/DBE firms are encouraged to participate. Baker County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The Baker County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to waive any informality or to reject any or all bids. Any person with a qualified disability requiring special accommodations at the bid opening shall call the phone number listed above at least 2 business days prior to the event.

8/16-8/23c

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Baker County School District School Board will hold the following public hearing on **Monday, September 17, 2018**, at the **District School Board Room** located at **270 South Boulevard East, Macclenny, Florida, beginning at 6:00 p.m.** The following items will be considered at the public hearing: **2018-2019 Student Progression Plan and 2018-2019 Code of Conduct.**

The public is invited and encouraged to attend. The documents will be available for preview on Monday through Friday (8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) at the Superintendent's Office located at 270 South Boulevard East, Macclenny, Florida, beginning, Wednesday, August 15, 2018. You may also access the document on our district website at www.bakerk12.org.

Sherrie Raulerson
Superintendent of Schools
8/16-9/13c

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA. CASE NO.: 02-2018-DR-286

April Griffiths,
Petitioner,

and

Jason Benoit,
Respondent,

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR NAME CHANGE OF A MINOR CHILD

TO: Jason Benoit
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 185 NW Lynear Place, Lake City, FL 32055

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on April Griffiths whose address is 6417 CW Webb Road, Macclenny, FL 32063, on or before September 13, 2018, and file the original with the clerk of this court at 339 E. Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny FL 32063 before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. **If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.**

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Courts office. You may review these documents upon request.

You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Courts office notified of your current address. (You may file Notice of Current Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915). Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the clerks office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.

Dated: August 14, 2018.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: Julie B. Combs
Deputy Clerk

8/16-9/6p

PUBLIC NOTICE

Anbers Consulting proposes the construction of a 190-ft (195-ft overall with appendances) Monopole Communications Tower, to be located at 14696 Jessie Yarbrough Road, in the Town of Glen St. Mary in Baker County, Florida (Baker County Parcel ID: 07-25-22-0000-0000-0122). Please submit any written comments by September 22, 2018 regarding the potential effects that the proposed tower may have on **Historic Properties that are listed or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places** to: Tower Engineering Professionals, Inc.(Attn: George Swearingen) 326 Tryon Road, Raleigh, NC 27603 Telephone: (919) 661-6351 Fax: (919) 661-6350.

8/23c

REGISTRATION OF FICTITIOUS NAMES

I the undersigned, being duly sworn, do hereby declare under oath that the names of all persons interested in the business or profession carried on under the name of **Matthew Lusk Bookseller** whose principle place of business is: **2 West Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063** and the extent of the interest of each is as follows:

NAME	EXTENT OF INTEREST
Matthew F. Lusk	100%
Matthew F. Lusk, Signature	

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF BAKER
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15th day of August 2018.

Stacie D. Harvey
Clerk of Court
Baker County, Florida
By: Julie B. Combs
As Deputy Clerk

8/23p

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO.: 2018-CA-000036

CALIBER HOME LOANS, INC., Plaintiff,

vs.

UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, CREDITORS, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF OPHELIA CRAVEY KLOTZ; ET AL, Defendant(s)

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, CREDITORS, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF OPHELIA CRAVEY KLOTZ; LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 704 NORTH 5TH STREET, MACCLENNY, FL 32063

UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF OPHELIA CRAVEY KLOTZ
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 704 NORTH 5TH STREET, MACCLENNY, FL 32063

YOU ARE NOTIFIED of an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Baker County:

LOT 6, FOREST PARK SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 62, PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 704 NORTH 5TH STREET, MACCLENNY, FL 32063

The action was instituted in the Circuit Court, Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Baker County, Florida; Case No. 2018-CA-000036; and is styled CALIBER HOME LOANS, INC. vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, CREDITORS, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF OPHELIA CRAVEY KLOTZ; JOHN LEWIS KLOTZ A/K/A JOHN L. KLOTZ; STATE OF FLORIDA, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 1; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 2. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to the action on Kelley L. Church, Esq., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 255 S. Orange Ave., Ste. 900, Orlando, FL 32801, on or before September 24, 2018, (or 30 days from the first date of publication) and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately after service; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter a judgment or decree in the Plaintiff's interest which will be binding upon you.

DATED: August 13, 2018.

Stacie D. Harvey
As Clerk of the Court
By: Julie B. Combs
As Deputy Clerk

Quintairo, Prieto, Wood & Boyer, P.A.
255 S. Orange Ave., Ste. 900
Orlando, FL 32801-3454
Phone: (855) 287-0240
Fax: (855) 287-0211
8/23-8/30c

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 18000010CAMXAX

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Plaintiff,

vs.

Ernie L. Hall, Jr., et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 8, 2018 entered in Case No. 18000010CAMXAX of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, in and for Baker County, Florida, wherein Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. is the Plaintiff and Janet Marie Bullock f/k/a Janet B. Hall a/k/a Janet Marie Bullock-Arnold; Unknown Spouse of Janet Marie Bullock f/k/a Janet B. Hall a/k/a Janet Marie Bullock-Arnold; Ernie Hall a/k/a Ernie L. Hall, Jr. a/k/a Ernie Leroy Hall; Unknown Spouse of Ernie Hall a/k/a Ernie L. Hall, Jr. a/k/a Ernie Leroy Hall are the Defendants, that I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at, the east door of the courthouse at 339 E. Macclenny Ave, Macclenny, FL 32063, beginning at 11:00 AM on the 15th day of November, 2018 the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

BLOCK 1, LOTS 33 AND 34, DEERFIELD SUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 SECTION 36 AND ALL THAT PART OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 35, LYING EAST OF THE CENTERLINE OF BLACK BOTTOM DRIVE ALL IN TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated this 16th day of August, 2018.

Stacie D. Harvey
As Clerk of the Court

By: Tina Carrington
As Deputy Clerk

Brock & Scott PLLC
1501 NW 49th St, Suite 200
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
8/23-8/30c

**Women's Center of Jax
24-HOUR
RAPE CRISIS
HOTLINE:
904.721.7273**



MEETING DATE

Notice is hereby given that the Baker County Development Commission will meet on the following date:

August 27, 2018 @ 6:00 pm

The meeting will be held at the Commerce Center 20 East Macclenny Avenue Macclenny, Florida 32063

The public is invited to attend.

Ronald Mann, Chairman
Baker County Development Commission
8/23c

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 02-2017-CA-000096

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER, Plaintiff,

vs.

JOHNNY A. SIMMONS, SR. A/K/A JOHNNY A. SIMMONS, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 14, 2018, and entered in Case No. 02-2017-CA-000096 of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Baker County, Florida in which Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, is the Plaintiff and, Carol Simmons, Johnny A. Simmons, Sr. a/k/a Johnny A. Simmons, Old Nursery Plantation Owners Association, Inc., Unknown Party #1 n/k/a Brittney Haigler, Unknown Party #2 n/k/a Matthew Simmons, are defendants, the Baker County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on ALL SALES WILL BE HELD AT THE FRONT DOOR OF THE COURTHOUSE, 339 E. MACCLENNY AVE., MACCLENNY, FL 32063. THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER MUST PAY AT LEAST 5% OF THE SUCCESSFUL BID BY CASH OR CASHIER'S CHECK AT THE TIME OF THE SALE. THE REMAINING BID AMOUNT MUST BE TENDERED BY 4:00PM ON THE DAY OF THE SALE BY CASH OR CASHIER'S CHECK ONLY, Baker County, Florida at 11:00AM on the 15th day of November, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

LOT 51, OLD NURSERY PLANTATION, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGES 85 AND 85A THROUGH J CURRENT PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 7784 WINDER ROAD, MACCLENNY, FL 32063

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated in Baker County, Florida this 21st day of August, 2018.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
Baker County, Florida
By: Tina Carrington
Deputy Clerk

Alberbelli Law
P.O. Box 23028
Tampa, FL 33623
(813) 221-4743
(813) 221-9171 facsimile
eService: servealaw@alberbellilaw.com
8/23-8/30c

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 02-2017-CA-000080

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-10, Plaintiff,

vs.

CATHERINE M. COLLINGWOOD A/K/A CATHERINE MARLENE COLLINGWOOD, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 14, 2018, and entered in Case No. 02-2017-CA-000080 of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Baker County, Florida in which The Bank of New York Mellon FKA The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the certificateholders of the CWABS, Inc., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-10, is the Plaintiff and Catherine M. Collingwood a/k/a Catherine Marlene Collingwood, Daniel Collingwood a/k/a Daniel Jay Collingwood, Unknown Party #1 n/k/a Michael Collingwood, Unknown Party #2 n/k/a Stacey Hodges, are defendants, the Baker County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on ALL SALES WILL BE HELD AT THE FRONT DOOR OF THE COURTHOUSE, 339 E. MACCLENNY AVE., MACCLENNY, FL 32063. THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER MUST PAY AT LEAST 5% OF THE SUCCESSFUL BID BY CASH OR CASHIER'S CHECK AT THE TIME OF THE SALE. THE REMAINING BID AMOUNT MUST BE TENDERED BY 4:00PM ON THE DAY OF THE SALE BY CASH OR CASHIER'S CHECK ONLY, Baker County, Florida at 11:00AM on the 18th day of October, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

LOT 9, FOREST PARK SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 62, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 738 NORTH 5TH STREET, MACCLENNY, FL 32063

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated in Baker County, Florida this 21st day of August, 2018.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
Baker County, Florida
By: Tina Carrington
Deputy Clerk

Alberbelli Law
P.O. Box 23028
Tampa, FL 33623
(813) 221-4743
(813) 221-9171 facsimile
eService: servealaw@alberbellilaw.com
8/23-8/30c

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 17000108CAMXAX

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, D/B/A CHRISTIANA TRUST, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF MATAWIN VENTURES TRUST SERIES 2017-3, Plaintiff,

vs.

DOUGLAS R. RAULERSON, et al



Photo courtesy of Shirley Padgett

Dolled up for woman's club annual coffee

The GFWC Woman's Club of Macclenny held its annual membership coffee on Thursday, August 16. The theme this year was "Be a Doll of a Member." All guests were invited to bring a favorite doll. The clubhouse was festive with an amazing variety of dolls, good food and warm fellowship. Ribbons were given for the most valuable, southern, loved, creative, colorful, oldest and handsome dolls. The club welcomed new and returning members San Beckum, Cynthia Campbell, Rhonda Davis, Shirley Dugger, Carolyn Hodges, Jessie Milton, Sharon Roberts, Gladys Slayter, Jarah Wilk and Melania Willis. The club's next meeting will be Thursday, September 20 at 10:30 a.m. at the Fifth Street clubhouse. All ladies are cordially invited.

Vietnam vets give care packages to nearby VA facility



Johnny Crews at home with items to be donated to VA hospital patients in Lake City.

JOEL ADDINGTON
MANAGING EDITOR

reporter@bakercountypress.com

Veteran Johnny Crews was in the VA hospital in Lake City last June when one day a veteran from Green Cove Springs came into his room and delivered a care package of toiletries, snacks and the like. "I thought wow, that's a great idea," said Mr. Crews, president of the local Vietnam Veterans chapter.

He enlisted the help of Laura Jacobs, who belongs to sewing groups at her church and in the community, to make the bags for donations that he and fellow Vietnam Veterans hand out to patients at the VA hospital.



Mr. Crews displays a "diddy bag."

Mr. Crews asked for a few bags but ended up with 15 of them, all emblazoned with the American flag. Ms. Jacobs' church, Christian Fellowship Temple, took care of the rest.

"I told her I needed bags and blankets and then the church went and donated everything in it," he recalled.

The bags contain blankets, hats, snacks, playing cards, socks, gum, mouthwash, lotion, soap, toothbrush and toothpaste and other items.

The veterans group has agreed to take care packages to patients at the Lake City hospital every Wednesday. The only catch from hospital administration was that Bibles and razors be excluded from the bags.

"You can't pray with them unless they ask you to," Mr. Crews said of patients.

As of late last week, 10 of the first 15 bags had been delivered with the last five set to be dropped off this week.

Michael Carey, the hospital's volunteer services coordinator, works with many groups to make patients feel extra-special.

The "diddy bags," as he called them, come in all different shapes and sizes and are used as welcome packages for patients.

"We get tremendous support, not just from veteran services organizations but community organizations, too," said Mr. Carey, adding that with help from folks like Mr. Crews, "we can keep it going."

Ms. Jacobs and her sewing ministry intend to make more, however.

Her mother, Arnell Stafford, sews the bags together, Ms. Jacobs said, and she and others in her sewing groups cut the fabric patterns.

"She can do a couple bags in a day," said Ms. Jacobs.

The sewing groups also make blankets bound for hospital intensive care units, nursing homes and hospice centers.

"Everything is covered in prayer. It makes us feel good," she said. "We'd love to get more people involved to help to put out big, big numbers, but for us, it's just a blessing to do it."

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SCAM AVOIDANCE TIPS

WORK-FROM-HOME SCHEME

Work from home schemes are bogus job offers that have been crafted to appear legitimate. You can typically encounter them in spam emails, on job search websites or on social networking sites. In actuality, these opportunities are just bait used by fraudsters to excite you and trick you into providing your account details so they can send you a large counterfeit check. Sometimes no account information is provided; a check is mailed to you with further instructions. You're then asked to transfer that money to a third party, usually located in a foreign country, through a wiring service for a small commission. The criminals may even invite you for an interview or asking you to sign

an employment contract. You may think you've scored the job of a lifetime, but the truth is you will never get paid. Not only that, now your personal information has been stolen you run the risk of losing money or being arrested.

CARD CRACKING

Using a laptop with a "card cracking" program, also known as card popping, is a ploy criminals use to target people who are in need of cash and trick them into facilitating fraud. It all starts with what seems to be a harmless post on social media that promises fast cash. After luring you in with the tempting deal, the con artist then fools you into giving them your financial account information, debit card number/PIN or online banking login credentials in exchange for a kickback (i.e. a small portion of illicit profits). They may also direct you to contact your financial institution and advise them you will be traveling, even if you're not. The fraudster uses that information to deposit counterfeit checks into your account and allows you to keep a portion of the money. The fraudster then quickly withdraws all the money from your funds before the financial institution catches on to the phony check. You are then forced to call the financial institution and falsely report your information has been compromised - without mentioning you gave the criminal your credentials - and ask your money to be returned, making you an accessory to the crime. Not only that, you are also now on the hook for stolen funds and may even be sentenced to time in prison.

BAKER COUNTY CLERK OFFICE NOTICE OF ACTION

The Clerk of Courts provides public notice of the intent to include the following director position in the Florida Retirement System's Senior Management Service Class effective October 1, 2018, Assistant Clerk of Court. Additional information may be obtained by writing to the Clerk of Court, Attn: Stacie Harvey, 339 E. Macclenny, FL 32063.

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Esterling seeks more vets, resources

Office has reached less than half the vets here

JOEL ADDINGTON
MANAGING EDITOR

reporter@bakercountypress.com

County veterans services director Tony Esterling has files on a little less than half the veterans in Baker County. He says with more time — he works four days a week — and resources, he could reach more veterans and hopefully steer more benefits to them.

He said the demands of his current caseload would support a full-time work schedule. County commissioners, however, haven't pushed for the change during recent budget talks.

"I like my job. I'm able to help people and change people's lives," said Mr. Esterling, a 26-year Navy veteran. "I am able to help them get their benefits. Am I always 100 percent successful? No ... But you try your best with every client. Not many come back to say thank you, but those that do come back and thank you, it's great."

Beyond some veterans potentially missing out on benefits they've earned, namely service-connected disability payments, Mr. Esterling, a seven-year veterans services officer, faces other challenges, too.

To qualify for disability benefits, veterans must have been honorably discharged and be disabled as a result of their military service. But proving that connection can be difficult if records are lost or missing years after a veteran leaves the service.

"Sometimes we veterans, like football players, hurt ourselves and we don't say anything because we want to go on a mission and we don't want to let the team down," said Mr. Esterling, a Brooklyn, New York native who finished his service in Jacksonville before moving to Baker County with his wife and two children.

"So documentation from when we were in active service is very important. If it's not documented, it never happened," he said.

One veteran he recalled assisting was in a vehicle ac-

cident while in the military that was never reported to police and the veteran never saw a doctor. In such cases, Mr. Esterling attempts to substantiate disability claims through witness statements or other military records.

"We're trying to prove something with no documentation and it's hard. Very, very hard," said Mr. Esterling. "The only thing you can do is request records and statements from certain people, and trying to find those people to make statements is a nightmare. Some people who served in the 70s don't even use computers nowadays."

When documentation has been lost, Mr. Esterling works with federal agencies to get copies of the records.

It's a process that Mr. Esterling says can take a few weeks for veterans who served more recently because their medical records are digital. But for veterans who served in the 70s or 80s, their medical records are stored on paper and getting those documents can take as long as six months.

Medical records for Vietnam-era veterans, for instance, are stored in archival facilities in other parts of the country.

"That stuff is still on paper so they have to go to warehouses, find out what warehouse it is, and go to the warehouse. They can't handle paper with their regular fingers, they have to put on gloves because it's so old, and they make copies and send them to us," said Mr. Esterling.

The most important document to have is DD [Department of Defense] form 214. It's given to service men and women upon discharge and shows the details of their service.

"Without the DD-214 you don't exist. It's almost like a birth certificate," said Mr. Esterling, adding that the originals are kept at the National Archives in St. Louis, MO.

"It just makes the job harder," he said of when veterans don't possess the documentation needed to prove their disability claims.

That's why when requesting records from the federal government, rather than seeking out just the DD form 214, he recommends requesting all the available records from a particular agency.



PHOTO BY JOEL ADDINGTON

County veterans services director Tony Esterling in his office.

"You never know," said Mr. Esterling, who can also work on behalf of deceased veterans' spouses and families, who may be eligible for a portion of veterans benefits, too.

"You have to go through the hurdles of properly identifying and documenting the death certificate. A lot of times it's something a person doesn't think about but it's my job to get them through those hurdles," he said.

He explained that monthly disability payments are calculated using charts that assign levels of disability to payment amounts.

"It's based on what they can do. Everything is based on rates and slide rulers and stuff they measure. With your arm, it's based on movement. If a normal person can raise their hands all the way up and you can only raise it up so much, they'll measure and calculate based on the difference," said Mr. Esterling.

Some veterans may be only 10 percent disabled, while others may be 80 percent disabled. Tinnitus, or a ringing in the ears from exposure to harmful noise levels, is classified as a 10 percent disability, for instance.

"That's approximately \$130 a month you'll receive for that. Say another person gets 100 percent, someone who can definitely not work, a majority of the time it's cancer, diabetes or some bad situation ... It's not something that was the fault

of the veteran it was the job," said Mr. Esterling.

In addition to disability benefits, Mr. Esterling also assists veterans with navigating the Veterans Healthcare System, which has medical centers in Jacksonville and Lake City.

That presents its own set of challenges, he said, because medical professionals are reluctant to discuss the healthcare of particular veterans in light of patient privacy laws.

Also, when veterans are treated through the private healthcare system for service-connected disabilities, obtaining those records can also be challenging.

"To get those medical records, sometimes veterans have to pay for them. The office charges for copies, sometimes a dollar per copy," said Mr. Esterling.

And while suicides among veterans doesn't appear to a major problem in Baker County, the state and national rates are high, which is tragic, he said.

Mr. Esterling said veterans need to know that any mental health treatment or counseling they may need is always available at VA facilities.

"The VA is there to help them. They can self-refer to those clinics. You don't even have to be in the VA system. Let's say you've never enrolled but you feel you have mental issues you need help with, you go the VA and say, 'I need help,' and they cannot deny you," said Mr. Es-

terling. "For mental health, they cannot deny you."

Despite all the assistance that Mr. Esterling's office provides, there are limits.

"If a veteran has financial issues, as the county, I can't give them money. I don't have any money to give them. Sometimes veterans come in with family issues. I can't get involved in family issues," he said, referring to marriage or child custody issues.

In the future, Mr. Esterling hopes to add a second staffer to the veterans services office, someone who can be trained to eventually replace him.

He also wants to see more involvement here from veterans affairs officials in the large metro areas surrounding Baker County.

"I'd like to bring more resources from outside ... We have a large percentage of veterans per capita, but we don't have the same as say Jacksonville or Lake City or Gainesville, so they bypass us. So trying to get those people in here to stop by at least once a year and give a presentation," he said.

Part of the problem is that veterans affairs officers in the larger cities are focused more on assisting homeless veterans, which Mr. Esterling says isn't a big issue in Baker County.

"When we get somebody with housing issues we send to them to Lake City or Jacksonville because they have the large numbers of homeless veterans," he said. "That's where most of the funds and attention is at."

The best way to reach Mr. Esterling is at his office at 259-2516. He works 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Walk-ins are welcome, he said, but appointments are preferred.

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Pizza and politics straw poll

JOEL ADDINGTON
MANAGING EDITOR

reporter@bakercountypress.com

The third annual Pizza and Politics event organized by the conservative Baker County Women's Political Network drew more than 60 diners to Calendar's in downtown Macclenny Monday evening.

The event featured a cake auction and straw poll of state GOP primary races, the results of which were presented by candidates' representatives, said the network's Lorelie Brannan.

The poll was unanimous for Governor Rick Scott in the primary for the U.S. Senate. Gubernatorial candidate Ron DeSantis led the field with 17 votes, followed by Adam Putnam with 12 votes. Denise Grimsley won the state agriculture commissioner poll with 13 votes followed by Matt Cladwell with six votes and Baxter Troutman and Mike McAlister with one vote.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LORELIE BRANNAN

Former tax collector Gene Harvey leads the cake auction.

In the race for Florida attorney general, Ashley Moody came out on top with 14 votes compared to Frank White with five. Macclenny's Chuck Brannan received all 21 votes in the Florida House District 10 poll.

Also present were Sheriff Scotty Rhoden, Tax Collector Amy Dugger, her predecessor Gene Harvey, who auctioned off the cakes, Property Appraiser Tim Sweat, Macclenny commissioner Danny Norton and other Republicans.

"... In addition to networking and informing ourselves on candidates, we presented 'Heroes Forever — A Tribute to Veterans, Past and Present,' which is a project we are working toward for this Veterans Day," said Mrs. Brannan. "It will be a roadside memorial with a white cross and flag where individuals may have a service member recognized — living or deceased — for seven days prior to and after Veterans Day and Memorial Day."

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OPINION

Reform needed to combat bogus political ads

I've advised readers in the past to place little if any credence in political advertising. These ads are designed to deceive, either innocently by accentuating candidates' strengths and ignoring or deemphasizing any weaknesses or intentionally by attacking candidates with false or misleading information.

A perfect example of the latter

landed in mailboxes here last Saturday when State House District 10 GOP hopeful Chuck Brannan of Macclenny was targeted. That mailer attempted to paint him as a liberal with similar views to Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama. In fact, there were four different mailers distributed in recent weeks playing on the same theme and they ranged from extremely misleading to completely false.

But voters are often so far removed from candidates, particularly those running for state and federal offices, they essentially have two options when it comes to evaluating candidates to exercise one of the most important rights we have as Americans.

They can either put in the time to read up on candidates — hopefully from legitimate news sources instead of fake Russian bots — or they can rely on political advertising largely found on television and in mailboxes.

Candidates do of course advertise in this newspaper and we endeavor to report on where they stand on various issues, but voters may not read the paper regularly. Any regular readers of *The*

Press should know that Mr. Brannan is a leader of the local Republican Party and attended President Trump's inauguration, which we featured on the front page.

It's unfortunate that attack ads, often with only a speck of the truth wrapped in a mountain of bull, seem to be effective at pushing voters one way or another. But it's just an unfortunate that

our campaign finance laws make it all too easy to hide the source of dishonest attack ads, which are a fact of life in a nation where political speech is protected, even when it's false.

Our political leaders can and need to do better.

Attack mailers like those that arrived here were paid for by a political committee known as Truth in Politics, an oxymoron of a phrase if I've ever heard one. The only public information about the committee is its address, phone number, email address and the names of its manager and treasurer. The committee must also disclose all the contributions it takes in and the expenditures it makes, but violating those disclosure laws carries a largely meaningless civil penalty of \$1000, a minuscule amount compared to the hundreds of thousands of dollars some committees raise in an election cycle.

The people running these committees are typically political consultants, lobbyists or professional campaign fundraisers who work to disguise where the money comes from so voters can-

not consider the source of political advertising along with its message.

For example, casino owners may fund an attack ad against a candidate who opposes expanded gambling while the ad itself decries the candidate for being anti-business — even if he or she is a small business owner — in hopes of steering voters toward the candidate's opponent, who may be more friendly to casinos.

The problem is that unlimited amounts of money can be raised and trans-

ferred by and between political committees connected to any number of industries or interest groups to oppose or support any candidate or issue.

However, those transactions, as convoluted and byzantine as they may be, are traceable. The real problem is that the money funding committees often originates from political nonprofit groups, called 501-Cs, which can raise unlimited amounts of "dark" money without disclosing their donors.

In the case of the Brannan attack mailer from Saturday, the address and committee name on the mailer was that of a closed committee that no longer exists.

Meanwhile, the new committee with the same Truth in Politics name but a different address reported exactly zero dollars in expenditures and contributions to the state through August 10. The committee has also been filing its reports a week or two late since it was created last month. And as

Mr. Brannan suggested this week, a vendor could send out the mailers and simply not bill the committee until after the election when the expenditure would finally show up on state campaign finance records, but too late to make any difference to voters in the primary.

It will be interesting to see what gets filed between the primary and the general, however. We'll do our best to clear away the mud and shine a light on where the money's coming from and going.

On Point In Print

Joel Addington



Boone, athletes have tough road to the pros

Here's some random thoughts.

I watched the Jaguars take on the Vikings this past weekend and was thrilled to see running back Mike Boone rush for almost 100 yards for Minnesota. The former Wildcat receiver was a star for the Cincinnati Bearcats in college.

He is fighting for a roster spot on the Vikings. They have a few talented runners, including FSU's Dalvin Cook, ahead of Boone on the depth chart, but if he can continue to impress and pass protection in third down situations, he will assure himself of a spot somewhere, even if it isn't with Minnesota.

It was great to see a former Wildcat take that leap to the pros. Boone was primarily a receiver for the Wildcats but with his size and speed the Bearcats converted him to a successful running back.

My wife tried to recall who the last former Wildcat was to run in the NFL. I can't say for sure, but we probably think that we'd have to reach all the way back to the 60s and former Mississippi State star Marcus Rhoden.

It's amazing when you think about all the players and great running backs that have come through the Wildcat program. Only a small number move on to college and even a tinier number are good enough to make it to the professional ranks.

I suppose of all the professional sports, football

has the smallest number of athletes. Baseball and hockey have farm teams — rookie league, developmental, A, AA, AAA and finally The Show. Basketball and even soccer have smaller leagues, but once you get out of college there really isn't anywhere else to go at the moment for football, unless it's the Arena league. There's talk of summer leagues in the near future and that could open the gates a little for deserving athletes.

When you consider all that it makes Boone's accomplishment even greater. Way to go Mike.

- The world is a noisy place.

I was lecturing in my speech class and we talked about "white noise" that exists all around us on a daily basis. Even in places that we consider quiet, like the woods or a field, it is very noisy. If you're alone in the woods at night, it is a very noisy place. Bugs and animals are not quiet and tend to come out at night.

We did an experiment being very quiet and listening to the white noise around us. We heard the fan on the video projector, the creaking of a wooden chair, the high pitched buzz of fluorescent lights. It's all around us.

Try it sometime. Close your eyes and mute the TV and just listen to the random sounds around you. Make a list in your head of everything you hear; you'll be surprised.

Some people are so used to white noise that

being without it is difficult. One of my sons and my daughter use recordings of white noise to help them sleep. For a while, after we had come back from a trip to the beach, my wife liked to sleep with a CD playing the sound of the ocean. I love to sleep to the sound of rain on our metal roof.

Here's a weird thing. Years ago, when sound engineers were first making recordings of musicians, the finished product just sounded strange to the ear. Finally, someone decided that the sound-proof recording booth was too quiet and they added a "control track" of a very low hiss and recorded the musician again. All of a sudden, it sounded better. The human ear was used the sound of outside world. So, even today, recording engineers use a control track when making professional recordings.

Speaking of recordings, have you ever heard your recorded voice? Sounds weird, doesn't it?

Here's the bad news. That is what you actually sound like.

The voice we hear every day when we speak is not the voice the rest of the world hears. They hear that recorded voice. That is what our voice sounds like coming out of our mouth.

The voice we hear is the sound waves that are banging around in our sinus cavity. Knowing what my voice sounds like on recording makes that a pretty depressing thought.

Way to ruin people's day, Gerard.

MY SIDE OF THE MATTER

ROBERT GERARD

BAKER SOCIALIZING



16 likes
cheyennecroft This is home!



Liked by makenzie_shaye, corley_richardson and 221 others
sherrierauser When your kindergarten baby girl becomes a teacher you just have to post it. Love you so much baby girl. You are going to be the best teacher ever. Go change lives sister



Liked by mallory_shaye, maci.lynn02 and 323 others
reaganogriffs by fac, the best birthday yet



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rhondachamane Welcome home Pvt. Jewell!! #SheMissedHerBigBrother @graciejewell05



Liked by makenzie_shaye, mamas3littleboys and 147 others
katiebugphotography Last first day of school for my youngest offspring. How did the years pass so quickly? Senior year is here. Might as well enjoy the ride! #senioryear #seniorsoyosr #classof2019 #lastfirstdayofschool

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters are welcome, but must contain the signature of the writer, a phone number and city of residence. Letters must be concise and reflect opinions and statements on current issues 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

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 or email editor@bakercountypress.com

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Purchase these photos at www.bakercountypress.com Photos by Joel Addington
Kelsey Anderson, county fire volunteer, adds numbers to an address sign at last Saturday's event at the county park in Margaretta.

Free address signs distributed

JOEL ADDINGTON
MANAGING EDITOR
reporter@bakercountypress.com

Five years ago Dale Williams' wife Cathy was on an oxygen tank after an injury. He called to get a refill from a vendor in Orange Park and about 45 minutes later he watched as the delivery driver passed his home without stopping despite having the address.

"Right then it hit me. In five minutes, somebody could be dead," said Mr. Williams the morning of August 18 in Margaretta where county fire and EMS personnel were distributing large reflective 9-1-1 address signs to more than 60 residents of the community at the county park there.

"People could call for an emergency but they can't get to them because they don't know how," he said. "Numbers might be on the house but it's not in the front on the road. So my mission was to make the community aware of it and find out who was responsible for the 9-1-1 numbers."

That call for help five years ago led to Saturday's event organized by the community's Firewise group, which included Mr. Williams, his wife and retired school teacher Cathy Williams, Deborah White, Richard Williams and others.

They were joined by county Firewise coordinator Tanya Anderson, several volunteers from county EMS and fire, who made the 9-1-1 address signs on site, state forestry officials and some 80 members of the public. All enjoyed a barbecue lunch, lemonade and fellowship.

"If we can't find you, we can't help you," said Ms. Anderson, who explained that first responders often struggle to locate those in need because addresses are not clearly visible.

She said they often have to rely on other "in the area of" addresses to get in the vicinity of 9-1-1 callers or rely on landmarks to guide them to the right addresses.

"It's horrible. We have a cardiac [call] and we're right



Margaretta Firewise group members (front from left) Cathy Williams, Richard Williams, county Firewise coordinator Tanya Anderson, Deborah White and Dales Williams. (Back from left) Florida Forestry's Philip Chessman and Doc Bloodworth.



Event grill master Richard Williams.

there and we don't know we're right there," she said. "It's horrible. You got to get to these people and you can't find them unless somebody's out in the middle of the road saying, hey, it's this way, which is very rare because it seems like when something happens it's always 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning when everybody's sleeping."

It happens "all the time," said Ms. Anderson. "That's why I'm tickled pink that the Margaretta Firewise community has really stepped up to the plate."

Firewise events usually involved residents and fire officials working to remove wildfire hazards — brush and vegetation near homes — and educate residents about wildfire safety. But because the community has been so active in those areas, Ms. Anderson said, the address sign distribution event

was held. "It's a really big deal ... It not only helps us, it will help police officers, rescue ...," she said.

For anyone who needed it, the volunteers also installed the signs at residents' properties.

"This is Mr. Dale's baby. He went down there and worked hard to get everyone in this community a physical 9-1-1 address ...," said Ms. Anderson. "... The one thing he wanted to see accomplished in this community happening today."

Mr. Williams started the effort several years ago by identifying residences in Margaretta that were not in the sheriff's office 9-1-1 system by comparing the list of addresses used by dispatchers and those on the ground.

That review turned up more than 80 addresses that were either not in the 9-1-1 system or not accurate.

"We found out a lot of people over here didn't have mailboxes. They were getting their mail from the post office," explained Mr. Williams.

He said many residents were unaware that emergency responders could potentially lose valuable life-saving time searching for unmarked addresses.

"They didn't know so we started explaining, 'Hey, this is very important for you all,' and they started jumping on the bandwagon," recalled Mr. Williams, 66, a pastor in Gainesville and lifelong Margaretta resident.

"It's just one of several things I've seen in Mar-



Margaretta residents shows off a new address sign.

garetta where people want change. We seem to be the last out of the Baker County community, and people look in and say people don't care. Everybody might not, but there are some who do care about how Margaretta needs to go forward," he said, referring to a monthly meeting of concerned residents. "I appreciate those who are reaching out to us. Sometimes people say it's a lost cause but it's not when there are lives and people striving."

Ms. Anderson added that the address signs project was something they Margaretta Firewise group included in its Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan (CWPP), which helped the group gain national recognition as a Firewise community.

Last year the group installed smoke detectors in homes in the area with help from county first responders.

"The county has an overall CWPP and each of our individual Firewise Communities have their own because each community has different needs and actions to be set in place to achieve that one common goal in saving lives and property from wildfire," said Ms. Anderson.

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County fire and EMS volunteers make address signs for residents in Margaretta. Sixty-one were distributed last Saturday.

OBITUARIES

Graveside service for Baby Burnsed

Baby Boy Oakley Nathaniel Burnsed, 10 days old, passed away on August 19, 2018 surrounded by his loving parents. Born on August 9, 2018 to Charles Burnsed and Barbara Croft, Oakley blessed the lives of his family during his time on earth and will be dearly missed.

Oakley is survived by his loving parents; brothers Dustin Burnsed, Brandon Burnsed and Kyler Burnsed, all of Glen St. Mary; sister Isabelle Burnsed of Glen St. Mary; grandmothers Linda Burnsed of Sanderson and Bennae (Jim) Black of Sharon, PA; other family members.

He was preceded in death by his grandfathers Melvin Burnsed and David Olsharsky.

A graveside service will be held Friday, August 24 at 1 p.m. at Moniac Cemetery, Moniac, GA. The family will receive friends at 11 a.m. on Friday in the chapel of Forbes Funeral Home, Macclenny. To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Baby Boy Oakley Nathaniel Burnsed please visit our Sympathy Store. The family has established a Go Fund Me account: <https://www.facebook.com/100006031026371/posts/936878159856543/>



Oakley Burnsed

Rebecca Glover, 88, of Macclenny

Rebecca Evelyne Glover, 88, of Macclenny passed away August 16, 2018 at her home with her loving family by her side. She was born June 30, 1930 in Smithland, Kentucky to the late Elvis Theodore Stokes and Alma Missouri Rickard Stokes. Rebecca moved from Indiana to Baker County in 1997 and was a member of First Christian Church of Macclenny. She was very active in her church and also enjoyed doing crossword puzzles and cooking. She was known to be a great cook. Most of all, Rebecca loved spending time with all her family, which considered her the *best* of mothers and helped to make them all strong. Rebecca was predeceased by her parents; loving husband of 41 years, Larry Glover; sisters Juanita and Martha.



Rebecca Glover

Mrs. Glover is survived by her daughters Debbie (Peter) Spoljoric of IN, and Mary Duffy of Macclenny; brothers Charles (Doris) Stokes of TN, Freddie (Joyce) Stokes of KY; sisters Retha (Duke) Todd of KY, Liz (Vernon) Lewis of IL; grandchildren Katrina, Davina and Keeli; seven great-grandchildren and three great, great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Rebecca's life was held on Tuesday, August 21 at 3 p.m. at her church with Pastor Douglas Allen officiating. Interment followed at Manntown Cemetery. V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services of Macclenny was in charge of arrangements.

Funeral Friday for Tommy Mattox

Tommy Franklin Mattox Sr., 77, of Sanderson passed away August 18, 2018 at Acosta-Rua Center for Caring in Jacksonville. He was born March 20, 1941 in Sanderson to the late Troy Mattox and Emma Greene Mattox. Tommy was a life long resident of Baker County and served his country in the United States Marine Corps. He retired as a gunnery sergeant in 1986 after 26 years of honorable service. Tommy was an animal lover and enjoyed fishing and watching westerns on TV. Most of all, Tommy loved his friends and family and enjoyed spending time with them.



Tommy Mattox Sr.

Mr. Mattox was predeceased by his parents; son Tommy Franklin Mattox Jr.; brothers Joseph and Ernest Mattox and great-grandson Joshua Allen Gainey. He is survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Brenda Ann Mattox of Sanderson; daughter Kimberly Jean Edwards of CA; step-daughters Tammy Crews of Sanderson and Angela Gainey of Macclenny; brothers Dread William Mattox of Macclenny, James (Millet) Mattox of Lake City, Earl (Faye) Mattox of Baker County; sister Pamela (Dallas) Dinkins of Crestview, FL; six grandchildren.

A celebration of Tommy's life will be held on Friday, August 24 at 2 p.m. at V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services chapel with Pastor David Thomas officiating. Interment with military honors will follow at Cedar Creek Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Thursday, August 23 from 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Harold Crews, 61, dies August 21

Harold Crews, 61, of Glen St. Mary passed away on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at the Acosta-Rua Center for Caring after an extended illness. He was born in Macclenny, the son of Andrew Jackson Sr. and Mabel Irene (Culpepper) Crews. Harold enjoyed being outdoors, hunting and fishing, loved to cook on the grill, liked watching NASCAR racing and was a fan of Dale Earnhardt Sr. He was a great auto mechanic and spent most of his life working on cars.



Harold Crews

Mr. Crews was preceded in death by his parents and his brothers Alton Crews and Andrew Jackson Crews Jr. Survivors include his brothers Bobby G. Crews (Betty Jean) and Woody Crews (Charlotte) of Glen St. Mary, Archie Crews of Raiford and Paul L. Crews of Glen St. Mary; sisters Margaret Watson and Delois "Tommy" Crews, both of St. George, GA and Jeanette Best (Alvin) of Fernandina Beach; close friend of the family Leo Taylor and multiple nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends from 5-7 p.m. on Sunday, August 26 at Blackburn-Curry Funeral Home in Macclenny. The funeral service will be conducted at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, August 27, 2018 at Macedonia Independence Methodist Church with Revs. Bobby Crews and Allen Crews officiating. Interment will follow in South Prong Cemetery.

Lee Hodges, 58, dies on August 15

Charlie "Lee" Hodges, 58, of Macclenny passed away August 15, 2018. He was born October 5, 1959 in Macclenny to Bobby Lee Hodges and Carolyn Thrift Plymel. Lee was a lifelong resident of Baker County and a welder with the Florida Department of Transportation for many years before retiring. He was an avid hunter, fisherman and Florida Gator football fan. Lee was a private man with a big heart who expressed his love through his actions. He was always willing to help anyone. His favorite pastime was spending time with his children, grandchildren and best friend Barry Brown. He was predeceased by his father; brothers Edward Hodges Sr., Brian Hodges and Russell Hodges; sister Shirley Higginbotham.



Charlie Hodges

Mr. Hodges is survived by his mother of Macclenny; mother of his children Kim Hodges Dodd of Jacksonville; son Tyler (Amanda Brantley) Hodges of Crestview, FL; daughter Jessica (Jason Wilcutts) Hodges of Glen St. Mary; siblings Ray (Felecia) Hodges of Glen St. Mary, Denny Hodges of Macclenny, Frankie (Becky) Hodges of Sanderson, Brad (Alicia) Hodges of Glen St. Mary, Jesse (Wendy) Hodges of Waycross, GA, Steve (Elaine) Hodges of Sanderson, Edward Hodges Jr. of Macclenny, Lynn (Doug Morgan) Gainey of Macclenny; grandchildren Brittney, Danielle, Aydan, Colton, Hunter Wilcutts, and Brayleigh Hodges; numerous other family and friends.

A celebration of Lee's life was held on Tuesday, August 21 at 11 a.m. at Sanderson Congregational Holiness Church with pastors Oral Lyons and Justin Griffis officiating. Interment followed at Macedonia Cemetery. V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services of Macclenny was in charge of arrangements.

Baby Sha-Ann Cori-Jo McLoon

Baby Girl Sha-Ann Cori-Jo McLoon, of Macclenny, Florida went to Heaven on August 12, 2018 shortly after being born at Baptist Medical Center in Jacksonville. Her loving parents, Larry and Mandy, and all her family will miss her always and forever. Sha-Ann was preceded in death by her paternal uncle John Earl McLoon; maternal great-grandfather Henry Womble; maternal great-great uncle Rodney Jones; and maternal aunt Dora Ann Tedder.

Sha-Ann is survived by her loving parents Larry Daniel McLoon of Middleburg and Mandy Sue Tedder of Macclenny; her maternal grandparents Corina (John) Brewer; parental grandparents James (Barbara) McLoon Sr.; many aunts and uncles.

V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Service of Macclenny is in charge of arrangements.

Archie Richardson dies August 14

Archie Richardson, 77, of Macclenny passed away on Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville. Ms. Richardson was born on February 10, 1941 in Toomsaba, MS to the late Louis and Lovella Bramlett. Ms. Richardson moved to Florida in 1958 and was a long time member of the former Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church of Macclenny. She enjoyed cooking, gardening and crocheting, and she met no strangers. Ms. Richardson was preceded in death by her parents and siblings Leroy, Milton Lee, Andrew Lee Bramlett, and sister Bobbie Gowdy, all of Lauderdale, MS.



Archie Richardson

She is survived by her children Patricia (Walter) Harmon, Warren and Damon Lee, all of Macclenny, Virgil (Christine) Lee and Kelvin (Monica) Lee of Jacksonville.

The family will receive friends from 4-5:30 p.m. on Friday, August 24 at Emmanuel Church of God in Christ. The home going service will be on Saturday, August 25 at the same location in Macclenny at 2 p.m. Combs Funeral Home of Lake City in charge of arrangements.

Sanderson Congregational Holiness Church

CR 127 N., Sanderson, FL.

Sunday School 10:00 am

Morning Worship 11:00 am

Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 pm

Wed. Evening Prayer Serv. 7:30 pm

Pastor: Oral E. Lyons

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CHURCH AND OBITUARY NOTICE INFORMATION

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

CONTACT US

By phone at 904.259.2400 or by fax at 904.259.6502. You can stop by our office located at 104 S. Fifth Street, Macclenny, FL or mail your submission to PO Box 598, Macclenny, FL 32063 Online at www.bakercountypress.com or email editor@bakercountypress.com

Elmore Roberson, 52, of Macclenny

Elmore Roberson, 52, of Macclenny died on August 15, 2018 at Ed Fraser Memorial Hospital. Mr. Roberson was born on July 18, 1966 in Macclenny and was a lifelong resident.

He is survived by his wife Wanda Roberson, daughters Clarisa and Hope Roberson; mother Mary Bristol and father Elmore Roberson Sr.; five sisters, one brother and three grandchildren; many nieces and nephews, mother-in-law Cleo Ruise, six sisters-in-law and seven brothers-in-law; very special sister-in-law and friend Valarie Ruise.

The funeral service for Mr. Roberson will be held Saturday, August 25 at 11 a.m. with Elder Japan Ruise Sr. officiating. Visitation will be Friday, August 24, both at Emmanuel COGIC in Macclenny. Interment will be at Quitman Cemetery in Sanderson. Combs Funeral Home of Lake City is in charge of arrangements.



Elmore Roberson

Escoe Starling, 83, avid woodsman

Escoe Starling, 83, of Macclenny passed away on August 19, 2018 at St. Vincent's Riverside Hospital. Mr. Starling was born on March 10, 1935 to Manning and Addie Davis Starling, and was a lifelong resident of Baker County. He worked in the logging industry and on heavy equipment. Mr. Starling was an avid woodsman and loved to hunt and fish. He came from a large family and family was very important to him. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend who will be truly missed. Mr. Starling was preceded in death by his parents and multiple brothers and sisters.



Escoe Starling

Mr. Starling is survived by his wife Glenda Raulerson Starling of Macclenny; sons David (Sally) Starling and Adam Starling both of Macclenny; daughters Laura (Wayne) Wilkerson of Macclenny, Erica Starling of Highlands, FL and Heather Starling of Lake City; sisters Lillie (Barry) Sweetman of Jacksonville and Pearl Wattles of Idaho; 14 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

A funeral service to honor the life of Mr. Starling was held on Tuesday, August 21 at 11 a.m. in the chapel of Guerry Funeral Home in Macclenny with Brother Albert Starling, pastor of Glen Friendship Tabernacle, officiating. Interment was at Oak Grove Cemetery in Macclenny.

Thank you

The family of Adrian Williams says thank you for the outpouring support by the community, friends and family given us during one of the darkest times in our lives. Losing a child is the most painful experience imaginable. Your prayers, encouragement, calls and visits to name a few of many acts of kindness, helped in ways that words can't explain. Thanks to the sheriff's department and Faith Bible Church. We love each of you and pray that God will forever bless each of you. We ask that you continue to pray with us.

Very grateful

The family of Fay Claudine Rhoden expresses its deepest thanks to the many friends and loved ones who displayed such love and sympathy during the recent illness and death of our mother. The prayers, telephone calls, cards and flowers meant so much to her throughout her illness, and the displays of affection following her death leave our family sincerely humbled. Special thanks is extended to Dr. Edsel Bone and the brothers and sisters of the First Baptist Church of Macclenny. Thank you for your prayers, support and love; the meal you prepared for our family was delicious and appreciated. We are eternally grateful.

Monthly giveaway

The Sanderson Christian Revival Center will host its monthly giveaway of clothing, shoes, toys, household items and furniture on Saturday, August 25. Time is 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The church is on Sapp Road 5 miles south of I-10 on CR 229.

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Prevent caregiver burnout

FAMILY FEATURES

While caring for an older family member – whether it be a spouse, parent or grandparent – can be a rewarding experience, it can also be a difficult and overwhelming task. This is especially true if your loved one lives with Alzheimer's disease or other dementia-related illnesses.

Whether it's out of love or obligation, caring for a chronically ill or disabled family member (and potentially his or her financial and legal interests) can come at the expense of the caregiver's quality of life. In addition to maintaining a healthy, active lifestyle outside of caregiving responsibilities, it is important for those caring for a loved one to learn ways to avoid health hazards and stay well-informed of any changes in their loved one's condition. Add work and children to care for to the equation and it's a formula that can lead to stress, exhaustion and even potential health issues.

The additional duties often required to provide care for a loved one can lead to physical or emotional fatigue, often referred to as "caregiver burnout." If you're caring for an older adult, the Alzheimer's Foundation of America recommends these tips to help manage stress before caregiving leads to burnout.

Know the signs of burnout. By the time many caregivers suspect signs of burnout, they're likely already suffering symptoms related to their responsibilities. Being aware of some of the warning signs can help caregivers properly manage stress and protect themselves. Warning signs include:

- Overwhelming fatigue or lack of energy
- Experiencing sleep issues
- Significant changes in eating habits or weight
- Losing interest in activities you once enjoyed
- Neglecting personal physical and emotional needs
- Becoming unusually impatient, irritable or argumentative
- Having anxiety about the future or a feeling of hopelessness

- Suffering from headaches, stomachaches or other physical ailments
- Experiencing depression or mood swings
- Having difficulty coping with everyday tasks
- Lower resistance to illnesses

Educate yourself about the disease. It's likely the loved one you care for has several health problems, takes multiple medications and sees multiple health care providers to manage his or her conditions. As a first step in learning more about Alzheimer's disease and other dementia-related illnesses, visit alzfdn.org or nia.nih.gov/alzheimers for information. Support groups, educational workshops, community resources and professionals can also help increase your understanding of the disease and what to expect so you can be a better-informed and prepared caregiver.

Be prepared for important decisions. Take care of financial, legal and long-term care planning issues early on to help reduce stress later. Try to involve the individual in decision-making if he or she is capable, and consider personal wishes regarding future care and end-of-life issues.

Build your care skills. Key skills for any caregiver include communication, understanding safety considerations and behaviors, and managing activities of daily living such as bathing, toileting and dressing. Some organizations and local hospitals may even offer classes specific to your loved one's disease that can aid you in the process.

Develop empathy. Try to understand what it is like to be a person living with Alzheimer's or dementia. Put yourself in the affected person's shoes while also recognizing your own losses. Manage your expectations of your loved one and remain patient.

Ask for help when you need it. Reach out to medical and mental health professionals as well as family and friends. They can assist you when things get tough. In addition, there are typically programs, agencies and organizations in your community that can help manage the challenges of caring for older parents, grandparents, spouses and other older adults.



Tips for Managing Caregiver Stress

Stress can affect anyone and caregivers may find themselves faced with additional stressors. To help manage stress and avoid caregiver burnout, keep these tips from the Alzheimer's Foundation of America in mind:

- Maintain a positive attitude.
- Be flexible and accept the circumstances.
- Be honest and open about your feelings.
- Take it one day at a time.
- Get a good night's sleep.
- Incorporate stress management techniques, such as meditation or deep breathing, as well as exercise into your daily routine.
- Drink plenty of water and eat a healthful diet full of fruits and vegetables.

Advocate for and connect with your loved one.

Take an active role in the individual's medical care. Get to know the care team, ask questions, express concerns and discuss treatment options. Also remember to connect on a personal level through kindness, humor and creativity, which are essential parts of caregiving and can help reduce stress.

Think positive. Focus on the capabilities and strengths that are still intact and enjoy your relationship with your loved one while you are still together. Look for ways to include him or her in your daily routines and gatherings to make as many memories as possible.

Find more caregiver resources and tips at alzfdn.org.

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The newspaper often publishes classified advertising on subjects like work-at-home, weight loss products, health products. While the newspaper uses reasonable discretion in deciding on publication of such ads, it takes no responsibility as to the truthfulness of claims. Respondents should use caution and common sense before sending any money or making other commitments based on statements and/or promises; demand specifics in writing. You can also call the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP to find out how to spot fraudulent solicitations. Remember: if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. - The Baker County Press

Truck Driver: The Baker County Board of Commissioners is accepting applications for the position of Truck Driver. This is a full-time position @ 40 hours per week; four 10-hour days, Monday-Thursday. Salary for this position is \$21,320 annually/\$10.25 per hour. Benefits include Florida Retirement, paid vacation/sick leave and paid holidays. Graduation from an accredited high school or possession of an acceptable equivalency diploma required. Valid Class B CDL driver's license is required and a clean driving record acceptable to the county insurance provider. Must be able to carry out written and oral instructions. Former roll-off truck experience a plus. Applications and complete job description is available at the Human Resources Office located at 55 North Third Street, Macclenny, Florida, 32063 or online at www.bakercountytfl.org/jobs. Deadline for submitting applications is Thursday, September 6, 2018 at 4:00pm. Baker County is a drug free workplace and an equal opportunity employer. All applicants are considered for all positions without regard to age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital or Veteran status, medical condition or disability, or any other legally protected reason. 8/23-8/30c

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Inmate Supervisor Position: The New River Solid Waste Association is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Inmate Supervisor. Responsibilities will include inmate supervision and other miscellaneous job duties as needed. Department of Corrections experience preferred. Employee will be required to complete an Inmate Supervision course within 6 months of date of hire. High School diploma (or GED) and valid Florida Driver License will be required. Starting salary \$10.00 per hour. Applications can be picked up at the Administration Office at New River Regional Landfill located on State Road 121, 2 1/2 miles north of Raiford, Florida, or can be obtained from our website, www.nrswa.org, under Forms. Deadline for submitting applications will be Friday, August 31, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. For further information, call 386-431-1000. New River Solid Waste is a drug-free workplace; drug testing will be required. NRSWA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 8/16-8/23c

Macclenny Nursing & Rehab is seeking RNs & LPNs full/part time. Day and Night shifts available. CNAs full/part time. Shifts available for 3-11 and 11-7. New wage scale! Must pass a criminal background check! Apply in person at 755 South 5th Street, Macclenny or call 904-259-4873 or email Madsco@southernitc.com. EE/AA/Employee/M/F/V/D. 11/16tfc

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Wayne Frier Macclenny. Need T&T Contractors. Mud / Paint / Trim. Jared, 904-259-4663, jm_martin23@yahoo.com. 1/18tfc

BUSINESS OPP.

Business Opportunity: Well-established ammunition manufacturing and IP company for sale, Liberty Ammunition, Inc., Article 9 sale. Public auction, September 12, 2018 at 12:00 pm, 2083 58th Avenue Circle East, Ste. B, Bradenton, FL 34203. Inspection available upon request. Liberty Ammunition, Inc. is a world leader in lead-free and high performing ammunition. Liberty Ammunition can be sold as a complete turnkey operation or as assets-only. Either form of sale will include all tangible and intangible assets owned by Liberty Ammunition, Inc., including 30 patents, all trademarks, equipment, and inventory. Complete asset list upon request. www.moeckerauctions.com (800) 840-BIDS, (954) 252-2887. Partial terms: all items are as is, where is, with no warranty expressed or implied. Subject to confirmation. Sale shall be free and clear of liens or encumbrances pursuant to 9-617 of the Uniform Commercial Code. Registration deposit: \$20,000 refundable cash/certified funds. 5% BP capped at \$100K. AB*1098 AU-3219, Eric Rubin. 8/23p

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll free at

DEADLINES

Placement, correction or cancellation of classified ads may be done by phone, e-mail or in person anytime before Monday at 5 p.m. for publication on the following Thursday.



Thursday & Friday, 8:00 am - 12:00 noon, United Christian Church & Academy, 590 North 7th Street, Macclenny. Kitchen items, clothing, cafeteria tables, office dividers, and more.

Friday & Saturday, 8:00 am - 12:30 pm, 9202 State Road 121, Macclenny, directly across from Raiford Road Church.

Saturday, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm, 13048 Mud Lake Road, Sanderson. Two family sale.

Saturday, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm, 14400 Hunters Ridge East, Glen St. Mary. Multi-family sale: household items, clothes, etc.

Saturday, 9:00 am - ?, 7756 Glenview Drive, Glen St. Mary. Inside sale: rain or shine.

1-800-669-9777. The toll free telephone number for the impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

For sale or rent: 3 BR, 2 BA SW, just across the state line off of Highway 185, front porch, carport, 1 1/2 high and dry acres with oak trees, very clean, \$74,900 possible owner financing with down payment or \$900/month rent. 912-281-7993, 912-281-9053, 912-550-4563 home. 8/23-8/30p

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FOR RENT

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Huge singlewide, 2 Large BR, 2 Large BA, Glen area. Must see, extra clean, S.A.O. References, taking phone applications, \$1200/deposit, \$850/month. 904-259-2121. 8/2tfc

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3 BR, 2 BA, \$660/month, first/last/security deposit. 912-843-8118. 5/17tfc

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COMMERCIAL FR

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Smith & Wesson SD9VE, 9 mm, had softer springs installed, have paperwork and box, \$375 firm. 904-403-6579. 8/23p

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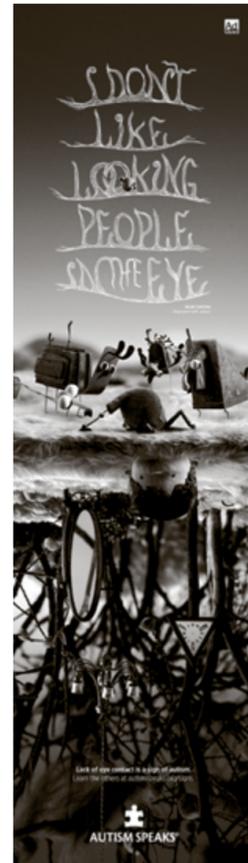
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B-Cats: High hopes for first year in conference

JON SHUMAKE
SPORTS EDITOR
sports@bakercountypress.com

Unbeaten. Unscored upon. Don't allow opposing offenses to cross midfield.

Those are three goals third-year BCMS Bobcat football head coach Kenneth Roberts has for his team in 2018. The B-Cats haven't been far from reaching the first two marks during coach Roberts' first two years at the helm. Baker County has a 12-3 record under the coach, and has held opponents to a combined total of 97 points.

The coaching staff hopes that success carries over into this season when the program begins play in the Northeast Florida Athletic Conference, marking the first time since 2015 that the football team has been a member of a conference. The B-Cats open the six-game regular season on August 28 at Lake Asbury.

"Our goal is to be 8-0," offensive coordinator Tucker Roberts said. "That's the players' goals, too."

A perfect record would result in the middle school's first undefeated conference championship team since the B-Cats went 8-0 in 2013 en route to the Florida Crown Conference title.

The reshuffled Northeast Florida Athletic Conference features Baker County in the North Division along with Lakeside, Orange Park and Oakleaf. The South Division is comprised of Bradford, Lake Asbury, Wilkinson and Green Cove.

The three games against the division opponents — September 4 against Lakeside, September 25 at Orange Park and October 2 against Oakleaf — along with the road game at Bradford on September 11 will determine the tournament seeding.

The top team in each division is scheduled to play the No. 2 team in the opposite division to open the tournament on October 9. The No. 3 seed plays the other division's No. 4 seed as well. The North Division team is set to host all four games.

The championship game is scheduled between the winners of the No. 1 and No. 2 seed games, and is set for October 16 at a South Division field. Three consolation games are also scheduled for that date all of which will be hosted by South Di-



2018 BCMS Bobcat Football Schedule



August 28	5 pm	at Lake Asbury
September 4	6 pm	vs. Lakeside
September 11	6 pm	at Bradford
September 18	6 pm	vs. Green Cove
September 25	6 pm	at Orange Park
October 2	6 pm	vs. Oakleaf
October 9		Conference Semifinal (H)
October 16		Conference Finals (A)

vision teams.

After two seasons away from conference competition, defensive coordinator Gary Pelham is excited for the chance to play for a championship.

"It's going to be a challenge being in a conference. I'm really looking forward to being in the conference," coach Pelham said. "Like I said it's going to be a challenge, but it's going to be fun to play in a conference finally and play for a championship."

The B-Cats will rely on an al-

most entirely rebuilt first string on both sides of the ball. Walker Avera is the only returning offensive starter from last year's 6-1 squad, and he is transitioning from offensive line to running back, Tucker Roberts said.

The offense has a variety of skill sets among its expected ball carriers. In addition to Avera, who will serve as a power back, Baker County also has speed and athleticism from Jaylin Maiden, Cam Smith and sixth-grader Ke'nais Williams, the offensive coordinator said.

"When you look at last year's offense to this year's offense we look the same, but we got a little bit more skill players than last year. It'll be fun to watch them," Tucker Roberts said. "... If they can do their thing they're going to put a lot of points on the board. But they got to play and play as a team and block for each other."

And the team's offensive line has been coming together as the season approaches. The linemen have been helped by coach Dalton Thomas af-

ter a handful of former BCHS Wildcat offensive linemen volunteered during the spring to assist the unit.

"I'm very happy where we are now compared to first day of fall practice," Tucker Roberts said. "It was kind of like 'Woo, man, here we go again.' But they're picking it up now."

Many players on the young defense received playing time last year as the season progressed, the coaches said. Middle linebacker Avery Spurlock was among those players, and has been a leader through fall practice, coach Pelham said.

Coach Kris Brady, the team's defensive line and linebackers coach, said the program's "gap penetrating and fast" defense has helped the B-Cats be successful the past two seasons. If the current players jell together, this year will be no different, he said.

"I feel like our defense is always strong because it's a good scheme and we tend to fit skill to the position and get them where they need to be," coach Brady explained. "I feel good about where we're at and where we need to be. You never know where you're at until the lights come on. ... I think we always feel pretty strong about what we can do defensively."

Sophomore Griffin eyes a starting role, Sun Belt title

JON SHUMAKE
SPORTS EDITOR
sports@bakercountypress.com

During Georgia Southern's 0-9 start in 2017, which resulted in the firing of former head coach Tyson Summers after six games, then-freshman Quan Griffin didn't enjoy playing football.

"At the moment I really hated football," the former BCHS Wildcat star said earlier this week. "It was just a hard feeling. No one likes to lose."

But that changed after current head coach Chad Lunsford took over as interim coach in late October of last year. He led the Eagles to a 2-4 record in the second half of the season, and Georgia Southern won two of its final three games.

Griffin also saw the field more as the season progressed, and he totaled three tackles and two tackles for loss. He recorded one tackle for loss in Georgia Southern's first win of the season,

a 52-0 home blowout over South Alabama.

Following the strong end to the season, coach Lunsford was awarded the head coaching position in November.

"I didn't come here for a coach. I came here for the program, the history of the program, the tradition of program," Griffin said. "... I love this program. It's a good program. It's an energetic program and has a winning tradition."

Now, following the hardships of his freshman season, Griffin is battling for a starting role on Georgia Southern's defensive line. He made his claim to the position on August 11 in the program's first preseason scrimmage.

Griffin returned a fumble recovery 7 yards for a scoop-and-score touchdown, and recorded a sack and several solo tackles in the scrimmage.

"It's just hard work paying off," said Griffin of Glen St. Mary. "The early morn-

ing running, the cleans, the benching, the squatting is paying off in the long run. It's a good feeling to compete for Georgia Southern football."

Being a starter is just one of his goals for his sophomore campaign, which is scheduled to kick off on September 1 against visiting South Carolina State.

Griffin also wants to help the program return to the success it enjoyed for the better part of three decades.

Georgia Southern captured five Football Championship Subdivision National Championships between 1985 and 2000, and returned to the FCS playoffs seven additional times following its final national title.

The Eagles then jumped to the Football Bowl Subdivision in 2014, and finished atop the Sun Belt Conference in their first season. Georgia Southern won its only bowl appearance to date the following year, blowing out Bowling Green 58-27 in the 2015 GoDaddy Bowl.

"I have big expectations. First I want to start," Griffin said. "Secondly we're trying



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGIA SOUTHERN ATHLETICS
Quan Griffin tackles the ball carrier in Georgia Southern's 52-0 shutout win over South Alabama.

to win the Sun Belt championship and make a bowl game."

The Sun Belt will compete in divisional play for the first time in 2018. The winners of each division — the East and

West — will play in the Sun Belt Championship Game on December 1.

Georgia Southern is joined by two-time defending conference champion Appalachian State, Coastal

Carolina, Georgia State and Troy in the East Division. The West Division is made up of Arkansas State, Louisiana, Louisiana-Monroe, South Alabama and Texas State.

Two of Georgia Southern's biggest division rivals will feature some of Griffin's former Baker County teammates on their rosters. Offensive lineman Cooper Hodges and running back Seth Paige are both entering their freshman seasons for Appalachian State and Georgia State, respectively.

Another current Wildcat, senior offensive tackle Tyler Burnsed, has committed to Troy, further adding to Baker County's presence in the conference.

Griffin said he is looking forward to playing his high school teammates.

"It's going to be crazy. We always grew up playing together," said Griffin, who is majoring in business management and was named to the university's Dean's List in the spring. "... It's going to be crazy, but it's every man for himself right now. If they line up in front of me I got to do my job. I'm going to compete at highest level I can compete."

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SPORTS

Ladies lose hard-fought opener

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The BCHS Lady Wildcat volleyball team dropped its opening match of the year on August 21 in a five-set battle 24-26, 25-20, 29-27, 17-25, 10-15 to visiting Oakleaf.

Oakleaf's Jalana Hope's block gave the Lady Knights the lead for good in the decisive Game 5. Kills by Madison Barton and Dixie Raulerson twice cut Oakleaf's advantage to two points in the final set, but Ashlyn Eden's ace ended the match following two long returns from Baker County.

Barton led the team with 14 kills, five blocks and five aces. Blakely Mallory added eight kills and she and Dixie Raulerson both had three aces. Rachel Mechum had a team-high 26 assists, and newcomer Kayla Welch had seven digs.

Baker County struggled putting Oakleaf away in the match, both in individual sets and overall. The Lady Knights erased the ladies' 10-2 Game 1 lead with a 14-2 run. Eden had a five-point service run, which included three aces, that gave Oakleaf a 19-17 advantage.

Barton's block helped the Lady Cats rebuild a three-point lead, and the team was on the brink of escaping the set with the victory with a 24-22 advantage. But Oakleaf ended the set on a four-point run, stealing the set with Bryanna Parrett's ace.

The Lady Cats battled back to win the second and third sets, including staving off a third-set defeat after falling behind 24-21. Barton tied Game 3 at 27-all with a kill to side out, and Raulerson's kill and Barton's ace put Baker County one set away from winning its opening match.

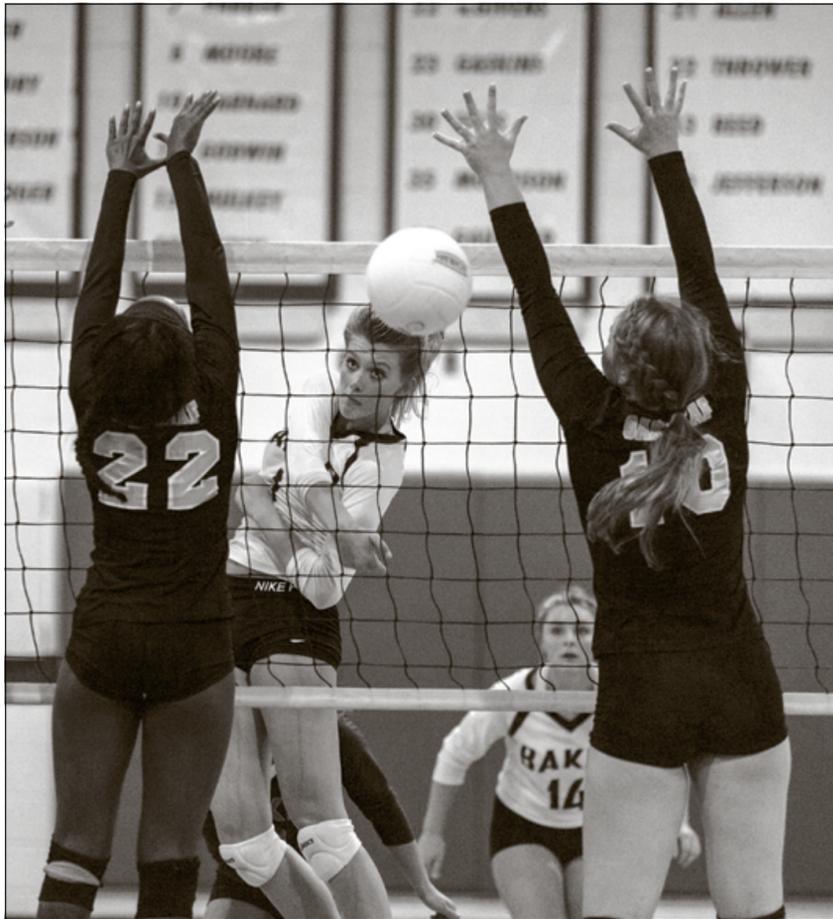
But the team fell flat in Game 4 following the back-and-fourth third set, and never led again after going up early 3-2.

Before the varsity contest, the JV Lady Cats opened their season with a 25-13, 25-21 sweep over Oakleaf. Baker County cruised after building a 6-0 lead to start Game 1 and pulled away in the second half of the second set after the two teams were tied at 12-all.

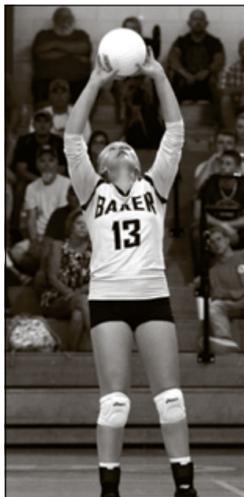
Shelby Grimes, who led the team with five blocks, helped the JV Lady Cats take the second-set lead with a five-point service run, which lifted the squad from a one-point deficit to a four-point advantage.

Abby Price led the team with five kills, Mariah Green and Kennady Godwin both had three aces and Taylor Crews had 12 digs.

The Lady Cats return to the court on August 28 when



Purchase these photos at www.bakercountypress.com Photos by Jud Johnson
Madison Barton spikes the ball between Oakleaf blockers in Baker County's season debut.



Cassidi Beaver

they host Yulee.

Lady Cats split preseason matches

The Lady Cats went 1-1 on August 14 in their preseason games at Trinity Christian Academy, topping the hosting Lady Conquerors 2-1 after falling to the defending Class 3A champion Christ's Church Academy by the same outcome.

"Obviously we want 2-0, but we saw a lot of great things from the kids," coach Ashley Holton said. "Our first performance out our very first game I saw things I haven't seen in a long time from this team."

The fifth-year head coach



Blakely Mallory tips the ball over the net.

said she was impressed with the team's defensive play. She said the Lady Cats had more than a dozen blocks in one of the matches, and added the team's "blocking stood out tremendously."

"Makayla Clevenger and Madison Barton held down the middle with blocking," coach Holton said. "... My setters (Rachel Mechum and Cassidi Beaver) were even getting up on the net and blocking balls. In the past my setters do not block. My setters were blocking balls by themselves, and so that right there I was impressed."

She also liked the fight the Lady Cats showed after falling behind early against the defending state champions.

After Christ's Church decisively took the first set, Baker County responded to win the second set. The ladies then battled back from a third-set deficit and briefly took the lead, coach Holton said, before Christ's Church pulled out the hard-fought match.

"It definitely says they're not going to fall against big teams," coach Holton said. "We're definitely there to compete, we're going to compete no matter who you are. For that I was proud of the kids."

The Lady Cats slowed down against Trinity after the

tough opening match, coach Holton said, but they still pulled out the victory.

"After the Christ's Church Academy game — the kids gave it their all during that game — so when we got to Trinity you could just see them fatiguing," coach Holton explained. "They were tired. We definitely didn't play the way we should have against Trinity but we came out with the win."

Still, despite the strong defensive outing, the coaching staff said the offense — hitting and serving — must improve. The program has introduced a new serving technique this year in spot serving, in which players aim their serves to take advantage of defensive weaknesses.

Serving was one of Baker County's strengths in 2017, the head coach said, and the players must continue improving the spot serves to regain their success from last year.

"Our serving's a little off right now, but I'm sure by the next game we should be stepping it up a little bit more," coach Holton said. "... Last year our serving won us a lot of volleyball games, so if we can continue that and pick out the weakest spot on the court we're going to be dangerous."



Two powerhouse programs collide in Week 1 contest

JON SHUMAKE
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Two years ago, the BCHS Wildcats made a statement in head coach Jamie Rodgers' first game leading the program. The Cats opened the season with a 23-21 upset over the St. Augustine Yellow Jackets, setting the tone of success early for coach Rodgers' tenure.

Since then, Baker County has won two straight District 5-5A championships and finished as the 2017 Class 5A runner-up.

But that game also marked the last regular-season loss for the Yellow Jackets, which came in head coach Brian Brad-dock's first game back at his alma mater. St. Augustine has also won consecutive district titles — raising the program's total to 16 district titles since 2000 — and advanced to the state semifinals in 2017 following an unbeaten regular season.

At the time, the 2016 victory over St. Augustine was one of the biggest in school history, coach Rodgers said. Another victory on August 24 at Memorial Stadium would be no different.

"I think a win this week ... if we beat them two out of three years, that would be something that would be pretty special," coach Rodgers said Monday, days before the fifth straight Week 1 meeting between the teams. "That doesn't happen often."

But both teams have undergone roster overhauls since their last meeting a year ago. The Yellow Jackets started their perfect regular season last year with a 31-14 home win over the Cats, which was Baker County's only loss until the state championship game.

St. Augustine has just two starting offensive players from last year's program, according to an article by *The Florida Times-Union's* Clayton Freeman, while the Cats return only a handful of defensive starters from 2017. The Yellow Jackets lost quarterback Austin Reed, who threw for nearly 3000 yards and 34 touchdowns, and torched Baker County for 335 yards and four TDs last year.

St. Augustine is also having to find replacements for its top two runners, Dexter Brown and Frequan Sparrow, who combined for 26 rushing touchdowns, and leading receiver Karim Brown, who had 1385 receiving yards and 17 scores.

All stats are courtesy of St. Augustine's profile on www.maxpreps.com.

"They still want to throw it. The last two years they've been really good. They want to throw the football. They use throwing the ball as a little bit of their run game," coach Rodgers explained. "... They still throw the ball well. They want to get the ball out to their play-makers, so it'll be fun."

But the defense is much more experienced and is expected to lead the team.

Defensive end Robert Zuzu led the Yellow Jackets with 87 tackles and 11.5 tackles for loss and also added six sacks. He will be joined by defensive tackles Darius Stanley (eight sacks and 11 tackles for loss in 2017) and Cornelius Stewart (19 tackles) along the strong defensive line.

Linebackers Nicholas Barlow (51 tackles) and Rylan Shugart (75 tackles, nine for loss) are also back, as is safety Jaden McDowell, who tied for the team lead with four interceptions last season.

"Up front they're really good," coach Rodgers said. "... If you want to be a good football team you better be good on the offense and defensive line and they are."

With Baker County's experience along the offensive line — featuring returning starters Matthew McDuffie, Myles Morrison, Ace Crews and Tyler Burnsed — the Cats won't change their offensive approach despite a nearly revamped set of skill players.

"We're not going to do anything different. We're going to line up and try to do what we do," coach Rodgers explained. "We got some different things that we'll put in this week, but ... we're not going to vary away from what we do. We're going to be the Wildcats. That's all we know how to be."



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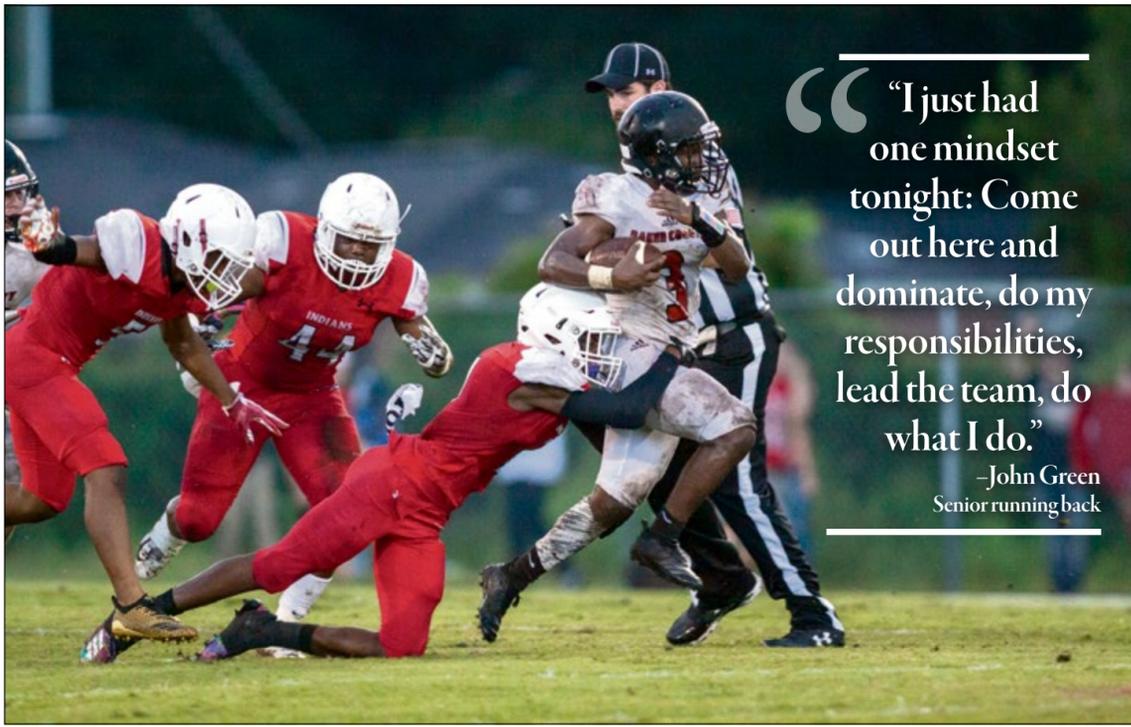
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“I just had one mindset tonight: Come out here and dominate, do my responsibilities, lead the team, do what I do.”
—John Green
Senior running back

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Running back John Green, who rushed for 213 yards and two touchdowns in the first half of the Kickoff Classic, tries to power out of Baldwin's tackle attempt.

FORMER CATS

Boone rushes for 91 yards and TD

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A former BCHS Wildcat football star made a giant impact in his team's second preseason game, but another ex-Cat was left watching from the sidelines as he continued to wait for his 2018 on-field debut.

• Rookie running back Mike Boone may have evened the race in the Minnesota Vikings No. 3 running back competition with an impressive outing on August 18 in the team's second preseason game. He rushed for a game-high 91 yards on 13 carries and scored Minnesota's only touchdown in the Vikings 14-10 home loss to the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Boone set up his 1-yard third-quarter scoring run with a 27-yard rush, which was the longest run of the game for either team. He also started his day with a 19-yard burst on his first attempt.

The Vikings continue their preseason on August 24 when they host the Seattle Seahawks.

• Linebacker Bear Woods remained on the sideline on August 18 following offseason back surgery, but his Toronto Argonauts pulled out a one-point victory for the second straight game. The Argos (3-5) came back from a 10-point third-quarter deficit and defeated the visiting BC Lions 24-23.

Toronto will try to keep its winning streak in tact on August 24 when the Argos visit Woods' former team the Montreal Alouettes (1-8).

• Gatorette Kyrie Holman and senior defensive lineman CeCe Jefferson were among the people representing the University of Florida on August 19 at the annual Florida Football Fan Day at the Gators' Indoor Practice Facility. More than 3000 fans attended the event.

Holman, a former captain for the BCHS majorettes, is in her first year at the university, and made the Gatorette twirling squad for 2018-19.



PHOTO BY TARA HOLMAN
CeCe Jefferson and Kyrie Holman

Wildcats run over the Indians

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A cramp was about the only thing that slowed down John Green on August 17 in the Kickoff Classic.

The senior running back rushed for 213 yards and two touchdowns in the first half at Baldwin, and led the BCHS Wildcats to a dominant 42-7 win over the Indians in the annual preseason game. Baker County totaled 320 yards and five touchdowns on the ground in the game as the offense maintained its trademark rushing attack with an array of new skill players.

Green's first-quarter scoring runs of 47 and 12 yards helped the Cats build an early 16-0 advantage, which included a second-quarter safety. The Cats stretched their advance to 29-7 at half-time following a quarterback sneak by Alex Bowen and Chris Smith's pick-six.

Green was happy to be back on the field for the first time since last season's Class 5A championship game.

"I was really excited to come out here and play football with the guys. I actually didn't have a chance to play with them in the spring because of an injury," said Green, who converted to running back after playing quarterback in 2017. "I just had one mindset tonight: Come out here and dominate, do my responsibilities, lead the team, do what I do."

Baker County's revamped defense mostly held Baldwin's talented passing game in check. Quarterback Gavin Screws completed 10 of 18 passes in the first half for 148 yards, the majority of which came on a 93-yard touchdown pass to Richie Coffey. Coffey caught a slant and



Toby Kinghorn drives the opponent to the turf.

broke the catch-and-run to the end zone, which cut the deficit to 16-7.

The Cats also twice intercepted Screws, which accounted for half of the defense's four takeaways in the game. Smith returned one second-quarter interception about 50 yards for a touchdown, and Maurice Moore ended the first half with the second interception.

Head coach Jamie Rodgers credited the secondary's communication for its success.

"We tackled well in the open field. I didn't see very many people just running wide open, which is a good thing," coach Rodgers said. "We'll go evaluate the film. We'll have to do a better job next week. We know what St. Augustine holds. Excited to get in the film room and watch what happened and we'll get back after it."

Kayden Hill recovered a first-quarter fumble, and Ty Adcock's scoop-and-score fumble recovery in the fourth

quarter was called back on a penalty. The infraction was one of 16 penalties called against the Cats, two of which negated touchdowns.

In addition to Adcock's defensive score, Green had a second-quarter touchdown run called back due to a chop block.

"The game's kind of lopsided," coach Rodgers said. "... That's not what we're going to talk to the guys about. We're going to talk to them about the penalties we had. We're going to talk to them about killer instinct putting people away. That will help us out more than anything."

The strong rushing attack carried over into the second half as backup and JV players were worked into the game.

Jaquan Paige rushed for 55 yards and a touchdown in the second half. His scoring run came on third-and-goal after De'Heaven Clark returned a blocked field goal deep inside Baldwin's 5 yard line.

Jaymodd Ruise also added a 22-yard touchdown for the

final score of the night, which implemented a running clock.

"Both of guys can come in and ... they can do the job," coach Rodgers said. "It's next man up, really, and it was good to see the young kids get in there and play hard. I thought they had a good showing."

With a Week 1 showdown against St. Augustine looming, a blowout victory in the Kickoff Classic built Baker County's confidence entering the regular season, Green said.

"It impacts the rest of the season. It impacts the players," Green said. "It actually motivates them to get better and better, clean up the mistakes that we had out there ... the flags and the penalties. We'll correct it in practice, though, I'm sure, and next week we'll be ready to play."

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