Southern Group for its request to mine sand in southeastern Baker County, following a 30-day adjournment of a mediation hearing that had been scheduled in an attempt to resolve an ongoing dispute over the issue and avoid litigation. So far, the county and Oldcastle remain far apart on any agreement that would permit sand mining for decades. But the mediation process, which was initiated after the county commission denied the company a mining permit in July, has run its course.

County Attorney Richard Komando, who represented the county at the hearing in the courthouse on October 29, told commissioners at a board meeting on November 5 that he had received a copy of the mediation summary prepared by a Fort Lauderdale lawyer who was selected by both sides to conduct the hearing.

Mr. Komando told the board that chairman Mark Harkey had explained well the county’s position for opposing sand mining in the area of potential mining dis- trict in the community who had been in opposition to Oldcastle’s bid to set up a mining operation off CR 226 a few miles south of In terstate 10.

“We’re waiting for Oldcastle to provide additional condi- tions they would like the county to consider,” Mr. Komando said.

In that summary, mediator Sam Goren, a Fort Lauderdale lawyer who has conducted similar hearings in other parts of the state, described the process of the mediation, as well as that of the county’s legal counsel, Mr. Komando, who received the mediation summary prepared by a Fort Lauderdale lawyer who was selected by both sides to conduct the hearing.

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**Off hook’ on BCDC debt**

By Mary Conover

Another BCDC financial issue has been settled. A previous report noted the BCDC could no longer afford to pay even the interest on the bond debt. However, Sheriff Dobson said this week the county is ready to extend various cost reduction measures to the jail in an attempt to keep from closing the facility.

Deficits have been caused by the number of inmates released on probation, along with 30 on probation, along with an additional $5,200. Textbook prices, which have increased in the past, also will be one-fourth less now with the new budget.

With the tuition discounts, Mrs. Richison said the reimbursement should total nearly $5,200. Textbook prices, which have increased in the past, also will be one-fourth less now with the new budget.
Drug arrests after I-10 stop

Deputies arrested two Middleburg residents on multiple drug charges after the discovery of drugs and weapons in a vehicle stopped for an I-10 traffic stop.

Sgt. Matthew Yarborough, and Cpl. Michael Hauge stopped a white, 2008 Nissan Titan for speeding and a turn signal violation near mile marker 90. Upon stopping the vehicle, they were met with a disoriented driver who initially refused to get out of the vehicle.

The driver, 37-year-old Randy Minkel of Middleburg was taken into custody for possession of marijuana, cocaine, and a firearm. The passenger, 43-year-old Marc Heath of Middleburg was arrested for possession of marijuana and a firearm. Both were booked into the Baker County Detention Center.

Minkel said an action plan will be developed and rolled out in order to participate in this meeting due to the language barrier and the need for an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should be requested by the party at the Commissioner’s office, address stated above. In accordance with Section 286.010, Florida Statutes, we have provided for the services of an interpreter at no cost to the party. If the party desires to inquire the services of an interpreter, please call at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to schedule an appointment.

Got bogus AT&T phone calls

A Macclenny man called the Sheriff’s Office to report that he received a call from a white male who identified himself as a Macclenny Police Officer. The caller claimed to be a private investigator for AT&T and informed the victim that he owed $1132 on a pair of Internet and Telephone services, and that his account at the Jacksonville Jacksonville would be turned off unless he paid the amount.

Deputy Chris Walker arrived on the scene about 9:15 a.m. and informed the victim that AT&T did not have any record of the complaints.

According to the Sheriff’s Office, please call AT&T at 1-800-331-0570 to verify if you have any outstanding charges.

Pistol reported stolen

An 18-year-old Trenton resident reported a handgun stolen from his home on Thursday, November 14, 2013 between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. The homeowner told Deputy Brandon Knoke that the gun was a .357 Magnum, black color, approximately 10 inches in length and had a wooden handle.

The homeowner advised that the gun was kept under lock and key and that it was the only firearm in the residence. The homeowner stated that if it was stolen, it was not for criminal reason and that the gun was not used in anything criminal.

If you have any information that may be helpful in the search for the stolen gun, please contact the Sheriff’s Office at 904-259-3596 or 904-443-5550.

Television stolen from residence by Cyanur

A television was taken from a residence in Macclenny on Wednesday, November 13, 2013.

Detective Lasana told the victim he saw a group of people in his parking lot on US 90. The victim was residing at an apartment in the 500 block of North Lowder Street in Macclenny.

The victim told the detective he was leaving the bar with another man about 3:30 a.m. when another man shouted at him and the other man. The victim was then approached by several people who were holding a television and were trying to get it from the victim. The victim killed the television and it was taken.

The victim said he informed the detective about the incident several times and that the detective informed him he would contact him if he needed anything. The victim was told that the police were investigating the incident.

If you have any information that may be helpful in the search for the stolen television, please contact the Sheriff’s Office at 904-259-3596 or 904-443-5550.

Police arrested a Lake City woman at the Macclenny Wal-Mart after she was accused of stealing a television.

Detective Earl Lord stated the suspect, a white female, aged 21, was observed leaving the store with a flat-screen television valued at $154 in a cart.

The suspect told the detective she had a receipt for the television and that she had it in her car. The detective told the suspect she had no receipt and that the items she was accused of stealing were not in her car. The suspect was arrested and charged with theft.

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Keller honor rolls...

WES honor rolls
WESTSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Principal's List - 1st Nine Weeks

Free art, computer classes set

Free art classes for persons of all ages! The Baker County Adult Education Center will begin its registration in January. The schedule include classes in drawing, pastels, and acrylics. All classes meet on Monday from 6:00 to 9:30 at the Baker County Adult Education Center, 210 W. Minnesota Street. For more information, call ta 334-2636.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Keller Intermediate School
Principal's List - 1st Nine Weeks

Ken Jefferson visits BCHS students

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will conduct a public workshop and hearing process in Section 931.11, Florida Statutes, and its implementing regulations for the Tentative Five-Year Work Program for Fiscal Years 2015-2018. This meeting will be held on November 12, 2015 at 6:30 PM, District Two Office, 222 S. 6th St., Lake City, FL 32025.

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Funeral for Johnny Arnett is held in Macclenny on Nov. 13
Johnny L. Arnett, 63, of Macclenny died on Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2013. Mr. Arnett was born on January 26, 1950 to Edith and Joseph Arnett in Macclenny, and he spent his entire life in the Baker County area. Mr. Arnett was a member of the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Macclenny, FL. He was also employed by Alachua Environmental Services. The funeral service for Mr. Arnett was conducted at the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Macclenny, FL. The interment was at the Macclenny Cemetery. Visitation for Mr. Arnett was held on Wednesday, November 13, 2013 from 4-8 pm at the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Macclenny, FL. Services were conducted at 11 am on Thursday, November 14, 2013 at the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Macclenny, FL.  Contacts: John Arnett, Billy C. Arnett, Bookley Arnett, Jeanette Arnett, Archie Arnett, and Arnett. Burial arrangements were handled by Guerry Funeral Home of Macclenny, FL.  Contributions: The family suggests contributions be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Cleveland, TN 37323 or any local charity of your choice.

Holiday writing contests
Share your pencil and dust off your keyboards because the Baker County Press is sponsoring two more holiday writing contests. The first competition is for short stories. Stories must be no longer than 1,000 words. The contest deadline is 7 pm on December 20, 2013. Stories can be submitted online at www.bakercountypress.com. All stories are subject to the rules of the contest, which can be found on our website. Stories should be named “Christmas short story contest” and they will be judged on the story’s originality, quality of writing, creativity, and how well it represents the holiday season. The contest winner will be announced on December 27th. The second contest is for poetry. Stories must be no longer than 40 lines. The contest deadline is 7 pm on December 20, 2013. Stories can be submitted online at www.bakercountypress.com. All stories are subject to the rules of the contest, which can be found on our website. Stories should be named “Christmas short story contest” and they will be judged on the story’s originality, quality of writing, creativity, and how well it represents the holiday season. The contest winner will be announced on December 27th. The first place winners will each receive a prize of $50.00 and a certificate of achievement. Second place winners will each receive a prize of $25.00 and a certificate of achievement. Finalists will receive a certificate of achievement. Finalists will receive a certificate of achievement.

Samaritan effort gears up for holiday
With Thanksgiving just around the corner, Pastor Mitch Blanton is collecting food for Baker County residents. butter will be given away at the Samaritan Food Bank this Saturday. "People are hurting in Baker County," says Blanton. "In the past we have received a donation from the adobe of bread products and canned foods. This year we are more than happy to accept ideas for baked foods at a time of year when baked items are even more appreciated. Ideas for baked goods can be brought to the church office or brought to the Samaritan Food Bank this Saturday." The Samaritan Food Bank is located at 1155 State Road 228 in Macclenny. For more information call 1-904-610-2118. Pastor J. A. White & Fairgrounds Rd.

Notice of public hearing
The public is invited to attend a Public Hearing being held by the Baker County Board of Commissioners on November 19, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers of the County Administration Building, 55 North Third St., Macclenny, Florida, at which time the Board will hear public comments and adopt Budget Amendments for the Fiscal Year 2012-13.

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**Girls drop opener Monday**

**SPORTS**

**Local in state finals for Snyder**

**Falcons clinch the title with 22-6 romp**

**Chargers, Falcons win the division titles**

**SPORTS NOTICES SUBMISSIONS**

The Baker County Press welcomes submissions for youth league, traveling league or individual athletic achievements. The paper reserves the right to publish submissions. It is required that all news items be typed or emailed to:

jonshu@live.com

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We Salute the Veterans!

The following names were submitted by our Facebook friends last week. Join us as we honor these brave men and women both retired and active duty.

Andy Anderson, Vietnam
Wayne Fraze, US Army
Army, WWII
James Pearce, USN Active Duty
Jimmy Lightsey, US Army Vietnam
Frank Craig, USS Bennington
Dwight Crews, National Guard
Paul Vernon Newport, US Army Air
Gus Thick, Korea
Jamie Branch Osborne, USN
James Hartsell, US Army
Afghanistan
Dustin Sheppard, USN
Virgil Davis, US Army
Paul Robert Hart Sr., USMC Veteran
Edgar Kirkland
Leon Davis, US Army, WWII Served under General Patton
Hunter Hayes
Kyle Wilkinson in Afghanistan
Dennis Whelan, USN, Vietnam
CPO Kelly Scott, USN
WWII
Larry Bryant, US Army, Vietnam
Afghanistan
Joshua Lambright, US Army
Dennis Whelan, USN
CPO Kelly Scott, USN

Thank You, Veterans!

From the world wars to Europe to the jungles of the Far East, from the deserts of the Middle East to the African continent, and even here in our backyard, our homelands, our veterans have made the world a better place and Americas the great country we are today.

John Rowe

Now Open in Macclenny!