Scans targeting senior citizens

Pages 5 & 7

Armed robbers arrested Monday

JOEL ADDINGTON
MANAGING EDITOR
reporter@bakercountypress.com

Two local men with lengthy criminal histories were arrested Monday night following an associ- ate at gunpoint of $120 in each the previous after- noon at a home on CR 23A North.

State Representative Chuck Brannan (left) and Senator Rob Bradley (R- Fleming) talk about the need for funding and support for expansion of public infrastructure projects, including new or expanded athletic facilities, two county fire stations, a city water main extension under the interstate, a new senior center and more. Those requests came from local officials, but also from Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) sup- port manager and legislative liaison Jordan Green, who works in the Lake City DOT office. He was summoned to the (VR) headsets streaming 360-degree videos of the world, keeping astronauts emotionally available.

The middle school’s Baker Bots robotics team displays their awards from a regional qualifying competition in Orange Park last week. (Photo by Joel Addington)

More News

See page 3

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More News

See page 3
Boneless BEEF CHUCK ROAST $3.99 lb

Fresh PORK BOSTON BUTT $1.29 lb

Fresh Chicken BONE-IN SPLIT BREAST $79¢ lb

Heavy Western Boneless BEEF CUBED CHUCK STEAK $4.49 lb

Fresh Chicken Cutlets or BREAST TENDERS $1.99 lb

FRESH PORK NECKBONE $99¢ lb

OSCAR MAYER BOLOGNA OR COTTO SALAMI 16 oz. $1.79 lb

ARMOUR LUNCHMAKERS 2.6-3.3 oz. Assorted Varieties 99¢ ea

Portmann’s Salad Dressing 16 oz. 89¢ ea

Ginger Evans Sugar 4 lb bag 99¢ ea

Golden Tip Tea Bags 100 ct. 99¢ ea

Kiggin’s Corn Flakes 18 oz. 99¢ ea

Today Apple Juice Cocktail 64 oz. 99¢ ea

Jiffy Corn Muffin Mix 6 oz. 3/$1

Home Churned Country Spread 48 oz. 99¢ ea

Crystal 2.0 Water 24 fl. oz. $1.79 ea

HASS AVACADOS 39¢ ea

YELLOW ONIONS 3 LB. BAG $1.69 ea

FRESH GREEN BEANS 1 LB. PKG. $1.99 ea

PINEAPPLES $1.29 ea

Wylwood Crinkle-cut Fries 5 lb bag $2.99 ea

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 2 DAYS ONLY!
JANUARY 18-19

Fresh Pork Boston Butt 2 per pkg. SLICED FREE! $99¢ lb

Fresh Bone-In Split Chicken Breast 69¢ lb

Covered Wagon Sliced Bacon 10 lb. Box $16.90 ea

Fresh Pork Baby Back Ribs $3.49 lb

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 2 DAYS ONLY!
JANUARY 18-19

CROSSROADS SHOPPING CENTER
816 S. 6TH ST. MACCLENNY
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 8 AM - 8 PM

PRICES GOOD JANUARY 16-22
Robots: Values awarded

From page 1

The overall award for the coras value category, according to Charles dancing and speeches St., Macclenny. The program King Jr. Day Celebration will Macclenny 450 S. Eighth St.

It will be first come, first the county fairgrounds on

distributing free food at

Farm Share, a Homestead, Baker County Fairgrounds 10 a.m. - noon

Food giveaway in a District 4-6A game.

The Lady Cats host Westside Mary

1 Wildcat Dr., Glen St. Mary

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

season against West Nassau.

Wildcat soccer vs West

Baker County High School

Park.

basketball vs Orange Management of not only each

groups.

Help with utility bills

The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) has funds available to help Baker County residents with their winter electric or gas bills up to $250.

Eligibility is based on incomes as follows:

To schedule an appointment with a LIEAP-authorized agent, call 1-844-625-0798. The program will be available from January 7 to March 31, 2019. LIEAP-authorized agents will be scheduled 24 hour a day, 7 days a week, Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in advance.

The Baker County Fairgrounds will be distributing free food at the following locations. Baker County residents are invited to come and receive food. January 24 starting at 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. first come, first serve.

Glimpse of Eau Gallie

COURTESY OF TAMMY ASHLEY

The Baker County Press Weather

Five Day Forecast

Today High 59 Low 43

Thursday High 67 Low 43

Friday High 72 Low 39

Saturday High 75 Low 57

Sunday High 65 Low 43

Mon 62 Tues 59 Wed 61 Thurs 57 Fri 60 Sat 71 Sun 57

Nears

Pecisification

Precipitation

Normal precipitation .100% .90% -.00%

Averages

Temperature

High 76

Low 50

Average temperature 56.6

Departure from normal minus 0.5

Data or source from N.C. Climat. Office

BOOMERANG "You can look at the annual summary of the booms by season at the septic tanks and near the septic tanks." Dr. Lapatine said that the bill was also the first to appropriate more funds for research and development of municipal sewer systems into areas served by septic tanks.

Joel Addington Managing Editor

Prior to the meeting Sen. Bradley and Rep. Brannan were asked about their views on recently filed bills in the state house and senate that would mandate septic tank inspections every five years starting in 2022, as well as any needed repairs or pump outs resulting from such inspections, at the owner expense, on such inspections.

Neither legislator was specifically asked to endorse the proposal, however. Similar bills have been introduced in the Florida legislature in recent years.

Sen. Bradley said that if there wasn’t enough money in the bill that wouldn’t make much progress. That could change this session, he said, because the revenue commissioners and now Governor Ron DeSantis has focused on reducing budget deficits in order to help that interchange as a whole, "We should have a system that provides only primary treatment and are not designed to remove nutrients, like nitrogen or phosphorus, bacteria, viruses, because of the nitrogen or phosphorus waste compounds," he reportedly said.

In a recent meeting last week, Florida Atlantic University research scientist Brian D. Lapatine explained that nitrogen pollution production has been rapidly increasing and urgent issue facing our state. In a report on September 27, 2018, "We’re finding the same thing in our studies of estuaries, said Sen. Bradley, who chairs the senate appropriations committee. “... I’d like to be careful in further...”

Dr. Lapatine reportedly explained in a senate subcommittee hearing that “that nitrogen is the main driver of algae blooms and, although nitrogen fertilizer production has been rapidly rising, septic tanks are the main culprits,” the senator said.

A new study of Wakulla Springs south of Tallahassee has shown the Florida Department of Environmental Protection found that 51 percent of the nitrogen in that system was coming from septic tanks, the new report said. “We’re finding the same thing in our studies of estuaries,” Sen. Bradley said. “They were complicating in Tallahassee.”

Dr. Lapatine and Sen. Bradley were surprised that Senator Joe Gruters, who was selected last year by the Republican Party of Florida as its candidate for the U.S. Senate and has a bill in the senate, didn’t mention the legislation when they closed recently.

Sen. Bradley was also familiar with the specifics in the bill but said any additional costs scheduled on such inspections would be passed on to our state. “I don’t see this bill...”

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Robbers nabbed after a traffic stop

MIKE ANDRESON
PRESS STAFF

The New River Solid Waste Admi-

April 2019

The following case dis-

COUNTY COURT

Dispositions from January 9

NEW RIVER SOLID WASTE

$25K asset software purchased

The River New Solid Waste Admi-

County Chairwoman Cathy

New River's executive director, Perry

Richard Prush, DWLS; non-assigned

Experience Life at Snyder by attending an upcoming event.

Learn how a Catholic education can benefit your son or daughter by visiting Bishop John J. Snyder High School. Our college-preparatory curriculum provides students of all faiths the academic opportunities needed to gain admission to the college of their choice. Athletics, fine arts, and Campus Ministry service opportunities provide extra-curricular experiences that make attending school rewarding, fun and memorable.

Join us at one of our upcoming events or call us to arrange a personal tour of our campus to see firsthand the benefits that a Catholic education can offer.

New River’s executive director, Perry

2019-7800

Tuesdays at 5:30 am-2:30 pm

35x932 to 295x1186

counts from 2015, for which he got a six-month probation he
to 2013, though all charges were dropped except the drug
tery, drug possession, burglary and grand theft dating back
corrections records show.

Mr. Fama has multiple arrests for battery and burglary
since 2014, though many of the cases were dropped, save a
charge. Mr. Fama was additionally sought on warrants for
warrants were issued for their arrest on felony armed robbery
-1.

Mr. Fama has multiple arrests for battery and burglary
charges. Mr. Fama was additionally sought on warrants for
discharge a firearm in public, a misdemeanor, and posses-
sion of a firearm by a convicted felon, a felony.

Both men were taken into custody January 14 following a
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A revised rezoning plan for a proposed 150-acre resort RV park in Glen St. Mary would include a site sewage treatment plant and an 80-foot buffer area, an amendment was reviewed and recommended for approval by the county’s Land Planning Agency on January 10 and sent to the commission for consideration for this week.

The project, which has generated concerns over potential noise and odors from a wastewater treatment facility close to homes in the nearby Glenloch subdivision off Nursery Boulevard just north of the city limits, was scheduled for a public hearing before commission- ers at 7 p.m. Tuesday evening.

Rezoning the site for Glen Oaks Premier RV Resort from residential to Planned Unit Development, or PUD, was voted on by the planning commission in January, 2018 based on the premise that water and sewer utili- ties would be provided by the Town of Glen St. Mary. However, town officials developed the site so owners that only water service over the entire acreage, sewer service, which required amendments to the zoning, was adopted and re- visioned in 2019.

The amended rezoning application adds a proposed sewage collection system, including a concrete entrance system, two percolation ponds and monitoring wells on the nearly 200 acres of parcel land in the City of Glen St. Mary.

In an effort to prevent additional public hearing before the Land Planning Agency (LPA), board last week, the county’s newly ap- pointed community develop- ment director, Edgar Gar- cia, recommended the approval of the rezoning plan.

“Staff recommends ap- proval, but with an inclu- sion of a 10-foot buffer that will put the plant adjacent the parcel during the time of the package plant and the land uses to minimize noise and odors.,” Mr. Garcia said, adding that a buffer would cut off the 80-foot buffer of natural vegetation between the park and property neighbors.

He later relented and agreed to drop the horn on their 2-acre principal land owners, Da- vid Bolen, speaking on behalf of the project site, suggested a larger buffer would be to leave 2 acres of trees that would have to be removed to build the home.

Mr. Bolen, chief engineer on the site sewage treatment plant and associated sewer am- endments was reviewed and recom- mended for approval by the county’s Land Planning Agency on January 10 and sent to the commission for consideration for this week.

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New 5-acre zoning district eyed

**Baker County's Land Planning Agency (LPA)** recently approved an ordinance in 2012 to allow development on lots of 5 acres or more. The county commissioners gave approval to the ordinance in 2012 to allow for a comprehensive plan.

**Community Development Director Edgar Garcia** said, "The LPA's board selected the evening of January 10 to pass this ordinance on 5-acre zoning regulations on lots that exceed 5 acres in size. The board then added an amendment to develop regulations to reflect changes made to land development regulations, including the creation of exemptions to minimum lot sizes."

Mr. Garcia said, "We were permitted to create non-conforming lots that are too small and should be considered non-conforming. A non-conforming lot is a parcel that is too small for the zoning that the county, mostly 5-acre parcels, that are too small for their particular zoning district."

In a new 10-year comprehensive plan would be adopted, and applied in February 2019, he said, "I have a paved road on one side and a paved road on the other side. But in December I was told I would be illegal. I was told to be illegal."

Mr. Garcia then had two options: file a costly appeal and request a change to the zoning code. Mr. Garcia said, "There is a process to get you legal. You just have to know where you stand."

Officials said many non-conforming lots have been sold to people who unknowingly bought property that cannot be changed due to zoning laws. If you have a non-conforming lot, you cannot build on it because you could get you conforming. It's just a process to get you legal."

Mr. Garcia said, "There is a process to get you legal. You just have to know where you stand."

For information call 904-259-6015

**Learn to play...**

- **Woodlawn Kennels**
  - Quality Professional Care
  - **GROOMING** 259-4757 BOARDING

- **MUSIC LESSONS**

- **PRIZE!**
  - CASH

- **3:30 a.m.** and spotted the suspect in the front yard. She shortly after phoned Ms. Bell, who told police that Phillip Givens, 22, the previous morning, had gone to her residence on Bon Rue Circle saying he needed to borrow her pick-up. She called police and her several obscenity-laced text messages demanding that she pick up his daughter in Jacksonville and she refused.

- **Deputy Jeffery Davis** noted that report that of officers had advised Mr. Givens after making a theft report that he could not drive due to his intoxication state, and he messied Ms. Bell again advising her of his daughter's residence.

- **LONELY HIGHWAY**

- **LADIES NIGHT**

- **LADIES NIGHT**

- **WEDNESDAY**

- **FRIDAY 1**

- **White Trash Bash & Daisy Duke Dixie Contest**

- **Piano**

- **Guitar**

- **Violin**

- **MUSIC LESSONS FOR ALL AGES**

- **FOR information call 904-259-6015**

- **Located on the campus of Raiford Road Church**

- **9201 SR 121 South, Maccle"
Nearly scammed of $3K

A Jasper, FL trucker was charged with impeding officers by pulling away onto a highway as they drove on following his vehicle, trying to slow him down and make him show his credentials. Deputy Theodore Bloxham obtained a warrant for Bryan O. Reyes, 30, of Alachua County, for failing to pay fines.

Youth arrested in Blackbottom section of Macclenny for striking officer

The teen was also charged with assault and resisting arrest.

Teen jailed for sending kid porn

That contradicted what the deputy had been told earlier by another 13-year-old girl, who said the accused told her he took the photos during a video chat with the girl, and that he sent them to her.

What got into me. I planned to have a party on the 17th of January and I was going to make a video. So, I posted the photos. The charge is a violation of community standards and was arrested. His LG phone was searched for evidence, as was a CD of four photos. The change is a third-degree felony.

Teen faces felony for striking officer

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Teen faces felony for striking officer

A Jasper, FL trucker was charged with impeding officers by pulling away onto a highway as they drove on following his vehicle, trying to slow him down and make him show his credentials. Deputy Theodore Bloxham obtained a warrant for Bryan O. Reyes, 30, of Alachua County, for failing to pay fines.

Youth arrested in Blackbottom section of Macclenny for striking officer

The teen was also charged with assault and resisting arrest.

Teen jailed for sending kid porn

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Trio jailed for drugs after stop

Police charged a trio occupying a vehicle stopped for a faulty rear window with bonds for felony and misdemeanor drug charges just after midnight on January 9 south of Glen St. Mary.

Deputy Thomas Burdeaux said in the vehicle, Hannah Wood, 25, of Macclenny produced a baggie of meth from her shirt pocket shortly after the vehicle was stopped on SR 319. The Journey north near Interstate 10 at 12:30.

She was also wanted on a warrant for failure to pay fines on a license violation.

The report noted that another pair was found in a third smoking pipe, a baggie of marijuana and bath salts belonged to him. Deputy Blanchard noted that Mr. Craig had an outstanding warrant for his arrest in his jacket. He faces multiple misdemeanor charges.

Driver Teresa Lambardi, 36, of Glen St. Mary was wanted for a failure to pay on a warrant for a license violation. She and Mr. West were charged with possession of a hallucinogen.

Drivers of the vehicle were Jose Antonio Bargas, 27, of Jacksonville, and Carlos Joe Rojas, 34, of Macclenny. Lambardi was transported to the Baker County Jail.

The report noted that another pair was found in the rear seat of the patrol car that was transported to the station.

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Rhoden voted district’s best teacher

JOEL ADDINGTON
Managing Editor
joel@bakercountypress.com

Sheil Rhoden of Macclenny, a civil engineer turned math and science teacher at the high school, was voted the school district’s top teacher for 2019. She’ll compete for the regional and statewide honors in the coming months and attend a gala and ceremony available ahead of the winner’s announcement in July.

“I am still shocked, but mostly honored and humbled to be chosen when I know the high caliber of teachers that we have in this district,” said Mrs. Rhoden this week.

The wife and mother of two has been teaching math and science classes for the last decade at the high school. She currently teaches pre-calculus, algebra 2 and physics, co-chairs the PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support) team and co-sponsors the Mu Alpha Theta math honor society. She’s also the senior class sponsor.

Mrs. Rhoden said she enjoys the relationships she builds with her students.

“I love getting to know what makes them tick to learn and what’s important to them,” she said.

In fact, that’s what drew her to the field — she wanted to have more interaction with local youth and ability to influence their growth.

But because each student comes to class with different academic and emotional needs, trying to meet them within the classroom can be challenging, she said.

“It’s frustrating, humbling, sometimes heartbreaking, but fulfilling, never boring and always worth it,” Mrs. Rhoden says.

She is from Macclenny Elementary, where the school-related employees of the year included Sonya Norrell at Pre-K/Kindergarten Center, Selena Griffin of Macclenny Elementary, Cathy Richardson from the district Offices and Ann Taylor of transportation.

Mr. Rhoden was voted district’s best teacher of the year included Sonya Norrell at Pre-K/Kindergarten Center, Selena Griffin of Macclenny Elementary, Cathy Richardson from the district Offices and Ann Taylor of transportation.

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Untie wall from shutdown

In politics, as in life, there are always trade-offs. I’ve always liked the axiom “Don’t let the perfect be the enemy of the good.”

And at this point in the particular government shutdown, President Trump should see the writing on the wall, no pun intended.

It’s clear House Democrats are willing to restart the government, provided there’s no wall funding. And the President is clearly unwilling to recognize the need for wall funding.

Sounds like a stalemate, albeit a stupid one that ties normal operation of the government to a silly wall, which would do little to stop illegal immigration (most illegals enter via ports of entry). And the President is clearly not going to end the shutdown.

Personally I fear the shutdown could be the latest in a “death by a thousand cuts” scenario that may plunge us into another recession. The other cuts: the trade war with China, bailing out federal contractors, economic volatility driven by an administration in constant turmoil and thus incapable of responding well to the next shock or a real crisis rather than the imaginary one at the southern border.

Fingers crossed that a compromise will be reached soon to avoid a calamity of our own design.

Book ideas for furry friends

I was playing with my adorable grand-dog Lucy Loo the other day and it occurred to me how like a human she was. Granted, I am biased. She is my dog and has more human qualities, what might that be? For example, books.

What books would dogs and cats like? Here are a few.

DogLit: Exercises You Can Do While You Dream. Cats I Have Chased: a memoir. SDR — how to blame it on the puppy. You Have Chicken Pox — I Like Chicken Pox: Cute expressions to use to GET that Chicken Pox. Fetch Your Own Stick: Taking control of your life. I Was a Teenage Car Wash Dog. All Dogs DO Go to Heaven. After You Catch Your Tail: Six Things To Do With It.


I Was the Bunt of the Litter: An Expose. Little Dog/Big Dog: How to love that little dog. Sources. I Have Peed — a memoir. Tommy is Trapped in the Wall. No dumb humans. Ways our signals are misinterpreted. Bats I Have Stifled: a memoir. The Vet: The frightening truth about what goes on in that office. Who Let the Dogs Out? Answering the Age-old Question: Feline nonfiction: To Scratch a Chair — a memoir. Blame it on the Dog: How to make the Big Bad Dog work for you. The Cage Crisis: How to overcome your depen-


Eight Fun Games to Play with a Dog. Cut Scratch Fever: How cute cut videos are ruining lives.

From Morris to Grumpy Cat. The icons we love. If This Little Thing Could Talk: Tales of living with a Dead Mouse. Training Your Humans: Eight tricks YOU can use. Bath Time: A horror story.

Hair Balls: Tricks and techniques for avoiding the shaves. Reprising Your Inner Kitty: How to find the joy in your life.

Mastering the Tail in the Wall. Masters Do, NOT Go To Hounds — But cats do. Getting in Close: Channeling Your Inner Lion.

“Mastering the Share”: And using it to get what you want. I Was a Feral Cat: Tales from the pack.

Kudos to Fraser Hospital

Dear Editor: Recently our family had a need of medical atten-
tion and because the need was acute, we went to Fraser Hospital emer-
gency room in Macclenny.

After waiting our turn and getting a diagnosis in the ER, Mama was ad-
mitt ed to the hospital. Hospital? I had seen the commentaries about the doctors’ offices and doc-
tors we had frequented, but I did not know we had hospital beds, nurses and CNAs to take care of peo-
ple … and take care they did! We felt like Mama was treated by neighbors and friends.

Friends like Willis, Erin, Brenda, Randy, Gor-
don and a new one named Dr. Blat helped us through trying circumstances for the next ten days.

With such excellent, diligent care she was strong enough to return to her house one more time. Your care and compassion for our Mama and fam-
ily did not go unnoticed. Thank you from the fami-
ly of the late Tony Fish.

Richard Fish
Glen St. Mary

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

OPINION

On Point
In Print
Joel Addington

Meanwhile patients are suffering...

During this critical time, I want to reflect about how so many of us are suffering.

We are all in the midst of a pandemic. The virus is spreading rapidly, and the death toll is climbing. Even as we are all working to stop the spread, we must also remember the devastating impact of this virus on our healthcare workers.

Our nurses, doctors, and other healthcare providers are putting their own lives on the line to care for others. They are working long hours, often in dangerous conditions, and they are seeing the worst of humanity on a daily basis.

And yet, they still continue to work. They still continue to care.

We must do more to support these heroes. We must do more to ensure that they have the resources they need to keep going.

In addition to the physical toll of the virus, there is also a mental toll. Our healthcare workers are experiencing high levels of stress and anxiety as they grapple with the weight of the pandemic.

We must do more to support their mental health.

We must do better.

Thank you to all of our healthcare workers. Thank you for your dedication and selflessness.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
Settlers vs. Seminoles

You recall, beginning paragraph three, a lack of punctuation and some strange spelling. The letter was copied as it was written with no editing.

There were two major Indian routes through Baker County, and two along its borders. One left Blounts Ferry on the Suwannee below Fargo and cut across the county from the upper west side (entering between Big and Little Gum Swamps) to the lower southwest boundary, where it joined the Trail Ridge-Alachua Trail Road. Known as the Jacksonville Road (and the Trail Road to Jacksonville), it was barely more than wagon ruts in 1835, but it had been in use, perhaps, for millennia. Pre-Columbian Indians, Spanish soldiers and priests, American settlers, and, in the period 1835-42, the United States Army and Georgia-Florida Militia volunteers utilized the trail.

Among those riding the ancient path was George Fleming, the clerk, and two travelers named Moffet and Up, later President of the United States. Having left Ft. Heilman on Black Creek (near Middleburg), the general wrote from his headquarters (at Blounts Ferry on the Suwannee, 13 July 1838) “... I was opposed by a party of Indians who had taken refuge in the Okolomee Swamp within the limits of the State of Geor- gia. They had pursued up through the settlements from the regions around the Oklewee and, but without committing dep- rivation, killed several persons and, with great cruelty, several of the women. I learned that the volunteers had pursued the hostiles (no doubt refugees Creeks), and supposed to be 40 or 50 men with their families, that they came up with them on two oc- casions, in each of which after a slight skirmish, two or three white men wounded, the volunteers retired to their homes ... one of militia Capt. Hunter and mustered into the service, along the dividing line between Georgia and Florida, to act as guides to the regular troops, I flatter myself will afford ample protec- tion to the inhabitants around the swamp.”

“The citizens are leaving their homes several families have already left and many more will leave in a few days as they are hourly expecting the Indians to fall on them they have reached through and desolate swamps of the Okolomee and from my knowledge of those swamps it will be almost impossi- ble for them to be removed.”

“Letter to Gov. George R. Gilmer from Col. Thomas Hilliard of Thomasville. In passing, it might be interesting to note that Col. Hilliard’s son Cuyler was responsible for the town of Hil- liard in our sister county of Nassau.”

In the typical Victorian prose of his day, Alabama’s historian Mr. Pickett writes, regarding the Indian War in our area, “... the Seminole was getting closer to this area, and there would be no escaping him for many a settler and his family."
**OBITUARIES**

**Memorial Service for Mr. Andrews**

Gerald Edwards Andrews, 74, of Sanderson passed away January 4, 2019 at his home. He was born June 14, 1944 in Lake City to the late Harry old Andrews and Lois Andrews. He was raised in Lake City and was a long-time resident of Baker County. After graduating from Nathan B. Foust High School, Gerald was drafted into the United States Army and was stationed in Korea where he honorably served his country. After service he began working as a technician for Southern Bell in Jacksonville where he spent many years. He then became a Baker County school bus driver and was known by everyone as “Papa.” Gerald was an ACM broker and judge and had five generations of bloodhounds. He was also an avid aviator and fisherman. Gerald was preceded in death by his wife of 40 years, Kathy Andrews, as well as his mother and father.

Mr. Andrews is survived by his children Denise (Thomas) Cox of Dandridge, TN, Eugene Allen Andrews of Cinnaminson, OH, Michael (Kelly) Johnson (Andrews) of Daytona, OH, Courtney Bonner of Sanderson; sister-in-law Penny Hayes Linderman of Sanderson; grandchildren Kimberly William, Jynette Williams, Devon Dana, Kevin Davis, Corey Andrews, Brittany McQueen, Chase Andrews, Abigail Dyer, and Nathaniel Andrews; and great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. at the Dark Pond (city park) in Macclenny on Saturday, January 19 with family and friends officiating. V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services is in charge of arrangements.

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**Robby Colston Jr., 37, of Macclenny**

Robert “Robby” Glenn Colston Jr., 37, of Macclenny passed away on January 2, 2019 at his residence. Robby was born in Jacksonville on December 19, 1981 to his loving parents Robert “Robby” Colston Sr. and Shirley McGarity Colston. He was a lifelong resident of Baker County, and after attending Baker County High School he served his country proudly in the United States Navy. Following his honorable discharge from the military, Robby enjoyed employment in the warehouse industry working at the Winn-Dixie Distribution Center in Jacksonville and more recently at the Walmart Distribution Center in Macclenny for the past 14 years. Robby was a hard-working man who loved spending time outdoors. He was known for his big heart and skills. He had a passion for fishing and enjoyed spending every opportunity with his family. He also enjoyed golfing, but mostly Robby loved his family and friends and enjoyed spending time with them. He was preceded in death by his maternal grandmother Robert McGarry and his paternal grandmother Sharon Evans.

Other than his parents of Macclenny, Mr. Colston is survived by his long-time girlfriend of Lynn, FL, Brooke Cates (Zimmerman); Colston of Orange Park and sister Kelly Colston of Macclenny; maternal grandmother Kelly Colston of Macclenny; paternal grandparents Glenn Evans Jr. of Waynesvil, FL, many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends who Robby loved dearly.

A celebration of Robby’s life will be held at a 3 p.m. on Saturday, January 12 at a Ty Ford Funeral Services Chapel in Macclenny with Pastor John T. Hobbs officiating. Interment will be at Calvary Baptist Cemetery.

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**Funeral Jan. 21 for Virgie Lyter, 86**

Virgie M. Lyter, 86, of Sanderson passed away peacefully on Thursday, January 10, 2019 in Jacksonville. She was born in Wilmington, NC to John Roy and Willie L. Haynes on December 17, 1932. Virgie lived in Sanderson, FL for many years before moving to Jacksonville. She loved her Lord, her family, and was known for her beauty. She loved shopping tirelessly in her yard. She was a faithful member of Baker Baptist Church and before her illness she especially enjoyed her weekly fellowship with her Sunday School class.

Mrs. Lyter was preceded by her parents, son Michael Moser, sister Marie Smith and her brother John Moser. She is survived by her husband of at least 60 years and seven children; daughter-in-law Lucy Moser; son and daughter-in-law Timothy and Trish Lyter; granddaughter and grandson-in-law; and twin sisters Nancy (J.D.) Causey of Wilmington with several loving nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at her church at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, January 22 with Pastor Chris Padgett officiating. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Community Hospice of Northeast Florida. Guerry Funeral Home of Macclenny was in charge of arrangements.

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**Private memorial for Gary Webber**

Gary T. Webber, 65, of Baker City passed away on Monday, January 7, 2019 at St. Vincent’s Medical Center in Jacksonville following an extended battle with illness. Mr. Webber was born in Jacksonville and lived in Beaufort, SC before moving to Baker County five years ago. He was a master pressman in trade and spent many years working for KAR Printing. Mr. Webber loved to hunt and enjoyed fishing. He was predeceased by his father James L. Webber and sister Julie Thomas. Mr. Webber was survived by his mother Mar Dissah Webber of Bowden, GA and stepdaughters Dawn Duffie (Bobby) of Beaufort, SC, and Brandi Bringle (Steve) of Wilmington, NC; brothers Billy Webber (Diane) of Key West, FL and Eric Webber of Veracruz, Mexico; stepdaughters Dawn Duffie (Bobby) of Beaufort, SC and Brandi Bringle (Steve) of Wilmington, NC; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A private memorial service will be held at a later date. Guerry Funeral Home of Macclenny was in charge of arrangements.

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**In loving memory of Mother Pearl**

Becky O’Steen, 66, dies December 31

Rebekah “Becky” O’Steen, 66, of Macclenny passed away on Monday, December 31, 2018 and was laid to rest on Tuesday, January 2, 2019. She was born on November 3, 1952 in Jacksonville and was a resident of Macclenny for the past four years, previously living in Jacksonville and Rock Hill, South Carolina. She was retired and led a quiet life doing things she loved such as gardening, reading, and caring for her home and her little dog. Becky was preceded in death by her mother and stepfather John and Irene (Hayes) Fox, her father Kirby L. O’Steen, II, brother Jonathan Clay O’Steen and sister, Jennifer Andrews. O’Steen was dearly loved and respected for the woman that she was. She will be greatly missed by family and friends. Fraser Funeral Home of Jacksonville was in charge of arrangements.
It has been five years since God called you home. We thought of you today, but it was not nothing new. We thought about you yesterday and the days before that, too. We think of you in silence, we often speak your name. Now we have in our hearts and only God knows why.

With Cervical Cancer Awareness Month falling January, the topic was the focus of Monday’s Health Baker meeting at the county health department on West Louisiana Street, which brings together public and private healthcare professionals working in the county on a quarterly basis.

HPV is spread through skin-to-skin contact and there are more than 150 types of the virus with two of them causing some 70 percent of cervical cancers, according to the American Society of Clinical Oncology. The HPV vaccine was approved by the Food and Drug Administration in 2006 and prevents those two types of HPV which will go on to five other cancer-causing strains and another low-risk strain that causes warts, the said.

But since the vaccine was first introduced in the mid-2000s, the HPV-related transmission of disease (STD) prevention rather than cure, it is less likely to consent to the vaccino for teenagers said Sue Combs, nursing director at the county health department.

Now public health officials are changing course, she said, expanding indications for vaccination against HPV.

According to the Florida Department of Health, HPV is a very common virus with nearly 12 million infections in the United States and some 14 million more that could occur each year.

Usually, HPV infections are harmless and go away on their own within two years. But sometimes, the CDQ can become a cancer that can last longer and cause cancer of genitals, anus and throat in both men and women. And while those cancers are highly treatable with proper screening and treatment, they can be deadly.

The rate of cervical cancer in Baker County was lower than the statewide rate and the rate for whites was higher than that of blacks, statistics from the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) for 2019-13, the latest three-year annual available, shows.

The racial trend was reversed statewide, however. Meanwhile, the mortality rate for cervical cancer among blacks in Baker County was higher than the death rate for whites, which mirrors to the statewide figures.

The death rate here was also roughly twice as high as the state rate.

“I don’t know where that leaves us,” said FDOH-Bak county cancer registry manager Ms. Marlon Pietrangelo. “This is a good thing for optimum effectiveness. We need to spread awareness of a federal program that offers free amplified telephone handsets for those with hearing loss,” she said. “It’s very important that we communicate,” she said.

Recipients must have phone and internet service. Call (904) 465-7419 for more information or visit clearcom.org.
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Courtney Barnard dribbles the ball up the court. The BCHS Lady Wildcat junior took over and did a monster game on January 11. That was a huge plus,” coach DeLisle said. “… When a girl steps up and dominates a quarter, it’s a huge plus for our team,” coach DeLisle said. “It’s been a rough five days … but they played the best game they got some rest,” the third-year head coach said. “We’ll run a few light practices before we play again on Thursday and just try to get through this week.”

**Lady Cats lose two straight games**

The BCHS JV Lady Cats have lost back-to-back games since rolling by double digits against Stanton. West Nassau gradually pulled away on January 14 and downed the JV ladies 49-24. Their 10-1 first-quarter run was the key to their win. Scorers included a 43-35 jumper started Baker County’s lead to eight points over West Nassau’s lead. The BCHS JV Lady Cats lost by nine points at halftime and five points after the third and double-digit lead into a fourth-quarter lead. Baker County led by nine points at halftime and five points after the third quarter – scored 26-11 in the fourth quarter – to win 46-24.

The varsity team is scheduled to visit Providence on January 17 before hosting West Nassau on January 21 in a District 4-6A contest. “It’s been a tough five days … but they played the best game they got some rest,” the third-year head coach said. “We’ll run a few light practices before we play again on Thursday and just try to get through this week.”

**Women’s Center of Jax**

1/10-1/31p

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The final three of Scooby Graham's nine points came on January 15 were the most im-
mportant of bounds with 4.4 seconds remaining, and the BCMS basketball team held off Fernandina Beach 48-47 at home. Gra-
made the game-winning shot from the left wing off an assist from Caleb Haydel, who sank 1 of 2 technical foul shots with 4.4 seconds re-
maining to seal the win.

The Pirates erased a six-
score deficit with 11:26 remaining in the first quarter, but the Cats were doubled up by Fernandina Beach's Jake Martin in the first quarter, which allowed Fer-
andina Beach to come back. The Cats won after a 16-5 run that erased the hole and tied the game at 21-all at half.

Noah Ray led the team with 15 points, including a contested layup late in the third quarter, which allowed Fer-
andina Beach to come back. The Cats won after a 16-5 run that erased the hole.

The Cats recorded an im-
portant District 4-5A victory over Wolfson 14-2 in the first quarter, but Camden County outscored them 35-29 in the third quarter. The Lady Yellow Jackets fell 62-44. The teams were tied 8-all at the end of the first quarter, but Camden County outscored the JV Cats 26-2 in the second quarter to build the commanding lead.

Sarah Ruise scored a team-high 11.

Noah Ray led the team with 15 points and Brown added 10.

The BCMS basketball team moved to 9-3 in District 4-5A with a 48-22 win over Wolfson 14-2 in the third quarter.

The Lady Yellow Jackets fell 62-44. The teams were tied 8-all at the end of the first quarter, but Camden County outscored the JV Cats 26-2 in the second quarter to build the commanding lead. The Lady Cats recorded a 10-point lead at the end of the first quarter, but Camden County outscored them 35-29 in the third quarter. The Lady Yellow Jackets fell 62-44.

The team held off a 16-5 run that erased the hole and tied the game at 21-all at half. The Cats recorded an im-
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Goals high for ’19 state title run

JON SHUMAKE   SPORTS EDITOR

In the 13th straight year of competition for the region’s No. 1 Witch Team, Baker County Wildcat basketball star hit a clutch shot to end her team’s losing streak. Beach ball and softball seasons are also underway, and the team is gearing up for a chance to win a title this weekend.

Former Cats Dee hit winners

JON SHUMAKE   SPORTS EDITOR

Baker County is set to host the Class 1A State semi-finals on Friday, January 20 when Indian River Christian faces off against the Lady Cats. Both teams are coming off a 6-0 victory over Cape Coral and Cape Coral, respectively, earlier this week.

Losing streak broken by changes

JON SHUMAKE   SPORTS EDITOR

The Lady Cats had a +1 goal deficit heading into halftime against the Blue Devils, and the bartenders were able to come through with a 2-0 win.

Comeback attempt fails just short

JON SHUMAKE   SPORTS EDITOR

The Lady Cats managed just two shots on goal in the first half against Trinity, and they were unable to score.

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