

The Bakersfield Californian

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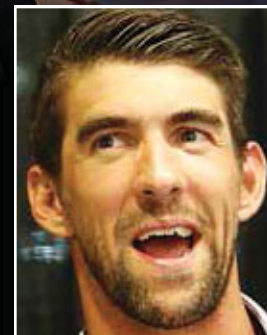
HENRY A. BARRIOS
THE CALIFORNIAN



HALL OF FAMER HONORS BHS DRILLER

Former NFL star **Marshall Faulk**, left, visits town to name student **Ryan Crowley** as one of 25 national finalists for US Army and Pro Football Hall of Fame's Award for Excellence **SPORTS | 29**

ALSO IN TOWN



Medal-winning Olympic swimmer **Michael Phelps** delivers message of perseverance to Hoffmann Hospice crowd **SPORTS | 28**

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Ex-deputy takes plea deal in death of Oildale woman

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LOCAL

Former deputy takes plea deal in crash that killed Oildale woman

BY JASON KOTOWSKI
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A former Kern County sheriff's deputy accepted a plea agreement on Tuesday in connection with a crash that killed an Oildale woman 2½ years ago.

Nicholas Clerico must pay fines and serve 240 hours of community service after pleading no contest to a misdemeanor charge of vehicular manslaughter, said his attorney, Kyle J. Humphrey.

He will not serve time in jail.

Humphrey noted the deputy was responding to another deputy's call for assistance with a fight at the Long Branch Saloon in Oildale when the crash occurred.

"Nobody wanted any of these outcomes," the attorney said.

An investigation by the California Highway Patrol found Clerico at fault in the Sept. 28, 2014, crash because he ran a red light while traveling 85 mph on North Chester Avenue as it intersected with West China Grade Loop. His vehicle's lights and siren were activated, but the speed at which he was driving minimized their effectiveness, the CHP's report said.

"A reasonable person would have known that entering an intersection against a red traffic signal, at 85 mph, and without giving adequate warning to approaching traffic would create a danger to human life," the report states.

Nancy Joyce Garrett was traveling east on West China Grade Loop at 43 mph when Clerico's patrol vehicle struck her

on the driver's side. Investigators said Garrett had a yellow light as she entered the intersection.

She died from multiple blunt force injuries. Clerico, who was not wearing a seat belt, suffered moderate injuries in the 1:45 a.m. crash.

Humphrey said Clerico is no longer with the Sheriff's Office, and he's not sure his client could have continued working as a deputy due to the injuries he suffered. Clerico was 25 at the time.

Garrett's family is suing the county, seeking monetary damages and changes within the sheriff's department in how deputies are trained to drive the streets of Oildale and other communities in the county.

The family is represented by attorneys at Chain Cohn Stiles, and a trial is set for March 20, 2018.

"In talking with the family, they're glad that (Clerico) has finally accepted some responsibility for what he did," attorney Matthew C. Clark said.

He said the family, however, has not received closure, and continues to mourn Garrett's loss.

"This was no accident," Clark said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARK MCGOWAN

Nancy Garrett in an undated photo.

"This was totally preventable."

Jason Kotowski can be reached at 661-395-7491. Follow him on Twitter at @tbcbreakingnews.

OIL & GAS PRICES

Midway Sunset

▲ \$0.08 \$45.72
per barrel

West Texas Intermediate

▼ \$0.23 \$49.33
per barrel

Bakersfield's price per gallon for regular unleaded gasoline in the last 48 hours:

Highest \$3.99 Lowest \$2.53

For comparison, the avg. price per gallon in:

California \$3.01 West Coast \$2.67 Nation \$2.50

Sources: Local prices from GasBuddy.com; national prices provided by the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG.
AT&T Inc	40.25	39.69	39.94	-0.08
BkofAm	24.35	23.91	23.98	0.35
CVB FncI	22.16	21.79	21.80	0.08
Chevron	106.97	106.18	106.73	0.80
ConocPhil	48.90	47.80	48.79	0.88
ExxonMbl	81.93	81.28	81.73	0.62
GraniteC	53.97	52.94	53.84	0.98
Hallibrtn	47.22	46.71	47.02	0.27
Kohls	40.09	39.13	39.38	-0.33
Nabors	11.84	11.61	11.77	0.01
CA Resources	12.56	11.80	12.52	0.49
PG&E Cp	67.81	67.30	67.66	-0.13
RoyDShIB	55.07	54.76	54.98	0.29
RoyDShIIA	52.79	52.51	52.75	0.48
SearsHldgs	12.41	11.19	11.28	-1.17
SierraBc	27.17	26.51	26.58	-0.11
Target	55.16	54.80	55.15	0.33
TejonRnch	23.93	23.09	23.11	-0.20
UnionPac s	110.75	109.06	110.48	1.15
WellsFargo	55.09	54.29	54.56	0.91

NASDAQ BULLETIN BOARD STOCKS

MissionBk	—	—	37.50	0.00
ValleyRep BK	—	—	21.50	0.00



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Tachi Palace & Casino BUS SCHEDULE BAKERSFIELD

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\$15 Per Person • 21 years of age and up

MONDAY - SATURDAY			
City	Pick-Up	Location	Depart Casino
Bakersfield	2:30 pm	Behind Golden Empire Transit	11:00 pm
Delano	3:00 pm	Transit Station	11:00 pm
Corcoran	3:30 pm	Amtrak Station	11:00 pm

SUNDAY			
City	Pick-Up	Location	Depart Casino
Bakersfield	10:00 am	Behind Golden Empire Station	After Bingo
Delano	10:30 am	Transit Station	After Bingo
Corcoran	11:00 am	Amtrak Station	After Bingo

Locations
Bakersfield: Behind Golden Empire Transit - 22nd & Eye Street
Delano: Transit Station - 1120 Glenwood St.
Corcoran: Amtrak Station - 1099 Otis Ave.

All times are approximate. Smoking, alcohol, eating and large backpacks are not allowed on the bus. Schedule subject to change without prior notice. Must be 21 years or older. Must be Players Club member and present a valid photo ID. Tachi Palace is Not Responsible for Missed Buses.

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