

# The Florida Times-Union

**Thursday**  
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 \$2



## HACKETT KEEPS JOB

Will remain offensive coordinator for Jags  
**Sports, C-1**



## BAILEY SELLS DAILY RECORD

**Money, D-1**



## GEORGE H.W. BUSH IN INTENSIVE CARE

**Nation, A-5**

# Records: Woman knew she'd been kidnapped

Affidavit indicates she'd been aware for months she was taken



By Eileen Kelley  
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**INSIDE**  
 Kamiyah Mobley, who grew up with the name Alexis Manigo, appears on "Good Morning America." **A-4**

The young South Carolina woman who was stolen from a Jacksonville hospital when she was 8 hours old has known for a year and a half that she was kidnapped, court records say.

According to an affidavit for the arrest of Gloria Denise Williams, a witness told Jacksonville detectives

that Williams admitted a year and a half ago that she took the baby from the hospital in Jacksonville and renamed her Alexis Kelli Manigo. That affidavit says that a second witness told investigators that Manigo told her that she had been kidnapped as a baby and that her name at birth was Kamiyah Mobley.

Williams was arrested early Fri-

**MANIGO** continues on **A-4**



Gloria Denise Williams, held in the 1998 kidnapping of Kamiyah Mobley, appears in court Wednesday. (Bob Self/Florida Times-Union)

# 'YOU'VE GOT TO HAVE A REASON TO GET UP'

FORMER NEPTUNE BEACH MAYOR HARRIET PRUETTE STILL RECORDS EVERY SUNRISE



In November, Harriet Pruette left political office in Neptune Beach after 16 years, the last eight as mayor. But she still continues her tradition of dawn photo sessions of the beach near her house, which she then shares on Facebook to people from England to California. (Bob Mack/Florida Times-Union)

By Matt Soergel  
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**N**EPTUNE BEACH | The sunrise over the Atlantic one January morning was putting on a show for Harriet Pruette — miles-long slashes of pink, orange and blue, as if it was just showing off for the fun of it. Harriet was up early, as usual, with her little Canon camera, trying to catch it in all its glory, which she then shares each day on Facebook with people from California to England.

Five years or so she's done this, and barely missed a day, even with the many duties that came with being mayor of this little beachside city, population 7,000 or so, where she's been a one-name institution for years: Harriet.

Harriet left office in November, the month after her 70th birthday. Because of term limits she couldn't run again, even if she'd wanted to. She's more than OK with that.

"I did not realize the weight of the world would be lifted off my shoulders," she says. "It's really better than I thought."

She now has even more time to take those sunrise pictures, which she plans to keep doing. She lives alone, she notes, and it's easy for people in that situation to kind of drift and not do much of anything at all.

"You've got to have a reason to get up," she says. "My mother used to say, 'Harriet, you've got to be out and about!'"

She quotes her mother a lot, with a verbal exclamation point most evident each time: "Harriet, if you're going to be

**PRUETTE** continues on **A-4**



Harriet Pruette sits at a coffee shop in her classic cap and is greeted by just about everyone who walks by. Although she has left office after eight years as mayor of Neptune Beach, Pruette says she'll still be an advocate. "I'll pick my battles. Somebody wants me to help, I'll help," she says.

## State may let city ease \$44M pension bill

City seeks a three-year phase-in for the jump in pension costs

By David Bauerlein  
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State regulators have opened the door to letting Jacksonville do a three-year phase-in for a \$44-million jump in pension costs, but the state has not given any upfront guarantees that it would approve such a request.

The board of the Jacksonville Police and Fire Pension Fund decided in a workshop Wednesday to move forward with the request to the state Division of Retirement.

The \$44-million increase in pension costs would be heavy load for the city, which has struggled for years to keep up with escalating pension expenses. If the pension fund cannot convince the state to allow a three-year phase-in, the expense would all kick in during the 2017-18 fiscal year.

Douglas Beckendorf, the state actuary in the Division of Retirement, which oversees local pension plans, wrote Jan. 4 to the pension fund that a three-year phase-in "may be permissible" if the pension fund can show that "changes in the assumptions are reasonable."

"The division will permit changes to the plan assumptions as long as the changes can be supported," Beckendorf wrote.

The pension fund board directed its own actuary, Jarmon Welch of Pension Board Consultants, to make that case to the Division of Retirement.

In the meantime, the pension fund board plans to approve Welch's actuarial report showing the city's required contribution for the 2017-18 fiscal year will be \$203 million,

**PENSION** continues on **A-4**

## Earth sets third straight heat record

El Nino has a hand in making 2016 the warmest year yet

By Seth Borenstein  
 Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** | Earth sizzled to a third-straight record hot year in 2016, with scientists mostly blaming man-made global

warming with help from a natural El Nino that's now gone.

Two U.S. agencies and international weather groups reported Wednesday that last year was the warmest on record. They measure global temperatures in slightly different ways, and came up with a range of increases, from minuscule to what top American climate scien-

tists described as substantial.

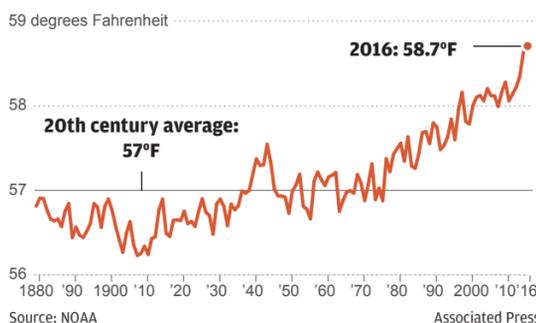
They're "all singing the same song even if they are hitting different notes along the way. The pattern is very clear," said Deke Arndt of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

NOAA calculated that the average global tem-

**WARMING** continues on **A-4**

## Global temperatures on the rise

2016 was the third-straight year of record-breaking heat. Here are the average annual global temperatures since 1880:



Weather  
 Mostly cloudy  
**Forecast on A-2**

**77** Today's high

**63** Friday morning's low

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Shanara Mobley (from left), Alexis Manigo (born Kamiyah Mobley) and Craig Aiken reunite Saturday in South Carolina following confirmation that Manigo is the missing Kamiyah who was taken from the Jacksonville hospital the day she was born in July 1998. (First Coast News)

# Abducted woman's lament: 'She cared about me for 18 years'

## Alexis Manigo tells ABC News she will never have malice for Williams

By Dan Scanlan  
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The woman authorities say abducted a newborn from a Jacksonville hospital in 1998 made her first appearance in a local courtroom Wednesday morning on a charge of kidnapping.

Meanwhile, the now 18-year-old gave her first interview on "Good Morning America," saying she still considers Gloria Denise Williams her mother.

"She will always be Mom," said Kamiyah Mobley, who grew up with the name Alexis Manigo. "Your whole life you've been known as Alexis and Lexi. Now it's like people are referring to you as someone else nationally."

Williams waived extradition last week, then arrived at the Duval County jail late Tuesday afternoon from Colleton County, S.C., according to Jacksonville Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Melissa Bujeda. The 51-year-old woman, also charged with

interference with custody, was ordered to be held without bail by Judge Gary Flowers during her brief Wednesday appearance.

Police said a woman posing as a nurse lurked around what was then University Medical Center's maternity ward for hours on July 10, 1998, and had spent time with baby Kamiyah and Shanara Mobley, her teenage mother. Then she left with the newborn clutched in her arms. Several media have reported Williams had problems with a birth before coming to what is now UF Health Jacksonville, leading up to Kamiyah's abduction.

The kidnapping led to a massive search with about 2,500 tips followed up by the Sheriff's Office since the kidnapping 18 years ago. But it was a few tips to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in December that led Sheriff's Office investigators to South Carolina, where they found Manigo. A DNA test confirmed she was Kamiyah, and Wil-

liams was arrested Friday morning, police said.

In her ABC News interview on "Good Morning America," the 18-year-old was asked if she has had any time to digest the news that came out Friday. She said she doesn't want to, "but I know it's going to come."

"Stuff like this does not happen, it just doesn't," she said. "... This attention is very overwhelming."

The young woman said she bears no ill will toward Williams, although she is still reeling from the discovery. She called her "a great mother."

"I understand what she did was wrong, but just don't lock her up and throw away the key," Manigo pleaded.

"She loved me for 18 years, she cared about me for 18 years," she said. "I just want people to realize that. ... I will never have malice for her. I will always love her."

The young woman met her birth parents Saturday at the Walterboro police station in South Carolina, the city where she was raised. She said the reunion was bittersweet, but she owes it to Mobley and

her birth father to "give them a chance" and get to know them.

"I'm not saying they weren't going to be good parents. I'm not saying that at all. But it would have been a different life," Manigo said. "When you find out you have another family out there, it's just more love."

Manigo, shown in a video crying loudly as Williams is placed in a holding cell at the Walterboro police station, said it "hurt seeing her in cuffs."

"She's a gentle woman," said Manigo, seated with South Carolina attorney Justin Bamberg. He added that his client's birth certificate, driver's license and other documents don't legally represent who she really is, and that has to be remedied.

In the end, Manigo said she had everything she wanted in life with Williams. Now she has to deal with a new reality.

"For some it's a victory," she said. "But at the same time you do take a loss when someone so dear to you is just snatched like that."

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## MANIGO

Continued from A-1

day morning at her South Carolina home. Hours later at a bond hearing, a tearful Manigo clutched fingers with the woman and declared that she is no felon. Williams was transported to Jacksonville Tuesday night. During a brief court appearance Wednesday morning, a judge ordered that Williams be held without bond on charges of kidnapping and interference of custody.

"I really don't want to talk about it," said Craig Aiken, Manigo's birth father. Aiken said he and Manigo's birth mother were told by Manigo on Saturday that she has known for some time that she was kidnapped from Jacksonville. He said the news is still unsettling to him.

"Yeah, she told us," he said, his voice cracking. "I really just don't want to talk about it."

Aiken was in jail when his daughter was born to a teenage mother. Three months later, police arrested him after discovering that the kidnapped baby's father was in his 20s at the time he impregnated 15-year-old Shanara Mobley. Aiken said Friday he never lost hope that he'd meet his child one day.

He and Mobley met with Manigo for about 45 minutes on Saturday at the police headquarters in Walterboro, S.C. Aiken said it was a good first meeting and that he told Manigo that he loved her.

Police went to South Carolina Jan. 10 and discovered that the birth certificate and Social Security card her high school had on file were both fraudulent.

The Social Security number that was listed on Manigo's card actually belonged to a Virginia man who died in 1983, according to the arrest affidavit.

Manigo's attorney Justin Bamberg, a South Carolina state representative, said Manigo doesn't want to make any statements that could jeopardize Williams' case.

He did say that Manigo has only love for Williams.

"She was eight hours old," Bamberg said. "All she has known is Gloria Williams and Alexis is very clear that she still loves Gloria to this day. She's not mad at her. She's not angry with her. She knows that what Gloria is alleged to have done is wrong and that there may very well be consequences to that."

"Some people don't understand how she could still love this woman. Well, love isn't like a TV when you can turn it on or off. That love, that love that she has for Miss Williams is something that took 18 years to develop and she is always going to love that woman."

Bamberg said he will be assisting Manigo in obtaining documents such as a valid birth certificate, a Social Security card, and a driver's license.

He'll also help her navigate the criminal justice process.

"I just cannot imagine ever being in her shoes," Bamberg said. "She's handling it fairly well but I think her ability to do that is because this hasn't truly hit her yet. It's just like when you lose a loved one, it's not until later that it hits you. This is life now. This is life now and she has not hit that point."

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## WARMING

Continued from A-1

perature for 2016 was 58.69 degrees (14.84 degrees Celsius) — beating the previous year by 0.07 degrees (0.04 Celsius).

NASA's figures, which include more of the Arctic, are higher at 0.22 degrees (0.12 Celsius) warmer than 2015.

The Arctic "was enormously warm, like totally off the charts compared to everything else," said Gavin Schmidt, director of NASA's Goddard Institute of Space Studies in New York, where the space agency monitors global temperatures.

The British meteorological office determined that 2016 barely beat 2015 by 0.018 degrees (0.01 Celsius).

The World Meteorological Organization and other monitoring groups agreed that 2016 was a record, with the international weather agency chief Petteri Taalas saying "temperatures only tell part of the story" of extreme warming.

The figures are based on ground-level temperatures. Satellite calculations also showed that it was the warmest year, Schmidt said.

"This is clearly a record," he said. "We are now no longer only looking at something that only scientists can see, but is apparent to people in our daily lives."

Temperature records go back to 1880. This is the fifth time in a dozen years that the globe has set a new annual heat record.

Records have been set in 2016, 2015, 2014, 2010 and 2005.

Arndt said the 0.07 difference for 2016 is actually one of the largest NOAA has seen between record years.

What's more important than any single record is the multi-decade "clear warming trend since the late 20th century," said Arndt, NOAA's climate

monitoring chief.

Schmidt said his calculations show most of the record heat was from heat-trapping gases from the burning of oil, coal and gas.

Only about 12 percent was due to El Nino, which is a periodic warming of parts of the Pacific that change weather globally, he said. Arndt put the El Nino factor closer to a quarter or a third.

El Nino disappeared last June. Even without it, Schmidt said this year probably won't break any records although it should be in the top five warmest.

NOAA calculated that last year was the warmest year on record in the oceans, the Arctic and North America.

The average amount of ice in the Arctic Ocean reached a record low for 2016, Arndt said.

According to NOAA, 2016 was 1.69 degrees (0.94 degrees Celsius) warmer than the 20th century average.

The first eight months of 2016 all broke heat records. NASA has last year at 1.78 degrees (0.99 degrees Celsius) warmer than its mid-20th century average and about 2 degrees warmer than the start of the industrial age in the late 19th century.

"Of course this is climate change, it's overwhelmingly climate change," said Corinne Le Quere, director of England's Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, who wasn't part of the NOAA or NASA teams. "Warming [is] nearly everywhere. The Arctic sea ice is collapsing. Spikes in fires from the heat. Heavy rainfall from more water vapor in the air."

The effects are more than just records, but actually hurt people and the environment, said Oklahoma University meteorology professor Jason Furtado. They're "harmful on several levels, including human welfare, ecology, economics, and even geopolitics," he said.

## PRUETTE

Continued from A-1

in politics, you better wear your alligator hide!"

Mattie Pruette was feisty, a native of Cedar Key who died in 2006, at 90. She was 4-foot-11 and maybe 75 pounds — "Mighty Mouse," some called her.

And when she and Harriet would go out together in the morning, she'd warn her daughter: "Harriet, I'm not going to eat politics for breakfast!" Even so, she often had to have some politics with her meal, since her daughter pretty much lived and breathed the stuff.

On this sunrise morning Harriet has a "Neptune Beach, Florida" ball cap over her short hair. She wears a windbreaker, pants with sand on one knee (from kneeling down for the picture) and a pair of rubber boots.

No nonsense, kind of like Harriet herself, who's been known for speaking her mind, with a strong Southern drawl, over the years — as a citizen activist, during eight years on the City Council, and all through eight years as mayor.

As she walks toward the water's edge, she scatters dry dog food out of a white plastic bag, something she does every once in a while. Seabirds quickly mob her as she marvels at the sky, where the sun is not quite above the horizon (her usual favorite time for a photo).

She's lived in Neptune Beach for a half century,



Former Neptune Beach Mayor Harriet Pruette walks along First Street near the City Hall she occupied for 16 years. (Bob Mack/Florida Times-Union)

the past 30 or so in the back of the 1930s triplex she owns a block from the beach. She's retired from a long career as a civilian employee for the Navy, much of it in accounting.

On this morning, Harriet's hardly the only photographer on the beach; at least a half-dozen nearby have the same idea. There's plenty of sunrise for everybody.

"Every day is new, and the colors are fabulous some mornings, and other mornings, even though it's gray, you can still find the beauty," she says, taking dozens of pictures from which she'll choose just one for that day's Facebook post.

From there, she heads for a local coffee shop a couple of blocks away, a short trip during which she'll be greeted several

times: "Hey, Harriet."

The walk takes her past a nice wooden sign near the foot of Atlantic Boulevard. It has a sunrise and palm trees on it and reads "Welcome to Lake Harriet." That was the name given to the giant puddle that grew there every time it rained hard, forcing people to wade through it just to get to the beach.

She fussed and worked on it until a small pump station was built there, which now quickly drains the water. It's one of the things she's proud of from her time in city government — one of many things — but she doesn't pretend she did any of it by herself.

"You have to fight for stuff. I made a difference. With help. Nobody does it alone. But you've got to push for it, and make it

right," Harriet says.

Over a cup of coffee, she notes that though she's left politics, officially, she'll still be involved, when people come to her. Like the local who woke her up from a nap one recent afternoon, weeks after she left the mayor's office: He'd bent his bike rims on a pothole, and was there anything Harriet could do?

You know I'm retired, she told him.

Yeah, but you're our advocate, he told her.

She nods, there in the coffee shop in her city.

"I'll still be out and about. I'll pick my battles. Somebody wants me to help them, I'll help them," Harriet says. "I'll still have a mouth on me. It hasn't gone away."

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## PENSION

Continued from A-1

up from \$159 million this year.

The higher costs stem from a sharp reduction in payroll growth increases, which is part of the complex formula that determines the city's share of the cost for fulfilling pension obligations to police and firefighter retirees.

The cost also increased because of a state law re-

quiring local pension plans to use a state-mandated table that projects retirees will live longer and therefore draw more pension payments during their lifetimes.

The bottom line of the report could change considerably based on the outcome of collective bargaining talks between Curry's administration and the police and firefighters unions.

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