

Keystone's top crimes

Theft, vandalism, Page 3

Starke Dad was seeking custody of kids when Mom killed him, Page 6



A look back at Keystone's 2024 gridiron season, page 13



Clay County Sheriff Michelle Cook speaks at the July combined meeting of the Clay Chamber's Lake Region Prosperity Partners and Sheriff's Net.



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WORTH NOTING

August sobriety checkpoints announced

During the month of August, the Bradford County Sheriff's Office will be conducting sobriety checkpoints in one or more of the following locations: U.S. Highway 301 and Market Road, S.R. 100 West, S.R. 100 East and Southeast 109th Street, Southeast S.R. 21, S.R. 16 and Southwest S.R. 231.

Taco Tuesday at Hawthorne Post

American Legion Post 230 in Hawthorne is hosting Taco Tuesday on Aug. 12 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For \$5, choose soft or hard tacos and salad with chips and salsa. The post is located at 20370 SE Hawthorne Road.

Assistance for veterans

An American Legion Post 56 Service Officer is available to assist veterans by providing information concerning available benefits and other needs. Walk-ins are available at the American Legion Hall on Edwards Road in Starke every Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., or call Al Hunter at 407-494-9694 for an appointment. Legion membership is not required for this free service.

Market at Melrose

The Market at Melrose Farmers and Crafts Sale takes place the second Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Mossman Hall in Melrose, 310 S.R. 26. The market features local artists, homemade crafts, one-of-a-kind gifts, a farmers market, plants and animals.

To become a vendor, reach out to "Grumpa Curtis" at grumpa654@gmail.com.

Lake Santa Fe listed as 17th best waterfront property in North America

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Dan@BcTelegraph.com

A Canada-based real estate firm put Lake Santa Fe in its top 20 most desirable waterfront properties in North America.

CalgaryHomes.CA stated that it surveyed over 3,000 people online in developing the ranking, which places three California lakes in its top three: Big Bear Lake, Lake Tahoe, and Shasta Lake. Rounding out the top 10 were Tracadie Bay on Prince Edward Island, Lake Weir, near Ocala, Grand Lake in Colorado, Norris Lake in Tennessee, Lake Tahoe in Nevada, Whitefish Lake in Montana and Jackson Lake in Wyoming.

In listing Lake Santa Fe at Number 17, the firm said, "Lake Santa Fe has a reputation as one of north-central Florida's hidden gems. It draws both seasonal and year-round residents, many of whom live in older homes shaded by oak trees with classic



boathouses. The area's focus is simple: boating, paddleboarding, and enjoying life outdoors —

without the tourist traffic."

The only other Florida lake making the top 184 was Lake

Dora, north of Orlando, which came in at Number 43.

'Spoil-me' place opens in Keystone Heights

BY JENN SAMSEL
Special to the Monitor

A brand-new store and beauty bar opened in Keystone Heights, offering an array of skin care products, wellness services, tanning options, and curated pre-loved clothing.

On Saturday, July 12, Bronze Tannin Boutique and Nikki's Beauty Bar opened their doors.

During the grand opening event, 50 guests received specially curated goody bags filled with delightful surprises.

Bronze Tannin and Boutique offers a diverse range of items, including soaps, candles, sunglasses, skincare products, wellness accessories, gifts, pre-loved clothing, tanning booths, and red-light therapy.

Next to the tanning salon is Nikki's Beauty Bar, which expanded its Starke location, adding a second in the Lake Region.

While the Keystone salon is smaller, it still offers a variety of services, including facials, Brazilian waxing, permanent jewelry, manicures, pedicures, and more.

"We're Bronze Tannin and Boutique, and Laurie Riley is Nikki's Beauty Bar next door," said Renee Stanley. "We partnered with her; it's like a spoil-me type of place. On our side, we have a boutique offering a wide range of skincare, wellness, and gift items, as well as Reclaimed Runway, which features hand-selected pre-loved clothing. In the back of the store, we have tanning and red light therapy, which is good for collagen regeneration, helps with inflamed joints, arthritis, things like that, and a lot of health benefits too. We're very excited to be here and support our local community."



Taryn Lewis, Renee Stanley and Lori Riley



Reclaimed Runway features hand-selected pre-loved clothing.



2025 “Pink Ladies” Banquet: A time for recognition and remembrance



Lt. John Townsend and Gertrude Griffis announce the winner of the raffle: Joan White. The raffle for a large gift basket, which included cash and donated items, was the auxiliary’s summer fundraiser and raised over \$1,100.

BY MELISSA PYLE
Special to the Telegraph

The unwavering faithfulness of volunteers and local emergency workers was celebrated at the Bradford County Auxiliary, also known as “The Pink Ladies,” annual banquet on July 8 at the Woman’s Club of Starke.

The banquet is traditionally held to recognize the group’s volunteers, their hours of service, and money raised. Volunteers accumulated 7,500 hours of combined community service within the past year and are known for their dedication, kindness and life-saving donations.

President Linda Johns spoke about the significant impact the group has had in Bradford County throughout the past, noting that the “Pink Ladies” mission statement is “To render services, provide public relations, and provide financial aid to the health care missions approved by the auxiliary.” She said when the

hospital closed the group was no longer known as the Shands Pink Ladies Auxiliary but kept the “Pink Ladies” nickname and refocused their efforts in working with the sheriff’s office.

The money they once raised to give to the hospital for needs, is now poured back into the community in various ways. Just one past example was purchasing the county’s first jaws of life extraction equipment. Currently, the group has ordered new first aid equipment for patrol cars.

One of the most important services the group currently provides is wellness checks. These checks are a free service for home bound or elderly residents and has saved lives. If a person falls or is otherwise incapacitated, a missed wellness check call will immediately alert local authorities to send a deputy to the home and make sure the resident is safe. Residents are encouraged to tell friends and neighbors about this service and can sign up by calling the sheriff’s office.

The event included the announcement of this year’s scholarship recipient. The auxiliary offers an endowment scholarship with Sante Fe College. The scholarship is available to anyone preparing to go into the healthcare field and this year’s recipient is Neo Addison of Lawtey.

During the banquet, members took a moment to reflect on the lives of two faithful members who have recently passed away; EulaMae Carlton who passed away in December of last year and Ruby Crawford who passed more recently in March. Each was recognized and honored with a memorial table and by their families, who were in attendance.

The banquet was also time for the auxiliary to recognize member’s service hours and

to install the 2025 officers: President Linda Johns, First Vice President Charlotte Williams, Second Vice President Loretta Edwards, Recording Secretary Virginia Lindsey, Correspondence Secretary Gertrude Griffis and Treasurer Linda Hildebran.

Johns concluded with a word of encouragement for the attendees and a challenge to spread the word about the program and especially its dire need for new volunteers. Johns

emphasized how volunteers are a vital part of the Bradford community and are needed for the success of the organization’s future mission.

“The road to success for our auxiliary is always under construction,” she said.

Anyone interested in volunteering for any amount of time can contact the sheriff’s office to fill out an application form or call Johns directly at 904-263-0399.



Auxiliary members display their hours of recognition with a decorative bookmark. Pictured are: (front row, l-r) Merry Hess, 1st VP Charlotte Williams, 2nd VP Loretta Edwards, Treasurer Linda Hildebran, (back row) Correspondence Secretary Gertrude Griffis, President Linda K. Johns, Recording Secretary Virginia Linzy, Olivia Scott and Terrell Riley.

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Chloe’ Bailey
Principal & Kindergarten Teacher
Hi, my name is Chloe’ Bailey! I am the principal and kindergarten teacher for Rainbow Learning Academy! I am so excited about this upcoming school year and the plans God has in store for us! I am a graduate from the University of Florida and former UF and Penn State cheerleader. This will be my third year teaching. I love interacting with the kids and helping them explore all the gifts God has given us.

Kim Bailey
Vice Principal
Hi, my name is Kim Bailey. I am the vice principal of Rainbow Learning Academy. I have been the owner and director of Little Rainbows Learning Center for 23 years. I graduated from Santa Fe College with a degree in Early Childhood. I am excited where God is going to lead me and this school in the coming years.

Anay Peretz
Kindergarten Teacher

Zenaida “Zeny” Johns
Kindergarten Teacher

Tiffany Miller
1st Grade Teacher

Darian Tetstone
2nd Grade Teacher

Amy Green
3rd Grade Teacher

Kelsey King
4th Grade Teacher

Maria Oswald
Spanish Teacher

Kristin Muse
Home Ec. Teacher

Clay sheriff: Crime still dropping

Theft and vandalism top Lake Region's reported crime



Clay County Sheriff Michelle Cook

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Dan@BcTelegraph.com

Clay County Sheriff Michelle Cook said crime continues to trend down in the Lake Region and throughout Clay County. Cook made her comments during a July combined meeting of the Clay Chamber's Lake

Region Prosperity Partners, and Sheriff's Net, one of Cook's community outreach platforms.

Fentanyl is out, meth is back in

Cook reported that overdoses in the Lake Region

are down by 20%.

"Right now, it looks like we have one confirmed overdose," she told the audience at First Baptist Church in Keystone Heights, "and there may be a second overdose that we're still waiting on the medical examiner to come back with a ruling, but overdoses in general are down."

Cook added that her office is seeing a spike in methamphetamine use.

"Fentanyl's out," she declared. "Meth is back, but we continue to fight the fight."

The sheriff added that traffic continues to be the Number 1 complaint she and her deputies hear daily, and in the first half of the year, her officers made 19,810 traffic stops throughout the county.

Cook said that although calls for service are up, both violent and property crimes are down this year.

Deputies, technology, community

"There are three reasons why Clay County is safe," Cook said. "The first reason is because of the men and women who wear this uniform every single day who come out and work and put in the work. They're dogged about the pursuit of bad guys, dogged about making sure that they follow up on cases, and they truly have a heart of service."

Cook said the second reason crime is dropping in Clay County is the use of technology, including her office's Safer Watch smartphone app.

"I think we got 1,100 tips last year through (Safer Watch)," she said, plus all the information that we push out. So, it's a two-way communication."

Cook said license plate readers allow her deputies to quickly respond to stolen vehicles and wanted individuals entering the county.



Wayne McKinney, director of patrol and community affairs.



Sheriff's Net Chair Todd Beals

"Within minutes, we know and we're on them," she said. "We have built a reputation in Clay County that other criminals want to avoid us because they know we have the license plate readers and we also have the cameras, the community connect program."

Cook said that although her office does not have "a ton" of cameras, businesses and organizations may voluntarily connect their cameras to the sheriff's office's network, which gives her office a wide range of surveillance capability.

"In fact, I think this church is on our program," she told the First Baptist audience. "If a 911 call were to go out here right now, we would immediately pull up the cameras for this area. We can see what's happening. We can see the bad guy leaving. We can see which direction they're heading, what they're wearing, and what kind of car they're driving. It is a game-changer when we're getting this real-time information."

Cook said the third reason Clay County is safe is because of an engaged community.

"When you have an engaged community, when you have a community that's willing to show up and say, 'Hey, I've got a problem,' or 'Hey, I'm seeing this in my neighborhood,' or 'Hey, I have this concern,' then we have an opportunity to work it," she explained.

"If everybody in this community just gave up and said, 'You know what? We're not calling the police anymore,' crime would skyrocket," Cook declared. "But because all of you are engaged and you come to meetings like this, you call us when you need something, that's how we keep this community safe."

A whole lot of young deputies out there

Cook also said that if anyone does not get the service they expected from the sheriff's office, they should complain.

"If you don't get the service that you expect," she said. "If we don't show up because of whatever reason or you didn't get the response that you thought you should, call and let us know."

The sheriff said that with over 280,000 calls for service in a year, things will occasionally go wrong.

"They're not all going to go perfectly," she said. "We're human. We get distracted. We get pulled to another call."

"We will fix it," she continued. "We have a whole lot of young deputies out there. Boy, they're very young and they're learning and they're really good. They have a good heart. So, we can't fix an issue unless we know that something's not right."

Inexperienced patrol officers was a theme Wayne McKinney, Cook's director of patrol and community affairs, built upon after Cook's presentation.

"Last year we did a study," he said. "I think 70% of our patrol was under two years (of experience). As a deputy sheriff, that's very young. You're learning how to be a deputy sheriff. You're learning what it's like to go deal with the community. They're learning to deal with the stressors that they're faced with."

McKinney said the Clay County Sheriff's Office is still suffering from the exodus of senior and mid-level deputies

when the office failed to keep pace with the salaries of surrounding jurisdictions.

"We lost them because we weren't being competitive in salaries, and the neighboring counties were outpacing us," he said. "Now there's been a lot of huge strides, and Sheriff Cook's come a long way in working with our county commissioners, and we've taken some huge steps to keep us competitive in a rough environment right now because it's a struggle."

Like Cook, McKinney asked the crowd to be patient with his young officers, but to report any problems to the sheriff's office.

"We want to fix it," he said. "I want to correct it. I want to use it as a teaching moment. In some situations, you never know what they just faced, what frustrating call they just left, what they just dealt with. Maybe they didn't talk the right way. I want to correct it, but please give us some grace in that too."

Petit theft and vandalism

McKinney said the Lake Region's top reported crimes are petit theft and vandalism. He added that much of the theft is retail shoplifting, many times fueled by a drug habit.

"There are some (thefts) from

homes and things like that," he said, "but if it's breaking into a house, it'd be burglary. So, burglary is not even really on the Top 10 list down here."

"Since January, the last six months, we've only had 15 auto burglaries in this area," he said. We're down 48% this year compared to last year in auto theft. Crime stats don't drop that high very often."

McKinney said that his agency's push to make more drug arrests has resulted in decreases in the crimes that are motivated by drug dependency.

"We've had a 61% increase in the drug arrests that we've been making for drug and narcotics and the equipment that goes with it for this area," he said.

McKinney said the Lake Region's isolation from the rest of Clay County also causes problems.

"When somebody makes an arrest," he explained, "that's one less deputy down here, and it takes a little while to drive to Green Cove, drop them off at the jail, and get back."

McKinney added that with only three deputies covering the portion of the county south of State Road 16, one less officer can make a difference in response time.



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In the natural, a baby needs milk in order to grow and develop properly. As a newborn Christian you need to feed on the Word of God and fellowship with the Lord everyday so you may develop spiritually. Someone in our church asked me, "Where should I start reading and studying in the Bible?" I always tell everyone to start in the Epistles. Those are the letters written to the church, written to you and me. A good place to start is Romans, Ephesians, and Colossians. I will show you why this is important in future lessons. You also need to immediately develop a consistent prayer life along with feeding on God's Word. Prayer is communing with God. If you can talk you can pray. Prayer is talking with God, and as you spend time in the Word and developing your prayer life you will learn to listen on the inside of your spirit and you will learn that prayer is a dialogue not just a monologue. When you speak to God (pray), He will speak to you. Take time to speak to the Heavenly Father, then pause, wait, and listen. In time, you will understand how wonderful a prayer life can truly be. As you would talk to a relative or a close friend you can more easily talk to your Father in heaven. What a life! The best way to begin your prayer is by simply thanking God for what He has done for you. I have been serving God for many years now and I always start my prayer time with Praise and Thanksgiving; "Father in Jesus Name I just want to thank you for saving me, for filling me with the Holy Spirit. I thank

you that all my sins are washed away by the Blood of your Son and my Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank you that your Holy Spirit lives inside of me and that He will teach me, lead and guide me everyday of my life." If you will begin your prayer time with Praise and Thanksgiving you will begin to sense the Holy Spirit on the inside leading you into a deeper dimension of prayer. People grow old physically and this is a natural process, but Christians who develop the super-natural life by feeding on the Word of God, praying in the Spirit, and walking in love, will develop spiritually, and grow strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. There is a natural diet, and a super-natural diet. You can be saved for 40 years, go to church, be on the deacon board or some type of ministry in the church and still be a spiritual baby.

Many Christians never pursue the things of the Spirit after they are saved, and they do not continue seeking after God, but continue on with their normal everyday lives believing that God will force feed or dump on them whatever they may need and this is not true. In Galatians 3:3, we read, "Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit are you now made perfect by the flesh?" No, the idea is that after we are born-again, we should grow and develop to a place whereby our recreated human spirits begin to dominate our mind and our bodies. We begin to grow and mature as we live and walk in the Spirit. Develop your spiritual life, it is the eternal life. We'll continue next week. Until then, may the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Pastor Rick

22610 HWY 301 N, Lawtey, FL 32058



Max McDaniels spoke to the group about human trafficking.

Starke city clerk's race

Heeder says the woman for the job already has it

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

Lisa Heeder's decision to run for city clerk was simple: she wants to keep her job.

The position of city clerk has been vacant since the resignation of Jimmy Crosby in March 2024 and duties formally placed in the hands of the city's manager on an interim basis. Most city commissioners favored removing the clerk as an elected official from the city's charter, but that was a decision only voters could make, and they disagreed in an April referendum.

The position may have been vacant for more than a year, but the office was not. And while the manager signed official documents, it was Heeder single-handedly running the clerk's office.

As administrative assistant for more than eight years, first in the city manager's office, and since in the city clerk's office, she knows the job.

"One of the most important roles of a city clerk is being a calming voice in adversity, displaying a caring and trustworthiness to the residents seeking help. I have maintained a true open-door policy for years, coming out to the lobby and speaking to customers to assure their experience was resolved," she said.

With responsibility for finance no longer under the clerk's umbrella, Heeder said the role includes working for the public and the city commission. She provides customer service, and access to public records,



Lisa Heeder

It is her role to record and archive those files. She attends meetings and documents them, keeping recordings and creating the minutes. Whether correspondence or contracts or any slip of paper pertinent to city business, the clerk's office is responsible for maintaining the file and making them available in accordance with Florida's public records law.

Unless a customer's issue is related to utilities, Heeder tries to resolve things to the customer's satisfaction. Business licensing in the city is also her responsibility.

"I'm very customer service minded. I believe that that's incredibly important that we treat our citizens like they should be treated," she said.

Heeder considers among her most important duties keeping commissioners informed and prepared for their role. That means providing background

necessary about anything on the agenda. She assists them in other ways as well, such as making travel arrangements.

In other words, if voters elect her, she will continue doing the job she loves, maintaining the positive connections she has with commissioners and others in city hall.

"I've held multiple roles in the city that have required unique skill sets and a strong knowledge of city functions that I will carry over in the future. We have a solid team of employees that have maintained a positive and caring attitude. I continue to serve the citizens, no matter the need," she said.

She described her relationship with the commissioners as excellent and included Commissioner-elect Dimple Overstreet in that group. She also included General Manager Drew Mullins and his assistant Kathy Bradley, saying she still performs much of the utility reporting that she began when working on that side of city hall. And she gave a nod to the finance department as well.

"Everybody, we have a really good relationship in city hall," she said.

An elected office is inherently political, but Heeder said she is not one to pick sides. She is a listener who wants to take what everyone has to say into account.

Outside of her role at city hall, Heeder is an active member at First Baptist Church, performing administrative

See HEEDER, page 5

Thompson wants to add a new hat to her collection

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

Chrissy Thompson believes Starke's city clerk should play an essential role as a public liaison and government watchdog.

Thompson said she wants to bring fresh leadership, transparency and a renewed sense of community engagement to the role, believing the job is more than administrative in nature.

She is well known as a local business owner and community servant, but many years ago she served on the city commission as well, a role she stepped away from in 2002. She sought guidance when deciding to run for office again.

"I have prayed and prayed, and I have served in a lot of different capacities, served in a lot of different things, and just feel led to serve," she said.

Thompson thinks the city clerk's office needs new energy and a liaison who can bridge the gap between the public and city government. She also emphasized the importance of checks and balances, ensuring that no single branch holds all the power and that the public's interests are always represented.

She said sees the city clerk's role as more than a record keeper or compliance officer. She envisions the role as someone who ensures transparency, facilitates communication and maintains accountability. She advocates for the clerk to provide all commissioners with the same information at the same time, fostering fairness and informed



Chrissy Thompson

decision-making. She would also like to host regular town hall meetings to gather citizen input and relay that to the commission.

With a successful business background, Thompson said she will bring a practical, budget-conscious mindset to her candidacy.

"When you don't have the money, you don't spend it," she said, stressing the need for fiscal responsibility. She believes the city should be run like a business, with careful budgeting and a focus on serving taxpayers' needs. Even if the clerk no longer controls budgeting and finance, she wants to serve as a guardian on behalf of the public.

"I think that the more business minded we are, the more successful the city will be," she said.

Thompson's experience as a former city commissioner gives her insight into the importance of cooperation and neutrality when

working with other city leaders. She is committed to working with city commissioners and maintaining a nonpartisan approach, she said.

She also knows there are times when you can't make everyone happy or tell them what they want to hear. She's been honest while campaigning that the clerk won't be able to lower anyone's utility bill or clean up the city through code enforcement. But she said she can keep those concerns in front of those who can.

Thompson wears a lot of hats, and, if elected, she plans to remain deeply involved in local boards and organizations supporting education and other causes. She will continue to balance managing her business and community service. She has delegated responsibilities at her restaurant, Downtown Grill, which will allow her to focus on being city clerk, if elected. She assured voters of her dedication: "I do plan to give the city 100%, and I do know it is a full-time job. ... Just like always, I don't require much sleep."

She is passionate about encouraging voter participation and ensuring that every voice is heard, especially in elections with typically low turnout. "Everybody seems to have a voice until it's time to vote," she said, concerned that an election with single race on the ballot might easily be overlooked.

Supervisor of Elections Amanda Seyfang is conducting the election, which will take

See THOMPSON, page 5



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Huntley Redfearn Sr. came to Keystone Heights and made it his own

Celebrating 100 years of Keystone Heights history

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Special to the Monitor

This story first appeared in the April 13, 2000, edition of the Monitor and has been updated.

Some of the most prominent Keystone Heights community members were not born and raised here but chose to live here as adults.

Huntley Redfearn Sr. came to the Lake Region as a young man in his 20s from Coral Gables.

"The war was still on, and I was working in an aircraft plant in Miami," Redfearn recalled. "My wife, Kathy, and I had just had our third child. Her family had moved to Live Oak, but she hadn't seen them in about four years. That was how the war was; it dismembered all relationships. We took the train with the baby, leaving the other two boys with my mother."

Recruited by brother-in-law

"My wife's sister, Aggie, was married to Al Watson, and they picked us up at the station and drove us to Live Oak," he continued.

Redfearn said he had been considering moving with his family but had also considered finding a place around Atlanta, perhaps a cabin in the mountains. Instead, Al talked him into



Huntley Redfearn Sr.

moving to Keystone Heights and starting his own business.

"Al had bought a building and owned the only grocery store in town then," the former Coral Gables resident recalled. "I set up a variety dime store in part of the building. I had never been in retail before, but I ended up as the owner of Redfearn's Variety Store."

While he had no experience as a storekeeper, Redfearn was no stranger to working for himself.

He said he grew up in poverty after the death of his father from a stroke when he was two years old.

"Until I retired, I had not been out of a job since I was 11," Redfearn said. "I started out working as a delivery boy for a drug store, making \$5 a week.

During the war years was the only time I didn't work for myself."

Redfearn said that when he was growing up, no one could even think about owning their own home until they were in their 50s, but Franklin Roosevelt changed everything.

"Roosevelt did more for the general population of the United States than any other president," Redfearn said.

"His programs like the FDIC, the FHA, and the CCC made things so much better for working people. I was making \$1,200 a year when I got married and we got along fine on that."

Redfearn said that the money he had saved during the war years helped him keep going during his early years in business. He said there was nowhere to spend the money he made, so he saved it. It came in handy, as he said he didn't begin to be successful with his store until 1961.

Cutting-edge tech: T.V. and air conditioning

"I got into appliances after the war and became a Hotpoint dealer," Redfearn said. "I had the first dishwashers and televisions in Keystone, both in my home and in the store. When there was a Gator game on TV, I had a house full of fans there to watch.

I set a TV in the window at my store, with a speaker outside for the sound, and people would come and bring chairs and sit and watch."

Redfearn said his real success came with the advent of air conditioning and especially the heat pump.

"Air conditioning hurt tourism in Keystone Heights because people didn't have to travel here anymore to escape the heat," Redfearn said.

"When heat pumps came out, the other heat and air conditioner men in the area didn't want to deal with them, but I did. It was the first time I realized a profit in the service business."

Remembering the early days

One of the real passions in Redfearn's life has always been golf. He smiled as he remembered

the day in 1948 when enough local players got together to play golf and resurrected the Keystone Golf Course. The men sold timber and put up fences, cleared away the mess made on the course by cows and rooting hogs, and made some sand greens. He remained an avid golfer through much of his life.

When asked about the changes he has seen in the community over the years, Redfearn clearly remembers them.

"When I came here, three cattle gaps were coming into town," Redfearn said. "If you drove to Starke at night, you had to be careful of cows in the middle

of the road. They gathered there because it was warmer. There were only two telephones in town: one at Lindsey Walker's service station and one at the Keystone Inn."

"Lawrence Boulevard was the only paved road in town, and it was lined with trees. The only church in the city was the Community Church. Kathy had trouble getting two tables of ladies for bridge."

Raising a family in Keystone Heights

Redfearn was one of the charter members of the Keystone Heights Rotary Club, which was formed in

1948. He remembers many people whose names are now legends in the city's history.

"I think my secret is that I have been acting like a kid all my life," Redfearn said.

"When I play golf, I often play with much younger players, and I love to bet on the games and cut up and joke around with them. I have always found a way to enjoy life. I have never regretted coming to Keystone Heights. This is, and was, a great place to raise children. I think my boys all benefitted from growing up in such a wonderful place. I know I have benefitted by living here."

Redfearn and Kathy had four sons, three remaining in the area. At the time of her death from Alzheimer's disease, they had been married for 66 years. Huntley Redfearn, Sr. died in 2003 at the age of 90.

Mac Johns rails against 'swamp-division'



Union County Commissioner Mac Johns

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Dan@BcTelegraph.com

The developer of Liberty Farms gained approval from Union County commissioners for a preliminary plat and construction plans during the commission's July 21 meeting, but not before Commissioner Mac Johns railed against the development, declaring that the neighborhood would ultimately cost the county money.

He said that other neighborhoods developed 10 or 20 years ago are now a burden on the county.

"I mean, it's still a swamp-division anyway," he said of the site, inferring the acreage was low-lying. "You look at it, Liberty Farms, it sounds good. People from out of the state (are) going to be buying it and they're going to be mad. They're going to sell it. People can't get to their homes when it rains. So, they're going to be complaining (to) their commissioner, and the commissioner's going to get tired of hearing the complaints, and the school bus can't get down there, and before you know it, our county motor grader's going out there and working here and loads of lime rock. That's costing us a ton. Just like some of these roads now. I don't like it."

County Attorney Russ Wade informed commissioners that the developer is exceeding the minimum standards for roads in the plans.

Commissioners approved the plat and road construction plans for the site near County Road 229.

After the vote, developer Pete Scerbo told commissioners, "We'll do our best as a steward to make sure that it's the least amount of burden, negative burden on the county. I hope that it brings some tax dollars, and it turns out to be a benefit as opposed to a burden."

HEEDER Continued from page 4

work and helping the ministry as a greeter, nursery care and outreach volunteer for events like vacation Bible school. She is also secretary for the Kiwanis Club of Starke, assisting with its community service endeavors, and volunteering at other community events, such as the Community Day held in Lawtey on Saturday.

Supervisor of Elections Amanda Seyfang is conducting the election, which will take place on Tuesday, Aug. 19, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at city hall. Early voting will take place Monday, Aug. 11, to Friday, Aug. 15, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily in the supervisor of elections office at the courthouse.

For information call the supervisor of elections office at 904-966-6266 or visit www.votebradfordfl.gov.

THOMPSON Continued from page 4

place on Tuesday, Aug. 19, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at city hall. Early voting will take place Monday, Aug. 11, to Friday, Aug. 15, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily in the supervisor of elections office at the courthouse.

For information call the supervisor of elections office at 904-966-6266 or visit www.votebradfordfl.gov.

Bradford High School earns Cognia accreditation

Bradford High School announced it has earned Cognia Accreditation. Cognia is a nonprofit organization that provides quality assurance for schools, school districts and education service providers.

"Accreditation as conferred by the Cognia Global Accreditation Commission provides Bradford High School a nationally recognized mark of quality for our school," shared Principal

Chris Coffey. "It demonstrates to our community our commitment to excellence, our willingness to enact meaningful change based on evaluation and feedback, and our desire to be the best we can be on behalf of the students we serve."

Cognia recognizes schools across the globe that meet rigorous standards focused on productive learning environments, equitable resource allocation and effective



leadership. To earn Cognia accreditation, a school must submit to internal and external review. Earning accreditation from the Cognia Global Accreditation Commission means that the school meets Cognia Performance Standards and maintains a commitment to continuous improvement. Schools

in good standing can maintain their accreditation for a six-year term.

Dr. Mark A. Elgart, president and CEO of Cognia, stated, "Cognia accreditation is a rigorous process that focuses the entire school and its community on the primary goal of ensuring all students can flourish in engaging and equitable learning environments. We commend Bradford High School for meeting high standards and making progress on key indicators that impact student learning."

Cognia is the parent organization of the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, Northwest Accreditation Commission and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement.

Cognia is a global, nonprofit improvement organization dedicated to helping institutions and other education providers grow learners, teachers, and leaders. Cognia offers accreditation and certification, assessment, and improvement services within a framework of continuous improvement. Serving 40,000 public and private institutions from early learning through high school in more than 90 countries, Cognia brings a global perspective to advancing teaching and learning. Find out more at cognia.org.

Bradford High
Class of 1964
Will meet at Cedar River Restaurant (Starke) on Thursday, AUG. 14, 2025 at 1 PM.
All graduates & spouses are invited.
At our last meeting we decided to meet every four months instead of every three months.
Please let Jerome Kelly 352.538.0741 OR Eugenia Whitehead at 352.745.1828 know if you plan to attend so we can let the restaurant know how many. **BE THERE!**

Happy 80th Birthday
RICHARD BEBOUT!
WORLD'S GREATEST:

- Husband
- Dad
- Grandpaw
- Great Grandpaw

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- Lobbying in Washington for Rails to Trails
- Clay County Fair Board Planning Commission
- MPO Council on Aging Guardian AdLitem
- and much more!**

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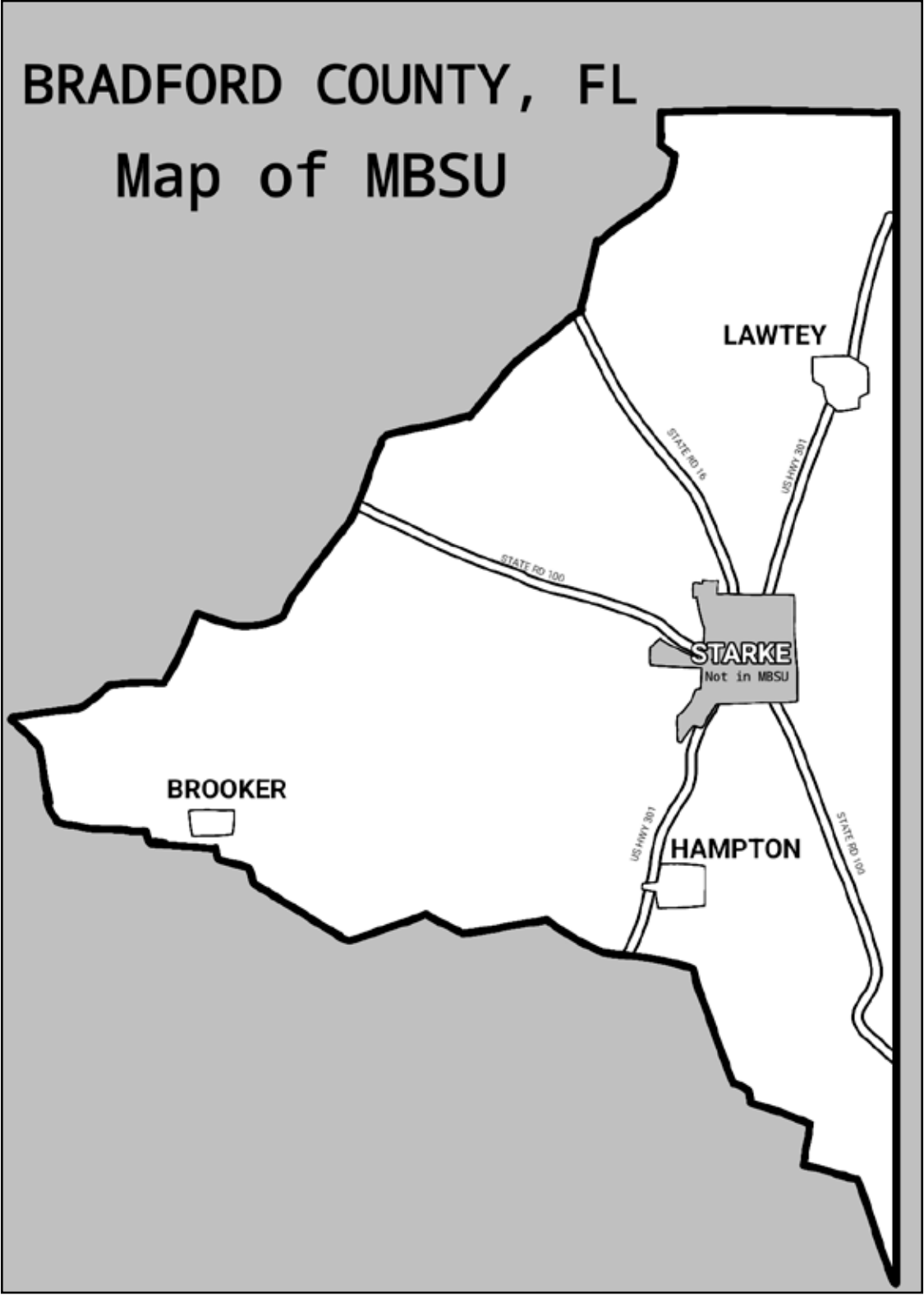
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Russ WADE
Attorney at Law
620 East Main Street
Lake Butler, FL 32054
(Across from Subway Plaza)
386-496-9656
Probate • Family • Wills • Adoption • Litigation • Corporate

**BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
NOTICE OF HEARING
TO IMPOSE AND PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION OF
NON-AD VALOREM SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS
TO FUND FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES AND FACILITIES**



The Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”) of Bradford County, Florida (the “County”) is considering the levy of annual non-ad valorem special assessments to fund the costs incurred by the County each year in providing fire protection services and facilities. The special assessments would be imposed with the “municipal service benefit unit” depicted on the enclosed map which generally includes all of the unincorporated area of the County, plus the incorporated area of Lawtey, Hampton, and Brooker. The City of Starke is not included in the proposed assessment program. The fire assessment, if adopted by the Board, would be imposed to fund fire services for the County’s fiscal year which begins October 1, 2025 (Fiscal Year 2025-26”).

Notice is hereby given that the Board will conduct a public hearing to consider adoption of a Final Assessment Resolution related to the provision and funding of fire protection services and facilities. The Final Assessment Resolution will approve the fire assessment rates for Fiscal Year 2025-26 and collection of the assessments pursuant to the tax bill collection method for such fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter. The assessment is an annual assessment that will continue from year to year. The hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard, on August 21, 2025 in the Commission Chambers, 945 North Temple Avenue Starke, Florida 32091. All affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and be heard with respect to the proposed fire assessment and to file written objections with the Board within twenty (20) days of this notice.

The assessments will fund a portion of the costs incurred each year in providing fire protection services and facilities throughout the MSBU. The assessment for each parcel of property will be based upon a calls for service methodology wherein costs associated with fire protection services and facilities are allocated among different types of property according to historic fire incident reports and call data. For Fiscal Year 2025-26, the assessments will be imposed against residential property on a “per dwelling unit” basis at a proposed rate of \$167 per dwelling unit, against non-residential (commercial) property based on the square footage of all structures located on each parcel at a proposed rate of \$0.11 per square foot, and against vacant,

undeveloped parcels at the rate of \$46.50 per parcel. Properties owned by government entities, churches and non-profits would be exempt from the fire assessments. Agricultural property will not be assessed unless the property contains a residential dwelling unit, in which case it will be assessed on a per dwelling unit basis at the rate specified above. For future years following Fiscal Year 2025-26, the rate of assessment may be increased by up to 4% per year without further notice.

The fire protection assessment will be collected on the County’s behalf by the Bradford County Tax Collector pursuant to the tax bill collection method authorized by Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes, commencing in November, 2025, and include collection costs incurred by the County and have been adjusted as necessary to account for the statutory early payment discounts which apply when collecting the assessments annually on the same bill as property taxes. The fire assessments will be imposed solely by the County and not by the Tax Collector or Property Appraiser. Any questions concerning the fire assessments should be directed to the County Manager’s office at (904) 966-6327.

A more specific description of the fire protection services and facilities and the method of computing the assessment for each parcel of property are set forth in Resolution No. 2025-05 (the “Initial Assessment Resolution”) adopted by the Board on July 1, 2025. Copies of the Initial Assessment Resolution and the preliminary Fire Protection Assessment Roll are available for inspection at the office of the County Manager, located at 945 North Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by Board with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the American with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation of an interpreter to participate in these proceedings should contact the County Manager at (904) 966-6327, at least 48 hours prior to the time of the hearing.

Students working summer jobs through Community for Schools

The nonprofit, Bradford County organization’s goal is to help students overcome obstacles, experience success and graduate

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford Community for Schools is all about setting up students for success in life. One way of doing that is putting them on track toward graduating, while another is to give them a taste of a work environment.

The nonprofit organization offered a summer employment program for the third straight year, with 20 students taking part this year at a total of 10 job sites: Bradford County Public Library, Bradford High School, Downtown Grill, Florida Twin Theatre, Headstart, Home Sweet Bone/Grooming by Sister, Hometown Grounds, Lake Area Physical Therapy, Nicky’s Beauty Bar and Young Hearts Extended Assisted Living Facility.

Other employers who had agreed to participate were “It’s giving them employability skills,” said Community for Schools Executive Director Cindy DeValerio. “It’s, of course, building self-esteem, building character and teaching them skills. Also, they can use the hours (working) as community service toward scholarships. They’re also building a resume.”

Preston Clem, who’s set to begin his senior year at Bradford High School, is all about anything that’ll help him get scholarship money. Plus, he also gets the benefit of being around dogs. He loves dogs — he has four at home — so the chance to work at the Home Sweet Bone grooming business and its related Grooming by Sister business was a perfect opportunity for him.



Preston Clem helps this dog get dry after a wash at Grooming by Sister.



Cayson Hampton shelves books as part of her summer job at the Bradford County Public Library.

Clem’s responsibilities included giving the boarders at Home Sweet Bone food and water and taking them outside. At Grooming by Sister, he got to wash and dry dogs.



Elijah Lawrence prepares drinks for customers at the Downtown Grill.

don’t move away. “They’re building a lot of things other than just a paycheck,” DeValerio said. “It’s not just about a paycheck.” That’s true for Ta’laysia Cummings, who recently



Mariah Williams worked this summer at Young Hearts Assisted Living Facility.

Schools is dedicated to helping at-risk students improve and putting them on a path toward graduation. At-risk students can be those who have no interest in going to school and have no one supporting and encouraging

school performance. As student-support specialists, Weaver and Martha Boyette interact with BHS students on campus, serving as mentors, providing support and encouragement. They may also help students get the resources they need, either directly or by acting as liaisons with other organizations. Maybe a student simply needs a kind word on a given day. Maybe a student needs something to eat, a jacket to wear during winter or personal-hygiene products

Community for Schools’ office space on campus can sometimes simply be a place to take a breather for a few seconds.

“Come in and take a break from life,” DeValerio said.

Think of Boyette and Weaver as teachers’ assistants. Teachers may be the best people on campus to see what needs students have, but they have only so much time in a class period.

“There’s no way a teacher can really invest themselves completely in every student they have in all their classrooms,” Weaver said, adding that his experience with Community for Schools “has opened my eyes a lot more to the extreme challenge that educators have.”

Community for Schools’ mission is to connect with students buy surrounding them with a caring community of

support and empowering them to reach their full potential and achieve success in life. The organization’s vision statement is to provide a supportive environment centered on student improvement and success. Though adult mentorships and community resources, students can realize and reach their full potential.

Partnerships with educators, businesses, healthcare providers, social-service agencies, volunteers and other resources and programs help Community for Schools provide that assistance to help students overcome the life challenges that hinder their academic success.

Weaver said the first student he talked to upon becoming a student-support specialist was a senior who wasn’t on track to graduate. The student told Weaver that he viewed school as a waste of time.

That was this past January. Weaver’s mentorship and the help of guidance counselors resulted in that student not only changing his attitude about school, but graduating in May.

“He’s reached out to me a couple of times this summer just to say hello,” Weaver said, adding that the student has asked for his assistance as he wants to pursue employment in a trade job.

This past school year saw all 26 seniors served by Community for Schools graduate.

“I can’t say enough good things about our Bradford County Community for Schools and all they do for our students,” Bradford County Superintendent of Schools Will Hartley said. “Everyone involved in the organizations goes above and beyond to meet our students’ needs and ensure their success.

“They are truly a meaningful asset to our school community.”

DeValerio said she’d love for Community for Schools to have student-support specialists at Bradford Middle School, but that’ll take additional funding.

See JOBS, page 11



Agape Murungi spent her summer working at Nicky’s Beauty Bar.



Ta’laysia Cummings, who worked at Hometown Grounds, said Community for Schools “gave me access to mentors, support and resources that helped me stay focused on my goals and inspired me to keep pushing forward, no matter what challenges I faced.”

Future employment opportunities may not have Clem working with dogs, but he views his summer experience as kind of a head start in life.

“I think it can help me with getting future jobs,” he said. “I now have job experience in general. Also, if I have a dog of my own, I now know how to take care of him.”

Home Sweet Bone Owner Dawn Strickland said, “I cannot say enough about the importance of this program. It exposes kids to the workplace when they otherwise would not have had a chance. It’s almost like a test run in a field to see whether they would enjoy it.”

Students in 10th-12th grades mostly as well as some who’ve just graduated participated in the program, working 15 hours a week and earning money provided through a grant from Northeast Florida Career Source.

“The big thing for those employers is they’re not at risk of losing anything because the grant funding takes care of what (students) get paid,” said Ken Weaver, one of Community for Schools’ student-support specialists.

Strickland described it as a “win-win” situation for local businesses.

“Yes, you do have to take the extra time in training because these young adults typically don’t have a lot, if any, work experience,” Strickland said, “but they are also an extra set of hands at no financial cost.”

The students surely enjoy making some money, but the benefits, of course, go beyond that. DeValerio said students are building a rapport with members of the community they will one day be a part of as adults if they

graduated and worked this summer at Hometown Grounds.

“During the summer, I learned how to better manage my time, communicate with confidence and stay committed to my education,” Cummings said. “It helped me stay motivated and reminded me that I’m not alone in this journey — that there are people who believe in me and want to see me succeed

Students, who selected which participating business they wanted to work at, first had to meet with their employers and become informed of what was expected of them. DeValerio said students were told that if they couldn’t commit to the job’s obligations, they were to be honest with employers and tell them.

DeValerio said students taking on job responsibilities, which include calling your employer if you’re going to be late or unable to come in, is like an early start to adulthood.

“I think that kind of takes you out of your high-school fun world,” DeValerio said.

The job site, of course, can provide fun of a different sort, like Clem getting the chance to be around dogs. However, students do get to see that not every day at work is necessarily enjoyable. They may also learn that a certain type of job is not what they want to do in the future.

“I think it’s good for them,” DeValerio said. “They’re figuring out that jobs are not always fun, but they’ve committed to it. Jobs are not always exciting, but sometimes you have to do what you don’t like to do for a little while to figure out what you do like.”

Weaver believes working on a job and taking it seriously will benefit students in school.

“It’s that motivation factor,” Weaver said. “The job helps them to understand how they have to really invest themselves if they’re going to be successful.”

Strickland encourages employers who haven’t participated to do so in the future.

“Working with everyone in Community for Schools is such a pleasure,” Strickland said. “I just hope that more employers will take advantage of the opportunity, not just to help themselves, but to help a student become a productive, working member of the community.”



Jordyn Sumpter (left) and Jessariah Hankerson make up a bed at Young Hearts Assisted Living Facility.

Resources, support for student success

Bradford Community for

NOTICE OF NEW IMPACT FEES

BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA

Effective October 1, 2025

Per Ordinance 2025-01, approved by the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida on July 17, 2025, Bradford County will implement new impact fees on new growth and development to fund fire protection, law enforcement, and emergency medical services facilities.

Fire Protection Impact Fee Rate Schedule	
Residential Use	Non-Residential Use
\$498.00 per Dwelling Unit	\$194.00 per 1,000 Square Feet
Law Enforcement Impact Fee Rate Schedule	
Residential Use	Non-Residential Use
\$304.00 per Dwelling Unit	\$119.00 per 1,000 Square Feet
Emergency Medical Services Impact Fee Rate Schedule	
Residential Use	Non-Residential Use
\$258.00 per Dwelling Unit	\$101.00 per 1,000 Square Feet

An administrative charge of 2% will apply

These fees will be imposed in all unincorporated areas and municipalities that agree to collect and remit the fees to the County, except for the City of Starke, which provides its own fire protection.

For more information, visit the County Manager’s office at 945 North Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091, or call (904) 966-6327.

AYCE breakfast to be hosted by AMVETS 86

Keystone Heights' AMVETS Post 86 will host an all-you-can-eat breakfast on Saturday, Aug. 2, from 8 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.

The event, which will be held at 6685 Brooklyn Bay Road, is open to the public.

Cooked-to-order eggs, omelets with your favorite toppings, bacon, sausage, ham, biscuits and gravy, French toast, grits and more will be available for \$9.

The day's cooks will be veterans Fred Dressel, Roger Marr, Vince St. John and Eddie Wester.

Besides enjoying breakfast, you can browse items at the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary yard sale.

Christian women building relationships

MT. ZION A.M.E. Church of Lawtey (2229 Lake St.) and its pastor, Rev. Jacqueline L. Dupree, invite the public to celebrate "Christian Women Building Relationships to Serve Together" at its Women's Day program on Sunday, Aug. 10, at 3 p.m. Rev. Kennetta C. Carter of Greater Payne A.M.E. Church

in Jacksonville will be the guest speaker.

Medicare classes offered online

SHINE offers virtual classes on Medicare basics, prescription drug coverage, Medicare Part C, long-term care planning and more. Visit www.floridashine.org to view the schedule, register and explore information on the latest scams.

For more information, you may also contact Elder Options at 1-800-262-2243 or visit www.agingresources.org.

Linda Bennett, Vivian Ramseur to be honored at BCEF Leave a Legacy event

The Bradford County Education Foundation will host its annual Leave a Legacy event on Thursday, Aug. 28, at 6 p.m. at Starke's Madison Street Baptist Church.

This year's honorees are Linda Bennett and Vivian Ramseur.

Tickets, which are \$30, include dinner and can be purchased from any BCEF board member or via the "Bradford County Education Foundation" Facebook page.



Linda Bennett



Vivian Ramseur

The event also includes the Dessert Dash, an additional fundraiser for BCEF. Guests will pool their monies as they try to make their table among the highest bidders for the chance to "dash" for their preferred dessert.

★★★★★

Highly Rated Local Businesses!

★★★★★

Lake Area Heating and Air 7415 State Rd 21, Keystone Heights, FL 32656 (352) 473-9595 Formerly Mike Bertie Heating and Air. Serving Keystone Heights and surrounding areas since 2008.	(386) 496-2630 PRITCHETT TRUCKING, INC. 1050 SE 6th Street, Lake Butler, FL 32054 "Excellent service. On time delivery. Driver very professional and courteous. Equipment well maintained."	Rivers Flowing Church 22610 Hwy 301 N Lawtey, FL 32054 Welcome to Rivers Flowing Church—where the river of God never runs dry! SUN: 10AM WED: 7PM
Robert's Insurance 986 N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 452-7784 "The insurance agency helps keep the insurance prices down."	Durrance Pump 864 N Temple Ave STE C, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-7061 "Great set of guys that came. Found my issue. Quick work. Started a second issue and came right back and made the changes..."	DLP Bank 811 S Walnut St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-7830 "Very welcoming bank. They learn and know you by name and will not stop until they have helped with whatever your needs may be. I love this bank."
Bradford County Sheriffs Office 945-B N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 966-6161 "I need to take a minute to recognize my jail command team, the people I'm surrounded by. Each unique and strong in their own areas. There is nothing anyone asks of them they don't do and almost always with a smile. They take care of business and take care of people at the same time."	Hometown Health & Wellness 260 S Lawrence Blvd, Suite 101 Keystone Heights, FL 32656 (352) 664-7702 "Very knowledgeable and responsive, would definitely recommend them"	Craig Falstreux Heating & Air, Inc 228 S Walnut St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-2241 "We have used them twice for emergency situations on the weekend. They are fast and helpful. They do charge a weekend/holiday fee but I think that is fair. It is an efficient family business as far as I can tell."
Town & Country Vet Clinic 1051 S Water St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-6411 "We couldn't be happier with the care our dog Chevy received here. The whole team is kind, flexible, and took the time to answer all our questions. You can tell they truly care about the animals. Prices are very reasonable, and the service is top-notch. Huge thanks to Abby—she's amazing!"	The Chiropractic & Injury Clinic of Starke 601 E Call St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-8018 "Amazing staff and doctor! Very satisfied. They were able to squeeze me in the same day and get me feeling almost back to normal in minutes."	Andrews Site Prep (386) 867-0572 Services 20 different counties! "Very responsive and they were able to pull the permit and have the well done only within a couple weeks. They hands down have the best quote around no matter how far out you are."
WORLEY CONSTRUCTION & ASSOCIATES, INC. GENERAL & MARINE CONTRACTING STATE LICENSED GENERAL CONTRACTOR 352-481-2255 www.worleyconstruction.net CGC 060228	Teal Tile Carpet One 131 N Cherry St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-7423 "High quality in every way!! Product was great. Workmanship was great. Pleasant staff. Just a pleasure to work with. Highly recommend!"	Bradford County Eye Center 292 Lafayette St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-8076 "My experience at Bradford County Eye Center was amazing. The staff was attentive and provided exceptional care. Would highly recommend!"
Sporting Chance 218 N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-7434 "The owner sat down with me and helped me find a logo for my husband's company and then designed the shirt with logo and name. She also took time to explain the different shirt and ordering options. I also got a deal on the Gator items at 70% off."	Parrish Mobile Welding LLC (904) 263-2223 "Wyatt was referred to me for some welding work I needed done. He was incredibly polite, thoughtful and straight forward. He understood quickly what I needed done, showed up when he said he would, even though he mentioned he was 1 minute late, and completed the job quickly and efficiently.. I recommend Wyatt without reproach.."	Phillip McDonald Plumbing 740 S Orange St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-3737 "The work crew from Philip McDonald's. Plumbing, along with the back office staff, were courteous, on time, and came in at the budget we agreed to. When we ran to any discrepancies or any hold ups, they worked diligently to get the job taken care of."
JBS Jackson Building Supply "Serving Our Community For Over 60 Years" • LUMBER & BUILDING MATERIALS • PAINT, LADDERS & SUPPLIES • ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING SUPPLIES • METAL ROOFING & SHINGLES • DOORS & WINDOWS • HAND & POWER TOOLS • HOME & FARM HARDWARE • BATHROOM VANITIES • HOT WATER HEATERS • LAWN & GARDEN STARKE US-301S 964-6078 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6 LAKE BUTLER 145 SW 6th Ave. 496-3079	Starke Golf & Country Club 15501 NE 14th Ave, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-5441 "It's a lot of fun. Can't beat the price."	YOUR AD COULD BE HERE! CALL 904-964-6305 TODAY!
★★★★★★★★★★		

Legal Notices

BRADFORD

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF
JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
JUVENILE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF:
25JT000022-100
M.K.D.P.,
Minor Child.
TO: **JASON WALDON,**
RESPONDENT FATHER, of one
female bi-racial child, born March
7, 2019, in Haywood County, North
Carolina, to K.L.F.
TAKE NOTICE that a pleading
seeking relief against you has been
filed in the above-captioned action.
The nature of the relief sought is as
follows: Termination of parental rights
to M.K.D.P., the minor child, pursuant
to North Carolina General Statute,
7B-1111.
You are required to make defense
to such proceedings no later than
August 26, 2025, said date being
forty (40) days from the publication
of this notice, and upon your failure
to do so, the Buncombe County
Department of Health and Human
Services, Petitioner, will apply to the
Court for the relief sought.
If you are indigent, you are entitled
to appointed counsel. You may
contact the Buncombe County Clerk
of Superior Court, Juvenile Division,
District Court 4C, 60 Court Plaza,
Asheville, NC 28801 immediately
to request counsel. Any counsel
appointed previously and still
representing you in the underlying
juvenile matter regarding the minor
children shall continue to represent
you unless otherwise ordered by the
Court.
THIS, the 17th day of July, 2025.
JACK DENSMORE, ESQ.
BCDHHS
PO BOX 7408
ASHEVILLE, NC 28802
828-250-5500

7/17 3tchg 7/31-BCT

City of Starke Commission Meeting Dates for August and September

Commission Meeting August 12,
2025 at 5:30 pm
Commission Meeting August 26,
2025 at 5:30 pm
Tentative Budget Hearing September
9, 2025 at 5:01 pm
Commission Meeting September 9,
2025 at 5:30 pm
Final Budget Hearing September 23,
2025 at 5:01 pm
Commission Meeting September 23,
2025 at 5:30 pm

7/31 2tchg 8/7-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
File No.04-2025-CP-0068-CPAXMX
PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE: ESTATE OF GLORIA AGEE
GRIFFIS,
Deceased.

PETITION FOR SUMMARY
ADMINISTRATION
(Testate)
Petitioner **LONNIE JOSEPH
GRIFFIS**, son of decedent allege:
1. Petitioner has an interest in the
Estate of **GLORIA AGEE GRIFFIS**.
Petitioner's address is 720 Glendale
Street, Starke, Florida 32091.
A. Decedent died testate on June 18,
2014, her last known address was

720 Glendale Street, Starke, Florida,
was 88 years of age, whose Social
Security number was XXX-XX-4849,
and is survived by her two Sui Juris
children, **Lonnie Joseph Griffis** and
KATHLYN ANN GRIFFIS.
3. Venue for this proceeding is
in Bradford County because the
decedent was a resident of Bradford
County.
4. Proceedings concerning this
decedent's estate are not pending in
another state or country.
5. Decedent died testate. A copy of
the original Last Will and Testament
is being filed at the same time of this
Petition. The original will be delivered
to the Clerk of the Court, Bradford
County, Florida.
6. The estate qualifies for summary
administration because the value
of the estate, less the value of the
property exempt from claims of
creditors, is less than \$75,000.00.
7. At the time of decedent's death,
the decedent owned property which
constituted the homestead of the
decedent within the meaning of
Section 222.01(1) of the Statutes of
the
State of Florida, on the following
described parcel of real property:
NAME 720 Glendale Street Starke,
Florida 32091
VALUE \$125,481.00
Homestead – EXEMPT
Lot 8 Block F, Dalewood Subdivision,
as per plat thereof recorded in Plat
Book 3, Page 8, Section 21, Township
6 South, Range 22 East, Bradford
County, Florida
8. Property is inside of a municipality
and is approximately one-fourth (1/4)
acre more or less.
9. The Petitioner has made a diligent
search and reasonable inquiry for any
known or reasonably ascertainable
creditors and the estate is not
indebted.
10. After a diligent search for
additional assets, none were found
and none are
expected.
11. The name of the decedent's
surviving descendants having an
interest in the decedent's estate,
and their respective relationships to
decedent and dates of birth, if minors
are as follows:
NAME ADDRESS RELATIONSHIP
AGE
William Elisha Griffis - (Deceased)
Spouse
Lonnie Joseph Griffis - 720 Glendale
Street - Starke, Florida 32091 - Son
- Sui Juris
Kathlynn Ann Griffis - Unknown -
Daughter - Sui Juris
12. Per the Last Will and Testament
of the decedent, petitioners propose
to distribute the estate as follows: All
property, whether real or personal,
to be distributed and placed into the
name of my son, **LONNIE JOSEPH
GRIFFIS**.
13. Petitioners acknowledge that the
recipients of the decedent's property
under this Order of Summary
Administration shall be personally
liable for a pro rata share of all
lawful claims against the estate of
the decedent, but only to the extent
of the value of the estate of the
decedent actually received by each
recipient, exclusive of the property
exempt from claims of creditors
under the Constitution and Statutes
of Florida. Any known or reasonably
ascertainable
creditor who did not receive notice
and for whom provisions for payment

was not made may enforce the claim,
and if the creditor prevails, shall be
awarded reasonable attorney's fees
as an element of cost against those
who joined in the petition.
14. Under penalties of perjury, the
petitioners declare, by and through
undersigned counsel, that they have
read the copies of the foregoing, and
the facts alleged are true, to the best
of their knowledge and beliefs.
Dated this 20th of June, 2025.
/s/LONNIE JOSEPH GRIFFIS
LONNIE JOSEPH GRIFFIS
Petitioner
/S/ Curtis A. Sanders
Curtis A. Sanders, Esquire
The Law Office of Curtis A. "Lex"
Sanders, P.A.
407 W. Georgia Street
Starke, FL. 32091
Florida Bar #0625647
Phone: 904-964-4111
Fax: 904-964-5111
Attorney for Petitioner

7/31 4tchg 8/21-BCT

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO
REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME
Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida
Statutes, notice is hereby given that
the undersigned: **TERRA SHALOM
FARM**, 5137 NW County Rd 233,
Starke, FL, 32091, **SOLE** owner,
doing business under the firm name
of: **TSF EATS AND CATERING**, 5137
NW County Rd 233, Starke, FL 32091
intends to register fictitious name
under the aforesaid statute. Dated
this 24TH day of JULY A.D., 2025, in
BRADFORD County.

7/31 1tchg-BCT

COMMISSION MEETING
THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED
that the Bradford County Board of
County Commissioners will have a
board meeting on August 5,
2025, at 9:30 AM, inside the county
commission meeting room, located
in the north wing section of the
Bradford County Courthouse, 945
N. Temple, Avenue, Starke, FL. A
copy of the meeting agenda may be
obtained from the Bradford County
website: www.bradfordcountyfl.gov.
Said meeting location is secured – no
firearms or weapons are permitted.

7/31 1tchg-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN
AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY,
FLORIDA
FILE No.: 2025-CP-000082
DIVISION: PROBATE

IN RE: ESTATE OF
BETTY ALBERTA KRAJNOVICH,
Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of
BETTY ALBERTA KRAJNOVICH,
deceased, whose date of death
was May 2, 2025, is pending in the
Circuit Court for Bradford County
Florida, Probate Division, the address
of which is 11649 Parker Street,
Brooker, Florida 32622. The names
and addresses of the personal
representative and the personal
representative's attorney are set forth
below.
All creditors of the decedent and other
persons having claims or demands
against the decedent's estate on
whom a copy of this notice is required

to be served must file their claims
with this court WITHIN THE LATER
OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME
OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF
THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER
THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY
OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent
and other persons having claims or
demands against decedent's estate
must file their claims with this court
WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE
DATE
OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF
THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN
THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH
IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE
FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE
FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME
PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY
CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR
MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S
DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this
notice is July 31, 2025.
Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ Cherie H. Fine
CHERIE H. FINE, ESQUIRE
Fla. Bar No. 0331317
FINE, FARKASH & PARLAPIANO,
PA
622 NE First Street
Gainesville, Florida 32601
(352) 376-6046
Personal Representative:
/s/ BARRY KRAJNOVICH
BARRY KRAJNOVICH
11649 Parker Street
Brooker, Florida 32622

7/31 2tchg 8/7-BCT

UNION

NOTICE OF INTENT TO VACATE
PLAT
Pursuant to Section 177.101(4),
Florida Statutes, notice is hereby
given that the Linda H. Johns Family
Trust and Blake Dicks, owners of all
lots within the Lake Butler Highlands
Subdivision, Union County, Florida,
intend to file a petition with the Board
of County Commissioners of Union
County to vacate the plat of said
subdivision, as recorded in the Public
Records of Union County, Florida.
A public hearing on this matter will
be held before the Union County
Board of County Commissioners on
August 18, 2025, at 6:00 PM, in the
Board Chambers at the Union County
Courthouse, 55 W Main St, Lake
Butler, FL 32054.
For further information, contact
the Union County Board of County
Commissioners office at (386) 496-
4241 during regular business hours.
The public hearing may be continued
to one or more future dates. Any
interested party shall be advised
that the date, time and place of any
continuation of the public hearing
shall be announced during the
public hearing and that no further
notice concerning the matter will be
published, unless said continuation
exceeds six calendar weeks from the
date of the above-referenced public
hearing. At the aforementioned
public hearing, all interested parties
may appear to be heard with respect
to the proposed board action.
All persons are advised that if they
decide to appeal any decision made
at the above-referenced public
hearing, they will need a record
of the proceedings, and that, for
such purpose, they may need to

ensure that a verbatim record of the
proceeding is made, which record
includes the testimony and evidence
upon which the appeal is to be based.
Persons with disabilities requesting
reasonable accommodations to
participate in this proceeding should
contact Dianne Hannon, Secretary to
the Board of County Commissioners
at (386) 496-4241 at least 48 hours
prior to the meeting. If you are
hearing or speech impaired, please
contact the Florida Relay Service at
711, or 1-800-955-8770 (voice) or
1-800-955-8771 (TTY).

7/24 2tchg 7/31-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY,
FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO.: 24000047CAAXMX
PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION
PLAINTIFF,
VS.
REBECCA M. NETTLES, AGNES
R. HODGES A/K/A AGNUS RUTH
HODGES A/K/A AGNUS RUTH
SAPP F/K/A AGNES R. COMBS,
ROBIN CAPRICE JOHNS ET AL.,
DEFENDANTS.
RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE
SALE
(Please publish in Union County
Times)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
pursuant to Order Rescheduling
Foreclosure Sale dated the 26th day
of June, 2025, and entered in Case
No. 24000047CAAXMX, of the Circuit
Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit
in and for Union County, Florida,
wherein PHH Mortgage Corporation is
the Plaintiff and AGNES R. HODGES
A/K/A AGNUS RUTH HODGES A/K/A
AGNUS RUTH SAPP F/K/A AGNES
R. COMBS, REBECCAM. NETTLES,
UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF REBECCA
M. NETTLES, UNKNOWN SPOUSE
OF ROBIN CAPRICE JOHNS,
ROBIN CAPRICE JOHNS, UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA ON BEHALF
OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUS-
ING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
AND UNKNOWN TENANT IN
POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT
PROPERTY N/K/A LORETTA
MERRITT are defendants. Kelly
Hendricks Rhoades as the Clerk of the
Circuit Court shall sell to the highest
and best bidder for cash in the lobby
of the Union County Courthouse, 55
West Main Street, Lake Butler, FL
32054 at 11:00 A.M on the **25th day
of September, 2025**, the following
described property as set forth in said
Final Judgment, to wit:
Part of the South 1/2 of the Southwest
1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section
15, Township 5 South, Range
20 East, Union County, Florida,
containing one-acre, more or less, as
defined by four concrete monuments.
These monuments are located as
follows: Running Southerly along
the supposed East boundary of the
above 20 acre tract to a monument
said to be the Southeast corner
thereof, run right through a deflection
angle of 86°15'; Thence 163.33
feet to a point, at which turn right
through a deflection angle of 48°05';
Thence Northwesterly along this
course a distance of 512.00 feet, to a
monument, this monument being the
East corner monument of the one-
acre tract herein described, thence
run left through a deflection angle
of 89°59'; Thence along this line,
being a boundary of the one-acre

tract herein described for a distance
of 209.00 feet to a monument, being
the Southern corner of the one-acre
tract herein described, thence turning
right through a deflection angle of
90°03'; Thence along this course
being a boundary of the one-acre
tract herein described, a distance of
210.00 feet to a monument, being the
West corner of the aforesaid
one-acre tract, thence turning right
through a deflection angle of 89°50';
Thence along this course, being
a boundary of the one-acre tract
herein described, a distance of
210 00 feet to a monument, being
the North corner of the aforesaid
one-acre tract, and thence turning
right through a deflection angle of
90°07'; Thence along this course,
being a boundary of the aforesaid
one-acre tract, a distance of 210.00
feet to a monument, being the East
corner previously mentioned; It
being specifically understood the
aforesaid monuments are and remain
the boundaries of the parcel herein
described. AND Commence at the
Northwest corner of the South 1/2 of
Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4,
Section 15, Township 5 South, Range
20 East, Union County, Florida, and
run North 84° 30' 27" East along the
North line of said South 1/2 of the
Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4,
146.89 feet, thence South 44° 32'
28" East, 420.69 feet to the point of
beginning, thence South 42° 52' 17"
West 122.00 feet, thence South 47°
08' 43" East, 210.00 feet, thence
North 42° 52' 17" East, 210.00 feet,
thence North 47° 08' 43" West 210.00
feet, thence South 42° 52' 17" West,
88.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.
IF YOU ARE A PERSON CLAIMING
A RIGHT TO FUNDS REMAINING
AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST
FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK
NO LATER THAN THE DATE THAT
THE CLERK REPORTS THE FUNDS
AS UNCLAIMED. IF YOU FAIL TO
FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE
ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING
FUNDS. AFTER THE FUNDS ARE
REPORTED AS UNCLAIMED, ONLY
THE OWNER OF RECORD AS OF
THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS
MAY CLAIM THE SURPLUS.
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.
Persons with a disability who need
any accommodation in order to
participate should call Jan Phillips,
ADA Coordinator, Alachua County
Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave.,
Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-
6237 within two (2) working days of
your receipt of this notice; if you are
hearing impaired call (800) 955-8771;
if you are voice impaired, call (800)
955-8770.
Dated this 2nd day of July, 2025.
Kellie Hendricks Rhoades
Clerk of The Circuit Court
By: C. Hollingsworth
Deputy Clerk
Submitted by:
Miller, George & Suggs, PLLC
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF
210 N. University Drive, Suite 900
Coral Springs, FL 33071
DESIGNATED PRIMARY E-MAIL
FOR SERVICE
PURSUANT TO FLA. R. JUD. ADMIN
2.516
ESERVICE@MGS-LEGAL.COM
24FL922-0055

7/31 2tchg 8/7-UCT

STEM-Chalk-Photos



Olivia Cruger colors in her chalk art as she and other children in the 12G Mentoring I Am STEM camp participated in decorating the sidewalks in downtown Starke in preparation for the July 18 Chalk up an Appetite event, hosted by the Downtown Merchants.



E.J. Hamilton has some fun holding onto a group of chalk-drawn balloons.



Christian Charles, Olivia Cruger and Lee Cruger Jr. (front to back) take part in their chalk-drawn game in which they attempt to avoid the “spikes.”

Bradford County Telegraph
USPS 062-700
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage
Paid at Starke, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.
**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Bradford County Telegraph**
131 West Call Street • Starke, Florida 32091
Phone: 964-6305 • P.O. Drawer A • Starke, FL 32091
John Miller, Publisher

Subscription Rate in Trade Area
Area \$52.00 per year:
\$26.00 six months
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\$52.00 per year:
\$26.00 six months

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Lake Region Monitor
USPS 114-170
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage
Paid at Keystone Heights, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.
**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Lake Region Monitor**
P.O. Drawer A - Starke, FL 32091
131 W. Call Street - Starke, FL 32091
Phone: (904)964-6305 • Fax: (904)964-8628
John Miller, Publisher

Subscription Rate in Trade Area
Area \$52.00 per year:
\$26.00 six months
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Lee Cruger Jr. works on coloring in a chalk drawing.

Curtis A. “Lex” Sanders
Attorney at Law



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407 W. Georgia St. • Starke

The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Before you decide, ask us to send you information about our qualifications and experience.

UNION COUNTY TIMES
USPS 648-200
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage
Paid at Lake Butler, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.
**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
UNION COUNTY TIMES**
131 W. Call Street • Starke, FL 32091
uctimeseditor@gmail.com
904-964-6305 • fax 904-964-8628
John Miller, Publisher

Subscription Rate in Trade Area
Area \$52.00 per year:
\$26.00 six months
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Front office Asst:

Dream Pilot Media: telling sports stories and more

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Want to relive that touchdown you scored, that 3-point shot you sank or that home run you hit?

In today’s world, it’s easier for high-school student-athletes to see their highlight plays, thanks to technology and a platform in social media in which to post them, but it takes someone to step up and make it happen.

Enter Dream Pilot Media, a venture started in 2021 by Latoya Chandler (a 2001 Bradford High School graduate) and Stefan Nichols (a 1995 BHS graduate) that creates videos set to music, giving high-school kids something maybe they wouldn’t experience unless they were fortunate to play collegiately or professionally.

When he was a BHS student, Nichols could read about himself and see photos of himself in the newspaper, but actually watching plays unfold was something he and other student-athletes didn’t enjoy.

“It was just something I never had growing up in Starke,” he said. “Graduating in 1995, there was no social media. You just had a whole bunch of VHS tapes.”

Dream Pilot Media, which also takes still photos and produces graphics work, began as a hobby, really, but it led to paid contracts with school booster groups and other organizations.

“I never went into it thinking, ‘Hey, I’m getting ready to start a media company,’” Nichols said. “It wasn’t until we started getting a whole bunch of taps on the shoulder from high schools and different organizations like the North Florida Suns. It was like, ‘You need an LLC, and we can pay you.’ I was like, ‘Well, I guess we’ve got a business now.’

“I’m not going to say we were forced into being a business. It was kind of a nice, friendly nudge to go ahead and become official.”

The overall goal, though, remains the same — to give back to young student-athletes and others in the community.

“We’ve done more stuff for free than we’ve gotten paid



Dream Pilot Media was started in 2021 by Latoya Chandler (left) and Stefan Nichols.

for,” Nichols said. “Honestly, I wouldn’t have it any other way.”

From community events to athletics

Dream Pilot Media really got its start on a whim, with Nichols deciding to buy a camera and learning how to use it and getting tremendous help from Chandler.

“She taught me the ins and outs as far as how to operate the camera,” Nichols said.

Then, it was simply improving as he went.

“I’m not going to say everybody should adopt this, but if you keep trying something long enough, eventually you’ll start to pick it up,” Nichols said. “You’ll figure out an easier way to do things or smarter ways to do things the next time.”

Nichols and Chandler first began chronicling community events. Then, the requests started coming in.

“It turned into doing a few videos here and there for a few couples for weddings,” Nichols said. “Then, somebody asked us, ‘Hey, do you do baby showers?’ I was like, ‘Well, I guess so.’

“It was like one job after

another. It was something we had never done before, so we just said, ‘You know what? Let’s try it?’”

Eventually, the decision was made to try capturing moments from BHS football games.

“I just wanted to give kids an opportunity for exposure,” Nichols said.

Nichols, Chandler and Brenton Ruise cover various athletic events from all angles. At a football game, for example, Nichols said he’ll typically use a camcorder that can zoom in from long distances, so a lot of times he’ll stand in the back of one of the end zones, while Chandler and Ruise work the sidelines.

“If one person misses a play, the other person has it,” Nichols said. “A lot of times, people ask us about a play: ‘How did you all switch angles?’ ‘Well, we’ve got three different cameras.’ We may splice a play together from three different camera angles to make it look cinematic.”

Nichols also has a DJI pocket gimbal, which is good for getting close-in shots. He’ll use that to get footage of a team huddling on the sideline with a coach or for interviews.

“The coaches are very

helpful,” Nichols said. “They know what I’m there for, so that makes it a lot easier.”

Editing and producing a finished highlight video after a football game tends to be a long affair.

“We burn the candle very late on Friday nights and into Saturday morning,” Nichols said, adding that the work can last until 3 a.m. to 4 a.m. on Saturday.

You won’t find Dream Pilot Media at Bradford athletic events only. The crew has also done work or has been asked to do work for schools in Union County, Baker County, Columbia County, Middleburg and Williston.

Dream Pilot was contracted to do work for the BHS football program last year by the Bradford Touchdown Club, resulting in working all home games and a few away games as well as gathering footage from practices.

Other paid jobs have included working with the North Florida Suns basketball organization as well as the Lake City Vipers youth football organization. Nichols said he especially enjoyed the Lake City Vipers job, which involved covering a big tournament at the University of Florida.

“That was a dream come true for me because since I started filming, I’ve wanted to actually film a Gators game,” Nichols said. “It wasn’t quite a Gators game, but I was there at Ben Hill Griffin (Stadium).

“That’s one thing on my bucket list, to hopefully get on the sideline for the Gators.”

Opportunities, achieving dreams and telling a story

Though Dream Pilot Media moved toward covering athletics, it’s still involved in non-sports work. Nichols said Dream Pilot has done projects for mosquito-repellent company Thermacell, which has a research center in Hampton. Other jobs have included working with real-estate companies and assisting

BHS in its attempt to get funding for parking by providing aerial-drone footage.

“It just shows that if you have the means to do media, there are all types of avenues you can go down,” Nichols said. “You don’t even really have to do sports.”

One project, which was kind of sports-related, but really more a labor of love for someone many people in the community know, was producing a video for Roger Crews and his love of paintball.

I think I had more fun than Roger,” Nichols said. “Roger was tired. I don’t think he understood that when you’re actually filming, you have to do several takes. It was hot out there. He had all his gear on. I think he was relieved when it was over with, but I had fun.”

In looking toward the future, Nichols said he’d love to have contracts with various universities, but said that his ultimate goal is to create his own TV channel that would be available for content creators.

“I want to have a platform where people can have their short films or docuseries or whatever else they have going on,” Nichols said.

That would tie in to how Dream Pilot Media got its name. People have dreams, and Dream Pilot Media is the “pilot” that helps people turn their dreams into reality.

And if someone’s dream is to go into some type of media, Dream Pilot’s creators are willing to help. Nichols said he’d like to give shadow opportunities to youth. Perhaps a young person will one day be part of a new Dream Pilot Media-type venture. “I can’t do this forever,” Nichols said.

Helping youth is something Nichols enjoys, whether it’s giving a student-athlete a cool-looking highlights video with Dream Pilot Media or talking to Bradford High School students about their future in his “real job” as a Santa Fe College Achieve specialist.

“I’m on the high school campus almost every day throughout the week,” Nichols



Stefan Nichols is pictured getting video footage of a July 3 meet-and-greet event that Starke’s Beef O’Brady’s hosted for former BHS football players **Torin Brazell** and **Chalil Cummings**, who play in college at East Carolina and Purdue, respectively.

said. “I pretty much just meet with kids, and I talk to them about their career exploration and, really, just life. The truth is, not everybody’s going to go to college. You just talk to them and make sure they’re actually on a path where they’re setting up options for themselves.”

Perhaps some of those students he talks to will go on to find great success in life. Who knows? Maybe Dream Pilot Media will help them tell their story.

That’s what Dream Pilot Media is all about — telling a story.

“I would say that’s the biggest thing we do,” Nichols said. “We don’t just point and film a game and say, ‘These are the highlights.’ We want it to be entertaining, especially in this day and age of social media, where people’s attention spans are kind of short.

“We try to do something that’s going to kind of grab you.”

You can find Dream Pilot Media at dreampilotmedia.com, on Facebook and YouTube under “Dream Pilot Media,” on Instagram under “dreampilot1104” and on X under “DreamPilotMedia1.”

JOBS

Continued from page 8

“We can always use donations because they are somehow going to benefit a student,” DeValerio said.

Some students benefit by receiving money for college. Community for Schools established the Cheryl G. Canova Scholarship, which was presented for the first time this year to graduating seniors Jaden Hankerson and Saniyah Thompson. Each received \$2,000.

DeValerio said the goal is to increase the scholarship amount each year.

Students also have the chance to earn scholarships through Community for Schools’ Take

Stock in Children program. The program pairs students with adult mentors, with that mentor relationship idealistically lasting from sixth grade through graduation. Students who successfully go through the program, maintaining a specified minimum grade-point average, avoiding major disciplinary issues and keeping absences to a minimum, receive two-year scholarships.

Another program within the Take Stock program has chosen ninth-graders receiving four-year scholarships upon graduating. Those students also receive yearly stipends for college incidentals.

DeValerio and Take Stock in Children College Success Coach Candace Osteen, in a joint statement, shared their thoughts on the Take Stock program: “Take

Stock in Children scholarships open doors for students in rural communities by removing financial and social barriers that often limit their access to higher education. These scholarships provide more than just college tuition, and they come with mentorship, academic support and a clear pathway to success.

“For students in rural areas, where resources can be limited, and college may seem out of reach, Take Stock offers hope, guidance and the tangible means to pursue a college degree. This not only increases their chances of achieving well-paying careers, but also empowers them to break generational barriers, become leaders in their communities and inspire others to aim higher.”

Cummings, who was part of Take Stock in Children, said, “The program gave me access to

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If you’d like to support Bradford Community for Schools with a monetary donation, serve as a student mentor or find out other ways in which you can help, please call 904-966-6004.



Jaden “Chop” Hankerson (far left) and Saniyah Thompson (far right) are pictured with Cheryl Canova after receiving Bradford Community for Schools’ first-ever Cheryl G. Canova Scholarships.

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Bradford's 2024 football season by the numbers

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Though getting eliminated in the second round of the playoffs after finishing as a state runner-up in 2023, the 2024 Bradford High School Tornadoes still had a solid season, going 10-2. Both losses were to the same opponent — Newberry.

It was another season in which the defense was stout, with the Tornadoes shutting out four opponents and allowing double-digit points to only three teams: Dunnellon, Mandarin and Newberry (twice).

The offense scored at least 28 points in seven games and 40 or more points in four games. Bradford was held to single digits in points just once.

With the 2025 season approaching, the Telegraph-Times-Monitor takes a look at last year's results and some of the numbers associated with the season.

2024 results (with * denoting District 5-2A games)

- 13-7 win over Baker County
- 29-14 win over Dunnellon
- 28-7 win over South Sumter
- 18-13 win over Mandarin
- 40-0 win over Keystone Heights*
- 41-0 win over Palatka*
- 21-7 loss to Newberry*
- 43-7 win over Leon
- 44-0 win over Santa Fe*
- 2-0 win (forfeit) over North Florida Educational Institute
- 35-0 win over The Villages (Region 2 quarterfinals)
- 34-19 loss to Newberry (Region 2 semifinals)

BHS numbers

- Average points per game: 28.8
- Most points scored in a game: 44 (44-0 win over Santa Fe)
- Fewest points in a game: 7 (21-7 loss to Newberry)
- Rushing yards on the season: 2,250 on 325 carries
- Leading rusher: Gino Addison, 722 yards on 110 carries
- Player with most rushing touchdowns: Gino Addison, 9
- Most rushing yards in a game: 278 (29-14 win over Dunnellon)
- Fewest rushing yards in a game: 42 (21-7 loss to Newberry)
- Most rushing attempts in a game: 48 (18-13 win over Mandarin)
- Fewest rushing attempts in a game: 17 (40-0 win over Keystone)
- Most rushing touchdowns in a game: 5 (41-0 win over Palatka)
- Fewest rushing touchdowns in a game: 0 (21-7 loss to Newberry)
- Passing yards on the season: 1,372 (95 of 152)
- Leading passer: Zack Paulk, 93 of 149, 1,347 yards, 14 touchdowns
- Leading receiver: Jy'Quez Cason, 450 yards on 25 catches
- Player with most touchdown receptions: Jy'Quez Cason, 5
- Most passing yards in a game: 200 (21-7 loss to



Jy'Quez Cason (right) led Bradford in receiving last year as a junior.

Newberry)

- Fewest passing yards in a game: 7 (29-14 win over Dunnellon)
- Most pass attempts in a game: 33 (21-7 loss to Newberry)
- Fewest pass attempts in a game: 7 (29-14 win over Dunnellon, 35-0 win over The Villages)
- Most pass completions in a game: 23 (21-7 loss to Newberry)
- Fewest pass completions in a game: 2 (29-14 win over Dunnellon)
- Most passing touchdowns in a game: 3 (40-0 win over Keystone, 43-7 win over Leon)
- Fewest passing touchdowns in a game: 0 (29-14 win over Dunnellon, 28-7 win over South Sumter, 18-13 win over Mandarin, 41-0 win over Palatka, 35-0 win over The Villages)
- Player with most tackles: Jeremiah McKenzie, 84
- Player with most tackles for loss: Trente Jenkins, 10
- Player with most sacks: Travis Johnson, 6
- Players with most interceptions: Mikey Oliver and Branden Williams, 2 each
- Player with most fumble recoveries: Trente Jenkins, 2

Opponent numbers

- Average points per game: 9.4
- Most points scored in a game: 34, Newberry
- Fewest points scored in a game: 0, Keystone, Palatka, Santa Fe, The Villages
- Most rushing yards in a game: 167, Newberry
- Fewest rushing yards: 29, Mandarin, The Villages
- Most rushing attempts in a game: 40, Palatka
- Fewest rushing attempts in a game: 16, Mandarin
- Most rushing touchdowns in a game: 4, Newberry
- Fewest rushing touchdowns in a game: 0, Baker County, Keystone, Leon, Palatka, Santa Fe, The Villages
- Most passing yards in a game: 159, Mandarin
- Fewest passing yards in a game: 6, Palatka
- Most pass attempts in a game: 27, The Villages
- Fewest pass attempts in a game: 5, Palatka
- Most pass completions in a game: 16, The Villages
- Fewest pass completions in a game: 2, Keystone, Palatka
- Most passing touchdowns in a game: 1, Baker County, Dunnellon, Leon, Mandarin, Newberry (twice)
- Fewest passing touchdowns in a game: 0, Keystone, Santa Fe, South Sumter, The Villages

Union's 2024 football season by the numbers

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Union County High School came close to a perfect regular season in 2024 (with a one-point loss to Chiefland the only blemish) and then won two playoff games before its season came to an end with a loss to Madison County in the Rural Class state semifinals.

Madison would go on to win the state championship.

It was the second time in three years that the Tigers played a state-semifinal game and the sixth straight year they advanced to at least the region-final round.

Only one of Union's 10 wins saw the Tigers score less than 22 points. The Tigers had five games in which they scored at least 42 points.

Defensively, the Tigers held 10 opponents to less than 20 points and recorded three shutouts.

With the 2025 season approaching, the Telegraph-Times-Monitor takes a look at last year's results and some of the numbers associated with the season.

2024 results

- 14-13 win over Yulee
- 35-0 win over Keystone Heights
- 45-0 win over Santa Fe
- 22-0 win over Baldwin
- 46-19 win over Fort White
- 47-14 win over Zarephath Academy
- 54-16 win over Trinity Catholic
- 38-7 win over Hudson
- 30-29 loss to Chiefland
- 42-20 win over Holmes County (Rural semifinals)
- 28-18 win over Pahokee (Rural finals)
- 34-8 loss to Madison County (state semifinals)

UCHS numbers

Editor's note: Except for scoring, the Telegraph-Times-Monitor doesn't have Union County's official stats from the 34-8 state semifinal loss to Madison County, so those aren't factored into most of the following numbers.

- Average points per game: 34.0
- Most points scored in a game: 54 (54-16 win over Trinity Catholic)
- Fewest points scored in a game: 8 (34-8 loss to Madison County)
- Rushing yards on the season: 2,866 on 371 carries
- Leading rusher: Drew Simmons, 1,444 yards on 161 carries
- Player with most rushing touchdowns: Drew Simmons, 17
- Most rushing yards in a game: 357 (47-14 win over Zarephath Academy)
- Fewest rushing yards in a game: 69 (30-29 loss to Chiefland)
- Most rushing attempts in a game: 51 (28-18 win over Pahokee)
- Fewest rushing attempts in a game: 20 (30-29 loss to Chiefland)
- Most rushing touchdowns in a game: 5 (46-19 win over Fort White)



Drew Simmons (right) led the Tigers in rushing last year as a sophomore.

- Fewest rushing touchdowns in a game: 0 (30-29 loss to Chiefland, 34-8 loss to Madison County)

- Passing yards on the season: 1,478 (91 of 144)

- Leading passer: Trenton Klein, 88 of 141, 1,409, 23 touchdowns

- Leading receiver: Gavin Jenkins, 577 yards on 31 catches
- Player with most touchdown receptions: Gavin Jenkins, 8

- Most passing yards in a game: 248 (42-20 win over Holmes County)

- Fewest passing yards in a game: 42 (14-13 win over Yulee)

- Most pass attempts in a game: 29 (30-29 loss to Chiefland)

- Fewest pass attempts in a game: 3 (47-14 win over Zarephath Academy)

- Most pass completions in a game: 15 (30-29 loss to Chiefland)

- Fewest pass completions in a game: 2 (28-18 win over Pahokee)

- Most passing touchdowns in a game: 5 (54-16 win over Trinity Catholic)

- Fewest passing touchdowns in a game: 0 (14-13 win over Yulee, 22-0 win over Baldwin)

- Player with most tackles:

Trenton Klein, 78

- Player with most tackles for loss: Trenton Klein, 23.5

- Player with most sacks: Trenton Klein, 7.5

- Player with most interceptions: Ibn Williams, 2

- Players with most fumble recoveries: Jesse Chaikin, Gavin Jenkins, Ashton Winsom, 2 each

Opponent numbers

Editor's note: Except for scoring, the Telegraph-Times-Monitor doesn't have official stats for Santa Fe, so those aren't factored into most of the following numbers.

- Average points per game: 14.3

- Most points in a game: 34, Madison County

- Fewest points in a game: 0, Baldwin, Keystone, Santa Fe

- Most rushing yards in a game: 383, Madison County

- Fewest rushing yards in a game: 12, Hudson

- Most rushing attempts in a game: 40, Madison County

- Fewest rushing attempts in a game: 8, Hudson

- Most rushing touchdowns in a game: 5, Madison County

- Fewest rushing touchdowns in a game: 0, Baldwin, Keystone, Santa Fe, Trinity Catholic

- Most passing yards in a game: 247, Zarephath Academy

- Fewest passing yards in a game: 26, Hudson

- Most pass attempts in a game: 28, Trinity Catholic

- Fewest pass attempts in a game: 5, Keystone, Madison County

- Most pass completions in a game: 15, Zarephath Academy

- Fewest pass completions in a game: 2, Keystone, Madison County

- Most passing touchdowns in a game: 2, Holmes County, Trinity Catholic

- Fewest passing touchdowns in a game: 0, Baldwin, Keystone, Madison County, Santa Fe, Trinity Catholic

Keystone 2024 football season by the numbers



Zane Leger was Keystone's leading rusher last year as a junior.

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School got the 2024 varsity football season off to a strong start with a shutout win over Interlachen. Despite two big shutout losses in a row after that, the Indians were a .500 team after the first four games.

Unfortunately, not much went right the rest of the season, as the Indians sustained a number of injuries and lost six in a row to finish with a 2-8 record.

With the 2025 season approaching, the Telegraph-Times-Monitor takes a look at last year's results and some of the numbers associated with the season.

2024 results (with * denoting District 5-2A games)

- 29-0 win over Interlachen
- 35-0 loss to Union County

See Keystone, page 14

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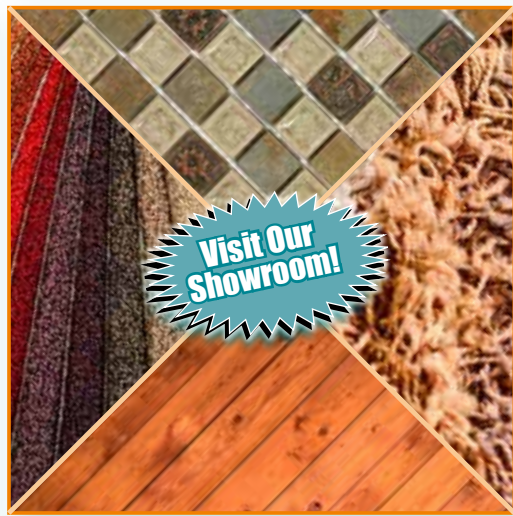
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KEYSTONE

Continued from page 13

- 48-0 loss to Newberry*
- 14-6 win over Dixie County
- 40-0 loss to Bradford*
- 42-10 loss to West Nassau
- 30-7 loss to Santa Fe*
- 54-0 loss to Chiefland
- 40-0 loss to Palatka*
- 26-10 loss to Crescent City

KHHS numbers

Editor's note: Except for scoring, the Telegraph-Times-Monitor doesn't have Keystone's official stats against Crescent City, so those aren't factored into most of the following numbers.

- Average points per game: 7.0
- Most points scored in a game: 29 (29-0 win over Interlachen)
- Fewest points scored in a game: 0 (35-0 loss to Union County, 48-0 loss to Newberry, 40-0 loss to Bradford, 54-0 loss to Chiefland, 40-0 loss to Palatka)
- Rushing yards on the season: 918 on 268 carries
- Leading rusher: Zane Leger, 438 yards on 98 carries
- Player with most rushing touchdowns: Zane Leger, 3
- Most rushing yards in a game: 258 (29-0 win over Interlachen)
- Fewest rushing yards in a game: 32 (48-0 loss to Newberry)
- Most rushing attempts in

- a game: 39 (29-0 win over Interlachen)
- Fewest rushing attempts in a game: 20 (35-0 loss to Union County)
- Most rushing touchdowns in a game: 2 (29-0 win over Interlachen)
- Passing yards on the season: 371 (32 of 82)
- Leading passer: Baylor Ford, 20 of 53, 224 yards, 2 touchdowns
- Leading receiver: Andrew Wilson, 85 yards on 4 catches
- Player with most touchdown receptions: Andrew Wilson, 2
- Most passing yards in a game: 88 (14-6 win over Dixie County)
- Fewest passing yards in a game: 0 (40-0 loss to Palatka)
- Most pass attempts in a game: 14 (30-7 loss to Santa Fe)
- Fewest pass attempts in a game: 5 (35-0 loss to Union County)
- Most pass completions in a game: 6, (14-16 win over Dixie County, 30-7 loss to Santa Fe, 42-10 loss to West Nassau)
- Fewest pass completions in a game: 0 (40-0 loss to Palatka)
- Most passing touchdowns in a game: 2 (29-0 win over Interlachen)
- Player with the most tackles: Kyle Perkins, 50
- Players with the most tackles for loss: Jackson Herman, Colton Hollingsworth, 2 each
- Player with the most sacks: Luke Bacorn, Bryce Daniels, Jackson Herman, Kyle Perkins, Zane Leger, 1 each

- Player with the most interceptions: Tallon Campbell, 3
- Player with the most fumble recoveries: Kyle Perkins, 4

Opponent numbers

- Average points per game: 32.1
- Most points in a game: 54, Chiefland
- Fewest points in a game: 0, Interlachen
- Most rushing yards in a game: 352, Chiefland
- Fewest rushing yards in a game: 145, Interlachen
- Most rushing attempts in a game: 40, Dixie County
- Fewest rushing attempts in a game: 17, Bradford
- Most rushing touchdowns in a game: 4, Newberry, Union County, West Nassau
- Fewest rushing touchdowns in a game: 0, Interlachen
- Most passing yards in a game: 195, Bradford
- Fewest passing yards in a game: 0, Dixie County
- Most pass attempts in a game: 26, Interlachen
- Fewest pass attempts in a game: 6, Newberry
- Most pass completions in a game: 12, Interlachen, Union County
- Fewest pass completions in a game: 0, Dixie County
- Most passing touchdowns in a game: 4, Palatka
- Fewest passing touchdowns in a game: 0, Dixie County, Interlachen

HEAT

Continued from page 12

customized estimate based on body size can be reached by dividing one's body weight in pounds by 15. Children, who become dehydrated more easily than adults, need more water per pound. A 10-pound child, for example, needs between 2 cups and 3 cups of fluids a day, and a 90-pound child needs between 8 cups and 9 cups.

Although these guidelines exceed the well-known, "eight-cups-a-day" maxim, Acosta said it's important to remember they include water consumed through both drinking and eating. Many fruits and vegetables, including oranges, watermelon, cucumbers, lettuce and tomatoes, naturally contain significant amounts of water. Broths and soups — particularly clear ones — are also water-rich foods.

"So, you're not necessarily chugging 11 to 15 cups of water a day," she said.

Hydrating through beverages doesn't have to be boring, either. While drinks containing caffeine, alcohol and added sugar can have dehydrating effects and should generally be avoided, sparkling water is just as hydrating as still water. Infusing water with fruit and herbs or using sugar-free flavoring drops can also make it more appealing.

Acosta suggests increasing motivation by using a bottle

labeled with time markers that indicate consumption goals. Setting reminders or associating daily activities with drinking can also be helpful.

"Consider something you do on a regular basis, like brushing your teeth or eating a meal. Perhaps that's the time to take a sip," she said.

She cautions, however, that water is not always the most effective hydration choice.

Someone engaged in vigorous activity loses electrolytes — essential minerals like sodium and potassium — through sweating, and water alone cannot restore them, Acosta said. Instead, grab a sports drink or combine water with a salty snack, like pretzels or nuts.

"You don't necessarily need a commercial sports beverage," she said. "While these can be helpful for athletes needing just the right balance of water, electrolytes and carbohydrates to fuel performance, most people can rehydrate quite effectively with just water and a salty snack if they've lost some water from sweating."

One of the simplest methods

to gauge whether any hydration-boosting technique is working is tied to the bathroom.

An adequately hydrated person will feel the urge to urinate every three to four hours, and their urine should be a light-yellow color, Acosta said.

"And be sure to pay attention to how thirsty you are," she said. "If you start to feel thirsty, there's a good chance you're already somewhat dehydrated."

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