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Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, December 30, 2021

142nd year, 20th Issue — \$1

Longtime corrections director Wainwright passes away at 98

Editor's note: The majority of the following information was taken from Florida Department of Corrections and Corrections Foundation press releases.

"Not bad for a country boy from Lawtey."

By all accounts, those oft-uttered words by Louie Lee Wainwright Sr. were as close as he'd come to talking about his accomplishments within the Florida Department of Corrections. He was humble, but his legacy will live on.

Wainwright, who passed away Dec. 23 at the age of 98, was known as the "dean of American correctional administrators." No other corrections secretary-director throughout the U.S. has served a longer term than Wainwright, who was appointed as chief administrator of Florida's entire corrections system by Gov. Farris Bryant in 1962. He remained in the roles of director and then secretary until his retirement on Dec. 31, 1986.

"The loss of Secretary Wainwright is not only a loss for those in the corrections field, but also to the state of Florida," current Florida Department of Corrections Secretary Ricky Dixon said. "Secretary Wainwright was a visionary and stood for his convictions, refusing to back down when faced with adversity. His dedication and courage led to incredible change in the treatment of



Louie Wainwright is pictured at his desk in 1973. He served as director/secretary of the Florida Department of Corrections from July 16, 1962, until his retirement on Dec. 31, 1986. State Archives of Florida.

the incarcerated. He led the charge to create excellence in corrections and transparency of the entire system."

Wainwright had a passion for human rights, whether he was helping those who were incarcerated or the staff who worked at Florida's correctional institutions. It was said he made all of his decisions based on that

See WAINWRIGHT, page 7

Mom: son molested on bus, school district unresponsive

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

FLEMING ISLAND— Clay County School District officials responded to complaints from parents about the treatment of students during the school board's Dec. 9 meeting.

Parent Holly Haddock of Green Cove Springs told board members that her son was attacked and molested on a school bus on Oct. 11, and that her interactions with the school district after the incident created more stress.

"The whole process was a nightmare for me," she said.

Haddock said that after her son was hit in the face, she notified the school, which said it would follow up with the bus driver.

"That never happened," she said. "I have had to chase people down in order to discuss this."

She added that she found out her son was hit in the face on the bus the day after it happened and found out about the molestation later.

She said that she immediately reported the attack to the school, the sheriff's office and the Florida Department of Children and Families.

"I was told by the school that they would contact me the next day," she said. "That never happened."

Haddock also said that bus video recording the incident was not viewed until 10 days after she reported it.

She added that throughout the investigation, she felt school officials

addressed her in a condescending tone.

"I was told by the principal several times: let's be rational," Haddock recalled. "If this was your child, and somebody stuck their hand down his pants, both front and back, how could you be rational?"

Haddock asked the school board to clarify jurisdiction over who handles disciplinary matters when a school bus is in motion, adding that part of the problem was poor coordination between the sheriff's office and the school district.

She also asked that the school district improve its communications with parents.

Board member Janice Kerekes asked her colleagues to review the district's policy on such matters, and she also asked superintendent David Broskie to follow up with Haddock.

Board member Ashley Gilhousen and said it sounded to her like some of the problem was different government agencies being involved in the case.

"My heart goes out to you," Gilhousen told Haddock.

Claims disability rights violated

Diana Toth of Middleburg also complained to the board about the

See DISTRICT, page 6



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New Year's Eve service

True Vine Ministry will be hosting New Year's Eve celebration services Friday, Dec. 31, at 10 p.m. Prophet George Young III, senior pastor of Due Season Deep Fishing Ministry in Gainesville, will be the featured speaker. Please come out to worship, praise and ring in 2022 together. The public is invited to attend.

Watch Night service

New Covenant Baptist Ministries and St. John Missionary Baptist Church of Providence will be hosting a Watch Night service at New Covenant on Friday, Dec. 31, at 10 p.m. The public is invited. Masks are required.

New Year's at Mt. Moriah

Mt. Moriah Community Church, 803 Oak St. in Starke, will celebrate its annual New Year's Eve service Friday, Dec. 31, at 10 p.m. Breakfast will be served and everyone is invited.

Hot Meals and a Prayer

Come to the Bradford County Faith Community Center for hot meals served up with prayer on Thursday, Jan. 13, from 4 to 6 p.m. the center is located at 721 Old Lawtey Road in Starke.



Giving the gift of Christmas

Alligator Creek Garden Club of Starke held its December meeting at the Bradford County Senior Center. The meeting included a delicious holiday spread, uplifting music and a spirit of giving. Small Christmas trees were decorated with love for distribution to residents of Windsor Manor. The club welcomes visitors and new members. Meetings are held at the senior center every third Thursday at 2 p.m. Pictured above (front, left to right) Pat Caren, Ginger Dixon, Kathy Still, Gloria Spengler, Kathy Agan, (back) Dottie Yarbrough, Tracy Meadows, Tom Meadows, Paul Still.

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Houses and a hotel, construction continues in Bradford

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

People are still building houses in Bradford County, and some of them are quite large.

New permits for single family houses were down slightly in 2021 from 65 to 59. The majority were for the Starke and Keystone Heights area codes — 16 each. Add the seven that were permitted into the city of Starke brings the county total to 66 and the city total to 22.

In addition, nine permits were pulled in the Melrose area, eight in the Hampton area, and five each in Lawley and Brooker.

Starke also issued permits for the construction of a two-phase apartment complex known as Arborside Preserve at the end of Southern Villas Drive. The first of the 120 total units are slated to be open in February, and there is already a waiting list for these affordable housing units.

New and replacement mobile home permits continue to outpace new construction and serve the need for affordable housing. There were 83 countywide, two of those being inside the city of Starke. This was down from 101 permits last year.

Starke anticipates additional housing growth, including the second phase of the Green Acres Subdivision, which will add



This new home in Douglas Estates was one of seven permitted in the in the city of Starke.

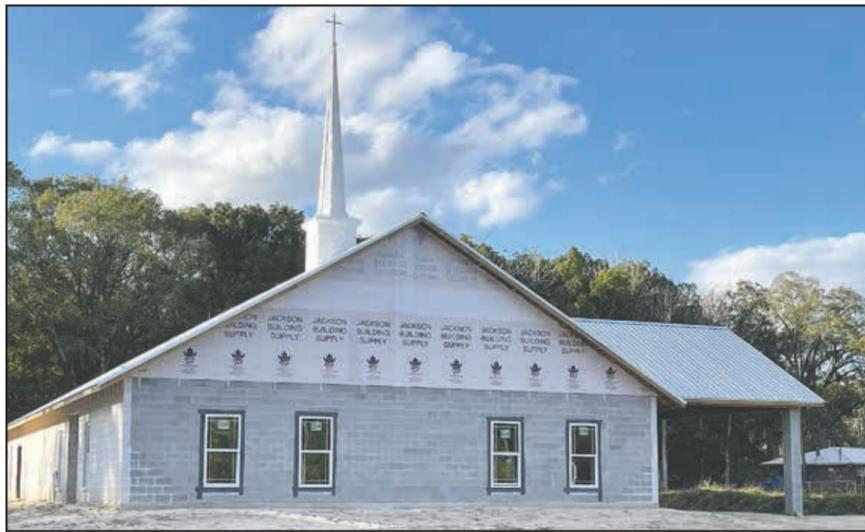
more than 20 new homes to that neighborhood. Lake properties near Starke, Keystone Heights and Hampton continue to be popular, attracting some of the largest new homes, including homes exceeding 4,000 and 5,000 square feet. Properties in Pine Lakes Subdivision near Sampson Lake owned by Roberts Capital Ventures of Lake Butler have been selling for tens of thousands of dollars, promising even more impressive homes.

Commercially, the county permitted the new Holiday Inn Express, although Starke plans on annexing the new businesses following completion of its

construction south of the city limits. New school construction is under way on Southeast 144th Street, with the planned opening in fall 2023.

The city's only commercial construction project was actually a church. Faith Baptist Church is moving to 1509 N. Temple Avenue.

Moves have been discussed for Pizza Hut and Subway in Starke, as well as the addition of a new Aldi grocery store in the Deerfoot Village Plaza. Starke commissioners have also approved a site plan for Sporty's Express Car Wash by Ace Hardware. T-Mobile will open



Faith Baptist Church's new location on North Temple Avenue has been under construction.

a new location at the Walmart Supercenter in January.

A number of business in Starke took on renovations, including Winn-Dixie, McDonald's and Taco Bell. Still, dozens of commercial properties in the city remain vacant even as local leaders look to expanding infrastructure at the north and south of the city to attract development and draw traffic from the bypass.

Clay County leaders discuss goals for 2022

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS— Expanding broadband internet services and updating the land development code were two of the goals Clay County commissioners said they wanted to accomplish in the upcoming year.

Commissioners Wayne Bolla, Betsy Condon, Jim Renninger, Mike Cella and Kristen Burke held a strategic planning workshop on Dec. 14 to talk about their priorities.

During the workshop, moderated by JAX USA's Anna LeBeauch, each commissioner spoke about his or her top priorities for 2022. The commissioners then sorted the goals between one of four broad categories: major projects, planning and zoning, infrastructure, policies and procedures and other priorities.

Broadband

Bolla, Condon and Renninger all mentioned the expansion of broadband internet, particularly into the rural areas of the county.

Condon said the COVID-19 pandemic revealed the importance of the technology, explaining that homebound workers and students could not get their work done without broadband access.

Bolla and Renninger said that fast internet is essential in attracting commercial activity to the county.

Land development

Commissioners Condon, Cella, Renninger and Burke said commissioners should look at updating the county's land development code and procedures for zoning and planning.

Condon said that the two planning districts that have seen the most activity lately: the Lake Asbury Master Plan and the Branan Field Master Plan, were developed in 2005 and 2006.

"We're a very different county, a very different world today," she said. "I don't know that really back then they thought about what is the infrastructure that needs to be put into place including roads and working with DOT."

Condon also said the county needs to coordinate with the Clay County Utility Authority about water and sewer service.

She added that Clay County needs a comprehensive road plan, noting that most of the county's 250 miles of unpaved roads lie within her district.

Cella also said commissioners should update the land development code. He said he would like to see the county's 40-foot minimum lot frontage increased and would like to see less clear cutting of trees when new subdivisions are being built.

Cella also said he would like to see a county land conservation plan.

"There's no better time than this particular time to go after land that stays as a greenway," he said, "particularly waterfront property."

He also said the county should inventory and evaluate its own current land holdings.

"The county has a huge number of parcels that we own," he said. "(We should) study potential liquidation or trading of those possible properties if we can do that to the county's benefit."

Cella said county officials should work to improve the public's access to Black Creek and the St. Johns River by improving and expanding boat ramps.

"That seems to be an area that is really growing," he said. "Folks want access to the river and the creek and why not? It's a beautiful place to be, but we don't have that ability at this point to do that."

Burke agreed that the county needs to improve the Governor's Creek boat ramp, north of Green Cove Springs on U.S. 17.

"It's an eyesore for the over 20,000 people that come through every day, and we can do much

better in the presentation if we work together," she said.

Renninger noted that housing developers are clear cutting land when building new subdivisions and said county officials should intervene.

"It's horrible to see all these long-term trees, aged trees just being clear-cut to make it easy to develop," he said. "I think we ought to have some kind of control over that, some kind of say as to how we want the county to look in the future."

Renninger also said that just like in other areas of the country, affordable housing is hard to come by in Clay County.

"The median price of a home in Clay County is \$310,000," he said. "So, when you talk about a new teacher, a new firefighter a new police officer, a new anybody, how can you afford a \$310,000 home when you started out your career?"

Burke cited the county's lack of a stormwater management plan.

She also criticized what she said were loopholes in the county's land development code that allow developers to manipulate county officials.

Other priorities

Bolla said he wanted to see an expansion of security cameras in the county to reduce crime, especially within subdivisions.

He said that St. Johns County has a crime rate that is nearly half that of Clay County and that prior sheriffs have told him the difference is the high number of surveillance cameras across the river.

Bolla also said the county should get out of the animal

See GOALS, page 6

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Bonnie Melrose Parade and Festival

MELROSE — The Melrose Patriots sponsored the community's second parade and festival of the season on Dec. 18. Photos by Amy Stanley.



U.S. Congresswoman Kat Cammack is welcomed to Melrose by First Sergeant Sylvia C. Hunter of Alpha Company, and Cadet Major Owen E. Hunter, Executive Officer of the Indian Battalion, Keystone Heights High School JROTC.



The Merry Manly Men of Melrose built this mini replica of Mossman Hall, the community center of Melrose. Stasia Pieczenik, of Mossman Hall, and homeschool students from the 4 Corners Community School filled the float and tossed stuffed animals to the children watching along the road.



The McRae Family has lived in Melrose since 1855, and recently adopted two miles along State Road 21 in the Banana Mill area as part of the Florida Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Highway program.



Jacob Smart of the Melrose Patriots proudly and enthusiastically waving the American flag.

Happy New Year!



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Soil and water group meeting

The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 4, at 9 a.m. at the Bradford County Extension

Office. There will be reports on the status of projects and activities. These meetings are open to the public. Contact Paul Still at 904-368-0291 or stillpe@aol.com for more information.

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Letters

Get vaccines, boosters

Dear Editor,
I am a pediatrician at UF Health Family Medical Group – Starke. Our clinic offers the Moderna vaccine to patients

age 18 and up to help prevent COVID-19.

As you may have heard, the Omicron variant of COVID-19 will soon be spreading in Bradford County. If you are an unvaccinated adult, I respectfully recommend that you should receive your first dose of COVID vaccine as soon as possible (especially if you haven't had COVID illness yet). If you are an adult who received your second dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine more

than 6 months ago, or your single dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine more than 2 months ago, I respectfully recommend that you should receive your booster dose as soon as possible. Our phone number is 904-452-2312 so please call us to schedule an appointment.

Thank you very much for your time and for considering my recommendations.

Arjun Bamzai MD
UF Health Family Medical Group - Starke



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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

Editor:	Mark J. Crawford
Sports Editor:	Cliff Smelley
Advertising:	John R. Tillman
Typesetting:	Jenny Starnes
Advertising & Newspaper Prod:	C. Hurston
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Subscription Rate in Trade Area: \$52.00 per year; \$26.00 six months
Outside Trade Area: \$52.00 per year; \$26.00 six months

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

Editor:	Dan Hildebran
Sports Editor:	Cliff Smelley
Advertising:	John R. Tillman
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Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts:	Heather Wheeler
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Subscription Rate in Trade Area: \$52.00 per year; \$26.00 six months
Outside Trade Area: \$52.00 per year; \$26.00 six months

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

Editor:	Tracy Lee Tate
Advertising:	John R. Tillman
Typesetting:	Jenny Starnes
Advertising & Newspaper Prod:	C. Hurston
Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts:	Heather Wheeler
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\$20,000 to support local education

Seeking out grants to fund programs in local schools is one of the many ways the Bradford County Education Foundation supports teachers and students. Without the foundation and the generosity of its partners, these are programs the schools might have to do without. Foundation members delivered some big checks courtesy of two of those partners just in time for Christmas. Clay Electric Cooperative wrote the district a check for \$15,000, which will be split equally between the middle school and Starke and Southside elementary schools. BMS will use the grant to support math education, while the elementary schools will spend those funds on their STEM and STEAM programs.

According to Clay Electric, the charitable support comes from its members, more than 80% of whom round up their bill and provide an average of \$75,000 each month for Operation Round Up. That support allowed the cooperative's Board of Trustees to award 99 grants in 2021. \$4.4 million has been donated to various programs through Operation Round Up since 2017.

BCEF's Cheryl Canova also announced a \$5,000 grant from AT&T that will be used to send third- and fourth-graders to the Cade Museum for Creativity and Invention in Gainesville.

Pictured are (front with check) are Dimple Overstreet, Education Foundation President Cheryl Canova, BMS Principal Danielle Rosson, (middle) Brenda Thornton, Lila Sellers, Eugenia Whitehead, Sarah Long, Vorease Jones, Southside Assistant Principal Lauren Morgan, teacher Lily Chappell, (back) Superintendent Will Hartley and Clay Electric's Pat Mundorff.



Hampton resident CD Hendrix and filmmaker Laura Valtorta.

Hampton featured in rural water documentary

Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project hired Laura Valtorta and her company, Gatta Films LLC, to make a series of seven short films about rural communities in South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia with water issues resolved by SERCAP.

Her philosophy is that problems faced by the U.S. right now can be solved by focusing on and listening to successes in small towns.

The Storytelling Project outlined by SERCAP aims to help other rural communities resolve their drinking water problems. It highlights communities with strong leaders who have made

some progress with their water systems.

The stories end up showing the resilience of the residents, and the unique character of each community. Hampton is no exception. Valtorta and her film crew came to town over the weekend of Dec. 4 and interviewed Mary Lou Hildreth, city clerk/administrator, Bernard Carter, water yard operator, and members of the SERCAP team. They also interviewed local residents CD Hendrix and Nichole Puls, who described what they liked about small town living.

Hildreth discussed the various grant funding obtained for the city's potable water system, as

well as future projects. Also, the many ways SERCAP has helped the city over the years. After the film is edited, it will be available on the city's website, www.hamptonfl.com.



Orange Street reopens

After months of utility and road reconstruction, Orange Street in Starke between West Weldon and West Madison streets has reopened. The project included state transportation funds obtained by the county on behalf of the city of Starke. (Photo: City of Starke.)

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Crime

Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

Dec. 18 through Dec. 24

The following individuals were arrested recently by local law enforcement officers in Bradford, Union or Clay (Keystone Heights-area) counties. All defendants are considered innocent until convicted in a court or until pleading guilty or no contest. Information in this report is from law enforcement agencies and court documents, which are public records.

Bradford

Bernard Vantaurus Beard, 35, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 22 for driving with a revoked or suspended license.

Bryce Darryl Bolinger, 34, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 18 for aggravated battery of a person over 65 years of age.

According to an arrest report, the defendant started a fight between himself and the victim, punching the victim in the face and putting him into a headlock.

Angela Marie Crews, 42, of Macclenny was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 22 for an

out-of-county warrant.

Jason Ray Daugherty, 40, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 23 for possession of drugs and possession of drug equipment.

Carissa Leigh Floyd, 29, of Ocala was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 20 for possession of drugs and possession of drug equipment.

Jikkia Sharnae Hendrieth, 34, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 24 for DUI.

Christopher Hunter Henson, 34, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 24 for carrying a concealed weapon without a permit.

Kenneth Michael Lowe, 40, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 21 for child neglect, selling drugs and possession of drugs.

Charlie Bradford Manning, 36, of Lawtey was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 23 for possession of drugs and possession of drug equipment.

Kevin Richard Meng, 64, of Hampton was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 23 for larceny.

According to an arrest report, the defendant stole a tractor and steel beams from the victim.

Daulton Paul Norman, 29, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies and Starke police on Dec. 25 for resisting an officer, failure to appear and a probation violation.

Kevin Michael Parker, 42, of Interlachen was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 23 for contempt of court.

Frank Thomas Peterson, 54, of Melrose was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 20 for being an out-of-state fugitive.

Aaron Lee Prescott, 35, of Brooker was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 22 for criminal mischief with property damage, trespassing and larceny.

Michael Wayne Roberts, 36, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 20 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Dewayne Edward Wood, 30, was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 25 for possession of drugs and possession of drug equipment.

Union

None

Clay

Michael Johnson Anachiarico, 39, was arrested by Clay deputies in Melrose on Dec. 24 for domestic battery.

DISTRICT

Continued from page 1

treatment of her grandson of whom she is the guardian.

Toth told board members that after she asked that her grandson, a student at Clay Hill Elementary, be reevaluated for an individualized education program, officials retaliated against both her and her grandson.

"His disability rights were violated, according to the Americans with Disabilities Act," Toth said.

The grandmother said she was pleased with communications between herself and the student's teacher.

"I had her phone number and cell number and she had mine," Toth said. "She was calling me nonstop, texting me and so forth. I had no problems with it."

Toth said that after an unsuccessful meeting with the child's teacher and principal, she placed unanswered phone calls

to the district's ESE department, two phone calls to board member Tina Bullock, and a call to Superintendent Broskie.

"Tina did help with that conversation," she said, "but I was not happy with that conversation with Mr. Broskie."

Toth told board members that her grandson suffers from ADHD, anxiety with stress levels and late development.

She said that in her conversation with Broskie, she requested that she be present whenever her grandson was pulled from class for disciplinary reasons. She implied that Broskie denied the request.

"During one of the times that he was pulled from his class," she said, "three, grown adults had a conversation with him and scared him to death. His anxiety that night was outrageous."

Toth also complained that the six-year-old was given ice cream with red dye at school against her specific instructions, due to his ADHD. She added that the consumption of the dye created disciplinary issues that led to a

suspension for her grandson.

Broskie said he was concerned about Toth's claims of a lack of response from school district officials.

He said he looked into the matter and discovered that over the course of 80 school days, 101 phone calls were either received or placed to Toth, in addition to 97 emails.

"We've had two board members involved to help you out," he told the woman. "We've had the chief academic officer under my direction, to kind of run point man, to kind of help you out with all the issues that have occurred. The chief of elementary education, the director of exceptional student education, two current principals, two staffing specialists, two teachers and even the school board attorney has been involved."

"It's clear to me that district personnel care about your child," he added. "I, for one, certainly want to make it right."

Broskie and Toth agreed to meet at 11 a.m. the next day.

GOALS

Continued from page 6

adoption business, outsourcing that program to non-profits. He noted that the county spends \$900,000 a year for its share of supporting the health department while the animal services budget exceeds \$2 million.

"Don't get me wrong," he said. "I'm not anti-animal here, but is running an animal adoption agency one of the core values of the county? I don't think so."

He also said the county should deal with the growing number of feral cats in the county.

"We've presently got an estimated thirty to sixty thousand feral cats running around Clay County," he said. "The American Audubon Society estimates that cats kill over a billion birds a year in the U.S. and a breeding pair of feral cats potentially is going to end up with thousands of offspring running around over their lifetimes."

Cella also wants to upgrade the county's animal services ordinance, strengthening penalties for animal cruelty and forcing pet store operators to register with the county.

"I wouldn't shut them down," he said, "but I want to make sure that they're not buying puppy mill dogs to be offered for sale."

Bolla also said the county needs more adult activities like shows and restaurants.

"We spend a lot of money for sports venues for our children, which is a great

thing," he said, "but I was told by one businessman about him expanding his operation here and he said there's just not enough to do for the adults here in Clay County to attract them to come here."

Bolla recommended the county underwrite high-level shows at the Thrasher-Horne Center and incentivize the development of more high-level restaurants in the county.

Cella said he would like to see the county increase public awareness of the importance of keeping the county clean.

He added that providing affordable recycling and garbage collection services to residents will be a challenge in the near future.

Renninger said reducing blight and crime in the Wells Road area is critical to the county.

He noted that in the last six months, two murders, an armed robbery and a bomb threat have occurred along the

county's northern border with Jacksonville.

He said one possible solution is the establishment of community redevelopment areas.

Burke also mentioned CRAs as a way to enhance improvements in Green Cove Springs.

Renninger said the county should explore a nuisance ordinance to protect homeowners from disruptive neighbors.

"No one should have to live next door to a problematic property," he said, "and that problematic property may be visual, it may be biological, it may be acoustic."

Renninger also recommended the county develop a special events ordinance and regulate businesses more.

"We have no idea who is serving our constituents," he said. "Are the roofers certified? Are the window replacement companies reputable?"

Journey to new wastewater system on track for LB

BY LARRY DUPEE
Special to the Times

LAKE BUTLER — Using robotic cameras to inspect the existing wastewater system serving the City of Lake Butler has enabled Mittauer and Associates Inc. to evaluate the condition of the infrastructure developed over the past century and plan a course of action to bring the system up to today's standards.

Consulting engineer Greg Lang told the Lake Butler City Commission, at its Dec. 18 meeting, that he as reviewed the results of the evaluation and developed a plan for dealing with the problems.

He said that the materials used in wastewater handling have evolved over the past 100 years. Terra cotta pipe was the order of the day at the time the system was first installed, around the turn of the last century. As the industry has developed, new and improved products were used, with cast iron becoming the order of the day in the mid-20th century.

As new materials were developed and the "iron age" drew to a close, plastics took center stage, ushering in the new millennium. With today's technology, several options are available to rehabilitate some of the existing pipes.

The older system has deteriorated to the point that, in many places, the only option is replacement. This will involve installing new pipe, meaning that some roads will be closed while the installation is completed in that area. Newer pipe may be able to be fitted with sleeves or liners to seal pipes from the inside in some areas, avoiding much of the digging and road closures.

The total inspection process covered 64,000 linear feet of

sewer line and all was filmed to facilitate evaluation. Having completed the inspection and evaluation process the recommendations for renovation have entered the design phase that will plan the rehabilitation of the system.

The State of Florida and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) have established a grant process to help cities and counties develop renovation programs necessary to handle growth in population and economic development.

As a result of the evaluation of the system, project revisions have been recommended and approved by the City Commission. The items scheduled under the original agreement for the project have been revised and rescheduled for completion of all planning and design activities for all projects proposed for grant and loan funding by Aug. 15, 2022.

A loan debt service account has been established with the state revolving fund, with monthly payments beginning no later than Aug. 15, 2022. The first semi-annual loan payment amount of \$11,339 will come due Feb. 15, 2023.

Mandated under the requirements is a signed contract between the engineering consulting firm and the local government detailing specific design work to be completed and this document must be submitted to the state.

The disburseable amount of planning and design activities costs will be \$1,543,000. Financial assistance through grants will cover \$1,135,400 with capitalized interest in the amount of \$3,700. The principal amount of the loan will be \$411,300. All other provisions of the loan agreement shall remain in effect as originally determined.

The City of Lake Butler has received a \$1.2 million award, 80% in grant funding from DEP and 20% in the form of a 20-year loan at 0% interest. Lang said that these terms were only available to small cities that present a lower debt threshold and a higher percentage of low to moderate income population.

This phase of the redevelopment plan will implement the design process, allowing the permitting for the surveying of the system and providing geotechnical assessments of the project's design. Both of these parts of the projects will seek grant funding. A vote to approve the design phase of the proposed project and accept the agreement was proposed the commission and the motion passed unanimously.

Included in this project is a plan to upgrade the fire hydrant system to meet current standards. This plan includes a five-year inspection and flow test regimen to assess and make possible the maintenance of the systems integrity. The current system has over 100 hydrants in operation at this time. The cost of this plan will be \$7,200 per year. The commission also unanimously approve this proposal.

In other business, the Lake Butler City Commission voted to approve the purchase of equipment that will improve efficiency in consideration of the limited staff and lack of state inmate labor due to the COVID pandemic. A loader rack grapple for the city's front end loader was selected from Ring Power, at a cost of \$12,974. A brush cutter will also be purchased from Ag Pro at a cost of \$10,000. City Manager Dale Walker told commissioners that these purchases will allow more to be done by fewer employees, reducing the overall cost of the labor.

Union discusses landfill issues, EMS procedures and building lease

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Editor

LAKE BUTLER — Reports are favorable on the state required long-term-care water quality monitoring for the long-closed Union County Central Landfill, located west of Lake Butler, near Lulu.

The landfill was closed in 1997 but the state of Florida mandates a 20-year minimum program of monitoring to ensure there is no leakage of dangerous contaminants from the landfill contents. The 20-year period actually expired in 2017, but the state has required that the testing be extended. The required permit renewal is set for this year and the county hopes to be given a clean bill of health on the site and to be able to thus stop the semi-annual checks.

Jones-Edmunds & Associates has been conducting the ground water quality monitoring and Tim Cully came to make a presentation to the Union County Board of Commissioners at their Dec. 27 meeting about the results of the latest tests and entering into a new agreement for the checking process should the state require additional testing in the future.

The services required include the analysis of water sample from 10 water monitoring wells as well as the monitoring of surface water at two adjacent wetland areas on a semi-annual basis. Water depth in the wells is also checked so that groundwater contour maps may be kept current. Once the water samples have been

collected, they are sent to an outside laboratory subcontracted by Jones Edmunds. Once the lab reports are received, the company prepares and submits reports to both the Florida DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) and the county in the proper format within the required deadlines. Contingencies, such as testing that must be redone due to problems such as sampling issues, are included in the fee.

All of the most recent ground (wells) and surface (wetlands) water checks have come back within accepted ground water parameters, with minimal to zero amounts of the chemicals/substances monitored for. Sully said that this had been the case for the past several years, with consistent decreases in the tested for substances. He said that the landfill was in good shape and presented no danger at all to the health and welfare of residents. The most recent results are from the October sampling of the site.

The contract submitted to the county will cover the period from Oct. 30, 2021 until Sept. 30, 2022. The cost to the county for these services – two testing sessions – will be no more than \$22,200. This includes \$19,900 for the monitoring and reports of the ground water, \$1,300 for the laboratory analysis and \$1,000 for any contingencies that may arise, such as the need to repeat tests.

Commission Chairman Jimmy Tallman asked, first, if the amount was budgeted for and Union County Clerk of Court and

Comptroller Kellie Hendricks Rhoades said that she would have to check but that she believed it was. Tallman then asked Cully about the possibility of finalizing the testing and getting an "all clear" rating for the state – eliminating the expense to the county. Sully said he saw no reason that the FDEP would not sign off on the cessation of testing but said it would have to be requested before the permit renewal date on Feb. 11, 2022. He said he would assist in the application for closure as needed. If FDEP requires that the permit be renewed for at least an additional two years.

In other action the board heard a report from County Coordinator Jimmy Williams concerning Union County Emergency Medical Services. Williams said that the staffing issues that had plagued EMS for the past several years were nearly solved, with only a single position left to be filled to enable the county to have two units available for serving residents at all times and a third unit that would be available for use as a medical transport for Department of Corrections and Lake Butler Hospital – both of which can be an income source to the county.

Williams said that talks with the prison system have been productive and he sees no problem with the transports for those facilities. He also presented the commissioners with a proposed agreement,

See UNION, page 9

Happy New Year!

Jerry Feltner
Lawtey Chief of Police-Elect

Russ WADE
Attorney at Law

620 East Main Street
Lake Butler, FL 32054
(Across from Subway Plaza)

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Wainwright survived shooting in 1955

Editor's note: The following information was taken from an April 8, 1955, Telegraph story.

An April 4, 1955, shooting at Florida State Prison resulted in the wounding of Louie Wainwright and co-worker L.D. Dobbs and the death of Acting Superintendent James G. Godwin.

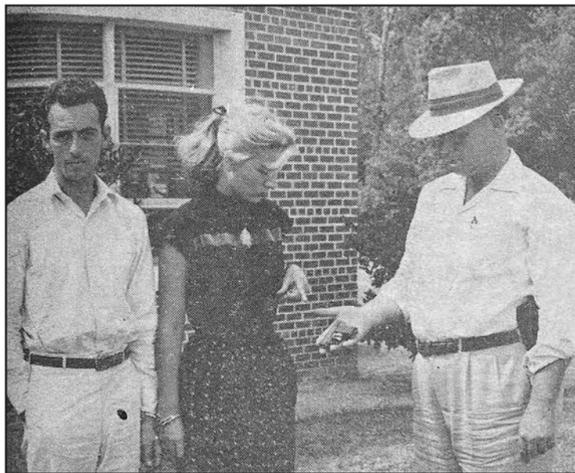
Inmate George A. Heroux Jr. was being released from his cell to take a shower when he pulled a gun on guard Guy Edwards and demanded to be taken to Prison Superintendent L.F. Chapman's office. The two men encountered Godwin and six guards en route. Someone shouted that Heroux was armed. Godwin ran toward his office in an apparent attempt to get his gun. He was shot in the back by Heroux.

Godwin managed to get to his feet and continue into his office. When he later exited, Heroux shot him again, this time in the chest.

Wainwright, who was captain of the guards, and Dobbs were shot in the leg and shoulder, respectively, as they and other guards closed in on Heroux, who was finally subdued by guard Mack Sweat.

Prison officials believed that Heroux intended to force Chapman and/or Godwin to drive him away from the prison.

In the aftermath, Ruth Staffa of Hialeah, the ex-wife of Heroux, confessed to smuggling



Ruth Staffa (center) identifies the gun, held by Union County Sheriff John Whitehead, she smuggled into Florida State Prison and was later used by her ex-husband, inmate George Heroux, in an April 4, 1955, escape attempt. Also pictured is Staffa's husband, Ray, who purchased the gun. Photo originally published in the April 15, 1955, issue of the Bradford County Telegraph.

the gun onto prison grounds. It was unknown how Heroux had the gun on his person the day of the shooting, though, as he had been, in the words of Chapman, "stripped buck naked" and thoroughly searched before being placed in isolation on the institution's third floor.

Staffa said she concealed the gun in her girdle when she went to visit Heroux on Feb. 20. As had been planned prior to her arrival,

she left the gun in the women's restroom in the visitors' area. She said she had no knowledge of how the gun wound up in Heroux's possession after that.

The couple married in Columbia, South Carolina, in February 1952, but had gotten divorced later. Staffa said she married Ray Staffa (aka Ray Hartman) two weeks prior to the Feb. 20 visit to Heroux.

On April 6, Ray Staffa admitted

to Hialeah police and Miami detectives that he purchased the gun on Feb. 17 from Miami's Sachs Brothers Jewelry and Loan Company. He paid \$22 for the .25-caliber Beretta.

The arrests of Ray and Ruth Staffa occurred after 48 hours of painstaking work by Union County Sheriff John Whitehead and Prison Identification Officer R.P. McLendon, who traced the murder weapon from the time it entered this country last year until it was sold to Staffa on Feb. 17.

Knowing the gun was of foreign make (Beretta is an Italian firearms company), New York State Police were contacted by phone and asked to trace the weapon from the time it entered the country. The New York officers located the agent for the firm that imported the gun and the distributor for the company — both in New York — and found the pistol had been sold to a Miami retailer on Feb. 10, 1955.

The retailer said he had sold the weapon to a man who gave his name as Ray James Hartman and his address as 92 E. 14th St. in Miami.

When Miami officials reported the address to Whitehead and McLendon, they advised that the home of Heroux's wife, who lived at 82 E. 17th St., be checked since the addresses were so similar.

Ray and Ruth were found



Louie Wainwright is pictured recovering from a gunshot in the leg, the result of an April 4, 1955, escape attempt by Florida State Prison inmate George Heroux. State Archives of Florida.

together and held by Miami police until Whitehead and McLendon could arrive with warrants for their arrests on charges of being involved in a conspiracy to help George Heroux escape.

George Heroux's father was taken into custody on April 6 and was held for questioning at the county jail at Starke. The elder Heroux has been spending his winters in the area for several years and was currently renting a cottage on Silver Lake. He visited his son at the prison on

April 2 and was the last person to visit him before the events on April 4.

Chapman told the Telegraph that the elder Heroux told prison officials that his son had a gun — furnished him by his wife — with which he planned to kill himself. The father, a frequent visitor at the prison, was well-known and on friendly terms with officials there.

WAINWRIGHT Continued from page 1

passion, regardless of political consequences.

He wasn't a fancy dresser or a fancy speaker. He didn't drive a fancy car. He didn't strive for more than what he had, instead putting forth efforts to ensure that those around him excelled.

Making his mark

Wainwright graduated from Bradford High School in 1942 and served as an aviation radioman in the Navy during World War II. Soon after his discharge, he joined the Gainesville Police Department, working there for five years before joining what was then known as the Division of Corrections. He worked as a clerk in the inmate identification unit at Florida State Prison. In a short time, he was promoted to chief security correctional officer.

Wainwright was appointed as assistant superintendent at Avon Park Correctional Institution in April 1957. In two months' time, he was promoted to superintendent.

H.G. Cochran Jr., who was the director of Florida's Division of Corrections, resigned to pursue a new career with Florida Care Inc. Gov. Bryant tabbed Wainwright to take Cochran's place, with the appointment becoming effective July 16, 1962. Wainwright was 38 at the time.

Wainwright is most famous for being named the respondent in two U.S. Supreme Court cases.

The first was Gideon vs. Wainwright, in which the U.S. Supreme Court held that the Sixth and 14th amendments guarantee a right of legal counsel to anyone accused of a crime. "Time" magazine called the Gideon decision one of the 10 most important legal events of the 1960s.



Louie Wainwright (far right) is pictured at the April 26, 2016, Starke American Values Dinner, at which he was honored. He's pictured with Scott Roberts (far left) and Starke Boy Scout Jordan Trautman. File photo by Steve Jackson.

Wainwright is also remembered for the Ford vs. Wainwright decision, in which the U.S. Supreme Court approved the common law rule prohibiting the execution of the insane.

During his time as Florida Department of Corrections secretary, which had him working under governors Bryant, Haydon Burns, Claude Kirk Jr., Reuben Askew, Bob Graham and Wayne Mixson, Wainwright a driving force in the early to mid-1970s for the American Corrections Association's national campaign to establish the Corrections Accreditation Commission. In 1981, Florida's corrections institutions (24 at that time) were the first in the nation to achieve accreditation. The Florida Department of Corrections Central Office earned its accreditation in 1984, making Florida the first correctional agency in the nation to be fully accredited.

In recognition of his accreditation efforts, Wainwright was presented with the

Accreditation Achievement Award from the Commission on Accreditation of Corrections in 1986.

Other notable achievements during his career included:

—Becoming the 78th president of the American Correctional Association in 1971.

—Receiving the American Correctional Association's highest tribute, the E.R. Cass Award for Outstanding Service, in 1976.

—Receiving the Florida Sheriff's Association Distinguished Service Award in 1976 for "contributing to the advancement of better law enforcement."

Wainwright, who earned a Criminal Justice degree from Nova Southeastern University (where he later served as a visiting faculty member), said he wouldn't have traded his career for another, often referring to it as his calling. He believed no other position would've allowed him the opportunity to solve problems and help people daily.

His quiet confidence and behind-the-scenes leadership style spurred the shift in corrections philosophy away from centuries of barbarian treatment of those incarcerated. Wainwright established education and job training for inmates and pushed for transparency of the entire corrections system.

Continuing to serve those in corrections

Following retirement, Wainwright created Wainwright Judicial Services in Tallahassee and began consulting corrections on a global front. He traveled to China and Russia as part of the Citizens Ambassador Program of People to People International. As a member of the Criminal Justice Delegation, a nonprofit group established by President Eisenhower to bridge the world, he was instrumental in facilitating international understanding.

The highlight of his prestigious career was his international corrections work, where he taught lessons learned and pioneered from Florida's correctional system to European corrections professionals in



Louie Wainwright (left) and H.G. Cochran Jr. are pictured at the Florida cabinet's July 10, 1962, confirmation of Wainwright as Florida Division of Corrections director. State Archives of Florida.

Austria, Poland, Sweden and the Republic of Ireland.

Wainwright was appointed as president of the nonprofit Corrections Foundation in 2001 — a position he would also fill in 2003, 2004 and 2005.

The Corrections Foundation was created in 1996 to support the programs, personnel and services of the Department of Corrections through grants,

contributions and community partnerships. Wainwright helped lead the effort in increasing the foundation's membership from 5,000 to 15,000 and providing more than \$9.2 million to more 10,000-plus Florida Department of Corrections employees and contractors.

On June 8, 2013, Wainwright and his wife, Anabel, were honored by the Corrections Foundation for their dedicated service, while on April 26, 2016, he was honored at the annual Starke American Values Dinner, hosted by Boy Scouts of America's North Florida Council.

The Corrections Foundation awards the Louie L. Wainwright Scholarship annually to individuals employed or contracted by the Florida Department of Corrections. Recipients must be seeking a certification or degree in Criminal Justice or a corrections-related field.

As Wainwright may have said, "Not bad for a country boy from Lawtey."

A memorial service in Tallahassee and a graveside service at Kingsley Lake Cemetery will be held at a later date.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Town of Worthington Springs Fiscal Year 2021-2022

The proposed operating budget expenditures of the Town of Worthington Springs are 0% less than last year's total operating expenditures

	General Fund	Total
Cash Balances Brought Forward	\$ 100,000	- \$100,000
Estimated revenues:		
Taxes: Millage per \$1,000		
Ad Valorem Taxes - 1.7295	14,000	- 14,000
Sales and Use Taxes	49,876	- 49,876
Franchise Fees	22,300	- 22,300
Intergovernmental Revenues	18,200	18,200
Fines & Forfeitures	2,000	- 2,000
Other Misc. Revenues	14,250	14,250
Total estimated revenues and other financing sources	120,626	120,626
Cash Balances, revenues and other sources	220,626	220,626
Estimated expenditures/expenses:		
General Government	83,326	- 83,326
Public Safety	3,200	- 3,200
Transportation	10,000	- 10,000
Parks and Recreation	18,100	- 18,100
Capital Improvements	6,000	6,000
Total estimated expenditures / expenses	120,626	120,626
Reserves for Contingencies	100,000	- 100,000
Total Estimated Expenditures and Reserves	220,626	220,626

The tentative, adopted and/or final budgets are on file in the office of the above referenced taxing authority as a public record.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED TAX INCREASE

THE PREVIOUS NOTICE PLACED BY THE TOWN OF WORTHINGTON SPRINGS HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE TO BE IN VIOLATION OF THE LAW, NECESSITATING THIS SECOND NOTICE.

The TOWN OF WORTHINGTON SPRINGS has tentatively adopted a measure to increase its property tax levy.

Last year's property tax levy:	
A. Initially proposed tax levy.....	\$ 13,797
B. Less tax reductions due to Value Adjustment Board and other assessment changes.....	(100)
C. Actual property tax levy.....	\$ 13,897
This year's proposed tax levy	\$ 13,945

All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on the tax increase to be held on:
January 4, 2022
6:45 pm
Community Building
Worthington Springs, Florida

A FINAL DECISION on the proposed tax increase and the budget will be made at this hearing.

KH led Clay in housing price gains

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS— An officer with the Clay County Economic Development Corporation said Keystone Heights led Clay County in median housing price growth during 2021.

Interim President Laura J. Pavlus told Clay County commissioners that Keystone's median price of \$235,000 was an increase of 36.6% over the prior year.

Fleming Island, with a median house price of \$400,000 and a 2021 growth rate of 25%, followed Keystone's growth rate, as did Middleburg: with a median price of \$290,000 and a growth rate of 25%, Green Cove Springs, with a price of \$302,500 and a 24% rate and Orange Park with a median price of \$278,600 and a 20.1% growth rate.

Pavlus said that even with the price gains, Clay County still lags Jacksonville and other U.S. metropolitan areas.

For a 2,500-square-foot home in Jacksonville, the median price was \$357,000. That compares to \$676,000 in the Washington D.C. area and \$806,000 in Seattle, Washington.

New projects in Clay

Pavlus also summarized the EDC's projects during 2021 which she said resulted in 357 high-wage jobs created in Clay County and an additional \$466 million in capital expansion.

Projects now under construction include:

Niagara Bottling in Middleburg: \$100 million capital investment, 100 jobs;

Mobry Marine in Green Cove Springs, \$12 million in capital investment and 12 jobs;

Coastal Spine and Pain center in Middleburg, \$6 million and 15 jobs;

Chemours at Camp Blanding; \$93 million and 50 jobs;

Orange Park Regional Medical Center tower build out in Orange Park, \$34 million and 80 jobs;

Health Peak in Orange Park, \$18 million in capital investment and 40 jobs;

Project Rust in Orange Park: \$3 million in capital investment and 50 jobs;

Two Florida Power and Light projects in Clay County, \$200 million in capital investment, 255 temporary jobs and 12 permanent jobs.

Employment

Pavlus also said Clay County's unemployment rate was better than rates in the area, state and nation. Clay County's rate of 3.3% beat the Jacksonville area's rate of 3.7%, Florida's rate of 4.0% and the national rate of 4.3%.

She also said the Jacksonville area ranked as the seventh fastest growing population center for immigration.

She added that the First Coast's population grew by 14.6% between 2010 and 2020, which was double the average national growth rate.

"One of the trends we are seeing," she said, "is that now since everybody can work from home, they can live wherever they want, and Florida is sunny, and we also have great home prices."

Pavlus highlighted current workforce trends, pointing out that 46% of small business owners have job openings that they cannot fill.

In addition, every day 10,000 people retire and around 2,000 people turn 16, making them eligible for employment.

The net loss of about 8,000 people a day or 3 million people a year in the U.S. is about 1% of the workforce.

"A lot of people think that what we are experiencing is directly related to COVID, and it's not," Pavlus said. "We've been talking about it for a long time, and now that it's happening, we just really want to make the point that we have a lot of people exiting the workforce every month."

In response to a question from commissioner, Jim Renninger, Pavlus said that the top three incentives for companies to move into an area are site inventory, workforce and utilities infrastructure.

"When a company is looking at moving into your community, they do not expect to have to put in utility infrastructure," she said. "We have the workforce, but we really need to work harder on site development and having the utilities infrastructure to the sites to really be competitive and marketable."

If You Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolate)

Everyone, regardless of vaccination status.

- Stay home for 5 days.
- If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you can leave your house.
- Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.

If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.

If You Were Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (Quarantine)

If you:

Have been boosted

OR

Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months

OR

Completed the primary series of J&J vaccine within the last 2 months

- Wear a mask around others for 10 days.
- Test on day 5, if possible.

If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home.

If you:

Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago and are not boosted

OR

Completed the primary series of J&J over 2 months ago and are not boosted

OR

Are unvaccinated

- Stay home for 5 days. After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
- If you can't quarantine you must wear a mask for 10 days.
- Test on day 5 if possible.

If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home

COVID cases rising again

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

A resurgence in the spread of COVID-19 has marred the holidays for many Americans.

CNN reported a study from John Hopkins University that said the country is averaging nearly 200,000 new cases each day, which was an increase of 47% over the previous week and the highest daily average since January.

Some expect to see that rise to a half-million new cases each day.

Hospitalizations are on the rise, with more than 70,000 Americans receiving care at the beginning of the week. An increasing number of those are pediatric cases.

According to the CDC, nearly 60% of those testing positive are infected with the fast-spreading Omicron variant. The Delta

variant makes of 41% of cases.

Florida has jumped from around 13,500 new cases the week ending Dec. 9 to 29,500 cases the week ending Dec. 16 and 125,000 new cases the week ending Dec. 23. Over that time the positivity rate increased from 2.6% to 13.8%.

The increase is taking place locally as well, if less dramatically. Still, Bradford went from six to 27 new cases over the past two weeks, increasing the positivity rate from 1.5% to 6.5%. Union County had no new cases two weeks ago. Last week, there were 21 new cases, for an 8.7% positivity rate. Clay County cases went from 116 to 311 last week, for an 8.5% positivity rate.

Meanwhile, vaccination rates have not changed for Bradford or Union, with 47% of Bradford vaccinated and 53% of Union. Clay's population is 55%

vaccinated.

According to the CDC, COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalizations and death.

The CDC recommends that everyone 5 years and older protect themselves from COVID-19 by getting fully vaccinated.

The CDC recommends that everyone ages 18 years and older should get a booster shot at least two months after their initial J&J/Janssen vaccine or six months after completing their primary COVID-19 vaccination series of Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna.

For more information on testing and vaccination, visit www.floridahealthcovid19.gov. In Bradford, call the health department at 904-964-7732. In Union, call 386-496-3211. In Clay, call 904-529-2800.

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Melrose Art Walk Friday

On the first Friday of every month, from 6 to 9 p.m., the Melrose Art Walk encourages patrons to visit exhibits at each of the town's galleries. The Art Walk is sponsored by the Melrose All Arts Council.

God's Plan for the Ages

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION

— Revival —

Sunday January 2nd — 10:30 AM / 6:30 PM

Monday January 3rd — 6:30 PM

Tuesday January 4th — 6:30 PM

Wednesday January 5th — 6:30 PM



Join us at New River Baptist Church for an exciting study in the book of Revelation. It begins January 2nd—January 5th with a revival and continues every Sunday Morning at 10:30 AM with Rev. Terry J. Blakeslee preaching.

16703 SW 144th Ave. / Brooker FL, 32622 / 352-485-1246

Get your Daily Dose of God's Word
for Breakfast and Dinner
on Eagle Country 106.3 FM

Monday — Friday
Surrounded by the Word — 8:35 a.m.
God's Plan for the Ages — 5:35 p.m.



Members of the Democratic Women's Club of the Lakes Area wrap gifts for four families the club adopted for the holidays.

Democratic women help families in need

MELROSE— As they have done for the past three years, the Democratic Women's Club of the Lakes Area adopted needy families from the Sunshine Daycare Center in Melrose this holiday season.

Three families with five children under five, including a set of 4-year-old twins were the focus of the club's efforts this year.

Individual club members do the shopping for the children based on a list put together by the school.

Then the entire club meets to wrap the gifts while enjoying each other's company, some holiday cheer and sharing good food. It is an evening of laughter and fun.

The gifts including monetary



Club Secretary Linda Osborne delivers gifts to Sunshine Day Care.

gift cards for the families are then

delivered to Sunshine Daycare who then serves as Santa to the families.

The Democratic Women's Club of the Lakes Area feels that this is just one more way it can fulfill its responsibility to give back to the community as much as possible and wishes everyone a Joyous Holiday and a safe, prosperous, and healthy New Year.

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UNION

Continued from page 6

formulated by himself and EMS Director Toby Witt, between the county and Lake Butler Hospital for EMS to make interfacility transport of patients.

Under the proposed agreement, all inter-facility transport would be routed through the county 911 communication center and would not be possible unless the county had at least one unit free for use in serving county residents. If a unit is available, it would proceed directly to the hospital upon receiving the 911 call. The attending paramedic would obtain the name of the referring and accepting physicians, as well as all pertinent paperwork before leaving the hospital. UCEMS will bill the patient's insurance,

or the patient themselves if they are uninsured. In the case of non-payment, after the county has exhausted all of its options to obtain payment, the hospital (LBH) will be billed a flat fee of \$800 for the transport. If both the county and the hospital agree to these terms the county would be ensured getting paid for the provided service, which, Williams said, could amount to more than \$20,000 per year in income to the county, based on previous record involving past transfer numbers.

The board also approved the lease of the county owned building located at 625 E. Main St. to Perez RPM Enterprises for use in the provision of WIC services to county residents. The period of the lease will run from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Payments of \$665

per month will be paid to the county, for a total lease amount of \$7,980. The tenant will be required to maintain \$500,000 liability insurance in the property for the term of the lease to protect the county's interest in the property.

Bill Rice at Bradford Baptist

Bradford Baptist Church (located on S.R. 100, 1.3 miles east of U.S. 301) welcomes Bill Rice Ranch evangelists Bill Rice III and his wife, Mary, on Sunday, Jan. 2. Bill Rice will teach the 10 a.m. adult Sunday school class and speak during the 11 a.m. worship service.

One of the Bill Rice Ranch's key missions is offer free camps to deaf youth at its Murfreesboro, Tennessee, location.

For more information, please call Pastor Rick Jackson at 904-964-3708.

MLK banquet, brunch announced

In honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Concerned Citizens of Bradford County Inc. is sponsoring the following events:

—Saturday, Jan. 15 at 6 p.m., The Annual Service Awards Banquet at the Gov. Charley E. Johns Conference Center, 1610 N. Temple Ave. in Starke. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Paul

Broadie II, Santa Fe College president. Ticket donations are \$35 for adults and \$15 for children 8–17.

—Monday, Jan. 17, at 11 a.m., the annual MLK Program and Brunch at the RJE Complex, 1080 N. Pine Street in Starke. In according with the CDC guidelines, the events will be outside in front of the RJE gym, and each participant is asked to wear mask and bring a lawn chair.

Waste collection site hours

Over the holidays, the Bradford County solid waste collection sites will be closed on Saturday, Jan. 1. They will be open from

1 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 2. Hours will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 27–31. Regular hours will resume Monday, Jan. 3.

Rockin' New Year's in Melrose

Party at Mossman Hall's Rockin' New Year's celebration on Friday, Dec. 31, at 7 p.m. The free event will feature drinks and food vendors, plus live music with Relentless Band.

Mossman Hall is located at 301 S.R. 26 in Melrose.

Legal Notices

Bradford

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:
Certificate Number: 761
Year of Issuance: 2014
Parcel Number: 02674-0-00000
Case Number: 2021-TD-0017
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Name in Which Assessed: ROSA MAE JONES
Name on last tax roll, if different: ROSA MAE JONES EST
All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 2ND day of March 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: 02674-0-00000 I Beginning at the SW corner of the NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section Twenty-two, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, and run East on Quarter Section line 610 feet for point of beginning, thence run North 200 feet, thence East 100 feet, thence run South 200 feet to Quarter Section line, thence West 100 feet to point of beginning.
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:
Certificate Number: 774
Year of Issuance: 2014
Parcel Number: 02697-0-00000
Case Number: 2021-TD-0018
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Name in Which Assessed: ANDREW CARTER III
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 2nd DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: 02697-0-00000 A strip of land 50 feet North and South and 200 feet East and West in the Southwest corner of the following, described lands: Beginning at the Northwest corner of the West half of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, thence run South seventy yards, thence East on hundred and forty yards, thence North seventy yards, thence West one hundred and forty yards to the point of beginning; the same being two acres of land and being in the Northwest corner of the West half of Southwest Quarter of Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East.
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:
Certificate Number: 833
Year of Issuance: 2014
Parcel Number: 02941-B-00103
Case Number: 2021-TD-0019
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Name in Which Assessed: BRADFORD LAND TRUST ET AL; ALFRED H WOLF, TRUSTEE ETC; KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC; SCOTT HUGHES, TRUSTEE ETC; KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 16th DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: 02941-B-00103 A strip of land 50 feet North and South and 200 feet East and West in the Southwest corner of the following, described lands: Beginning at the Northwest corner of the West half of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, thence run South seventy yards, thence East on hundred and forty yards, thence North seventy yards, thence West one hundred and forty yards to the point of beginning; the same being two acres of land and being in the Northwest corner of the West half of Southwest Quarter of Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East.
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

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Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: 02941-B-00103 A strip of land 50 feet North and South and 200 feet East and West in the Southwest corner of the following, described lands: Beginning at the Northwest corner of the West half of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, thence run South seventy yards, thence East on hundred and forty yards, thence North seventy yards, thence West one hundred and forty yards to the point of beginning; the same being two acres of land and being in the Northwest corner of the West half of Southwest Quarter of Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East.
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

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Certificate Number: 833
Year of Issuance: 2014
Parcel Number: 02941-B-00103
Case Number: 2021-TD-0019
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Name in Which Assessed: BRADFORD LAND TRUST ET AL; ALFRED H WOLF, TRUSTEE ETC; KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC; SCOTT HUGHES, TRUSTEE ETC; KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 16th DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: 02941-B-00103 A strip of land 50 feet North and South and 200 feet East and West in the Southwest corner of the following, described lands: Beginning at the Northwest corner of the West half of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, thence run South seventy yards, thence East on hundred and forty yards, thence North seventy yards, thence West one hundred and forty yards to the point of beginning; the same being two acres of land and being in the Northwest corner of the West half of Southwest Quarter of Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East.
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 16th DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: Lots 11 (except the Northerly 10 feet of Lot 13) of Bradford Villas, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 3, page 55, of the public records of Bradford County, Florida. OR 1333 PG 49
LOT 11, (EXCEPT THE NORTHERLY 10 FEET OF LOT 13) OF BRADFORD VILLAS, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 55 of the Public Records of Bradford County, Florida; OR 1212 PG 472
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:
Certificate Number: 834
Year of Issuance: 2014
Parcel Number: 02941-B-00107
Case Number: 2021-TD-0020
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Name in Which Assessed: BRADFORD LAND TRUST ET AL; ALFRED H WOLF, TRUSTEE ETC; KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC; SCOTT HUGHES, TRUSTEE ETC; KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 16th DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: 02941-A-00107 Lots 13 (except the Northerly 10 feet of Lot 13) of Bradford Villas, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 3, page 55, of the public records of Bradford County, Florida. OR 1333, PG 49
LOT 13 (EXCEPT THE NORTHERLY 10 FEET OF LOT 13) OF BRADFORD VILLAS, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 55 of the Public Records of Bradford County, Florida. OR 1212, PG 472
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:
Certificate Number: 783
Year of Issuance: 2014
Parcel Number: 02721-0-00000
Case Number: 2021-TD-0021
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Name in Which Assessed: KARYM CASAS & SAMUEL CASAS
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 16th DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: 02721-0-00000 The following described land, situate, lying and being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida, to wit: E 1/2, of W 2A of S 1/2 of SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4, Section 22, Township 6S, Range 22E, Public records of Bradford County, Florida,
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:
Certificate Number: 783
Year of Issuance: 2014
Parcel Number: 02721-0-00000
Case Number: 2021-TD-0021
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Name in Which Assessed: KARYM CASAS & SAMUEL CASAS
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 16th DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: 02721-0-00000 The following described land, situate, lying and being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida, to wit: E 1/2, of W 2A of S 1/2 of SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4, Section 22, Township 6S, Range 22E, Public records of Bradford County, Florida,
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

NOTICE OF SALE

T & M Towing gives notice of lien and intent to sell these vehicle(s) on

January 10th, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at T & M storage yard at 1451 Hayes Ave, Starke, FL 32091. T & M reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. 2015 Chevrolet VIN# 3N63MOYN3FK697938
12/23 2TCHG 12/30-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Starke 301 U-Stor LLC, pursuant to SECTION 83.801-809 Florida Statutes "Storage Facility Act" will sell to the highest bidder the contents of the following storage units located at 1650 S. Walnut Street, Starke, Florida 32091. Said contents consisting of personal property, household and other goods, furniture, etc., or as otherwise indicated. Sale will take place January 8th, 2022 @ 11:00 am. This sale is being made to satisfy a statutory lien. Registration will begin at 10:15 am. B-04 Jeffery Atkinson B-10 Ebony Butler A-15 Frank Lauffer A-56 Henrietta Butler A-68 Henrietta Butler A-74 Henrietta Butler Entire contents of the following units will be sold to satisfy a lien & other charges according to Florida Statutes 83.806. Seller reserves the right to reject any bids and to withdraw any unit from such sale. Open bids only. CASH PAYMENTS ONLY All Sales Are Final. 10% Buyers Premium. Contents must be removed by close of business 1/08/2022. For any winning bid the buyer must present a \$50.00 cleaning fee for each winning unit and is refundable upon returning the unit broom swept by close of business 1/08/2022.
12/23 2tchg 12/30-BCT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS MOWING OF AREA REFERRED TO AS "SPRAYFIELD"

The City of Starke is soliciting quotes for the mowing of approximately one hundred forty (140) acres of irrigated and thirty (30) acres of unirrigated land (spray field) at least four times per calendar year. This solicitation is subject to approval by the Starke City Commission, and the City reserves the right to accept or reject any proposals. All quotes should be received no later than 5:00PM EST, Thursday, January 13, 2022, at the addresses given below (choose one)
US Mail:
City of Starke
209 N Thompson Street
Starke, FL 32091
ATT: Mowing Services
Office of the City Manager
Email: (electronic copies are fine)
Mail quote and any supporting documents to: dmullins@cityofstarke.org
12/23 3tchg 1/6/22-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

MIRACLE AUTOMOTIVE & TRUCK SERVICE CENTER INC. gives notice that on 01/21/2022 at 12:00 PM the following vehicles(s) may be sold by public sale at 620 N THOMPSON ST. to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78.
1FAFP4402F209884 2002 FORD
1FTFX1C83HKE20148 2017 FORD
2GNAXMEV1J6126508 2018 CHEV
2MEFM75W85X610630 2005 MERC
12/30 1tchg-BCT

Public Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Northeast District Office
Draft Air Permit No. 0070012-021-AC
Florida Gas Transmission Company, Compressor Station No. 16
Bradford County, Florida
Applicant: The applicant for this project is Florida Gas Transmission Company. The applicant's responsible official and mailing address are: Mr. David W. Shellhouse, Vice President, Southeast Operations, Florida Gas Transmission Company, Compressor Station No. 16, 2405 Lucient Way, Suite 200, Maitland, Florida 32751.
Facility Location: The applicant operates the existing Compressor Station No. 16, which is located in Bradford County at 14369 SW State Road 231 in Brooker, Florida.
Project: Florida Gas Transmission Company is proposing the Deerhaven Project in support of additional firm natural gas transportation service in Florida. The project includes efficiency upgrades to the reciprocating compressors that are driven by two engines (Engine Nos. 1601 and 1603) at the facility and as well as a rebuild of Engine No. 1603. The compressor pistons and the existing suction/discharge valves for the reciprocating compressors will be replaced. The compressor valves will be upgraded to high efficiency radial valves to improve efficiency and increase output of the reciprocating compressors. There will be no modification or altering of the output of the mated engines.
The Engine No. 1603 rebuild will include new powerheads with screw

in pre-chambers, power rod bearings and a turbo charger exchange. There will be no change in the permitted capacity of the engine.
Permitting Authority: Applications for air construction permits are subject to review in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 403, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and Chapters 62-4, 62-210 and 62-212 of the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The proposed project is not exempt from air permitting requirements and an air permit is required to perform the proposed work. The Permitting Authority responsible for making a permit determination for this project is the Northeast District Office. The Permitting Authority's physical address is: 8800 Baymeadows Way West, Suite 100, Jacksonville, Florida 32256. The Permitting Authority's mailing address is: 8800 Baymeadows Way West, Suite 100, Jacksonville, Florida 32256. The Permitting Authority's telephone number is (904) 256-1700.
Project File: A complete project file is available for public inspection during the normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (except legal holidays), at the physical address indicated above for the Permitting Authority. The complete project file includes the Draft Permit, the Technical Evaluation and Preliminary Determination, the application and information submitted by the applicant (exclusive of confidential records under Section 403.111, F.S.). Interested persons may contact the Permitting Authority's project engineer for additional information at the address and phone number listed above. In addition, electronic copies of these documents are available on the following web site: <https://fldep.dep.state.fl.us/air/emission/apds/default.asp>.
Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit: The Permitting Authority gives notice of its intent to issue an air construction permit to the applicant for the project described above. The applicant has provided reasonable assurance that operation of proposed equipment will not adversely impact air quality and that the project will comply with all appropriate provisions of Chapters 62-4, 62-204, 62-210, 62-212, 62-296 and 62-297, F.A.C. The Permitting Authority will issue a Final Permit in accordance with the conditions of the proposed Draft Permit unless a timely petition for an administrative hearing is filed under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. or unless public comment received in accordance with this notice results in a different decision or a significant change of terms or conditions.
Comments: The Permitting Authority will accept written comments concerning the proposed Draft Permit for a period of 14 days from the date of publication of the Public Notice. Written comments must be received by the Permitting Authority by close of business (5:00 p.m.) on or before the end of this 14-day period. If written comments received result in a significant change to the Draft Permit, the Permitting Authority shall revise the Draft Permit and require, if applicable, another Public Notice. All comments filed will be made available for public inspection.
Petitions: A person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative hearing in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), F.S., must be filed within 14 days of publication of the Public Notice or receipt of a written notice, whichever occurs first. Under Section 120.60(3), F.S., however, any person who asked the Permitting Authority for notice of agency action may file a petition within 14 days of receipt of that notice, regardless of the date of publication. A petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above, at the time of filing. A petition for administrative hearing must contain the information set forth below and must be filed (received) with the Agency Clerk in the Office of General Counsel, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, Agency_Clerk@dep.state.fl.us, before the deadline.
The failure of any person to file a petition within the appropriate time period shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S., or to intervene in this proceeding and participate as a party to it. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the approval of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28-106.205, F.A.C.
A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Permitting Authority's action is based must contain the following information: (a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known; (b) The name, address, any email

address, telephone number and any facsimile number of the petitioner; the name, address any email address, telephone number, and any facsimile number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the agency determination; (c) A statement of when and how each petitioner received notice of the agency action or proposed decision; (d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so state; (e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action; (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action including an explanation of how the alleged facts relate to the specific rules or statutes; and, (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action the petitioner wishes the agency to take with respect to the agency's proposed action. A petition that does not dispute the material facts upon which the Permitting Authority's action is based shall state that no such facts are in dispute and otherwise shall contain the same information as set forth above, as required by Rule 28-106.301, F.A.C.
Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the Permitting Authority's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this Public Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the Permitting Authority on the application have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above.
Extension of Time: Under Rule 62-110.106(4), F.A.C., a person whose substantial interests are affected by the Department's action may also request an extension of time to file a petition for an administrative hearing. The Department may, for good cause shown, grant the request for an extension of time. Requests for extension of time must be filed with the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, or via electronic correspondence at Agency_Clerk@dep.state.fl.us, before the deadline for filing a petition for an administrative hearing. A timely request for extension of time shall toll the running of the time period for filing a petition until the request is acted upon.
Mediation: Mediation is not available in this proceeding.
12/30 1tchg-BCT

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, the following application for permit was received on November 29, 2021:
Vincent P. Esson, of Tom's High on the Hog Real Pit BBQ, 500 International Parkway, Lake Mary, FL 32746 has submitted an environmental resource permit (ERP) application number ERP-007-241461-1. The project is located in Bradford County, Sections 11 and 14, Township 8 South, Range 22 East, and includes 155.0-acres. Interested persons may comment upon the application or submit a written request for a staff report containing proposed agency action regarding the application by writing to the Suwannee River Water Management District, Attn: Resource Management, 9225 C.R. 49, Live Oak, Florida 32060. Such comments or requests must be received by 5:00 PM within 14 days from the date of publication.
No further public notice will be provided regarding this application. A copy of the staff report must be requested in order to remain advised of further proceedings. Substantially affected persons are entitled to request an administrative hearing, pursuant to Title 28, Florida Administrative Code, regarding the proposed agency action by submitting a written request after reviewing the staff report.
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12/30 1tchg-BCT

Union

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 20000058CAAXMX
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, FOR MANUFACTURED HOUSING CONTRACT SENIOR/SUBORDINATE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATE TRUST 2000-3, Plaintiff,

VS.
ESTATE OF CHARLIE L PERRY A/K/A CHARLIE LEON PERRY A/K/A CHARLEY LEON PERRY A/K/A CHARLEY LEON PERRY, JR., DECEASED; et al., Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure (In Rem) dated December 13, 2021, entered in Civil Case No.: 20000058CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Union County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, FOR MANUFACTURED HOUSING CONTRACT SENIOR/SUBORDINATE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATE TRUST 2000-3, Plaintiff, and ESTATE OF CHARLIE L PERRY A/K/A CHARLEY LEON PERRY A/K/A CHARLEY LEON PERRY, JR., DECEASED; UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, TRUSTEES OF CHARLIE L PERRY A/K/A CHARLEY LEON PERRY A/K/A CHARLEY LEON PERRY, JR., DECEASED; ANGELA HOPE PERRY A/K/A ANGELA HOPE EDMOND; CHARLEY LEON PERRY III, A MINOR; DERRICK BERNARD PERRY; JOSEPH JACKSON PERRY; DAVON CORNELIUS PERRY A/K/A DAVEN CORNELIUS PERRY; ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PARTIES, including, if a named defendant is deceased, the personal representatives, the surviving spouse, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, and all other parties claiming, by, through, under or against that defendant, and all claimants, persons or parties, natural or corporate, or whose exact legal status is unknown, claiming under any of the above named or described defendants, are Defendants. I will sell to the highest bidder for cash, in the Front Lobby of the Union County Courthouse, 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, FL 32054 at 11:0

Christmas for Fosters benefits 56 area children

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Christmas should be a time of joy, without stress and without worries.

It should also be a time of giving.

This year, 56 children in foster care in this area didn't have to worry whether they would wake up on Christmas morning and actually find presents under a tree. Their foster families didn't have to wonder if they had the resources to give the children in their care a special Christmas. All that was taken care of, thanks to the kind hearts and donations of others as part of Christmas for Fosters.

Christmas for Fosters is a Tampa-area effort that expanded to this area this year. It was started in 2017 by Sara Weaver (née Fitzpatrick), a 2006 Bradford High School graduate who lives in Tampa with her husband,

Josh, a 2005 BHS graduate. The Weavers became foster parents in May 2016, taking in two brothers, whom they eventually adopted along with their sister.

Starke resident Jenna Hewett (née Cragg), a 2002 BHS graduate, had the opportunity to assist Sarah Weaver with last year's event.

"She came back to me a little bit later after the event was over and said, 'I'd really like you to head it up in North Florida.' We were able to do that this year here," Hewett said, adding, "Our goal was 50 for the first year. We were able to meet the goal and exceed it a little bit. We were very excited about that."

Hewett, the North Florida lead, her fellow team members — April Brannon, Shari Green and Shelby Parmenter — and approximately 40 other volunteers worked on wrapping gifts and distributing them. Foster parents picked the gifts at

Starke's LifeSpring Church on Dec. 16.

As the home page on the Christmas for Fosters website (ChristmasForFosters.com) states: "Imagine what it would be like to be a child removed from everything that they've ever known to be familiar, including their parents, siblings and environment. Now imagine that it's Christmastime and hoping that Santa will find you, on top of the fear of the unknown. That is what the holidays are like for most children living in foster care, especially newly removed children."

The North Florida Christmas for Fosters program gave Christmas joy to children from Bradford and Union counties as well as to some children in Columbia and Duval counties.

"This program provides a full Christmas," Hewett said. "It's not just a gift or two. When sponsors take on the responsibility, they



Christmas for Fosters' North Florida lead Jenna Hewett (second from right) is pictured with team members (l-r) Shari Green, April Brannon Shelby Parmenter.

are sponsoring their entire Christmas."

Hewett, who was interviewed for this story on Dec. 16, learned that one of the children who benefitted from the North Florida effort this year was a 7-year-old who had never experienced a

Christmas before.

"I can only imagine what his morning's going to be like when he wakes up and all of these things are there for the first time," she said.

Christmas for Fosters is a way of helping families that may

simply not have the resources to provide the type of Christmas they'd like to for their foster children.

"When you take on foster kids as a foster parent, you are

See FOSTERS, page 13



from
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Christmas is surely a time of giving, as is evidenced by the giving or exchanging of many gifts. When we think about Christmas giving we need to remember, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16). God gave that we might believe on His Son and have a place in Heaven. Jesus paid our sin debt and rose again to show that His payment was enough. However, if we reject what He gave, we have a place in Hell.

Christmas needs to be a time for receiving, for no one can give a gift unless it is received. The Bible says that the Gift of God, His Son, Jesus, "came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God. Even to them that believe on his name; Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." (John 1:11-13) Christmas is a time of happiness, as evidenced on the face of many. Happiness depends on happenings and can be short lived — to gain real Joy and Peace this Christmas, why not right now receive the greatest gift ever given, The Lord Jesus Christ? Jesus loves us and invites us to believe in Him. If you have not made this commitment, you should right now receive Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. If you have just now received Him...you can know the real Joy of Christmas for the first time. For those of us who already know Him — may we be drawn to a closer walk this Christmas.

We thank God for the opportunity He has given us to serve your building supply and hardware needs — we also thank Him for allowing us to share Jesus Christ with you. After all, *without Christ there would be no Christmas.*

The Starke and Lake Butler offices will be closed in observance of New Year Holiday on Saturday January 1st. Both offices will resume normal business hours on January 3rd.

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Tornadoes go 2-1, take 3rd at Battle on the Island

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Jontez Williams' basket off a baseline drive proved to be the difference as the Bradford High School boys basketball team

hung on to defeat Brunswick (Georgia) 55-54 in the Green Championship Division's third-place game at Fleming Island High School's Battle on the Island on Dec. 23.

Dae'Jon Shanks who led the team with 21 points and was named to the all-tournament team. He scored 13 points in the Tornadoes' tournament-opening 66-48 win over Baker County and scored a total of 39 points in the three-day event.

Shanks was one of three players in double figures in scoring against Brunswick, with Williams and Amari Jones finishing with 12 and 11 points, respectively.

Bradford (4-3) built a 14-point lead in the first quarter, with Shanks scoring 14 of the team's 23 points.

It was a slow start at first. The Tornadoes missed their first three shot attempts before Williams drained a three-pointer. Williams added a two-point field goal to put Bradford ahead 5-0.

Brunswick (5-4) missed its first nine field-goal attempts, but tied the game on two free throws by Kevin Thomas and a three-pointer by Camarion Johnson.

It was a 7-7 game when Bradford went on a 16-2 run to close out the quarter. The run started with a basket and two free throws by Shanks. Jones scored off a backcourt steal. After Brunswick's J'maun Weldon scored off an offensive rebound, Shanks knocked down a pull-up three for a 16-9 lead. Shanks followed that up with a basket off a backcourt steal before he hit another three-pointer, which followed another Brunswick turnover.

A steal by Keith Ardley led to a basket by Williams, as the Tornadoes went into the second quarter leading 23-9.

The Pirates went on a 13-0 run in the second quarter, making it a 26-24 game off a basket by Thomas. Ardley put a stop to the run, getting fouled on a drive to



Sincere Hankerson (right) takes a three-point shot over Brunswick's Saje Alston.



Dae'Jon Shanks (center) takes a shot for Bradford in its 55-54 win over Brunswick in the Green Division third-place game at the Battle on the Island tournament. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

the basket and sinking both free throws, but Bradford went into halftime leading only 29-26.

A pull-up jumper by Williams put the Tornadoes ahead 34-30 in the third quarter, but Brunswick went on an 8-0 run to take its first lead. Riyon Rankin's offensive rebound led to a bucket by Saje Alston, while Johnson scored on a drive to the basket, drawing a foul in the process and making the ensuing free throw. Rankin then made a three-pointer following a turnover to put the Pirates ahead 38-34.

Bradford committed five turnovers in the latter stages of the third quarter. Brunswick's

Rankin stole an inbounds pass with two seconds on the clock and scored to send the Pirates into the fourth quarter leading 43-42.

The Pirates went up 50-49 on Alston's rebound putback. Each team then missed three straight field-goal attempts before Shanks scored off his own backcourt steal to give the Tornadoes a 51-50 lead. Hunter Crawford grabbed an offensive board and was fouled on his follow-up shot attempt. He made both free throws to make it a 53-50 Bradford lead with 2:44 to play.

Brunswick's Thomas scored

to make it a one-point game before Williams made the basket that would eventually give the Tornadoes the win.

Williams had a backcourt steal, giving the Tornadoes the opportunity to increase their lead, but Rankin rebounded a missed field goal. The Pirates called timeout with 22.3 seconds to play. Rankin then attempted to take a shot underneath the basket, but his field-goal attempt was affected by Crawford's defense.

A turnover did give the Pirates one more chance, albeit a small one as they had to inbound the

See BHS, page 15

Lady Indians place 2nd in Blue Devil Holiday Classic

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Playing all Class 5A schools, the Class 4A Keystone Heights High School girls basketball team won its first two games before losing 50-21 to Tallahassee Rickards in the Dec. 23 championship game of the Clay Blue Devil Holiday Classic.

The Indians (11-2) got two three-pointers from Kiley Channell in the first quarter and trailed by only three entering the second quarter. Keystone struggled to score throughout the remainder of the game. Rickards (6-3) outscored the Indians 15-4 in the second quarter, with Keystone's points coming on two

free throws each by Channell and Yasmin Bryant.

Leading 28-14, the Raiders pushed their lead to 21, outscoring Keystone 12-5 in the third quarter.

Channell led the Indians with 11 points, while Bryant had four. Jaynell Hill, Madi Mitzel and Lindsay Qualls each added two points.

The final day of the three-day tournament also saw Ponte Vedra (8-4) defeat Ridgeview (7-7) for third place and St. Johns Country Day (9-3) defeat Menendez (9-5) 61-18 in the consolation championship. In the seventh-

See KHHS, page 12



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32 days — and 500,000 steps — in Spain

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS— A member of the Keystone Heights Rotary Club gave the group a recap of his recent walking tour in northeastern Spain.

Richard Segall said he and his wife Joy have travelled internationally before. However, on prior trips, most of the people they interacted with were other tourists.

Segal said that with a walking tour, the couple hoped to spend more time with the locals in Aragon and Catalonia, the two provinces they toured.

Reconquest

Segall first gave the group a primer on Spaniard history and politics, telling the Rotarians that most of Spain's history occurred during and after the reign of Charlemagne.

He added that Spaniards regard the reconquest of the country by Christians from the Moors as one of the most significant events in their history.

"Christianity was practiced beginning in Spain probably in 200 to 300," he said, "but it was not organized in what we know as Catholicism. These were preachers going out, setting up a church and spreading the word. The Moors came in and took over most of the country and actually

made it across the Pyrenees up into a little bit of what was Gall and then were pushed back.

The war for retaking Spain began in 850 and took 642 years to complete.

"They still celebrate battles that occurred (during the reconquest)," he said. "On our fourth night there, the whole town appeared in the town square to celebrate the victory of a Christian duke over an approaching Moorish force. The Christians were losing and all of a sudden they noticed over the field behind the Moors a tree with a burning cross."

He added that the burning cross inspired the Christians to victory.

"That was in 871 and they're still celebrating that victory (today)," he said.

Segall said the reconquest inspired much of the ancient structures in Spain, especially churches and forts.

He added that many of the forts have watchtowers in which people can see for up to 25 miles away.

Segall said that like the United States, Spaniard provinces have local powers that sometimes exceed those of the federal government.

"We've all heard about the Catalan separatists which is the movement trying to establish a recognition of the Catalan language and heritage," he said. "While we were there, there was a demonstration outside of our hotel for one of the (separatists) events."

Mountains and plains

Segall said a big part of the trip was touring the Pyrenees mountain range, which runs from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic and separates Spain from France.

Segall said the coastal plain of northeastern Spain is a vast



Richard Segall tells the Keystone Heights Rotary Club about his recent trip to Spain.

agricultural area with a great variety of produce.

The Segalls were not totally on their own in Europe. The tour was organized. Their luggage was transported for them. They were given specific destinations at which to stop and sometimes they were accompanied by a human guide. However, throughout much of the trip their guides were their phones and books.

He said trails and roads in southern Europe are well marked. Visitors to Spain, Italy and Portugal encounter signs that not only point them in the right direction and indicate distance, but also an estimated walking time.

"So, you are not wandering around (thinking) where am I supposed to go next," he said.

He added that well-marked trails make it easy for those who do lose their way to get back on the right track.

Segal said most of the hikes took place on trails in rural areas or in small villages.

"You're on paved roads for the most part," he said. "They keep us off of highways, which is a tremendous blessing. If you've ever driven in rural Spain or Portugal, the roads don't have shoulders. There's no place to run, especially if you're coming down a mountain where your car tires are (close to) the edge on (one) side and your windows on the other side are up against the side of the mountain."

Before the couple began their

See SPAIN, page 17

McBride helps UAB defeat BYU in Independence Bowl

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Starke native DeWayne McBride rushed for 183 yards, including a 64-yard touchdown, in UAB's 31-28 win over BYU in the Dec. 18 Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl in Shreveport, Louisiana.

McBride, who graduated from Ocala's Vanguard High School, carried the ball 28 times, averaging 6.5 yards per carry. His 64-yard scoring run saw him go untouched until he stiff armed his way past defensive back Malik Moore at the BYU 40-yard line. He then outraced defensive back Matthew Criddle the final 20 yards.

That run, with 1:02 remaining in the first quarter, put UAB up 14-0.

McBride helped the Blazers run out the final 3:36, picking up a pair of first downs on runs of 16 and 9 yards. That enabled UAB to win a bowl game for the second time in school history as well as notch its fourth-ever win over a ranked opponent.

It was the sixth 100-yard game of the season for McBride, who finished his sophomore campaign with 13 touchdowns and 1,371 yards — the third-highest total for a UAB back in a season.

McBride rushed for more than 90 yards in each of the Blazers' last seven games, including the bowl game. During that span, he had a 210-yard, four-touchdown performance in a 52-38 win over Louisiana Tech on Nov. 6.



DeWayne McBride (left) gets past BYU's Malik Moore on his way to a 64-yard touchdown in UAB's 31-28 win in the Dec. 18 Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl. Photo provided courtesy of UAB Athletics.

Other notable performances included 137 yards and a touchdown in a 34-0 win over

Southern Miss on Oct. 16 and 144 yards and a touchdown in a 34-31 loss to UTSA on Nov. 20.

The scoring run against BYU wasn't McBride's longest of the season. He had a 67-yard run in

a 42-25 win over UTEP on Nov. 26.

McBride's longest career run covered 75 yards in a 37-34, double-overtime loss to Louisiana Tech on Oct. 31, 2020.

As a freshman, he rushed for 439 yards and four touchdowns in six games.

KHHS

Continued from page 11

place game, Bishop Snyder (7-8) beat host Clay (1-10).

Keystone opened the tournament by defeating Clay 47-24 on Dec. 21. Dezaray Bright scored eight of her game-high 16 points in the first quarter as the Indians outscored the Blue Devils 18-2.

Channell scored 11 points, while Emma Rogel and Kasey

Valentine had seven and four, respectively. Hill, Mitzel, Qualls and Riley Barry each had two points, while Bryant chipped in one.

The Indians trailed 17-12 at halftime on the second day of the tournament, but rallied to defeat Ridgeview 35-30 on Dec. 22.

Keystone outscored the Panthers 13-6 in the third quarter, getting five points from Channell and four points from Bryant as they took a 25-23 lead into the fourth quarter.

The Indians made 6-of-7 free throws in the final quarter to secure the win.

Channell and Rogel scored nine and eight points, respectively, while Bright and Bryant each had six. Mitzel added four points, while Rachel Roth chipped in two.

Keystone hosts Middleburg on Thursday, Jan. 6, at 7 p.m. and travels to play Lake Weir on Friday, Jan. 7, at 6:30 p.m. The Indians then host Ridgeview on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 7 p.m.



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Obituaries

Sarah Cordell

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Sarah "Joyce" Cordell, 63, of Keystone Heights died in Gainesville on Thursday, Dec. 24, 2021. She was born in Palatka to the late Boyd Lingerfelt and Ann (Gayle) Hallowell on Oct. 20, 1958. She was employed with Alachua County School Board. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her daughter, Cassidy Lingerfelt. Her survivors include her daughter, Sarah (Joseph) Goodman of Keystone Heights; son, Kent (Taylor) Wilkinson of Palatka; and two grandchildren. Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Keystone Heights.

Linda Dixon

LAKE CITY Linda Ruis Dixon, 72, passed away after a brief illness on Sunday, Dec. 19, 2021, at Lake City Medical Center with her family by her side. She was born in Starke to Effie and Cecil Ruis where she grew up with her siblings and raised her own family. She graduated from Bradford High School in 1967 and married the love of her life, Willie L. Dixon, in 1974. Together, they raised three beautiful girls whom they loved more than anything. She was a home maker and a private duty CNA, graduating from the first CNA course at SFCC in Starke. She was of the Christian faith and a member of Air Park Baptist Church. She and Willie moved to Lake City in 1999 where she resided until she passed away. She was preceded in death by her husband, Willie Lee Dixon; her mother, Effie Masters Cooper; father, Cecil Ruis; stepfather, Arthur Masters Sr.; and brother, Al Masters.

She is survived by her three children, Lisa (Mike) Wilson of Hollister, Tara (Buddy) Goodman of Lake City, and Linda (Mike) Hopkins of Lake City; her sister, Brenda (James) Matthews of Lake City; brothers, Buddy (Debbie) Ruis and Arthur (Annette) Masters, both of Starke; seven grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; many cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held Sunday, Jan 2, at 2 p.m. at Air Park Baptist Church, 521 N. Orange St., Starke. All friends and family are invited to attend.

ICS Cremation and Funeral Home are in charge of the arrangements.

PAID OBITUARY

Joan Dyal

STARKE Joan "Jennell" Dyal, 83, of Starke died Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at Haven Hospice E.T. York Care Center in Gainesville. She was born on September 1, 1938 in Bradford County. She was a longtime member of First Baptist Church. Preceding her in death was her husband, Jerry A. Dyal, Sr.; her parents, George "Bud" Raiford Alvarez, and Hazel (Reddish) Alvarez Land; and her son, Jerry "Buddy" Dyal, Jr.

Survivors are her daughter, Joan Leslie (Leander) Dyal of Starke; and her grandson, George Raiford (Ashkea) Dyal of Lake Butler.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Dec 30, at Bayless Highway Baptist Church. Interment will follow in Conner Cemetery. Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Starke.

Carl Jackson

STARKE Carl A Jackson a.k.a Glen Hicks/Broadly Stomp, 66, of Starke, died on Dec. 20, 2021, at Shands at the University of Florida Hospital in Gainesville. A lifelong resident of Starke, he was a member of New Bethel Baptist Church. He attended and graduated from the local schools of Bradford County. He worked in the shipping industry for many years.

He is survived by a loving and devoted family: sister, Shirley Douglas; cousins, Marianne Alicia (David) McMillan and Shaketha (Jimmy) Hankerson; niece, April Guion; aunt, Glory Jackson; and many other nieces, nephews, cousins and grieving friends.

Visitation will be held at the Carl D. Haile Memorial Chapel/ Haile Funeral Home on Wednesday, Dec. 29, 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. The Cortège will form at the home of Mr. and Mrs. David McMillan at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Dec 30, in the New Bethel Baptist Church, 901 Keller Street, Starke, with Reverend Alvin Green, Eulogist, conducting the services. Interment will be held at Oddfellow Cemetery, Starke, under the direction of Haile Funeral Home Inc., 802 North Oak Street, Starke 904-964-7905.

Please be advised that all attendees are asked to please wear a face covering and practice social distancing measures.

PAID OBITUARY

Margaret Lewis

STARKE Margaret Elizabeth Lewis, 90, of Starke died Friday, Dec. 24, 2021, at E.T. York Care Center in Gainesville. She was born April 13, 1931, in Hampton to Union David and Mary (Bloss) Dyal and graduated from Bradford High School. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Elmer "Buddy" Lewis; and siblings, Jimmy Dyal and Juanita Greene.

She is survived by her three daughters, Kay (Lloyd) Rosier of St. Augustine, Catherine Lee of Starke, and Wanda (Mervin) Jackson of Gainesville.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Dec 30, at First Baptist Church.

Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home.



Raymond Parks

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Raymond Orville Parks, 79, of Keystone Heights, died on Thursday, Dec. 23, 2021, at Orange Park Medical Center. Raymond was born in Chicago on April 26, 1942. He was an entrepreneur and a people person.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Joanne Parks; daughter, Michelle Hollien; and two grandchildren.

Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home.



Sarah Weaver is pictured during the 2019 Christmas for Fosters event. Weaver (née Fitzpatrick), a 2006 Bradford High School graduate, expanded the program from the Tampa area so that it now includes Bradford County and the surrounding area.

children, or when it comes to lending a hand to people in need, they always step up."

Sarah Weaver started Christmas for Fosters in Tampa with a goal of serving approximately 45 kids that first year. In reality, the inaugural program grew so that it served 96 children.

The numbers have increased every year. More than 477 children benefitted in 2020, while this year's effort, which included the new North Florida program, resulted in providing Christmas gifts for approximately 540 children. Hewett said the total goal between the two areas was 500.

When thinking of the scope of Christmas for Fosters that Weaver deals with in Tampa, Hewett laughed and said, "Fifty-six had me worn out."

It takes a lot of effort, but for Hewett, her team members and those who volunteered to help, it's worth it. As it has in Tampa, Hewett hopes to see the North Florida program continue to grow. On the morning prior to this year's distribution, she was already thinking ahead.

"I'm pumped. We're already in the planning process for next year, thinking how to expand and how to get information out,"

Hewett said, adding, "I'm hoping that next year we'll be able to double the number and hit 100."

Children in foster care aren't the only ones who'll be touched by the effort. Hewett said her own daughters, who are 8 and 11, as well as the children of her team members are seeing just what the Christmas spirit is all about.

"It's been a great teaching opportunity for them, to say this is the time to not only think about what you're going to receive, but what you're going to be able to give to people, especially those who might not have the opportunity to have the same things that you have," Hewett said.

Christmas for Fosters is summed up in two words: Give joy. If you'd like to learn more about the program, its origins and how you can be a joy giver, please visit ChristmasForFosters.com.

FOSTERS

Continued from page 10

provided with a lot of resources," Hewett said, "but Christmases, birthdays and those types of things — that's the responsibility of the foster parent. In a lot of these homes, there are five, six foster kids. I couldn't imagine, as a foster parent, taking on the responsibility of having to provide Christmas for your own bio children as well as the foster kids you have in your home."

Besides those who sponsored children and those who volunteered to assist in some way, the local effort benefitted from the generosity of Williams Jewelry, which provided baskets of FinchBerry items, and several area churches. Starke's First Baptist Church and Cross Church provided baskets of necessities, while Kingsley Lake Baptist Church provided Happy-Birthday-Jesus cards as well as other items. Starke's Madison Street Baptist Church provided gingerbread-house kits.

Hewett, who grew up in Bradford County and is involved in a lot of community fundraising efforts, knows full well how people in this area can be counted on to make an effort

successful, especially one that benefits children.

"I will say, I'm always worried that it's not going to come together, but I'm never surprised," Hewett said. "Even though (Bradford County) is small, and even though our resources are not as great as in big areas like Tampa, where Sarah is, when it comes to helping

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Bradford girls defeat KHHS in weightlifting

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bradford High School had first-place finishers in all but one weight classes in defeating visiting Keystone Heights 66-28 in a Dec. 16 girls weightlifting meet.

The teams had lifters tie for the best total (245) in the 139-pound class. Bradford's Allie McFarland had a bench press of 125 and a clean and jerk of 125, while Keystone's Grace Wagner had a bench press of 110 and a clean and jerk of 135.

Bradford had outright wins in eight other classes: Abbie Markham with a 175 total (90 bench press, 85 clean and jerk) in the 101 class, Hannah McFarland with a 235 total (95, 140) in the 110 class, Mikayla Cooper with a 240 total (105, 135) in the 119 class, Breanna Jordan with a 425 total (235, 190) in the 154 class, Courtney Comer with a 435

total (250, 185) in the 169 class, Takeirra Bakken with a 335 total (165, 170) in the 183 class, Gabby Oliver with a 335 total (180, 155) in the 199 class and Mahailya Reeves with a 525 total (340, 185) in the unlimited class.

Keystone had one outright winner in Ariel King, who had a 215 total (100, 115) in the 129 class.

In the 169 class, the Tornadoes' Emma Franke and the Indians' Harmony Geiger finished tied for second with a 205 total. Each lifter had a bench press of 105 and a clean and jerk of 100.

Bradford had six other second-place lifters: Blakeleigh Smith with a 160 total (80, 80) in the 110 class, Presley Acree with a 165 total (85, 80) in the 119 class, Breann Ponce with a 210 total (105, 105) in the 129 class, Eden Chalker with a 200 total (110, 90) in the 139 class, Raven Ford with a 250 total (125, 125) in the 154 class and Jessica Traylor with a 375 total (205, 170) in the unlimited class.

The Indians got second-place finishes from the following: Annabeth Oody with a 115 total

(55, 60) in the 101 class, Lily Mitchell with a 215 total (110, 105) in the 183 class and Kaylee Wright with a 295 total (155, 140) in the 199 class.

Keystone also had third-place finishers in Abigail Anthony-Rozier (150 total in the 110 class), Heidi Knapp (160 total in the 119 class), Kathryn Brossette (195 total in the 129 class), Chloe Still (100 total in the 139 class), Alexys Schleeter (170 total in the 154 class) and Dakota Herring (210 total in the 199 class).

Keystone girls soccer team loses by 1 goal to Columbia

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Visiting Columbia handed the Keystone Heights High School girls soccer team its second straight loss, defeating the Indians 3-2 on Dec. 16.

Ella Hutchins and Kiersten Shaw each scored a goal, with Shaw recording an assist on

Hutchins' score.

Kendall Gagnon and Aspen Krohn both played in goal, with Gagnon making six saves and Krohn making 11.

The Indians (7-5-2) were coming off a 1-0 loss at Middleburg on Dec. 14. Krohn made 15 saves.

Keystone will be back in action on Tuesday, Jan. 4, when it travels to play Newberry at 5 p.m. The Indians travel to play Baker County on Saturday, Jan. 8, at 2 p.m. and then play Santa Fe in Alachua on Monday, Jan. 10, at 6 p.m.

The Indians return home to play Williston on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 5:30 p.m.

KHHS boys and Hamilton play to 4-4 tie

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Logan Spence scored two goals for the Keystone Heights High School boys soccer team, which finished in a 4-4 tie

against visiting Hamilton County on Dec. 17.

Chris Anderson and Jayden Park each scored a goal for the Indians, who played their last match before the Christmas break.

Aaron Wiley tallied two assists, while Skylar Kedgley and Jacob Lepanton each had one.

Keystone (6-5-3) entered the match off a 5-2 loss at P.K. Yonge on Dec. 15. Spence scored both goals off assists from Lepanto and Luke Brunt.

The Indians' junior varsity team, which is 3-6-1, was victorious over Hamilton County on Dec. 17, defeating the Trojans 2-0. Ryder Thomas scored off a

A.J. Nilsen assist, while Bryce Huntley had a successful penalty kick.

Goalies Jimmy Callahan and Eli Ortiz combined to make seven saves.

Keystone's varsity team returns to action on Tuesday, Jan. 4, with a 7 p.m. match at Newberry. The Indians then host Fernandina Beach on Thursday, Jan. 6, at 6:30 p.m.

On Saturday, Jan. 8, the JV and varsity teams play at Baker County, with the JV match starting at 10 a.m. and the varsity match starting at noon.

The Indians' varsity team returns home to play Williston on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 7:20 p.m.



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UCHS boys defeat KHHS 60-34 in Dec. 20 boys basketball game

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Thomas Williams led all scorers with 19 points, helping the Union County High School boys basketball team defeat host Keystone Heights 60-34 on Dec. 20.

Keystone (1-8), coming off its first win of the season, held the early lead, scoring the first five points off two free throws by Bryant Kubisak and a three-pointer by Bryce Couey. Two free throws by Zeke Pelham later put the Indians ahead 7-4.

The Tigers (4-4) responded with a 10-2 run, which included baskets by Gavin Jenkins and Curran Webb off turnovers

as well as a three-pointer by Quinten Rawls.

Keystone would tie the score at 14-14, with Connor Guy scoring the last five points of the first quarter.

Union scored nine of the first 10 points in the second quarter to take a 23-15 lead, with Williams coming off the bench and making his presence felt. He had a steal and two defensive rebounds early in the quarter before scoring the first points off a turnover. Williams made two free throws and added a basket to make the score 20-14. The Indians got a free throw from Couey before Webb knocked down a three-pointer for Union.

The Tigers' lead grew to



Union County's Thomas Williams (right) goes up for a block attempt on a shot by Keystone's Bryce Couey.



The Tigers' Curran Webb (far right) is challenged on a shot attempt by the Indians' Bryant Kubisak. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

as much as 10 points, but the Indians' Seth Gagnon went 5-of-6 from the foul line to help his team go into halftime trailing 27-20.

Rawls had six points during an 8-0 run that put Union ahead 36-22 in the third quarter.

Keystone had only six points in the third quarter — all by Pelham, who finished with a team-high 10 points.

The Tigers got a big fourth quarter from Dee Williams, who scored 10 points. The quarter also saw Thomas Williams score six points.

Rawls and Dee Williams finished with 14 and 10 points, respectively, while Webb had six points. Cole Andersen-Davis added three points, with Jenkins, Kyler Cohen, Tahj Merriex and Johnté Nichols each scoring two points.

Keystone got eight points from Couey and five each from Gagnon and Guy. Kubisak, Will Rogel and Garrison Teague each

chipped in two points.

The Indians return to action Tuesday, Jan. 4, when they travel to play Lake Weir at 7 p.m. They host Belleview on Friday, Jan. 7, at 7:30 p.m. before traveling to play Toco Creek on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 7:30 p.m.

Union entered the game off a week in which it went 1-2, starting with a 46-32 loss at Baldwin on Dec. 14.

Rawls led the Tigers against Baldwin with 11 points, while Andersen-Davis had seven points and seven rebounds. Jenkins and Tre'von Lee scored four and three points, respectively, while Nichols, Webb and Dayviontae Thompson each added one point.

The Tigers played two games in a tournament at Fernandina Beach, starting things off with a 74-38 loss to San Jose Prep on Dec. 16.

Andersen-Davis led the team with 14 points, while Webb

See JUMP, page 2

Col. Samuel Elbert DAR chapter meets Jan. 3

The Col. Samuel Elbert Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, will host its next meeting on Monday, Jan. 3, at the Montgomery Conference Center (88 S.E. 75th St., Starke).

The meeting, which begins

with a \$10 brunch at 10:30 a.m., will feature a program on Morgan's House, which has been established to offer emergency shelter/transitional housing to victims of addiction, abandonment and abuse in the Northeast Florida.

Do you have a Revolutionary War-era patriot in your family tree? If you would like to find out, DAR can help with its genealogical resources. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can

prove direct descent from a person who aided in achieving American independence between April 19, 1775, and Nov. 26, 1783, is eligible for membership. Please contact Registrar Jane Argo Romeo at 352-478-3544 for more information.

BHS

Continued from page 11

ball with three-tenths of a second on the clock.

Bradford got four and three points from Robbie Simmons-Godwin and Crawford, respectively, while Ardley and Sincere Hankerson each scored two points.

Jones and Williams each had a team-high five steals, while Jones also led the team in rebounds with six.

Williams led the team in assists with three, while Jones had two.

Shanks added five rebounds and two steals to his team high in points.

Lakeland (5-0) won the Green Division championship by defeating Ribault (7-3) 61-44. The consolation championship saw Fletcher (9-3) defeat Buchholz (4-6) 85-74.

Ridgeview (3-8) defeated Baker County (0-7) 59-49 in the seventh-place game.

The tournament also featured a Gold Division, with Andrew Jackson (9-2) defeating host Fleming Island (13-1) 67-51 in the championship game. New Orleans' Eleanor McMain (10-2), with a buzzer-beating three-pointer, defeated Sanford's Seminole (7-4) 69-68 for third place, while Valdosta (8-4) defeated Auburndale (7-4) 62-53 in the consolation championship.

In the seventh-place game, Plant City's Durant (5-5) defeated Jacksonville's Episcopal (4-8) 89-88.

BHS defeats Baker, loses to Ribault

The Tornadoes opened play in the tournament with a 66-48 win over Baker County on Dec. 21, getting 13 points and six

rebounds from Shanks.

Bradford outscored the Wildcats 19-11 in the second quarter to take a 28-23 halftime lead. The Tornadoes then outscored Baker 21-11 in the third quarter to take a 15-point lead.

Simmons-Godwin and Williams each had nine points, while Ardley and Crawford each had eight. Hankerson and Jones each scored six points, with Pringle adding five and Bryson Bowen adding two.

Crawford and Williams each had a team-high eight rebounds, while Simmons-Godwin, like Shanks, had six.

Williams and Jones had four and three assists, respectively, with Williams also coming away with five steals.

Simmons-Godwin was two rebounds shy of posting a double-double in the second round on Dec. 22, but the Tornadoes lost

84-55 to Ribault.

Ribault pulled away from Bradford in the second half, outscoring the Tornadoes 48-25.

Jones and Williams scored 12 and 11 points, respectively, while Simmons-Godwin had 10. Crawford scored nine points, with Chalil Cummings and Shanks adding six and five, respectively. Hankerson chipped in two points.

Simmons-Godwin led the team in rebounds with eight, while Cummings and Williams each grabbed six.

Shanks and Jones had four and three steals, respectively, while Cummings and Jones each had three assists.

The Tornadoes return to action with a road game against Eastside on Tuesday, Jan. 4, at 7:30 p.m. Bradford hosts West Nassau on Monday, Jan. 10, at 7:30 p.m. and then hosts Newberry on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 7:30 p.m.

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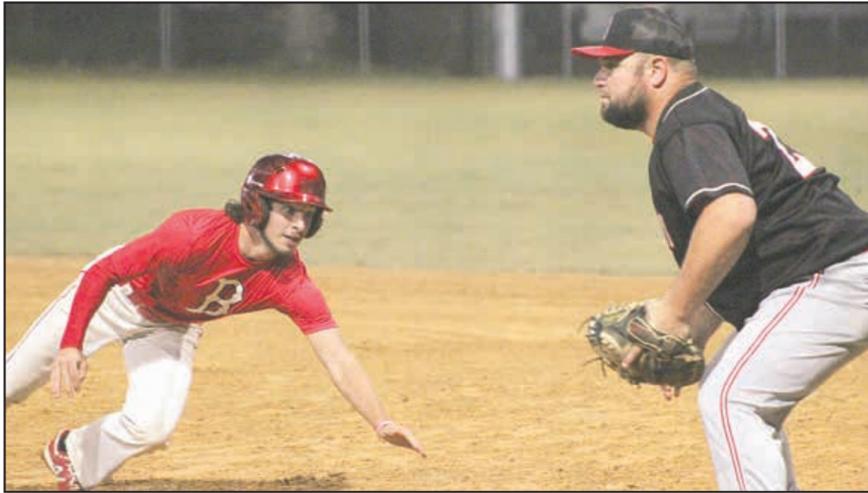
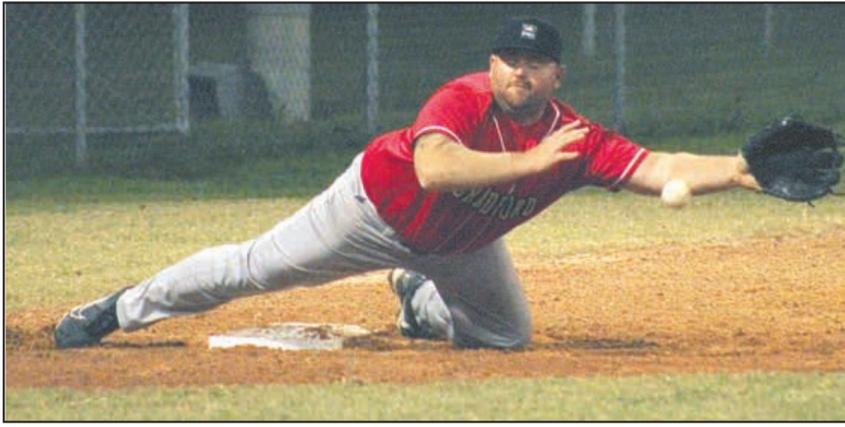
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Past Tornadoes show current Tornadoes they can still play ball

John Nicula extends himself in an attempt to make a play at third base during a Nov. 13 fundraising baseball game between the current Bradford High School Tornadoes and alumni. When it was all said and done, the scoreboard showed that Nicula and his teammates of former Tornadoes got the better of their younger counterparts, though their bodies probably paid for it the next day. Photos by Cliff Smelley.



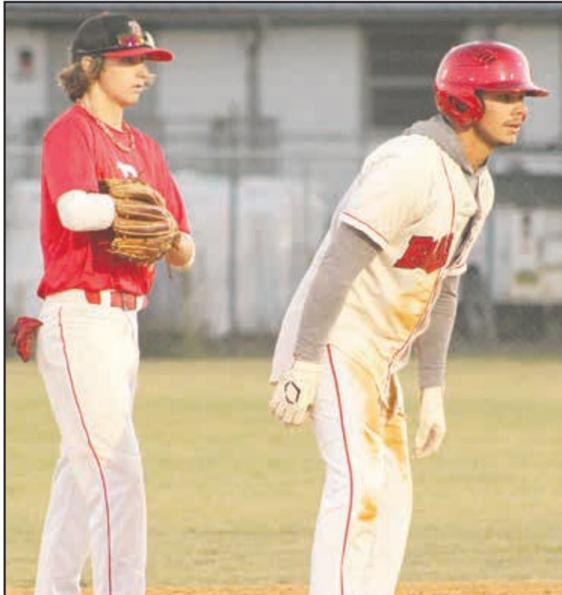
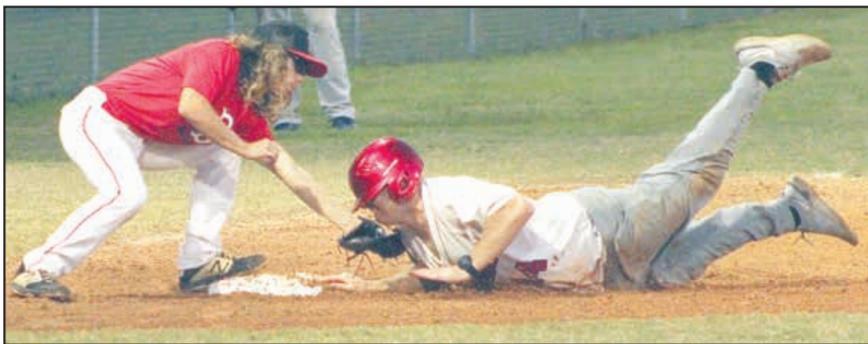
Current player Jacob Brugh (left) dive back to first base, which is manned by past player Cole Rhoden.



Past player Jason Smyth seems to be having fun.



LEFT: Past player Brandon Anders sizes up a pitch. RIGHT: Past player John Nicula (left) does his best to avoid a current catcher Carson Knight's tag attempt at home plate. BELOW LEFT: Current player Brayden Smyth tags out past player Jamie Bullington at third base. BELOW RIGHT: Past player Dusty Griffis hurls a pitch.



Past player Matt Stanwix-Hay (right), with current player Luke Stucky behind him, takes a lead at second.



Current player Austin Corbin takes his turn on the mound as he tries to strike out some players from the past.

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- from germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
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HOOPS

Continued from page 15

had eight. Dee Williams scored four points, with Rawls and Thompson each adding three. Jenkins, Merriex and Nichols each had two points.

Webb grabbed seven rebounds, while Andersen-Davis and Rawls each had five. Andersen-Davis and Dee Williams each had three assists.

In their second tournament game, the Tigers got 15 and 13 points from Thomas Williams and Rawls, respectively, in a 69-33 win over Beaches Chapel on Dec. 17.

Andersen-Davis finished with 12 points, while Jenkins had eight. Deonté Jones scored five points, with Merriex and Nichols each adding four. Cohen had three points, while Webb chipped in one.

Webb grabbed a team-high 10 rebounds, with Andersen-Davis and Rawls each finishing with five. Merriex had five assists and



Union's Cole Andersen-Davis (left) drives past Keystone's Cartez Daniels.

five steals, while Jenkins had three assists and four steals.

The Tigers next play at Middleburg on Tuesday, Jan. 4, at 7:30 p.m. They host Baker County on Thursday, Jan. 6, at

7:30 p.m. before traveling to play Interlachen on Friday, Jan. 7, at 7:30 p.m.

On Tuesday, Jan. 11, Union hosts Hilliard at 7:30 p.m.

SPAIN

Continued from page 12

tour, they had to pass a readiness test which included an eight-mile hike with elevation increasing by over 1,600 feet.

Segall said that during the trip they encountered several

abandoned villages, which were the result of Francisco Franco's efforts to industrialize and urbanize the country.

He said another feature of Spain's real estate is the lack of transition from urban to rural. He said he saw apartment complexes backed up to a cultivated field.

"There is not the transition to suburbia," he said. "It is a line."

Segall said the trip ended in Barcelona.

"Barcelona is a beautiful city," he said, "but not an ancient city because it's been bombed, burned and destroyed a number of times. It got caught in the wrong place at the wrong time."

He added that now, Barcelona is one of the wealthiest cities in Spain.

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