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Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024

146th year, 14th Issue — \$1

Pets dead after man burns down his own house

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

Bradford County deputies arrested a 40-year-old Hampton man after they said he confessed to setting his own house on fire, which resulted in the death of two pet lizards.

Matthew Rodel Smith was arrested on Oct. 10 for arson and two counts of animal cruelty.

According to an arrest report, Bradford deputies and firefighters arrived at the County Road 18 home near Hampton Lake to find the one-story structure fully engulfed in flames.

Nearby, deputies discovered a 2023 Toyota Camry in the home's driveway. A dog and a cat were in the vehicle. The car was running with the windshield wipers on.

After observing the car, deputies assumed that a person was inside the burning structure.

Officers said the man's wife and children were in Clay County because of approaching Hurricane Milton.

One deputy wrote in the report that he made contact with the wife, who told the officer she received a text message from her husband asking her where the keys to the couple's Ford



Smith



The Ford was located in front of the garage door and was a total loss due to the fire.

vehicle were because he wanted to move it away from the house.

After firefighters extinguished the blaze, a deputy saw an unknown male walking through the woods near the crime scene. The officer said he attempted to contact the man, who ran away.

After a short chase, officers apprehended the stranger, who was the homeowner.

Deputies said that when questioned, the defendant confessed to setting the house on fire using gasoline and a candle. He also admitted to putting the dog and cat in the Toyota and two pet lizards in the Ford parked close to the home.

The officer said the Ford was located in front of the garage door and was a total loss due to the fire. One

deputy said he located one dead lizard in the back floorboard of the vehicle, and the other reptile was presumed dead.

Smith purchased the 4,391-square-foot home in 2021 with his wife for \$499,900.

Bradford Undersheriff Brad Smith said the defendant did not explain why he committed the arson.

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WORTH NOTING

Sheriff's Senior Expo

The Bradford County Sheriff's Office is hosting a Senior Expo with vendors, games and information for senior citizens about available resources. Lunch will also be served. The event will take place Thursday, Oct. 17, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bradford County Senior Center, 1805 N. Temple Ave. in Starke. Lunch is at 11:30 a.m.

Arc supporting disaster relief

The Arc of Bradford County has set up a hub to provide immediate and long-term relief to agencies who serve individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the communities that are most severely impacted by Hurricane Milton.

They have set up a page on their website (thearcbradford.org) that contains a list of items being collecting. They are also collecting monetary donations, and have set up an Amazon wish list to ship purchases directly to The Arc. Donations can be dropped off at or shipped to the administrative offices at 1351 S. Water St., Starke, FL 32091 Attn: Hurricane Relief.

All supplies and funds will go toward relief efforts focused on agencies that serve the intellectual and developmental disability communities. Any excess funds and supplies will go directly to communities who have been hit the hardest from the storm.

Leaders: Economic development must be nonstop

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

A panel of community leaders said that attracting more employers to the Bradford County area, maintaining roads, and improving infrastructure requires constant effort.

Tonya Shays of Sen. Jennifer Bradley's office, Bradford County Manager Scott Kornegay, Starke Mayor Scott Roberts, and North Florida Regional Chamber President Pam Whittle talked about economic development during the North Florida Economic Development Corporation's annual meeting at the Keystone Heights RV Resort.

All four panelists emphasized the need to maintain ongoing relationships with Tallahassee lawmakers and establish a nonstop recruiting effort to attract employers.

Dawn Strickland, vice chair of the North Florida Economic Development Corporation, moderated the discussion.



(L-R) Bradford County Manager Scott Kornegay, Starke Mayor Scott Roberts, North Florida Regional Chamber President Pam Whittle, Tonya Shays of Sen. Jennifer Bradley's office, and Dawn Strickland, vice chair of the North Florida Economic Development Corporation, discussed economic development during the corporation's annual meeting at the Keystone Heights RV Resort.

It's Bradford, not Broward

Shays said that cooperation between local leaders and state and federal representatives is essential to

maintaining funding for infrastructure and road projects.

Whittle said the county's participation in Rural Days, an effort by rural communities to raise the profile of smaller counties in

Tallahassee, has been successful in at least getting lawmakers to distinguish between Bradford County and a familiar-sounding jurisdiction in South Florida.

"We found out people thought Bradford County was Broward County and wanted to know why we needed matching funds," Whittle recalled about her initial contacts with state lawmakers. "I'm like, we're poor, that's why. And so, we joined in: Bradford, Union, Putnam, Baker. We went marching to the capital, not knowing what we didn't know, thank goodness, but we found a lot of friends there, and they now know who we are."

Tallahassee is the lifeline

Roberts said that although some communities benefit from federal dollars, the municipalities' lifelines come from Tallahassee. He added that each city must get its house

See DEVELOP, page 8

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State champ Raidera going to nationals

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

After finishing runner-up two years in a row, then State Champions last year, the Union

County JROTC Raider Team was selected to compete at the National Raider Competition at Fort Knox, Kentucky, on October 24-26.

Lt. Kevin Steverson said the team has worked hard and is excited about this unique opportunity.



Front Row (l-r): Hunter Smith, Chloe Harris, Savannah Thompson (Team Commander), Davion Presley, Jamaal Reynolds, and Isabelle Kirsten. Middle Row (l-r): Genesis Alonzo, Jordan Burgess, Mercedes Webb, Lillie Lane, Noah Vissel, Adrianna Clarke, and Ayleana Reeves. Back Row (l-r): Cason Forbes (Tiger Battalion Commander), Kamerohn Wilson, and Steven Mink.

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BES Track or Treat

Bradford Elementary School's Track or Treat will be held Friday, Oct. 25, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the school bus loop. Dress up and bring a bag to collect treats. Entry is \$1 per person. Children under 3 enter free.

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SENIOR EXPO

Sheriff Smith would like to invite you to join this event hosted by The Bradford County Sheriff's Office for the Senior Citizens of Bradford County!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17TH

9 AM -1 PM

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Christmas candy rule leaves one commissioner salty

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

Starke Downtown Merchants and the North Florida Regional Chamber of Commerce recently addressed issues in planning the upcoming Christmas events with the city commission.

Expected construction downtown has left organizers looking for an alternative to the Downtown Square for lighting the city Christmas tree.

The relocation should only be required this year, according to Chief Administrative Officer Jimmy Crosby. Chrissy Thompson from The Downtown Grill said the options are limited since there needs to be a security camera watching the tree. Options included city hall, the chamber of commerce or the Santa Fe College Cultural Center.

While railroad overpass construction took place last year, the Santa Claus event following the parade was moved to the chamber of commerce. Because it worked out so well, Santa will be at the chamber again this year. "It just made a great event to have him back at the chamber because it's easier to get to after the floats and the parade," Thompson said.

As for the tree lighting — if there is to be one — she said they were open to suggestions.

One thing they won't budge on, however, is the prohibition on throwing candy from floats. They no longer want individuals passing out candy along the parade route, as some city commissioners have traditionally done.

The danger it too great, they said, particularly at night. They've had too many close calls.

Instead, much like the Great Pumpkin Escape, Downtown Merchants and vendors lining the sidewalks will hand out candy to keep that activity out of the streets.

"I think that is one of the reasons that we're also here to

make sure everybody's on the same page," Thompson said. "All of us in this room have had very close incidences with kids. There's only going to be candy stations along Call Street."

The city is welcome to join others or set up a station of its own, she said.

"Especially for you guys who ride on a fire truck. You're not driving that fire truck," she said. "Parents are not able to watch four or five kids, and that's kind of what happens. We've had a couple close calls."

Chamber President Pam Whittle said some drivers in the parade have said they would no longer participate.

"They were that scared," Whittle said, detailing once incident with the Shriners where riders were thrown out of the buggy because the driver had to brake suddenly to avoid hitting someone.

"Our fear is we won't be able to stop. I know you say, 'Oh, we just did it at homecoming.' That was a four-lane highway, in the middle of the highway, during the day," she said. "That's why our suggestion was to do the candy stations. We did it last year. We did not have enough volunteers. We needed people, at least, on every little block, handing out candy, walking on the sidewalk, keeping them off the street."

Thompson said the Downtown Merchants will be providing candy for vendors to distribute, hoping that will help solve the volunteer problem.

Commissioner Danny Nugent asked if there was so much concern for child safety, why not move the parade back to the daytime? He also argued that if he is handing out candy from a bucket, he is the one in the street, not the children.

"If I'm this far from that kid. He's not in the road. I'm in the road. I've done it for years," he said, adding he had seen merchants and others throwing candy. "We don't throw it in the road. None of these commissioners have. We're

really careful what we're doing." Thompson insisted that if Nugent's going to hand out candy, he needs to be on a sidewalk, but Nugent continued to argue the sidewalk would be too congested.

"How are you going to hand down the sidewalk? You've got 50,000 people. You can't walk on the sidewalk during the parade," he said. "We need to be out on the edge handing it to the kids who're sitting on the edges of the sidewalk. The kids are sitting down, so that doesn't make sense."

Thompson tried to make a point about a child potentially walking between a car and the city fire truck, but Nugent interrupted, saying, "That's why I wonder why we should have different people running our parade sometimes, no offense."

"Have it back," Thompson replied. "I will tell you, with everybody that's in this room, if we are going to let you all and the sheriff throw or hand out candy, we're not doing it."

Mayor Andy Redding, who had tried interjecting before, pushed through, saying they were going to develop the parameters necessary to have a safe parade.

"We're going to keep going forward, and we appreciate your hard work and volunteering," Redding said.

Thompson said they were willing to work with city administrators, but the rule about not throwing or handing out candy on the street would be in writing.

Capt. Kevin Mueller was present to say the sheriff's office supported the Downtown Merchants, and he shared his personal experience of handing out candy in the parade only to see children sprinting to get their share, and that was in the daytime. He also said the agency has a mobile camera that could provide security for the Christmas tree, wherever it is placed.

Commissioners Bob Milner and Janice Mortimer both stated

the city has no interest in taking over the parade, saying the merchants and the chamber have been excellent partners over the years.

The parade will take place the evening of Dec. 14 at 6 p.m. The reservation-only Santa Breakfast will follow on Sunday morning.

The Miss Winterfest Pageant will take place Nov. 3.

Pumpkin Escape and more

Just as the Starke Christmas

parade is traditionally the second Saturday of December, the Great Pumpkin Escape is coming up on the last Saturday of October, Oct. 26. Merchants will pass out candy from 5 to 8 p.m. along with the fun games, contests and other attractions. The pet costume contest will take place at 5:30 p.m. in front of the chamber of commerce.

On Oct. 30, the Witches' Ride will return to downtown, and everyone is invited to don their pointy hats and parade around on their bikes, carts or brooms, then enjoy a special tasting with

all money raised supporting Bradford County Education Foundation and Communities for Schools. Walkers are welcome, too. It will begin at 6 p.m.

Then prior to Christmas, they will hold Shop Small Saturday on Nov. 30, an opportunity to support local businesses and vendors during the holiday shopping season and enjoy other fun events on that day. It will include another Chalk It Up event as the first sidewalk art event was such a success.

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Hall Family Home



In recently learning that some of our very own from our hometown of Melrose, Florida have been left homeless and devastated by Hurricane Helene (like so many others), Sapp Ministries wanted to create a Fundraiser for the Hall Family.

Cory Hall, his wife Stacie, and their two children Abigail (15) and Brooklynn (6) of Steinhatchee, FL off the Gulf of Mexico, lost their brick home in the flood waters of Hurricane Helene.

Mrs. Stacie Hall told me over the phone that they are finding bricks three miles down the road from where their home was located.

They've lost everything. They had no flood insurance. To make matters worse, they have not been able to stay together as a family. They have been splitting up and staying with generous family and friends who have opened up their homes and hearts to them.

Some very good news I learned was that they had just invested \$40,000 into the construction of a new home on the property that is being built on an elevated piece of land which will safeguard them from future storm and flood damage.

Here's where we all come in! The Hall family needs an estimated \$200,000 to complete their building plans and to finish the construction of their new home.

I believe in the goodness of the human spirit. I know that if every person who reads this gives what they can, we will reach the goal of \$200,000 easily!

The Bible says in Galatians 6:2 "Carry one another's burdens and in this way you will fulfill the requirements of the law of Christ (that is, the law of Christian love).

Please take a minute to look over the photos Mrs. Hall sent me at Sapp Ministries on Facebook.

Please pray and give as you feel led

Please help to make a change in this beautiful family's life. You have the power to make a life-changing difference that they will be forever grateful for.

With love and gratitude,

Angelia Sapp

Sapp Ministries, Inc.

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Starke's financial audits continue to improve with 2023 report

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

Starke's audit for Fiscal Year that ended Sept. 30, 2023, recognized significant improvement, with auditors praising staff and staff giving credit to the support of the commission.

The audit report was presented to the commission by Caleb Perla, a partner at Powell and Jones CPA. He began with the city's two governmental funds, the general fund and the transportation trust fund.

Total assets of these two funds were \$7.2 million, according to the balance sheet, which surpassed \$3.05 million in liabilities, resulting in a fund balance of nearly \$4.2 million, which Perla referred to as the city's net worth. Excluding nonspendable funds for prepaid items, and funds restricted for public safety and road improvements, left nearly \$3 million unassigned and available to spend for ongoing operations, he said.

"The unrestricted fund balance as a percentage of your operating expenditures is 57%, which equates to 6.9 months of

operating reserves, which is in excess of the GFOA minimum required amount of two months. So, you have plenty of sufficient reserves to fund ongoing operations," Perla said.

GFOA refers to the Government Finance Officers Association.

According to Perla, the governmental fund balances have been trending upward and experienced a "substantial increase."

Looking at the balance sheet for the two governmental funds, there was a total of \$4.7 million in revenue to the general fund and transportation trust fund, with expenditures of almost \$5.4 million, leaving a deficit of more than \$699,000. Grants and transfers raised the revenue by \$1.3 million, resulting in a net change in fund balance of nearly \$628,000, helping increase the combined governmental fund balance from \$3.5 million to the previously stated \$4.2 million.

Among those transfers was an \$837,000 from the city's enterprise fund. Without that transfer of utility revenue to subsidize general government spending, Perla said the general fund would not have been able to

stand on its own.

Looking specifically at the enterprise fund, it ended 2023 with a slightly higher net position of \$27.65 million, up from \$27.57 million. Net position is the difference between assets and liabilities, including the deferred inflow and outflow of resources, with Starke's assets totaling \$44.8 million and liabilities totaling \$17.2 million. Of the \$27.57 million net position, \$16.8 million is invested in capital assets, with nearly \$10.8 million in unrestricted funds.

"This unrestricted balance represents 80% of your operating expenditures in one year, which is 9.6 months, so sufficient reserve, once again, for your proprietary funds," Perla said.

The modest improvement in net position was impacted by an operating loss, with utility expenses of nearly \$13.5 million surpassing utility revenue around \$13.4 million. There was also the transfer of revenue to the general fund. Nonoperating revenue from interest and intergovernmental grants helped make up the difference.

Perla also explained that accrual-based accounting includes noncash expenses like

depreciation of capital assets.

"That's not necessarily cash out the door, which is why I included this operating cash flow number down here, which shows that you're operating at a positive cash flow of \$826,000 per year, which is sufficient to fund your transfers and other operations," he said.

Ideally, the city would be earning enough over time to fund replacement of its assets. However, Perla said, the city uses grant funding that doesn't come from its own pockets to address infrastructural needs.

"So, it's OK to run a slight loss here as long as you keep an eye on it, as long as you have those grants to come in and fund the replacement of that infrastructure," he said.

The trending net position for the city's utility fund is slightly positive each year, according to Perla.

Auditors also performed an audit of the city's expenditures of federal and state grant and loan awards and found the city complied with requirements for the use of those funds. This included funds received for the wastewater treatment plant and wastewater collection system.

Finally, Perla noted "substantial improvement" in the number of findings the city needs to address. Down from 10 findings two years ago and three last year, Perla said there was just a single finding for 2023. It related to the preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance.

Auditors found there were expenditures improperly excluded from the schedule, which necessitated revision. Auditors recommended city staff responsible for the schedule familiarize themselves with the requirements and perform a second review of the schedule before submitting it to auditors.

The city agreed in the need for better reporting.

"The city has seen significant expansion through numerous capital projects over prior years due to backlogged projects that have led to greater complexity in year-end reporting. The city will continue to work towards ensuring proper schedules are kept in preparation for the audit as well as continuing to track ongoing grant expenditures to ensure accuracy of financial reporting," the management

stated in its response.

There was also a recommendation to improve inventory tracking by performing monthly reconciliations. Management agreed, saying staff continue to be trained to correctly monitor inventory following the implementation of new software and ensure accuracy between the software and general ledger.

Perla concluded by thanking the city for assistance with the audit.

"I want to say thank you to James (Hughes) and the finance team, who are all doing an excellent job and were very helpful during our audit, as well as the rest of the city staff, the city manager and administrative officer. And we've just been grateful to have the privilege of working on your audit, and we look forward to another even better audit for next year," he said.

Commissioners also thanked staff, as did Chief Administrative Officer Jimmy Crosby. Crosby also thanked the city commission, saying commissioners have never failed to support staff and both of their managers in doing what needs to be done.

Paramedicine program expanding Narcan access, overdose response

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

The latest progress report for Bradford County Fire Rescue's Community Paramedicine Program included information on usage of the Narcan cabinets installed at various locations.

The cabinets contain doses of naloxone, commonly known by the brand name Narcan, that, when administered quickly, can reverse the effects of opioid overdose, restoring breathing and preventing death.

Often carried by first responders, Naloxone can now be obtained by individuals who might witness an overdose or be at risk themselves, thanks to the installation of these community cabinets in areas including Starke Fire Rescue, the Arc at Hampton's Community Wellness Resource Hub, and Answers Health and Resource Facility on

West Weldon Street in Starke. A fourth has been added at the Meridian Behavioral Healthcare office on Grand Street.

Of the four, Lt. David Weeks said the Answers site has been most active, with nearly 20 doses distributed as of last week. There is interest in additional cabinet installations around the county.

Weeks said the paramedicine program is extremely excited to have been selected by the University of Florida as an internship site for seniors enrolled in the Health Education and Behavior Program. The 40 hour per week internship will give students real world experience.

"Our goal is to use them to identify community health needs, and from there, they'll do a final project. So, I think this will be good for our organization and theirs. Some of the focus areas

are patient advocacy, community health needs, public health education and then coordinating some of those relationships with our partner agencies," Weeks said.

The first interns should begin within a few weeks.

Weeks reported Meridian has used opioid abatement funds assigned by the county to hire a counselor to be based in the local office. He said a primary goal is to create an Overdose Response Team made up of that counselor, a member of the paramedicine program and a licensed mental health counselor. They would be assigned to respond within 12 hours of an initial overdose to meet and assess those patients, and then follow up.

Once Meridian has a medication assisted treatment program in place to help substance abusers from relapsing,

Weeks said the paramedicine program wants to enhance it with a mobile component.

"There are a number of patients that may have difficulty with transportation needs," he said.

It can also be difficult to get an appointment because of the waiting list, he said, discussing a patient in Bradford in need of medically assisted treatment. In the interim, they were able to work with partners in Gainesville's Community Paramedicine Program, meeting up at the county line so the patient could receive those services.

"That's just one of the many examples of how the partnerships between the counties are starting to come together and really work in the patient's favor," Weeks said.

Speaking of mobility, the conversion of the library

bookmobile into a mobile health clinic to assist with counseling and the distribution of medication is nearly complete. In addition to the staff assigned to the unit, it is equipped with telehealth access.

The program also has a medication intake component and has received 200 additional units of Deterra, a drug deactivation and disposal system, through the Bradford Prevention Coalition. They will be partnering with sheriff's office for a community drug intake day.

Fire Chief Ben Carter commended Weeks for his work on the program.

"What he's done with this program has been remarkable, and the partnerships that he's built are starting to stand out, with many different community organizations in different counties and cities as well. So, I'm very proud of the work that

he's done, and this program is something that I'm very proud of and I hope that you all are as well.

In other business:

—the county commission accepted a bid of \$58,000 for the commercial shop building located at 18853 Charlotte Ave. in Brooker. Hamilton Custom Services LLC of Gainesville was the highest of at bidders after a year listed on GovDeals, which charged a 12% fee for listing the property.

—Clerk of Courts Denny Thompson suggested setting workshops on the county's capital improvement plan and budget following the commission's monthly morning meetings. There was a consensus those workshops should begin in January.



✓ **RE-ELECT**
CAROLYN
SPOONER

I am honored to have served as your County Commissioner for District-1 since Nov. 2020. During this first term in office, I have been able to achieve the following:

- ✓ Helped the County develop Strategic planning goals, Mission, Vision, & Value Statements with input from community & stakeholders.
- ✓ Held Town Hall Meetings in all Municipalities of the County to keep residents informed & to gather input from the community.
- ✓ Helped to improve the management of the County Budget.
- ✓ Helped to gain funding for the RJE Gym roof & renovation project.
- ✓ Helped to improve relationships with city & county governments.
- ✓ Helped to locate \$321,019 in Opioid Abatement funds for substance abuse treatment for Bradford County.
- ✓ Helped to initiate the first Employee Appreciation Day for County Employees
- ✓ Encouraged the use of the vacant South 301 Industrial Building for an economic development project which resulted in the State awarding the Douglas Building to the County for future revenue generating projects.

✓ Supported and served on the health initiative to provide local health care services to the communities of Starke, Lawtey & Hampton via HUB programs.

✓ Helped to get more dirt roads approved for paving & chip sealing in Lawtey.

✓ Helped local students with college scholarships.

✓ Regularly participated in local community events to show support for all areas of the community, school festivals, homecomings, Veterans Day, Law Enforcement Day.

✓ Also held Cancer Awareness & Educational Walk, to help educate the community.

✓ Worked closely with Sheriff Dept., local law enforcement and first responders.

Please help me to continue working as your Commissioner for District 1 and for the whole of Bradford County. We are one Community, Bradford County Strong. **Please re-elect me, Carolyn Brown Spooner on Nov. 5, 2024.**

✓ **SPOONER**
County Commissioner
District 1

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High Ridge needs roads, not utilities

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

The Clay County Commissioner representing the Lake Region told her colleagues that residents of High Ridge Estates want better roads and are not concerned with access to water and sewer utilities.

Betsy Condon expressed frustration when the county's grant department head recommended allocating some of a \$20 million grant application with the federal government to water and sewer connectivity. She said the most urgent needs in the neighborhood east of Keystone Heights are road improvements.

"We've been working on the High Ridge Initiative for

a year and a half, two years," she said of a neighborhood improvement committee. "Every single meeting, a member of the neighborhood comes to the meeting and talks about the roads. That's all they really care about."

Clay County commissioners have started paving Dennison Avenue and Baylor Avenue within High Ridge Estates using county funds.

During their Sept. 24 board meeting, commissioners heeded Condon's advice. They approved a grant application to the Environmental Protection Agency's Community Change Grant Program, requesting \$20 million to pave nearly nine miles of the neighborhood's dirt roads.

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To a house against sin.

- Henry Hodges
Lawtey, FL

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on 32 years at Bradford Baptist!

WOW!

Bradford 4-H summer camps offer hands-on educational experiences

Meat Masters and Animal Adventures — two summer day camps — were offered by the Bradford County 4-H Program in July.

These camps provided local youth (ages 8-18) with fun, hands-on, educational experiences in the animal and livestock industry.

Animal Adventures featured educational activities on cattle, swine, horses, chickens and rabbits. Participants received an introduction to the animal and livestock industry in a classroom setting, learning about the various animals and their roles. They then had the opportunity to visit different livestock operations, seeing firsthand how their newfound knowledge is applied in real-world settings.

To add an artistic touch to the camp, the children engaged in crafting 3-D animal models using clay pots, pinecones, milk jugs and rice socks. These activities not only provided a fun way to be creative, but also reinforced camp participants' understanding

of the animals they studied.

Meat Masters featured comprehensive lessons on meat processing, food safety and meat-preparation practices. Youth toured the University of Florida meat-processing facility and saw firsthand the equipment used for beef and pork processing. Participants also learned food-safety practices used within the meat-processing industry to ensure that a safe, wholesome product is delivered to consumers. They then got to apply this knowledge when preparing both pork and beef cuts for their lunch that day. This activity included creating their own seasoning blend and assisting in grilling their creations.

Bradford County 4-H is proud to provide such educational opportunities as summer day camps for youth in the community. The youth-development program also offers community clubs, school enrichment and a variety of activities throughout the year. Open enrollment for the new 4-H year will begin in mid-August.

For more information on the Bradford County 4-H Youth-Development Program, call 904-966-6224. You can also learn more by following the "UF/IFAS Extension Bradford County 4-H" page on Facebook.



2024 National 4-H Proclamation at the Bradford County Board of County Commissioners Meeting: (front-back, l-r) Commissioner Kenny Thompson, Jarin Borgner, Commissioner Carolyn Spooner, Jordan Ritchie, Ashton Kilosky, Jaydin Borgner, Allison Tetstone, Bailea Scarbrough (Bradford County 4-H agent), Commissioner Diane Andrews, Tamara Dinkins (Bradford County Extension), Lizzie Whitehead (Bradford County Extension livestock agent), Kandana Crawford, Elijah Sapp, Sophie Elkins, Makel Peterson, Ayana Peterson, Luke Sapp, Commissioner Chris Dougherty and Commissioner Danny Riddick.



At the Meat Masters Camp, Will Conner (center) and Zane Vandruff (far right) grill their creations with the help of Dr. Jason Scheffler of the University of Florida Animal Sciences Department.



Bradford 4-H member Saylor Rhoden (left) teaches an Animal Adventures camper about her family's horse operation.



Youth loved getting to pet the rabbits and chickens that came to visit the Animal Adventures Camp.



Bradford 4-H District Events: Shayna Durrance, Ansley Ward, Adaleigh Wainwright and Beau Davis.



Bradford 4-H Blacksmith Summer Day Camp: (front-back, l-r) Jacob Mudge, Erin Harlow (Columbia County Extension horticulture agent), Luke Harlow (Bradford County Extension horticulture agent), Zane Vandruff, Brent Bailey, Corbin King, Will Conner and Michael Woodruff.



Dr. Jason Scheffler of the University of Florida Animal Sciences Department teaches youth how to evaluate carcasses during the Meat Masters Camp.



Bradford 4-H Day at the Capitol: Pictured are Sterling Alexander, Lily Woodrum, Shayla Hardee and Caden Eison.

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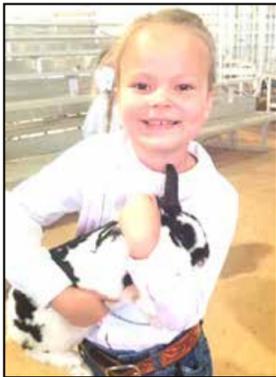
Jace Jolley cares for his steer at the Clay County Fair.



Volunteer (standing) Melinda Brown watches as students sample homemade butter during the club's Making and Tasting Butter event. Seated are (l-r) Trip Brown, Jace Jolley, Annabelle Castronova, Devin Black, and James Carsey.



Mallory Withrow is awarded after the Tropicana Speech Competition.



Raelynn Griffis shows off her Clay County Fair rabbit entry.



At the 4-H STEM Challenge, (l-r) Wesley Roberts, Grayson Roberts and Annabelle Briley

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4-H Agent Meagan Daniel with Weston Daniel loading and delivering supplies to Steinatchee for Hurricane Helene victims



Cayton and Layla Yeager at the 2024 UCHS Homecoming Parade on the 4-H Float- Lights, Camera, 4-H: Leading Tomorrow's Stars.



Tripp Pittman learning about healthy living through our 4-H blender bike. Patrick Gillen and Mckenzie Barry watching.



Members Rylan and Emma Boyette picking blueberries at the 4-H Adventures in Ag day camp.



4-H members visited Judge Mitchell Bishop when learning about citizenship at Camp USA. Front L to R: Eli Barry, London Halle, Tripp Pittman. Row 2: Sawyer Dyal, Shaw Daniel, Ruby Hunter, and Wayne Hartley. Row 3: Travis Hunter, McKenzie Barry, Ryker Sellers, Atticus Allen, Lola Allen, Kamryn Hartley, Raylan Dyal, and Lane Hartley



Members at Camp Timpochee 4-H Marine Science Camp in Niceville, FL: L to R: Weston Daniel, Logan Miller, Shaw Daniel, Kullen Kadlec, Lane Hartley, Landon Douglass, Anderson Griffis, and Raylan Dyal.

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Crime

Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

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

Cameron Lloyd Collins, 41, was arrested by Bradford deputies on October 5 for an out-of-county warrant.

Carly Ann Gonzalez Del Valle, 36, of West Palm Beach, was arrested by Bradford deputies on October 9 for battery.

Aaron Roy Griffis, 32, of Lawtey, was arrested by Bradford deputies on October 7 for aggravated assault.

Keith David Hayford, 45, of Gainesville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on October 10 for resisting an officer.

Tabatha Jeanett Hopkins, 45, of Starke, was arrested by

Bradford deputies on October 9 for driving with a suspended or revoked license, DUI, and hit and run.

Alvaro Antonio Huete, 48, of Sarasota, was arrested by FHP troopers on October 6 for driving with a suspended or revoked license and an out-of-county warrant.

Aquiles Leonardo Jackson, 29, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on October 11 for a probation violation.

Justin Xavier Ortiz, 22, was arrested by Bradford deputies on October 7 for arson.

Earnest Demetries Payton, 29, of Micanopy, was arrested by FHP troopers on October 7 for DUI.

Jeffrey Charles Sipprell, 35, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on October 6 for possession of drugs, possession of drug equipment, and larceny.

Christopher Wade Yawn, 39, of Middleburg, was arrested by Bradford deputies on October 7 for battery and criminal mischief with property damage.

Union

Jamal Lamar Edwards, 30, of Palm Bay, was arrested by Union deputies on October 7 for

a probation violation.

Tyler Edward Mincks, 27, of Live Oak, was arrested by Union deputies on October 9 for an out-of-county warrant.

Eliezer Lazo Sanchez, 30, of Ocala, was arrested by Union deputies on October 9 for larceny.

Nakesha Lavet Williams, 50, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on November 11 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Clay

Brittany Nicole Fike, 34, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on October 11 for being a fugitive from justice.

Nithaniel Santenez Ogwin, 27, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on October 8 for domestic battery and child abuse.

Elaine Shehee Darya, 25, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on October 6 for DUI and reckless driving.

Natalee J. Strombeck, 38, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on October 7 for armed robbery and aggravated battery.

DEVELOP

Continued from page 1

in order and keep it that way to take advantage of funding opportunities.

"We've had some success, but as y'all know, we start over every year," he said of state appropriations. "We have just got to get out there. I think that with the communication between the people in this room and some that couldn't make it, we have to constantly talk about economic development and make it real to people."

The Starke mayor said that while county and city leaders deal with the day-to-day demands of local government, they must also put resources into economic development, which does not yield immediate returns.

"It's a constant battle to keep those relationships going," he said. "Constantly, new people are becoming part of it. We have to keep constantly talking about the importance of economic development. What does that mean to the community? What does it mean to the schools? What does it mean to the services that are provided? That conversation has to be going all the time."

Roberts and Kornegay cited the county's \$4 million commitment to extend the City of Starke's water and sewer lines to the bypass as an example of local governments working together.



Amber Shepherd, the corporation's strategic alliances business partner, updated the audience on the corporation's activities.

Relentless effort

Kornegay also emphasized the importance of communication and relationships. He credited those attributes for the county securing the state-owned Douglas Building across U.S. 301 from Walmart. He added that the county is negotiating with MHD-Rockland for the Canadian-based aerospace firm to use the Douglas Building as a warehouse.

"We were able to acquire that building at no cost to the county," he said, "and now it will become a revenue source because we're leasing it to one business."

Kornegay seconded the other panelists' claims that economic

development must be a relentless effort.

The panel also discussed the need for workforce development.

5,000 contacts, 12 meetings

Later in the meeting, Amber Shepherd, the corporation's strategic alliances business partner, updated the audience on the corporation's activities.

She said a delegation from the Bradford County area recently visited Washington and met with the Korean Global Business Center, Congresswoman Kat Cammack, Senator Rick Scott, the U.S. Economic Development Administration, and officials from the U.S. Agriculture Department.

Shepherd said her group has held meetings with local officials to discuss coordinating economic development and has had additional discussions with the Bradford County School District to establish an advisory committee.

The business partner also highlighted the county's \$75,000 grant award, which was obtained for charting an economic development strategic plan and creating digital and print outreach materials.

Shepherd said that since its inception, the economic development corporation has initiated over 5,000 contacts and held 12 meetings with potential employers.

Fourth annual Walk Against Hate

The public is invited to the fourth annual Walk Against Hate in Melrose on Sunday, Oct. 20. A rally will be held at Melrose Heritage Park at 2 p.m. followed by a short walk along S.R. 26 with signs and chants.

Hosted by the Democratic Women of the Lakes Area, their president, Cheryl Owen, said, "We intend to highlight the honest teaching of our

racial history, recognizing that marginalized communities still need DEI policies in order to move our state and our country toward a more just and equitable place for everyone."

DEI stands for diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Attendees will hear from three candidates they will find on their November ballot, including Lashonda Holloway, candidate

for U.S. House District 4; the Rev. James Stockton, candidate for U.S. House District 6; and George T. Hill, candidate for FL Senate District 7. Linda E. Maurice, the executive director of the Jewish Council of North Central Florida will round out the information sharing.

Bring your signs and lawn chairs. For further information, call 352-235-4161.

Lawtey focusing on unfinished business

BY MELISSA PYLE
Special to the Telegraph

All members attended the Oct. 7 Lawtey City Council meeting applying pressure to address unfinished business from prior meetings.

One item has been on top of Councilmember Amy Blom's list and that is the city's policies and procedures.

"We don't need to wait around any further," Blom said. She suggested council members bring a list of items of concern to an upcoming meeting so the city can move forward with new policies, including an employee handbook, and policies for the previously proposed economic council.

Blom said they also need to discuss the city's pressing need to create a website. City Clerk Lisa Harley said she has called around but needs to get bids to create an official city website.

Blom stressed the importance of getting these items finished. At Blom's urging, members set a workshop Oct. 29 at 6 p.m.

Fire and police

Council members are in the final stages of a memorandum of understanding for the fire department with Bradford County. Councilwoman Emily Hoffman reported the agreement was complete, but she was waiting on members to read the updates and approve it at the next meeting.

In response to a public comment from a citizen about police vehicles, Chief Jerry Feltner and Officer Todd Jordan updated the board about two vehicles in the department's fleet that have been in and out of the shop. Jordan said both vehicles have over 120,000 miles on them and Feltner added that the cost to continually repair them is

becoming more than the vehicles are worth.

Police Capt. Nathan Blom reported that he had completed the "Train the Trainer" seminar for crossing guards. He is now a certified trainer and can train new hires. The city still needs to hire three crossing guards. The part-time hours include an hour in the morning and afternoon on school days.

Capt. Blom said if the city can't find enough hires, they are contemplating contracting it out and the cost will be covered by speeding citation revenue.

Strategic planning

Other unfinished business included the economic planning committee proposed for the future of the recreation building project on Old Middleburg Road. There were several citizens interested in joining the committee to help form a vision for the future of the property.

Mayor Jimmie Scott had agreed to move forward with the committee but as of October, no board has been formed. Scott expressed thanks for the reminder. Scott said he will have the proper procedures to begin the committee by the end of the year.

The outdoor play areas and fields at the Middleburg property are currently being utilized for practice by some of the pop warner football teams.

A suggestion was also made by a citizen to cover the existing holes in the roof of the recreation center with tarps to reduce further damage by storms. Council members said it wouldn't be safe for anyone to climb on the roof.

Recreation rules

An ongoing problem that has plagued the recreation

department is finally coming to a resolution. The recreation board has been requesting changes to the requirements of having seven members present at meetings. The department has been unable to have a quorum where all seven members are present. They requested an ordinance to make the requirement five members. Hoffman made a motion to allow attorney Dan Sikes to draft an ordinance amending the policy. Council approved her motion to change it from seven to five members.

Community connections

Residents, including Officer Jordan, thanked Councilwoman Debra Norman for her efforts to create "Come Together Day." Jordan said these types of events helped to encourage unity in Lawtey. He said that as a citizen he takes pride in the city and loves the citizens coming together. Jordan also made suggestions that the city create a better social media presence to keep everyone up to date on progress the council makes on improvements, spotlight events, and local announcements.

Jordan proposed having a BHS student intern to help with this project. Any interested media student can reach out to Officer Todd Jordan at the department.

In other business:

—Councilwoman Blom proposed, and board members approved, hiring a new maintenance person at \$17 an hour.

—The next meetings are the Oct. 29 workshop at 6 p.m. and the Nov. 4 council meeting at 7 p.m.

Hampton wants to update charter

BY CAROL MOSLEY
Special to the Telegraph

The city of Hampton will celebrate its 100-year anniversary of incorporation in 2025. The city council decided it was time to update the city charter as well.

The goal is to get rid of invalid language, not change governmental structure or operating procedures.

According to City Clerk and Administrator Mary Lou Hildreth this is just an update from the 1925 version because it had "so many things" in it that were no longer applicable, like the prohibition on tying up your horse to the ice plant.

The city attorney and city council have been discussing the various elements of the plan over time, but it is the voters who must decide to amend the founding document.

It is one of two local charter amendments on Bradford ballots. The Hampton referendum will appear solely on ballots for Hampton voters, while Starke voters are being asked to remove references to the police chief and department from the Starke charter since the department no longer exists.

The budget

The budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25 was adopted. The millage rate will be 2 mills on the assessed value of taxable property in the Hampton. That represents a 15.41% increase. Hildreth noted the increased administrative costs in all areas. She gave examples of the insurance rate, which is now

almost \$23,000. Audits have risen from \$15,000 to \$24,000, and utility costs have increased as well.

Play ball

It was decided to seek an increase in the rental rate of the old fire station to Funtastic Fire Brigade. When the contract was initiated, it was set at \$50 per month. Lots of local activities were anticipated in the building. The council felt that an increase to \$100 per month would be a reasonable rate.

The fee for the city attorney was approved with an increase from \$750 per month to \$1,000.

Ending maintenance contract

The council has decided to sever their decade-long relationship with Swamp Cutters. They are in search of a new company, or companies, to handle the various aspects of grounds maintenance.

Hildreth noticed that significant amounts of herbicide were purchased that was not representative of the past. In 2023, the cost was nearly \$3,500. When she questioned Swamp Cutters, she was told that a former employee had wasted it by not diluting the solution properly.

Hildreth said she was told by a source that the herbicide was used at another client's property.

The clerk contacted Lawtey, Brooker and Waldo, which informed her they do not use herbicide, except perhaps on rare occasions, such as twice per year on the baseball diamonds.

Mayor Dale Wiseman and Chair Bill Goode felt there had been a general decline in service and accountability to the contract, such as providing work logs and inventory control.

Attorney Will Sexton advised that Hampton should inform the company that Swamp Cutters is no longer an authorized purchasing agent and inform Swamp Cutters that they are responsible for the paying the bill from the herbicide seller.

Hildreth will continue negotiations in search of a solution.

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Mayor Dale Wiseman and Chair Bill Goode felt there had been a general decline in service and accountability to the contract, such as providing work logs and inventory control.

Attorney Will Sexton advised that Hampton should inform the company that Swamp Cutters is no longer an authorized purchasing agent and inform Swamp Cutters that they are responsible for the paying the bill from the herbicide seller.

Keystone Heights and Melrose (2738 SE State Road 21). Contact Susie Weimer at 570-801-2805 for further information.

Calling all crafters

Faith Presbyterian Church is calling all crafters to come and sign up to be in the 2024 Faith Presbyterian Church's Craft Show on Saturday, Oct. 26. The show is a fundraiser which is being held because the roof is leaking and the Church needs to raise funds to replace it.

There will be a 50% off sale on most items in the boutique (church thrift store). Vendor spaces are available for \$15 inside and \$10 outside.

Faith Presbyterian Church is located midway between

the ballot and the District 1 county commission race.

Everyone is invited to attend to attend and to bring a family member and a friend.

Starke preelection town hall

Starke Commissioner Janice Mortimer is hosting a town hall on Tuesday, Oct. 29, at 6 p.m. at the RJE cafeteria. In addition to an updated on law enforcement consolidation in the city, there will be information on city's charter amendment referendum, constitutional amendments on

Republicans meet Oct. 24

Due to Hurricane Milton, the Bradford Republican Executive Committee moved its regular monthly meeting to Thursday, Oct. 24, in the Capital City Bank community room beginning at 7 p.m. The bank is located at 350 N. Temple Ave. in Starke.

All registered Republicans are welcome.



Russ WADE
Attorney at Law

620 East Main Street
Lake Butler, FL 32054
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Turning the old dump into a botanical gem

The site of the old dump behind the Edwards Road Sports Complex is overgrown with invasive plant species. In the past, the Alligator Creek Garden Club has led air potato roundups here, and the group has long-range plans to convert the area into a botanical garden.

At this month's meeting, Paul Still will give a talk about the invasives that grow there and what can be done about them. He will show you examples of these invasive plants, as well as other interesting things he has found at the site.

Join the club this Thursday,

Oct. 17, at 2 p.m. at the Bradford County Senior Center located at 1805 N. Temple Ave. (301 North in front of the health department). The public is invited to attend. They will have refreshments, door prizes and a plant exchange. If you wish, you may bring a plant to share, but more important, bring yourself and your friends.

For more information, call Pat Caren at 352-339-3673.

Food distribution at True Vine

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Farm Share and True Vine Ministry will take place Tuesday, Oct. 22, at 10 a.m. at True Vine Outreach Ministry in Starke.

Food boxes often include fresh produce, deli and bakery items, dairy and some meats. Inventory is subject to change based on availability. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Lawtey food giveaway

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Feeding Northeast Florida and True Vine Ministry will take place Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 9 a.m. at the Philadelphia Baptist Church in Lawtey.

Food boxes often include fresh produce, deli and bakery items, dairy and some meats. Inventory is subject to availability. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Register for Livestock Forages and Field Day

The UF/IFAS Agricultural Extension and North Florida Livestock Agents Group will hold the 25th annual Livestock Forage and Field Day on Oct. 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Santa Fe River Ranch, 29220 NW 122nd St. in Alachua, Florida. There will be demonstrations, industry updates and expert presenters. Topics will include:

- cattle management and vaccination protocols.
 - bull selection and EPDs.
 - emerging weed problems and cold-season forages.
- Register online at

2024UFLivestockandForages.eventbrite.com. The field day is \$20 to pre-register or \$40 at the door.

For more information, please email liz.whitehead@ufl.edu or call 904-966-6224.

Class of '90 reunion

Bradford High School's Class of 1990 is having their 35th anniversary year this year. Please join us for a meeting on Saturday, Oct. 19, at 6 p.m. at The Downtown Grill. Also, find the group on Facebook. We will be planning other events throughout the year to celebrate. We look forward to seeing you. Go Tornadoes!

Democratic Women to meet on Oct. 23

The Democratic Women's Club of the Lakes Area will meet on an unusual day, Wednesday, Oct. 23. They will have two speakers, Bobby J. Brady, candidate for State House District 10 (Bradford County); and George T. Hill, candidate for State Senate District 7 (Putnam County).

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. with doors opening at 6:30; the speakers will be first on the agenda. All Democrats are welcome. Meetings are held at the Melrose Center, 309 S.R. 26 in Melrose. For further information, contact 352-235-4161 or Info@dwc-la.org.

Highly Rated Local Businesses!

<p>Andrews Site Prep (386) 867-0572 Services 20 different counties!</p> <p>ANDREWS SITE PREP</p> <p>"Only giving 5 stars because I can't give more. I'm not sure who you're using for your well and septic system but if you're not using Andrews site prep you are missing out. Bart, Luke, and the young lady in the front office are amazing. They know how to take care of a customer and treat them as a person not a number, as if I didn't already use them whenever I had a problem they have made sure I never go anywhere else ever again. If you ever need work done this is the place to go."</p>	<p>Hearing Aids Today 450 S Lawrence Blvd, Keystone Heights, FL 32656 (352) 877-4471</p> <p>HEARING AIDS TODAY Affordable Hearing Solutions</p> <p>"They are very specific people. When asked to do something they do it. I love the people at Hearing Aids Today. They have really helped me! If you need an adjustment they get you in immediately. Great people."</p>	<p>Durrance Pump 864 N Temple Ave STE C, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-7061</p> <p>"Quick response and great price! They don't nickel and dime you at all. They tell you a straight up price and that's what the bill is. I definitely recommend using them for your well! Cameron is super knowledgeable and pleasant to deal with."</p> <p>Durrance PUMP</p>
<p>Robert's Insurance 986 N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 452-7784</p> <p>ROBERTS INSURANCE EXPERIENCE, SERVICE & GREAT RATES</p> <p>"The staff there is great. Up beat atmosphere!"</p>	<p>Turners Automotive & Transmission 135 Commercial Cir, Keystone Heights, FL 32656 (352) 473-3404</p> <p>"Fast turnaround time and fair prices. The technicians kept us well informed of the progress and called with any additional issues. First time customers and we will return. Awesome job! Will recommend 10/10."</p> <p>JOEY TURNER'S AUTOMOTIVE & TRANSMISSION 352-473-3404 SERVICING NORTHEAST FLORIDA</p>	<p>Phillip McDonald Plumbing 740 S Orange St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-3737</p> <p>"We were having issues with our septic system and many places wouldn't service our area or wanted a ton of money and were very unpleasant on the phone. BUT, I called Phillip McDonald Plumbing and was greeted by a very friendly receptionist that listened to the problems we we having and gave me a straightforward cost and timeline. Dylan then came out the next day and fixed the issue. Thank you!"</p> <p>PHILLIP MCDONALD PLUMBING AND SEPTIC 904-964-3737</p>
<p>Bradford County Public Library 456 W Pratt St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 368-3911</p> <p>"Great place, great spaces, great resources and awesome staff."</p> <p>Bradford County Public Library</p>	<p>T.E.S. Rentals 2000 N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 452-0888</p> <p>Your destination for compact construction equipment and general contracting tool rentals. Located in Starke, Florida we eagerly serve all of Bradford, Clay, Baker, and Union Counties.</p> <p>T.E.S. RENTALS</p>	<p>The Struggle Bus Mobile I.V. www.strugglebusventures.com</p> <p>"I have been feeling so run down lately so I had the immunity blend and it has really helped me! Feeling great overall and especially felt my energy levels increase after my IV. The staff were knowledgeable and so friendly! Definitely recommend!"</p> <p>STRUGGLE BUS</p>
<p>Miller HVAC Services, Inc. (904) 626-0963 Serving Northeast FL</p> <p>Miller HVAC Services Inc</p> <p>"You can't go wrong with Miller HVAC, they have a dedicated team in providing excellent service, excellent customer skills, service with a smile and at a great price!! They care about your needs! Customer service goes a long way, I will always use Miller HVAC and you should too!!! They are there when you need them!!!"</p>	<p>Teal Tile Carpet One 131 N Cherry St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-7423</p> <p>TEAL TILE CARPET ONE FLOOR & HOME</p> <p>"We worked with Mary Carver during our rehab of three bathrooms in our house. She helped us with bathroom design for our tile showers and kept up with the whole process. We also tiled our Master Suite. She was always available and answered any questions we had. Teal tile is professional and I would highly recommend them for all of your tile needs."</p>	<p>NO LIMITZ Our Possibilities are Endless! 3 Stores to Serve You!</p> <p>*No Limitz Outlet ...Brand Name Retail for all Men, Women & Children *No Limit Fun Zone & Arcade ... Pool Tables, NFL Blitz, Darts and more...Fun for ALL Ages! *No Limit Smoke & Vape ... Vapes, accessories & more! 421 W. Madison St Starke 904-454-1483 430 W. Call St. Starke 904-454-1013</p> <p>5-star rated!</p>
<p>CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 3760 State Rd 21, Keystone Heights, FL 32656 (352) 875-6079</p> <p>10:00 AM - Adult Bible Class 11:00 AM - Worship Service</p>	<p>Bradford County Eye Center 292 Lafayette St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-8076</p> <p>BRADFORD COUNTY EYE CENTER</p> <p>"Excellent service. Fast and efficient exam. Doctor was very knowledgeable during the exam. Would recommend Bradford Eye center to anyone needing a great place for eye exams and eye glasses."</p>	<p>DLP Bank 811 S Walnut St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-7830</p> <p>DLPbank</p> <p>"Great service! Fast and efficient place with very nice and knowledgeable people. Great place to bank and a trusted bank in the community for over 100 years!"</p>
<p>Craig Falstreux Heating & Air, Inc 228 S Walnut St, Starke, FL 32091 (352) 792-4426</p> <p>CF AC FALSTREUX HEATING & AIR, INC.</p> <p>"Of course our A/C would go out on a hot, holiday weekend! We weren't sure which company to call, but out of the four that we left voicemails, Falstreux was the only one that responded. Our house was 90° and thankfully he said he'd be there in 30 minutes. And he was! He has our unit fixed within the next 30 minutes. We are truly thankful and won't use anyone else now."</p>	<p>C & S Site Prep 22787 NW 34th Ave, Lawtey, FL 32058 (352) 235-1210</p> <p>C & S Site Prep Lawtey, FL</p> <p>Land Clearing, Driveway, Culverts, Excavation, Ponds, House Pads, Drainage, Grading, Erosion Control, Dirt, Lime Rock, Asphalt, Sand, Crushed Concrete, 57 Stone</p>	<p>Victory Way Church of God 205 SW Magnolia Ave, Keystone Heights, FL 32656 (941) 718-7006</p> <p>Victory Way</p> <p>SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 AM SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 10:30 AM CHILDREN'S CHURCH DURING MORNING WORSHIP SUNDAY NIGHT: 6:00 PM THURSDAY NIGHT: 7:30 PM</p>
<p>Jackson Building Supply Inc. 937 S Walnut St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 964-6078</p> <p>"Great family oriented hardware business. They have everything!"</p> <p>JACKSON BUILDING SUPPLY STARKE, FLORIDA</p>	<p>Bradford County Sheriffs Office 945-B N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 966-6161</p> <p>Bradford County SHERIFF'S OFFICE Sheriff, Gordon Smith "We Care"</p> <p>"I need to take a minute to recognize my jail command team, the people I'm surrounded by. Each unique and strong in their own areas. There is nothing anyone asks of them they don't do and almost always with a smile. They take care of business and take care of people at the same time."</p>	<p>CJ Appliances 442 W Call St, Starke, FL 32091 (904) 452-1968</p> <p>CJ Appliances New, Open Box, Scratch and Dent</p> <p>"Great place, starke needed an appliances store with good prices. I bought my mom a brand new dryer from them for 60% off of what it would cost at lowes or homedepot. Seriously check this place out"</p>

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Obituaries

Daniel Bresee

Daniel William Bresee, 37, of Starke died Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2024.

Survivors are his wife, Elsie Bresee; mother, Melinda Godwin; children, Joaquin and Natalia Rodriguez and Graysen Bresee; brother, Michael Bresee; sisters, Savannah Godwin and Amanda Godwin; and extended family members.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2, at Woman's Club of Starke, 201 N. Walnut St.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel, Starke. 904-964-5757.

Nancy Jo Clyatt

Mrs. Nancy Jo Clyatt, 84, of Providence, passed away peacefully Sunday, Oct. 6, 2024, surrounded by her loving family. She was born to Ronald and Joanna Boyles on April 4, 1940, in Monticello. She grew up in Gainesville and Ocala, where she met the love of her life, Charles Lawton Clyatt (C.L.), graduating in 1958. A devoted wife and mother, she operated a sandwich-making and delivery business for many years before transitioning to a role as a home healthcare aide. She had a passion for life that was evident by her love for going to town, traveling, gardening, birdwatching, and enjoying a Coca-Cola (never Pepsi). She took pleasure in keeping up with the news, doing crossword puzzles, and cherishing moments with her "intelligent" dog, Milo. However, her greatest love was always her family. She was an active member of Old Providence Baptist Church, where she found community and fellowship. She exemplified Proverbs 31 in all she did; "She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue." She was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, C.L.; her parents, Ronald and Joanna; and her beloved granddaughter, Carolina Clyatt Shuler.

She leaves behind her children, Chuck Clyatt of Providence and Deneen (Delmar) Sweat of Lake Butler; eight grandchildren, Patrick, Chris, and Kyle Tyre; Candace Clyatt Brannen; Matt King; and Brantley, Zachary, and Delaney Sweat; as well as seven great-grandchildren; and her devoted sisters, Linda Boyles and Sandy Stokes.

A funeral to honor her life was held Monday, Oct. 14, at Old Providence Baptist Church. A visitation was held prior to the service. Interment followed at Old Providence Baptist Church Cemetery.

Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler, was honored to once again serve the Clyatt family. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com



Mary Crawford

Mrs. Mary (Starling) Crawford, 84, of Starke went to be with her Lord and Savior on Monday, Oct. 14, 2024. She was born near Heilbronn Springs in Bradford County on July 1, 1940, to Howard D. and Esther (Kirkland) Starling. She graduated from Bradford County High School in 1958 and married James L. Crawford of Union County on Sept. 27, 1958. She accompanied Jim during his 30 years of military service in the United States Army, making 15 moves in 30 years. She accompanied him on two tours in South Korea for a total of five years. Her hobbies were creating metal flowers and decorating blown eggs. She participated in local churches and home Bible studies during the 15 moves around the world and here at home. She was preceded in death by her parents, Howard D and Esther K. Starling Moore; sister, Allie Mae Murphy; daughter, Joella Seay; and son, Randolph S. Crawford.

Survivors are her husband of 66 years, Col. James L. "Jim" Crawford of Starke; granddaughters, Amanda (Adam) Stevenson and Emily (Dallas) Christoffers; great-grandson, Austin Tyler (Ty) Stevenson; son-in-law, Martin Seay; sisters, Clara Davis of Wildwood and Sylvia (David) Bibler of Forest City, North Carolina.

A Celebration of Life will be held Thursday, Oct. 17, at 11 a.m. at Madison Street Baptist Church with Pastor Charles Warren and Pastor Richard Cason officiating. Family will receive friends an hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will follow at Fort Call Cemetery in Union County.

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Starke, 904-964-6200 www.jonesgallagherfh.com.



Nancy Denton

Nancy McLarty Denton, 76, of Keystone Heights, passed away peacefully on Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024. She was born in Memphis, Tennessee on March 30, 1948, to the late Walter and Flora (Morton) McLarty. She earned her Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin and her Master of Education from NOVA University. She was the beloved home economics teacher at Bradford High School for 30 years, where she shared her love of cooking and sewing with her students. She was a member of Madison Street Baptist Church. She enjoyed working in her flower garden, quilting, and cooking for her family. She also looked forward to attending Camp Meeting at the Old Methodist Campground in Oxford, Mississippi every summer, where she took delight in singing gospel hymns and spending time with her family. But most of all, she cherished being a "Mom" and "Nana" to her children and grandchildren whom she adored and loved dearly. She was preceded in death by her parents; and her husband, Mikel G. Denton.

Survivors are her children, Estella D. (Dale) Pendarvis of Lawtey, and Mikel (Jennifer) Denton of Fleming Island; grandchildren, Andrew, Eric, and Patrick Pendarvis, all of Lawtey; and siblings, Mary Zoroli of Olive Branch, Mississippi, Jerry McLarty of Byhalia, Mississippi, and Ann (Paul) Carlson of Collierville, Tennessee.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Oct. 15, at DeWitt C. Jones Chapel with Pastor Dale Wiseman officiating. Interment followed in Hope Cemetery. Visitation with the family was one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

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



Winnie Crews

Mrs. Winnie Welch (Warren) Crews, 99, of Old Town passed away Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024, at HCA Florida Hospital in Gainesville. She was born March 6, 1925, in Wauchula to the late W.L. and Alice "Ruth" (Fisher) Warren. She graduated from Hardee County High School and attended Florida State University when it was an all-girls college. Prior to retirement, she worked as an administrative assistant for the Pinellas County School Board. She was a member of Old Town United Methodist Church and attended First Baptist Church in Chiefland and Foundation Church in Starke. She loved spending time with her family, growing house plants, doing word puzzles, and shopping in thrift stores. In her younger years, she enjoyed home canning and freezing. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 68 years, Frank Crews; daughter, Susan Crews Kirkhart; son, James "Ricochet" Crews; and brother, George Warren.

Survivors are children, JoAnne Crews (Charles) Howard and Andrew (Donna) Crews, both of Old Town; son-in-law, Tim Kirkhart of Lakeland; daughter-in-law, Laura Crews of Starke; and sister, Emily Bartels of Chiefland. Also left are her grandchildren, Timmy Anderson of Lakeland, Kerry (Mark) Shapiro of Lakeland, Christopher (Angela) Kirkhart of Lakeland, Michael Kirkhart of Lakeland, Jennifer (Tom) Adkins of Old Town, Chuck (Melissa) Howard of Largo, Mike (Rachel) Howard of Ivor, Virginia, Jeff (Megan) Howard of Pinellas Park, Melissa (Jon) Horan of Brooksville, Sarah (Joe) Hufstetler of Riverview, Matthew (Jaime) Crews of Keystone Heights, Crystal (Matt) Slimer of Midland, North Carolina, Mark (Samantha) Crews of Safety Harbor, and Joseph (Taylor) Crews of Trinity; along with 34 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

The family received friends at Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home on Monday, Oct. 7. Funeral services were held Tuesday, Oct. 8, at Foundation Church with Pastor Josh Reinken officiating. Interment followed at Long Branch Cemetery.

Arrangements were by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Starke. 904-964-6200 www.jonesgallagherfh.com.



Patricia Friedlin

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Patricia Lorimier Friedlin of Keystone Heights. She passed away on Friday, Sept. 20, 2024, at E.T. York Center in Gainesville. She was 91 years old. Pat was a homemaker and stay-at-home mother after she and Buddy married in 1953. She was a proud Girl Scout for over 50 years and enjoyed being a troop leader, swim instructor, and Girl Scout day camp organizer. She loved swimming, singing and canoeing and went on many adventures as a scout. As a pastor's wife she was devoted to her church and worked tirelessly with the children and women's organization. She made many life-long friends. She loved her yard work at her beautiful home on Spring Lake and taking in any stray animal. Mostly, Pat was known for her sweet spirit and her love for every human on the planet! Even after dementia took over, her sweet spirit remained intact. She touched many lives at the assisted-living facility, where she was a resident for the last several years. Pat was preceded in death by her only true love, Buddy Charles Friedlin; her parents, Samuel Edward Lorimier and Louise Fonvielle Lorimier; two sons, Mark Charles Friedlin and Bradly Lorimer Friedlin; grandsons, Lorien Mark Friedlin and Mark Chason Adams; brother, Samuel Edward Lorimier Jr.; and sister-in-law, Bonnie Lorimier.

She is survived by her daughters, Kristin Friedlin (Greg) Alvarez (Greg) of Starke and Nancy Friedlin (Mark) Robbins of Hawthorne; two daughters-in-law, Beth Strickland Friedlin of Keystone Heights and Kimberly Wicker Friedlin of Hayes, Virginia. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Michael Bradley (Lynn) Adams of Green Cove Springs, Jason Bradley Friedlin of Hallieford, Virginia, Whitney (Lee) Harrell of Fernandina, Patricia (Jeff) Eyster of Keystone Heights, Lindsay Friedlin (Michael) Smith of Gloucester, Virginia, Jesse (Kayla) Alvarez of Starke, Tyler (Jaycea) Friedlin of Starke, Tristan (Samantha) Vonwald and Tori (Billy) West of Hayes, Virginia. She will be greatly missed by her 11 great-grandchildren.

A private family gathering will take place at a later date.

PAID OBITUARY



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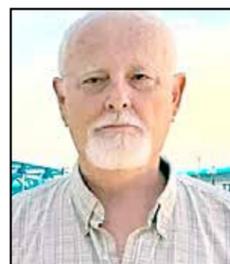
Roger Kelly

Roger Allen Kelly, born on Aug. 1, 1951, in Jacksonville, passed away peacefully surrounded by family at his side on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2024, at Cornerstone Hospice in Orlando. A respected attorney for 45 years and proud member of the Florida Bar Association, Roger's career was marked by his commitment to justice and the law. His dedication to his profession was mirrored by his impressive academic achievements, having graduated Summa Cum Laude from Samford University Cumberland School of Law. He was a man of many interests and passions. He enjoyed hiking in the mountains, a pastime that connected him with nature and provided him with a sense of peace and adventure. His love for classic cars and Jeep Cherokees was not just a hobby; it was a deep-seated enjoyment that he shared with close friends and family. As a gun enthusiast and member of the Orlando Gun Club, he embraced the community and camaraderie that came with his interest in firearms. In addition to these pursuits, he was an avid reader who found joy in the pages of many books. He had a particular fondness for chicken wings, often gathering with family and friends to enjoy his favorite dish while cheering on his beloved sports teams: the Florida Gators, Jacksonville Jaguars, Orlando Magic, and the Orlando Solar Bears. His enthusiasm for sports was infectious, something he passed on to both of his children, and his loyal support brought joy to those around him. He was preceded in death by his parents, James Robert "JR" and Alice Driggers Kelly; and his sister, Peggy Ann Kelly of Starke.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Fran Kelly of Orlando; his daughter, Kacie Kelly Hutchinson and her husband Jason of St. Augustine; his son, Jonathan Kelly and his wife Valerie of Winston-Salem, North Carolina; grandchildren, Elizabeth Kelly of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and Hayes Allen Hutchinson of St. Augustine; his brothers, Robert and Ronald Kelly, both of Gainesville; and his sister, Kathryn Raulerson.

A funeral service was held Friday, Oct. 4, at Bayless Highway Baptist Church in Starke, Florida. He was laid to rest immediately after the service at Dekle Cemetery in Lake Butler.

Archer-Milton Funeral Home was honored to serve the family of Mr. Roger Kelly. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com



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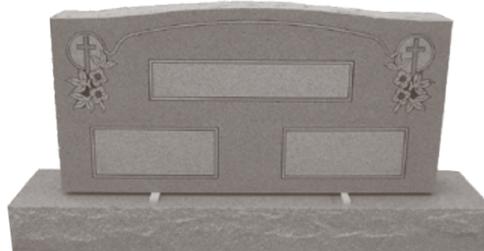
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Obituaries

Gladys Locke

Gladys Louise Johns Locke, 80, of Lake Butler, passed away Monday, Sept. 2, 2024, at her home. She was born Jan. 13, 1944, to the late Ray and Frances Johns. She graduated from Union County High School, class of 1962. After graduation, Gladys moved to Winter Haven and went to work for State Farm Insurance. She married Lemuel Locke, and they moved to Illinois, where they raised their two children, Teri Lynn Locke and Jeff Locke. They were blessed with three grandchildren, Alexis Skipp, Dylan and Sarah Locke. She worked all her adult life, retiring from Shadd Country Crock in management after 25 years. Her greatest joy in life was loving and taking care of her family. She was preceded in death by her husband, Lemuel Locke; and sister, Frances Carol Johns Sutherland.

She is survived by her daughter, Teri Lynn; son, Jeff; her three grandchildren; and her sister, Patricia Robinson.

A Celebration of Life was held, Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Women's Center in Lake Butler. Pastor Terry Elixson officiated the service.



PAID OBITUARY

Martha Roberts

In 1951, a beautiful young girl named Martha Scritchfield met Wayne Roberts, a sailor from Charlotte Harbor. Wayne would say many years later, "I fell in love the first moment I saw her." Though their connection was undeniable, Wayne was in the Navy and was being deployed to Guam after serving in the Korean War, so they agreed to be pen pals. For the next 2.5 years, they would correspond through letters. In one letter, Wayne sent Martha a ring that he purchased while in Guam and asked her to be his wife. She said yes. The pair married Oct. 9, 1954, and would go on to build a beautiful life together and leave a legacy of love, faith, and family. On Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2024, their 70th wedding anniversary, Martha Raye Roberts, 85, of Lake Butler, was welcomed into eternity by her two great loves – Jesus and her beloved husband, Wayne, who undoubtedly was joined also by their son, Guy Wayne and grandchild, Elias. Martha was born Sept. 10, 1939, in Marysville, California to James Henry and Lou Rena Scritchfield and was the youngest of nine siblings. She spent her childhood and early adulthood in California until she and Wayne moved to Lake Butler in 1974, where they have called home since. She retired as a nurse for UCI after 20 years and devoted her time to family. She and Wayne were passionate about sharing the love of Jesus, pastoring several churches over the years and ministering all over the country. She was the true definition of a matriarch. She cared deeply for her family and was the embodiment of unconditional love. She and Wayne made it a priority to always be present in the lives of their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. No one left Martha's house hungry, ever. She loved to cook. Just ask any of her family, and they will tell you that she was the world's best in the kitchen. Anywhere they went, she was asked to sing. She loved gospel music, and Wayne made sure she always had a song from her repertoire ready to sing at a moment's notice. He loved to hear her sing and joyously smiled with tear-filled eyes every time she ministered in song. Her love of music and singing still echoes throughout her family today and is part of the amazing legacy she leaves behind. She was preceded in death by her parents, James Henry and Lou Rena Scritchfield; her in-laws, Thomas and Cecil Roberts; her siblings, Rena, Margaret, Audrey, Jesse, Joanne, Jim, Paul, and Johnny; her son, Guy Wayne; and grandson, Elias Thomas.

Martha leaves behind a legacy in her family- children, Kim (Bill) Thomas, Tony (Dawn) Roberts, Gary (Trina) Roberts, and Marlena (Rob) Jarvis; grandchildren, Jennifer, Ben, Dustin, Tabatha, Kendice, Tianna, Kayla, Robby, and Keaton; great-grandchildren, Cole, Hayden, Jackson, Olivia, Reagan, Carsen, Gavin, Malachi, Mason, Talia, Eli, Evan, Emmitt, Easton, Matthias, Edyn, Honor, Shepherd, Keldon, Aiden, Zailley, Zoe, Enzley, and Slade.

A service to honor her life will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 17, at Culture House Church, 16045 SE 71st Trail, Lake Butler. The family will receive friends for a visitation from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 16, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home. She will be laid to rest with her beloved husband, Wayne, at Jacksonville National Cemetery at 1:30 p.m. following the service. The family requests friends to wear purple or lavender in honor of Martha.

Archer-Milton Funeral Home is honored to once again serve the Roberts family. 386-496-2008. www.archerfuneralhome.com. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Alzheimer's Association. www.alz.org



PAID OBITUARY

Holly McClellan

Holly Stills McClellan, 58, of Starke passed away Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024, at her residence with her loving family by her side. She was born in Gainesville on July 26, 1966, to the late Dillard Stills and Loma Weeks Stills. Holly spent the majority of her life in Bradford County and considered it her home. She was very proud of her accomplishments and career at the Bradford County Courthouse, where she worked as a custodian for the past four years. She loved to read her Bible and her daily prayers. She was a devoted Christian, and her faith brought her peace throughout her life. She cherished moments spent with her family, creating precious memories that will last a lifetime. She valued the importance of family and enjoyed every opportunity to be with her loved ones. In her spare time, she enjoyed watching her crime shows and documentaries. She had a heart of gold and was always eager to lend a helping hand to those in need. She was very social and never met a stranger, making everyone she encountered feel like a friend. She was a devoted mother and grandmother and will be greatly missed by all who knew her. She was preceded in death by parents; sisters, Belinda Des and Sandra Rain; and brothers, Mike Rain, Lee Stills and Mark Stills.

She is survived by her loving daughter, Jessica Lynn (Christina) Rosario; brothers, Vince (Carlene) Stills and James "Buddy" Stills; sister, April Stills; great-niece, Jaeliana Donley; and many nieces and nephews as well as great-nieces and nephews and extended family members and friends.

A Celebration of Life was held Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Gov. Charley E. Johns Conference Center with Mr. Dale Hayes and Pastor John Hodges officiating. The family received friends an hour prior. Internment followed at Santa Fe Cemetery.

Arrangements were under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel, Starke, 904-964-5757. Visit www.ferreirafuneralservices.com to sign the family's guest book.



Robert Moody

Robert D. Moody, 84, went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2024, at the VA Medical Center in Lake City following an extended illness. He was the son of the late Marie Murdock Bigham. He had made Union County his home for the past 21 years after moving there from Miami. He served his country in the United States Army and was an operating engineer for Local Union 487 out of Miami for 40 years. He was affiliated with Philippi Baptist Church and enjoyed spending time with his family, building model ships, working on cars, fishing, drawing, woodworking and watching westerns. He was preceded in death by his eldest son, Dale R. Moody Sr.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Gay Moody of Lake Butler; son, Robert (Caroline) Moody of Lake Butler; and two daughters, Patricia (Duane) Ranard of Lake Butler and Mitzi Moody of Palmetto. He was "Pa" to his 12 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Cremation arrangements are under the direction and care of Gateway-Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 3596 S. U.S. 441, Lake City 32025. 386-752-1954. Please leave words of comfort for the family at www.gatewayforestlawn.com.

PAID OBITUARY



Bonnie Seay

Mrs. Bonnie Yvonne Seay, 88, of Starke died Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2024, at Riverwood Health and Rehab. She was preceded in death by her husband, William Patrick Seay; and daughter, Carolyn (Bobby) Guyer.

Survivors are children, Linda (David) Huber, Brenda (Mark) Thomas, and William (Chris) Seay; and extended family members.

Services were held Monday, Oct. 14, at DeWitt C. Jones Chapel. Interment followed at Hope Baptist Church Cemetery.

Arrangements were by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Starke 904-964-6200 www.jonesgallagherfh.com.

Vernon Todd

Vernon Todd, 76, passed away on Friday, Oct. 4, 2024, at the E.T. York Care Center in Gainesville. He was born on July 28, 1948, in Lake Butler, where he spent much of his life, to the late Isaiah and Nita Raulerson Todd. Throughout his years, he dedicated himself as a hard worker, engaging in various odd jobs and fulfilling the role of a handyman. His relentless work ethic and ability to tackle any task with diligence made him a valued member of his community. Known for his jovial nature, Vernon was a jokester with a big heart, earning the admiration and respect of those who had the pleasure of knowing him. He was truly described as an all-around good person, spreading joy wherever he went. His enjoyment came from simple pleasures, particularly relishing moments spent drinking coffee with friends at local spots like Jackson's and the Circle K. These moments highlighted his love for companionship and community, leaving a lasting impression on all who shared in these gatherings. He was preceded in death by his parents, Isaiah and Nita Raulerson Todd; his siblings, Sidney, Mallie, Bennett, Frank, Kenneth, Ray, Dave, and Theodore Todd; as well as sisters, Carolyn Greek and Sadie Davis.

He leaves behind his beloved sons, Vernon Wayne (Stacy) Todd, John David Todd, Samuel Isaiah Todd, and Jesse Michael Todd. His family also includes his cherished grandchildren, Kelsie Todd, Cameron Todd, Dylan Todd, Kaylee Todd, Crystal Watmough, Jacob Todd, and Samantha Todd; as well as his great-grandchildren, Madalyn Brewer, Hayden Thornton, Kyleigh Tyler, Samantha Sheffield, Oakley Smith, and two on the way.

A graveside service was held Friday, Oct. 11, at Elzey Chapel Cemetery in Lake Butler. Friends and family were invited to gather to celebrate his life and share in remembrance of the joy he brought into their lives.

Archer-Milton Funeral Home was honored to serve the Todd family once again. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com



Kathryn Raulerson

The family of Kathryn Kelly Raulerson announces her passing on Friday, Oct. 4, 2024, peacefully surrounded by family at Haven Hospice in Gainesville. She was born in Bradford County on March 23, 1936. A proud graduate of Bradford High School in 1954, she then attended the University of Florida, where she became a member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority. During her time at the university, she met her future husband, Jim Raulerson, and they married June 18, 1956. She was an avid Gator fan and enjoyed reading, traveling and hiking, but most of all, she cherished time spent with her family. She worked as a database clerk at Mebane Middle School and continued to volunteer after her retirement. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Alachua, where she was actively involved in senior activities and built many loving connections with her church family. She had a special talent for making holidays memorable, decorating and cooking with the utmost attention to every detail. She was preceded in death by her husband, James Hardy "Jim" Raulerson; her parents, James Robert "J.R." Kelly and Alice Marie Driggers Kelly; brother, Roger Allen Kelly; and sister, Peggy Ann Kelly.

She is survived by sons, Kelly (Dale) Raulerson, Samuel (Beth) Raulerson, Joseph (Ann) Raulerson, and Jason (Stacey) Raulerson; grandchildren, Deanna, Katie (Matt) Thompson, Tyler (Kylee) Raulerson, Mike (Faith) Raulerson, Hailey, Kealy, and Alyssa; great-grandchildren, Norah Kate, Grant, Kaden, Vance, Hadlee, Weston, and Maren; and brothers, Robert Kelly and Ron Kelly.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, Oct. 15, at First Baptist Church of Alachua, with visitation prior to the service. A graveside service followed at Antioch Baptist Church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Haven Hospice Foundation, beyourhaven.org/donate, in her memory. Please visit her memorial page at www.williamstomassfuneralhome.com.

For further information contact, Williams-Thomas Westarea 352-376-7556



PAID OBITUARY

Tigers to play for district volleyball championship

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Union County High School's volleyball team will play for its district championship after knocking off the second-ranked team in the Florida High School Athletic Association/MaxPreps Rural Class power rankings.

The third seed Tigers defeated second seed Lafayette 3-1 (22-25, 25-20, 29-27, 25-12) in the semifinals of the District 6-Rural tournament on Oct. 15. Union (16-8) will play either top seed Branford (22-3) or fourth seed Dixie County (11-12) for the championship on Thursday, Oct. 17, at 7 p.m. at Dixie County.

Union is the seventh-ranked team in the Rural Class. Branford is number one, while Dixie is 12th.

The Tigers, who lost two regular-season matches to Lafayette (16-4), advanced to the tournament semifinals off a 3-0 (25-8, 25-9, 25-17) win over sixth seed Fort White in an Oct. 14 quarterfinal match.

Stats for the tournament matches weren't available by deadline.

Union ended the regular season with a 3-0 (25-22, 25-16, 25-17) loss at Branford on Oct. 8. Indi Knox and Jaielyn Simmons had 12 and 11 kills, respectively, with Simmons adding a team-high three blocks. Layla Barber had 10 kills, while Morgan Smith had seven.

Kamryn Southerland recorded 27 assists and 10 digs.

Bella Johns led the team in digs with 11. The Tigers also got nine from Knox and seven from Bayley Staier.

A previously published Telegraph-Times-Monitor story about the Tigers' 3-0 wins over P.K. Yonge on Oct. 1 and Bradford on Oct. 7 didn't include stats, which weren't available at the time. Against P.K. Yonge, Union got 10 kills



Bella Johns (left), Layla Barber and the rest of the Union volleyball team will play for its district title on Thursday, Oct. 17, at 7 p.m. at Dixie County High School.

each from Barber and Simmons, while Knox had eight kills to go along with 10 digs. Southerland and Abby Williams had 10 and nine assists, respectively, with Southerland also tallying eight digs and four service aces.

The P.K. Yonge match also saw Johns and Staier each record seven digs, while Smith had two blocks.

Three players reached double digits in kills in the win over Bradford: Simmons with 16 and Barber and Knox with 10 each. Smith added seven kills.

Southerland and Williams had 14 and 10 assists, respectively.

Johns led the team in digs with nine, while Barber and Southerland each had five.

Simmons also recorded four blocks, while Barber had two.

Knox recorded a team-high aces with three.

Indians put out in District 5-3A tourney quarterfinals

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School lost 3-0 (25-22, 25-19, 25-20) to fourth seed Crescent City in a District 5-3A quarterfinal volleyball match on Oct. 14 in Crescent City.

It was the third loss in four matches for the fifth seed Indians, who end their season with an 8-15 record.

Stats weren't available by deadline.

Keystone won four of its final seven regular-season matches, beginning with a 3-1 (21-25, 25-19, 25-13, 25-15) win over visiting Eastside on Sept. 19. Mia Rivera and Riley Shuford had 10 and eight kills, respectively.

Rivera added six digs, while Shuford also had four service aces.

Kaleigh Marquart recorded 26 assists and three aces, while

Mckinlee Kirkland and Kadence Massey each had five digs.

Mackenzie Castelvechchi and Emma Stanley had three and two blocks, respectively.

On Sept. 23, Keystone lost 3-0 (25-15, 25-17, 25-20) loss to host Interlachen. Marquart had 16 assists, while Rivera had seven kills and four digs. Marissa Dowell added three aces.

The Indians earned a 3-1 (25-23, 25-16, 21-25, 25-17) road win over Class 4A Baker County on Sept. 24. Rivera recorded 14 kills and 11 digs, while Shuford had 13 kills.

Marquart had 34 assists and four aces, while Kennedie Carlton and Massey had 14 and 10 digs, respectively.

Castelvechchi and Stanley each had two blocks.

Keystone made it two in a

See KHHS, page 15

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Tornadoes miss out on district title with 21-7 loss

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Newberry was held to less than 20 yards in the first half, but the host Panthers scored on their first two drives of the second half, putting the Bradford High School football team in a three-score hole and eventually handing the Tornadoes a 21-7 defeat in an Oct. 11 game that resulted in Newberry being the District 5-2A champion.

“Obviously, we didn’t get them prepared good enough,” Bradford Head Coach Jamie Rodgers said. “That’s the bottom line. We got outcoached and got outplayed. That team played extremely hard up front.”

It was the Tornadoes’ first regular-season loss since 2022 and just the second regular-season loss they’ve experienced under Rodgers, who’s in his third year.

“Everybody needs a reality check every once in a while,” said Rodgers, whose team will attempt to bounce back against Leon (0-7) on Friday, Oct. 18, at 7 p.m. at Tallahassee’s Gene Cox Stadium. “We just got one. A good one. A good, physical one.”

Bradford (6-1, 2-1 in District 5) entered the game as the number one team in the Florida High School Athletic Association/MaxPreps Class 2A power rankings, but the third-ranked Panthers (5-2, 4-0) kept the Tornadoes off the scoreboard until approximately midway through the final quarter.

Quarterback Zack Paulk had

200-plus yards passing, but Bradford’s run game never got on track. The Tornadoes were averaging more than 230 rushing yards per game on the ground, but rushed for only 42 yards against Newberry.

“A lot of credit goes to (Newberry) on the defensive front. They basically took that part away from us,” Rodgers said, adding, “They’ve done that to a lot of people.”

Bradford’s offense, which still outgained Newberry by 80 yards, found some success on the game’s opening drive, with a 5-yard reception by Elijah Lawrence and a 6-yard run by Gino Addison helping the Tornadoes pick up a first down. A fumble two plays later, though, had Bradford facing a third-and-long situation. A 12-yard reception on a third-down play by Lawrence left the Tornadoes 1 yard shy of picking up another first down. Bradford’s offense stayed on the field to go for it, but the Newberry defense stopped Addison inches short of the line to gain.

That set the Newberry offense up at the Bradford 42. The Panthers could only gain 4 yards on three plays, with Bradford’s Duke Lewis and Jeremiah McKenzie tackling Kaleb Woods for a 1-yard gain on a pass play on third-and-7. Newberry punted, with Bradford taking over at its own 13-yard line.

Two plays later, the Panthers took the lead, with linebacker Logan McCloud intercepting a

pass and returning it 20 yards for a touchdown at the 4:18 mark of the first quarter. Zane Spires kicked the extra point as Newberry took a 7-0 lead.

Paulk was able to escape pressure and scramble for a 12-yard gain on Bradford’s next drive, giving the Tornadoes a first down at their own 33. The drive, though, ended with another interception — this time made by Newberry lineman Mykah Newton, whose return gave the Panthers a first down at the Bradford 25 with 1:29 to play in the first quarter.

Two straight run plays by the Panthers netted 3 yards. After Newberry was penalized for illegal procedure, the Tornadoes’ Trente Jenkins tackled Woods for no gain on a third-and-12 pass play, forcing the Panthers’ Spires to attempt a 44-yard field goal. The kick was no good.

A couple of Paulk completions gave Bradford a first down on the ensuing series, but Newberry’s Jarquez Carter then tackled Addison for a 6-yard loss. The Tornadoes punted after two incomplete passes.

Bradford’s next drive resulted in net gain of 1 yard, forcing another punt. A personal-foul penalty on the return tacked on 15 yards and had the Panthers starting a possession at the Tornadoes’ 49-yard line with 5:33 remaining in the first half.

Jenkins came up big for the Bradford defense, tackling Woods for just a 1-yard gain and then sacking quarterback Collin Dunmore for a 7-yard loss. The Panthers eventually punted. Jy’Quez Cason had a return of approximately 20 yards to set the Bradford offense up at its own 40 with 2:01 on the clock.

Branden Williams and Tyler Berry had receptions of 15 and 17 yards on consecutive pass plays as the Tornadoes drove to the Newberry 28. After an illegal-procedure penalty, Paulk was sacked for a 4-yard loss. Paulk then scrambled for a 15-yard gain, setting up third-and-4. He was sacked again on the next play. Bradford went for it on fourth down, with a pass play to Cason coming up 2 yards short of the first down.

A Newberry offense that generated just 18 yards in the first half found life in a big way to start the second half. The Panthers’ first play after receiving the kickoff was a 33-yard pass

play from Dunmore to Hayden Moore. McCloud then caught a short pass over the middle and broke three to four tackles on his way to a 41-yard touchdown just 48 seconds into the third quarter. Spires added the PAT to put the Panthers up 14-0.

After a three-and-out by the Bradford offense, Newberry began its second drive at the Tornadoes’ 47. Moore had a 9-yard reception on the first play, but Jenkins then dropped Woods for a 2-yard loss. Dunmore’s pass on third-and-3 was incomplete, but a penalty for roughing the passer gave Newberry a first down at the 25-yard line.

Woods had a 6-yard run on second-and-10 and then got the handoff again on third down, breaking tackles and dragging multiple defenders on a 15-yard run to the 4-yard line. Woods then bulled his way into the end zone from there. The Panthers, after Spires’ extra point, led 21-0 with 6:44 to play in the third quarter.

The two scoring drives accounted for all but 56 of Newberry’s 162 total yards.

Bradford’s offense got off to a good start on the ensuing series, with a 16-yard reception by Mikey Oliver, coupled with a personal-foul penalty, moving the Tornadoes from their own 25 to the Newberry 46. Receptions by Lawrence and Oliver and a couple of McKenzie helped Bradford pick up two more first downs as they drove inside the 20. Williams ran for a 6-yard gain that set up fourth-and-2 at the 11-yard line. McKenzie received the snap in the wildcat formation and was stuffed at the line of scrimmage for no gain, resulting in a turnover on downs.



Quarterback Zack Paulk (left) tries to avoid getting sacked by Newberry’s Jarquez Carter.

The Tornadoes have experienced a lot of success this season employing the wildcat formation that has Cason, McKenzie and Williams taking turns carrying the ball. Newberry, however, held the Tornadoes to 28 yards on 10 run attempts out of that formation, with six carries resulting in gains of 1 yard or no yards.

Bradford’s first possession of the fourth quarter resulted in its only score. A 6-yard run by Cason resulted in a first down, but the Tornadoes lost yardage on the next two plays, with the

See BHS, page 16



Brian Clifflin (center) and Tyler Berry (far right) attempt to keep Newberry’s Hayden Moore from making a big gain.

BHS volleyball season ends with a loss to Wolfpack

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School’s volleyball team lost 3-0 to top seed Wolfson in the semifinals of the District 4-3A tournament on Oct. 15.

The Tornadoes (2-15) wrapped up a rough season with a young team that was composed of five freshmen and two sophomores. Bradford had only one senior in Kaylah Vargas.

Bradford ended the regular season with 3-0 losses to visiting Suwannee on Oct. 8 and host Keystone Heights on Oct. 12.

BHS boys golf team loses to host Trinity

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School placed second behind host Trinity Christian in an Oct. 14 boys golf match at Jacksonville’s Bent Creek Golf Course.

The Tornadoes had a team

score of 181, which left them trailing the Conquerors by seven strokes.

Cody Spratlin finished in a three-way tie for second with a score of 43. He made par on four holes and finished one stroke behind medalist Zachary Hidalgo of Trinity.

Charlie Zink and Tucker Griffis placed fifth and sixth, respectively, with scores of 44 and 45. Zink had a birdie and made par on three holes, while Griffis made par on four holes.

Steven Carter and Avery Burgin each made par on one hole and finished ninth and 10, respectively, with scores of 49 and 50.

Matthew Stafford shot a 67. Prior to playing Trinity, Bradford placed second against Clay in an Oct. 8 match at Green Cove Springs’ Magnolia Point Golf and Country Club.

Bradford had a team score of 192, while Clay finished at 157.

Spratlin shot a fourth-place score of 43, making par on five holes.

Griffis, who made par on one hole, finished in a two-way tie for seventh with a score of 47.

Zink, who made par on three holes, and Carter, who made par on one, placed ninth and 10th, respectively, with scores of 49 and 53.

Burgin and Stafford had scores of 60 and 62, respectively.

Tigers return to football field with Oct. 18 home game

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Union County High School, the top football team in the Florida High School Athletic Association/MaxPreps Rural Class power rankings, returns to action after an off week, hosting a struggling Trinity Catholic team on Friday, Oct. 18, at 7 p.m.

The Class 1A Celtics (1-6) have lost four in a row, with their most recent loss coming against Clearwater’s Calvary Christian by a score of 41-13.

Trinity, which is also coming off a bye, has lost two games to top-10 teams in 1A: 38-6 to sixth-ranked Melbourne Central Catholic and 55-7 to second-ranked Clearwater Central Catholic. The Celtics also have a 16-10 loss to 11th-ranked Class 3A Eastside and a 38-7 loss to 11th-ranked Rural Class Williston.

The Tigers are looking to go 7-0 for the first time since 2021.

Union has scored more than 40 points in three of its last four games and has allowed 46 points all season.

Rushing Wind Reunion and Fish Fry

New River Methodist Church
27187 NE CR 125, Raiford, FL 32083

October 19th, 2024

Eat Time: 5PM
Local Singing Time: 6PM
Rushing Wind Time: 7PM

The Matthews Museum (Bradford County Museum) Needs Volunteers!

- * Show visitors around the museum.
- * Share interesting facts about Bradford County.
- * All of this in a climate controlled location.
- * Students can earn Community Service Points.

To find out more

Contact: Chuck Kramer
(904) 964-5001 or (904) 364-6977



NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION OF TAX ROLL

PURSUANT TO SECTION 193.122(2), FLORIDA STATUTES, KENNY CLARK, PROPERTY APPRAISER FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, HEREBY GIVES NOTICE TO ALL TAXPAYERS AND OWNERS OF BOTH REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY THAT THE 2024 BRADFORD COUNTY TAX ROLLS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO SHOW THE TAX ATTRIBUTABLE TO ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY AND THAT SAID TAX ROLLS WERE CERTIFIED FOR COLLECTION TO THE TAX COLLECTOR ON October 15, 2024.

KENNY CLARK
PROPERTY APPRAISER

Upward Bound program welcomes 2 new faces

Jeffers continues teaching journey as academic coach

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Teaching beyond the confines of classroom walls.

That's what D'on Jeffers envisioned for herself career-wise when she balanced work and being a mom to go to the University of Florida and earn a bachelor's degree in Education. She began a new career in the classroom at Bradford Middle School, but she always saw herself filling a role that was more than just teaching core subjects to students.

Therefore, Jeffers' new position as the academic coach with the Santa Fe College Upward Bound program is perfect.

Upward Bound, which is offered free to BHS students, is a part of the U.S. Department of Education's TRIO program. TRIO is designed to provide assistance to students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Upward Bound accepts students

that are potentially first-generation college students and whose families meet income requirements set by the U.S. Department of Education.

"It just feels like I'm doing what I'm called to do," Jeffers said.

The first step toward that call of helping young people occurred while Jeffers was working as the receptionist at Bradford Middle School. At first, that was simply a job that better accommodated her schedule of being a single parent. However, because of her interactions with students, it wound up steering her toward a new course in life.

"When I thought about going back to school, someone asked me, 'What is it that you think you'd like to do for the rest of your life?' Education just happened to be so convenient at the time because I was so influenced by the atmosphere (at BMS)," Jeffers said.

Jeffers received encouragement from BMS administrators, who believed she had what it took to work, go to school and still be a mom. A group of BMS staff purchased

a laptop for Jeffers, who had no computer of her own and would make trips to the Bradford County Public Library and even one of the libraries in Gainesville so she could use one.

After graduating from UF, Jeffers began teaching at BMS. From the start, she envisioned a future in which she went on to do more than just work in a classroom. She liked the idea of possibly being some kind of counselor and possibly starting her own nonprofit that would benefit children in some way.

Jeffers would eventually take a job with Santa Fe College as part of its Achieve program, which provides mentoring and coaching to high school students in an effort to better prepare them to go to college and be successful. After high school graduation, Achieve students enrolled at Santa Fe receive a stipend to cover the cost of textbooks, with eligible students also qualifying for a full-tuition scholarship that picks up where financial aid leaves off.

"I'm super thankful for the

See JEFFERS, page 17

Joy Murungi helps BHS seniors find passion as pre-college specialist

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Joy Murungi is the new pre-college academic specialist for the Santa Fe College Upward Bound program in Starke, but she's anything but a new face in Upward Bound. You could say the program has been a part of her entire journey upward from Bradford High School student to Santa Fe student.

"I got to see it from a student perspective," Murungi said. "Now, I'm within the internal part of the program, so I get to see how everything works so that the staff can give back to the students."

Murungi, who in the Santa Fe College Organizational Management bachelor's program (with a specialization in Human Resource Management), graduated from BHS in 2021. She was a part of the Upward Bound program for all four years at BHS.

Upward Bound, which is offered free to BHS students, is a part of the U.S. Department of Education's TRIO program. TRIO is designed to provide assistance to students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Upward Bound accepts students that are potentially first-generation college students and whose families meet income requirements set by the U.S. Department of Education.

"TRIO paved the pathway for me to receive a two-year scholarship through CAP (College Achievement Program) at Santa Fe College," Murungi said.

Murungi, who's already earned an AA degree at Santa Fe in Business Administration, has worked in Upward Bound since graduating from BHS. She first worked as an educational aide and was then a program support specialist prior to her current role.

As a pre-college academic specialist, Murungi helps BHS seniors prepare for success after high school. She assists them with such things as college applications and makes them aware of what scholarships and financial assistance is available

to them. As Murungi described it, she's "helping them along every aspect of the journey of going to college and making sure they're equipped with what they need to get to where they want to go."

Murungi said it's a full-circle moment for her.

As a BHS student, Murungi had no doubt college was a part of her future. That was due to the support she received from her mother, who "raised me to go out and do what you want to do and be very assertive about it, but also very respectful, of course."

Upward Bound, though, provided a little extra support. Murungi said she wouldn't have known about Santa Fe College CAP if not for Upward Bound.

Murungi is one for taking advantage of opportunities. She was among the first group of students in the VyStar High School Branch Program at BHS. She credited the experience for inspiring her to think of a career in human resources.

During the 2023-24 year at Santa Fe College, Murungi was part of the Student Ambassador Program, which provides a scholarship and offers leadership

See MURUNGI, page 17

Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Oct. 17, 2024

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: 84
Year of Issuance: 2018
Parcel Number: 00551-0-03400
Case Number: 04-2024-TD-19
Description of Property: A Parcel of land situated in the South One Half of the Northeast One Quarter of Section 34, Township 5 South, Range 21 East, Bradford County, Florida, said Parcel being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at a concrete monument at the Southeast corner of said Northeast 1/4 and run South 89 degrees 39 minutes 07 seconds West, along the South line of said Northeast 1/4 a distance of 1429.18 feet to an iron pipe; then run North 14 degrees 18 minutes 20 seconds East, along the center-line of a 60 foot easement for Utilities and general road purposes 945.71 feet to the Point of Beginning; then run North 82 degrees 11 minutes 40 seconds West, along said center-line 118.88 feet; then run North 00 degrees 17 minutes 40 seconds West, 391.75 feet to an iron pipe on the North line of said South 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4; then run North 88 degrees 52 minutes 40 seconds East, along said North line, 471.85 feet to an iron pipe; then run South 00 degrees 17 minutes 40 seconds East, 50.50 feet to the center-line of a cul-de-sac and the center-line of an easement for Utilities and general road purposes; then run South 55 degrees 18 minutes 20 seconds West, along said center line 255.00 feet; then run Southwesterly along said center-line with a curve concave Southeasterly, said curve having a central angle of 41 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds, a radius of 340.00 feet, an arc length of 243.30 feet and a chord of 238.14 feet; then run South 14 degrees 18 minutes 20 seconds West, along said center-line 26.77 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Subject to an easement for Utilities and general road purposes across the Southerly and Southeasterly 30 feet thereof.

Subject to an easement for Utilities and general road purposes across a cul-de-sac having a radius of 50 feet and having as its radius point the above described center-line point of a cul-de-sac.

Please note - per the Property Appraiser Records, this legal has been split into 2 separate parcels. No conveyance found with the new legal description to show.

Less and except (per survey provided by owner)

Parcel B : A parcel of land situated in the South One Half of the Northeast One Quarter of Section 34, Township 5 South, Range 21 East, Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at concrete monument at the Southeast corner of said NE 1/4 and run S 89 deg 39 min 07 sec W,

along the South line of said NE 1/4 a distance of 1429.18 feet to an iron pipe; then run N 14 deg 18 min 20 sec E, along the center-line of a 60 foot easement for utilities and general road purposes 945.71 feet; then run N 82 deg 11 min 40 sec W, along said center-line 118.88 feet; then run N 00 deg 17 min 40 sec W, 391.75 feet to an iron pipe on the North line of said S 1/2 of the NE 1/4 and the Point of Beginning; then N 88 deg 52 min 40 sec E along said North line a distance of 471.85 feet to an iron pipe; then run S 00 deg 17 min 40 sec E, 50.50 feet to the center-line of a cul-de-sac and the center-line of an easement for Utilities and general road purposes; then run S 55 deg 18 min 20 sec W, along said center-line 255.00 feet; then run Southwesterly along said center-line with a curve concave Southeasterly, said curve having a central angle of 5 deg 40 min 47 sec, a radius of 340.00 feet, an arc length of 33.70 feet and a chord bearing and distance of S 52 deg 28 min 14 sec W, 33.69 feet; then run N 48 deg 42 min 43 sec W, 313.60 feet to the Point of Beginning and to close.

Subject to an easement for Utilities and general road purposes across the Southeasterly 30 feet thereof.

Subject to an easement for Utilities and general road purposes across a cul-de-sac having a radius of 50 feet and having its radius point the above described center-line point of a cul-de-sac.

Name in Which Assessed: JULIE L EVERITT
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 11/20/2024, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

Denny Thompson,
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: KANETRA JENKINS,
Deputy Clerk

Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.

DATE OF PUBLICATION:
SEPTEMBER 26, 2024; OCTOBER 3, 2024; OCTOBER 10, 2024; OCTOBER 17, 2024

9/26 4tchg 10/17-BCT

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801 - 83.809); Santa Fe Storage of Waldo. Will sell for CASH to the highest bidder on Storageauctions.net

For location at 15540 NE HWY 301, Waldo, County of Alachua, Florida; ending at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, the 23rd day of October; 2024, and continuing day to day thereafter until sold: the household goods and misc. contents of the following:

0B001 Matthew McGranahan
10/10 2tchg 10/17-BCT

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801 - 83.809); Santa Fe Storage of Starke will sell for cash to the highest bidder on storageauctions.net for location at 1630 North Temple Ave, Starke, County of Bradford, FL, at 2:00 pm on

Wednesday, the 23rd day of October; 2024 and continuing day to day thereafter until sold: the household goods and misc. contents of the following:

0B028 Charlesetta Lee
0G019 Connie Collins
0J015 Yvonne Williams
10/10 2tchg 10/17-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
File No.: 04-2023-CP-000075-CPA X-MX
Division: —

IN RE: ESTATE OF MARJORIE JEAN STARLING, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS (summary administration)
TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:

You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of Marjorie Jean Starling, deceased, File Number 04-2023-CP-000075-CPAX-MX, by the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is P.O. Drawer B, Starke, Florida 32091; that the decedent's date of death was March 12, 2023; that the total value of the estate is \$22,256 and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are:

Carmella Bugbee, 326 Gawain Lane, Tallahassee, FL 32301
Robert C. Bugbee, 326 Gawain Lane, Tallahassee, FL 32301

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:
All creditors of the estate of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is October 10, 2024
Attorney for Person Giving Notice: J. Dinkins G. Grange, Esquire
Email Address: dgrange@grangelaw.org
Florida Bar No.: 0373760
722 North Orange Ave.
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
Ph. 904-652-0060
Person Giving Notice:
Carmella Bugbee
10/10 1tchg 10/17-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
To satisfy the owner's storage lien, KO Storage LLC will sell at public lien sale on November 12, 2024. The personal property in the below-listed units, which may include but are not limited to: Household goods, boxes/totes/bags, clothing, bedding, tools and toys. The public sale of these items will begin at 10AM on November 05, 2024 and end at 10AM on November 12, 2024. The public sale will take place on www.storageauctions.net.

KO Storage of Starke - S Walnut St, 1650 South Walnut Street, Starke FL 32091, (952)-491-6837
Time: 10:00AM CST
A08, cruger, gerica, A14, FRAZIER,

10/17 2tchg 10/24-BCT

LEGAL NOTICE
BRADFORD COUNTY

DAVID, A77, Smith, Duanea, B08, Mikkelson, Andrew, B44, chevalier, brianna, B51, Green, Cherish
Public sale terms, rules, and regulations will be made available on www.storageauctions.com. All sales are subject to cancellation. We reserve the right to refuse any bid. Payment must be by credit/debit card, we do not accept checks or cash. Buyers must secure the units with their own personal locks. To claim tax-exempt status, original RESALE certificates for each space purchased is required. By KO Storage LLC, 10301 Wayzata Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55305. (952)-491-6837.
10/17 2tchg 10/24-BCT

IN THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
CASE NO.: 2024-CP-0114
DIVISION: Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF GARY WILLIAM TEATE, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of GARY WILLIAM TEATE, deceased, whose date of death was May 14, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorneys are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is October 17, 2024, 2024.
Attorneys for Personal Representative:
/s/ Clayton T. Miller
Clayton T. Miller
Florida Bar No.: 047094
Email: clayton@ivanlawgroup.com
2d Email: emily@ivanlawgroup.com
Robert Daugustinis
Florida Bar No.: 106914
Email: rob@ivanlawgroup.com
Ivan & Daugustinis, PLLC
5150 Belford Road, Bldg. 200
Jacksonville, Florida 32256
Telephone: 904-395-2395
Fax: 904-475-2121
Personal Representative:
DONNA M. TEATE
5255 NW 181st Way
Starke, FL 32091
10/17 2tchg 10/24-BCT

LEGAL NOTICE
BRADFORD COUNTY

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD

BUSINESS MEETING
The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council announces a business meeting to which all persons are invited.

DATE AND TIME: October 29, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Bradford County Emergency Operations Center Board Room located at 945 N Temple Ave # B, Starke, Florida

DIAL IN NUMBER: Toll free 1.888.585.9008

CONFERENCE CODE: 864 183 272
GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: To conduct the regular business of the Bradford County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

For additional information or to obtain a copy of the agenda interested persons may contact: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; godfrey@ncfrpc.org or 352.955.2200.

Any person may submit written or other physical evidence which he or she intends to offer into evidence during the business meeting to Lynn Franson, Senior Planner, at North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; or godfrey@ncfrpc.org.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 2 business days before the meeting by contacting 352.955.2200. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800.955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800.955.8770 (Voice).

If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence from which the appeal is to be issued.

10/17 1tchg-UCT

LEGAL NOTICE UNION COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD

BUSINESS MEETING
The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council announces a business meeting to which all persons are invited.

DATE AND TIME: October 29, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: Union County Transportation Facility located at 255 SW 9th Avenue, Lake Butler, Florida

DIAL IN NUMBER: Toll free 1.888.585.9008

CONFERENCE CODE: 864 183 272
GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: To conduct the regular business of the Union County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

For additional information or to obtain a copy of the agenda interested persons may contact: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; godfrey@ncfrpc.org or 352.955.2200.

Any person may submit written or other physical evidence which he or she intends to offer into evidence during the meeting to Lynn Franson, Senior Planner, at North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; or godfrey@ncfrpc.org.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 2 business days before the meeting by contacting 352.955.2200. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800.955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800.955.8770 (Voice).

If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence from which the appeal is to be issued.

10/17 1tchg-BCT

THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: ESTATE OF Martin Ray Ricks, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the Estate of Martin Ray Ricks, deceased, Case No: 042024CP000092CPAXMX is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Bradford County Courthouse, 945 Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091. The name and address of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmaturred, contingent or unliquidated claims, on whom a copy of this notice is served must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

10/17 1tchg-UCT

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John Miller, Publisher

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KHHS boys golf team is 2nd to Santa Fe on Oct. 8

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School played in an Oct. 8 boys golf match at Alachua's Turkey Creek Golf and Country Club, with Ty Mitzel leading the team with a fifth-place finish.

The Indians had a team score of 176, which left them trailing first-place Santa Fe by 18 strokes. Keystone placed second ahead of First Christian, which had a score of 187.

Mitzel had a birdie and made par on four holes in finishing with a score of 40.

Jacob Beach, who made par on five holes, shot a sixth-place score of 41, while Hunter Sheppard, who made par on two holes, finished eighth with a score of 47.

Nate Bardier shot a ninth-place score of 48, while Will Begue finished in a two-way tie for 10th with a score of 49. Bardier and Begue each made par on one hole.

Landon Spence also made par on one hole, finishing with a score of 52.

On Oct. 1, the Indians finished nine strokes behind Lafayette with a second-place score of 169 in a match at Lake City's Quail Heights Country Club. Branford was third, finishing 18 strokes behind Keystone.

Beach and Spence were part of a five-way tie for third individually. Each made par on four holes and finished with a score of 41. They were three strokes out of first place, with Lafayette's Cooper Kerby shooting a 38 for medalist honors and Lafayette's Hayden Thomas taking second with a score of 40.

Mitzel shot a 43 to finish in a two-way tie for ninth. He made par on four holes.

Begue just missed out on the top 10 with a score of 44, which put him in a two-way tie for 11th. He made par on three holes.

Sheppard, who made par on two holes, shot a 48, while Jackson McDaniel, who made

par on one hole, had a score of 52.

Keystone participated in a four-team match on Oct. 3 at Palatka Golf Club, finishing third with a score of 192.

Middleburg placed first with a score of 185, while Palatka was second, finishing four strokes behind the Broncos.

Penile Baptist had a fourth-place score of 203.

Beach took third for the Indians, making par on three holes and finishing with a score of 43.

Sheppard, who made par on one hole, shot 45 to finish in a two-way tie for fifth.

Begue, who had a birdie and made par on one hole, was in a two-way tie for 11th with a score of 51.

McDaniel, who made par on two holes, and Samuel Wacha, who made par on one hole, finished with scores of 53 and 54, respectively, while Spence shot a 56.

KHHS' Brooks ties for 3rd in Oct. 8 match

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School girls golfer Aubrey Brooks finished in a two-way tie for third in an Oct. 8 match against Middleburg at Orange Park's Eagle Landing Golf Club.

The Indians had a team score of 271, which placed them behind Middleburg, which had a score of 200.

Brooks made par on three holes in shooting a 50. That left her trailing medalist Jordan Bork of Middleburg by four strokes.

Jasmine Walls made par on one hole and finished with a sixth-place score of 67.

Averi Hemphill and Jillian Huntley were seventh and eighth, respectively, with scores of 76 and 78.

Keystone played in two matches the previous week, beginning with an Oct. 1 match at The Golf Club at Fleming Island. The Indians placed third with a score of 281, which left them trailing Fleming Island by

93 strokes and Oakleaf by 53 strokes.

Brooks and Rebecca Binet placed sixth and seventh, respectively, with scores of 63 and 65. Binet was the only golfer outside of the top five to make par on a hole.

The Indians got scores of 76 from Walls, 77 from Cunningham and 81 from Hemphill.

On Oct. 3, Brooks finished as medalist against Gainesville at Ironwood Golf Course.

Though it didn't count as a team win, with Gainesville having only three players, the Indians had three of the top four individuals and finished with a composite score of 249.

Brooks made par on two holes and had a score of 52, while Binet, who also made par on two holes, was second with a score of 55. Binet finished 10 strokes ahead of third-place finisher Kayla Vo of Gainesville.

Walls shot a fourth-place score of 68, while Emily Cunningham and Huntley placed sixth and eighth, respectively, with scores of 74 and 76.

Hemphill was ninth at 79.

Seay earns medalist honors for UCHS girls

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Union County High School girls golfer Kerissa Seay finished as the medalist in an Oct. 8 match with Taylor County at Perry Golf and Country Club.

Seay shot a 53 to finish one stroke ahead of Taylor's Camila Roman.

Union's Katelyn Seay made par on one hole and placed fifth with a score of 63, while Madison Starling was eighth with a score of 70.

The match also included a competition between the Union and Taylor boys players. Union's Patrick Maxwell made par on one hole and shot a fifth-place score of 56. Gavin Kuhn and Brysen Tomlinson were seventh and 10th, respectively, with scores of 59 and 67.

Santa Fe beats Indians to snap 21-game losing streak

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Dan@BcTelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School's football team fumbled three times in the first half and committed a costly roughing-the-kicker penalty in the third quarter en route to a 30-7 loss against District 5-2A opponent Santa Fe on Oct. 11 in Alachua.

Penalties dominated the matchup, with referees assessing two penalties before the Indians (2-5, 0-3 in District 5) started the game's first drive.

The Raiders (1-6, 1-2) appeared vulnerable before the game. They were winless in their last 21 games and scoreless in their last four matchups.

Days before kickoff, the team's head coach resigned, citing financial demands on his family after transitioning from sales to teaching.

However, the Raiders appeared energized for their homecoming game and looked different from the hapless squad reflected in their record.

Santa Fe's first score came after the Indians' third lost fumble. Mayer Steen hit a 32-yard field goal to put the Raiders up 3-0 with 7:39 remaining in the half.

After the Indians turned the ball over on downs, Santa Fe marched 70 yards on eight plays, ending with a 22-yard touchdown pass from Tyler Gentry to Makijah King. Steen added the extra point, giving the Raiders a 10-0 halftime lead.

The Raiders added seven more to begin the third quarter, driving 35 yards from their own 45 to the Keystone 30 on the legs of running back Carson Capallia.

Gentry then lofted a 30-yard pass to Malcolm Merriex, who wrestled the ball away from a Keystone defender. Steen added the P.A.T. for a 17-0 Raider lead.

The Indians got on the board with a 90-yard drive, sparked by runs by Kyle Perkins and Zane Leger. Perkins finished the campaign with a 2-yard run, and Tyler Sapp added the extra point for a 17-7 Santa Fe lead.



Kyle Perkins (center) tackles Santa Fe's Carson Capallia.

On Santa Fe's subsequent drive, the Raiders dug themselves in a hole. Facing fourth-and-22 from their own 48, the Raiders' punter watched as the snap sailed over his head. After scrambling and kicking the ball away, two Indians slammed into the punter, drawing a penalty and breathing new life into the all-but-dead drive.

The home team took advantage, driving to the Indian 11 and going for it on fourth-and-1 from the Keystone 11. Asaph Bryant took the handoff from Gentry and barreled into the end zone, giving the Raiders a 24-7 lead after the extra point.

The game's final score came on a penalty riddled 12-play, 57-yard drive by the Raiders, which featured personal fouls, a late hit, a delay of game and a face mask.

Capallia dashed in from 3 yards out, and Steen kicked the extra point, giving the Raiders a final lead of 30-7.

Keystone hosts Chiefland (6-1) on Friday, Oct. 18, at 7:30 p.m. Chiefland, which is fifth in the Florida High School Athletic Association/MaxPreps Rural Class power rankings, is coming off its first loss, dropping a 13-10 game to eighth-ranked 2A Taylor County.

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Bradford County Lake Region UNION COUNTY
Telegraph Monitor TIMES

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KHHS

Continued from page 11

row with a 3-1 (25-22, 25-10, 21-25, 30-28) win over visiting Palatka on Sept. 30. The Indians got 13 and 12 kills from Shuford and Rivera, respectively, with Shuford also recording five aces.

Marquart had five aces to go along with 35 assists, while

Stanley had seven kills, five blocks and three aces.

Massey led the team in digs with 11, while Castelvecchi and Mya Jennings had three and two blocks, respectively.

Keystone hosted Class 5A Clay on Oct. 1, losing a 3-2 (19-25, 25-13, 21-25, 25-16, 15-3). Shuford and Rivera had seven and six kills, respectively, while Stanley had five. Stanley also

had three blocks.

Marquart recorded 22 assists, while Carlton had four aces.

The Indians dropped a 3-1 (25-22, 25-15, 19-25, 25-17) home match against Newberry on Oct. 7. Marquart had 26 assists and three aces, while Rivera posted 16 kills.

Castelvecchi and Stanley had three and two blocks, respectively, while Kirkland had

five digs.

Keystone concluded the regular season with a 3-0 (25-19, 25-21, 25-22) win over visiting Bradford on Oct. 12. Jennings had 10 kills and four aces, while Shuford had six kills.

Marquart had 28 assists, while Massey had six digs.

Stanley added three aces and two blocks.

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Cow-Patty Bingo: raising moo-lah for the Arc of Bradford



Tony Sellars (left) and Arc of Bradford Executive Director John Williams watch Lucy the cow wander among the bingo squares, waiting for her to choose the winning number during the Arc's annual Cow-Patty Bingo fundraiser. Lucy eventually settled on an unsold square, which meant the prize money went to the Arc. Sales of bingo squares, sponsorships and donations amounted to \$9,500 raised to support the Arc and its services to those with intellectual and physical disabilities.



Terry Albert (left) and Michael Smith get ready to enjoy hot dogs, which were provided for free at the event.



Kim Lee sells soaps at the Arc's annual Fall Festival, which was held in conjunction with the Cow-Patty Bingo.

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Brooklyn Pernell is reeling the prizes in at one of the games available at the Fall Festival.



Josh Adkins hangs out by the cow-patty bingo area, hoping Lucy the cow picks his square.

Union still top Rural team, BHS falls to 3rd in 2A

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Union County High School, which had a bye week, maintained its spot atop the Florida High School Athletic Association/MaxPreps Rural Class power rankings, while Bradford fell from first to third in Class 2A after its 21-7 loss to Newberry on Oct. 11.

Rankings, which take into account results and strength of schedule, are updated weekly and will be used to determine playoff qualifiers and seeding.

Union (6-0) was second in the inaugural Rural Class rankings that were released Sept. 24, but the Tigers have been number one in each of the updated rankings since then.

The Top 16 Rural Class teams at the end of the season qualify for the playoffs. Ranking behind Union in descending order are Hawthorne (5-1), Madison County (4-2), Jay (7-1), Chiefland (6-1), Cottondale (7-0), Chipley (6-1), Aucilla Christian (7-0), Pahokee (4-2), Fort White (4-2), Williston (4-2), Jefferson County (6-1), Holmes County (5-2), Franklin County (6-1), Blountstown (4-2) and Baker (6-2).

The biggest changes in the top

16 from the previous rankings were Cottondale dropping from second to sixth and Madison County moving up from seventh to third.

Though Bradford (6-1) fell in Class 2A overall, it still maintained its number-one ranking in Region 2. The top eight teams in each of the class' four regions (including automatic-qualifying district champions) will advance to the playoffs.

Ranking behind Bradford in Region 2 are Newberry (5-2), Cocoa (3-3), Palatka (4-3), Clearwater Calvary Christian (3-2), Tampa Berkeley Prep (3-3), The Villages (4-2) and Titusville Astronaut (5-2).

In looking at Class 2A as a whole, the Tornados are now third behind Gadsden County (6-1) and Sarasota Cardinal Mooney (6-0). The rest of the top 10 behind Bradford are Pensacola Catholic (6-1), Bolles (6-1), Fort Myers Bishop Verot (4-2), Newberry, Taylor County (6-1), West Palm Beach King's Academy (7-0) and Marianna (8-0).

Bradford was ranked fourth in the previous poll when combining all classifications (Rural-7A), but has since dropped to 21st.

BHS

Continued from page 13

Panthers' Carter sacking Paulk and then tackling Lawrence behind the line of scrimmage on a pass play. Bradford needed 26 yards for a first down and got them on receptions of 12 and 21 yards by Cason.

The drive, which began at the 15, moved into Newberry territory on an 11-yard run by Addison to the Panthers' 42-yard line. Oliver, who finished with six receptions for 61 yards, caught consecutive passes for gains of 10 and 12 yards, moving the Tornados to the 20. Marlin Haywood then caught two passes, with the second resulting in a 14-yard touchdown. It was quite an effort by Haywood on the scoring play as he snagged a low, off-target throw and maintained his balance before making his way down the sideline and into the end zone.

Cy Cubbedge kicked the extra point, making the score 21-7 with 5:37 remaining in the game. Paulk went 8 of 9 for 77 yards

on the scoring drive and finished 23 of 33 for 205 yards.

Cason had five catches for 50 yards, while Haywood caught three passes for 36 yards.

Lawrence and Williams each had approximately 20 yards in receptions.

Newberry earned an automatic berth in the regional playoffs by winning the district championship.

"They deserve all the credit," Rodgers said. "Their coaching staff did an outstanding job, and their players played extremely hard."

Bradford should have no problem qualifying for the postseason as well. Rodgers said the loss may benefit his team. He recalled his days as Baker County's coach, saying his team received a "thumping" at the hands of St. Augustine to open the 2017 season. The Wildcats then won 13 straight before losing in the Class 5A state-championship game.

"Maybe that's what we needed," Rodgers said, adding, "We'll be ready come playoff time."

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JEFFERS

Continued from page 14

opportunity (at BMS), but I also realized that in that setting, I wasn't fully able to be myself," Jeffers said. "Transitioning over to Santa Fe, I was like, 'I'm able to help them. I'm able to guide them and advise them in ways to pursue higher education after they leave high school.'"

Jeffers said the opportunity to become the academic coach with Upward Bound was one that fell in her lap and one that required him to devote a bit of time thinking about.

"I loved my role. I loved my job," Jeffers said of Santa Fe Achieve. "I loved my supervisors and my colleagues. I loved where I was, but I think the determining factor in moving from Santa Fe Achieve to this program was closely related to the overall

outcome of what I wanted to pursue in life."

As Upward Bound academic coach, Jeffers meets with Bradford High School students twice a week at BHS. She monitors their academic progress and talks to teachers.

Students also participate in once-a-month Saturday sessions that cover such topics as financial literacy that will help them in life.

"My overall goal is to get them to a place where they're very, very familiar with higher education," Jeffers said, adding, "We want to educate. We want to make sure they're very, very equipped to take the next step."

Jeffers said that part of her job is also to help students from low-income households simply get through the day. She knows what some of them are going through, having grown up as one of four children in a single-parent home.

"I know first-hand what it does to families when you are financially stressed out and your basic needs aren't met," Jeffers said, adding, "My duty is to take care of them emotionally and physically, to make sure they're fed and to make sure they're in a good space to receive whatever it is Upward Bound is trying to give to them."

"It's very, very important for us to make sure we are meeting their needs in order for them to bring the best versions of themselves to the program so we can implement all these great resources for them."

Jeffers said she and those who work in Upward Bound are the biggest cheerleaders in the lives of some students — students who feel pressure to stay at home and not go to college. Jeffers said some students feel the need to take care of their families, but don't understand that the

best way to do that is to better themselves first.

"The truth of the matter is in order for you to reach a level of success to help your family and change your family's dynamics and the cycle, you have to pour into yourself," Jeffers said. "Go to school, get some kind of degree or certification, and then go back and help."

Through Upward Bound, Jeffers hopes she can help instill in students the confidence to go to college.

"If you believe you can do it, you can do it," she said. "It's a growth mindset."

Jeffers is proof that belief can overcome obstacles. She is willing to share her own experiences with students, but perhaps not for the reason you might think. Yes, she has demonstrated that you can juggle a lot of different things in life and still succeed, but the journey, of course, wasn't easy, and she didn't always make the right decisions.



D'on Jeffers is the new academic coach for the Santa Fe College Upward Bound program in Starke. She views it as taking her teaching career, which began at Bradford Middle School, to another level.

"I made several mistakes, but I had people to encourage me and to pick me up and to help me along the way," Jeffers said. "I share my story so they can be encouraged, so they can see that I am a human, that I am not somebody who just had it together (all the time)."

Jeffers' educational journey isn't complete. She's currently working toward a master's degree in Student Personnel in Higher Education at UF. Jeffers

said the degree will allow her to better serve students after they've graduated from high school.

For Jeffers, it's all about helping others, and that doesn't feel like a job.

"I don't even feel like I'm working," she said of her job with Upward Bound. "I genuinely don't. I come here, and I thoroughly enjoy what I do for this community and this set of students."



Joy Murungi, a 2021 Bradford High School graduate and current Santa Fe College student, is the new pre-college academic coach for the Santa Fe Upward Bound program for BHS students.

MURUNGI

Continued from page 14

opportunities that help develop professional skills.

"You are the face of the college," Murungi said of being an ambassador.

Murungi hopes that her own experiences can inspire current and future BHS seniors. She said it's all about thinking you can do whatever you want to do and then taking the steps to make it happen.

"You're very capable of doing what you want to do, but it all starts with the mindset of the student," Murungi said.

She may be the Upward Bound pre-college academic specialist, but Murungi said she welcomes opportunities to assist BHS seniors who don't plan to go to college. Do they want to go straight into a career? Do they want to go into the military?

It's all about figuring out what that student's passion is and how to fulfill it.

"If they don't know yet, that is OK," Murungi said. "We're

going to find it out."

Murungi is just one part of an Upward Bound team that also includes Director Yolanda Thomas, Academic Coach D'on Jeffers and Administrative Assistant Melisa Clark. Murungi said they share the same passion: student success. If that wasn't a shared passion, Upward Bound wouldn't work.

"Once you have a team that is of one accord, you're going to be successful," Murungi said. "If you don't have it, the students are going to see that."

Murungi is continuing her education while she works with Upward Bound. She plans to graduate with her bachelor's degree next year and then begin working toward a master's degree in Public Administration.

Upward Bound was a help in her making this collegiate journey. Now, it's also allowing her to help others make that journey.

"I love the students. I love the program," Murungi said. "It's a great program for anyone wanting to go to college."

"Even if they're not in the Upward Bound program, I still want to help students go to college by any means necessary."

IMPORTANT

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All voters who were scheduled to vote at Precinct 8 will now vote at Madison Street Baptist Church

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