

GUN SHOW



OCT. 29 & 30
Army National Guard Armory
 720 Edwards Rd, Starke, FL 32091

SHOW TIMES:
 Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Admission fee: \$7

Concealed weapons classes available:
Sunday 12pm
\$55 per person



Contact Lisa Tatum 904-966-1514 for information

Official Miss Winter Christmas Pageant

Contestant Application

November 20th at the Woman's Club of Starke, FL 2:00PM
 Orientation will be held November 15th at Downtown Grill at 6pm

Little Miss - 4-6 years' old
 Little Princess - 7-11 years' old
 JR. Queen - 12-15 years' old
 Queen - 16-21 years' old

Application and \$50 application fee is due at orientation, November 15, at Downtown Grill 6:00pm

Extra Categories to be judged on are an extra \$10.00 each
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Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, October 27, 2022

144th year, 9th Issue — \$1

Fisherman's body found in Newnan's Lake

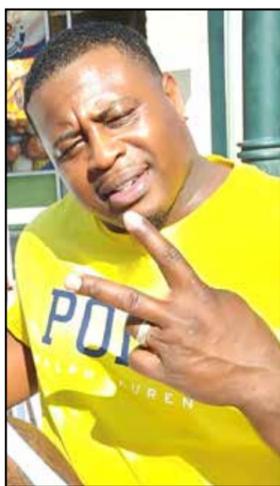
BY DAN HILDEBRAN
 Monitor Editor

STARKE — The Alachua County Sheriff's Office said the body of a Starke native was found in Newnan's Lake Monday.

The agency said 36-year-old Glenn Lamar Carter was last seen fishing on the lake east of Gainesville earlier that morning.

The Florida Wildlife Commission joined search efforts after Carter was reported missing.

The sheriff's Marine Operations and Underwater Recovery Unit found the body later.



Carter

Manager hired with added vacation time

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
 Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Bradford County Commissioners approved a contract with Scott Kornegay to become county manager after some discussion about time off.

As part of the contract negotiated between Kornegay and county attorney Will Sexton, the new manager requested 120 hours of time off in his first year. Kornegay explained he

See **MANAGER**, page 2

Black Creek project celebrated



Rob Bradley: "Don't ever think that your voice doesn't mean something. Don't ever think that the fight isn't worth it because this is an example of that today." Photo: St. Johns River Water Management District.

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
 Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — St. Johns River Water Management District officials, Clay County representatives, City of Keystone Heights council members and state officials celebrated the upcoming construction of the Black Creek Water Resource Development Project during a ceremony in Keystone

Heights on Friday, Oct. 21.

When completed, the project will take excess water from Black Creek, pump it through a 17-mile pipeline, and eventually discharge it into a passive treatment system that will remove color and minor nutrients. From there, the water will flow into Alligator Creek and ultimately Lake Brooklyn, where recharge to the aquifer will occur through

the lake bottom.

"This is a unique project and one that I believe will be used as an example in years to come for how to address water supply needs across Florida," said St. Johns River Water Management District Board Chair Rob Bradley. "And while aquifer recharge is the

See **BLACK**, page 4

Electric bills up more than 40% in Starke

Other utilities also passing higher fuel costs on to customers

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
 Telegraph Editor

STARKE — City Clerk Jimmy Crosby told Starke city commissioners that the cost of fuel has driven electric bills up more than 40% over a year ago.

Last October, the fuel charge on customers' bills was around 0.039 cents per kilowatt-hour. This month the fuel charge amounted to nearly 0.094 cents.

That means for a residential customer using 1,500 kWh of electricity, the total bill was up 46%, from \$180 to \$264. At nearly \$187, the fuel charge alone is higher than last year's total bill.

Commercial customers using the same amount of electricity will see a 41%

increase in their bill, from \$202 to \$285, with the cost of fuel nearly matching the cost of the electricity.

This hasn't resulted from any change in electric rates on the city's part. The variable is the cost of the fuel needed to produce the electricity the city purchases through its ownership stake in the Florida Municipal Power Association.

See **BILLS**, page 2

Operation Greenlight honor veterans service

BY TRACY LEE TATE
 Times Editor

The Union County Board of County Commissioners has approved a resolution declaring that Nov. 7 through Veterans Day, Nov. 13 will participate in the National Association of Counties Operation Green Light in honor of military veterans.

In a prepared release, the county states:

In advance of the upcoming Veterans Day holiday, the Union County Board of County Commissioners announced that county buildings would be illuminated green Nov. 7 -13, 2022 as part of

Operation Green Light, a new national collaborative initiative of the National Association of Counties (NACo) to support military veterans, as well as raise awareness about the unique challenges faced by many veterans and the resources that are available at the county, state and federal level to assist veterans and their families.

"We want to make sure our veterans and their families know that their service mattered, that we are grateful for their sacrifice," said Commissioner Ryan Perez. "This is a great opportunity to make sure they are revered by their county government and community."

In addition to lighting the county

buildings, residents and businesses are encouraged to participate by simply changing one light bulb in their house to a green bulb. This can be an exterior light that neighbors and passersby see, or an interior light that sparks a conversation with friends.

By shining a green light, we let our veterans know that they are seen, appreciated and supported. While this event is focused around the week of Veterans Day (Nov. 7-13), participants are encouraged to continue shining the light year-round. Residents can share their participation on social

See **GREEN**, page 6



COMMUNITY STATE BANK
 WHERE TODAY MEETS TOMORROW

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WORTH NOTING

Food distribution Thursday

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Feeding Northeast Florida and True Vine Ministry is taking place Thursday, Oct. 27, at 9 a.m. at 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.

Fall Festival in Providence

Providence Village Baptist Church's Fall Festival is Wednesday, Oct. 26, from 6-7 p.m. Join the fun with candy and games. The church is located at 4504 W. SR 238 in Providence. Visit www.providencevillage.org.

BHS Band Pumpkin Sale

Running through Oct. 29 at the Downtown Square, the Bradford High School Band is selling pumpkins to raise money for the program from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Pumpkins are sized and priced accordingly. Contact Jenny Davis (jensational78@yahoo.com) for more details.

Great Pumpkin Escape Oct. 29

Starke will get spooky Saturday, Oct. 29, with the return of the Great Pumpkin Escape. This safer Halloween event for the whole family invites everyone out for free candy, games, face painting, music, pony

See **WORTH**, page 8

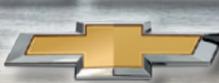
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MANAGER

Continued from page 1

had planned a Norwegian cruise with his wife next summer as well as several hunting trips prior to agreeing to accept the job. The money invested was nonrefundable.

Commissioner Carolyn Spooner objected to awarding time off upfront when other county employees are expected

to accumulate time off through working. The clause allows the manager to begin taking time off immediately. In addition to the advanced leave time, he would also be accruing additional leave time.

"My issue with it is this is unprecedented. We don't do this with any employee," Spooner said. "If we do this, it sends the wrong message to all of our employees."

Spooner said she didn't want to

start this new era off with a policy violation.

Other commissioners were willing to allow it, pointing out that this was an executive position and resulted from the negotiating process. Sexton was not present to speak about the process, but those who spoke with him reported he felt it was a reasonable request. They also empathized that the trips were already planned.

Spooner said she felt Kornegay should be allowed the time off, and the timing of the cruise would allow him to accrue almost all of the leave time needed without this additional award.

The vote to approve the was 3-1, with Spooner dissenting and Commissioner Kenny Thompson absent.

The contract provides a \$110,000 salary. Kornegay indicated he negotiated a lower overall compensation package for himself by requesting an additional \$10,000 in salary but rejecting the county's insurance plan.

The contract appeared as a

consent agenda item — a grouping of items that are approved with a single vote, typically without discussion. The contract was only discussed at Spooner's request.

Citizen Colson Douglas said the contract vote shouldn't have happened at all. He said the agenda only appeared online a day before the meeting, and when he went to the courthouse to obtain a copy of the contract, no one knew what he was talking about. He walked away empty-handed.

"It's ridiculous. Everything around here seems to be a circus. Nothing is ever done right around here," he said, calling out the budget, redistricting and more. "I keep coming back and coming back, and it just falls on deaf ears. And I don't know if you're looking around, but attendance is pretty low. And I watch other local governmental meetings and people come. I think people come to other counties' meetings because they're heard and they're listened to, which is not something that we get here."

BILLS

Continued from page 1

"The rates have not changed. We're not charging anymore for distribution or any other purpose. It's simply fuel," said Crosby, who also pointed to inflation driving up the cost of everything including a hamburger and a Coke.

Mayor Scott Roberts all of the energy providers nationwide have been affected and adjusted their billing to pass the fuel costs on to customers.

"It doesn't make it any easier to try to explain," he said.

The city has tried to help customers, including allowing customers to put off fully paying

their bills in high usage months so they can catch up later. Crosby said the problem is that some get so far behind that they can't catch up. It might be different if prices stabilized, but they continue to increase.

Crosby said they still work with customers one-on-one, awarding leniency to those with a positive payment record. They also point customers to utility payment assistance programs offered through the Suwannee River Economic Council (1210 Andrews Circle in Starke, 904-964-6696). Eligibility for assistance is income based.

The city will invite FMFA to a meeting where citizens can address questions about electric costs directly to the experts.

Trick or treat or not, it's up to you

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Queried by their manager about setting a time to trick or treat, Starke

commissioners chose not to.

It's not uncommon for cities to establish trick or treat hours for the Halloween holiday, whether that time takes place on Oct. 31 or in conjunction with some other event.

In the past, the Starke City Commission has sometimes set a date, and sometimes not, but the question always comes up.

Founded by downtown merchants, the city's annual Great Pumpkin Escape was meant to provide a safer alternative to seeking candy door to door. However the event rarely falls on Oct. 31. School festivals and dress up days further complicate when kids are meant to get in costume and enjoy the Halloween traditions.

Starke commissioners chose to steer clear of any dictates this year, recognizing that some will want to trick or treat on Halloween night, and there is little they can do about that. Homes will have treats to hand out, or they won't.

That's where the tricks come in.

The Great Pumpkin Escape, taking place the evening of Saturday, Oct. 29, will have plenty of fun for the entire family, including candy, games, pony rides and lots of vendors selling food and more. It is free to attend.

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SATURDAY 10/29: Ticket To Paradise - 4:15 & 7:15 (Downstairs) Black Adam - 4:00 & 7:30 (Upstairs)	SUNDAY 10/30: Ticket To Paradise - 4:15 & 7:15 (Downstairs) Black Adam - 4:00 & 7:30 (Upstairs)

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Friday 28th 10 - 7

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See the Back for the Hope For A Cure Café Menu served 11:00-2:00 Thursday & Friday

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Noah Jaradat, Gainesville

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Letters

LBMS gives shoutout to teams that won SMAC titles

Dear Editor:
Lake Butler Middle School is happy to congratulate our 2022-23 football and volleyball teams! Both prevailed as winners, bringing home trophies and becoming the 2022 Suwannee Middle Athletic Conference (SMAC) champions. All of the coaches and the players for each sport had a great season together. Winning this title is not easy. It takes hard work and dedication.
In both sports, the boys and girls learned skills on the field and court as well as life skills that they will take with them as they grow older.
The coaches would like to thank everyone who came out to support these boys and girls during the season.
Go Tigers!

Marcie Tucker
LBMS principal

American Legion scholarships

Dear Editor:
The American Legion invites high school students to compete in a speech contest. Winners will earn scholarship money and a chance to compete in national finals. High school students of Bradford County have been invited by American Legion Post 56 to compete in the 83rd Annual American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program. The invitation to enter the competition is extended today by Post Oratorical Chairman Raymond Hunt. (904-964-5356 or 352-262-2586, Email: amlegionpost56@gmail.com.)

The contest has been arranged with the full cooperation of local school officials and faculty who will assist with the contest arrangements. The contest is open to any student, grades 9-12, including home-schooled students.

This is a multi-level contest where students first compete at the post level, then progress to the district, area and state levels. The winner of the state contest advances to the national contest in Indianapolis, Indiana, in April of 2023.

To compete, the student must prepare and deliver an original 8 to 10 minute, memorized speech about some aspect of the Constitution, with an emphasis on a citizen's duty to their country and government.

In addition to the awards by winners of the various elimination rounds of competition, college scholarships of \$25,000, \$22,000, and \$20,000 will be awarded to the first through third places in the National Finals. Each state winner who competes in the first round of the national contest will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. Participants in the second round who do not advance to the National Final Round will receive an additional \$2,000 scholarship. The top three orators who have won all previous elimination rounds of the contest will vie for top honors in the National Contest in April in Indianapolis, Indiana. The American Legion will pay the expenses of state winners at the National Contest.

High school students (9-12th grade) in Bradford County who are interested in entering the competition

will find complete rules and contest information at www.floridalegion.org/oratorical

Respectfully
Raymond Hunt
Chairman Post 56

The Dark Side of Whiteness

Dear Editor:
The Dupont, and now Chemours, mining operations to recover a mineral used to make Titanium Dioxide, a white pigment used in paint and other products, has a dark side when viewed in terms of environmental impacts.

The two articles in the last issue of the Bradford Telegraph about Dupont and Chemours failed to address the environmental impacts of the Dupont/Chemours mining operations along the Trail Ridge in Bradford, Clay, and Baker counties.

The Dupont/Chemours past and present mining operations have had negative environmental impacts. The mining done before the mid-1970s had no requirement for reclaiming the mined areas, so those areas on Camp Blanding will remain scarred forever unless Chemours is willing to voluntarily cover the cost of reclamation.

Mining impacts can be easily identified in the Google Earth images of the Trail Ridge in the three counties. The mining operations have left a white scar that runs from just north of the Keystone Airport to I-10. North of Lawtey, large areas of ponds can be seen. Even the reclaimed areas with planted pines look different than the un-mined areas to the east and west of the past mining operations. This indicates the reclaimed areas may not be as healthy as the un-mined areas.

You can also see mining impacts if you drive down CR 225 from Lawtey toward Kingsley Lake. The white-sand desert with the black water stream and the large white-sand hill to the east are in an area that Dupont, and now Chemours, has not reclaimed. If state and county regulations had been followed, that area should have been reclaimed in the 2008/2009 time frame since mining in that area ended around 2005.

One very significant environmental impact caused by the delayed reclamation occurs because, until the area is reclaimed, the storm water from this mined area must be treated to remove the black humates that were found in the wetlands that were mined. The black water is pumped uphill so it can flow to the Chemours waste water treatment system east of Starke. The treated water is discharged into Alligator Creek at the SR 230 bridge just east of the street to the Starke Golf Course. A large part of the storm water from the mined area along CR 225 would have been held in wetlands before the wetlands were mined. The discharged treated water

now contributes to Starke-area flood levels east of 301 during major rain events like Hurricane Irma. Impacts from Hurricane Irma were very significant along Alligator Creek east of Northeast 17th Avenue near the Starke Golf Course.

Based on Dupont/Chemours reports and observation by Lawtey residents, it also appears as though the Dupont/Chemours mining operations have contributed to flooding impacts in Lawtey and along Water Oak Creek branches east of 301.

The existing Dupont/Chemours elevated waste water treatment ponds that can be seen in the Google Earth images and the Bradford County Property Appraisers website maps show the elevated waste water treatment ponds. The age and condition of the pond berms are also a serious concern because a failure of the berms could release water and sludge causing significant damage to residents near the treatment ponds.

The Bradford Telegraph plant-opening article included the quote by Jody Sciance, the Chemours mineral operations co-director, "The top soil is replaced, we put in erosion control measures, recreate wetlands, and then plant natural grasses and seedlings back to how it was before we mined." This description falls very short of the commitment made by Chemours to restore the wetlands that will be mined in Bradford County. Restoring wetlands is required by Bradford County Land Development Regulations for any wetlands that are to be mined. Wetlands exist because of geological, hydrogeological, and biological conditions. Restoring all these elements is not easy and may require an investment that Chemours may not be willing to make.

Before Chemours starts any mining in Bradford County, the Bradford County Commission should hold a hearing and approve the current Chemours Mining Master Plan. This approval is required by the Bradford Land Development Regulations.

It is critical that Chemours demonstrates that they can reclaim mined areas and restore wetlands by reclaiming the area along CR 225 south of Lawtey before they are allowed to mine still more land in Bradford County.

Bradford Soil and Water meeting to be held Nov. 1

The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District will meet on Tuesday Nov. 1, at 9 a.m. at the Bradford County Extension Office. Contact Paul Still at stillpe@aol.com or 904 368-0291 for more information.

The public is welcome to attend.

Church News

Magnolia Missionary Baptist to celebrate Women's Outreach Mission Day

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Raiford invites you to Women's Outreach Mission Day on Sunday, Oct. 30, at 11 a.m. Minister Tina Jackson of Greater

Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church of Lake Butler will be the guest speaker.

New River Baptist to hold annual fall festival Nov. 5

New River Baptist Church, located at 16703 S.W. 144th Ave. in Brooker, will hold its annual fall festival on Saturday Nov. 5, from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. There will be a meal at 4 p.m., with games and activities for the



children as well as the adults, including our much talked-about cake walk. There'll be plenty of candy, popcorn, cotton candy, prizes and more for the kids. There will be activities such as face painting, a hayride and balloons. Lots of food, fun and excitement for all ages. For more information, call 352-485-1246.

Call Street improvements will reroute traffic

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Call Street will be caught up in a resurfacing project sometime early next year, resulting in traffic detours to some already battered streets.

Jamie Driggers, who works in project planning and environmental management for the Florida Department of Transportation, shared those plans with the city commission Oct. 18.

The project will finally settle the Call Street ownership issue. At one point Starke was going to take ownership of the Call Street portion of State Road 230, but city commissioners reconsidered that agreement given the maintenance costs.

With FDOT maintaining ownership, changes are necessary for the street to meet the agency's standards as well as its own expectations for future maintenance. That means removing the bricks at the intersections of Walnut and Thompson streets.

Those intersections were modified as part of a downtown beautification project, and the changes were allowed with the understanding Starke would one day be fully responsible for maintaining them.

The compromise is that the bricks will be replaced with a colored, stamped concrete at the intersections. If that sounds familiar, it is because the same technique is a part of the State Road 100 railroad overpass design.

Driggers told the commission that the ongoing overpass project made now the perfect time to take care of the long awaited paving of

Call Street. The planned changes will help tie the aesthetic of the overpass to downtown's historic feel.

The work is planned for early 2023, but FDOT is preparing the city now, because there will be unavoidable street closures and detours downtown during the resurfacing project.

To keep downtown accessible to traffic, only one side of the street will be paved at a time. Navigating downtown will rely on detours to other city streets, including Cherry Street and Jackson Street, which are also in need of improvements.

Downtown Call Street will close for three weeks to eastbound traffic and three weeks to westbound traffic, based on the current plan.

Driggers said the bricks removed from the intersection

will be returned to the city for possible relocation.

The target date for completion of the railroad overpass project on State Road 100 is next summer. According to FDOT's Nathan Pick, construction continues based on the contractual requirements and reflects the plans previously shared with the public.

"The project will improve traffic flow and enhance emergency response times at the Starke railroad overpass. Additionally, one-way frontage roads will be constructed to allow local access to Cherry, Church, Thompson and Walnut streets, multiple local roadways will be resurfaced and additional parking will be provided," Pick said.

A Beautiful Life

The Lord is my leader, my sustainer, my own.
He will always be with me while on this earth I roam.
He meets my needs according to His riches.
He leads me beside still waters as he wishes.
When I sin He still loves me and restoreth my soul.
I am led in paths of righteousness by the Lord of old.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death He's there.
I will fear no evil, He comforts me there.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me to that beautiful shore.
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for evermore.

~ By Henry Hodges

Congratulations Pastor Rick Jackson on 30 years at Bradford Baptist Church!

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Come join us at
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<p>Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Competitive Rates, non-profit, right here in your community</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Keystone District Office 352-473-4917 • clayelectric.com</p>	<p>After Church on Sunday Come to Powell's Dairy Freeze</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">"Home of the Foot Long Steak"</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Stop by for Ice Cream on Wednesday Night!</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">US 301 NORTH • STARKE, FL</p>	<p>Come Worship with us</p> <p style="text-align: center;">STARKE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Church • Saturday 11:00 a.m. School • Saturday 10:00 a.m. 1649 W. Madison St • Starke, FL</p>
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Reformation Sunday is always celebrated on the last Sunday in Oct and our worship service will be at 10 AM with German themed fellowship and food following.

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Sunday Worship

10:00AM

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Lake Region



James: "This community has been dealing with unstable lakes for over 30 years, so to see this project become a reality is really incredible." Photo: St. Johns River Water Management District.

BLACK Continued from page 1

primary benefit, I look forward to seeing the area's lake levels recover, bringing the economic and recreational benefits to the residents here in Keystone Heights."

The district said that while the amount of water pumped each day will vary depending on the water level in Black Creek, the maximum amount of water diverted will not exceed 10 million gallons per day. Diversions will only be made when there is sufficient flow available to ensure the protection of natural resources within the creek.

Funding for the project was provided in the St. Johns River and Keystone Heights Lake Region Projects legislative appropriations over three years beginning in 2017. The total appropriation was more than \$48 million, of which nearly \$43.4 million was allocated to the Black Creek project. Additionally, north Florida utilities are contributing \$19.2 million toward the project. Those utilities include the Clay County Utility Authority, Gainesville Regional Utilities, St. Johns County Utilities and JEA. The remaining balance will be provided from district funds.

Decades of effort

"This community has been dealing with unstable lakes for over 30 years, so to see this project become a reality is really incredible," said Save Our Lakes Organization President Vivian Katz James. "I am so thankful to Chair Bradley, the St. Johns River Water Management District and all the funding partners. The community now has an opportunity to see this beautiful Lake Region recover."

James traced the effort to restore Keystone Heights-area lakes to early lake advocates Rob Bamford and Chester Moody in the 1980s. During the next decade, advocates like Moody, P.F. and Judy Baumgardner, Sam Dunn, Doris Hicken, C.W. Owens, Dennis Barnhardt, Linda Wall, Nellie Stinson and Harold Marvin organized the Lake Brooklyn Civic Association, and later the Save Our Lakes Organization.

She said one milestone for the effort was hiring Tampa hydrologist Pete Schreuder to find solutions to decreasing lake

levels. Early efforts focused on improving the water flow in Alligator Creek between Lakes Magnolia and Brooklyn.

"The lakes recovered some, but still not enough," James said. Another milestone was achieved in 2010 when SOLO fought off an effort by the district to lower Lake Brooklyn's statutory minimum level from its current 101 feet to 81 feet and Lake Geneva's from 98 to 83 feet.

Save Our Lakes leaders said that if the water level on Lake Brooklyn was allowed to drop to 81 feet, all that would be left of the water body would be two small ponds.

After delaying the proposed MFLs, SOLO dispatched volunteer technical experts like Webb Farber and Dr. Pat Welch to work with the district's staff in finding acceptable MFLs.

Ten years later, the district issued new MFLs acceptable to lakes supporters.

Black Creek project

James said the catalyst for the Black Creek project was sown during a water summit in October 2016 organized by the City of Keystone Heights.

The three-hour summit at city hall brought together policymakers, including State Senator Rob Bradley and Congressman Ted Yoho.

During the first part of the meeting, Schreuder went over his latest report, commissioned by the Save Our Lakes Organization, that laid out several strategies to enhance water flows in the Etoniah Chain of Lakes and the Santa Fe River basin. Statements from summit participants followed Schreuder's presentation.

Several participants said they were willing to help but needed engineered plans.

"Bring me a project," Bradley said to summit organizers.

"Concepts are great," added St. Johns River Water Management District Chairman John Miklos, "but we need to zero in on a project or two."

Then city manager Scott Kornegay said that although the summit yielded no concrete solutions, it did raise awareness of how the Lake Region's economy was tied to water levels.

"When the lakes went away, the economy went away," he said. "So, it was key and critical to get the lake levels back up because when they are up, this whole area thrives."

You can fight city hall

Shortly after the summit, Bradley took matters into his own hands and drove to district headquarters in Palatka to find a solution. Reviewing possibilities with St. Johns River Water Management District Executive Director Ann Shortelle, the pair discovered the Black Creek project in Appendix J of the North Florida Regional Supply Plan.

"This plan has been vetted," Bradley told a Keystone Beach crowd in announcing the project in March 2017. "This plan has been discussed, and it's been on the shelf. Now it's time to take it off the shelf and dust it off."

Bradley, now chair of the water management district, told the crowd at the project's celebration that he remembers the 2016 water summit well.

"It was actually six years ago this week," he said.

Bradley said he and a group of lakes supporters took the project to the senate president to get his support for the proposal.

"We explained to him with the map every single thing," Bradley recalled. "And there was this big group and he understood how much it meant to our community."

Bradley said the big lesson from the Black Creek project is that government can make a difference.

"They say you can't fight City Hall," he said. "They say the government doesn't help us. Well, it does. In this case, the government listened, responded, and was deliberate. So don't ever think that your voice doesn't mean something. Don't ever think that the fight isn't worth it because this is an example of that today."

Economy tied to water level

Keystone City Councilman Tony Brown said that growing up, he swam under the beach pavilion. He said that up to the 1980s, Keystone Heights was a weekend retreat for Jacksonville professionals. The local economy thrived from the dollars spent by lawyers and business owners.

However, as the lakes dried up, so did the economy. Restaurants closed, marine businesses boarded up, and the family

First ballots counted in Clay County



Clay County Supervisor of Elections Chris Chambless (right) oversees volunteers opening mail-in ballots. The volunteer on the left side of the table opens the envelope and removes its contents, the middle volunteer removes the ballot from a privacy sleeve and the volunteer on the right side of the table unfolds the ballot and places it in a stack.

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS—Volunteers opened the first batch of mail-in ballots for the Nov. 8 general election on Monday, Oct. 17, at the Supervisor of Elections Office.

Elections Chief Chris Chambless supervised four groups of three volunteers who opened around 5,000 mail-in ballots.

The office has sent out 37,000 mail-in ballots to Clay County voters.

Three volunteers handled each ballot. The first opened the envelope and removed its contents, the second removed the ballot from a privacy sleeve and the third unfolded the ballot and placed it in a stack.

The ballots are then run through a tabulation machine to count votes.

Elections office staff members verify the signatures on the mail-ins before volunteers open the envelopes.

Although mail-in ballots are the first to be counted, Florida law prohibits elections officials from disclosing results until after 7 p.m. on election day.

Volunteers sign non-disclosure agreements, promising not to talk about any election results or what they saw on ballots.

Heather Stewart, the office's community services coordinator, said the mail-in ballots always remain under two-person control, meaning they are never left alone with less than two people present.

Oct. 29 is the last day to request a mail-in ballot, and they must be received by the elections office by 7 p.m. on election day for them to be counted.

Chambless said that for the Aug. 23 primary, 291 mail-ins were received by the office after

the 7 p.m. deadline and were therefore rejected. An additional 17 were rejected because the voter did not sign the return envelope.

Early voting begins on Oct. 28 and ends on Nov. 5.

On Friday, Oct. 14, the county's canvassing board performed a logic and accuracy test on tabulation equipment.

The evaluation included running a set of sample ballots through the machines and comparing the machine results to a hand count.

Stewart said no problems were noted during the test.

Chambless, County Judge Kristina Mobley and Board of County Commission Chair Wayne Bolla make up the canvassing board.

However, Commissioner Jim Renninger sat in for Bolla during the logic and accuracy test.

Lake Brooklyn up nearly 3 feet in Sept.

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—A St. Johns River Water Management District official said Lake Brooklyn's water level rose 2.8 feet in September.

During the district's October governing board meeting, Christine Mundy, the district's bureau chief of Water Resource Information, showed a chart outlining the lake's water level over the past 12 months.

The chart showed the water level around 100 feet above sea level from September through December 2021, then dropping over the next two months to around 99 feet before climbing to just over 101 feet in April. The level remained at approximately 101 feet until



In what many in the Lake Region view as a milestone, water has reached the "Save Our Lakes" dock in Brooklyn Bay. Water levels in Lake Brooklyn have risen six feet over the last 10 months.

August, when rainfall pushed the lake to 102 feet. September rains, including those produced by Hurricane Ian, lifted Brooklyn to 105.2 feet, giving the water body a six-foot gain in water level over the past 10 months.

The lake has been as low as 85 feet and as high as 116 feet since the district has been recording the data.

Aquifer levels and springs flows

Mundy said Upper Floridan Aquifer levels throughout the district were in the normal to high range at the end of September.

"Almost all the wells included in this report showed a greater than 10 percentile point increase in their levels compared to the previous month," she said.

Mundy said flows at Silver Springs increased by 10% over the previous month and flows at Rocks Springs increased slightly.

However, flows at Blue Springs decreased in September, as did those at Wekiwa Springs north of Orlando.

"The flow at Wekiwa decreased sharply right at the end of the month," she said, "most likely a result of flow suppression from the wider Wekiva River system where water levels were extremely high as a result of the rainfall from (Hurricane) Ian."

Republican Party of Bradford County Election Guide

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Teacher contract signed

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—Clay County School Board Chair Mary Bolla and Clay Education Association President Vicki Kidwell ceremoniously signed the district's new collective bargaining agreement during the Oct. 6 school board meeting.

Association members earlier ratified the contract, with 96.6% of union members supporting the agreement.

However, association Executive Director Betsy Reagor told her membership in a bargaining town hall meeting video that they deserved much more.

Reagor said the school district and union were restricted in salaries they could negotiate for veteran teachers because of requirements placed on them by the Florida legislature.

She said Tallahassee lawmakers, during the 2022 session, required bigger pay increases for teachers on annual contracts than those on professional service contracts, adding that only teachers hired before 2006 were eligible for the PSC contracts.

She said the state rule, known as the Teacher Salary Increase allocation or TSIA, has resulted in a 17-year pay compression for Clay instructors, resulting in new hires in Clay County making as much as teachers with 17 years



Clay County School Board Chair Mary Bolla (left) and Clay Education Association President Vicki Kidwell ceremoniously sign the district's new collective bargaining agreement during the Oct. 6 school board meeting.

of experience.

Reagor said the only way to change the TSIA is to change minds in Tallahassee.

"We need you to come to school board meetings and talk about your experience and what

the TSIA has done to you, has done to your colleagues, has done to our profession, and we need you to call your legislators and the governor about the damage that this program has done," she said.

Keystone Elementary builds support for new teachers

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—The principal of Keystone Heights Elementary School said her leadership team is focusing on supporting inexperienced teachers this year.

Beth Turberville told school board members during their Oct. 6 meeting that because of a statewide teacher shortage, many instructors entering the classroom do not have degrees from colleges of education, and many have never interned before starting their jobs.

The principal added that on her own campus, she has five first-year teachers, eight instructors new to Keystone Elementary, and six completely new grade-level teams.

Turberville said that although the district offers support to inexperienced teachers through coaching, she believed that effort needed to be supplemented at the school level.

Veterans embedded with rookies

"Knowing first-hand how difficult teaching is, after being a classroom teacher for 21 years," she said, "I knew that with only having a very small number of district coaches serving such a large number of schools, we were going to have to be proactive to find our own solution to serve our own new teachers and new-to-Keystone teachers."

Turberville said that in addition to the one-hour-a-week of coaching provided by the district, her team thought some new teachers needed an experienced instructor embedded in the classrooms of rookie teachers all day, every day for several weeks.

"I chose two seasoned teachers to lead this initiative and met with them over the summer," Turberville said. "We developed a plan collaboratively, and they both led a breakout session with our new teachers and new-to-Keystone-Elementary teachers during pre-planning."

Turberville said that after classes started, she continued to meet with the two veteran instructors, adjusting their plans according to the needs of the new teachers.

"We have seen tremendous growth in our new teachers since the first day of school," she said, "several of whom needed our support coaches embedded with them every day, all day for weeks at first, and then were weaned away. Others only needed a little support."

Second-year teacher appreciates support

Turberville played a video for board members of second-year teacher Meredith Bale.

The third-grade instructor said she came into teaching through an alternative pathway and didn't have a degree in education or any teaching experience when she started teaching last year in another district.

"Last year was very difficult, being thrown into a classroom with little to no support and really not having that background knowledge in education," Bale said. "This year, my experience here with my administration, my peers and my curriculum coaches has been absolutely amazing."

Bale added that within the first two weeks of school, veteran teacher Brandi Kirkland was in her third-grade classroom modeling lessons, not just for a day, but for a week.

"She would teach half my class," Bale said. "I would teach the other half."

Bale added that Kirkland's feedback, in addition to prompt answers from peers and administrators to her questions, has bolstered her confidence and sharpened her ability to lead her class.

Integrated instruction

Turberville also told board members that the school's resource instructors, those teaching physical education, music, computer technology, art, STEM, media and music are integrating core subjects into their content.

She showed board members a photo of PE teacher Bobby Ekenbarger playing "Mad Scientist" with a group of students, teaching the scientific method while leading exercises.

"He also integrated the concept of inferencing as well during the same week," the principal said. "Students rotating through STEM resource learned about inferencing through science standards while also learning about the solar system. In a matter of a week's time, students will have learned about inferencing through every resource class in five different content areas in five different ways."

Cambridge, aftercare, feathers

Turberville added that her school was recently approved as a Cambridge school and has a thriving 21st Century aftercare program.

"Miss Dana Eatmon is our program director and has done an incredible job," the principal said of the aftercare program. "This is

Keystone school director recounts son's battle with addiction

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—Tina Baker, the mother of a fentanyl overdose victim, told her story at an Overdose Awareness Seminar Thursday, Oct. 20, at First Baptist Church, Middleburg.

The Navy veteran and current director of the Community Partnership School at Keystone Heights High School, Baker, said her son Jacob was a soccer player at Middleburg High School and was being recruited by the University of North Florida when he injured his knee. While recovering from his second surgery, Jacob became addicted to Oxycontin, prescribed after the surgeries.

Baker described the lack of resources available for the families of addicts.

"We didn't have anyone to turn to for an addiction," she said. "I went to the Navy base, and they gave me resources out in Jacksonville, but they weren't equipped to handle adolescents addicted to drugs."

"And on top of that: the insurance," she added. "If he was anorexic, that was a diagnosis they could (bill insurance for) and take care of him. But because it was an addiction, the insurance companies wanted to do outpatient."

Baker also discussed the stigma associated with drug addiction.

"Yes, there is this stigma," she said of the narratives that run through the minds of parents of addicted children. "You know, the blame is on me. I was a bad mother. I should have gotten him help."

Baker said that as her son's addiction progressed, she had to kick him out of the house. She



Keystone Heights High School Community Partnership School Director Tina Baker talks about her son's battle with addiction in a video shown to attendees of an Overdose Awareness Seminar. Photo from Clay County Government video.

added that his subsequent arrest for check forgery turned out to be a positive development.

"He was able to go through detox in jail," she said. "He was on probation, doing very well: being drug tested regularly, was receiving counseling. He even had a great job, was going back to school, and was doing really well."

Baker said what happened next blindsided her.

"It was Friday night," she recalled. "He had just gotten off of work, and he looked at me. I was on the phone talking to my sister, and he says, 'I love you, Mom. I'll see you tomorrow.' And that was the last I heard from him because he never came home."

Later that evening, Jacob met a high school friend and the acquaintance's girlfriend in Orange Park. The trio obtained cocaine which was laced with fentanyl. The bodies of the two men were found two days later. The girlfriend survived.

"I saw the autopsy drug report," Baker said. "Jacob was clean, and I think it was just a fluke. He just said: 'Okay, I'm going to try it just this one time, and his luck ran out. Cocaine may not have killed him, but it was the fentanyl. I don't even know if he knew it was laced. If he did, I don't think he would've taken it.'"

Baker said she will never forget Jacob's radiant smile, his fondness for fishing, and his love for his father, who was killed at sea in a Navy accident when Jacob was five.

"He was friendly and always had a fish story," she said.

Baker also said that several of her son's friends have told her they have stopped using after hearing about Jacob's struggles, and parents of addicted children have told her they have been encouraged by her story.

"I appreciate that," Baker said. "It gives meaning to Jacob's death. It wasn't in vain."

One pill can kill Experts discuss Clay County opioid epidemic

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—The director of investigations and special operations with the Clay County Sheriff's Office said that although the county had 56 overdose deaths last year, fatalities would have been in the hundreds if first responders and citizens were not equipped with Narcan: the nasal spray that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose.

Wayne McKinney said during an overdose awareness seminar at Middleburg's First Baptist Church on Thursday, Oct. 20, that "hundreds and hundreds" of opioid overdoses occur in the county on an annual basis.

McKinney was a panelist discussing the county's opioid crisis along with Dr. Jodie A. Graves: the director of pharmacy at HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital, Battalion Chief Glenn East of Clay County Fire Rescue and Superintendent of Schools David Broskie.

Seeds of the epidemic

Graves said one catalyst of the opioid crisis was the American Medical Association's decision in 1990 to make pain the fifth vital sign, adding it to body temperature, pulse rate, respiration rate and blood pressure.

"CMS (The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) supported and ranked healthcare professionals on how well their patients were pain-free," she said.

Graves said that in the mid-2010s, the Centers for Disease Control noted a sharp increase in overdose deaths. A coalition of law enforcement, healthcare providers, consumer advocates and government officials successfully lobbied the AMA to remove pain as the fifth vital sign in 2016. Seventy-two thousand Americans died from overdose deaths in 2017, 30% due to fentanyl.

The following two years saw overdose deaths dip into the upper 60,000s, and new laws and policies appeared to progress against the crisis.

"But then something happened in 2020," Graves said, "COVID started lockdowns, it disrupted supply chains, it separated people, and the borders were opened."

"In 2020, we saw a spike to 93,000 overdose deaths," she said. "Last year when Fentanyl killed 108,000, 82% of those deaths were from illicit fentanyl and its analogs."

How fentanyl kills

Graves traced the development of fentanyl to opium.

She said opium, derived from the poppy plant, has been used for thousands of years to treat pain.

In 1805, the Austrian pharmacy technician Friedrich Wilhelm Adam Sertürne isolated the compound from opium that contained its pain-relieving properties. He named the substance Morphium after the Greek God of Sleep: Morpheus.

The oral use of morphine

spread quickly. By the 1830s, one-third of all poison deaths were linked to the alkaloid.

The invention of the hypodermic needle in the 1850s made the delivery of morphine more effective. In the last half of the 19th century, wounded soldiers in several European wars and the American Civil War were treated with morphine.

In 1898 the Bayer pharmaceutical company began selling a more effective derivative of morphine: heroin. However, within 10 years, its addictive properties became widely known, and commercial production ceased.

Federal and state narcotics laws pushed the distribution of heroin to organized crime.

From the 1950s, pharmaceutical companies developed other opioids for pain relief, including codeine, hydrocodone, oxycodone and fentanyl.

Opioids attach to opioid receptors in the brain and nervous system, resulting in a series of chemical reactions that prevent the release of pain neurotransmitters into the nervous system, resulting in pain reduction. It also results in the release of dopamine.

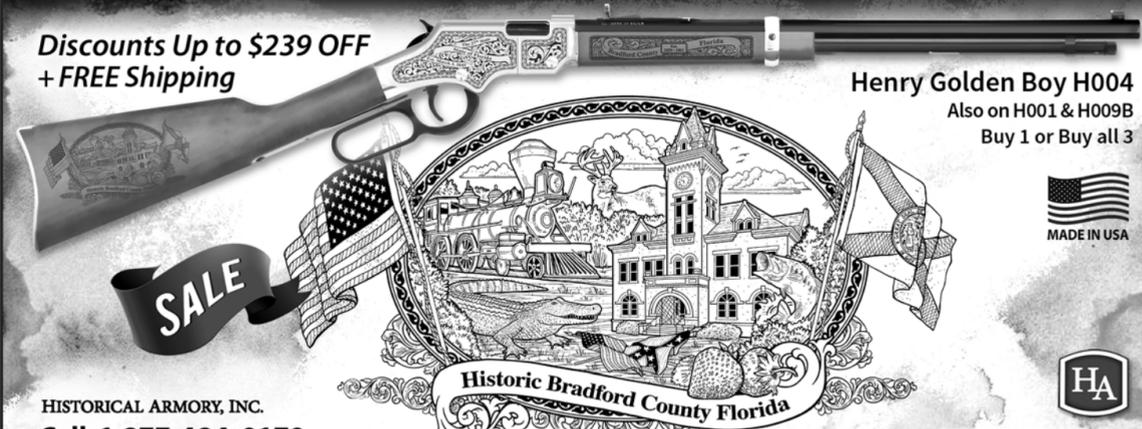
The brain regulates breathing rate by sensing the body's ratio of oxygen to carbon dioxide. When more CO2 is present, the breathing rate increases. When more oxygen is present, the breathing rate slows.

When opioids attach to

See ONE PILL, page 8

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UNION COUNTY

Lake Butler Hospital hosts breast cancer luncheon

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Editor

Lake Butler Hospital hosted a community luncheon on October 24, which aimed to increase breast cancer awareness as a finish to its acknowledgment of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The hospital started the month with a 5K Walk and fundraising event to help combat the disease.

The event was held in a pavilion on the hospital's front lawn, and Mother Nature cooperated by providing a beautiful fall day. It was organized by Lake Butler Hospital Ancillary Services Officer/PR Coordinator Tina Lloyd and PR Specialist Jill Walding. It was attended by 110 people, many of whom were breast cancer survivors and their family members. Many were wearing unique shirts or were dressed in pink. All attendees received a gift bag and a bright pink (or gray) breast cancer awareness t-shirt.

Eye-opening breast cancer facts

Once all were seated at the tables, Lloyd welcomed all to the event and talked a little about the hospital's dedication to facilitating early detection of the potentially fatal disease. She then introduced Heather Robinson from North Florida Cancer Care in Lake City, who provided an introduction for the event's guest speaker, Dr. Mark Thompson, a radiation oncologist with NFCC.

Robinson made attendees aware of some breast cancer facts, not in a lecture but as a game to see who in the crowd knew the correct answer (true or false). The points he presented when giving the correct answers were eye-opening and worthy of mention.

Robinson said that over four million women were alive today because of the work of people like the caregivers at Lake Butler Hospital, as, if detected early, there was a 99% chance of survival with proper treatment. He said breast cancer was the second leading cause of cancer death in women in the U.S., surpassed only by lung cancer.

"Most lumps that you may find in your regular monthly exam are not cancer, but you still have to have them checked just to be sure," Robinson said.

Risk factors and mitigation

He said that the risk of developing breast cancer increased with age, although it had also been found in very young women. He cited smoking, having more than one alcoholic beverage per day, having a first child over the age of 30, having a mother, sister, or daughter who had breast cancer, and prolonged hormone therapy at menopause as known risk factors that increased one's chances of developing the disease. He also cited regular exercise after menopause, healthy eating habits, and a healthy lifestyle as some ways people could reduce their chances of getting the disease.

Detection and treatment

Robinson talked about the advances in breast cancer detection and treatment over the last few years. He said that with early detection, most small cancers found were now only dealt with surgically in patients over 70. He said many treatments and combinations were now available, and the technology to



Members of Union County Emergency Medical Services dropped by the luncheon to show their support for the survivors and the focus on early detection. Pictured are: Garrett Allen EMT, Andrea Beasley PMD, Tina Lloyd (LBH), EMS Director Toby Witt, Jill Walding (LBH), Julie Huber EMT and Matthew Frederico PMD.

deliver them steadily improved. He mentioned a new treatment device that NFCC would be getting later this year, a Halcyon Radiation Accelerator, that makes radiation treatment quick (sometimes only seconds in duration) and could treat several areas simultaneously. He was also adamant about the necessity of yearly mammograms for women.

"No test is 100% fool-proof, but self-checks and annual mammograms are the best way to detect problems before they become big problems," Robinson said. "The American Cancer Society recommends annual mammograms for all women past the age of 45 and that they begin younger if they have a family member who has had breast cancer. He also pointed out that men can also suffer from breast cancer, which is a much more severe problem than women. It seems that the lack of vascular tissue in a man's breast allows cancer to form on muscle tissue, which has more blood vessels and allows cancer to spread throughout the body more easily.

Life-saving mammogram

A breast cancer survivor in the audience asked Robinson why her daughter (in her 20's) was denied a mammogram by her insurance because of her age, despite her family history. He answered that it was not uncommon and that her daughter should go back to her primary care physician and ask for their help in getting the test done.

After Robinson's presentation, local breast cancer survivor Sue Hardin came to the podium to share her experience with the disease. Hardin was a teacher at LBES for 35 years and lives in Lake Butler. She said she had always gotten yearly mammogram screenings and was always clear. When the time came for her annual visit, she said she had brief thoughts about skipping or postponing the procedure but decided to get it done. A mass was found in her breast and determined to be stage-one cancer. She was scheduled to have a lump removed, and by the time she went into surgery, it had grown so large that they deemed it to be stage two instead.

"It went from nothing to stage 2 in just one year," Hardin said. "That mammogram saved my life!"

Hardin is now a five-year breast cancer survivor and still goes every year, without hesitation, to have her screening done and urges all women to do the same.

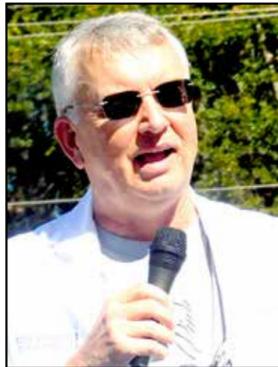
Lunch and giveaways

After Hardin's talk, Lloyd came to the podium to invite everyone to enjoy a lunch, served buffet style on tables next to the pavilion. Offerings included chicken salad on croissants, fresh fruit, a mixed greens salad, and cupcakes with punch, lemonade, or water. After the meal, the table centerpieces were given to the person sitting in the chair with a green dot on the bottom of the seat, and 10 survivors were chosen randomly to get unique gift bags. Ann Little, with the Tough Enough to Wear Pink organization in Lake City, brought a large gift basket to the event, which Jill Hall, a breast cancer survivor, won. Tough Enough to Wear Pink is an organization that offers financial help to people with breast cancer.

In closing the event, Lloyd announced that Lake Butler Hospital had made arrangements for the Mavin Medical Van, which offers breast cancer screenings, to come to the hospital every three months in the future. Details about dates, times, and how to make an appointment will be available soon.



Breast cancer survivor Sue Hardin talks about her experiences with early detection and treatment of the disease.



Radiation oncologist Dr. Mark Thompson served as the keynote speaker for the event and gave an interesting talk about breast cancer detection and treatment.

Dragboats return to Lake Butler to compete



When you see the bow come up like this you know the boat has some real power. This one seems to be running fast and the crew of the safety boat are keeping a close eye on it.

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Editor

The Southern Outlaw Dragboat Association (SODA) returned to Lake Butler for the second time this past weekend and for the fourth time overall.

The races first came to Lake Butler four years ago when the association was looking for a new location to hold an unsanctioned practice event. They loved the lake and asked to come back and have been doing so ever since, but this is the first year they have come twice in one season.

Racers from 10 or more states

travel to Lake Butler to compete, with the majority from Florida, Georgia, Alabama and North and South Carolina, but others from further away. The boats race in classes based on construction and motor performance/type.

The event costs the City of Lake Butler nothing and has the potential to bring dollars to local merchants. SODA provides its own insurance for the event. Spectators, very few local, travel with the circuit to cheer their favorites on and enjoy the summer weather.

During the event, the lake is closed to private boats due

to safety concerns and there are ample security and safety measures taken.

This event the number of boats seemed to be the same as in previous events, but the crowd seemed a little smaller – this time of year the event is competing with football and other family activities, which, along with the economy, may have had a negative effect on attendance. But nevertheless, the races went on as planned and those in attendance got the show they came for, and Lake Butler merchants may be a little better off for the effort.



There were plenty of racing boats on the water in competition, but the crowd seemed a little lighter than in the spring or previous years.

Promised Land Family Ministries hold festival



Luke Davenport, with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, was at the Ag Festival, telling youngsters about the importance of wildlife management and conservation.

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Editor

An educational and fun event was held for the young people of Union County at Promised Land Family Ministries on Oct. 22, 2022 featuring interactive information stations of topics such as planting seeds, keeping cattle, chickens and goats, tractor safety, the roles of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission and the Florida Division of Forestry.

The Faith and Family Festival allowed young people to experience agriculture and the natural world in a safe and loving environment with faith-based presentations. Youngsters formed into small groups and walked a circuit of stations, each with a presentation and hands-on experiences. They learned about planting seeds, regulation of fish and game, keeping farm animals, how to disk and seed a field with a tractor and other agricultural skills. The pace was casual and

the presentations designed with young people in mind.

After the walk around the stations, attendees were treated to lunch, fun and games and a drawing for a large selection of prizes. Demetris Thomas was on hand to talk about healthy snacks and helping her audience construct their own trail mix and yogurt sundaes to try out.

Promised Land Family Ministries would like to thank all of the volunteers, sponsors and donors who made the free event possible. These include: Dungarees, the Florida Farm Bureau, Winn Dixie, North Florida Equipment Rentals, Clubhouse Athletics, the Florida Department of Agriculture, Ag-Pro, Farm Credit of Florida, Emerald Data Partners, 4imprint, Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, UF-IFAS Extension, Robby Worrell Construction, Lake Butler Farm Center, Sonny's BBQ, Community State Bank, Rural King and

B-Squared Baked Goods.

Promised Land Family Ministries is a faith-based 501(c) 3 non-profit located at 6886 SW 74th Way in Lake Butler. Their mission statement is "To strengthen youth and families through Christ-centered experiences in an agricultural and outdoor setting, creating abundant living that transforms individuals and communities. It is run by Rev. John Hall and his wife Rebecca. To find out about future events, learn more about the facility or to explore volunteer or sponsorship opportunities they can be found on Facebook @ PromisedLandFM or contacted at www.PromisedLandFM.org or RHall@PromisedLandFM.org.



Rev. John Hall, founder of Promised Land Family Ministries, telling young people about the importance of planting seeds of faith in fertile ground.

GREEN

Continued from page 1

media using the hashtag #OperationGreenLight.

"Operation Green Light is a simple way to express our collective appreciation for the public service of our veterans," said NACO President Denise Winfrey. "We encourage everyone to join us in displaying a green light for our veterans and to also reflect on how we, as a nation and at the county level, assist our military service personnel back into civilian life upon completion of their service to our country."

Visit NACO.org/operationgreenlight for more information and links to resources available to veterans.



Allison Hartley talks to the youngsters about raising chickens and goats for both meat and other purposes - she even gave out samples of goats milk and the soap that can be made out of it.



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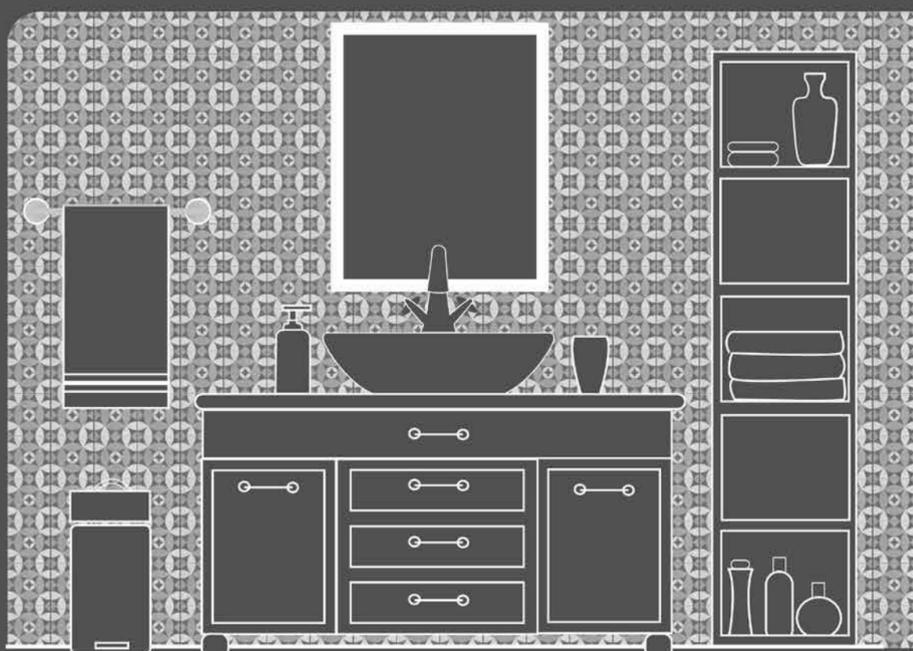
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Crime

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

Anthony Dether Aaron, 44, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Oct. 16 for battery.

Paul Alvin Byrd, 69, of Melrose was arrested by Bradford deputies on Oct. 20 for an out-of-county warrant.

Tony Randall Fiveash, 26, was arrested on Oct. 21 for DUI.

Hannah Marie Ford, 43, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Oct. 18 for failure to

appear, possession of drugs and possession of drug equipment.

Karianne Michelle Gosche, 39, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Oct. 19 for battery.

Jessica Rose Stamm, 41, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on Oct. 21 for fraud and dealing in stolen property.

Ty Hunter Stewart, 21, of Macclenny was arrested on Oct. 17 for an out-of-county warrant.

Steven Lee Thornton, 40, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Oct. 22 for failure to appear.

Blake Christopher Wyckoff, 19, of Lawtey was arrested by Bradford deputies on Oct. 18 for attempted first-degree murder with a firearm.

Union

Tavion Jamarri Cox, 20, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on Oct. 17 for possession of a concealed weapon and larceny.

Alyssa Paige Harville, 31,

of Gainesville was arrested by Union deputies on Oct. 20 for a probation violation.

Jenny Kay Hernandez, 32, was arrested by Union deputies on Oct. 23 for trespassing and disorderly intoxication.

Hermes Benjamin Rodriguez, 40, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on Oct. 20 for aggravated assault.

Brian Matthew Shipp, 39, of Lake City was arrested by Union deputies on Oct. 20 for a probation violation.

Clay

Lisa Michele Arnett, 41, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Oct. 21 for driving with a suspended or revoked license—habitual offender.

Brandon Lee Bailey, 37, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Oct. 20 for failure to appear.

Ryan Wadell Gilstrap, 38, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Oct. 19 for violating a domestic violence injunction.

Starke seeks wastewater financing

City also awaits USDA's decision on additional funding

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — The city of Starke is issuing an invitation for banks to bid on interim financing — a nearly \$10.7 million loan to help fund the construction of an upgraded wastewater treatment plant.

USDA awarded the city a \$9.63 million grant and \$10.68 million loan to fund planning and construction. However, the city must “carry the debt” until the project’s completion — an approximately 24-month period. Starke’s attorney, Clay Martin said at that time the bank loan will be repaid and the debt converted to USDA backed bonds.

The city has delayed awarding the construction contract. Instead, the commission approved an intent to award the project to the low bidder while engineers from Woodward and Curran try drumming up additional funding from USDA. That’s because the low bid for construction alone came in at more than \$23 million. That is on top of the millions of dollars that are going into planning and design.

This overrun was foretold back in 2020 when Justin deMello from Woodward and Curran informed the commission that preliminary engineering performed by another company underestimated the cost of planning and constructing a new plant. Previously estimated at \$16 million from start to finish, the actual cost could have been closer to \$30 million.

Even with Woodward and Curran’s work on scaling back the project, engineers approached USDA with a project that was awarded \$20.3 million in combined grant and loan funds. According to deMello, the construction bid leaves a difference of \$6.72 million.

After reviewing the bid, USDA informed Woodward and Curran that it did not have funds available to make up the difference — at least not in the current budget. There is a chance that money not spent on projects this year could be reassigned to the city of Starke, or USDA could work the funding into next year’s budget.

The city received two bids for construction, \$23.36 million and \$26.94 million — a big difference — and Woodward and Curran have moved discussions forward with the low bidder, PWC Joint Venture. However, given the funding shortage, the city stopped

short of awarding the project. Instead, an intent to award notice has been issued in order to lock in the low bid, which would have expired before the funding issue is resolved.

It remains to be seen how the additional construction cost will impact customer rates. Rate have already risen to ensure the city will be able to repay USDA. The agency previously evaluated the city’s “affordability rate” and determined it cannot repay more than \$10.68 million without charging even more.

For that reason, deMello said USDA is scrambling for additional grant funds. He said the city should know more by early November.

In the meantime, talk has shifted to moving on with construction in two phases. That would allow the city to begin spending the money it has while giving USDA time to produce additional funding.

DeMello said USDA has made a major funding commitment to the city and wants to see the project through to completion.

“We hope that within the next month this becomes a nonissue,” he said. “If it doesn’t, rest assured that I’ll be back here talking about plans B and C that we have lined up.”

ONE PILL

Continued from page 5

receptors in the brain stem, it prevents the release of neurotransmitters that tells the lungs that the breathing rate should increase.

This is why morphine is given to patients in the last hours of their lives. The morphine depresses the release of neurotransmitters, and the patient doesn’t gasp for air as oxygen levels drop in the body.

Pharmaceutical-grade fentanyl is 100 times more potent than morphine. However, dealer-made fentanyl can be 10,000 times more potent.

Graves said the pain-relieving properties of fentanyl can last one hour, but its effect on the respiratory system can last up to four hours.

It’s in everything

East said Clay County’s overdose deaths have been concentrated along the Blanding Boulevard corridor from the Orange Park Mall area through Middleburg.

County officials have previously stated that most of the county’s overdoses occur within a two-mile radius of the Middleburg Winn-Dixie.

East added that seniors are responding to the rising costs of medications by substituting fentanyl for their prescribed medications to make ends meet.

“The problem is, they can’t gauge it,” he said.

“We are finding that heroin is not so much an issue because what people think they’re getting heroin is actually fentanyl,” he added, “and fentanyl has been in cocaine, meth, marijuana— it’s in everything.”

East said that one consequence of the opioid epidemic is that



Dr. Jodie Graves (left) of HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital and Battalion Chief Glenn East of Clay County Fire Rescue, during an overdose awareness seminar at Middleburg’s First Baptist Church.

now, 30.6% of the children in Clay County are being raised by their grandparents.

Free Narcan with your fentanyl

McKinney added that counterfeit drugs: fentanyl substituted as or supplementing other drugs like heroin and methamphetamine is a growing problem.

“Some of the disturbing things we’re seeing are the dealers who are pedaling this poison will actually give Narcan with the drugs that they’re selling,” he said. “This is appealing to the user because they want the most potent drugs they can get their hands on. It’s disturbing that the dealers are giving a drug that could kill the user and the product: the Narcan, that could bring them back from that.”

McKinney said he has seen fentanyl sold as counterfeit Ritalin, a drug first used to treat ADHD but now used by college students to increase concentration and improve academic performance.

“These drug dealers have pill presses that produce pills that look better than the ones that come from the pharmacy,” he said.

“That’s kind of scary to me that

college students will take Ritalin to help them stay up to study— illegal in itself, but they’ll buy these pills thinking it’s a pharmaceutical drug. They see it as safe, and in the end, it’s just a fentanyl pill, and who knows how much fentanyl’s in that pill because it’s not a pharmacist pressing it; it’s some drug dealer mixing it up and pressing it into a pill.”

“One pill can kill,” McKinney added. “That’s what we’re talking about.”

“We won’t be able to arrest our way out of this problem,” McKinney said. “I can arrest every drug dealer in Clay County, and there would be 10 more to follow up behind them the next day.”

Broskie said the school district’s problem with the opioid epidemic is not students using drugs but parents becoming addicted to the substances.

He added that the family disruptions and stress placed on students with addicted family members make learning nearly impossible.

“All that stuff you learned in school doesn’t mean a lot to anyone when you have these issues going on at home,” he said.

Keystone High hosts college and career fair



Maria Searcy and David Kirkland talk to students about the many career opportunities available in aviation.

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS— The high school held a college and career fair within the school’s gym on Friday, Oct. 21. Thirty-eight colleges, businesses and organizations set up booths to interact with students and answer their questions about different career paths.

The high school’s College and Career Coach Carley Feagle said the event’s goal was to expose students to the opportunities available after high school.

“We even have our ninth and 10th graders here because it’s never too early to start thinking about what you are going to do with your life after high school,” she said. “And we like for them to be able to talk to these professionals because it helps them develop people skills and learn how to converse with adults.”

Superintendent David Broskie said the event helps students narrow their post-graduation

choices to one of three broad classes.

“I call them the three E’s,” he said, “which is to enroll, enlist or employ. Those are three options that students have.”

“As a young person, the whole world is in front of you, right?” he added. “And so, to see the opportunities and the possibilities after school is so important.”

Chris Murphy, who runs a Thermo King dealership in Ocala, said his company is looking for refrigeration technicians.

“It is extremely hard to find somebody that wants to do that kind of work anymore,” he said. “There are over 200 Thermo King dealerships in the United States alone, and they are all looking for technicians. I don’t think we ever, ever turn anyone down that wants to work for us.”

Thermo King installs and maintains cooling units aboard trucks like Kroger grocery delivery, food wholesaler Cheney Brothers, which delivers food to restaurants including Keystone’s

Johnny’s Barbecue and Martin Bower, which supplies Dunkin’.

Keystone Airport Board Chair David Kirkland and Airport Manager Maria Searcy talked to students about careers in aviation.

“We want to make our students aware that there are a lot of different jobs in aviation, not just flying airplanes,” he said. “There’s avionics, there’s air traffic control, there are A&P (airframe and powerplant) mechanics.”

Kirkland said students can find aviation jobs in the corporate environment, the military, small businesses and government agencies.

“Like the Florida Wildlife Commission,” he said. “They fly helicopters and planes for wildlife control. And Shands and other medical facilities that have medevac-type helicopters. There are just a lot of opportunities out there, and we’re trying to let the kids know about them. It’s more than just flying an airplane.”

Worth

Continued from page 1

rides, bounce houses and more. Vendors of all kinds will be there, so join them on downtown Call Street from 5 to 8 p.m. Don’t forget to dress up and bring your trick or treat bag!

Democratic Women meet Oct. 27

The Democratic Women of the Lakes Area will meet at 7 p.m. on Oct. 27 at the Historic Melrose Homemakers’ Club, 25728 Park St. Doors open at 6:30. For further information, call 352-235-4161 or write info@dwc-la.org.

Holiday Bazaar at KUMC

Keystone United Methodist Church will present its 2022 Holiday Craft Bazaar on Friday, Nov. 4, from 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 5, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Shop for unique and handmade

gifts, including fall and Christmas decorations, jewelry, wind chimes, bird feeders, holiday gifts and much more. Goodies from the annual bake sale will be available for your enjoyment.

Proceeds benefit local church missions.

Fall Festival at Bayless Baptist

Join Bayless Highway Baptist Church for its Fall Festival on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 3 to 6 p.m. There will be food, games,

crafts, hayrides, bounce houses, a maze and a petting zoo. The church is located at 11789 NW C.R. 225.

Veterans Day Concert

The BHS and BMS Band Programs will be hosting their annual Veterans Day Concert Thursday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. at the BHS Auditorium.

Community members are invited to a celebration of past and present veterans. Admission is free. Contact David Ramos

(ramos.david@mybradford.us) for more details.

Grandparents Day invitation

Greater Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church is having Grandparents Day on Sunday, Nov. 13, at 11 a.m. and inviting everyone who is or was a church member to attend. Descendants of members are also invited to come show support for the grandparents.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

Notice is hereby given that the Union County 2022 Certified Tax Rolls have been delivered by the Property Appraiser to the Tax Collector. Tax rolls are open for collection for all Real Estate, Special Assessment and Personal Property taxes as of November 1, 2022. Taxes may be paid by mail, on-line at www.UnionCountyTC.com or in the Office of the Tax Collector, Union County Courthouse, 55 West Main Street, Room 108, Lake Butler, FL 32054.

Notices will be mailed October 27, 2022 to all property owners or their agents at last known addresses. If you have NOT received your notice by November 8, 2022, please contact our office at 386-496-3331.

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KHHS girls win District 3-1A

Union's Zoe Elixson will advance to Region 1 meet, too

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Candace Jackson finished as match medalist, helping the Keystone Heights High School girls golf team capture the District 3-1A trophy on Oct. 25 in Lake City.

It was the seventh district championship in eight years for Keystone, which won six in a row from 2015 through 2020. The Indians had an 18-hole team score of 411, putting them 91 strokes ahead of Branford and 145 strokes ahead of Taylor County.

All three teams will advance to the Region 1 tournament, which will be held Monday, Oct. 31, at Jacksonville's Windsor Parke Golf Club at 8:30 a.m.

The top three individuals not on a region-qualifying team earned the right to advance, too. That means Union County's Zoe Elixson will be moving on after her sixth-place finish.

Keystone's Jackson captured the individual district title for the second straight year, making par on 12 holes and finishing with a score of 77. That put her in first place by four strokes.

The Indians' M.J. Rivera and Mia Rivera placed fourth and



Keystone Heights High School won the District 3-1A girls golf championship. Head Coach Chris Binet is pictured in front of players (l-r) Rebecca Binet, Rexi Lewis, M.J. Rivera, Candace Jackson and Mia Rivera.

fifth, respectively, with scores of 98 and 107. M.J. Rivera, who made par on two holes, improved her score from last year's tournament by seven strokes. Mia Rivera, who had a birdie, improved upon last year's score by 25 strokes.

Union's Elixson had the second-lowest score among individuals not on region-qualifying teams. She made par on two holes and finished with a score of 110.

Keystone's Rebecca Binet and Rexi Lewis placed 10th and 12th, respectively, with scores of 129 and 134. Binet made par on one hole, while Lewis, who competed in the district tournament last year, improved her score by five strokes.



Keystone's Candace Jackson made it back-to-back individual championships with a score of 77. She won last year's tournament with a score of 78.



The District 3-1A champion Keystone boys golf team. Pictured (l-r) are Shepherd Rozier, Connor Guy, Alex Addington, Nic Binet and Ty Mitzel.

Keystone boys golf team repeats as district champ

Zapp just misses out on region berth for UCHS at meet that also included BHS

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School got a second-place finish from Alex Addington and placed first in the team standings in winning the District 3-1A boys golf championship on Oct. 24 in Lake City.

It was the second straight district championship for Keystone, which finished the 18-hole event with a team score of 323. The Indians placed 23 strokes ahead of Lafayette and 42 strokes ahead of Madison County.

The top three teams earned the right to advance to the Region 1 meet, which will be held Monday, Oct. 31, at 8 a.m. at Marsh Landing Country Club in the Jacksonville suburb of Palm Valley.

Union County placed seventh in the nine-team field with a score of 417, which left the Tigers

trailing Taylor County (394), St. Joseph (411) and Branford (416).

Peniel Baptist was eighth with a score of 465, while Bradford was ninth with a score of 478.

The top three individuals not on region-qualifying teams will compete at the Region 1 meet as well. Union's Caleb Zapp just missed out on qualifying with the fourth-best score among such individuals. He had one birdie and made par on six holes in shooting an 89, which left him tied for 11th overall. The three individual qualifiers were St. Joseph's Matthew Webb (82), Branford's Gavin Barnes (87) and Taylor County's Jackson Taylor (88).

Keystone's Addington had two birdies and made par on nine holes to finish with a score of 78. That left him trailing only Lafayette's Trey Galbraith, who had a score of 75.

The Indians' Connor Guy and Nic Binet each shot a 79 to tie for third. Guy had a birdie and made par on 10 holes, while Binet made par on 11 holes.

Addington and Binet, who competed in last year's district meet, lowered their scores

by three and nine strokes, respectively.

Keystone's Ty Mitzel tied for seventh, making par on seven holes to finish with a score of 87.

The Tigers' Caleb Ripplinger finished in a tie for 18th, making par on two holes and finishing with a score of 99, which was three strokes better than the score he shot last year.

Bradford's Charles Zink and Keystone's Shepherd Rozier each shot a 101 to finish in a tie for 20th. Zink made par on two holes, while Rozier made par on three.

Union's Tucker Williams tied for 29th, making par on two holes and finishing with a score of 111. His teammate Colby Dukes made par on one hole and tied for 35th with a score of 118.

The Tornados' Chase Halsey and Hayden Knight placed 38th and 39th, respectively, with scores of 122 and 125. Halsey had a birdie, while Knight made par on two holes.

Patrick Maxwell shot a 128 for Union, making par on one hole and tying for 40th.

Bradford's Troy Smith shot a 42nd-place score of 130.



Union County's Zoe Elixson placed sixth and earned a region berth for having the second-best score among individuals not on region-qualifying teams.

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NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

Notice is hereby given that the 2022 Certified Tax Rolls have been delivered by the Property Appraiser to the Tax Collector. Tax Rolls are open for collection for all Real Estate, Special Assessment, Tangible and Railroad Taxes for Bradford County, SRWMD, SJRWMD, Starke, Lawtey, Hampton and Brooker as of November 1, 2022 in the office of the Tax Collector, Bradford County Courthouse, 945 N. Temple Ave. Suite B, Starke, FL Telephone: 904-966-6246. Office hours: Monday through Friday: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Bradford County Courthouse Branch Office at 3979 SE 8th Ave, Melrose, FL (located on 21B/Speedville Rd) Telephone: 904-368-3950. Office hours: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (closed for lunch from 1:00-2:00 pm).

Notices will be mailed on October 28, 2022, to all property owners or their agents at last known addresses. If your address has changed, please complete the enclosed form and return to our office.

If your notice has not been received by November 15, 2022, please notify our office.

If paying by mail, please furnish a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope to receive your paid receipt. Please mail entire notice DO NOT TEAR APART. Current Taxes maybe paid online at www.bradfordtaxcollector.com.

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17
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18
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19
KENTUCKY WILDCATS VS. TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS

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20
PITTSBURGH PANTHERS VS. NORTH CAROLINA TAR HEELS

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21
ARIZONA CARDINALS VS. MINNESOTA VIKINGS

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22
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23
DENVER BRONCOS VS. JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

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 904-964-7050

24
NORTHWESTERN WILDCATS VS. IOWA HAWKEYES

Murray Ford
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*CONTEST RULES 1. Anyone (except Telegraph/Times/Monitor employees and their immediate family members) is welcome to enter. One entry per person per week please. Persons winning one week are not eligible to win again for at least three weeks. 2. When picking up winnings, the winner will have their photograph taken for the paper. 3. Entry must be on an official form from the BCT/UCT/LRM and submitted to one of our drop off locations: BC Telegraph, 131 W. Call St., Starke; Spires Market in Lake Butler; Capital City Bank in Keystone Heights OR *** email a photo/scan of your official entry form to CONTEST@BCTELEGRAPH.COM — ALL entries due before 5 p.m. on Fridays. Entrants consent to be added to our email list and having photo taken for paper. Fill in all the blanks with the name of the team you think will win, matching the biz & card numbers. The person who picks the most games correctly will win \$50 cash from the pool of BCT/UCT/LRM entries. 4. In case of a tie, the total points scored in the Gators game this week is the tie breaker. Please fill in the points you think will be scored by the Gators and their opponent, combined, in the tie breaker blank. (For instance, if the score of the game was Gators 19, opponent 7, that correct tie-breaker score is 26 points). 5. Decision of the judges is final. A second, follow up tie-breaker will be used, if necessary. Results will be tabulated on Monday and winners notified by telephone. Don't forget to list a phone number where you can be reached. INFO: 904-964-6305.

BHS keeps dominating, wins 44-0

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Head Coach Jamie Rodgers felt his team's performance was lacking in some areas during its homecoming game on Oct. 14, which is understandable, as it's a week that brings a lot of distractions. He emphasized the quest for perfection moving forward.

The coach didn't have much to squabble with on Oct. 21 as the top-ranked Class 2S Bradford High School football team defeated visiting Dunnellon 44-0.

Bradford, which travels to play Palatka on Friday, Oct. 28, at 7 p.m., scored 37 points in the first half — a half that saw the Tornadoes' defense hold the 19th-ranked Class 2S Tigers to minus-24 yards and no first downs.

When it was all said and done, Dunnellon (5-3) had minus-26 yards and three first downs. Two of those first downs were the result of penalties.

On offense, the Tornadoes (8-0) scored touchdowns on four of their first six possessions, with quarterback Jeremiah McKenzie rushing for two and passing for another. The defense added a score on a pick-six by Devon McBride, while special teams got into the act as well, with Brandon Williams making a tackle for a safety.

"That was as about a complete game as I can remember seeing," Rodgers said. "It was a lot of fun to watch. That first half was about as good as it gets all the way around."

It was the seventh shutout for the Bradford defense, which ties the school record held by the 1964 team.

Rodgers has gotten to the point where he's almost at a loss for words when it comes to what his team is doing defensively.

"I don't know what to talk about when it comes to that," he said. "They just love each other, and they love to play hard on defense."

"The offense is the same way. They love it, too, but it just happens it's the string of shutouts



Torin Brazell (left) sacks Dunnellon quarterback Tyler Jones in the Tornadoes' 44-0 win over Dunnellon. Bradford has now shut out seven of its eight opponents. Photo by Cliff Smelley.

(that gets the attention). It's a little bit insane."

It wasn't all good news for Bradford, as senior running back Manny Covey — a University of Cincinnati commit — suffered a leg injury on the third play from scrimmage that likely put an end to his season. He entered the game with approximately 600 yards rushing and nine touchdowns.

"He probably won't be back," Rodgers said. "My heart hurts for him because he loves these guys so much, and he wants to be here, but the future's really bright for him. He's going to go to Cincinnati. He's going to excel there. He's going to get a degree. Then, who knows what the future holds for him? He's going to be successful no matter what it is."

The game got off to an explosive start with Dae'Jon Shanks returning the opening kickoff 42 yards to the Dunnellon 45. McKenzie picked up one first down with his legs and later threw a short pass to Chalil Cummings, who took it 17 yards for another first down at the 11-yard line. McKenzie then carried for a 6-yard gain before crossing the goal line from 5 yards out at the 8:36 mark of the first quarter. Hayden Hughes added the PAT for a 7-0 lead.

Hughes was successful on all seven of his extra-point attempts.

Dunnellon's offense netted minus-15 yards on its first two series, with Torin Brazell making two tackles for loss and Bryson Bowen recording a 15-yard sack.

The Tornadoes made 10 tackles in all behind the line of scrimmage, while making another six for no gain.

Dunnellon had only 10 plays that resulted in a positive gain.

Bradford's third offensive series began at the Dunnellon 6 after a 34-yard punt return by Shanks. One play was all the Tornadoes needed to increase their lead, with Shanks taking a handoff into the end zone with 2:33 to play in the first quarter. After Hughes' PAT, it was 14-0.

Shanks finished with 82 all-purpose yards.

The next time the Tornadoes had the ball, they were starting a drive in their own territory for the first time. That made little difference as Willie Pollard's 50-yard run set up an eventual 5-yard touchdown run by McKenzie, capping a four-play, 65-yard drive approximately one minute into the second quarter.

Pollard led all rushers with 101 yards on nine carries.

Dunnellon's first possession of the second quarter was like every possession it had in the first. A tackle by Bowen for no gain, a 3-yard sack by Trente Jenkins and a quarterback pressure by Will Lusignan forced the Tigers to punt from their own 17-yard line. A bad snap resulted in the punter getting tackled by Williams in the end zone for a safety at the 9:36 mark of the second quarter, making the score 23-0.

Pollard returned the ensuing free kick approximately 50

yards to the Dunnellon 20, but a holding penalty wiped out the big gain and put the Bradford offense at its own 34. Three plays later, the Tigers intercepted a McKenzie pass.

The Tornadoes returned the favor three plays later, with McBride getting a pick and returning it approximately 40 yards for a touchdown and a 30-0 lead with 6:58 remaining in the second quarter.

Dunnellon's third play on the following series resulted in another interception — this time by Jameetrius Pringle. That gave Bradford the ball at the Tigers' 16-yard line. Two plays later, McKenzie threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Brazell. Bradford led 37-0 with 4:34 remaining until halftime.

McKenzie finished with 27 yards on 2-of-3 passing, while adding 20 yards rushing on eight carries.

The second half was played with a running clock, which resulted in two possessions for each team.

Bradford added its last score on an eight-play, 47-yard drive. Brian Clifflin, who rushed for 20 yards on four carries, picked up two first downs before Williams, in at quarterback, completed a 32-yard touchdown pass to Michael Oliver on a fourth-and-17 play.

Dunnellon, with the help of two 15-yard penalties, drove into the red zone on its final drive. However, the defense responded with Brazell coming up with two sacks. McBride then intercepted his second pass of the game to preserve the shutout.

McBride's pick was the 14th turnover created by the Bradford defense this season. Of those turnovers, 11 have been interceptions.

Bradford now travels to Palatka for the game that will decide the District 6 championship. If the Tornadoes win, they automatically qualify for the Region 2 playoffs.

It was almost a battle of unbeaten, but Palatka (7-1) lost 27-15 to Fernandina Beach on Oct. 21.



All-Conference Lions

Hope Christian Academy senior volleyball players Haley Sheppard (left) and Jadie Clark were All-Conference Team selections at the Southeastern Christian Conference playoff tournament on Oct. 22. Photo by Donna Sheppard

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Biz 5 _____	Biz 18 _____
Biz 6 _____	Biz 19 _____
Biz 7 _____	Biz 20 _____
Biz 8 _____	Biz 21 _____
Biz 9 _____	Biz 22 _____
Biz 10 _____	Biz 23 _____
Biz 11 _____	Biz 24 _____
Biz 12 _____	
Biz 13 _____	

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Gator Game

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or _____



Week #8
Bill Cloud (missed 3)

Obituaries

Melvorna Addison

At the tender age of 96, Melvorna "Bunny" Thornton Addison passed away at her home on Monday, Oct. 24, 2022. She was born March 8, 1926, in Manning, the youngest daughter of David and Mary Etta Thornton. She grew up on the state prison farm in Union County and she had fond memories of her childhood there. She later married Robbie Addison and they moved to South Florida and opened Sunset Feed & Supply. She was a businesswoman who managed the company for her husband. She always found time to travel. She enjoyed trips with her brother and sister-in-law. She was a jovial woman who you could always count on to greet you with a smile. She was also humble, kind, and accepting of everyone. Her greatest joy was her family. She loved entertaining and having family gatherings. She was a precious, sweet woman and will be truly missed. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Robbie Addison; sons, Tucker Townsend, Mark Addison, and Robbie Addison; and seven siblings.

She is survived by her daughters, Marsha "Sissy" (Robbie) Castellanos of Clewiston, and Donna (Stephen) Chase of Colorado; her daughter-in-law, Nelwyn Townsend of Gainesville; her brother and sister-in-law, Dewey (Norma) Thornton of Lake Butler; her grandchildren, Tara (Maritza Zota-Townsend) Townsend, Heather (Ralph) Riera, David (Keli) Townsend, Jamie (Jackie) Addison, Shawn Huebner, Melinda (Dane) Firth, Kelly (Tom) Addison, Mark Addison, Amanda (Brad) Carter, and Tiffany (Craig) Rathbun; 14 great-grandchildren; her mother-in-law, Ruth Addison of Lake Butler; and a host of extended family.

A visitation will be held from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 28, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home. A graveside service will be held immediately following at Dekle Cemetery in Lake Butler. The service will be officiated by Paul Waters.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

PAID OBITUARY

Kenneth Andrews

Kenneth "Ken" Larry Andrews, 65, of Keystone Heights, died on Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022, at his residence. He was preceded in death by his mother, Delores Andrews Carver; daughter, Suzanne Michelle Andrews; and brother, Ronald Lamar Andrews.

He is survived by his father, Donald (Janie) Andrews of Jacksonville; brother, Joe Andrews of Keystone Heights; along with many extended family members and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Nov. 5, at 2 p.m. at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel.

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



Dorothy Bryant

Dorothy Mae Evans Bryant, 87, of Keystone Heights passed away unexpectedly at her home Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022. She was born March 31, 1935, in Miami to the late James Ralph and Virtie Belle (Parks) Evans. Dot, as she was called, grew up on a farm in Fitzgerald, Georgia. She was just a teenager of 14 when her own mother passed away. She and her older sister, Inez, alternated staying home to cook meals for the farm workers. Both she and her husband, Ben, lived and went to different schools in Fitzgerald. While she graduated from Ocala High School in 1953 and Ben graduated from Fitzgerald High the same year, they never met. After graduation she moved to Miami to live with her aunt. Ben moved to Miami to live with his mother. She and Ben met for the first time when they both attended Pinewood Park Baptist Church. They were married in that same church on July 6, 1956. On that day in 2022, they had been married 66 years. Ben went to the University of Miami and from there went to work with the Seaboard Railroad in Hialeah before being called into the ministry. She and Ben had three children, and one on the way, when Ben resigned from the railroad. At that time, they moved to Graceville where Ben attended the Baptist College of Florida for two years. Their fourth child was born during that time. Ben pastored The Rocky Creek Baptist Church in Marianna. After two years there the family moved to Hattiesburg, Mississippi where Ben graduated from the University of William Carey while also pastoring Big Level Baptist Church of Wiggins, Mississippi. While in Wiggins, Ben began to attend New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, graduating in 1968. Ben commuted back and forth to New Orleans while Dot and the children lived in the parsonage at Big Level Baptist Church in Wiggins, Mississippi. She took care of her family while Ben was gone most of the time between New Orleans and his pastoral duties. In 1969, Dot and Ben moved their family to Milton where he would pastor Olivet Baptist Church and where Dot would give birth to her fifth child. In 1973, Dot and Ben moved their family to Starke, where they would serve this area at First Baptist Church for over 30 years. In all the churches that Ben pastored over the years, Dot worked with the children, usually with ages 3-5. She always knew her place was with the children. She loved them and they loved "Mrs. Dot." As of the present, Dot and Ben have continued doing interim pastoral ministries, both in Bradford and surrounding counties. Dot was always an integral part of the ministry and was the best Pastor's wife that could be imagined. She is survived by her loving and devoted husband of 66 wonderful years, Ben Bryant, of Keystone Heights; and their five children, Debi (Tim) Burke and Angie Barber, both of Keystone Heights, Benjamin P. (Kathy) Bryant Jr. of Gainesville, Andrew (Karan) Bryant of Starke, and Matt (Pam) Bryant of Kingsley Lake. She was lovingly called "Mama" by grandchildren, Brad (Brooke) Barber, Brendan (Jen) Nichols, Josh (Lindsey) Nichols, Brooke (Derrick) Thurmond, Brantley (Emma) Barber, Troy (Melody) Bryant, Jake (Lauren) Bryant, Jackie (Peyton) Hale and Caleb Bryant; in addition to 12 great-grandchildren; and two on the way.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Oct. 26, with Rev. Ben Bryant and Rev. Terry Blakeslee officiating. Interment followed at New River Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts can be made to the New River Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, 16703 SW 144th Ave. Brooker, 32622.

Arrangements were by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 620 E. Nona St., Starke, 32091. www.jonesgallagherfh.com



and Professional Counseling Award and the 2000 Outstanding Intellectuals of the 21st Century. She was a Charter member of The American Association of Christian Counselors, Chairman of the Executive Board, and established and directed the Counselor Care Program. She was a contributor for "The Soul Care Bible," a contributing author and columnist for The Christian Counseling Connection, as well as authoring and published her own book, "Get Off Your Own Back." She was also a very accomplished private pilot. She earned her multi-engine, instrument and commercial ratings with over 1,000 hours of flight time. Along with her husband, Dr. William R. Crews; and parents; she was predeceased by a brother-in-law, James McCrae.

Survivors include her children, Terrie (Terry) Moyer of Tryon, North Carolina, William (Melody) Crews Jr. of Wellford, South Carolina, and Rachel Crews (Mitch) Corbett of Lake Murray, South Carolina; grandchildren, Jared (Kathy) Wilkins, Jacob (Lauren) Wilkins, Neal (Amanda) Buckley, Jessie Moyer, Michelle Crews, Lawson Buckley, and Megan Crews; great-grandchildren, Noah Wilkins, Chloe Wilkins, Brady Wilkins, Nash Wilkins, Karsen Wilkins, Jasper Wilkins, Peyton LeMaster, Blayne LeMaster, and Trey Buckley; and siblings, Estelle McCrae, Arthur (Prima) Green, and Bonita (Butch) Howard.

Pallbearers will be Jacob Wilkins, Neal Buckley, Lawson Buckley, Kirk Minton, Ron Stikeleather, and Jim Ness. Visitation will be from 12 p.m. until 1 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 27, at Floyd's Boiling Springs Chapel, 4161 Highway 9 North, Boiling Springs, South Carolina, 29316. Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. at the chapel, conducted by Rev. Steve Wise. Entombment will follow in Good Shepherd Memorial Park Mausoleum, 4164 Boiling Springs Rd, Boiling Springs, South Carolina, 29316. Memorials may be made to Bible Study Time, Inc. P.O. Box 1714, Spartanburg, SC 29304.

An online guest register is available at www.floydmortuary.com

PAID OBITUARY

Jane Gay

Jane Gornito Gay "Mama Jane" of Starke passed away at her home on Friday, Oct. 21, 2022, surrounded by Harold Gay, her loving husband of 62 years, and her family. She was 88 years old. She was born in Putnam Hall to Ted Gornito and Essie Gornito (Thaggard). She was a great student and graduated two years early as valedictorian of her class at Melrose High School. Her life was full of hard work, perseverance and overcoming obstacles with grace and love. She spent 48 years at DuPont. She started as a secretary in the temporary typing pool. However, due to her intelligence and work ethic, she became an area supervisor. She was so proud of her work and loved it and, all of the people she worked with. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Starke. She served faithfully as an elder, Sunday school teacher and youth leader. Each role gave her joy. Her church family has always been close to her heart. Jane and Harold's love and devotion to one another created a home and family that included so many people. She endured the loss of her parents; her sister, Leona Saucer; her sons, Stanley Gay and Stephen Gay; her grandson, Daryn Gay, who created the name "Mama Jane," for which she will be forever known; and her great-granddaughter, Melody Hall. Each loss broke her heart, but instead of shrinking, her capacity to love only multiplied.

She leaves behind two children, Melissa (Loat), and LeVance (Suzanne), eight grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. Her legacy of love, strength, and gratitude will live on and continue to inspire her family and all those who knew her.

Celebration of life services will be held on Saturday, Oct. 29, at 11 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church with a family visitation immediately following. Memorial gifts may be sent to: The First Presbyterian Church, 921 E. Call St., Starke, 32091.

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 620 E. Nona St., Starke, 32091. www.jonesgallagherfh.com

PAID OBITUARY



Dr. Freda Crews

Dr. Freda V. Crews, 86, of Lake Bowen, South Carolina, departed for her heavenly home and into the presence of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Friday, Oct. 21, 2022. She passed away at home, surrounded by her loved ones, following a lengthy illness. She was born March 17, 1936, in Olustee, to the late William H. and Martha Crawford Green and was the wife of the late Dr. William R. Crews. She was born in Olustee, and grew up in Lawtey. She was a graduate of Bradford High School in Starke. She was employed at the Bradford County Courthouse, where she was assistant to the County Judge, until her marriage to her late husband, Dr. William R. Crews. She soon began to travel with her husband, in pursuit of their educations. She assisted her husband with pastoral duties and devoted her life to ministry while raising a family. She completed her master's degree at North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The first woman to graduate from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Chicago, Illinois, she earned a Doctorate of Ministry. She also completed a Doctorate of Philosophy at International University for Graduate Studies in St. Kitts, where she later held the position of Director/Dean of the International University for Graduate Studies School of Christian Counseling. Throughout her life, she held many positions in ministry, while also assisting her husband in ministry as together they pastored churches in Florida, Texas, Michigan, Kentucky, Arkansas, Georgia, South Dakota, and South Carolina. She was ordained at First Baptist Church in West Coral Springs on Feb. 16, 1997. She was a faithful, obedient and dedicated servant to her Lord, and daughter of The King. Throughout all her education and ministerial pursuits, she remained a loving and devoted wife, mother and grandmother. Dr. Crews, along with her husband, founded Bible Study Time, a Spartanburg, South Carolina based nonprofit ministry in 1974, where she held the position of CEO until the time of her passing. She was the Pastor of Hope for Living Media Church, and founder and speaker for the Truth for Living radio program until she passed. She was the founder and host of the Time for Hope International Television Ministry, and a member of the National Association of Religious Broadcasters. She was a presidential member of American Association of Christian Counselors, a licensed professional counselor, a board-certified professional Christian counselor, and founder of the Cherokee County Suicide Prevention Hotline. In 2007, she was Woman of the Year from The American Biographical Institute. She was awarded, in recognition of achievement in the way of outstanding contributions in the fields of business, theology and professional counseling, the 2007 Business Theology



PAID OBITUARY

Carl Hagglund

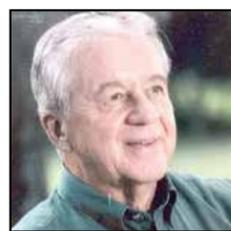
Carl Hagglund passed away peacefully on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022, at the age of 82 years old. He was born in Oak Park, Illinois and, at the age of 8, he moved to Melrose. He graduated from Melrose High School in 1958 and went on to obtain his associate of arts degree from St. Johns Community College. He started at Clay Electric as a lineman and worked his way up to manager of substations. He worked there for 49.5 years. After taking a few years off, he ran for the Board of Directors and was elected. He was a board member for the last nine years. He loved Clay Electric. He met his wife, Patricia, at Melrose High School, where he was captain of the football team and she was captain of the cheer squad. They dated through high school and married upon graduating. They were married for 62 years. They moved to Keystone in 1971, where he helped raise four kids. He loved his kids and did not think they ever did wrong. His kids were his life. He spent his time outside work attending sporting events, graduations, and weddings. He was a Deacon for many years at Eliam Baptist Church in Melrose. He loved all animals, but especially cats. He fed the cats at Harvey's/Winn Dixie and at home. Any cat that wandered up, he wanted to make sure it never went hungry. He also carried dog food in his car at all times just in case he saw a stray dog.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia; and children, Carl (Cindy) Hagglund Jr. of Summerfield, Kathy (Marc) Rothstein of Keystone Heights, Debbie (Tommy) Piper of Clermont, and Cindy (Tim) Looose of Melrose. He loved his grandchildren as much as he loved his kids, Ben Hagglund, Bekke Hagglund, Tommy Piper Jr., Abi Looose, Justin Piper, Emily Looose, Seth Piper and Kailee Rothstein.

A private burial was held on Tuesday, Oct. 25, at Eliam Baptist Cemetery followed by a Celebration of Life at Eliam Baptist Church. There was a very short service and dinner following. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Eliam Baptist Church or Twisted Oaks Rescue.

Arrangements were by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 340 E. Walker Drive, Keystone Heights, 32656. 352-473-3176 www.jonesgallagherfh.com

PAID OBITUARY



Card of Thanks

On behalf of the Roberts family, I want to thank the entire community for your condolences and well wishes during this difficult time.

Words cannot express how much this means to have so many people from throughout the years share stories, tears, and heartfelt memories they had with Nancy. I had absolutely no idea of these numerous interactions and am so grateful that you shared them with me.

She made all of us better people and of course we never left her presence without a smile. . . When you think of her - please don't forget that important characteristic that she never met a stranger.



Thank you kindly,
George W. Roberts Jr.

Curtis A. "Lex" Sanders Attorney at Law



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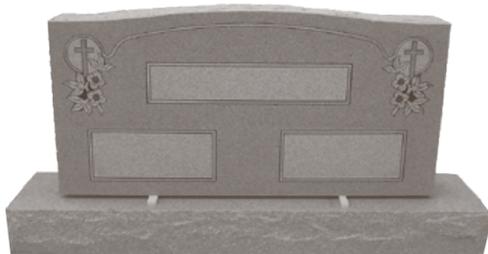
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William Hicks

William Henry (Ned) Hicks, of High Springs, died on his 96th birthday on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022, at Haven Hospice in Gainesville. He was preceded in death by his wife, Madge Hicks; parents, Plinnie and Lottie Hicks; and 11 siblings.

He is survived by his sons, William R. (Mary) Hicks of Brooker, Larry (Cindy) Hicks of High Springs, and Plen Hicks of Kingsbury, Texas.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 27, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler, with visitation beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

Obituaries

Harry Hileman

Harry Lee Hileman, 84, of Keystone Heights died in Ocala on Thursday, Oct. 6, 2022.

He leaves behind his wife, Carol (Mattox) Hileman of Keystone Heights; and three children, Gary (Christina) Hileman of Keystone Heights, Carla (Alan) Montane of Melrose, and Karen (Dan) Pike of Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, Nov. 11, at the Community Church. A private interment will be at Keystone Heights Cemetery.

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 340 E. Walker Drive, Keystone Heights, 32656. 352-473-3176 www.jonesgallagherfh.com

Roy Hoffer Jr.

Roy "Rocky" N. Hoffer Jr., 70, of Keystone Heights passed away at his home Sunday, Oct. 23, 2022, due to a yearlong battle with esophageal cancer. He was born July 7, 1952, in Washington, North Carolina to Roy N. and Hulda Pauline (Smith) Hoffer. He proudly served in the United States Air Force and Army National Guard. He began his career with Clay Electric in 1985 as a mechanic in fleet service and retired after 30 years of employment. He was an active member of Trinity Baptist Church and enjoyed hunting, fishing and working on his tractor, but, most of all, he loved spending time with his family and friends. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Paula Waldron and Wanda Thompson.

He leaves behind his devoted wife of 42 years, Valerie (Jones) Hoffer of Keystone Heights; and their children, Tyler (Heather) Hoffer of Ocala, and Whitney (Brandon) Drost of Keystone Heights; he was also lovingly called "Papa" by Samuel Hoffer.

The family will receive friends beginning at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 1, at Trinity Baptist Church with funeral services beginning at 11 a.m. Interment will follow at Keystone Heights Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to: Trinity Baptist Church, 3716 SR 21, Keystone Heights, 32656.

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 340 E. Walker Drive, Keystone Heights, 32656. 352-473-3176. www.jonesgallagherfh.com



PAID OBITUARY

James Pierce Jr.

James Russell Pierce Jr., 62, of Keystone Heights died Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022. In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by his son, James Russell "Rusty" Pierce III.

Survivors are his wife, Sherri (Ellis) Pierce, and his mother, Marilyn (Green) Pierce, both of Keystone Heights; two daughters, Amy Pierce and Emily (Josh) Hatley, all of Albemarle, North Carolina; three stepchildren, and 11 grandchildren.

There are no scheduled services at this time.

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 340 E. Walker Drive, Keystone Heights, 32656. 352-473-3176. www.jonesgallagherfh.com

Virginia Rogers

Virginia Mae Rogers, 77, of Lake Butler died on Thursday, Oct. 20, 2022, at her daughter's home in Quincy. She was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, Walter Douglas; and daughter, Fawn Walker.

She is survived by her children, Johnny Lee (Cathy) Rogers of Lake Butler, Mary Ann (Roddy) Mickel of Quincy, and Lisa (Joe) Colomb of Crawfordville; 10 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren; and her sister, Doris (Tommy) Anderson of Macclenny.

A service was held on Tuesday, Oct. 25, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home. She was laid to rest immediately following the service at Dedan Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com



Quinelle Ryan

Quinelle Croft Ryan, 89, died on Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022, at Suwannee Valley Care Center in Lake City. She was preceded in death by her parents; and her husband John P. Ryan Sr.

She is survived by her children, John P. Ryan Jr., Sherry (Richard) Shane, Valerie (Michael) Raymond, and Amy (Augustin) Fernandez; 11 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and three brothers.

A Celebration of Life was on Tuesday, Oct. 25, at Mt. Zion/Swift Creek Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com



Margaret Waller

Margaret Stewart Waller, 76, of Raiford died on Thursday, Oct. 20, 2022, at E.T. York Care Center in Gainesville. She was born Jan. 13, 1946, in Steubenville, Ohio to the late Willard and Dorothy Crawford Stewart. She was preceded in death by her parents; her siblings; and her husband, Ricky Waller.

She is survived by her son, Brian Jones of Raiford; and her grandchildren, Clae Jones, Jodie Waters, Amber Templeton, Brooke Waters, and Natalie Waters; and three great-grandchildren.

A private service is scheduled for family.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler. 386-496-2008.

Indians defeat Wildcats 38-0

BY CHUCK DOWLING
Special to the Telegraph-Times-Monitor



Bryar Schenck caught a touchdown pass and rushed for another two scores in the Indians' 38-0 win. File photo by Cliff Smelley.

In a Battle of 1-6 football teams, it would be the Keystone Heights Indians that would emerge from the contest with their second win of the season.

Taylor High School, a 1R classification team out of Pierson in Putnam County, was simply outsized and over-matched on a night when the Keystone Heights boys weightlifting team (which consists of many members who also play football) were awarded their state championship rings. The Indians used that brute strength to their advantage to overpower the Wildcats on their way to a 38-0 home victory on Oct. 21.

KHHS, which travels to play District 6-2S opponent Toco Creek on Friday, Oct. 28, at 7:30 p.m., amassed 321 yards in the win, 302 of which came on the ground.

"I thought the line blocked well, and the running backs ran hard tonight. I think last week gave them some confidence," Keystone Head Coach Chuck Dickinson said, adding, "Our offense is a matter of being physical. That's the bottom line for us."

Taylor won the coin toss and deferred to the second half. Freshman Jackson Parmeter would return the opening kickoff to the Indian 45, and after a 7-yard run by senior halfback Bryar Schenck (12 carries, 90

yards), Keystone was into Wildcat territory one play into the game. Schenck and junior running back Cartez Daniels would get the lion's share of carrying the offense on the night. The two backs would literally alternate carries on the first drive before Daniels (21 carries, 189 yds) would punch it in from 3 yards out to put the punctuation on the nine-play, 55-yard drive that took 5:55 off the clock. Schenck was stopped short of the goal line on the two-point conversion attempt, but the Tribe found themselves with a 6-0 lead with 6:05 remaining in the opening quarter.

Junior Pelayo Rendas-

Martinez's kickoff was bobbled and fielded at the 22-yard line by Anthony Miller, who was able to return it to the 29, but a 15-yard late-hit penalty against freshman Bryce Miller would give THS the ball at its own 44. The Wildcats came out throwing, but after two incomplete passes, quarterback Wess Henry spun out of trouble, but was brought down after just a gain of 1. Taylor lined up to go for it before calling a timeout and changing their mind. Junior Darrion Grady would let the punt take a bounce, and it was downed at the 21, where Keystone would take over.

The duo of Daniels and Schenck went right back to work. After a Daniels fumble out of bounds on first down, Schenck took it 15 yards to the 38. One play later, Schenck would go 11 yards to cross midfield and take it down to the 42. This theme would continue before Daniels would take it in from 5 yards out to put his side up 12-0 with 33 seconds still to go in the first quarter. This time, the two-point attempt would not fail as Daniels would go off tackle for the conversion.

Having been outgained 124 yards to 1 in the first quarter, the 'Cats decided to pull out all the stops on the ensuing kickoff. The kick was actually fielded by quarterback Anthony Miller, who then threw a lateral across the field to Nikko Dozier, but the trickery was quickly

Local DAR chapter meets at Keystone Methodist Church Nov. 7

Michelle Lawson, a retired Army chaplain, will be the guest speaker at the next meeting of the Col. Samuel Elbert Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, which will be held Monday, Nov. 7, at 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall of Keystone United Methodist Church (4004 S.R. 21).

Lawson is a pastoral counselor — with an emphasis on crisis intervention — at Lawson Life Consulting.

Do you have a Revolutionary War-era patriot in your family tree? If you would like to find out, DAR can help with its genealogical resources. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove direct descent from a person who aided in achieving American independence between April 19, 1775, and Nov. 26, 1783, is eligible for membership. Please contact Registrar Jane Argo Romeo at 352-478-3544 for more information.

Place your orders now for Starke Kiwanis smoked ribs

The Kiwanis Club of Starke's annual Steve Denmark Memorial Rib Sale is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 19.

Smoked slabs of ribs cost \$20 each and will be available for pickup at Starke's Community State Bank from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

You may purchase slabs from any member of the club prior to the sale. You can also send a message to the club's Facebook page ("Kiwanis Club of Starke").

KHHS volleyball season ends with 3-0 loss in quarterfinals

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School made the Region 1-4A volleyball playoffs as an at-large team, but the sixth-seeded Indians were no match for third seed South Walton, which recorded a 3-0 (25-11, 25-13, 25-13) quarterfinal win on Oct. 25 in Santa Rosa Beach.

The Seahawks (16-10) led from start to finish in the first and third sets and trailed only twice in the early stages of the second set.

South Walton scored 10 of the first 13 points in the opening set and later scored five straight with Jordyn Swift serving to go up 23-8. The Seahawks would eventually win on an error.

A tip by Kaitlin Brown to start the second set gave Keystone (17-8) its first lead of the match at 1-0. The Indians took advantage of a couple of errors with Kadence Carlton serving to go up 4-3, but a kill by South Walton's Camryn Halstead tied the score and forced side-out. The Seahawks then scored eight points with Madeline Smith to go

up 12-4.

South Walton led 18-11 before scoring five points with Swift serving. Smith had four kills during that span before the Indians' Kiersten Shaw knocked down a kill to force side-out. It was later 24-13 in favor of the Seahawks when a kill by Smith gave them the set win.

The Seahawks scored the first five points of the third set and scored three points with Swift serving to go up 9-2. Keystone would get blocks and kills from Riley Barry and Sarah Siebert, but the Indians couldn't cut into the South Walton lead.

Swift ended the match with a kill to send the Seahawks to the semifinals on Friday, Oct. 28.

Stats weren't available by deadline.

BHS volleyball team falls 3-0 in district final

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

The Bradford High School volleyball team made a run to the championship match as the fifth seed, but the Tornadoes' season came to an end with a 3-0 (25-18, 25-21, 25-15) loss to second seed P.K. Yonge in the District 3-3A final on Oct. 20 at Palatka High School.

Bradford (6-10) put itself in a position to qualify for the

regional playoffs by knocking off top seed Palatka 3-0 (25-22, 25-18, 25-20) in the Oct. 18 semifinals. The win occurred 21 days after the Tornadoes were swept by Palatka during the regular season.

Takeirra Bakken had 25 assists, seven kills and three service aces to help Bradford get the win. The Tornadoes also got six kills and four blocks from Ajiyah Jackson, while Kirsten Hodges had eight digs and two aces.

The Tornadoes entered the championship match having won four of their last five matches (including a 3-0 District 3 quarterfinal win over fourth seed Taylor County on Oct. 17).

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Gainey, Whitehead are first-ever UCHS swimmers

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Most Union County High School student-athletes who find themselves doing laps are using their feet on dry land, but some are doing laps in the water.

The school is competing in the sport of swimming for the first time ever, represented by junior Abby Gainey and freshman Eva Whitehead. Union County Sheriff Brad Whitehead, who is Eva's father, said the addition of the sport was the result of talks he and his wife, Jennifer, had with Superintendent of Schools Mike Ripplinger and Athletic Director Andrew Thomas.

"They actually thought it was a great idea to start another women's program at our high school," Brad Whitehead said.

Whitehead serves in the role of head coach, but his wife is involved as well.

"I'm the assistant who does the paperwork," she said.

At the time the idea of creating a swim team was being discussed, more students expressed interest, Brad Whitehead said. However,

a lot of those students were involved in other sports, so the team wound up consisting of just two.

Still, it's a start of what will hopefully grow in future years. Brad Whitehead said he'd like to see enough students participate to where they can compete in relays.

"That's our goal," he said. "The relays are fun."

Jennifer Whitehead is confident the sport will grow once more students become aware of what her daughter and Gainey have been doing. Eva Whitehead has been swimming since the age of 6 and has been doing so competitively for Gator Swim Club in Gainesville, but this is Gainey's first year of competitive swimming.

Gainey's participation can be a selling point, Jennifer Whitehead said, adding, "It's something that you can do for fun and just try to do your best."

The swimmers, who competed in the District 1-1A on Oct. 25, took part in six meets during the regular season, with Whitehead

earning first-place finishes in her two events — the 100-yard backstroke and the 200-yard individual medley. (Medley events incorporate the butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle.) Whitehead also competed in the Gainesville City Championships, placing second in her events.

Brad Whitehead said Gainey, who competes in the 50-yard freestyle and 100-yard breaststroke, has improved over the season, noting that she earned a third-place finish in the breaststroke at one meet and placed sixth or seventh in the freestyle at a meet as well.

"We've been proud of her. She's working really hard," Brad Whitehead said, adding, "For her first time swimming, she's done well."

A swim team at UCHS creates another opportunity for girls interested in competing in athletics, but it also gives Eva Whitehead the chance to compete in the state's district meets and be eligible for advancing to regional and state competition.



Eva Whitehead (left) and Abby Gainey are pictured the day of their first swim meet. This is the first year Union County High School has competed in the sport of swimming.

"We wanted to be able to have the opportunity to do that," Brad Whitehead said, adding, "She really wants to make it to state. She's prepared and trained for it."

Eva's interest initially came about because of her brother, Carter, who began swimming because his father swam.

"They're only a year apart, so when he did it, she did it," Jennifer Whitehead said of her children. "(Carter) just kind of gave it up. (Eva) just had the skill and the passion for it more than he did."

"It does take self-discipline because it's easy to say, 'Hey, let's go do something else on a Friday night.'"

Eva's self-discipline has her devoting six days a week to the sport. She practices in Gainesville from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Mondays through Fridays and on Sundays. Mondays and Wednesdays also include 6-7:30 a.m. practices.

Because of her level of

See SWIM, page 18

Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Oct. 27, 2022

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: 1037
Year of Issuance: 2015
Parcel Number: 04545-0-00200
Case Number: 2022-TD-0018
Description of Property: Parcel A-1: A parcel of land lying in the NE 1/4 of Section 35, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows: Commence at a found 4'x 4' concrete monument located at the SE corner of the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of said Section 35 for the Point of Beginning. From the Point of Beginning thus described run North 89 degrees, 30 minutes, 24 seconds West along the South line of the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 for a distance of 248.29 feet to a set 1/2" iron rod; thence run North 04 degrees, 35 minutes, 06 seconds East for a distance of 124.16 feet to a set 1/2" iron rod located on the Southerly R/W line of 150th Street; thence run South 86 degrees, 36 minutes, 04 seconds East along said Southerly R/W line for a distance of 235.71 feet to a set 1/2" iron rod located on the East line of the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4; thence run South 01 degrees, 33 minutes, 43 seconds East along said East line for a distance of 111.96 feet to the Point of Beginning

Name in Which Assessed: MICHAEL MCFARLAND; DIANNE MCFARLAND
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 01/11/2023, 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: October 3, 2022

10/6 4tchg 10/27-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
File No: 04-2022-CP-000094-CPAM
Division PROBATE
IN RE: ESTATE OF RANDOLPH VANN DURRANCE
a/k/a RUDOLPH VANN DURRANCE a/k/a R V DURRANCE, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of RANDOLPH VANN DURRANCE a/k/a RUDOLPH VANN DURRANCE a/k/a R V DURRANCE, deceased, whose date of death was April 23, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this Court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 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 20, 2022. Attorney for Personal Representative: Dennis J. Szafran, Esq. Florida Bar Number: 118448 DJS Law Group 13119 W. Linebaugh Ave., Suite 102 Tampa, Florida 33626 Telephone: (888) 266-1078 Fax: (727) 498-3661

served must file their claims with this Court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 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 20, 2022. Personal Representative: Beverly Durrance 7396 SW County Road 18 Hampton, Florida 32044 Attorney for Personal Representative: Russell D. Henry russ.henry@colemantalley.com Florida Bar: 1028504 1 Independent Drive, Suite 3130 Jacksonville, FL 32202 Telephone: (229) 671-8235

10/20 2tchg 10/27-BCT

PUBLIC SALE
Ron Denmark Mini Storage will hold a public auction on 11/4/2022 @ 10:00 am at 2117 N. Temple Ave. Starke, FL on the following units containing personal items:

Unit 150& 151 Belonging to B. Bryan Unit 118 - Belonging to C. Ginn Unit 130 - Belonging to Z. Copley Unit 148 - Belonging to J. Collins Unit 63 - Belonging to C. Chirico
10/27 2tchg 11/3-BCT

CITY OF STARKE, FLORIDA
NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID
INTERIM FINANCING

Summary: The City of Starke has secured a \$10,676,000 loan through USDA along with a \$9,633,000 grant for a new advanced waste water treatment plant. The City is seeking interim financing in the amount of \$10,676,000 during the planning and construction phases of the project. All bids should be submitted by 2:00 PM Eastern Standard Time on or before November 18, 2022. A recommendation to award the bid will be presented to the City Commission at their December 6, 2022 regularly scheduled meeting that will begin at 5:30 PM, Eastern Standard Time. Bids should be mailed, hand delivered, or delivered by parcel carrier to: City of Starke Office of the City Clerk Attn: Jimmy V. Crosby, Jr. 209 North Thompson Street Starke, FL 32091

"SEALED BIDS - INTERIM FINANCING"
Any questions or clarifications regarding this solicitation shall be submitted in writing to the City Clerk via email to JCrosby@CityofStarke.org on or before 3:00 PM Eastern Standard Time on Monday, October 31, 2022.

This notice only contains a summary of and not the full and complete terms and conditions of the Invitation to Bid. The full and complete Invitation to Bid is available for download at www.CityofStarke.org/bids. In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between this notice and the full and complete Invitation to Bid, the terms of the full and complete Invitation to Bid shall control.

10/27 2tchg 11/3-BCT

Notice is hereby given: Miranda J. Varnum Last known address of: 10059 S Lane Ave Hampton FL 32044 You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system. Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph Amanda Seyfang Bradford County Supervisor of Elections P. O. Box 58 945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C Starke, FL 32091 Date: October 24, 2022

10/27 1tchg-BCT

CANCELLED COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the regular meeting of the

Bradford County Board of County Commissioners, scheduled to be held Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. at the Bradford County Courthouse, inside the County Commission Chamber, 945 N. Temple Ave. has been CANCELLED.
10/27 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
MIRACLE AUTOMOTIVE & TRUCK SERVICE CENTER INC. gives notice that on 11/11/2022 at 12:00 PM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 620 N THOMPSON ST, STARKE, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78.

2FMFK3K97JBB41262 2018 FORD This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 10/27/2022.
10/27 1tchg-BCT

UNION
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 22000046CAAXMX
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Plaintiff,
v.
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, GRANTEEES, DEVISEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, AND CREDITORS OF LARRY W. OSBORN A/K/A LARRY OSBORN, DECEASED, ET AL. Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, GRANTEEES, DEVISEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, AND CREDITORS OF LARRY W. OSBORN A/K/A LARRY OSBORN, DECEASED, Current Residence Unknown, but whose last known address was: 110 SE 2ND ST, LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054-2113 YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Union County, Florida, to-wit:
THE FOLLOWING REAL PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, AND STATE OF FLORIDA, TO WIT:
A PARCEL OF LAND LYING, BEING AND SITUATE SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 20 EAST, IN THE CITY OF LAKE BUTLER, UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCE AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTH LINE OF SECTION 31, WITH THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF LAKE AVENUE (60 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY), AND RUN SOUTH 01 DEGREE 50 MINUTES 56 SECONDS EAST, ALONG SAID EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 15.00 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 85 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 46 SECONDS EAST, PARALLEL WITH SAID NORTH LINE OF SECTION 31, A DISTANCE OF 227.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED PARCEL OF LAND: THENCE RUN NORTH 01 DEGREE 50 MINUTES 56 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 2.99 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SOUTHEAST 2ND STREET (ALSO KNOWN AS PERRY STREET)(50 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY); THENCE RUN NORTH 85 DEGREES 05 MINUTES 21 SECONDS EAST, ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 110.04 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 01 DEGREE 50 MINUTES 56 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 91.71 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 83 DEGREES 31 MINUTES 03

SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 110.25 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 01 DEGREE 50 MINUTES 56 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 91.75 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO LARRY W. OSBORN AND VICKI LEAH OSBORN, HUSBAND AND WIFE, DEED DATED 7/19/2007, RECORDED 7/30/2007, IN INSTRUMENT NO. 20070002040, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF FLORIDA. MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 110 SOUTHEAST 2ND STREET, LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054 PARCEL/TAX ID: 31-05-20-00-000-0200-0. has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on eXL Legal, PLLC, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 12425 28th Street North, Suite 200, St. Petersburg, FL 33716, on or before November 13, 2022 or within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice of Action, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court at 55 West Main Street, Union County Courthouse, Room 103, Lake Butler, FL 32054, either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint petition. WITNESS my hand and seal of the Court on this 14 day of _____ October, 2022.

Kellie Hendricks Rhoades, CPA
By: Crystal Norman
Deputy Clerk
Publish in: Union County Times
53873 072821

10/20 2tchg 10/27-UCT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD
IN THE FAMILY COURT
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Docket No. 2022-DR-20-170
Latonya L. Thornton, Plaintiff
vs
Keith M. Thornton, Defendant

SUMMONS FOR DIVORCE
(One Year Continuous Separation)
To the DEFENDANT Above-Named: YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that you have been sued by the Plaintiff for DIVORCE in the Court indicated above. You must respond in writing to the attached Complaint for Divorce and serve a copy of your Answer on the Plaintiff at the address below within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons upon you, not counting the day of service, or thirty-five (35) days if you were served by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested. If you wish to retain an attorney to represent you in this matter, it is advisable to do so before submitting your Answer to the Plaintiff. If you do not answer the Complaint within the required thirty (30) days, the Court may grant a DIVORCE and grant the Plaintiff the relief requested in the Complaint.
Date: September 6, 2022
Latonya L. Thornton, Plaintiff's

Signature
Winnsboro, South Carolina
10/20 4tchg 11/10-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO.: 2021CA0024

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST C/O U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff(s),
vs.
CHAD P. FRENCH; et al.
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to Plaintiff's Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on August 5, 2022 in the above-captioned action, the Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the front door lobby of the Union County Courthouse, 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the 15th day of December, 2022 at 11:00 AM on the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure or order, to-wit:
Parcel No. 6: A tract of land commencing at the NW Corner of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 20-T6S-R19E and run South 1 degree 10 minutes 24 seconds East along the West line of said Section 1292.95 feet to the North R/W of County Road No. 18, thence run N 88 degrees 14 minutes 08 seconds East along said R/W, 1341.43 feet to the East R/W of a 60 foot access road, thence run North 2 degrees 05 minutes 16 seconds West along said East R/W 300 feet, thence run N 87 degrees 54 minutes 43 seconds East, 150 feet to the Point of Beginning, thence run S 2 degrees 05 minutes 16 seconds East, 300.85 feet to the North R/W of County Road No. 18, thence run North 88 degrees 14 minutes 08 seconds East along said R/W, 83.72 feet to the P.C. of a curve having a radius of 34,327.5 feet and being concave to the North, thence run Easterly along the arc of said R/W curve and arc distance of 66.28 feet (through a central angle of 00 degrees 06 minutes 38 seconds) thence run North 2 degrees 05 minutes 16 seconds West, 301.63 feet, thence run South 87 degrees 54 minutes 43 seconds West 150 feet to the Point of Beginning. Being and lying in Section 20-T6S-R19E, Union County, Florida. Lot 6, Worthington Springs Plantation. Property address: 11255 West County Road 18, Lake Butler, FL 32054

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at (352) 337-6237, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance. If you are hearing or voice impaired, please call 711. If you are deaf or hard of hearing and require an ASL interpreter or an assisted listening device to participate in a proceeding, please contact Court Interpreting at interpreter@circuit8.org.
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UCHS beats Raiders and honors 2 former Tigers

Tigers score 3 TDs in 4th quarter to pull away in 42-14 win

BY JADEE O'STEEN
Special to the Telegraph-Times-Monitor

Union County High School bounced back after a devastating loss to Hawthorne, scoring three touchdowns in the fourth quarter to turn a one-score game into a 42-14 win over visiting Class 2S Santa Fe on Oct. 21.

In the second half, the Tigers got two rushing touchdowns from Jamez Jamison and two passing scores from A.J. Cortese as they entered a bye week with a 5-2 record. Union will be back in action with a home game against Walton on Friday, Nov. 4, at 7:30 p.m.

Union got off to a somewhat slow start in the first quarter against the Raiders (1-7). The Tigers didn't score until the second quarter when junior Thomas Williams found the end zone on a run of 52 yards.

"We came out soft, and they hit us in the mouth early," Cortese said.

The Tigers' offense seemed to gain some of their momentum back and went on to score once again in the second quarter. Rayvon Durant helped the Tigers get down into Santa Fe territory and then scored a touchdown on a 1-yard run.

The Tigers went into the half up 14-7.

During halftime, the Tigers welcomed former cornerback/running back Bennie Alexander and quarterback/defensive back Andrew Zow, who were both inducted into the UCHS Football Hall of Fame (see related story).

The Tigers' offense came out in the second half and started to

Dee Williams (right) makes a tough catch in the Tigers' 42-14 win over Santa Fe. The Tigers, who have a bye, will host Walton on Nov. 4 to end the regular season. Photo by Jadee O'Steen.



play their "brand of football," as Cortese likes to put it. They scored a touchdown on a 45-yard run by Jamison approximately 30 seconds into the third quarter. Jamison filled in for Durant, who had 106 yards on 11 carries in the first half alone, for the duration of the game.

"It felt great to be able to fill Durant's role in the second half. I felt mentally prepared for it," Jamison said.

Overall, Union's defense performed well against the Raiders. The Tigers had a total of 32 tackles, with eight of those made by Hance Jones. Jones and Dayvontae Thompson, who had five tackles, each had a sack, while Gavin Jenkins had an interception.

"We had a few errors on our side of the ball, but the coaches put in a great game plan for us, and we executed it," defensive tackle Timmy Taylor said.

The Tigers scored three more touchdowns in the second half to pull away. Daylyn Diston and Dee Williams caught scoring passes of 38 and 35 yards, respectively, from Cortese, while Jamison added another touchdown run to

this night, which ended with him gaining 75 yards on nine carries.

Dee Williams' touchdown was his only catch, while Diston had seven receptions for 96 yards.

Cortese completed 10 of 17 passes for 148 yards. He added 44 yards rushing on seven carries.

Jonathan Edwards was 6 for 6 on extra-point attempts. For the season, he's 39 of 40.

Union's next opponent, Walton, was ranked 20th in Class 2S prior to the Oct. 26 release of the state's updated power rankings. The Braves improved to 6-2 after a 28-19 win over Blountstown.

The game was originally scheduled to be away, but will now serve as Senior Night for the Tigers.

Cortese, who is a senior, said, "I am preparing just as hard physically for this game as I do any game, but preparing more mentally because it could be my last game on home turf."

Needless to say, this will be a pretty monumental game, especially for the seniors.

Bennie Alexander and Andrew Zow are newest inductees in UCHS Hall of Fame

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

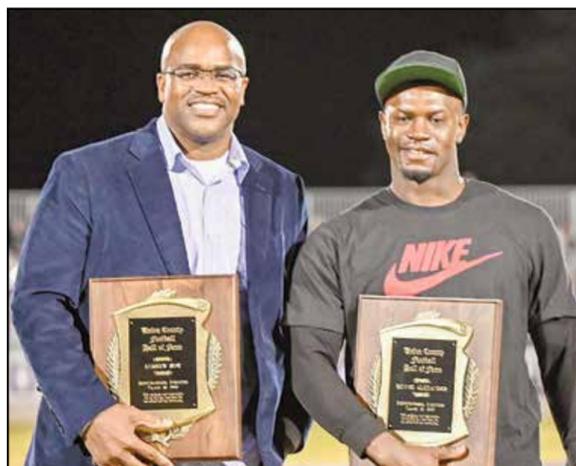
Bennie Alexander and Andrew Zow, members of the Class of 1997 who helped Union County High School win three state championships in a row in the 1990s and went on to play for the Florida Gators and Alabama Crimson Tide, respectively, were inducted into the UCHS Football Hall of Fame during halftime of the Tigers' Oct. 21 game against Santa Fe.

Besides the three straight state titles, Alexander and Zow were part of a 52-game winning streak, that was a state record at the time.

Alexander, who once served as an assistant coach at UCHS, played cornerback and running back for the Tigers, while also being a major contributor on special teams. Some of his highlights include rushing for three touchdowns and catching one touchdown pass in the three playoff games Union played before reaching the state final in 1995. In the championship game — a 28-3 win over LaBelle — he had punt returns of 21 and 58 yards that led to touchdowns in the second quarter.

In 1996, Alexander rushed for three scores and returned a punt for another touchdown in the three playoff games prior to the state championship.

Alexander went to UF and played corner. After redshirting his first year, he played in every game during his career for the Gators, with 33 starts. He finished his career with 164 tackles and 43 Big Plays: 30 pass deflections, eight interceptions, three fumble recoveries, one tackle for loss and one blocked PAT. Alexander is tied for first in the UF records book with interceptions returned for touchdowns with two in 1999. One of those came against



Andrew Zow (left) and Bennie Alexander are the recent inductees into Union County High School's Football Hall of Fame. Photo by Jadee O'Steen.

Zow.

The 1999 season was a big one for Alexander. He started every game and led the team in interceptions (5) and pass deflections (15).

Zow, who once was an assistant coach for the Tigers as well as head coach (2007-09), played quarterback and defensive back. In 1994, he threw four touchdown passes and rushed for two scores in the three playoff games leading up to the state championship. In the 21-0 championship win over Bishop Verot, he completed 6 of 10 passes for 136 yards and one touchdown. He also had an interception on defense.

In 1995, Zow passed for three touchdowns and rushed for another three in the three playoff games prior to the state championship. In the state-title win over LaBelle, he went 6 of 13 for 115 yards and a touchdown, while also making an interception on defense.

Zow was injured for most of his senior year in 1996 and played quarterback sparingly in his return prior to the postseason. He rushed for one touchdown

and made two interceptions on defense in the three playoff games leading up to the state championship. In the 67-30 title win over Frostproof, he had a touchdown run and threw touchdown passes of 51 and 55 yards.

At Alabama, Zow completed 459 of 852 passes for 5,983 yards and 35 touchdowns. He owned five school records when he graduated. Now, he's fourth all-time in pass attempts in a career and fifth in career completions.

Zow's also tied for fifth in school history for consecutive completions (12 vs. Ole Miss in 2000), sixth in career passing yards, seventh in completions in a game (28 vs. UF in 1999) and eighth in career touchdown passes.

The Tide won the 1999 SEC championship with Zow starting at quarterback. One of their wins during the regular season was against the Gators in Gainesville by a score of 40-39 in overtime.

As mentioned earlier, Zow did throw a pick-six against Alexander, but he threw for 336

See HALL, page 17

KHHS

Continued from page 13

sniffed out by freshman Colton Hollingsworth at the 32-yard line. The Taylor possession would again be unfruitful in a desperation move to stay in the game. Taylor would go for it on fourth down, with the pass being broken up and nearly intercepted by junior Wyatt Van Zant. Keystone would take over at the THS 38.

A Daniels 12-yard gain began a short six-play drive that was finished off when freshman quarterback Baylor Ford executed a play-action roll-out pass to hit Schenck for the 8-yard score. Daniels would then punch

it in for two to put the good guys up 22-0 with 7:35 remaining in the first half.

Martinez's kick would bounce out of bounds and give the Wildcats possession at their own 35. On second down, an 11-yard completion would result in Pierson Taylor's first first down. On the next play, however, Miller was met in the backfield by juniors Jayden Goodman and Garrison Teague. Two plays later, the 'Cats looked to be punting the ball away again. Instead, they ran a fake punt, and while the concept was good, the execution was not. A streaking wide-open receiver attempted a home plate-style feet-first sliding catch to no avail. The home team would once again find itself with the ball in great field position at

the Taylor 46.

The deadly duo for the Tribe would continue their ground attack. On first down, Daniels shot through a hole opened by sophomore Brayden Wester and hit the sideline in a full gallop before being pushed out at the 15 after gain of 31. A few plays later, Schenck would take it in from 8 yards out. Daniels would convert the two to make it 30-0 with 3:01 still left in the half.

The Indians were not done. On the ensuing Taylor drive, the Wildcats were facing a third-and-4 from their own 46 when senior Noah Branch hit the quarterback and forced a fumble that would be recovered by sophomore linebacker Davin Adams. Keystone now had the ball at the THS 40 with 1:25

remaining in the half, which would prove to be more than enough time for the Indians to strike again. After an incomplete pass, Daniels would go 17 yards, followed by a gain of 11. Dickinson would call a timeout with 56 seconds still left in the half to draw up a play. The next play saw Ford hit Wester for the 11-yard score. Ford wasn't done as he rolled out and kept it himself to complete the two-point conversion that had the home side carrying a commanding 38-0 lead into the locker rooms.

With a running clock in the second half, it began in much the same fashion as the first one did. The ineptitude of the Taylor offense continued with the 'Cats turning the ball over on downs and KHHS taking over at the

visitors' 38-yard line. Freshman Jackson Parmeter, now in at quarterback, would run a keeper down to the 30. After a Schenck run, the Indians were threatening again, but a bad quarterback-center exchange coughed the ball up and gave THS the ball back at their own 14.

The clock would continue to run throughout an uneventful second half that saw Keystone insert its second string.

"We're young, and we've had some issues with certain things and players at some key positions that haven't played all year. That's why some of these young guys have to step up," Dickinson said. "I guess the good thing is a lot of these guys are getting playing time, and that's going to make them so much better next

year, you know, because you can't substitute playing time for experience. You've got to get in there and get it done."

Sophomores Andrew Lowery II and Kyle Perkins would lead the Tribe with five tackles each. Senior Tyler Anthony-Rozier would have four tackles as would Hollingsworth.

Despite pitching the shutout, Dickinson still looks at the defense as a work in progress.

"Defensively, we are still learning, but I think the kids are learning what we are trying to do, but we still have things to work on," he said.

Upcoming opponent Toco Creek is ranked 22nd in Class 2S. The Toros (5-3) lost 27-0 to top-ranked 2S Bradford in their last outing.

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FREAKY FACTS

- The classic cat costume is the most googled Halloween costume in the most states, with 12 states searching for it most.
- Eleven states searched for witch costumes the most. With Hocus Pocus 2 set for release this year, it's no wonder their popularity has soared.
- Vampire is the third most searched costume. Perhaps it's due to Twilight's resurgence in popularity.
- Disney has influenced several states this year, with Buzz Lightyear and Encanto-inspired costumes being searched most in six and five states, respectively.
- Mississippi and Nevada searched for Elvis Presley costumes the most, perhaps motivated by the biopic about the singer released earlier this year.
- With HBO's House of the Dragon garnering 20 million viewers in its premiere episode, it's no surprise some states have

Game of Thrones on their minds—Jon Snow is the most searched Halloween costume in Alabama and Oklahoma.

- Nearly a third of states (14 total) are searching for witches this year, so if you see a lot of Sabrina Spellmans or the Charmed sisters walking around, you're probably not the only one.
- 25 percent of the costumes are mythical creatures.
- Of the over 140 million Americans who celebrate Halloween each year, many spend more than \$90 a person on their costume.

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The Union County Tigers won the District 6-1A championship by defeating Branford 3-1. Pictured are: (front, l-r) Bella Johns, Kamryn Southerland, Journey Crim, Indi Knox, Jordan Hendricks, Sara Grace Vaughn, (back, l-r) Head Coach Tifani Knox, Jaycee Davis, Emily Wilson, Rylie Parrish, Jailyn Simmons, Morgyn Kirby, Layla Barber, Assistant Coach Jaelyn Jackson and Assistant Coach Tristyn Southerland. Photo by Cliff Smelley.



Lake Butler Middle School has now won four consecutive SMAC championships. This year's team consisted of: (front, l-r) Hayden Robinson, Bailee Austin, Morgan Smith, Bayley Staier, Breanna Barringer, Alexia Cyr, Gracelynn McGee, Grace Turknett, (back, l-r) Coach Robbie Best, Emma Handley, Madalynn Turknett, Paisley Dugar, Carmyn Barringer, Ivy Wilson, Bethany Phillips, Ella Griffis, Brooke Hunt, Lexi Crews, Courtney Manning and Coach Angela Griffis.

Tiger teams take home 2 trophies in volleyball

UCHS wins 3 straight sets, defeats Branford for District 6-1A championship

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

A championship trophy was within their grasp, but the Tigers were having a difficult time putting Branford away in the fourth set.

Emily Wilson decided it was time to end the match. She recorded a kill to force a side-out and followed that up with a kill that gave the Union County High School volleyball team a 3-1 win over number-one seed Branford in the District 6-1A title match on Oct. 20 at Bell High School.

"It was very exhausting going back and forth, back and forth," said Wilson, who finished with 12 kills. "I knew someone had to step up and put it away. I felt like I could do that for my team, so I pushed through all the exhaustion and tiredness and put it away for us."

The second seed Tigers (18-7) dropped the first set 25-20 before winning three straight by scores of 25-15, 25-19 and 25-20.

"We started off a little rocky," Head Coach Tifani Knox said, "but I'm super proud of them. They came back with a vengeance. They pulled it together and played smart. We were able to pull it out."

It was the Tigers' second straight district championship.

"It's really exciting," said Jaycee Davis, who had 16 kills, 16 digs and three blocks. "Two years in a row. It kind of feels surreal."

The Tigers are set to host a Region 3 semifinal match on Friday, Oct. 28, at 7 p.m. against the team they just beat for the District 6 title. Union is the second seed in the region behind Aucilla Christian (20-3), while Branford (19-6) and Hilliard (9-5) are the third and fourth seeds, respectively.

If the Tigers defeat Branford, they'll play for the Region 3 championship on Tuesday, Nov. 1, at 7 p.m. They'd either travel to play Aucilla Christian or host Hilliard.

Union got to the District 6 championship match by defeating third seed Bell 3-0 (25-15, 25-20, 25-20) in an Oct. 18 semifinal match. Davis and Jailyn Simmons had 16 and 11 kills, respectively. Davis also had 15 digs, while Bella Johns and Journey Crim had 13 and 12 digs, respectively.

Kamryn Southerland led the team in assists with 20, while Jordan Hendricks had 14.

Southerland and Davis had four and three service aces, respectively, while Crim had two.

The championship match against Branford (19-6) got off to a good start as the Tigers scored the first three points of the first set. They later trailed 12-10 before scoring four straight points with Southerland serving.

Branford scored three points with Kennedy Walker serving to break a 15-15 tie and take the lead for good, eventually winning the set on a passing error.

Davis said she and Wilson reminded their teammates that this would be the last-ever district championship match the seniors would play in.

"The team decided to start playing amazing," Davis said. "That really helps me and Emily a lot. We know that they'll fight for us at any moment."

Wilson said, "I feel like we definitely came together as a team. We were very energetic (after the first set) and not only playing the game, but having fun."

Three kills by Davis and a kill by Wilson helped Union take an 8-5 lead in the second set. The Tigers scored three points with Simmons serving to go up 12-6, with Rylie Parrish recording a kill during that span. Union later scored five points with Southerland serving, getting a tip by Wilson and an ace that would put the Tigers up 18-8.

It was 24-15 with Branford serving. Crim made a diving save to keep play alive, with the Buccaneers eventually committing an attack error to give the Tigers the 10-point win.

Knox saw a much better performance in the second set.

"I think the difference was the serve-receive," she said. "The serve-receive was a lot better. We had good passes and were able to set up our hitters, and they were able to make better decisions with the ball."

Davis said the team also played better at the net, which resulted in fewer hard swings by Branford's hitters.

"That made Branford start tipping," Davis said. "We are used to tipping teams. We had already played Bell and Keystone and teams that like to tip a lot. That was in our comfort zone, so it made it easier for us."

The Buccaneers built a 6-3 lead in the third set and led 15-13 before Union scored four points with Simmons serving. One of those points was an ace.

Parrish recorded a kill as the Tigers scored two points with Johns serving, resulting in a 22-18 lead. A Davis block forced a side-out, giving the serve to Crim with a 23-19 lead. Layla Barber recorded a kill to make it 24-19 before Union won the set on Branford's attack error.

Early in the fourth set, the Tigers scored seven straight points with Hendricks serving. She had two aces as Union took a 9-4 lead.

The Tigers later scored three points with Southerland serving to go up 15-10. A Davis kills and a Barber tip helped Union build its lead to 19-15.

A Davis ace made it 22-16 before the Buccaneers forced a side-out. Branford scored two straight points, with one coming on a block of a Wilson attack. Wilson would succeed on another attack attempt to force side-out.

Branford's Walker was able to

record a kill of her own to give her team the serve trailing 23-20. Wilson again recorded a kill for side-out before closing the match out with the winning attack.

"We really needed someone to step up, and (Wilson) did," Knox said. "That was great. For her to have the last kill of the game was awesome."

It made for a happy moment for Wilson's fellow senior teammate.

"Emily's one of my best friends off the court. I'm so proud of her," Davis said, adding, "There's nothing more I would've wanted for her than that. She deserves it."

Hendricks and Southerland each recorded 15 assists and three aces. Southerland also had 10 digs.

Crim and Johns had 15 and 11 digs, respectively, while Indi Knox added nine digs. Johns also had three aces.

Simmons led the team in blocks with four, while also recording two aces.

Parrish had five kills.

LBMS wins 4th straight SMAC title

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Lake Butler Middle School Volleyball Coach Robbie Best said when people ask him every year if he has a team capable of winning the Suwannee Middle Athletic Conference championship, he always says he doesn't know.

It's starting to appear as he could answer yes and have a great chance of being right as the Tigers recently captured their fourth straight SMAC title and their fifth championship in six years.

Lake Butler (24-4) defeated Fort White to advance to the title match and then beat Williston 2-1.

Best said he faces a challenge every year in replacing eighth-graders, so when people ask him if the Tigers will win the SMAC,

he honestly doesn't know until he sees how his current players perform and come together as a team.

"It's still amazing to think that we've been very fortunate enough to continue to build and win ball games," Best said, adding, "It's always rebuilding. It's always identifying those girls who can rise up and play on a championship level."

Best said this year's team probably had more inexperience than some of his past teams, noting that he had a couple of eighth-graders who were volleyball newcomers, though they were already athletes in other sports. Still, the Tigers suffered only one loss against a SMAC opponent, going 13-1 in conference play overall.

"Our volleyball IQ was not as high as maybe some of my previous teams," Best said. "That deficit was probably a little bit more of a challenge, but the thing about it is, they still figured out

how to get the job done."

Best said the Tigers' play sometimes resembled "schoolyard scrapping," with players not always in the right place or exhibiting the proper form. However, that scrappiness led to players doing whatever they had to do to keep the ball in play at times, and it served them well in the SMAC title match against a team Best said matched up well with his.

"Not only did we have to match (Williston) on talent and ability, but we had to find a grit and the heart to be able to beat them," Best said, adding, "My girls played with tremendous fire and tremendous passion."

Lexi Crews and Bayley Staier were key veterans who had been major contributors in the past and exhibited great leadership this year, Best said, adding, "This year, both of them showed some

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HALL

Continued from page 15

yards and two touchdowns as Alabama snapped Florida's 30-game home winning streak.

Alabama and Florida met again in that year's SEC Championship Game, with the Tide winning 34-7.

During his senior year, Zow

came off the bench to replace injured starter Tyler Watts and helped lead the Tide to three straight wins to close the regular season and then a 14-13 win in the Independence Bowl. The string of wins, which earned Zow Alabama's Player of the Game honors after each one, included going 22 of 29 for 221 yards and two touchdowns in a 31-7 win over Auburn in the heated rivalry's Iron Bowl.

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LBMS

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tremendous on-court talent.”

Other players who’ve been with Best in the past included Bailee Austin, Alexia Cyr, Paisley Dugar, Courtney Manning, Bethany Phillips, Hayden Robinson, Morgan Smith and Madalynn Turknett. Best said Austin “did a great job growing into her role as an athlete and outside hitter,” while Cyr was important at the libero position and providing relief for players as a substitute.

Best gave kudos to Dugar, Manning and Staier for filling the role of setter — a position that’s so important, but sometimes doesn’t receive the glory that goes to the players doing the attacking.

“If it wasn’t for those girls, there would be no kudos for those other girls,” Best said. He also said of Manning, “She’s one of our younger players, so she

grew into that role. She’ll be one of my veterans coming back. I’m looking for some key leadership from her next year.”

Phillips has height and talent, Best said, adding, “She’s got all the tools to be a very, very good volleyball player. She’s got some work to do, but I saw some really good things out of her.”

When speaking about Turknett, Best said, “By the end of the season, I saw where Madalynn had kind of turned the corner. A lot of it was confidence — just having the confidence to believe she can play the game and that she can do it well.”

Best said Smith played some of the best volleyball he’s ever witnessed from a seventh-grader.

“From last year to this year, she has grown in her knowledge and her ability to play the game,” Best said. “The intensity that she plays with — it’s just fun. It’s exciting to watch.”

Robinson brings a limitless supply of energy to the team. In talking of her importance, Best

said, “That overwhelming energy she has become an asset for her. She didn’t mind getting after the ball and hustling.” He added, “You’ve got to have a sparkplug that fires up your team. She was that for us.”

Eighth-graders who were playing the sport for the first time included Carmyn Barringer and Emma Handley. Best said Barringer possessed the height and the athletic ability to be a factor, while Handley played well in the back row.

Best said Brooke Hunt was another player who wound up playing a lot with his program’s younger players, but she was still able to become a contributor to this year’s success.

“All three of these girls in particular had to learn two of the basic fundamentals,” Best said of Barringer, Handley and Hunt. “They had to learn to serve and pass. That was a learning curve for them, but they did that because they had the athletic ability to adapt to that.”

Ella Griffis was one of his younger players, but she brought to the team a lot of volleyball knowledge and skills, Best said. Griffis is the daughter of Assistant Coach Angela Griffis, who played collegiately.

“Ella came in and did a great job growing into her position of outside hitter and growing into her ability to attack the ball and serve the ball,” Best said. “She was a great contributor and did a great job developing for us as a player.”

Best also singled out managers Gracelynn McGee, Grace Turknett and Ivy Wilson — girls he wanted to be part of the team because they possess the characteristics he’s looking for from players.

“I wanted to keep them involved because next year, they’ll move into whole new roles,” Best said. “They’ll be those girls who’ll now start working toward hopefully being my next championship team.”

A SMAC championship usually results in a change to Best’s appearance. Last year’s team shaved his beard off during a pep rally.

“Did I make a deal this year? Yeah,” Best said. “I don’t know when, but I’ve already got the hair dye. They get to color and style my hair and beard.”

Will the players on the 2023 team get the chance to change their coach’s appearance? Best can’t tell you that, but if recent history is any indication, there’s a good chance it’ll happen.

SWIM

Continued from page 14

devotion, Eva said it’s hard to get her friends involved in the sport.

“None of my friends really seem interested because they see what I go through and how hard it is,” she said.

Some of her days consist of swimming 10,000-11,000 yards, Brad Whitehead said, adding, “It’s a lot, but she loves it. She’s really good at it.”

When you add the fact that having to practice involves a commute to Gainesville, swimming takes up quite a bit of time for someone who’s also having to keep up with her classroom requirements.

“A lot of times, there’s homework done in the car,” Jennifer Whitehead said.

Eva said she asks herself daily why she does it, but in all seriousness, swimming is something she enjoys. She said it’s a stress reliever because when you swim, that’s all you’re focused on. Plus, she also likes the camaraderie it provides.

“I think just being able to bond with my team and having that close connection with everyone as we’re all struggling through practices,” Eva said.

Eva began competing in summer leagues in Gainesville and eventually became involved with Gator Swim Club. A year and a half ago, she moved up to one of that organization’s elite teams.

Some of her recent highlights with Gator Swim Club include

second-place finishes in the 100 backstroke, 200 freestyle and 200 breaststroke at the Sept. 9-11 Hydro4 Fall Classic as well as a third-place finish in the 200 butterfly and a fourth-place finish in the 50 freestyle at the same meet.

Earlier this year, Eva competed in the Florida Swimming Spring FLAGS (Florida Age Group Championships)-North, qualifying for the finals in the 100 backstroke, 100 breaststroke, 200 backstroke and 200 individual medley. At the Summer FLAGS, she made the finals 50 backstroke, 50 breaststroke, 100 backstroke, 200 individual medley and 400 individual medley.

In high school competition, she entered the District 1-1A meet as the second seed in both the 100 backstroke and 200 individual medley.

Swimming isn’t just an activity. It’s also something Eva enjoys watching. She’s glued to the TV when Olympic swimming events are being aired.

“That’s like family movie night for us,” Jennifer Whitehead said.

Eva said her favorite swimmers are Caeleb Dressel and Katie Ledecky.

As for the one event that impresses her the most, it’s the 400 individual medley, which she has competed in. Tony Austin once wrote in a 2012 Southern California Aquatics blog that a merit badge should go to any youth who simply doesn’t get disqualified while competing in the 400 medley.

“It’s extremely hard and creates pain all over your body — places you’ve never felt pain before,” Eva said.

Eva has competed in enough events to where she said she probably wouldn’t be nervous competing in the district meet.

“I’ll probably be more nervous at regionals and state if I make it,” she said.

Whatever happens, she and Gainey have already made history as the first-ever swimmers at UCHS. It would mean a lot to Eva to see the sport take off and grow in the future.

“I’d probably be proud,” she said. “We started it, and then we’d see what it has come to.”



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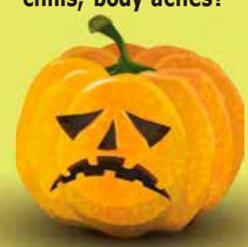
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