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Bradford County Telegraph

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144th year, 16th Issue — \$1

Murder conspiracy charge dropped

Woman agrees to testify against co-defendants

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

STARKE — One of three family members accused of conspiring to kill a witness in a murder trial has pleaded to a lesser charge and has agreed to testify against her co-defendants.

Starke police arrested N'Crisha T. McCutchen on March 10, along with co-defendants Demetrius Dewayne Wilson and Valerie Vanessa McCutchen, for conspiracy to commit murder.

Police accused the trio of plotting the murder of Tremika Presley of Alachua, a key witness scheduled to testify in Demetrius Dewayne Wilson's April trial.

During that trial, Wilson, 28, was found guilty of manslaughter and conspiracy to commit first-degree



N'Crisha McCutchen

murder for his involvement in the shooting death of 19-year-old Blake Williams on July 10, 2020. He was sentenced to 45 years in prison.

Starke Police Lt. Michael Rooney wrote in a report that after Presley testified in the trial of Marcus Whitfield, the trigger man in Williams's murder, he believed the witness was being pressured not to testify in Wilson's trial, who police said paid Whitfield to shoot Williams.

Rooney wrote in a sworn complaint that while monitoring calls between Wilson and his mother, Valerie McCutchen, the two discussed the witness and the fact that if Presley could not be located, the state had no case against Wilson.

Rooney added that Wilson and McCutchen talked about an Orlando man named "unc."

The officer documented further communications between Wilson, Valerie McCutchen and N'Crisha McCutchen: Wilson's sister. Rooney wrote that he believed the family was hiring "unc" to kill Presley.

In a press release, Starke police said officers stopped the McCutchens as the two women drove to Orlando to meet with the hit man.

On Dec. 7, N'Crisha McCutchen agreed to plead to one count of unlawful use of a two-way communications device and to cooperate with the State Attorney's Office in its prosecution of her mother and brother.

The State dropped the murder conspiracy charge, and both parties agreed that the defendant would serve one year, one day in prison, and four years' probation.

Store shooting leaves one hurt

Schools locked down during search

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

STARKE— Starke police said they arrested an 18-year-old Starke man after a weapon he was handling discharged and struck a woman at a convenience store.

Cole William Crosby was arrested on Dec. 9 for culpable negligence, destroying evidence, unlawful discharge of a firearm and providing false information during the sale of a firearm.

Police Detective Hunter Redding wrote in an arrest report that the high school student admitted to stealing two 9mm handguns from a family member and using the weapons for target practice the following day with friends.



Crosby



Astra

time but did not interact.

After Astra returned to the vehicle's back seat, Armour went inside to purchase ice for their motel room at the Sleepy Hollow, leaving Crosby and Astra alone in the car, with Crosby in the driver's seat and Astra seated behind him.

Redding wrote in his report that at the moment Armour exited the store, the Hampton woman is seen on video near the front door bending over.

Astra told police she heard a loud pop and thought the driver's seat airbag had deployed.

See SHOT, page 8

Awarded \$50K for auto crash

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

STARKE— A Bradford County jury awarded a Starke man \$50,000 in damages related to a 2019 rear-end collision.

Adam Otis said in a complaint that Alyssa Lee Paulbeskie, operating a 2005 Nissan Sintra owned by Martha Slater, crashed into his motor vehicle when he stopped for traffic on U.S. 301 near Hampton.

On Dec. 7, jurors awarded Otis \$40,000 for past medical expenses and \$10,000 for future medical costs.

However, the plaintiff's attorneys Morgan and Morgan failed to persuade jurors that Otis suffered permanent injury due to the May 17, 2019 crash. They awarded no damages for pain and suffering, disability, physical impairment, mental anguish, inconvenience, aggravation of a disease or physical defect or loss of capacity for the enjoyment of life sustained.

Lottery ticket, snacks and a loud pop

Redding wrote that based on witness statements and store video, the defendant arrived at the convenience store at 10:55 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 8 with 43-year-old Billie Christine Astra and Astra's son Dylan M. Armour.

Moments before the three pulled up to the Circle K, a 36-year-old Hampton woman arrived at the store on a pink bicycle, parked the two-wheeler in front of the store, and went inside.

After Crosby parked the red passenger car, Astra went inside the store to cash in a scratch-off ticket and purchase snacks while Crosby and Armour remained in the vehicle.

Astra and the cyclist were inside the Circle K at the same

Community group seeks to build recreation complex

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Staff Writer

LAKE BUTLER — A group of Union County citizens has come together and formed a committee intended to facilitate the construction of a new recreation center at the O.J. Phillips Park that would offer and expansion of the recreational resources available to county residents of all ages.

At the regular meeting of the Union County Board of Commissioners, the Rev. Patrick Maxwell presented the board with information about the proposed project. He told them that the plans for what is proposed to be named the Union County Impact Center would include a multipurpose building, a skate park/playground/

tennis court and a swimming pool, constructed in three phases. He told commissioners that the committee thought that the O.J. Phillips Park would be the ideal place to locate the center as it was in a good position to tie-in the center with existing activities and sports already being held there, was located in a neutral area of the county with ample parking space and close to the prison so as to be able to ask for assistance.

Maxwell said the multipurpose building could serve the community in many ways, including increasing nearby property values, helping to improve health through recreation, reducing the crime rate among children and young adults through positive activity, boosting students educational performance, providing

before and after school child care, offering summer programs, enhancing public safety and serving as a shelter during and after natural disasters. He noted that some people had asked why not just bring in a YMCA or Boys and Girls Clubs but said he had researched that option and discovered that, if any of these organizations came in a built a facility that they would own it and would have complete control over programming. With the Impact Center, the county and community would have ownership and control over the activities allowed to take the center.

The cost of the complex would total between \$4 million and \$5 million, planned to be raised through grants, in kind giving/donations/fundraising and contributions from local residents.

No county funds would be used in establishing the center, although Maxwell did note that Union County was one of only five counties in the state that did not have a special assessment for recreation. He also told commissioners that the center could at least partially fund itself as it developed through building rental fees, sports leagues (such as indoor basketball), memberships to the fitness center and gate entry fees for the games, pool and tournaments.

The estimated cost for the complex would be \$3.5 million for the building, \$200,000 for the skate park, \$200,000 for the playground, \$500,000 for the swimming pool and \$200,000 in miscellaneous costs.

See COMPLEX, page 8

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WORTH NOTING

Help name new school

The Bradford County School District is in the process of naming the new school. We would like the community to have an opportunity to submit a name for the school. If you are interested, please email your suggestion to sellers.lila@mybradford.us by Dec. 30.

Food distribution Tuesday

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Feeding Northeast Florida and True Vine Ministry is taking place Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 9 a.m. at the Bradford County Fairgrounds in Starke.

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.

Christmas concert at Southside

Southside Elementary School will host its annual Christmas Concert on Thursday, Dec. 15, from 5 to 8 p.m. Entry is \$5 at the gate. Bring a blanket or chair to enjoy the outdoor show.

Every Southside student will receive a ticket for a chance to win a gift, and \$1 tickets will be sold for drawings to win a family vacation to Wild Adventures and a Yeti cooler. Food trucks will be selling pizza, barbecue, snow cones and more. Come and enjoy the seasonal fun.

Veterans gather for holiday dinner

American Legion Post 56 will host its annual holiday dinner on Thursday, Dec. 15, at 6 p.m. at the post home located at 715 Edwards Road in Starke. Veterans and their families are invited to enjoy a barbecue chicken and pulled pork meal with all the sides. If you choose, you may bring a dessert to share.

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Fairgrounds must say goodbye to 50-year-old horse arena

Last week, the Bradford County Telegraph, reported on the flurry of activities that will be occurring over the next six months at the fairgrounds. Three new barns will be constructed and dedicated to cattle, swine and one for goats, poultry, and rabbits.

These will be used not only during the week of the Bradford Agricultural Fair, but throughout the year for additional shows and sales.

The other big project consuming time, money and land is the need to raise the entire midway and surrounding grounds at least 6 inches to withstand heavy rain events such as the fair experienced in 2021. Ditches will be closed, new drainage pipes installed, and hundreds of loads of dirt are being brought in to mix with the existing soil.

According to Fair Association President and retired Sheriff Bob Milner, there will also have to be a borrow pit dug on site for additional dirt. Unfortunately, there is little room for the borrow pit as the western most portion of the fairgrounds is considered a wetland by the water management district and must be left undisturbed.

According to Milner, the only place left to dig the pit is the site housing the 50-year-old horse arena building originally built by members of the Bradford Roping Club, also known through the years as the Bradford Riding Club. Milner said he has spoken to past members and riders who all expressed sadness at seeing the building dismantled. However, Milner said several of them understood the situation the Fair Association is in and the need for improvements.

The building had fallen into disrepair and was only being used by an average of five riders when the Fair Association gave notice



Those with memories of the horse barn are invited to come say goodbye.

in June that the riders would need to find another location. Milner said they have on the west side of Jacksonville.

The Fair Association has always owned the land but allowed the riding and roping clubs to use the building at no charge.

“We realize the incredible sentimental value of the arena to a lot of former riders and therefore we want to give them an opportunity to take some last photos if they so desire. To that end, the entrance to the horse arena area will be open on two consecutive Saturdays, Dec. 17 and 24 for folks to take photographs, including with their horses if they so desire,” he said. The area surrounding the arena

is being utilized daily by semi-trucks and heavy equipment, and the entrance gate to the arena will be locked at all times other than the two Saturdays.

“Although this action is regrettable, we believe most citizens understand the need to make significant improvements to the buildings and grounds to enhance the experience of all future attendees at Fair Association sponsored events,” said Milner.

The three barns will not be completed in time for the 2023 Bradford Agricultural Fair to be held beginning March 7 but the work involving raising the soil should be completed by the end of the year.

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Lizeth Chavez, Ocala

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Lake Region



The Meloche family with Santa. Front: Mason. Middle (l-r): Mileena and Jade. Back (l-r) Catherine, Matthew, Buddy, Joann, Santa and Katauna. Photos and story: Dan Hildebran, Monitor Editor.



Serving up pancake breakfasts were (l-r) Rolling Stoves Family Grill Owner Sheena McLevy, Clay Chamber Executive Assistant Kellie Chambless and Chamber Vice President Kathryn Wills.



(Right) Clay County Sheriff Michelle Cook and Keystone Heights City Manager Lynn Rutkowski.



Buddy the Elf with Maria Walker.

Sheriff and Santa visit KH

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS— Santa Claus and Buddy the Elf joined Clay County Sheriff Michelle Cook at the Keystone Beach Pavilion for a pancake breakfast on Saturday, Nov. 27.

Next challenge for lakes: Vegetation

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — Lakes Advocate Vivian Katz James said that with water levels on Lakes Brooklyn and Geneva expected to rise over the next five years, the next challenge for Keystone Heights-area lakes will be removing grass, trees and other vegetation that has grown in the dry lakebed of Lake Geneva during decades of low water levels.

James told the city council during a workshop about the municipality's priorities for the upcoming legislative session that she will ask state lawmakers for funding to remove the overgrowth.

James said she has already met with St. Johns River Water Management District and Clay County officials about her

request. "I'm calling it the Geneva Project," she told council members, "and basically what this is going to do is we're going to be seeking removal of vegetation and trees in Geneva hopefully prior to the water flow from Brooklyn to Geneva."

She added that with the completion of the Black Creek Water Resource Development Project, scheduled for completion in the fall of 2024, she expects the pipeline to deposit an average of 7.5 million gallons a day into Lake Brooklyn.

James said she expects Brooklyn to fill up within one year of the project's fall 2024 launch and start outflow toward Lake Geneva.

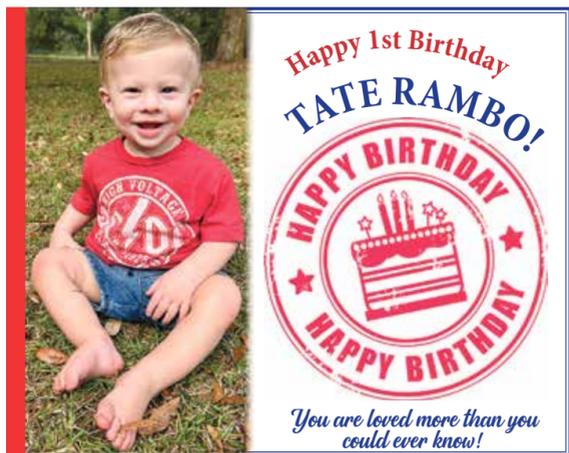
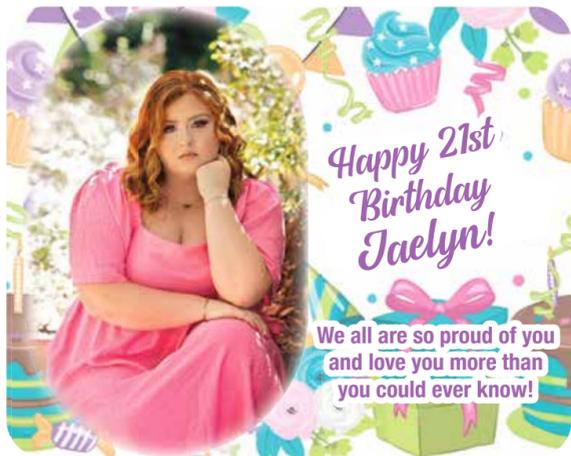
She said she anticipates costs related to permitting and mapping.

"We know that we're going to have to get involved with (the) Florida (Department of Environmental Protection) and others to get permitting and that sort of thing," she said. "We're going to have to have some sort of mapping of the lake to see at what elevations there are issues with vegetation."

Councilwoman Chris Thompson said another hazard created by rising water levels on Lake Geneva will be the pilings from deteriorating docks.

"They go down towards the lake, and there are trees everywhere," she said.

See LAKES, page 5



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"His Gift"

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— By Henry Hodges Lawley, FL

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ABOUT OUR SPEAKER
Steve Levinson is a graduate of Liberty University and has pastored adults and youth and worked with "at risk" youth in over 50 schools. While the messages are very serious, Steve uses humor and interaction to keep the attention of his audiences. Have you listened to one of Steve's "Creation Discoveries", a one-minute nugget of truth, heard on Christian radio throughout the U.S.? For more information on Steve's ministry check out his website at: www.genesisseminars.org

Keystone Heights students offered reality check

Undergraduates experience real-life budgeting exercise

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—The community partnership school and area volunteers put students through a household budgeting exercise with the high school's second annual reality check.

Event organizer Tina Baker said that during the simulation in the school's gym, each student was randomly given a job:

"It could be industrial certification jobs like welders," she said. "It could be a veterinarian, a teacher, an aircraft worker out at the airport or a doctor. It's just the luck of the draw."

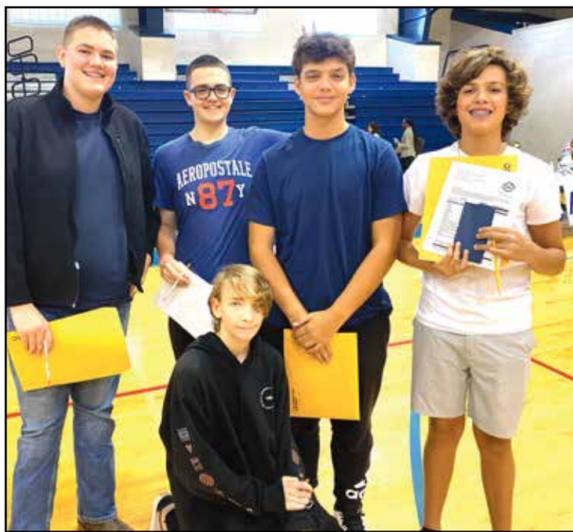
Students were also assigned a marital status and the number of their children.

Baker said all the students were given a check register and training on logging revenues and expenses. Then they were told to visit a table to purchase their housing and utilities.

"And then up to that point," Baker added, "they can go to any of the booths to get their house furnished, get transportation, get a cell phone."

Baker said some students experienced anxiety last year while going through the exercise, so mental health counselors were on hand this year to help.

"They're licensed mental health counselors," Baker said, "because some of our kids get a little bit of anxiety because they realize now this is what my parents have to do to have



Students, front: Ethan LaVane. Back: (l-r) Jackson Faul, Landon Feagle, Miles Johnson and Dalton Moore.

us survive in a nice home. (The counselors) talk them down and give them some advice."

\$1 million lottery winner

Participants also had two additional outlets when expenses exceeded revenues. An SOS table offered students having a hard time making ends meet a second job and other options like downsizing on housing or transportation. A chance table also gave students opportunities. One student who visited the chance table won \$1 million through the lottery. The chance table could also present new life obstacles and expenses like a traffic crash.

Baker said the real value of the exercise comes from the one-on-one students have with adults seated at the tables about finances and life's challenges.

"A lot of times it's just great one-on-one conversations with adults who have lived it, who know it, who have the life experience, and they're sharing their experience with the students," Baker said. "But on the other hand, students are really getting the realization—they're getting a reality check that this is what it means for me to be an adult. I need to be looking at either getting a college degree or maybe I need to get an industrial certification. What am I going to do when I get out of high school?"

I've sold nine corvettes today

Stacy Wall, assistant to the pastor at Trinity Baptist Church, volunteered at the transportation table to help students decide on a car.

She said she volunteered for the event to help students learn financial literacy.

"I've sold nine Corvettes today," she said, "and only two have bounced back. One came and got a second car and bought a Corvette. He was a doctor."

Wall said that typically, students buy more car than they need and don't make allowances for their children.

"Then they will come back and resell those cars to get what they need to work within their budget," she added. "This is awesome for the kids. I mean, just to see the light go off in their heads is wonderful. This is my second year doing this, and I'll be back next year if they do it again."

This is the second year for Reality Check at Keystone Heights High School. Organizers modeled it after a similar event at Bradford High School.

Harold Gilstrap, who, along with his daughter Natalie volunteered at the table selling mobile phones, said students seem to be more financially literate this year than last.

"Last year, they didn't even know how to fill out their checkbooks," he said. "This year, they know how to do that."

Gilstrap added that students are surprised at how expensive setting up a household can be.

"They have no idea of the costs," he said.

It's not about the car

Realtor Debbie Beals, with her husband Todd and fellow realtor Branden Waters, worked at a housing table, and said most students are focused on a car when they first start the exercise.



Tenth-grader Addison Carlson said this is the second time she has experienced Reality Check.

"I hate to use the words 'reality check,' but that's really what this is," she said. "They come over here and pick out their housing, and then they come back a few minutes later for something with a smaller payment because they want the expensive car. We keep telling them: it's not about the car."

"I think the concept of seeing where their money is going as they deduct it is the reality check," said Todd Beals.

"Slowly seeing that balance drop down is a tough thing," added Debbie.

Waters said he was pleasantly surprised by a few students.

"I've been surprised by a few kids that really have it together," he said.

Waters said that even the students who start the simulation with difficulty quickly catch on.

"The balancing of a check register and being organized has been the biggest confusion for them," he added, "but once you

explain it to them, it's like: Oh, that's how it works? That's easy."

Waters said the three realtors tried to convince the \$1 million lottery winner to buy some rental homes, but the student was starstruck with his newfound wealth.

"Debbie was explaining to him that with the rentals, he could convert that cash into income, but he said, 'No, I just want to be rich,'" recalled Waters. "We're telling him how to keep his money, but he didn't understand that concept."

"We had to explain to him that a million dollars isn't a lot of money nowadays," Debbie Beals said. "You can blow through that really quick."

Children are expensive

Ninth-grade student Jackson Faul said he was surprised at how much groceries cost.

"It's kind of shocking how much they are," he said.

"I learned how to write a check," added sophomore Landon Feagle, "and that children are expensive." "Money is not something you can really hold onto," he added.

Freshman Miles Johnson said he learned healthcare is far more costly than he imagined.

"The doctor was really expensive," the ninth grader said. "It's hard to afford stuff and have any money left over."

"The car and groceries were the most surprising things," added Dalton Moore, a sophomore.

Moore chose a Ford F-150 for his transportation and was determined to hang on to the truck even as his other expenses piled up.

Ethan LaVane, like many of his colleagues, complained about the cost of food.

"Groceries are skyrocketing," he declared. "I learned how expensive things are and how quickly it all adds up."

School board updating impact fees

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—Clay County school board members began discussing updates to the county's current educational impact fee ordinance during a December 5 workshop.

Lance Addison, the district's coordinator of planning and intergovernmental relations, presented a tentative timeline in which the Clay County Board of County Commissioners would vote on an updated educational impact fee on January 26.

Carson Bise, the author of the district's impact fee study update, told board members that the county's educational impact fee has not been adjusted since 2005. In that year, the school district asked for, and county commissioners passed, an impact fee for a single-family residence of \$7,034. The school district commissioned impact study updates in 2009, 2013, and 2017. Each of those studies recommended changing the impact fee to \$9,096, \$8,247 and \$10,732, respectively. However, in each of those years, the school board elected not to change the

fee established in 2005.

The recommendation on the 2022 report is to raise the fee to \$12,680 from the current \$7,034, an 80% increase. However, a Florida law passed in 2021 limits school districts to increasing their impact fees to 50% of the current fee unless special conditions are met. Under that limitation, the district could only raise its fee to \$10,551 instead of the \$12,680 recommended by the study.

Under that same limitation, the educational impact fee for multi-family units would increase from \$3,236 to \$4,807 and for mobile homes from \$5,979 to \$8,948.

Bise told school board members that the different fees are based on census data that says 100 new single-family residences will generate around 50 new students, 100 additional multi-family units will create approximately 19 new students and 100 additional mobile homes will generate an average of 35 school-aged children.

Bise also said that his conservative estimate of student growth is an additional 4,800 students over the next 10 years.

The consultant added that Clay County's elementary schools are

now at 132% of utilization. The junior high schools are at 102% utilization and the senior highs are at 124%.

"That's the highest I've ever seen in any school district," Bise told board members. "Most times, you're in the 80% to 90% range, and obviously given the lag time it takes to build schools, that's when you start planning for that capacity."

Bise said that if the district adds 4,687 additional student stations over the next 10 years, it could lower its kindergarten through eighth-grade utilization from the current 123% down to 113%. However, the district's utilization would increase to 140% without the additional capacity.

The district plans to add nearly 9,700 new student stations through 2033 by building three kindergarten through eighth-grade campuses, one elementary school and two senior high schools. All of the new campuses are projected to be around Green Cove Springs, three to the west of the city and three to the south.

The cost of those six campuses is estimated at \$367.6 million.

LAKES

Continued from page 1

James added that a Save Our Lakes member toured Lake Geneva and videoed the remains of many old docks along the shoreline.

"It was amazing how much are out there," she said, "and so all of that's going to have to be addressed."

James said the clock is ticking for the cleanup, adding that after Lake Brooklyn begins outflow to Lake Geneva in late 2025, water levels in Geneva will be at historic highs in another two years.

"We have time, but we don't have time to waste," she said. "We don't know what the cost is going to be yet, but it's got to be done."

In other news from the city council's legislative agenda workshop:

Airport seeking funds for water and sewer service

Airport Board Chair David

Kirkland asked council members to support his request for funding to get water and sewer service to the facility that straddles Clay and Bradford Counties.

Kirkland added that a feasibility study is still in process that will estimate costs for

connecting airport facilities to Clay County Utility Authority lines in the area.

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UNION COUNTY

Blue Jackets, Gold Standards

Lake Butler FFA teams among tops in national competition

On Oct. 24, the Lake Butler FFA chapter flew to Indianapolis, Indiana, to attend the National FFA Convention. The chapter had four state winning teams the previous school year; each in search of a national title.

The group consisted of 21 members and four advisors. The trip started early Monday morning, when the chapter left Jacksonville Airport at 5 a.m. Once they arrived in Indianapolis, they got to work preparing for the days to come.

The horse judging team was the first to compete Tuesday morning. The team members — Cailynn Boggs, Michael Young, Krista Young and Ryleigh Rhoden — completed a breed and tack ID test, as well as four team activities. The next day, they judged eight horse classes and did four sets of reasons. The team wrapped up the contest on Thursday with a team scenario activity.

A special awards banquet was conducted to announce the teams' rankings. The horse judging team placed sixth in the nation, with all four members being gold individuals.

The poultry team — Perry Johnson, Darby Andrews, Kyla Boney and Jackson Crook — was the next group to compete on Tuesday. The competition requires an evaluation of interior and exterior eggs, ready-to-cook carcasses, and live hens. They also had to complete an oral presentation, set of reasons, and team practicum.

At the awards banquet, they were announced as 14th in the nation, and Jackson Crook was a gold individual.

The food science team — Laura Park, Kindall Johnson, Hannah Sherrod and Maegan Beatty — competed on Wednesday morning at the state fairgrounds. There were many individual components of the contest, including a math practicum, sensory evaluation, product



Kindall Johnson after being announced as high individual of the food science contest. She is holding a medallion that she was given on stage for her achievement.

speculation and consumer complaint letters. Once these were complete, the girls worked together on a team activity. They were given a marketing scenario and had to develop a food product that would fit the required target audience.

At the awards banquet they discovered that they were one of the top four teams and would discover their final placement the next day.

The agricultural sales team was the last of Lake Butler's teams to compete. Lily French, Reagan Robinson, Tanner Connell and Ella Dicks had to create a sales pitch for Purina cattle feed. They completed an individual sales call, as well as a team presentation to try and sell their product. They were also announced as a top four team at their awards banquet and would discover their final placing the next day.

On Friday afternoon, the agricultural sales and food science

teams had the opportunity to go on-stage at the Colts Stadium and be recognized. The agricultural sales team was announced as third in the nation, and Lily French received an award for being the 10th high individual of the contest. The food science team was also announced as third in the nation and gifted a plaque. Maegan Beatty was the second high individual of the contest, and Laura Park was the fifth high individual. Kindall Johnson was the overall high individual of the contest.

The chapter was proud of all their accomplishments and decided to have fun for the rest of the evening. Each team competed against one another at a local escape room, and the advisors were the first to escape! The group returned home on Saturday afternoon, and was welcomed by friends and family. They are already hard at work preparing for future competitions later this school year.



The food science team right after they discovered they were top four in the nation. The advisor is Tom Williams. The members are Kindall Johnson, Maegan Beatty, Parker Johnson, Laura Park and Hannah Sherrod.



The horse judging team right before they competed at the state fair grounds. Members are Krista Young, Cailynn Boggs, Ryleigh Rhoden and Michael Young. Their advisor is Linsey Androlevich.



The agricultural sales team before competing in their event. The team members are Lily French, Ella Dicks, Reagan Robinson and Tanner Connell. Their advisor is Erin Johnson.



The poultry team shortly after receiving their plaque for 14th in the nation. The members are Perry Johnson, Kyla Boney, Jackson Crook and Darby Andrews. Their advisor is Brittney McGee.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED TAX INCREASE

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

The City of Hampton has tentatively adopted a measure to increase its property tax levy.

Last year's property tax levy:

- A. Initially proposed tax levy..... \$ 11,981
- B. Less tax reductions due to Value Adjustment Board and other assessment changes\$ (337)
- C. Actual property tax levy \$ 12,318

This year's proposed tax levy \$ 16,758

All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on the tax increase to be held on:

December 20, 2022

6:00 p.m.

at

City Hall, 5784 Navarre Ave, Hampton, FL 32044

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



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Lawtey Elementary School Principal Terri O'Quinn (left) accepts coat donations for students from Jenn Pittman of North Florida Inspection Solutions.

Lawtey business offers warmth to local kids

Troy and Jenn Pittman are natives to Bradford and owners of a home inspection company located in Lawtey — North Florida Inspection Solutions — which caters to this community and surrounding counties.

As members of InterNachi Home Inspector Association, they participate in its exclusive nonprofit Cozy Coats for Kids, which provides new jackets and coats to children in need.

The Pittmans coordinated with Lawtey Elementary School to

identify around 30 children who would be blessed the warmth and comfort of the donations.

“Kids are the most important aspect of our personal life and we truly enjoy giving to those in need,” Jenn Pittman said. “I am the Bradford County liaison for Red Cross and have witnessed a lot of struggling families this year here locally. We look forward to growing this program every year and giving more each time.”



Expect more code enforcement and potential fines

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

Bradford County Sheriff Gordon Smith is looking to ramp up code enforcement, with a new magistrate and deputy assigned to the job.

Enforcing county codes about property upkeep has been a concern for commissioners and residents. Smith said they haven't had a magistrate in place for four years, but for the most part, property owners comply with warnings to avoid citation and the fines that can accumulate when violations persist.

Typically, that happens after evidence is presented to a magistrate and the property owner is found guilty during a hearing in which they are allowed to appear and defend themselves or ask for leniency.

Sheriff Smith has asked the commission to consider updating ordinances to allow for fines through civil citations as well, like with a parking or speeding ticket.

The words “code enforcement”

conjure images of accumulating junk and debris on properties, overgrown lawns, or junk cars and equipment. Codes can also cover noise complaints, house parties and other large gatherings. They also cover people living in improper shelters such as campers and sheds.

Illegal dumping and littering will be targeted as well.

Laura Gapske, who works as magistrate for the city of Starke will also be working with Bradford County. Deputy Glen Ward as code enforcement officer will respond to complaints by visiting properties, collecting evidence (photographs), keeping records, issuing notices and citations, etc. Less compliant property owners would end up in front of the magistrate and face running fines.

Smith said they intend to be reactive, focusing on problems brought to their attention instead of actively looking for violations. They will also continue working with people when necessary, calling on church and youth

groups to help those who cannot help themselves.

“We work with people. We're not out there to try and strongarm,” he said.

The sheriff's office is working with attorney Rich Komando to on suggested updates, and commissioners were given a first look at some recommended fines Dec. 6.

The fines vary by violation and whether the defendant is a repeat offender. A noise complaint has a recommended fine of \$25, but it's up to \$100 if cited a third time. For trash or debris cleanup, the recommendation is \$50 for the first offense, \$100 for a second offense, but after that a repeat offender will be fined \$10 a day until the violation is corrected. For junk cars and equipment, the first two fines are \$100 and \$250, then \$50 a day is recommended.

For those found living in a camper or shed, the fines proposed were all running fines, from \$100 a day on first offense up to \$500 a day on third offense. Smith said they've

received multiple complaints about campers and sheds tied into electric and sewage lines. It might be all they have, he said, but it's also dangerous and invites fires and other disasters.

“When it's brought to our attention, we have to address the issue,” he said.

As for house parties or large gatherings of 50 or more people, a permit could be required. Parties could also be required to hire a one or more deputies depending on crowd size. A flat fine of \$500 per violation is proposed.

The purpose of the fines is to be corrective, not make money, the sheriff said.

“Most people work with us. But we've got to have current, updated policies and ordinances to make sure that we have something enforceable when we need to. Most time it's bark, but every now and then we have to bite,” Smith said.

The commission will take up code enforcement again after the first of the year.

Roofing, WWTP projects moving forward

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — The city of Starke is using a state grant to carry out much needed roofing work at the police department.

Built in 1965, the former highway patrol station is touted to be one of the most secure facilities in the county. It has been suffering from water infiltration, however.

The state owns the building, and legislators earmarked just over \$200,000 for the reroofing and purchase of a generator.

On Dec. 6, the city commission approved a resolution

piggybacking on a bid between BBG Contracting Group and Florida State College. Mayor Scott Roberts will negotiate a contract on the city's behalf with a maximum cost of \$200,000.

Police Maj. Barry Warren said inflation and supply chain issues are forcing the department to focus on the reroofing project. Even that wouldn't have been possible had they not found BBG's state bid.

As for the generator, its price jumped \$16,000 with a delivery delay of 13 months, according to Warren. They will ask the state for another award to fund that purchase.

Starke commissioners also approved a deal with Capital City Bank to provide interim financing for the construction of the wastewater treatment plant. The terms include loaning the city nearly \$10.7 million at 3.95% interest. The amount reflects the loan portion of the funding USDA has approved for the million Starke project.

The construction bid alone was nearly \$23.4 million. USDA is also providing nearly \$16.4 million in grant funds for the wastewater treatment plant project.

In other business:

Alvin Hunter Jr. is a veteran

who has approached the city commission about founding an advisory council to assist local government in addressing veterans' services. The council would be made up of veterans bringing concerning matters to leaders' attention and work with other veterans' groups on recognition.

Issues he mentioned included mental health, discrimination against minority veterans and trouble receiving adequate health care. These are local issues as well as federal issues, he said.

“With the help of support of all levels of government, we can get action,” Hunter said.

Bradford Library classified ‘sensory inclusive’

KultureCity has partnered with Bradford County Public Library to make the library and all of its programs and events sensory

inclusive.

This new initiative will promote an accommodating and positive experience for all guests

with a sensory issue who visit the library.

The certification process includes staff training by leading medical professionals on how to recognize those guests with sensory needs and how to handle a sensory overload situation.

Sensory bags, equipped with noise canceling headphones (provided by Puro Sound Labs), fidget tools, verbal cue cards and weighted lap pads will also be available to all guests at the library who may feel overwhelmed by the environment.

Sensory sensitivities or challenges with sensory regulation are often experienced by individuals with autism, dementia, PTSD and other similar conditions (one in six individuals). One of the major barriers for these individuals is sensitivity to over stimulation and noise, which is an enormous part of the environment in a venue like the library.

With its new certification, the library is now better equipped to assist guests with sensory sensitivities in having the most comfortable and accommodating experience possible when attending an event at the library.

Prior to attending an event, families can download the free KultureCity app where one can

view what sensory features are available and where they can access them. Also, on the app is the Social Story which will provide a preview of what to expect while enjoying an event at the library.

“Our communities are what shapes our lives and to know that the library is willing to go the extra mile to ensure that everyone, no matter their ability, is included in their community is amazing. We're honored to partner with Bradford County Public Library to provide a truly inclusive experience for all fans and guests,” said Uma Srivastava, executive director of KultureCity.

KultureCity is a leading nonprofit recognized nationwide for using its resources to revolutionize and effect change in the community for those with sensory needs, not just those with autism.

Since the program's inception, KultureCity has created over 1,000 sensory-inclusive venues in 6 countries: this includes special events such as the NFL Pro-Bowl, NFL Super Bowl, MLB World Series, and MLB All Star Weekend.

Lawtey Christmas Parade Dec. 17

Lawtey's Christmas Parade will take place Saturday, Dec. 17, beginning at 10 a.m. Come enjoy the lineup of classic cars, church and community floats, horses and more. The parade travels from Lawtey Elementary School, east down Lake Street (C.R. 225) and across U.S. 301 and turns around at Walk by Faith Ministries.

For more information, contact Ben Strong at 904-782-3130 or Cynthia Ross at 904-782-3107.

Hope presents Last First Christmas

Hope Baptist Church will present “The Last First Christmas,” a musical and drama

about the possibility this is your last chance to hear about or share the story of the first Christmas. The program will take place at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 18. The church is located at 3900 SE S.R. 100.

BHS bands perform holiday concert

Bradford High School's Band Program will present A Holiday Festival featuring the BHS Jazz Band, Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble on Friday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. in the BHS Auditorium.

Admission is free, but donations to support the band program are encouraged. Email ramos.david@mybradford.us to learn more about supporting the band.

BUDGET SUMMARY

CITY OF HAMPTON FISCAL YEAR 2022 – 2023

*THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF HAMPTON ARE 63.7% MORE THAN LAST YEAR'S TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES.

	GENERAL FUND	WATER FUND	TOTAL
CASH RESERVE CARRY FORWARD	\$ 473,210.88	\$ 74,040.00	\$ 547,250.88
ESTIMATED REVENUES			
TAXES MILLAGE RATE AD VALOREM @ 1.50 (Per \$1000)	\$ 15,920.10		\$ 15,920.10
CHARGES FOR SERVICES		\$ 110,040.00	\$ 110,040.00
SRWMD GRANT		\$ 245,800.00	\$ 245,800.00
SEARCH GRANT		\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$ 173,160.00		\$ 173,160.00
LICENSES & FEES	\$ 20,064.00		\$ 20,064.00
FINES & FORFEITURES	\$ 600.00		\$ 600.00
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$ 432.00	\$ 30.03	\$ 462.03
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	\$ 210,176.10	\$ 355,870.03	
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND RESERVES	\$ 683,386.98	\$ 459,910.03	\$ 1,143,297.01
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 126,281.40	\$ 59,052.00	\$ 185,333.40
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	\$ 114,000.00	\$ 66,120.00	\$ 180,120.00
TRANSPORTATION	\$ 59,280.00		\$ 59,280.00
CULTURE AND RECREATION	\$ 10,200.00		\$ 10,200.00
SRWMD GRANT		\$ 245,800.00	\$ 245,800.00
SEARCH GRANT		\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
TRANSFER TO GENERAL FUND		\$ 9,600.00	\$ 9,600.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	\$ 309,761.40	\$ 410,572.00	\$ 720,333.40
CONTINGENCY RESERVES	\$ 373,625.58	\$ 49,338.03	\$ 422,963.61
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND RESERVES	\$ 683,386.98	\$ 459,910.03	\$ 1,143,297.01

THE TENTATIVE ADOPTED/ AND/OR FINAL BUDGET ARE AT THE TAXING AUTHORITY AS A PUBLIC RECORD.

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

DUI, vehicular homicide

Casondra Lynn Anderson, 41, of Raiford was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 6 for DUI, vehicular homicide and reckless driving.

According to an FHP crash report, on April 1, 2021, the defendant was driving a 2005 Dodge Ram when she rear-ended a 2010 Buick Enclave driven by Makia Simone Baker, 32, of Hinesville, Georgia.

Both vehicles were traveling on State Road 16 toward Raiford and Baker was slowing to make a left turn onto Northwest 177th Street when the collision occurred.

The crash propelled the Buick into a shallow ditch. The vehicle overturned and ejected Baker's right-front-seat passenger: Joseph David Luke, 59, of Jacksonville. Bradford emergency medical responders pronounced Luke dead at the scene.

Trinity H Allen, 19, of Starke was arrested Dec. 8 for a probation violation.

Billie Christine Astra, 43, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 9 for possession of opium, selling opium and unlawful use of a two-way communications device.

Dillon Alan Barrs, 32, of Keystone Heights was arrested on Dec. 9 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Julie Marie Bennett, 52, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 5 for a probation violation.

Steven Allen Bridges, 25, of Live Oak was arrested on Dec. 9 for possession of drugs.

Darryel Dakotah Cassels, 34, of Waldo was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 6 for an out-of-county warrant and resisting an officer.

Cole William Crosby, 18, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 9 for culpable negligence, destroying evidence, unlawful discharge of a firearm and providing false information

during the sale of a firearm.

Dalton Wayne Elixson, 21, of Lake Butler was arrested on Dec. 6 for an out-of-county warrant.

Jason Joe Flanagan, 46, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 9 for an out-of-county warrant.

Trenton Scott Foreman, 23, of Hampton was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 7 for disorderly intoxication.

Brandon Christopher Gibbs, 34, of Keystone Heights was arrested on Dec. 9 for a probation violation.

Child stops attack with broom

Dejor Jaerail Hill, 32, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 6 for battery, criminal mischief with property damage and contempt of court.

According to a warrant affidavit, while the victim was at the defendant's home attempting to take a child to school, the defendant pushed the victim onto a couch and after the victim got up, began to choke her. Hill also slapped the woman on the left side of her face. The child, who was getting dressed for school, grabbed a broom and struck the defendant to stop the attack.

As the woman and child were leaving the home, Hill threw a glass bottle at the vehicle and struck the bumper.

The victim returned to the scene after taking the child to school and refused medical treatment for her injuries.

Reporting officer Johnathon Guinn wrote in the affidavit that he observed what appeared to be dark marks on the victim's left cheek and dark marks on her throat consistent with being grabbed around the throat by a hand.

Victor Laderis Johnson, 47, of Starke was arrested on Dec. 6 for a parole violation.

Torrance Terrell Lee, 38, of Gainesville was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 6 for failure to appear.

Jerome Jeffery Madison, 35, of Gainesville was arrested on Dec. 8 for an out-of-county warrant.

Emily Nicole Middleton, 41, of Raiford was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 6 for a probation violation.

Robert Wayne Montgomery, 45, of Gainesville was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 7 for failure to appear.

Austin Arthur Elias H. Smith, 33, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 6 for possession of drugs and selling drugs.

Jacob David Thornton, 30, of Live Oak was arrested on Dec.

9 for driving with a suspended or revoked license- habitual offender.

Erik Brandon Underwood, 39, of Orange Park was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 9 for a probation violation.

Shaideria Gicara Watkins, 36, of Lawtey was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 5 for a probation violation.

Dominique Tre'von Williams, 23, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 7 for possession of marijuana, driving with a suspended or revoked license, reckless driving and a conditional release violation.

Union

Mackenzie Marie Lemay, 24, of Lake City was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 5 for a probation violation.

Shane J. Meaker, 43, was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 12 for aggravated battery by a person detained in a correctional facility and smuggling contraband into a correctional facility.

Joshua J. Neipert, 37, was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 12 for battery on a law enforcement officer and battery on a detention facility employee with fluids.

Galven wynn Parrish, 43, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 6 for DUI.

Clay

Threw brick through SUV window, spat on sheriff's trainee

Scott Edward Bowen, 55, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Dec. 7 for battery on a law enforcement officer and vandalism.

According to an arrest report, the defendant threw a brick through the back window of the victim's 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe.

While detained by a deputy and a sheriff's office trainee, the defendant spat on the trainee through the back seat cage of a patrol vehicle.

Cameron Lee Yarborough, 32, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Dec. 4 for grand theft auto, possession of methamphetamine, possession of not more than 20 grams of marijuana, possession of a controlled substance without a prescription and possession of drug equipment.

Noah Jefferson Davis, 40, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Dec. 6 for possession of ammunition by a convicted felon.

First Christian calls new minister

First Christian Church, 507 W. Call St. in Starke, is happy to announce that it has issued a call to David Woodrum to assume the role of senior minister for the congregation.

Woodrum is a 2008 graduate of Johnson University of Florida. He is gifted in worship leadership, as well as a dynamic preacher. He is very involved in community affairs, and loves people. He is married to Amy, a former Starke resident. They have three daughters: Taylor, Lilly and Emma.

The Woodrums will be moving to Starke on Jan. 1, 2023. His first



David and Amy Woodrum

sermon will be on Jan. 8 at 10:45 a.m. Everyone is invited to come and meet this young couple. For more information, please call the church office at 904-964-6100.

SHOT

Continued from page 1

A witness parked near the defendant said she saw the cyclist exit the store and heard a shot, followed by the woman's scream.

A second witness inside the store also heard the shot, then saw the victim enter the store shouting that she had been shot.

A third witness was across Temple Avenue when he heard a pop, followed by someone saying: "Don't hurt him." The man said he then drove across the street to purchase gas and saw EMS treating the victim, who was stating she was going to die.

The day after the shooting, Redding interviewed the victim at UF Health Shands in Gainesville.

"(The victim) advised that she did not see who shot her and that she did not hear anything prior to her being shot," Redding wrote. "(The victim) advised that she remembers her chest hurting and that she was bleeding. (She) stated that an unknown woman stated to her that she couldn't believe that he shot her."

The defendant told police that the gun went off accidentally.

"Crosby stated that he placed the firearm in his lap," wrote the

detective. "Upon attempting to place the firearm in the driver door pocket, he pulled the trigger, causing the bullet to strike (the victim's) upper torso."

Tossed the gun in Pleasant Grove

Astra told police that the trio left the store and only realized while passing Bradford High School that a shooting may have occurred.

However, a law enforcement source said the three immediately realized what had occurred and fled because Astra had outstanding arrest warrants.

Deputies later arrested Astra on the warrants, which were for possession of opium, selling opium and unlawful use of a two-way communications device.

After passing the high school, Crosby turned west, eventually driving past Starke Elementary School on County Road 229 and turning right onto Northwest 177th Avenue at Pleasant Grove United Church before making a left on Northwest 59th Avenue. There he tossed the 9mm into a nearby wooded area.

Police later recovered the weapon.

One of Crosby's family members had a smartphone app that could track Crosby's

location. She told police the defendant was located at the Sleepy Hollow Motel on U.S. 301, north of the Bradford County Fairgrounds.

At 7:41 Friday morning, Redding and Starke police officers found the red car driven by the defendant the previous night with a bullet hole in the driver's door panel.

After police and deputies surrounded the motel, Astra, Crosby and Armour surrendered.

School lockdowns and weapon recovery

Police and deputies then turned their attention to recovering the second stolen 9mm.

According to a law enforcement source, Crosby told officers he gave the handgun to a Bradford High School classmate. After deputies could not locate the classmate at school, officials briefly ordered students at the high school, middle school, technical college, and Rainbow Center to shelter in place.

The classmate told officers he had already disposed of the weapon. His father later tracked down the missing handgun and turned it over to law enforcement.

COMPLEX

Continued from page 1

The multipurpose building and complex would include three full basketball courts with dividers between each court and electronic adjustable goals (6-10 feet), three volleyball courts, an outdoor swimming pool with a slide, an outdoor tennis/pickleball court, an outdoor skatepark, a fitness center, state of the art audiovisual and media systems, an office for the director and assistant director, an office for a secretary and, hopefully, a satellite station for the Union County Sheriff's office. Also planned are a lobby/café area with reception and concession areas, a full size kitchen, a rock wall, at least six classrooms, major size locker rooms with

showers, a generator and a solar array for routine power needs.

The project has already enlisted a number of local partners in support of the project, including Lake Butler Hospital, the Union County Health Department, local prisons, the Union County School District and several local colleges.

Maxwell listed a number of activities that the complex could provide room for, including basketball and volleyball tournaments, after school programs, indoor exhibits for the fair and carnivals, car and boat shows, community activities, concerts and dramas, meetings and parties.

Members of the Impact Center Committee include: Patrick Maxwell, Steve Hoard, Avery Roberts, Aaron Dukes, Pergina Maxwell, Charlotte Emerson,

Stephanie Sellers, Philip Sellers, Randy Odom, Tasha Odom, Lindsey Reddish, Mike Spires, Jonathan Wright, George Green, Chris Dang, Ella Littles and Alicia Maxwell.

The board listened to Maxwell's presentation, along with comments by Steve Hoard, but voiced no opinion on the matter and made no commitments. Should the project come to fruition, the county would own the facility (as it owns the property) and would have responsibility for it, including assuming any liability. The county would also have to assist with the project in the form of finding grants, since many are only available to governmental entities and not community organizations. It remains to be seen if the county will get on board with the project.

Legislative Delegation hearing

The Bradford County Legislative Delegation will hold its annual hearing Monday, Dec. 19, from 10 a.m. to noon. The hearing will be held at Bradford County Courthouse commission boardroom, 945 N. Temple Ave. in Starke.

The Bradford County Legislative Delegation includes Sen. Jennifer Bradley (R-Fleming Island) and Rep. Chuck Brannan

(R-Macclenny). The 2023 regular session of the Florida Legislature will convene on Tuesday, March 7, in Tallahassee.

For additional information or to be placed on the agenda for the hearing, contact Sen. Bradley's office at 904-278-2085, or email her staff at Heffley.Katelyn@flsenate.gov.

Free gift wrapping

First Baptist Church of Lake Butler will offer free

gift wrapping services to the community on Wednesday, Dec. 21, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. The church is located at 195 E. Main St.

Drive-thru Christmas Giveaway

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County will hold a drive-thru Christmas Giveaway on Thursday, Dec. 22, at 4 p.m. They will hand out toys for

children and teens ages 1 to 14, plus Walmart gift cards.

The drive-thru will take place at the RJE gymnasium, 1080 N. Pine St. in Starke.

Donations of toys and money are still welcome. Please call 904-966-1100 or 352-278-3540.

First Presbyterian presents musical, cookie exchange

First Presbyterian Church of Starke is presenting a contemporary musical Christmas playlet on Sunday, Dec. 18, at 11 a.m. A cookie exchange will follow the service — bring a dozen, take a dozen.

The Christmas Eve service will take place at 5 p.m. on Dec. 24, and the Christmas Day service will be at 11 a.m. on Dec. 25.

Democratic Women celebrate Christmas

Every year the Bradford Democratic Women 'adopt' a couple of families to buy presents for their children and gift cards for the parents. On Dec. 15, the group will gather at 7 p.m. for a holiday party to wrap all those presents and share Christmas refreshments.

All Democrats are welcome to join in. The groups will meet at the Historic Melrose Homemakers Club, 25728 Park St.

Conservation board meeting to discuss boat ramp

The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District will be holding a site visit to the

Cypress Run Boat Ramp from 2 to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 20. The boat ramp is located off Southwest 163rd Street and Southwest 86th Place on the northside of Lake Sampson.

Board members will be evaluating a number of changes to the current plans for the proposed new boat ramp. The possible changes include moving the entrance to the west to improve visibility; removing paved parking to eliminate the need for a stormwater storage pond; adding a mobile homesite to provide security; and using the existing canal dug in 1965 to avoid the need for a dredge and fill permit. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend the site visit.

The regular board meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 20 at the Bradford County Extension Office. The regular meeting will include a discussion of current projects. The public is welcome to attend. Contact Paul Still at 904-368-0291 or email stillpe@aol.com for more information.



Russ WADE
Attorney at Law

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

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Community State Bank, DLP Capital help make Christmas merry, support Starke Shop With a Cop



Community State Bank of Starke employees, as they do every year, stepped up big in raising funds to support the annual Starke Shop With a Cop. This year, funds raised were matched by DLP Capital, whose CEO and founder — Don Wenner — is the new owner of Community State Bank. Starke Police Department Maj. Barry Warren, who coordinates Starke Shop With a Cop, is pictured kneeling in the front with a check for a total donation of \$13,000. He is surrounded by bank employees (in alphabetical order) Colton Bennett, Christopher Bonilla, David Bridgeman, Jessica Brown, Andrea Crawford, Jay DeAndrade, Corey Finkenbinder, Kim Howard, Da Hutchinson, Emily Lee, Deana Myers, Susan Nicklas, Sherrie Norman, Christopher Page, Carolyn Reddish, Marty Rhoden, Pam Robusman, Sara Wade, McKenzie Williams and Tammie Woodard. Photo by Cliff Smelley.



Starke Police Dept. Maj. Barry Warren, the coordinator of Starke Shop With a Cop, is pictured with Community State Bank Owner and DLP Capital CEO/Founder Don Wenner and DLP and Community State Bank employees. Pictured are: (front row, l-r) James Eison, Frank Rodriguez, Andrea Crawford, Tammie Woodard, David Bridgeman, (middle row, l-r) Bob Peterson, Christopher Page, Jennie Reed, Carolyn Reddish, Warren, Andrea Wasson, Joseph Marsocci, (back row, l-r) Jon Grebinger and Wenner. Photo provided courtesy of Community State Bank of Starke.



John Williams, the new executive director of Arc of Bradford, stands in the woodshop of Sunshine Industries, which is where Arc consumers construct items such as pallets, survey stakes and picnic tables. Photo by Cliff Smelley.

KHHS will join BHS at McDonald's-Kiwanis hoops tournament

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

The Bradford High School boys basketball program is set to once again host the Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis of Starke Christmas Basketball Tournament, which will take place Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 19-21.

Daily admission is \$5.

Joining the 2021-22 Class 1A state-champion Tornadoes will be Keystone Heights, North Marion, Paxon, Suwannee and Tavares. North Marion and Paxon were both Class 4A playoff qualifiers last year, with Paxon advancing to the region semifinals before losing and ending its season with a 25-4 record.

Bradford is coming off a 16-10 season in which it won eight straight games in capturing district and region championships before winning the program's first-ever state title.

The Tornadoes enter this season with a new head coach in Andree Thomas at the helm.

This year's tournament consists of three games each day, with tip-off times of 4:30 p.m., 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

On Dec. 19, the first game pits Paxon against Tavares. Keystone will then play North Marion, followed by Bradford taking on Suwannee.

Keystone plays Tavares to begin play on Dec. 20, followed by Paxon against Suwannee and Bradford against North Marion.

The final day on Dec. 21 begins with a game against North Marion and Tavares. Keystone then plays Suwannee before the tournament concludes with Bradford playing Paxon.

Proceeds will be used to support the BHS boys basketball program.

Williams enjoys work with 'friends' as Arc director

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Words such as "consumers" or "clients" are used to describe those who receive services from the Arc of Bradford County, but John Williams has a word that's more apt, considering the relationship he enjoys with them.

"I tell people, 'Really, these are my friends.'" These are the people who teach me the most valuable lessons about life," Williams said. "While I'm providing a service in my role, they're also people I care deeply about."

Williams is the Arc of Bradford's new executive director, taking over for Sherry Ruskowski, who retired after serving in that role for 17 years. He worked previously at the Arc of Putnam County, where he spent more than 10 years.

"After much discussion with my family and just kind of talking

with Sherry and talking about the agency, I felt like it was a good move at the right time," Williams said. "I'm excited to be here and look forward to the future and all the things we can do here."

Prior to working for the Arc in Putnam, Williams was involved with various nonprofits, always working in the social-services arena. His experiences included working in the inner city of Atlanta to working in other countries.

The organizations and their locations may have been different, but they were also the same.

"People are people," Williams said. "It doesn't matter what they look like. It doesn't matter where they're from. It doesn't matter who they are or what abilities they have. You're going to find the same type of people groups

See WILLIAMS, page 12



NORTH FLORIDA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Brad Bishop, Director
Keith Kirby, Coordinator

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Financial Aid - 904-966-6765
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SPRING SCHEDULE 2023

DAY CLASSES

Course	Instructor	Registration Begins	Course Dates	Day	Hours	Program Hours
Adult General Education, GED, and Applied Academics - Adults Only	Snyder	Apply Now	January 4 - May 25, 2023	M, T, R	10:30AM to 1:30PM and 2:30PM to 5:30PM	Varies
Adult General Education, GED, and Applied Academics - Adults Only	Snyder	Apply Now	January 6 - May 24, 2023	W & F	9:00AM to 12:00PM and 12:30PM to 3:30PM	Varies
Adult General Education, GED, and Applied Academics - Adults and Underage Students (16-17 years old)	Snyder	Apply Now	January 5 - May 25, 2023	M, T, R	2:30PM - 5:30PM	Varies
Commercial Vehicle Driving A & B	Abercrombie	Apply Now	January 9 - March 7, 2023	M - R	7:30AM - 5:30PM	320 & 150
Commercial Vehicle Driving A & B	Abercrombie	Apply Now	March 27 - May 18, 2023	M - R	7:30AM - 5:30PM	320 & 150
Practical Nursing (LPN)	Trimble	See our website - www.nftc.edu - for Application Process for next year's Full and Part Time Programs				1350
Welding Technology	Geiger	Apply Now	January 4 - May 25, 2023	M - F	9AM - 3:30PM	1050
Welding Technology, Advanced	Geiger	Apply Now	January 4 - May 25, 2023	M - F	9AM - 3:30PM	750

AFTERNOON CLASSES

Nursing Assistant - Long Term Care (C.N.A.)	Harvey	Apply Now	January 9 - March 9, 2023	M - R	1PM - 4:30PM	120
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COMMUNITY EDUCATION CLASSES

Hunter Education (Three separate course offerings) /// Call Mr. Davidson at (904) 813-0008 with course questions.	Davidson	Open	Call School For Details	R	6PM - 9PM	3
Spinning (Indoor Cycling)	Bridgman/Riker	Open	January 4 - May 24, 2023	M & W	4PM - 5PM	Varies
Spinning (Indoor Cycling)	Bridgman/Riker	Open	January 4 - May 24, 2023	T & R	5:15PM - 6:30PM	Varies
Pilates/Yoga/Tai Chi /// Call Ben Bridgman at 904-509-2828 with questions.	Bridgman	Open	January 4 - May 24, 2023	T & R	5:15PM - 6:30PM	Varies

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Bradford County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability, marital status, or genetic information in its educational programs, services, or activities, or in its hiring or employment practices. The district also provides equal access to its facilities to the Boy Scouts and other patriotic youth groups, as required by the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding discrimination or harassment may be sent to: Aimee Ferguson, Human Resources Title IX Coordinator & Equity Officer, Karen Clarke, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, Barbara Johns, Student Services Title IX Coordinator & Section 504 Coordinator
Office Address: 501 W. Washington St., Starke, FL 32091, Phone Number (Voice/TDD): 904-966-6031 or 904-966-6014, E-mail: ferguson.aimee@mybradford.us, jonhs.barbara@mybradford.us, clarke.karen@mybradford.us

North Florida Technical College
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904-966-6764 - www.nftc.edu

FCCD-Chapter 5 provides Christmas joy for Guardian ad Litem kids

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

As far as Christmas traditions go, it's hard to find many better than the one that provides gifts to the children (ages birth-18) represented by the Guardian ad Litem office in Starke.

Thanks to the generosity of local Department of Corrections staff and the coordination of the Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency-Chapter 5, approximately 150 children in Bradford, Union and Baker counties will receive presents this year. FCCD-Chapter 5 received donated gifts from Florida State Prison, Lawtey Correctional Institution, Union Correctional

Institution, Reception and Medical Center and Baker Re-Entry Center.

First Presbyterian Church of Starke, as it does every year, also provided gifts.

Local Guardian ad Litem representatives said, "Some of them wouldn't have Christmas if it wasn't for the generosity of these people."

It's not just at Christmas that people in the community do something nice for children represented by Guardian ad Litem. First United Methodist Women of Starke provide each child with a gift card on his or her birthday.

Each of the state's 22 judicial circuits has a Guardian ad



Union Correctional Institution (l-r): Warden David Allen, Assistant Warden Tifani Knox, Meredith Cox, Jamie Williams, FCCD Chapter 5 President Naomi Jones, Jeff Russell, Trent Rulevitch, Cheryl Owens, Cindy Moore and Robert Humphreys.



Guardian ad Litem staff (l-r): Lisa Rodgers, Arthur Wright, Sherry Ashley and Dixie Ellis.

Litem program, which exists to represent the best interests of children in the court system who've allegedly been abused or neglected.

Guardian ad Litem consists of volunteer advocates, who are assigned to a child in the program. They're required to visit the child once a month.

Volunteer advocates talk to the child as well as his or her parents, other family members, teachers, guidance counselors, therapists and anyone else who's a part

of the child's life to determine how the child is doing and what he or she is in need of in the present and the future. Advocates consolidate the information they collect and provide it to a judge, who reviews a case involving a child approximately every six months.

The Eighth Judicial Circuit program covers Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy and Union counties.

To become a volunteer advocate, you must be at least 21,

pass a Level 2 background check and participate in an interview. Strong writing and verbal skills are a plus, but advocates aren't asked to meet any educational requirements.

Though case lengths vary, an advocate is asked to commit to at

least one year of working with a child.

If you're interested in becoming a volunteer advocate or want to learn more about Guardian ad Litem, please call 904-966-6237 or visit gal8circuit.org.



Lawtey Correctional Institution (l-r): Cindy Little, FCCD Chapter 5 President Naomi Jones, Ashley Nolan, Rebecca Riviere, Joanna Anderson, Mark Avery, Rhonda Jones, AW Cynthia Underhill, Robert Rose, Jeff Russell and Tommy Hopson.



The Guardian ad Litem didn't just receive gifts from DOC institutions. As is also the case every year, First Presbyterian Church of Starke donated gifts, which were delivered by Win Armstrong and Ralph Moulder (not pictured).



Baker Re-Entry (l-r): Dorothy Seto, Terry Lamoreaux, Jeff Russell, FCCD Chapter 5 President Naomi Jones and Warden Ronnie Woodall.



Reception and Medical Center (l-r): Assistant Warden Carlos Norman, Carlton McGee, Kimberly Crews, FCCD Chapter 5 President Naomi Jones, Brandi D. Johnson, Heather Liston, Janet Webb, Warden Travis Lam and Jeff Russell.



FCCD Chapter 5 President Naomi Jones (far left) is pictured with Florida State Prison staff (l-r): Donna Sanders, Heather Clark, Shawna Pittman, Aletha Turner, Brooke Thomassen, Brittany Combs, Tina Johns and Jeff Russell.

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Chason Clark

BHS linebacker Clark invited to Army Combine

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bradford High School junior linebacker Chason Clark will participate in the U.S. Army National High School Combine, which is held in conjunction with events surrounding the annual U.S. Army All-American Bowl in Frisco, Texas.

The combine, which is modeled after the NFL Scouting Combine, brings the top 600 underclassmen (ninth-11th grades) together to participate in tests and competitive drills, all of which are supervised by former NFL and college coaches.

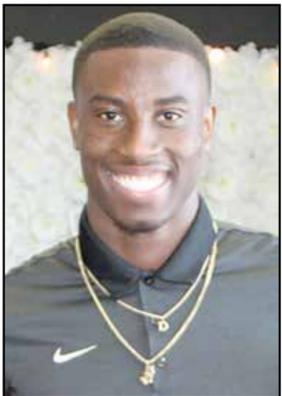
Data and video of players' performances will be sent to more than 200 colleges.

Participants in the Dec. 15-18 event will also get to attend the U.S. Army All-American Bowl, which showcases some of the top seniors in the country.

Clark, who learned of his invitation to the combine in November, led the Tornadoes with 101 tackles this season. He was second on the team in tackles for loss with 14.

Though he'll be participating in the combine as a linebacker, Clark made a mark this year on offense as well. His 216 receiving yards from his tight-end position ranked him second on the team. He also had the second-most touchdown catches with three.

His 36-yards-per-catch average led the team.



Dontae Balfour

BHS graduate Balfour leaving UNC Tar Heels

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

University of North Carolina defensive back Dontae Balfour, a 2021 Bradford High School graduate, announced he is entering the transfer portal.

Balfour, a redshirt freshman, started the first game this season, recording six tackles in a 56-24 win over Florida A&M. He appeared in only three more games, being limited to a role on special teams.

In 2021, Balfour appeared in two games before eventually redshirting.

Balfour, who is one of 12 UNC players to announce they're entering the transfer portal (as of Dec. 7), shared the following announcement on social media:

"I want to start off by thanking Carolina for all of the support for these past two years. I am eternally grateful for the opportunities I have had and the relationships that I have built through this program.

"To (Cornerbacks Coach Dré) Bly, (Head Coach) Mack Brown, (Co-Defensive Coordinator) Charlton Warren and (Assistant Head Coach for Defense) Gene

Chizik, thank you for your guidance and pushing me to be a better man on and off the field.

"I also want to thank God for giving me this opportunity to play the game I love and leading me on this journey.

"With this being said, I have decided to enter the transfer portal and continue my academic and athletic career elsewhere."

Balfour, listed at 6-1, 180 by UNC, was a first-team Class 4A All-State selection after his senior year at BHS. He recorded team highs in tackles (77) and interceptions (4).

Overall, Balfour had 201 tackles and 14 interceptions in three years of varsity play.

Balfour was set to participate in the early signing period in December 2020 and announce his pick between Auburn and Missouri, but decided to delay his decision until the Feb. 3, 2021, signing day. Schools such as North Carolina, LSU, Oregon and Tennessee made him offers after he made that announcement.

When he took to the BHS auditorium stage for the February signing ceremony that consisted of him and four of his teammates, Balfour had announced that Auburn, LSU and North Carolina were his finalists.

3 earn multiple wins for KHHS at Oakleaf High wrestling event

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School went 0-5 in Oakleaf's Dec. 9 Friday Knight Lights wrestling tournament, but the Indians had three individuals earn multiple wins by pinning their opponents.

The Indians opened with a 78-0 loss to Glynn Academy. Then, in a 48-30 loss to Orange Park, they had four wrestlers pin their opponents: Phoenix Contes in 1:30 in the 132-pound class, Luke Graves in 1:16 in the 138 class, Canyon Hayes in 39 seconds in the 145 class and Steven Raab in 1:58 in the 220 class. Keystone also had a win by forfeit.

Hayes earned the only win against Oakleaf, pinning his opponent in what turned out to

be a 74-6 team loss.

The Indians lost 52-30 to Ponte Vedra, with the Sharks forfeiting three weight classes. Graves pinned his opponent in 18 seconds, while Raab pinned him in 1:05.

Keystone ended the tournament with a 42-24 loss to Mainland. Raab pinned his opponent in 3:23, while Mainland forfeited three classes.

On Dec. 1, the Indians went 1-1 in a Dec. 1 match hosted by Baker County, with Graves, Hayes and Raab each pinning two opponents.

The Indians took a 36-24 win over West Nassau, which saw Graves, Hayes and Raab defeating their opponents. Graves' win was by recording a pin in 21 seconds.

West Nassau forfeited three classes.

Host Baker defeated the Indians 60-24, with all four of Keystone's wins coming by pins — Graves in 1:20, Hayes in 3:06, Raab in 1:01 and Joshua Dowling (285 class) in 29 seconds.

Keystone participated in Sandalwood's Arlington Optimist Individual Bracketed Tournament on Dec. 3, with Dowling wrestling his way to the championship match in the 285 class. Dowling pinned his first three opponents in 1:37, 1:36 and 55 seconds before he was pinned in 36 seconds by Englewood's Keith Forbes in the final match.

The Indians got third-place finishes from Graves and Raab.

Graves pinned his first opponent in 1:09 before getting pinned in 3:29 in the second round. He bounced back with three straight pins in under a minute each (30 seconds, 29 seconds and 47 seconds).

Raab, wrestling in the 285 class, pinned his first opponent in 37 seconds before getting pinned in 2:23 in the second round. He then recorded three straight pins in 28 seconds, 2:33 and 31 seconds before winning 6-2 in his final match.

Atreyu Contes almost made it to the third-place match in the 106 class. After a first-round bye, he was pinned in 5:07. He benefitted from two straight byes before losing 8-7.

Hayes and Hunter Crumpton (132) each went 2-2, while Henry Carhuayo earned one win in the 170 class.

Tigers compete in Dual in the Dunes tourney

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Union County High School went 2-1 in its pool before losing to New Smyrna Beach and host Fernandina Beach at the Dec. 10 Dual in the Dunes wrestling tournament.

The Tigers lost 58-22 to Clay, which was the only team better than Union in Pool A with a 3-0 record. Ian Halfacre (132-pound weight class) pinned his opponent in 3:27, while Ethan Shea (138) recorded a 12-2 major decision. Dante Johnson (152) pinned his opponent in 1:06. Clay forfeited one class.

In a 42-36 win over Charlton County, Georgia, Braden Adams (126) pinned his opponent in 47 seconds, while Shea pinned his in 3:15. Charlton forfeited five classes.

The Tigers had five wrestlers win by pins in a 42-40 win over Lake Mary: Halfacre in 1:58, Shea in 43 seconds, Johnson in 1:07, Danny Thornton (195) in 1:26 and Ephriam Frometa (285) in 35 seconds. Lake Mary forfeited two classes.

In the matches for placement, Union lost 69-12 to New Smyrna Beach before a 42-35 loss to Fernandina.

Against Fernandina, Halfacre defeated his opponent 9-2, while Thornton defeated his 17-10. Two wrestlers pinned their opponents: Johnson in 4:09 and Frometa in 50 seconds. Fernandina forfeited three classes.

On Dec. 3, Union competed in the 10-team Buchholz Bobcat Round Robin, with Halfacre winning the 132 class championship.

Halfacre won by pins of 22 seconds, 2:31 and 2:50 before pinning Timber Creek's Logan Crawford in 1:39.

Four wrestlers earned fourth-place finishes: Kale Waters (113), Shea, Thornton and Frometa.



Bryce bags big buck

It's been a good year for 13-year-old Bryce Daniels, an eighth-grader at Keystone Heights Jr.-Sr. High School. He not only started for the high school varsity football team (he's 6-4, 270), but got to harvest this 10-point buck on Nov. 13.

Curtis A. "Lex" Sanders Attorney at Law



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Obituaries

Douglas Barnett

Douglas P. Barnett, 65, passed away peacefully early Sunday morning, Dec. 11, 2022, at Haven Hospice in Lake City. He was born on July 12, 1957, in Starke, to Vernon Barnett and Peggy Dale Barnett. He grew up having mad sports skills. He played football and basketball at Union County High in Lake Butler. Between his birth and high school, he lived life in Key West, San Diego, and Greenville, South Carolina while his father was stationed in the Navy. After high school, he and Sherry Ogden eloped and recently celebrated 46 years together. Their children include Doug Jr. (Michele Roberts), Ashley (Javier Campanini), and Ryan. He retired from the Department of Corrections in 2003.

His is survived by his sister, Debra Barnett; brothers, Randy Cozatt and Gary (Vivian) Cozatt; and two other children, Tyler and Jillian Barnett, also mourn his loss. Many nieces, nephews, and great friends will greatly miss him.

Even though he was a man of few words, others would often seek him out for advice or just to listen to them.

A funeral to honor his life will be held on Thursday, Dec. 15, at 12 p.m. at his church, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Lake Butler Ward. The family will receive friends for a visitation beginning at 11 a.m. at the church. He will be laid to rest at Oak Grove Cemetery.

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



Brenda Lee

Brenda Fay Lee, 71, of Starke, died on Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022, at North Florida Hospital in Starke. She was preceded in death by her parents and her son, Steven Ramsey.

She is survived by her husband, Corky Lee of Starke; children, Robert Ramsey of Lake Butler, and Jelette Lee (Johnnie) Adkins of Starke; three brothers; and a sister.

A Celebration of Life was held Friday, Dec. 2, at Sampson City Church of God. Interment followed at Crosby Lake Cemetery.

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

George Martin

George Gary Martin, 77, of Lawtey passed away at his home on Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022, following an extended illness. He was born Aug. 17, 1945, in Deerfield Beach to Gary and Ina (McCall) Martin. While serving in the United States Marine Corps, he also served 18 months in the Vietnam War. He was a retired minister, a member of Christ Church of Starke, and loved sharing the word of God. He also enjoyed being a farmer, gardening, and was very family oriented. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Gayle Rogers.

He leaves behind his loving and devoted wife of 43 years, Elizabeth "Vicki" (Freeman) Martin of Lawtey; and their four daughters, Garielle (Daniel) Crapse of Lawtey, Sherah (Emil) Kemp of Guyton, Georgia, Carol Ann (Larken) Parr of Lawtey, and Alexandra (Thomas) Prim of Starke. Also left behind are three sisters, Beth Parr and Mary James both of Albany, Georgia, and Debbie Gahimer of Pensacola; and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, great-great nieces and nephews, and extended family and friends that will miss him dearly. He was also lovingly called "Granddaddy" by Gabriel, Azalea, Gideon, Anastasia, Felicity, Bethel, Ezra, and Arden.

The family will receive friends Thursday, Dec. 15, beginning at 1 p.m. in the DeWitt C. Jones Chapel with funeral services beginning at 2 p.m. with Brother Lester Austin and Brother Jason Crawford officiating. Interment will be private at a later date.

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



Helen Schneider

Helen Marie Schneider, 88, of Fort Myers died Friday, Nov. 25, 2022. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Rev. Leonard Albert Schneider; and brothers, Theodore Raymond Kehn and Carl Marlowe Kehn.

She is survived by her children, Miriam Ruth (Joseph J.) Jannetty of Palm Beach, Susanna Lee Schneider of Brooklyn, New York, and Carl Martin Schneider of New City, New York; a sister-in-law, Bernice Kehn of Norway, Maine; and two grandchildren.

Private Services were held.

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

Helen Smith

Helen Jane Smith, 80, of Dahlonega, Georgia and formerly of Keystone Heights, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2022. She was born Aug. 17, 1942, in Jacksonville to the late Marion and Mildred (Penticoff) Mains. She worked for many years at Alachua General Hospital as their admitting specialist. She was a member of Dahlonega Baptist Church in Dahlonega, Georgia. She enjoyed traveling, shopping, dining out, gardening, going to the beach and spending time at her mountain cabin in Dahlonega, but, most of all, she loved spending time with her family.

She leaves behind her three children, Guy (Marsha) Smith of Jacksonville, Josh (Michelle) Smith of Biloxi, Mississippi, and Holly (Ron) McIntyre of Lake City; along with siblings, Paul Mains of Jacksonville, Susie King of Starke, Lee Ann Peoples of Green Cove Springs, and Joy Mains of Las Vegas, New Mexico. She was lovingly called "Nanny" by grandsons, Brandon Smith, Benjamin Crislip and Dean McIntyre; by granddaughters, Brittany Smith, Heather Crislip, Miranda McClure and Meredith Knight, and by great-granddaughters, Taylor and Tinsley MacLean.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, Dec., 15, at Trinity Baptist Church with Pastor Justin Brown officiating. The family will receive friends beginning at 10 a.m. Interment will follow at the Keystone Heights Cemetery. The family invites everyone back to the church following the interment for a time of fellowship.

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



Lynell Carter

Lynell Townsend Carter, 87, of Keystone Heights, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022. She was born April 18, 1935, in Jacksonville to parents George Townsend and Lucille (Yeomans) Miller. She married the love of her life, Leon Eugene "Buddy" Carter, which formed a union of 65 years until his death. She was a Christian, who loved her family, and loved traveling, music, flowers, and keeping in touch with her relatives and many friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and her siblings, Kenneth, Myrna, Billy, and Suzanne.

Surviving are her children, Leon "Gene" (Karen) Carter, Alan Carter, Nancy Lishen, Brenda Carter, and Pamela (Berny) Zellner; stepmother, Bernice McCall; brother, Charles (Marge) Townsend; sister-in-law, Ruth (Larry) Burgett; brother-in-law Richard (Donna) Carter; 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023, at Penney Memorial Church, 4465 Poling Boulevard, Penney Farms with lunch to follow. In lieu of flowers, we ask that you consider donating to her favorite missionary, Brenda Carter, through Mission to the World. All donations are tax deductible. <https://mtw.org/missionaries?query=brenda+carter> or mail donations to, Mission to the World, P. O. Box 744165, Atlanta, GA 30374-4165 and specify for Brenda Carter's ministry.

Arrangements under the care of Helm-Gallagher Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 1811 Idlewild Ave., SR 16, Green Cove Springs, 904-284-9696



Jerry Miles Jr.

Jerry Walter Miles Jr., 59, of Florahome died unexpectedly on Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2022. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by Wanda Miles; and his birth mother, Carole Ann Rex.

He is survived by his daughter Crystal Miles (Charles) Craven of Green Cove Springs; siblings, Christina Ann Repess of Florahome, Jody (Cecelia) Miles of Orange Park, Jeff Miles of Fayetteville, North Carolina; mother-in-law, Judy Constantin of Florahome; two brothers-in-law; and a grandson.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

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

PAID OBITUARY

Card of Thanks

Thank you

Your words have comforted us, your support has strengthened us, and your love has sustained us. We extend our deepest thanks for all the kindness shown to us during our greatest sadness. We appreciate it more than words can express and it will always be remembered.
The Family of
Mrs. Elaine D. Haile

WILLIAMS Continued from page 9

in every location, whether it's Atlanta, Bradford County or Putnam County. You have people who want to help. You have people who need help."

Williams has always had a heart for helping others, especially those who may get overlooked to some extent.

"I remember when I interviewed for the position in Putnam, the question was asked, 'Why do you want to work with people with disabilities?' My response was, 'I've always dreamed of either working with people with disabilities or people who are aging and need additional support.' I think a lot of times, those segments of the population are maybe not neglected, but they're not as frequently thought about and supported," Williams said. "That's always been a passion of mine, to work with people who may not look like me or act like me or have the same abilities as me, but they definitely have something to offer to the community at large."

Williams' first role at the Arc of Putnam was transporting and supervising a mobile work

crew. At that time, the Arc had a contract to provide custodial services at St. Johns River State College. Williams said he liked taking consumers into the community, adding, "I think for me, it was just being able to show, 'Hey. While the people who (the Arc is) working with may not look like you, and they may not have the same abilities that you have, they're just as capable of being a part of our community and having valued roles in our community.'"

Arc consumers — those with intellectual and developmental disabilities — tend to make great employees, Williams said, adding that they're dependable and less likely to leave for another job. "They're excited and want to be there," Williams said. "They want to work. They oftentimes stay at the job for 20, 30, 40 years because they're good at it, and they're dedicated. They're very loyal to businesses that give them the chance to go to work."

After three years of working with the work crew, Williams moved into a managerial role with the Arc of Putnam in which he provided mental-health services. He was later elevated to overseeing one of the agency's day programs. He did that for a

few years before moving into the administrative office.

Now that he's at the Arc of Bradford, Williams said a focus of his will be engaging the community and finding ways in which the Arc can be an active part of it.

"I think a lot of times when people are approaching agencies like ours, there's the mindset of, 'What can the community do for our agency?' There is a lot the community can do for our agency," Williams said, "but it should be a reciprocal relationship. It's not just what the community can do for us, but it's what we can do for the community as well."

It wouldn't be a new endeavor for those who receive services through the Arc of Bradford. They've helped the community in the past and are doing so right now. For example, some of the consumers, as part of the Aktion Club, which is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Starke, recently held a car wash to raise funds to buy Christmas presents for children who are homeless.

"Some of the most compassionate people you'll ever meet are the people who we serve," Williams said, adding, "While they may need support

sometimes, they truly do want to be a part of the community and want to help others in need. I think that is a lesson we can all learn from individuals here at the Arc."

Williams spent part of his childhood in Keystone Heights and lives there today with his wife, Kayleigh, who is the assistant principal at Keystone Heights Elementary School. They have two daughters who are 4 and 2.

As you can imagine, much of Williams' time when he's not at the Arc is spent with his children.

"Right now, the things that I enjoy doing really revolve around my kids," he said.

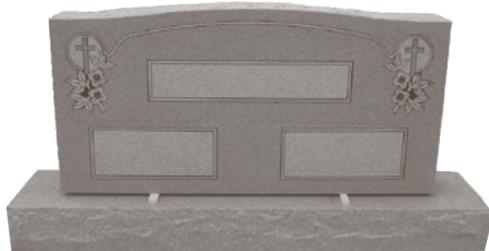
Williams said his daughters are the joy of his life, but he's fortunate in that he experiences joy both at home and work. He talked of how he could walk into one of the day programs at the Arc of Putnam every day and always have consumers come running up to greet him.

"They were just excited to see me," Williams said. "That kind of excitement is contagious. You don't go home feeling unloved."

That's the great thing about working with Arc consumers. Better yet, that's the great thing about working with friends.

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Nichelle Brown (left) goes up for a basket in the Tornados' 38-31 win over Williston. Photo by Cliff Smelley.

Griffin's 4th quarter helps BHS girls defeat Williston 38-31

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Ar'Nayshia Griffin scored five straight points during a 10-4 run to close out the game as the Bradford High School girls basketball team defeated visiting Williston 38-31 on Dec. 8.

The Tornados (5-1) watched a five-point lead in the third quarter disappear. Williston's Tiny Brown knocked down two free throws and then scored on a layup to make it a one-point game before the Red Devils' Maci Vonderstrasse drove to the basket for another score and a 22-21 Williston lead.

Bradford's Nichelle Brown scored twice following her own steals to help the Tornados go into the fourth quarter leading 28-24. Teammate Destiny Crum knocked down a three-pointer in between Brown's two baskets.

Williston pulled to within one before Griffin scored off her own steal. Griffin then grabbed a defensive rebound at the other end and dribbled the length of the floor before pulling up for a short

jumper to make the score 32-27. She later added a free throw as she finished the game with seven points.

The Devils' Brown drove the baseline for a score, while Delicia Dallas made a jump shot as Williston closed the Tornados' lead to two.

A steal by Bradford's Ayanna Pringle led to a Nichelle Brown basket on a runout, putting Bradford up 35-31 with 1:20 to play.

Brown led the Tornados with 13 points.

Jada Hankerson added an exclamation point on the victory with a three-pointer before the buzzer.

Ajijah Jackson and Hankerson finished with six and five points, respectively, while Pringle had four. Crum added three points.

Bradford entered the game off a 58-45 win over visiting Dunnellon on Dec. 6. Three players scored in double figures — Brown with 15 points, Crum with 13 points and Pringle with 12 points.

Griffin and Jackson each scored eight points, while Kimber Woods added two.

The Tornados played at Bishop Snyder this past Monday (Dec. 12) and will travel to play Paxon on Thursday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m.

KH girls hoops team rolls to 26-point win over Baldwin

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Visiting Baldwin was no match for the Keystone Heights High School girls basketball team, which won its fourth straight game by a score of 41-15 on Dec. 9.

The Indians (7-2) got 13 points and 10 rebounds from Kiley Channell, while Dezaray Bright had 12 points, 15 rebounds and four steals.

Channell is 12 points away from reaching 1,000 for her career.

Rexi Lewis scored four points, while Kaitlin Brown and Yasmin Bryant each had three. Alana Anderson, Erabelle Conant and Jaynell Hill each added two points.

Keystone entered the game off a 47-12 win at Union County on

Dec. 5. Channell had 15 points, six rebounds, five assists and four steals, while Bright had 14 points, 14 rebounds and four assists.

McKinlee Kirkland scored nine points, while Anderson and Bryant each had three. Lewis chipped in two points, while Conant had one.

Brynn Creekmore had three steals.

The Indians played Middleburg this past Monday (Dec. 12) and will travel to play District 5-4A opponent Eastside on Thursday, Dec. 15, at 6 p.m. Keystone hosts Palatka on Monday, Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m. and travels to play Wildwood on Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 7:30 p.m.

BHS wins 9 classes in girls weightlifting win over Rams

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bradford High School won all nine weight classes it had participants in, defeating host Eastside in a Dec. 6 girls weightlifting meet.

The only class the Tornados didn't have a competitor in was the 101-pound class.

Bradford's winners were Rylie Blankenship with a 160 total (75 bench press, 85 clean and jerk) in the 110 class, Blakeleigh Smith with a 185 total (95, 90) in the 119 class, Kami Crawford with a 150 total (75, 75) in the 129 class, Madison Sapp with a 160 total (85, 75) in the 139 class, Brianna Jordan with a 455 total (250, 205) in the 154 class, Courtney Comer with a 410 total (225, 185) in the 169 class, Gabby Oliver with a 340 total (175, 165) in the 183 class, Takeirra Bakken with a 380 total (175, 205) in the 199 class and Brianna Brooks with a 250 total (125, 125) in the unlimited class.

Three earned second-place finishes: Raelynn Moore with a 150 total (75, 75) in the 110 class, Allie McFarland with a 290 total (150, 140) in the 154 class and Leah Tilton with a 145 total (75, 70) in the 183 class.

Jolie Jones and Sydnee Hires earned third-place finishes in the 154 and unlimited classes, respectively. Jones had a 140 total (65, 75), while Hires had a 200 total (110, 90).

Shyann Alvarez placed fifth in the unlimited class with a 145 total (75, 70).

Wright earns 2 wins for KHHS girls lifters at Ridgeview

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Kaylee Wright earned two first-place finishes as the Keystone Heights High School girls weightlifting team, which was shorthanded due to illness, competed in the snatch for the first time in a lost to host Ridgeview on Dec. 8.

Wright won the 169-pound class in both the traditional event (bench press and clean and jerk) and the Olympic event (snatch and clean and jerk). She had a 325-pound traditional total and a 260 Olympic total.

Keystone had three other individuals earn wins. Ariel King topped the 129 class in the traditional event with a 250 total, while Chloe Still had a 235 traditional total to win the 139 class. Harmony Geiger won the traditional event in the 199 class with a 275 total.

King also earned second place in the Olympic event with a 200 total.

Kenly Chitty and Ava Herman earned second-place finishes in the traditional event — Chitty with a 210 total in the 154 class and Herman with a 220 total in the unlimited class.

Chitty also took second in her class in the Olympic event with a 195 total.

Heidi Knapp had a second-place Olympic total of 185 in the 119 class, while Dakota Herring had a second-place Olympic total of 175 in the unlimited class.

Keystone entered the meet off a 47-33 win over host Interlachen on Dec. 1.

The Indians had seven first-place finishes: Madison Sapp with a 175 total in the 110 class, King with a 255 total, Still with a 220 total, Chitty with a 210 total, Wright with a 330 total, Lily Mitchell with a 230 total in the 183 class and Geiger with a 270 total.

Placing second were Knapp with a 190 total, Morgan Wilson with a 200 total in the 169 class and Herring with a 215 total.

All Interlachen totals were

traditional event only.



Seth Gagnon (right) gets airborne between two defenders as he attacks the rim in the Indians' 56-53 win over Baldwin. Photo by Cliff Smelley.

KHHS boys defeat Baldwin 56-53 for 3rd straight win

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School opened the fourth quarter with a 13-4 run, which helped the Indians defeat visiting Baldwin 56-53 in a boys basketball matchup on Dec. 9.

Three players scored in double figures for the Indians, who won their third straight game. Zeke Pelham scored the first four points of the fourth quarter and had all 11 of his points in the second half.

Baldwin led by one before scoring seven of the first nine points of the second quarter. The brief run included a three-pointer and two baskets overall by Kaden Clarke.

Seth Gagnon grabbed an offensive rebound for Keystone and was fouled on the putback attempt. He made both free throws to leave the Indians trailing 20-16.

Keystone's Garrison Teague missed the front end of a one-and-one opportunity, but Wil Rogel rebounded the miss. He passed the ball to Gagnon, who then gave it back to Rogel. Rogel knocked down a three-pointer to make it a one-point game.

Baldwin was able to increase its lead to five before Keystone closed the half with two straight baskets. Gagnon scored off an offensive rebound, while Andru Siemer scored on a runout, catching a long pass from Pelham, who rebounded a Baldwin miss.

Teague would block a shot, giving the Indians an opportunity to take the lead before halftime, but Baldwin's Clarke blocked a shot on the other end, which allowed the visitors to go into halftime leading 26-25.

Keystone took the lead for good early in the third quarter when Pelham scored on a drive to the basket and made an ensuing free throw, putting Keystone ahead 31-28.

A rebound putback before the buzzer by Baldwin made it a one-point game in favor of Keystone heading into the final quarter. Keystone began giving itself a cushion, thanks to aggressive play by Pelham. He scored on one drive to the basket and was fouled on another, making both resulting free-throw attempts.

A rebound putback by Cartez Daniels and a basket by Siemer, who was left all alone underneath the basket following a change of possession helped put Keystone up 47-42. Pelham then grabbed a defensive rebound and passed the ball to Rogel, who drained a three-pointer for an eight-point lead.

Baldwin got a late basket as well as two free throws with 1.4 seconds remaining to make it a three-point game in the end.

Gagnon led Keystone with 17 points, while Siemer had 13. Rogel added six points, while Daniels and Teague had four and three, respectively. Connor Guy had two points.

The Indians (4-2) entered the game off a 63-49 win over host Crescent City on Dec. 8 in which Gagnon's effort in the first half alone would've amounted

See KHHS, page 14

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40 Notices

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Applications can be picked up at the Administration Office at New River Regional Landfill located at 24276 NE 157th Street, Raiford FL 32083 or requested via email to lgreene@nrswa.org. Deadline for submitting applications will be Thursday, December 22, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. For further information, call 386-431-1000. New River Solid Waste is a drug-free workplace; drug testing will be required. NRSWA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR of library services full time administrative position. The Bradford County Public Library is currently accepting applications for the Assistant Director of Library Services. Applicants must possess a Master's Degree in Library Science from an ALA accredited institution. Deadline for accepting applications is Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 7:00 pm. Applications along with a detailed job description may be obtained from the Bradford County Public Library. The application and job description may also be obtained from the Bradford County website at www.bradfordcountyfl.gov or the Florida Library Jobs website at https://floridali-

braryjobs.org/. For inquiries please contact Library Director Robert Perone at (904) 368-3920. Assists the Library Director in the management, supervision, and administration of the library to provide maximum services to library patrons in accordance with library policy. The Assistant Director supervises the operation of the Technical Services, Children's Department and Circulation Departments. The Assistant Director will coordinate special projects, as requested. Bradford County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Reasonable accommodations will be made for otherwise qualified individuals, in consonance with the American's with Disabilities Act (ADA).

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46 Real Estate Out of Area	63 Love Lines
47 Commercial Property Rent, Lease, Sell	64 Business Opportunity
48 Homes for Sale	65 Help Wanted
49 Mobile Homes for Sale	66 Investment Opportunity
50 For Rent	67 Hunting Land for Rent
51 Lost/Found	68 Rent to Own
52 Animals & Pets	69 Food Supplements
53 Yard Sales	70 Money to Lend
54 Keystone Yard Sales	72 Sporting Goods
55 Wanted	74 Computers & Computer Accessories
56 Trade or Swap	

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Kedgley and Spence score 6 goals in KHHS boys soccer win

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Skylar Kedgley and Logan Spence each had three goals for the Keystone Heights High School boys soccer team on in a 7-2 win at Newberry on Dec. 9.

Luke Brunt scored a goal as well as the Indians improved to 5-2-1.

Spence, Pelayo Martinez and Micah Wiley each recorded two assists, while Liam Callahan had one.

It was the second match the Indians played against a District 4-3A opponent. Keystone entered the match off a 2-2 tie against district opponent Fort White on Dec. 6 in Fort White. Brunt and Kedgley each scored

a goal, with Brunt's coming off a penalty kick. Spence had an assist.

Keystone played district opponent Williston this past Tuesday (Dec. 13) and will travel to play Bell on Friday, Dec. 16, at 6 p.m.

KHHS girls get 3 goals from Shaw, but lose 4-3 to Tigers

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

The Keystone Heights High School girls soccer team was seeking its fourth straight win, but the Indians fell 4-3 to host Columbia on Dec. 12.

Kiersten Shaw scored all three goals and now has a total of 35 on the season. That puts her in second place in the state behind Poinciana's Valerie Correa, who has 50.

Alee Horton recorded an

assist, while goalkeeper Aspen Krohn made 15 saves.

The Indians (8-4) defeated their previous two opponents by a combined score of 16-1. In an 8-0 win at District 4-3A opponent Fort White, Ella Hutchins scored five goals, while Shaw recorded a team-high three assists.

Krohn made three saves. On Dec. 9, Shaw scored six goals in an 8-1 win at district opponent Newberry.

Hutchins and Elizabeth Waughon each scored a goal, with Hutchins also recording four assists. Hutchins has 13 assists this season, which (as of Dec. 13) puts her in a two-way tie with Glades Day's Hana Lohmann for third in the state. University Christian's Abbey Mehm has 20 assists, while Bartram Trail's Grace Ivey has 19.

Shaw and Waughon each had an assist as well in the win, while goalkeeper Miranda Yow made 10 saves.

Keystone played district opponent Williston this past Tuesday (Dec. 13) and will travel to play Santa Fe on Friday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m.

KHHS

Continued from page 13

to him finishing as the game's leading scorer. He scored 20 of his team's 32 first-half points, helping Keystone enter halftime with a 13-point lead.

Gagnon finished with 27 points, while Rogel and Pelham almost reached double figures with nine and eight points, respectively. All of Rogel's points came from beyond the three-point arc.

Keystone played Ridgeview this past Tuesday (Dec. 13) and will host Interlachen on Thursday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. The Indians host Union County on Friday, Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m.

The Indians will play in the Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis of Starke Christmas Basketball Tournament at Bradford High School on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 19-21 (see story on page 9 for details).

KHHS' Carter is Clay's top coach in December

Keystone Heights High School Head Girls Basketball Coach Jessica Carter was named the Clay County Coach of the Month for December. She was recognized for the Indians' 7-2 start (through Dec. 9) and for her efforts in developing the Keystone Youth Basketball Association. Carter (left) is pictured with John Sgromolo, the county's coordinator of district athletics.

Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Dec. 15, 2022

BRADFORD

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No: 04-2022-DR-439
DEXTER M. CARLTON
Petitioner
and
MARIA E. CARLTON
Respondent,
NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (NO CHILD OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT)

TO: MARIA E. CARLTON
242 BUCK RUN WAY
ST. AUGUSTINE, FL (last known address)

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for dissolution of marriage has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on DEXTER M. CARLTON whose address is 2180 SE 144th St., Starke, FL 32091 on or before December 29, 2022 and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 945 N. TEMPLE AVENUE, P. O. DRAWER B, STARKE, FL 32091 before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the address(es) on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.
Dated: November 18, 2022
DENNY THOMPSON
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
BY: K. JENKINS
DEPUTY CLERK
11/24 4tchg 12/15-BCT

IN THE COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
JUVENILE DIVISION
CASE NO. 04-2021-DP-113

IN THE INTEREST OF:
W. B. (M) DOB: 9/25/2021
Minor child

NOTICE OF ACTION
TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS
STATE OF FLORIDA
TO: Jeremy Smith
ADDRESS UNKNOWN
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that

the State of Florida, Department of Children and Families, has filed a Petition to terminate your parental rights and permanently commit the following child for adoption: B. W. born on 9/25/2021. A copy of the Petition is on file with the Clerk of the Court. You are hereby commanded to appear on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 9:50 AM, before the Honorable Jodi Cason, at the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091, for an ADVISORY HEARING. *****FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THIS CHILD IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION ATTACHED HERETO.*****
WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court at Starke, Bradford County, Florida, on this 23rd day of November 2022.
Denny Thompson
Clerk of Circuit Court
By: Romane Jefferson
Deputy Clerk
Special Accommodations. Under the American 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.
12/1 4tchg 12/22-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 22000112CPAXMX
IN RE: ESTATE OF
STEPHEN FRANKLIN STEED,
Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of STEPHEN FRANKLIN STEED, Deceased, whose date of death was July 22, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Bradford County Courthouse, 945 N. Temple Ave. P.O. Drawer B, Starke, FL 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 THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION

OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is December 8, 2022.
Attorney for Personal Representative: Scott R. Bugay, Esquire
Florida Bar No. 5207
Citicentre, Suite P600
290 NW 165th Street
Miami FL 33169
Telephone: (305) 956-9040
Fax: (305) 945-2905
Primary Email: Scott@srblawyers.com
Secondary Email: angelica@srbllawyers.com
TROY STEED,
Personal Representative
12/8 2tchg 12/15-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
To satisfy the owner's storage lien, KO Storage LLC will sell at public lien sale on December 28, 2022. The personal property in the below-listed units, which may include but are not limited to: Household goods, boxes/totes/bags, clothing, bedding, tools and toys. The public sale of these items will begin at 10AM on December 21, 2022 and end at 10 AM on December 28, 2022. The public sale will take place on www.storagetreasures.com.
KO Storage of Starke, 1650 South Walnut Street, Starke FL 32091, (952) 314-7121 Time: 10:00AM CST
A37, Fitts, Johnnie, B03, Berry, Edward, A10, Jenkins, Doron
Public sale terms, rules, and regulations will be made available on www.storagetreasures.com. All sales are subject to cancellation. We reserve the right to refuse any bid.
Payment must be by credit/debit card, we do not accept checks or cash. Buyers must secure the units with their own personal locks. To claim tax-exempt status, original RESALE certificates for each space purchased is required. By KO Storage LLC, 10301 Wayzata Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55305. (952)-314-7121.
12/8 2tchg 12/15-BCT

The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District (BSWCD) will be holding a Site Visit to the Cypress Run Boat Ramp from 2 until 3:30 p.m. on 12/20/22. The Boat Ramp is located off SW 163rd St at SW 86th Pl. on the north side of Lake Sampson. The public is welcome to attend.

Contact Paul Still at 904 368-0291 or email stillpe@aol.com for more information.
12/15 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Notice of Impacts to Floodplains in Accordance with Section 2(a) (f) of Executive Order (EO) 11988, Floodplain Management, and Section 7 DOT Order 5650.2, Floodplain Management and Protection
The Keystone Heights Airpark Authority (Authority) announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for Facility and Infrastructure Improvements at Keystone Heights Airport (42J) in Bradford County, Florida. Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Draft EA is being circulated for review and comment from the public and federal, state, and local agencies. Comments from federal, state, and local agencies, and the public, will be considered as part of the Final EA. The Final EA will be submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the agency's environmental determination.
Proposed Project: The Proposed Project includes several access road and infrastructure improvements and a proposed maintenance and training facility that will be developed by an existing tenant. The Proposed Project consists of aircraft maintenance hangar(s), office space, and training facilities, and will provide parking and airfield access for P-3 Orion aircraft operating at the airport. It also includes access road improvements, expanding high speed broadband Internet infrastructure throughout the Airport's leased areas, clearing and grading ±51 acres for near-term development, and providing vehicular access to these sites. All project components will occur on airport property. The Proposed Project will slightly increase annual aircraft operations, but no noise sensitive areas would experience a significant increase in noise and all noise increases will be contained entirely on airport property.
The EA discusses the Proposed Project, alternatives, and environmental effects in areas including air quality, biological resources, hazardous materials, cultural resources, noise, socioeconomic, and water resources. The Proposed Project will affect approximately 2.19 acres of 100-year floodplains. The Proposed Project includes mitigation measures for unavoidable impacts to these resources.
Draft EA Availability: An electronic copy of the Draft EA is available for public review at https://keystoneairport.com. Hard copies will also be displayed for inspection and review at the following locations:
Bradford County Public Library
456 W Pratt Street
Starke, FL 32091

12/15 1tchg-BCT

Keystone Heights Airport
7150 Airport Road
Starke, FL 32091

Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing: The FAA and the Authority are providing an opportunity for a public hearing. A public hearing will only be held if someone requests one and FAA grants the request. In the event a request for a public hearing is made, a Notice of Public Hearing will be published in this same newspaper. Those wishing to request a public hearing on the Proposed Project must make their request by email or letter no later than 15 days from the date of publication of this notice (December 30, 2022), to the address below.
Keystone Heights Airport
7150 Airport Road
Starke, FL 32091

How to Comment: Written comments on the Draft EA will be accepted by mail and email. Mailed comments should be postmarked no later than January 16, 2023 and addressed to:

Keystone Heights Airport
Attention: Maria Searcy, Airport Manager
7150 Airport Road
Starke, FL 32091

Comments may also be submitted via email to MSearcy@KeystoneAirport.com. Requests for reasonable accommodation with obtaining the document for review, and/or for registering comments, can also be made to this address. All comments will be carefully reviewed and considered in a Final EA prior to FAA rendering an environmental determination on the Proposed Development Project.
Please note that comments can only be accepted with the full name and address of all entities commenting. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment - including your personal identifying information - may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, it cannot be guaranteed that it will be withheld.
Date of Publication: December 15, 2022
12/15 1tchg-BCT

Public Notice
City of Keystone Heights
The City of Keystone Heights is now seeking applications for Keystone Airport Authority Seat for Bradford County. This seat's term will run to April 2025. The KHAA meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm at the Keystone Airport. Members interested in serving on this board must reside within Bradford County. All terms are three-year terms. For more information, please contact Keystone Heights Airport Authority or Keystone Heights City Hall.
For more information regarding this seat, please see Section 38 of the City's Code of Ordinances.
12/15 1tchg-LRM

Public Notice
City of Keystone Heights
The City of Keystone Heights is now seeking applications for Keystone Airport Authority Seat #1 & Seat #2. These seat's term will run to April 2025. The KHAA meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm at the Keystone Airport. Members interested in serving on this board must reside within 10 miles of the city limits of Keystone Heights. All terms are three-year terms. For more information, please contact Keystone Heights Airport Authority or Keystone Heights City Hall.
For more information regarding these seats, please see Section 38 of the City's Code of Ordinances.
12/15 1tchg-LRM

Public Notice
The Town of Brooker, Florida, will hold an election on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, for the following seats:
Council Seat #3 - Four-year term
Council Seat #4 - Four-year term
Council Seat #5 - Four-year term
Qualifying dates for the above seats will be December 28th and 30th, 2022. Qualifying papers may be picked up at City Hall during regular office hours, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. All qualifying papers must be returned to City Hall on or before 1:00 p.m. on December 30th, 2022. City Hall address: 17435 Tetstone Avenue, Brooker, FL 32622 Office #: 352-485-1022
12/15 1tchg-BCT

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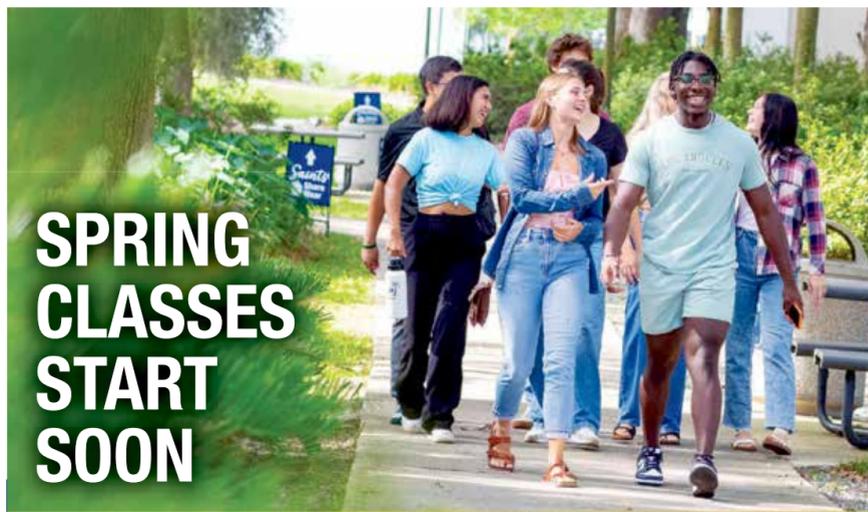
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12/15 1tchg-BCT



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Starke, FL 32091
904-964-7423

DeWayne McBride is C-USA Offensive Player of the Year

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

UAB junior running back DeWayne McBride was named Conference USA's Offensive Player of the Year after establishing multiple school records and leading the nation in rushing.

The Starke native, who graduated from Ocala's Vanguard High School, became the second player to receive the conference's top offensive honor, joining quarterback Joe Webb, who earned the award in 2009.

McBride saw action in all but one of the Blazers' 12 games. He rushed for a school-record 1,713 yards on 233 carries. He also set school records for rushing yards in a game (272), yards per game (155.7), rushing touchdowns (19), yards per carry (7.35), 100-yard games (10), 200-yard games (3), total points (114) and



DeWayne McBride led Conference USA and the NCAA in rushing. Photo provided courtesy of UAB Athletics.

multi-rushing touchdown games (5). This season was about more

than just making his mark at UAB and in Conference USA. McBride led the NCAA in rushing yards, finishing ahead of Illinois' Chase Brown, who had 1,643 yards. His rushing yards per game also put him at number one ahead of Minnesota's Mohamed Ibrahim, who averaged 144.9 yards per game.

In 30 career games, McBride has 3,523 yards, 36 touchdowns and 18 100-yard games — all marks which put him in second place all-time among UAB backs.

McBride, who was also a second-team Walter Camp All-America selection this season, is the NCAA's active career leader in yards per carry (7.3) and is second in career rushing yards per game (117.4).

The 6-6 Blazers will play Miami (Ohio) in the Friday, Dec. 16, HomeTown Lenders Bahamas Bowl. The game will kick off at 11 a.m. on ESPN.

UCHS grad Slocum receives Sun Belt honorable mention

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Craig Slocum, a senior Troy University defensive back who's a 2017 Union County High School graduate, earned honorable mention with the release of the All-Sun Belt teams.

Slocum, the son of Maria and Craig Slocum Sr., was one of 13 Troy players to be recognized. He's played in all 13 of his team's games this season and has 96 tackles (33 solo), which ranks him second on his team. Slocum has one interception, six pass breakups, one caused fumble and one fumble recovery.

The Trojans, who will play UTSA in the Cure Bowl on Friday, Dec. 16, at 2 p.m. on ESPN, just won the Sun Belt championship with a 45-26 win over Coastal Carolina on Dec. 3. Slocum made seven tackles and broke up two passes.



Craig Slocum (right) prepares to tackle South Alabama running back La'Damian Webb in Troy's 10-6 win on Oct. 20. Photo provided courtesy of Troy University Athletics.

Some of Slocum's highlights this season include making

17 tackles and causing and recovering a fumble in a 10-9 win over Army on Nov. 12 and recording 13 tackles in a 32-28 loss to Appalachian State on Sept. 17. He made 10 tackles and had a fumble recovery in a 28-10 loss to Ole Miss on Sept. 3.

Slocum had a total of four games in which he made eight tackles: a 34-27 win over Western Kentucky on Oct. 1, a 27-10 win over Southern Miss on Oct. 8, a 17-14 win over Texas State on Oct. 15 and a 23-17 win over Louisiana on Nov. 5. He also made an interception in the Southern Miss game.

The former UCHS Tiger was a walk-on at Troy before being awarded a scholarship on the first day of fall practices during his redshirt junior year in 2020. Slocum earned his degree in Sports Management at the end of the Fall 2021 semester.

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