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Bradford County Telegraph

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See PG 10



USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, December 16, 2021

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Starke's community worship service during Christmas on Call Street weekend was just one of the many holiday activities going on this past week. For more on what's happening, see inside. (Photo by Virginia Crawford.)

Shot over football bet

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

STARKE — A 55-year-old Starke man turned himself in after he shot a 35-year-old Central Florida man over a \$200 football game wager.

Jimmy Lamar Hankerson was arrested on Dec. 8 for the Dec. 7 offenses of homicide and possession of a firearm by a felon.

According to an arrest report, the shooting occurred shortly before midnight, after Hankerson and the victim: Jermaine "Jit" Stewart fought over a wager made on the Florida-Georgia football game.

A witness told deputies that Hankerson owed the Central Florida man the money, and the two argued over the bet.

"A physical altercation occurred between Hankerson and Stewart," wrote arresting officer Kimberly Mosely in the report. "Hankerson pulled a firearm and shot Stewart three times."

The victim was transported to UF Shands in critical condition. At press time, Col. Brad Smith of the sheriff's office said the victim remained hospitalized.



Hankerson

WORTH NOTING



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Funtastic Fire Brigade is spearheading a drive to collect and donate funds toward a relief fund established by Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear for those impacted by the Dec. 11 tornadoes in that state.

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You may also use PayPal as an option, using Funtastic Fire Brigade's email address (funtasticfire17@gmail.com).

All donations are tax-deductible. Donors can receive a receipt for tax purposes if they wish.

For more information, please send email to the previously mentioned address, or call 904-701-3473.

Jamie Rodgers is hired as new BHS football coach

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Jamie Rodgers, who had head-coaching stints at Baker County and Suwanee and was named the Florida Dairy Farmers Class 5A Coach of the Year twice, was announced as the new Bradford High School head varsity football coach.

"I'm just excited to get here and get to work and build something special," said Rodgers, a Baker County native who was the head coach at Cook in Adel, Georgia, the last three seasons.

Rodgers, who's the brother of the late Paul Rodgers of Starke, described South Georgia in the Valdosta area as the "mecca" of high school football. He worked his whole career to get the opportunity to coach there, but the time came to make the decision that was best for him and his family.

"I wanted to get my wife back



Jamie Rodgers, Bradford High School's new football coach, addresses players during a meeting in the BHS auditorium on Dec. 10. Photo by Cliff Smelley.

closer to her family," Rodgers said. "They're right there in Glen St. Mary. We lost my dad to COVID in January. It's going to be really good to get back closer to my mom (who lives in Macclenny)."

Rodgers and his wife, Ashley, who've been married almost six years, have two small children: Aaron, who'll be 4 on Dec. 21, and Lexie, who's 18 months. Rodgers said he wants his children to be able to grow up around their grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.

"Life changes," Rodgers said. "Choices change. I had to make the right decision."

When he learned of the opening at Bradford, Rodgers said "it seemed a little like it was meant to be."

His hiring came one week after the district announced it was parting ways with former Head Coach Brian

Tomlinson. Superintendent of Schools Will Hartley, a 1999 BHS graduate, remembers playing football and baseball against Rodgers, who's a 1997 Baker County High graduate.

"Jamie is a fierce competitor," Hartley said. "It's one of the things I always remember about him when he was playing. During his time at Suwanee and Baker, I saw him coach. Nothing's changed. He's the same on the sideline as when he was playing."

"I really like that competitive nature in him. I think the players will take on that same personality."

Hartley said talking to a couple of his colleagues confirmed that Rodgers was the right man for the job.

See COACH, page 4

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Tornado strikes Starke homes

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Severe thunderstorms swept through the area Dec. 8 and even spawned a tornado in Starke.

The National Weather Service determined the EF1 tornado occurred around 5:20 p.m. With a peak wind speed of 95 mph, the tornado traveled around a half-mile from east of U.S. 301 toward Starke ER. The 200-yard-wide path of destruction caused significant damage on Thompson, Cherry and especially Laura streets.

According to Bradford County Emergency Management Director Brad Witt, two businesses and 13 homes in Starke reported minor damage. Four homes received major damage, displacing a total of 10 residents. All were offered Red Cross assistance but had other accommodations, he said.

“While we’re definitely thinking about and standing ready to help those who were displaced from their home in any way we can, we’re thankful that no one was injured,” Witt said.

No extensive damage has been reported around the county, but emergency management is continuing its damage assessment.

“Obviously, we had some



A tree fell on a home near the corner of Laura and Redgrave Streets. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

strong cells within that thunderstorm that moved through, but at this time our offices had no severe damage or issues reported outside of the tornado,” Witt said. Power was out for a time in parts of the city. Based on



Crews work on cleaning up fallen trees and debris following the storm.

the Suwannee River Water Management District towers located throughout the county, anywhere from 0.71 inches to 1.28 inches of rain fell last Wednesday. There was no report of flooding.

The emergency management director gave a shout out to those involved in the response.

“We’re thankful for all of our first responder partners in the Starke Police Department, Starke

Fire Rescue, Bradford County Fire Rescue and Bradford County Sheriff’s Office for their roles that night, and quickly getting out there, assessing the situation and being able to render aid to folks who needed it,” Witt said.

“We also want to thank public works for both the city and the county in their recovery efforts.”

While it may often go unnoticed, Witt said those crews

are out the night of the storm and continue cleaning up for days to come, helping lives get back to normal as soon as possible.

“We have very, very strong partnerships here in Bradford County, and ultimately that helps us turn our response into recovery mode a lot quicker and a lot more efficiently,” he said.

Upcoming food distributions

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Feeding Northeast Florida and True Vine Ministry will take place Tuesday, Dec. 21, at 9 a.m. at the Bradford County Fairgrounds and Thursday, Dec. 23, at 9 a.m. at the Philadelphia Baptist Church in Lawtey.

Food boxes often include fresh produce, deli and bakery items, dairy and some meats. The inventory is subject to change based on availability. Tell a friend or a neighbor. The distribution is free and open to the public. This institution is an

equal opportunity provider.

Drive-thru Christmas Giveaway

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County Inc. is sponsoring a Drive-thru Christmas Giveaway on Sunday, Dec. 19, at 4 p.m. at the RJE gym, 1080 N. Pine St. in Starke. There will be toys for children ages 1–14 and Walmart gift cards for families to purchase turkeys and hams.

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

Christmas at Starke Church of God by Faith

Starke Church of God by Faith will be celebrating Christmas with the community on Wednesday, Dec. 22, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. See baby Jesus in the manger, a petting zoo and visit the free photo booth while enjoying free coffee, cocoa and doughnuts. Church youth will also put on a Christmas program beginning at 7 p.m.

Starke Church of God by Faith is located at 730 Old Lawtey Road.

Lawtey Christmas Parade

Lawtey’s Christmas Parade will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 18. The route begins at Lawtey Elementary School and travel east on Lake Street, then turn around at Walk by Faith Ministries.

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

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For more information or if you need help creating your order, please call 386-496-3969 ASAP. Thank you! Merry Christmas to all!

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Nathan, Logan, Colton and Lilian Martin came as a group to fill the laps of both Santa and Mrs. Claus at Worthington Springs' Christmas in the Park.



Dainyell Thaxton and Tyler Minx spent some time with Mickey Mouse and the Grinch while visiting the event.



Kamille Crews looks a little wistful as she takes in all the fun activities and interesting things around her at Worthington Springs' Christmas in the Park.

Town of Worthington Springs holds annual Christmas in the Park event

BY LARRY DUPEE
Special to the Times

WORTHINGTON SPRINGS — The Town of Worthington Springs held its annual Christmas in the Park event, with fun activities and about 25 vendors selling Christmas items and potential presents.

The event is always a large one and this year was no exception,

with about 400 people attending, mostly in family groups. Santa and Mrs. Claus were on hand so the youngsters could sit on his lap and tell him their Christmas secrets and dreams. The line to see Santa was amazingly long — possibly indicative of the less frequent opportunities to see him this year due to COVID and the new variant.

Amy and Jayda Hendrieth,

along with Presli McMinn and Kristi Morton were on hand at the park gates to welcome visitors and to hand out tickets for several drawing held throughout the evening. The mood was buoyant and the smiles were wide as many local residents got to socialize with friends and neighbors at one of the area's most popular Christmas event.

COACH

Continued from page 1

“(Suwannee Superintendent Ted Roush) and Sherry Raulerson over in Baker County just couldn't say enough great things about him, about how he's such a great community guy,” Hartley said. “He's a program builder. You won't have trouble with the kids with discipline or with the parents — he deals with all of that kind of stuff. Every place he's been, he's built up a great booster club of supporters.”

“He wants all of the responsibilities it takes to be a successful head coach these days, not just the coaching-on-the-field part of it.”

He went 29-9 with three district titles and a Class 5A state runner-up finish to private-school powerhouse American Heritage in 2017. The Wildcats went 13-2 that season, with Rodgers earning another Florida Dairy Farmers Coach of the Year award.

Unlike Suwannee, Baker wasn't in need of a complete turnaround, which Rodgers said is how he views Bradford right now.

“I've watched enough film to see that we've got talented football players (at BHS). That's not the problem,” Rodgers said, adding, “There's no rebuild here. It's a competitive team. There are just some things that need to be tweaked a little bit.”

Rodgers, who compiled an 11-6 postseason record at Baker and Suwannee, took over a Cook program in 2019 that had gone 15-20 in three seasons. He went 15-19 in three seasons, with a playoff record of 2-3.

“There were things going on that needed to be fixed,” Rodgers said of Cook. “We were able to get that turned around. Next year's going to be the best year that Cook's had in the last four or five years.”

Eager to start

Rodgers, when he was hired, had one week left on his contract to fulfill in teaching P.E. at Cook. When school resumes after the Christmas break, he intends to be at BHS, getting to know the players, who had the opportunity to meet Rodgers on Dec. 10.

“We had talked about not doing that for a couple of weeks,” Rodgers said of the Dec. 10 meeting, but I got with Mr. Hartley and said, ‘Hey, I'd really like to come meet them so they can see me face to face and hear me speak to them about the things that are important to me.’ If it's important to me, and it becomes important to them, then we've got something.”

Being the head coach isn't about just getting to know the players. Rodgers is ready to meet people in the community, saying it takes the whole community to help create a football program to be proud of.

“The only way you can really build it and do exactly what you want to do is to have

support,” Rodgers said. “You can't do it without support. One person cannot lead a football program by himself. It takes the whole village. I'm talking about everything. It takes every single business. It takes parents. It takes administration.”

“All the things are in place here. We've just got to pull it all together.”

As to what the Tornadoes will look like on the field, all Rodgers can say is that he's ready to employ multiple offensive and defensive schemes, which will be determined by the types of players.

“We won't know until we get to the spring,” Rodgers said.

Rodgers has seen the kind of talent Bradford has had in the past. Hartley said Rodgers told him how when he prepared to play Bradford as an opposing coach, the level of talent he saw on video made an impression and had him thinking, “Man, at any given time, one of those kids can break loose, and there's nothing you can do about it.”

“He said he's very excited about the type of talent that is here and being able to work with those kids,” Hartley said.

Rodgers said he never makes promises on how many wins he and his teams are going to deliver, but he added, “What I do promise is our kids are going to play hard. They're going to play hard every down. They're going to play disciplined.”

“If they do that, the wins and losses will take care of themselves, and that'll be something the whole community can be proud of.”

The new coach can't wait to get on the field. During his interview for this story on Dec. 10, he said, “I wish it was tomorrow.”

However, his work begins well before May.

“The next three or four months will be a little bit of chomping at the bit,” Rodgers said, “but there's a lot of stuff we need to get done before then. There are a lot of things that need to happen. Get our coaching staff in place. Get some equipment things taken care of. All the things that come with preparation.”

“We've just got to cram it into four months, but that's OK.”

UC VFW Post 10082 celebrates Christmas

BY LARRY DUPEE
Special to the Times

Lake Butler VFW Post # 10082 held its annual member Christmas celebration on Sat. Dec. 11, 2021 with a bounty of holiday finger foods and a visit from Santa, who flew in by sleigh for the event.

Santa arrived at the post while most of the approx. 40 people were will eating, but his cheerful presence and joyous “Ho-ho-ho” brought every young person present to thoughts of what they wanted for Christmas.

Post Commander Robert Laury welcomed the Jolly Old Elf and he and Santa told the tale of the trial run, during which Santa had scheduled his annual visit to the post.

“I just landed and left the reindeer outside to graze,” Santa said. “That is part of the purpose of my annual trial run — to located placed along the way where I can find hay for the reindeer to eat.”

As usual, VFW Auxiliary Coordinator Barbara Fischer had been in touch with Santa and set the date and time of the



Santa recieved a warm welcome from Post Commander Robert Laury, who may have also related what he wanted for Christmas, soon after his arrival.

party to coincide with his pass through Union County. Each young person present got to sit on Santa's lap, divulge their Christmas wishes and get a present from the hand of the man himself.

Many attendees got together ahead of time and decided on a red plaid theme, worn by many at the event. Smiles and laughter were in abundance as the informal supper and visit with Santa went on.



Serena, Isabella, Michael and Ayleana Reeves came up as a group to tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas. (Photos by Larry Dupee)

Letters

Methodist Women humbled by support

Dear Editor:
United Methodist Women of Starke are thankful and humbled by the support of the Telegraph and the community

of friends and neighbors during our fundraising for missions. The pecan sale provided interaction with the many wonderful people who bless us. The patience and

understanding of the delay were most appreciated.

Again, thank you.

Carolyn Eaves
Starke

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CHRISTMAS IN STARKE



Durrance Pump sponsored Santa's ride during the Starke Christmas Parade. (Photos by John Ryan Tillman and Virginia Crawford.)



Above and below: The entry from Victory Chapel reminds us that Jesus stands the test of time.



Community State Bank



Hope Baptist Church



Southside Student Government. (Photo from Southside Elementary School.)



Rockin' New Year's in Melrose

Party at Mossman Hall's Rockin' New Year's celebration on Friday, Dec. 31, at 7 p.m. The free event will feature drinks and food vendors, plus live music with Relentless Band. Mossman Hall is located at 301 S.R. 26 in Melrose.

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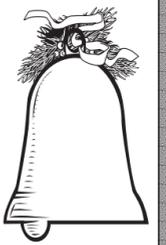
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— By Henry Hodges Lawley, FL

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<p>Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.</p> <p>Competitive Rates, non-profit, right here in your community</p> <p>A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative</p> <p>Keystone District Office 352-473-4817 • clayelectric.com</p>	<p>After Church on Sunday Come to Powell's Dairy Freeze</p> <p>"Home of the Foot Long Steak"</p> <p>Stop by for Ice Cream on Wednesday Night!</p> <p>US 301 NORTH • STARKE, FL</p>	<p>Come Worship with us STARKE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH</p> <p>Church • Saturday 11:00 a.m. School • Saturday 10:00 a.m. 1649 W. Madison St • Starke, FL</p>
<p>G-N-S AUTO INC. "Your One Stop Shop"</p> <p>7907 SR 100 Point & Body Shop • ALL INSURANCE COLLISION REPAIRS • A/C KIA, FL 32656 • BRAKES • TIRES • RESPIRATOR • ALIGNMENT • 4x4 & DRIVELINE 352.473.6117 • LETS & LEVELING KITS • ENGINE & DIESEL REPAIR New 352.473.3278 Scott Callahan • Owner/Operator</p>	<p>Home Respiratory Care</p> <p>417 Edwards Rd. Suite B - Starke</p> <p>904.966.0520</p>	<p>Morgan Road Baptist Church</p> <p>3784 NW CR 233 Starke</p> <p>Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Evening Worship 6pm 964-4422 Wednesday Evening 7pm</p>
<p>Suburban Carpet Cleaners</p> <p>Call Us For All Your Professional Cleaning Services</p> <p>MONTHLY SPECIALS</p> <p>904-964-1800</p>	<p>Thompson's Mobile Home Supply & Hardware</p> <p>17797 US HWY 301 N Starke, FL 32091US</p> <p>904-964-3700</p>	<p>SEE YOUR CHURCH WEBSITE OR BUSINESS AD HERE WEEKLY! AFFORDABLE MARKETING 904-965-6305</p>
<p>REACH TENS OF THOUSANDS of LOCAL CUSTOMERS in OUR TRI-COUNTY REGION EVERY WEEK • COST EFFECTIVE</p> <p>Call Beth or John Ryan at 904-964-6305</p>	<p>DOUGLAS BATTERY OF STARKE</p> <p>We rebuild starters, alternators, generators.</p> <p>Auto • Marine • Cycle Batteries</p> <p>407 N. Temple • 964-7911</p>	<p>Norton Telecom/A+ Alarms</p> <p>904-964-4580</p> <p>804 N. Temple Ave Starke • State Lic # EG33000304</p> <p>PLEASE DRIVE BY TO SEE THE NEW HOME OF HIS CROSS</p>

Crime

Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

Dec. 4 through Dec. 10

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

Dustin Mackenzie Blasingame, 31, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 5 for failure to appear.

Jack Edward Brown, 31, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 9 for battery.

Robert Warren Craven, 51, was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 5 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Stephen Carzell Cray, 38, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 6 for distributing cocaine.

Terry Preston Davis, 35, of Sanderson was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 8 for an out-of-county warrant.

Jessica Kaylee Dunaway, 31, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 10 for larceny and fraudulent use of a credit card.

Hannah Marie Ford, 42, of Hampton was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 6 for possession of cocaine and possession of drug equipment.

Derek Wayne Griffis, 61, of Macclenny was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 8 for an out-of-county warrant.

Kelvin Hamm, 58, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 7 for aggravated assault.

Jimmy Lamar Hankerson, 55, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 10 for homicide and possession of a weapon by a felon.

Daquan J. Jackson, 18, of Starke was arrested by Starke police and Bradford deputies on Dec. 10 for possession of cocaine and selling cocaine.

Richard Lee Keller, 55, was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 10 for failure to appear.

Jonathan William Kirk, 47, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 6 for possession of drugs, possession of drug equipment, destroying evidence and driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Kyle Douglas Kohler, 28, of Melrose was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 4 for battery.

Sheree Rosalyn McMillin, 66, of Melrose was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 6 for possession of cocaine and selling cocaine.

Levi Jarrett Nelson, 24, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 6 for arson.

Amber Nichole Parker, 31, of Hampton was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 5 for selling drugs, possession of drugs, trafficking in methamphetamine, possession of drug equipment and using a two-way communications device while committing a felony.

Charles Ronald Paterson, 21, was arrested by FHP troopers on Dec. 9 for driving without a license and larceny.

Robert Joseph Pilar, 51, of Brooker was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 6 for selling opium and possession of drugs.

Robert Pittman, 52, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 5 for failure to appear.

Michael Anthony Robinson, 57, of Melrose was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 6 for selling cocaine and possession of cocaine.

Courtney Christine Schmidt, 43, of Fanning Springs was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 5 for aggravated battery and criminal mischief with property damage.

Clarence Alex Sumner, 59, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 6 for manufacturing synthetic narcotics, selling drugs and using a two-way communications device while committing a felony.

Kelsey Kelli Taylor, 23, was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 10 for DUI.

Christopher Michael Truett, 44, of Lake Butler was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 7 for selling drugs, possession of drugs and using a two-way communications device while committing a felony.

Randall Wade Wheeler, 54, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies for possession of drug

equipment.

Alonzo Williams, 52, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies for selling opium, possession of opium, selling cocaine and possession of cocaine.

Angel Denise Witter, 42, of Melrose was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 10 for an out-of-county warrant.

Union

Terry Preston Davis, 35, of Sanderson was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 6 for a probation violation.

Johnny Everette George, 57, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 8 for trespassing.

According to an arrest report, the defendant earlier received a trespass warning from deputies after harassing customers and eating from the trash cans at the Lake Butler Car Wash.

After the business owner provided video to deputies of George violating the order, officers arrested the defendant.

Martrell Green, 30, was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 10 for smuggling contraband into a prison.

Stephen Daniel Haskell, 29, of Ft. White was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 8 for an out-of-county warrant.

Herbert Lynn Kelly Jr., 19, was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 8 for lewd and lascivious offenses committed on a person less than 16 years of age.

According to an arrest report, the defendant's and victim's sexual acts were documented on a cell phone.

Brian Matthew Shipp, 38, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 6 for driving with a suspended license, possession of drugs and possession of narcotics equipment.

Clay

Jarod Benton Amburgey, 52, was arrested by Clay deputies in Keystone Heights for DUI, resisting an officer and battery on a firefighter.

April Angel Canipe, 38, was arrested by Clay deputies in Keystone Heights for an out-of-county-warrant.

Amber Marie Caudill, 29, was arrested by Clay deputies in Keystone Heights on Dec. 7 for armed carjacking.

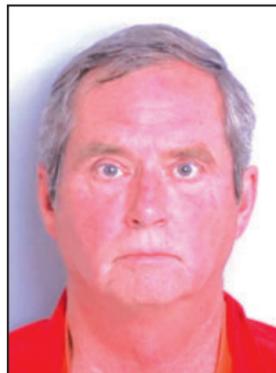
Jon-Codi Austin Westervelt, 28, was arrested by Clay deputies in Keystone Heights on Dec. 8 for possession of drug equipment.

More charges for former Starke lawyer

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

STARKE — A former Starke attorney already serving a 21-month sentence for grand theft was arraigned recently on additional and unrelated charges.

Johnie Steven Cooper, 61 was arraigned on Dec. 8 for a case involving investment fraud and another claiming he overbilled an estate for his services.



Cooper

Took money for stock purchase

According to a warrant affidavit, the victim told Bradford Sheriff's Detective James Crews that in December 2019, Cooper offered to buy 5,000 shares for the victim in Canopy Communications Group, an entity on which Cooper formally served on the board of directors and held a five-percent stake.

The victim provided Crews with a contract between herself and Cooper.

"(The contract) stated John Cooper would buy the said shares in his name and hold for (the victim) in his trust," wrote Crews in the affidavit. "Upon sale of the said shares, the sum of \$75,000 would be first reimbursed to (the victim), then the remaining proceeds would be split 2/3 (the victim), 1/3 Cooper."

Crews added that through subpoenaed bank records, he discovered Cooper deposited the victim's check into his trust account and withdrew the money the following day.

Crews wrote that he contacted a current director of Canopy Communications Group.

"I explained the current case with (the director) and he explained this is not the first time the company has heard of Cooper attempting to sell stock in the company," Crews wrote. "(The director) advised the company never received any of the funds and would not have accepted the funds either way; the company stock was not shareable and said so in the bylaws of the company."

In 2018, representatives of Canopy Communications offered to help the City of Starke build its own high speed internet network within the municipality. City officials later decided not to proceed with the project.

Overbilled estate

In a second case, the personal representative of an estate told a Bradford Sheriff's deputy that Cooper was hired in Sept. of 2018 to collect mortgage payments for the estate.

According to a warrant affidavit, over the next two years the attorney collected over \$25,000 for the estate, then billed the entity \$24,383.75 for his services.

On March 30, 2021 a circuit judge ruled that reasonable compensation for Cooper's legal services were \$3,000 and ordered Cooper to refund \$21,383.75 to the estate.

Corporal Logan Hough wrote in the warrant affidavit that based on the judge's ruling and the fact that the fees were not refunded, there was probable cause that Cooper committed grand theft.

On April 6, Cooper was sentenced to 21 months in prison for failing to refund \$53,098 in trust account funds to the owner of a self-storage facility, after a sale of the property fell through.

Keystone man killed in hit-and-run

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

MELROSE— The Florida Highway Patrol said it is looking for the driver of a Dodge, Plymouth or Chrysler that struck and killed a Keystone Heights man on Friday, Dec. 10.

The agency said in a news

release that the collision occurred around 7 a.m. on State Road 26, a mile west of County Road 1469 between Melrose and Orange Heights.

The 37-year-old pedestrian was killed at the scene.

Troopers said they are looking for a 2007 to 2012 Dodge Caliber,

Plymouth Voyager, Dodge Caravan or Chrysler Town and Country minivan with a missing right-side mirror and damage to the right-side windshield.

Anyone with information about the incident can call FHP at 1-800-387-1290.

Set fire to home to destroy evidence

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

STARKE— A 24-year-old Starke man was arrested for arson after he admitted to help setting a fire at an East Call Street home to destroy evidence of earlier thefts.

Levi Jarrett Nelson, 24, was arrested for the April 21, 2020 offense. The residence belonged to a 90-year-old nursing home patient.

According to court papers, a state arson investigator located a witness to the fire who said Nelson started the blaze.

The investigator located Nelson at Union County's Reception and Medical Center where he was an inmate.

Under questioning by the investigator, Nelson said he and another man had burglarized the East Call Street residence on two previous occasions and then became concerned about fingerprints left at the scene.

In a written statement, Nelson admitted to pouring gasoline in the home but claimed another man ignited the fire.



Nelson

Asked for a ride to store, carjacked truck

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS— A Lake Region woman was arrested after Clay deputies said she and two other people carjacked a man's truck.

Amber Marie Caudill, 29, was arrested by Clay deputies in Keystone Heights on Dec. 7 for the Nov. 4, 2021 offense of armed carjacking.

According to court papers, the victim agreed to give Caudill a ride to a State Road 21 convenience store. On the way, the defendant asked the victim to take a detour into the High Ridge Estates neighborhood.



Caudill

Caudill then left the vehicle, claiming she was looking for a stolen camper. When Caudill did not return, the victim began searching for her. After the victim exited his truck to find the defendant, a man and a woman then approached the victim with knives, demanding that he back away from his truck.

Caudill, who was hiding nearby in the bushes, then jumped in the truck with the two accomplices and drove off.

Approximately one hour after the carjacking, Putnam deputies conducted a traffic stop on the truck and arrested the occupants.



Key Club benefits Ronald McDonald families

Hope Christian Academy Key Club officers delivered household items they collected for the Ronald McDonald House in Gainesville. The drive was conducted on the HCA campus. The HCA Key Club has also previously collected items for the Guardian Ad Litem and the Bradford Food Pantry.

"Collecting and donating to organizations has been one of the most amazing experiences of Key Club," said HCA senior and Key Club President Emma Snyder. "I will miss seeing the smiles on people's faces when we deliver the donations with my Key Club officers."

Pictured are Key Club officers Vice President Lydia Morgan, Chaplain Trayven Chandler, President Emma Snyder, Co-Secretary Jadie Clark, Editor Brooke McCloud, Treasurer Dakota Cedar Secretary Haley Sheppard.



RUSS WADE

Attorney at Law

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

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Keystone lights the night



Keith "Claus" Hatch aboard the Funtastic Fire Brigade engine.



Commander Bob Beinlich (right) Leads the AMVETS Post 86 float.



Lake Region Kiwanis member Fred Goetzman.



Riding with the Shiners Club are (left) Bruce Ford and Jason Cowart.



Keystone Heights barber Nick McLeod with wife Kellie, part of a caravan of golf carts sponsored by Ride Right Custom Carts.



(Left) Amy Stanley and Leigh Hand of Melrose Patriots.



Riding for the Garden Club of the Lakes are (l-r) Barbara Anderson, Deirdre Murphy and David Willkomm.



Helen and Dewitt Hersey of Helen Hersey Realty .

Hayes' home wins Yard of the Month

BY DEIRDRE MURPHY
Garden Club of the Lakes

Congratulations to Todd and Brandy Hayes for receiving the December 2021 Garden Club of the Lakes, Yard-of-the-Month award.

Since moving into their home they have transformed the house and the landscaping.

In the front yard three crêpe myrtles lend a sculptural quality with its beautiful winter bark.

Layered, low-maintenance plants add eloquence to the classic front porch and frame the home.

This really is a "Beautification Award" as Todd and Brandy

have helped beautify the Keystone community.

Each yard of the month recipient transforms Keystone Heights one yard at a time.

To join the garden club or nominate a yard of the month please contact The Garden Club of the Lakes or Deirdre Murphy at 352-281-3026.



Miss Cadet Jaden Robinson of the Keystone Heights High School JROTC.



Todd and Brandy Hayes in the December 2021 Garden Club of the Lakes' Yard of the Month.

Legal Notices

BRADFORD COUNTY

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 761
Year of Issuance: 2014
Parcel Number: 02674-0-00000
Case Number: 2021-TD-0017
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Name in Which Assessed: ROSA MAE JONES
Name on last tax roll, if different: ROSA MAE JONES EST
All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 2ND DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: 02674-0-00000

Beginning at the SW corner of the NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section Twenty-two, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, and run East on Quarter Section line 610 feet for point of beginning, thence run North 200 feet, thence East 100 feet, thence run South 200 feet to Quarter Section line, thence West 100 feet

to point of beginning,
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 774
Year of Issuance: 2014
Parcel Number: 02697-0-00000
Case Number: 2021-TD-0018
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Name in Which Assessed: ANDREW CARTER III
Name on last tax roll, if different: ANDREW CARTER III
All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 2nd DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: 02697-0-00000

A strip of land 50 feet North and South and 200 feet East and West in the Southwest corner of the following, described lands: Beginning at the Northwest corner of the West half of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, thence run South seventy yards, thence East on hundred and forty yards, thence North seventy yards, thence West one hundred and forty yards to the point of beginning; the same being two acres of land and being in the Northwest corner of the West half of Southwest Quarter of Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East.
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 833
Year of Issuance: 2014
Parcel Number: 02941-B-00103
Case Number: 2021-TD-0019
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Name in Which Assessed: BRADFORD LAND TRUST ET AL; ALFRED H WOLF, TRUSTEE ETC; KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC; SCOTT HUGHES, TRUSTEE ETC; KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be

redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 16th DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: Lots 11 (except the Northerly 10 feet of Lot 13) of Bradford Villas, according to the plat thereof as

recorded in Plat Book 3, page 55, of the public records of Bradford County, Florida. OR 1333 PG 49
LOT 11 (EXCEPT THE NORTHERLY 10 FEET OF LOT 13) OF BRADFORD VILLAS, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 55 of the Public Records of Bradford County, Florida; OR 1212 PG 472
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of

the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 834
Year of Issuance: 2014
Parcel Number: 02941-B-00107
Case Number: 2021-TD-0020
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Name in Which Assessed: BRADFORD LAND TRUST ET AL; ALFRED H WOLF, TRUSTEE ETC; KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC; SCOTT HUGHES, TRUSTEE ETC; KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 16th DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: 02941-A-00107
Lots 13 (except the Northerly 10 feet of Lot 13) of Bradford Villas, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 3, page 55, of the public records of Bradford County, Florida. OR 1333, PG 49
LOT 13 (EXCEPT THE NORTHERLY 10 FEET OF LOT 13) OF BRADFORD VILLAS, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 55 of the Public Records of Bradford County, Florida. OR 1212, PG 472

12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 783
Year of Issuance: 2014
Parcel Number: 02721-0-00000
Case Number: 2021-TD-0021
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Name in Which Assessed: KARYM CASAS & SAMUEL CASAS
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 16th DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 30, 2021
Legal Description: 02721-0-00000

The following described land, situate, lying and being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida, to wit: E 1/2, of W 2A of S 1/2 of SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4, Section 22, Township 6S, Range 22E, Public records of Bradford County, Florida,
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

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

CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 2019-CA-000486
DIVISION:

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,

Plaintiff,

vs.
MATTHEW THOMAS FRANKS A/K/A MATTHEW FRANKS A/K/A MATHEW FRANKS, et al,

Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated October 25, 2021, and entered in Case No. 2019-CA-000486 of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Bradford County, Florida in which U.S. Bank National Association, is the Plaintiff and Matthew Thomas Franks a/k/a Matthew Franks a/k/a Mathew Franks, Kristin Nicole Franks a/k/a Kristin Franks, United States of America Acting through Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Cavalry Portfolio Services, LLC as Assignee of Cavalry SPV I, LLC as Assignee of Nissan, are defendants, the Bradford County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on in front of the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091, Bradford County, Florida at 11:00 AM, E.S.T. on the 16th day of December 2021, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure

A PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN LOTS 8 AND 9 OF WOODLAWN, SECTION 18, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST, AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 17, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA; SAID PARCEL BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT AN IRON ROD FOUND AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 18, AND ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID NORTH 00 DEGREES 03 MINUTES 25 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE WESTERLY BOUNDARY THEREOF, 429.12 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTH 429.00 FEET OF SAID LOT 8; THENCE SOUTH 88 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 59 SECONDS EAST, PARALLEL WITH THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID SECTION 18, AND ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID NORTH 429.00 FEET OF SAID LOT 8, A DISTANCE OF 54.80 FEET TO AN IRON ROD SET ON THE EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF COUNTY ROAD 125 FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM POINT OF BEGINNING THUS DESCRIBED CONTINUE SOUTH 88 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 59 SECONDS EAST, PARALLEL WITH

SAID NORTHERLY BOUNDARY AND ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY, 242.60 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 03 MINUTES 25 SECONDS WEST, 312.91 FEET; THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 59 SECONDS WEST, PARALLEL WITH SAID NORTHERLY BOUNDARY AND SAID SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY, 238.96 FEET TO AFORESAID EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF COUNTY ROAD 125; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 36 MINUTES 34 SECONDS WEST, ALONG SAID EASTERLY BOUNDARY 313.02 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME LOCATED THEREON AS A PERMANENT FIXTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO, DESCRIBED AS A 2006 FLEETWOOD DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE HOME BEARING TITLE NUMBERS 98537377 AND 98537463 AND VIN NUMBERS GAFL675A78229CD21 AND GAFL675B78229CD21. A/K/A 6565 NW CR 125 LAWTEY FL 32058
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim before the Clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.
Dated in Bradford County, Florida this 22 day of November, 2021.
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
Albertelli Law
Attorney for Plaintiff
P.O. Box 23028
Tampa, FL 33623
(813) 221-4743
CT - 1919792
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Persons with a disability who need any accommodation in order to participate should call Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352)337-6237 within two (2) working days of receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired, please call 1-800-955-8771; if you are voice impaired, please call 1-800-955-8770.
12/9 2tchg 12/16-BCT

SAID NORTHERLY BOUNDARY AND ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY, 242.60 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 03 MINUTES 25 SECONDS WEST, 312.91 FEET; THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 59 SECONDS WEST, PARALLEL WITH SAID NORTHERLY BOUNDARY AND SAID SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY, 238.96 FEET TO AFORESAID EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF COUNTY ROAD 125; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 36 MINUTES 34 SECONDS WEST, ALONG SAID EASTERLY BOUNDARY 313.02 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME LOCATED THEREON AS A PERMANENT FIXTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO, DESCRIBED AS A 2006 FLEETWOOD DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE HOME BEARING TITLE NUMBERS 98537377 AND 98537463 AND VIN NUMBERS GAFL675A78229CD21 AND GAFL675B78229CD21. A/K/A 6565 NW CR 125 LAWTEY FL 32058
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim before the Clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.
Dated in Bradford County, Florida this 22 day of November, 2021.
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
Albertelli Law
Attorney for Plaintiff
P.O. Box 23028
Tampa, FL 33623
(813) 221-4743
CT - 1919792
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Persons with a disability who need any accommodation in order to participate should call Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352)337-6237 within two (2) working days of receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired, please call 1-800-955-8771; if you are voice impaired, please call 1-800-955-8770.
12/9 2tchg 12/16-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION Case # 2020CA000310 NEWREZLLC/D/B/ASHHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING, Plaintiff,

-VS- UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, CREDITORS, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES ND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH A. WATSON A/K/A JOSEPH WATSON, DECEASED; POLLY J. SWINDULL; GENEVA SPRINGS CONDOMINIUMS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.; TERESA GAIL SAYERS A/K/A TERESA G. SAYERS; ASHLEY DANIELLE WELLS F/K/A ASHLEY DANIELLE EDGAR; LINDSAY BROOK WALTON; MICHAEL SEAN WATSON; DEBORAH LOIS WATSON;

UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 1; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 2, Defendant(s)
NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: DEBORAH LOIS WATSON, Last Known Address: 3075 Southeast State Road 21 Unit 3, Melrose, FL 32666
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DATED: August 18, 2021
DENNY THOMPSON
As Clerk of the Court
BY: Lisa Brannon
As Deputy Clerk
12/9 2tchg 12/16-BCT

UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 1; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 2, Defendant(s)
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As Clerk of the Court
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As Deputy Clerk
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As Clerk of the Court
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DENNY THOMPSON
As Clerk of the Court
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As Deputy Clerk
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Kiersten Shaw (left) scored five goals for Keystone in its 8-0 win over Fort White. She has 21 goals in the Indians' current six-match winning streak. File photos by Cliff Smelley.

Shaw's big night helps Indians win their 6th straight match

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

The Indians played Middleburg Columbia on Thursday, Dec. 16, this past Tuesday and will host at 7 p.m.

Kiersten Shaw scored five goals as the Keystone Heights High School girls soccer team won its sixth straight match, defeating visiting Fort White 8-0 on Dec. 13.

It was the third straight mercy rule victory for the Indians, who've scored 47 goals in their last six matches. Shaw has 21 of those goals.

Sydney Colaw, Ella Hutchins and Yoselyn Saldierna Galvan each added a goal in the win over Fort White, while Kendall Gagnon recorded two assists.

Shaw added an assist as well. The Indians (7-3-2) entered the match off a 10-0 win at Williston on Dec. 9.

Gagnon and Shaw each scored three goals, while Hutchins had two. Keystone also got one goal each from Lindsay Hovsepian and Elizabeth Waughon.

Shaw had two assists, while Hovsepian, Hutchins and Reagan Hogg each had one.



Kendall Gagnon (center) recorded two assists in the Indians' latest win.

Wiley goal gives Keystone boys soccer team its 2nd straight win

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Aaron Wiley scored off a Tyler Shaw assist to give the Keystone Heights High School boys soccer team a 1-0 win over host Fort White on Dec. 13.

Goalie Carson Eatmon made four saves as the Indians (6-4-2) won their second straight match after a stretch in which they went 0-1-2.

Keystone began the previous week with a Dec. 7 home match against Crescent City that ended in a 2-2 tie. Logan Spence scored both goals off assists by Tyler Colaw and Ian Kruzan.

On Dec. 9, the Indians traveled to Williston, losing 5-1. Spence scored the lone goal off a Colaw assist, while Kruzan and Jordan Holmes each made two saves playing in goal.

Spence, Wiley and Chris Anderson scored two goals each as Keystone got its first win since



Aaron Wiley (right) scored the lone goal in the Indians' win over Fort White on Dec. 13. File photos by Cliff Smelley.

Dec. 2, defeating visiting Palatka 8-1 on Dec. 10.

Shaw and Skylar Kedgley each had a goal, with Shaw also recording two assists.

Anderson, Colaw, Holmes, Luke Brunt Austin Edsall and Jayden Park each had one assist.

Kruzan played goalie, making eight saves.

The junior varsity team picked up its second win of the season in defeating Fort White 3-0 on Dec. 13. Bryce Huntley, Ryder

Thomas and Nicholas Williams each scored a goal as the Indians moved their record to 2-6.

Thomas and Jayden Walker each had an assist, while goalies Jimmy Callahan and Eli Ortiz, who each played a half, combined to make six saves.

Both JV and varsity teams played P.K. Yonge on Dec. 15, and will host Hamilton County on Friday, Dec. 17. The JV teams play at 5 p.m., followed by the varsity teams at 7 p.m.



Goalie Carson Eatmon made four saves in the shutout win over Fort White, which put the Indians' record at 6-4-2.

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LICENSED & INSURED RC0067442 **Toll Free 866-959-7663**

NORTH FLORIDA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Brad Bishop, Director
Keith Kirby, Coordinator

Spring 2022 Schedule

Student Services - 904-966-6769
Financial Aid - 904-966-6765
Guidance Services - 904-966-6785

DAY CLASSES

Course	Instructor	Registration Begins	Course Dates	Day	Hours	Program Hours
Adult General Education, GED, and Applied Academics	Snyder	Apply Now	January 6th - May 25, 2022	M - F	9AM - 12PM	Vary
Commercial Vehicle Driving A & B	Abercrombie	Apply Now	January 10th - March 8, 2022	M - R	7:30AM - 5:30PM	320 & 150
Commercial Vehicle Driving A & B	Abercrombie	Apply Now	March 28th - May 19, 2022	M - R	7:30AM - 5:30PM	320 & 150
Computer Systems and Information Technology	Ledger	Apply Now	January 6th - May 25, 2022	M - F	8AM - 2:30PM	900
Cosmetology	Zoch	Apply Now	January 6th - May 25, 2022	M - F	M, W, F: 9AM - 3:30PM T, R: 9AM - 5:30PM	1200
Practical Nursing Full-Time Day Program	Trimble McCord	CLOSED	In Progress	M - R	8AM - 4:30PM	1350
Practical Nursing Part-Time Day Program	Dickinson	CLOSED	In Progress	T - R	7AM - 5:30PM	1350
Welding Technology	Geiger	Apply Now	January 6th - May 25, 2022	M - F	9AM - 3:30PM	1050
Welding Technology, Advanced	Geiger	Apply Now	January 6th - May 25, 2022	M - F	9AM - 3:30PM	750

EVENING CLASSES

Adult General Education, GED, and Applied Academics	Snyder	Apply Now	January 6th - May 25, 2022	M, T, R	4PM - 7 PM	Vary
Nursing Assistant - Long Term Care (C.N.A.)	TBD	Call for details	Call for details	M, T, R	5PM - 9PM	120

COMMUNITY EDUCATION CLASSES

Hunter Education (Three separate course offerings) Call Mr. Davidson at (904) 813-0008 with course questions.	Davidson	Open	Call for details	R	6PM - 9PM	3
Spinning (Indoor Cycling)	Miller	Open	January 6th - May 25, 2022	M & W	4PM - 5PM	Varies
Spinning (Indoor Cycling)	Bridgman	Open	January 6th - May 25, 2022	T & R	5PM - 6:20PM	Varies
Pilates/Yoga/Tai Chi Call Ben Bridgman at 904-509-2828 with questions.	Bridgman	Open	January 6th - May 25, 2022	T & R	6:30PM - 7:15PM	Varies

Accredited by the Council on Occupational Education. An Equal Opportunity center, without regard to race, creed, sex, or handicap. Approved for veteran training by the State Approving Agency. Base tuition (\$2.88 per hour) plus applicable fees. Costs subject to change without notice. Financial Aid available to qualified students. Visit www.NFTC.edu for more information and for TABE, TEAS, and GED test schedule. Lack of English language will not be a barrier to admissions. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding discrimination or harassment may be sent to: The Director of Human Resources, 501 W. Washington Street, Starke, FL 32091. 904-966-6810.

North Florida Technical College
609 N. Orange Street, Starke, FL 32091
904-966-6764 - www.nftc.edu

Where's Waldo? Helping keep Bradford schools safe

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Waldo is like a lot of dogs in that he'll fetch a ball, but what sets him apart from others is that he'll fetch a firearm as well.

As part of the effort to ensure that children are as safe as they can possibly be while at school, the Bradford County Sheriff's Office received K-9 Deputy Waldo with the help of school-safety advocate Andrew Pollack, whose daughter, Meadow, lost her life during the Feb. 14, 2018, shooting at Parkland's Stoneman Douglas High School.

"Through a grant, we were able to get that dog," Sheriff Gordon Smith said. "We received him specifically for the schools."

People's common perception of law-enforcement dogs most likely has to do with drug detection, but Waldo, a German Shepherd-Belgian Malinois mix, possesses a skill set most people may not think of.

"Waldo has been a game changer in that he can detect firearms and ammunition," said Maj. Brad Smith, Bradford County's undersheriff.

Every law enforcement K-9 needs a human partner, of course. For Waldo, it's Deputy Jacob Swaggerty, who never

envisioned himself having his current job duties.

"There are two things I said I would never be in law enforcement," Swaggerty said. "One of them was a K-9 handler. The other was a school resource deputy."

"Now, I love being both." When Swaggerty was approached about being the handler for the new K-9 the office was receiving, he was hesitant to say yes, citing the commitment involved. He and his wife, Abby, were renting at the time, but had plans on buying a home. Plus, they wanted to start a family.

"It takes a lot of time," Swaggerty said in regard to having a K-9 partner.

Brad Smith, who was once a K-9 handler, said, "It's a lot more work and responsibility than you can ever imagine. When I went into it, I didn't realize what it actually took to be a productive team. That's exactly what it is. Both dog and handler have to work together."

"You end up spending more time with each other than you do with your own family."

After thinking about it for a couple of days, Swaggerty (who now owns a home and now has a baby daughter, Kingslee, who was born on Oct. 21) agreed to



Bradford County Sheriff's Office Deputy Jacob Swaggerty and his K-9 partner, Waldo, pose for a photo at the Bradford High School football field. Swaggerty and Waldo, who can detect firearms and ammunition, work in the school system. Photos provided courtesy of Swaggerty.

become Waldo's partner. He reflected upon talks he had with other K-9 handlers, who told him how special the bond is between a deputy and his furry partner.

Swaggerty went from being hesitant to being eager to have Waldo at his side. Every time Waldo's trainer would text him photos, Swaggerty thought, "Man, I'm ready to go get him."

Tennessee training

Waldo was imported from Hungary. He was at Southern Coast Kennels in Daytona before Pollock obtained him and sent him to Loudon, Tennessee, where he trained with Mike Lilley.

"They had him anywhere from eight months to a year, training him," Swaggerty said, adding that Waldo received well over 2,000 hours of training.

Swaggerty spent two weeks at the Tennessee training facility so he could work with Waldo before bringing him to Bradford County.

"We trained for 13, 14 hours a day," Swaggerty said.

He remembers walking to the kennels and seeing Waldo for the first time in person.

"As soon as I rounded the corner, he sat up, and his ears perked up," Swaggerty said. "He looked at me for a second. I looked at him. I was like, 'I guess this is it. It's me and you.'"

For the first three or four days, Swaggerty mainly did a lot of listening and observing before taking leash in hand and working with Waldo. Swaggerty laughed and said Waldo tried to "bully me around" the first couple of days. As he put it, Waldo went from having a professional trainer handling him to someone "who has no idea what he's doing."

Over time, Swaggerty had an idea of what he was doing, and the relationship between him and Waldo began developing.

"You could feel the bond starting to grow," he said.

The bond is such now that Swaggerty can look at Waldo and know what his demeanor is.

"I can tell when he's having a bad day, or when he's going to have a bad day, just by the way he gets in the truck in the morning," Swaggerty said.

Brad Smith said dogs are just like people in that regard.

"They can wake up and just not be feeling 100 percent that day," Smith said. "As the handler, you have to be the one who understands that and gives the dog the attention he needs on any particular day."

It's pretty easy to figure out if Waldo's having the opposite of a

bad day.

"If he's jumping around and throwing his toy around in the kennel when I'm walking out there, then I'm like, 'All right. It's probably going to be a good day,'" Swaggerty said.

Work and rewards

If Swaggerty's wearing his uniform, Waldo knows that he's going to work that day. Swaggerty conducts traffic enforcement in school zones in the mornings. When that's over, he'll give Waldo some time to exit the vehicle and be active.

"Normally, we're done probably about 8:45 to 9," Swaggerty said. "He knows he gets to go to the softball fields and run around and burn off some energy."

Swaggerty said he has a "no-schedule schedule." He's not assigned to one school, but works throughout the entire district, so he'll make a decision on which school or schools he wants to visit during a certain day.

Waldo usually stays in the vehicle if Swaggerty goes to an elementary school, though he will take Waldo out every now and then so the children can get a look at him. If Swaggerty goes to Bradford High School, he and Waldo will search two or three classrooms. A classroom search takes only 30-45 seconds.

Swaggerty first witnessed Waldo's skills while in Tennessee. The training facility has an auditorium the dogs and their handlers can search, with an item planted for the dog to find. Swaggerty said a gun was planted in the middle of the auditorium during one exercise.

"We walked down the first aisle," Swaggerty said. "I let him get his first pass and sniff around. We were coming back up when he had a change in behavior."

It's that change in behavior handlers are looking for. That lets them know that the dog has sensed that something's different from the rest of the surroundings.

"The handler has to understand the dog's personality, understand his mannerisms," Brad Smith said, adding, "If the handler's not aware of what the dog's trying to indicate, the whole system breaks down."

Dogs are rewarded when they make a find. Therefore, it's important that they do in fact find something on searches every so often. Swaggerty said dogs can give false alerts to fool their handlers into rewarding them if they go a long period without a legitimate alert. That's why Swaggerty, when he searches classrooms, will plant something at times for Waldo to find, just so he experiences success.

Waldo's preferred reward isn't something to eat.

"He doesn't get a lot of treats just for the simple fact that he's very toy driven," Swaggerty said.



Waldo's preferred reward is a toy.

"I could have a treat in one hand and his toy in the other hand. He will go for his toy all day long."

Not that Waldo doesn't mind a tasty snack now and then. Swaggerty said Waldo likes McDonald's cheeseburgers. He then laughed and said, "But don't tell the sheriff that."

The best-case scenario would be that everything Waldo alerts on was simply planted by Swaggerty as a means of rewarding him. After all, none of us want to think of children in a dangerous situation while at school.

Swaggerty said there's probably a one in 10 chance that he and Waldo ever come across something in a school, but what would happen if Waldo wasn't there to find something?

"We'd rather have him and not need him than to need him and not have him," Brad Smith said.

The community seems to enjoy having Waldo in its schools. Waldo had his photo taken on school picture day. The photo was shared on Facebook by Swaggerty, the Bradford County Sheriff's Office and the Bradford County School District, generating a total of 1,559 "likes" and 147 comments.

"The community ate it up," Swaggerty said.

Waldo may look as if he posed on command in the photo, but Swaggerty said getting the picture took him and the photographer about 15 minutes. Swaggerty captured Waldo's attention by holding his toy, which he threw as soon as the photo was taken.

"He about tore the backdrop down," Swaggerty said.

The future

How long do K-9 officers typically last on the job? Swaggerty said it depends on the dog's skill set, explaining that dogs used for apprehending people, for example, retire earlier

See WALDO, page 14



Jacob Swaggerty spent two weeks in Loudon, Tennessee, going through training and getting to know Waldo, a German Shepherd-Belgian Malinois mix.



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BHS girls defeat Bishop Snyder 34-32 for 2nd victory

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Nichelle Brown and Jada Hankerson combined to score nine fourth-quarter points, with Brown's basket in transition proving to be the difference in the Bradford High School girls basketball team's 34-32 win over visiting Bishop Snyder on Dec. 9.

A Hankerson three-pointer with less than three minutes to play tied the score at 30-30. On the Tornadoes' next trip down the floor, Hankerson grabbed an offensive rebound and passed the ball to Ajiyah Jackson, who scored to give Bradford (2-4) its first lead of the game at 32-30.

Hankerson pulled down a defensive rebound at the other end of the court, which led to a runout opportunity for Brown, who was successful on a layup attempt to put the Tornadoes up by four.

Jackson blocked two shots on Bishop Snyder's following offensive trip down the court. The Cardinals eventually scored the game's final points off an Italia Martin steal.

The game was all Bishop Snyder at the start, with the Cardinals scoring the first nine points. Bradford's first points — an Ayanna Pringle basket — came with 1:58 remaining in the first quarter.

Two consecutive baskets by Hankerson, who finished with 14 points, made it a 14-8 game in the second quarter, but the Cardinals outscored 5-0 the rest of the half. Martin, following a Bradford turnover, sank a three-pointer with 13 seconds on the clock to send Bishop Snyder into the break ahead 19-14.



Ajiyah Jackson goes up to retrieve a pass.



Nichelle Brown (left) drives to the basket against Bishop Snyder's Italia Martin. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

Back-to-back three-pointers by Hankerson and Sky McMillian tied the score at 23-23 with less than three minutes remaining in the third quarter, but the Cardinals would take a two-point lead into the fourth quarter.

Pringle grabbed defensive rebounds on Bishop Snyder's first two offensive series of the final quarter, but the Cardinals eventually made a free throw to make the score 26-23. Brown, following the Cardinals' trip to the foul line, dribbled the ball the distance of the court and scored to leave Bradford trailing by one.

Bishop Snyder scored four of the game's next six points to lead by three, but the Cardinals also had an 0-2 trip at the foul line during that span as well as two turnovers, setting the stage for Hankerson's game-tying three-pointer, the first of three consecutive baskets by Bradford as the Tornadoes closed it out with a win that snapped a two-game losing streak.

Jackson and McMillian each scored five points, while Brown and Pringle each had four. Destiny Crum added two points.

The Tornadoes picked up their first win on Nov. 30 when they defeated visiting Hamilton County 48-36.

Bradford and Hamilton entered halftime tied at 19-19, but the Tornadoes, with five points each from Hankerson, Jackson and McMillian, outscored the Trojans 15-10 in the third quarter.

Hankerson, who scored 16 points, had six points as part of a 14-point fourth quarter.

Brown finished with 10 points, while McMillian and Jackson had nine and eight, respectively. Crum, Pringle and Kimber Woods each added two points.

KHHS girls defeat Baker County 61-14, improve to 7-1

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

It was a standout defensive effort for the Keystone Heights High School girls basketball team, which defeated host Baker County 61-14 on Dec. 10.

The Indians (7-1) came up with 31 steals, with Emma Rogel leading the way with 11. Dezaray Bright and Kiley Channell had seven and six steals, respectively, while Lindsay Qualls had four.

Keystone shot only 27 percent from the field, but did go to the foul line 37 times, making 20 free throws.

Channell led the team with 16 points, while Bright and Madi Mitzel had 13 and 12, respectively. Rogel scored seven points, with Qualls, Rexi Lewis and Rachel Roth each chipping in three. Riley Barry and Kasey Valentine each had two points.

Bright grabbed a team-high 14 rebounds, while Channell and Mitzel each had eight. Channell also had five assists.

The win capped a two-week period in which the Indians went 3-1.

Keystone suffered its first loss of the season on Nov. 30, with host Ridgeview handing the Indians a 49-40 defeat.

Channell and Rogel scored 21 and 10 points, respectively. Qualls had five points, while Bright and Mitzel each added two.

Bright and Channell grabbed six and five rebounds, respectively, while Channell also had four steals.

The Indians bounced back,



Emma Rogel (left) had 11 of Keystone's 31 steals in a 61-14 win over Baker County on Dec. 10. File photo by Cliff Smelley.

getting 17 points, seven rebounds and six steals from Channell in a 41-37 win over visiting Palatka on Dec. 2.

Rogel and Mitzel had nine and seven points, respectively, with Qualls scoring three. Bright and Yasmin Bryant each added two points.

Bright had 10 rebounds, while Mitzel had five. Rogel and Qualls had five and three steals, respectively, with Qualls also adding three assists.

Keystone hosted Lake Weir on Dec. 7, with Channell and Rogel scoring 15 and 11 points,

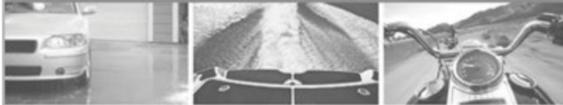
respectively, in a 46-40 win.

Mitzel had nine points, while Bright had five. Bryant, Qualls and Roth each added two points.

Bright had team highs in rebounds (18) and assists (five). Channell had nine rebounds and three steals, while Qualls and Mitzel each had seven rebounds. Rogel had five rebounds and five steals.

The Indians host Bradford on Thursday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. Their last game before Christmas break is at Union County on Friday, Dec. 17, at 7 p.m.

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HEALTH

McDonald's-Starke Kiwanis boys hoops tourney is Dec. 16-18 at BHS

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bradford High School is set to again host the annual Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis Club of Starke Christmas Basketball Tournament, which will feature one junior varsity boys game and three varsity boys games per day on Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 16-18.

Daily admission, which enters you into drawings for prizes, is \$5.

As usual, children attending the event will have the opportunity to pick an item from the Toy Table.

Bradford's JV team will play Jacksonville's Joshua Christian Academy to start the tournament at 4 p.m. on Dec. 16. Starke's Northside Christian Academy will then play Jacksonville's Hope Christian Academy at 5:30 p.m., followed by Clay taking on Jacksonville's Paxon at 7 p.m. The night's finale will feature the varsity Tornadoes playing Suwannee at 8:30 p.m.

Play on Dec. 17 begins with the JV Tornadoes playing Clay at 4 p.m. Joshua Christian and Northside Christian play at 5:30 p.m., followed by Hope against Paxon at 7 p.m. Bradford's

varsity team takes on Clay at 8:30 p.m.

Bradford's JV team plays Riverside to start the final day of action at 4 p.m., followed by Clay taking on Northside Christian at 5:30 p.m. The 7 p.m. game pits Hope Christian against Suwannee, while the tournament concludes with the Tornadoes playing Paxon at 8:30 p.m.

NCA defeats Corinth 57-28

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

The Northside Christian Academy boys basketball team has now won two in a row following a three-game skid, with the latest win coming by a score of 57-28 against visiting Corinth Christian (Jasper) on Dec. 10.

Dustin Brown fell two rebounds shy of recording his fourth double-double of the season. He led the Eagles (5-4) with 19 points and eight rebounds, while Waylen Kahakua had 13 points and six rebounds. Brown and Kahakua each had three assists, with Kahakua also coming up with five steals. Brown had two steals.

Caleb Talton and Hayden Barnes scored eight and six points, respectively, while Wyatt Harden had four. Brian Tassell added three points, while Luke Tassell and Logan Timberlake each had two.

Harden also had eight rebounds.

Northside opened the season with a 51-21 win over visiting Hart 2 Hart (Lake City) on Nov. 8 and a 51-25 win over visiting New Testament Christian (Madison) on Nov. 9. After a 61-40 loss at Open Bible Christian (Valdosta, Georgia) on Nov. 12, the Eagles defeated host Westwood Christian (Live Oak) 60-27 on Nov. 15.

The Eagles then dropped three straight. They lost 65-36 to visiting Southside Christian (Waycross, Georgia) on Nov. 19, 55-41 to visiting Riverside Christian (Trenton) on Nov. 30 and 62-48 to visiting Faith Christian (Yulee) on Dec. 3.

Northside's current two-game winning streak began with a 52-32 victory over visiting Westwood Christian on Dec. 6.

Brown had 19 points, 14 rebounds and four steals, while Kahakua had 10 points, four assists and five steals.

Caden Talton and Harden scored eight and seven points, respectively, with Talton grabbing nine rebounds and Harden coming up with five steals.

Barnes scored four points, while Timberlake and Noah Liston each had two. Liston also had five rebounds.

UCHS boys are cold from the field in 76-55 loss to Hilliard

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Cole Andersen-Davis went 7-of-11 from the field, but his teammates were a combined 9-of-47 in the Union County High School boys basketball team's 76-55 loss to visiting Hilliard on Dec. 10.

Andersen-Davis led the Tigers (2-2) with 19 points as well as grabbing a team-high six rebounds. Curran Webb and Thomas Williams each had 10 points, while Dee Williams had six.

Tahj Merriex and Quinten Rawls each dished out a team-high three assists, while Merriex also led the team in steals with three.

Rawls finished with three

points, while Tyler Cohen, Gavin Jenkins and Johnté Nichols each had two. Merriex added one point.

Union opened the season with a 61-57 win over visiting Bell on Dec. 2.

Rawls scored 14 points, while Thomas Williams and Andersen-Davis had 12 and 10, respectively. Andersen-Davis also had six rebounds, while Rawls had four assists.

Merriex and Nichols each scored six points, while Dayvontae Thompson had five. Jenkins and Dee Williams each added three points, with Cohen chipping in two.

Nichols led the team in assists with five, while Merriex added three to go along with his team-leading two steals.

Thompson grabbed five rebounds.

The Tigers traveled to Trenton on Dec. 6, losing 60-44.

Dee Williams and Thomas Williams scored 12 and nine points, respectively, with Dee Williams adding three assists and Thomas Williams grabbing four rebounds.

Rawls had eight points, four rebounds and three assists, while Andersen-Davis and Merriex scored five and four points, respectively. Nichols and Jenkins added three and two points, respectively, while Thompson scored one.

Andersen-Davis posted a double-double with 18 points and 10 rebounds in Union's 52-29 win over visiting Lafayette on Dec. 9.

Rawls scored 10 points and had six rebounds, three assists and three steals. Cohen, Merriex and Dee Williams each scored six points, with Cohen adding three assists and three steals. Nichols had five points, while Tre'ven Lee added one.

Webb grabbed six rebounds. The Tigers played Baldwin this past Tuesday and begin play in a tournament at Fernandina Beach with a game against San Jose Prep on Thursday, Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Following the tournament, Union plays its last game before the Christmas break, traveling for a game against Keystone Heights on Monday, Dec. 20, at 7:30 p.m.



Kody Griffis (right) drives to the basket in Hope Christian's 72-54 win over Open Bible. The Lions have won four in a row. Photo by Virginia Denmark.

HCA boys hoops team is winning easy in the midst of 4-game streak

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

After losing to Branford — its first meeting against a public school — the Hope Christian Lions boys basketball team has reeled off four straight wins, with its latest victory coming by a score of 72-54 against visiting Open Bible Christian (Valdosta, Georgia), on Dec. 9.

The game against Open Bible actually featured the smallest margin of victory for the Lions (6-1), who are rolling over their fellow Christian-school teams.

During the four-game stretch following their 78-46 loss to host Branford on Nov. 29, the Lions have been outscoring their opponents by an average of 32 points. Hope defeated host Westwood Christian (Live Oak) 82-22 on Dec. 2 and followed that with a 70-42 win over host New Testament Christian (Madison) on Dec. 3.

Hope defeated Gainesville Christian Community 66-45 on Dec. 7 before winning its fourth straight against Open Bible.

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New BHS band director aims to create lifelong memories

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

David Ramos fondly remembers an opportunity given him by a band director.

Now, Ramos hopes he can create lifelong memories for others as the new band director at Bradford High School.

First, though, it's still a time of adjusting to the Florida State University graduate's first-ever job leading a school's band program.

"I've been here since July now. Our first week was technically band camp," Ramos said. "Since then, it has definitely been exciting, but not without its challenges, obviously, as a new director and just someone who's

entirely new to the field."

A number of things led to Ramos' pursuit of music. He began playing piano at the age of 6 and joined band as a middle-school student at Miami's K-12 Florida Christian School.

One incident, though, stands out in his mind. Ramos, while in middle school, was watching high school students rehearsing for a presentation of "The Wizard of Oz" musical.

"I so wanted to play in that pit band," he said. "It looked like they were having a heck of a time."

During one rehearsal, the band director noticed Ramos observing from the back of the building. She asked him where his saxophone was and then told



David Ramos
Photo by Cliff Smelley

him to go get it and join the high-school band members.

The director, after the

rehearsal, asked Ramos if he wanted a spot in the band for the performance. His answer was, "Absolutely."

"It's moments like that I strive to give to my students," Ramos said.

Bradford students are already receiving special opportunities. For example, some Bradford Middle School students are in the BHS marching band.

"I didn't even have a marching band in high school, so I think it's phenomenal that they get these experiences and get them as early as possible," Ramos said.

Ramos actually has already been a part of creating special experiences for youth, going back to his time as an FSU

student. He earned a certificate in one of the school's specialized-studies program — Special Music Education. That had him using music to reach youth with various disabilities. He spent some time working with a performance ensemble at Leon High School before COVID-19 shut things down.

It was an experience Ramos believe will benefit him moving forward in his career. The question he asked himself in regard to working with students with disabilities really applies to all students: "How can we be as musical as possible, have fun and give these students an experience they'll take home with them and enjoy for the rest of their lives?"

Creating a culture and making music

When asked about his goals for the BHS band program, Ramos said one of the main ones is establishing a culture. That culture includes a band program where students feel comfortable and safe and where they learn to be respectful of others.

"We have a sign out there that explains what it means to be a good human," Ramos said. "That was there before I even got here. It's just something I need to remind myself, too. I've got to hold myself accountable. I've got to hold our students

See RAMOS, page 15

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40 Notices

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY. All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 in which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate in which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an

equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777, the toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275. For further information call Florida Commission on Human Relations, Lisa Sutherland 850-488-7082 ext. #1005

47 Commercial (Rent, Lease, Sale)

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48 Homes for Sale

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WE HAVE 2 OR 3 bedroom MH, clean, close to prison. Call 352-468-1323

NEWLY RENOVATED 3BR/2BA DW & 2BR Lake Butler/Starke available. 1-678-438-6828

53 A Yard Sales

ESTATE SALE; Moving, everything must go! Formerly Browning's Southern Charm. Will be having every weekend in October. 9205 SR 100 W towards Lake Butler. Thurs.-Sun. 8am-?

MOVING SALE; 9546 Hwy 301 South. Friday & Saturday 8am-5pm. Bed, some furniture, plenty of odd and ends.

YARD SALE; Fri. & Sat. 8am-1pm. Lots of good stuff. Household, books, collectibles, some stuff for baby, clothes, a little bit of everything and some free stuff too. Edwards Rd, or SW 100A just after the

bypass. Look for our big pink signs.

2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE; 756 W Market Rd, Starke. Thurs. Nov. 4th & Fri. Nov. 5th 9am-3pm. No early birds. All very nice items, costume jewelry, Holiday decor, chairs, furniture, very nice bunk bed, lots of clothing, camo clothing, evening dresses, tools, too much to list!

MULTI-FAMILY yard sale; Fri. Nov. 5th -Sat. Nov. 6th. NW CR 229, 5 miles past Starke Elementary.

HUGE MULTI-FAMILY yard sale; Saturday 8am-1pm. 19396 NW 6rd Place, Starke (Morgan Rd).

Multi-Family Estate Sale. Everything must go. Furniture, tools, home decor, clothes, toys, and much more. Saturday 11/06/2021 7am-3pm For more info call or text (904) 769-3027 19510 NE US HWY 301, Waldo, FL 32694

53 B Keystone Yard Sales

MULTI-FAMILY garage sale; Saturday 8am-? Lots of toddler girl and infant boy clothes and toys. Men and women clothes, Holiday and home decor. 7661 Colorado Ave, Keystone Heights.

57 For Sale

NATIVE AMERI-

CAN sterling silver & turquoise jewelry. Available every week-end until Christmas in Building D at Waldo Farmers Flea Market. Mention this ad for 10% discount.

59 Personal Services

ALL AROUND Residential & Commercial Cleaning. Call or text Lisa 352-494-9342.

65 Help Wanted

PART-TIME help wanted for 2 hours on weekend. Pricing small items to be entered into computer. \$15/hr. must have computer knowledge. 352-478-1742

THE CITY OF STARKE has a position open for a full-time accountant. This

position has excellent benefits including medical insurance, sick leave, vacation leave and retirement. The starting salary is \$50,000 to \$65,000 based on experience. An accounting degree is required. The accountant is responsible for applying principles of accounting to record, analyze, and monitor financial operations for the city. The accountant assists the finance director with overseeing the daily accounting functions. Employment applications can be picked up at the City of Starke 209 North Thompson Street, Starke, FL 32091. You can also find current employment applications on the City of Starke website at cityofstarke.org. Applications can be returned in person or by mail to

the above address or emailed to jcroby@cityofstarke.org. Open Until Filled The City of Starke is an EOE/Drug Free Workplace.

THE CITY OF STARKE has a position open for a full-time finance director. This position has excellent benefits including medical insurance, sick leave, vacation leave and retirement. The starting salary is \$75,000 to \$90,000 based on experience. CPA is required. The finance director is responsible for supervising and/or performing all accounting functions for the city. Additional responsibilities include assisting the city clerk in various accounting and financial advisory tasks. This is an exempt position which requires a highly

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Windstream participates in a government benefit program called Lifeline to make residential telephone or broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers are those that meet eligibility standards as defined by the FCC and state commission. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may also qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain federal eligibility programs. The program offers a monthly discount limited to one discount per household and can either be applied to wireline or wireless. If applied to wireline the discount can be applied to either your voice or broadband service. The monthly discount is up to \$5.25 per month for voice only service or up to \$9.25 per month for broadband service.

Windstream's basic local service rates for residential voice lines range from \$20 to \$32 per month depending on your service location. Specific rates will be provided upon request. For the broadband Lifeline discount to apply, a customer must subscribe to a Windstream service that meets the minimum standard requirements as defined by the FCC.

For the purposes of the Lifeline program a household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline service is not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain Lifeline telephone or broadband service can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from the program. If you live in a Windstream service area, please call 1-800-347-1991 or visit www.windstream.com/Lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.

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Obituaries

Lenora Cone

GEORGIA Lenora Israel Cone, 74, of Enigma, Georgia passed away Tuesday, December 7, 2021, at her residence. Born December 14, 1946, in Albany, Georgia, she was the daughter of the late J. L. Altman Israel and Mary Davis Musselwhite. Before retiring, she was a legal secretary for Morris and Webster Law Firm. She loved her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and her nieces and nephews. She was a member of Enigma Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Cone; one son, Marc Stephens; and two sisters, Anita Wells and Sandra Musselwhite.

She is survived by one son and daughter-in-law, John Christopher and Tracy Stephens of Enigma, Georgia; one daughter, Deedee (Wallace) Hughes of Enigma, Georgia; four grandchildren, Eric (Brooke) Hughes, Amanda Hughes, Heather Stephens, and Lane Stephens; and five great-grandchildren, Ava Hughes, Riley Hughes, Sage Stephens, Finley Stephens and Levi Hughes.

A graveside service was held Saturday, Dec 11, at Turner Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery in Enigma, Georgia, where she was laid to rest. The Rev. Ronnie Cone officiated. Eric Hughes, Lane Stephens, Buck Peacock, Gary Gills, Keith Peacock and Lee Cone served as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were Darren West, Bryan West and Danny Denison. Memorial gifts may be made to Veterans/Wounded Warrior Project, 3343 Peachtree Road NE, #M20, Atlanta, GA 30326. You may offer condolences to the family at the online guest registry at www.bowen-donaldson.com.

Services were under the care and direction of Bowen-Donaldson Home for Funerals, 420 Love Ave., Tifton, GA 31794 229-382-4255 PAID OBITUARY



Ray Gambill

MELROSE Raymond "Ray" E. Gambill, Sr., 84, of Melrose died at his home Sunday, December 12, 2021, following an extended illness. He was born September 23, 1937, in Jacksonville to Grover Lee and Hazel Edna (Wilson) Gambill. He served in the Air National Guard. He attended Eliam Baptist Church. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Patsy Gambill.

Survivors include his children, Ray E. (Jackie) Gambill, Jr. of Melrose, Carolyn (George) Hodgman of Keystone Heights, and Russell E. (Carol) Gambill of Viera; his sister, Paula Whitcomb of Stockton, California; and his uncle, Lamar Wilson of Jacksonville; eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, Dec 16, in Eliam Baptist Church. The family will receive friends at the church prior to the service. Interment will follow at Eliam Cemetery.

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home.

Sylvia Lightsey

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Sylvia Waits Lightsey, 77, of Keystone Heights, passed away on Sunday, December 5, 2021, at her home following a brief illness. She was a native of Jacksonville and lived in Keystone Heights since 1994, coming from North Carolina. She worked as a supervisor for Bell South and was a former member of the Order of the Eastern Star of Florida, as well as the Keystone Garden Club. She enjoyed crafting, reading and quilting. She was of the Baptist faith. She was preceded in death by her husband, Alfred Doyle Lightsey; son, Michael Lanehart; and parents, Wilbert T. and Gertrude E. Waits.

She is survived by her daughter, Kimberly Lightsey of Keystone Heights; sister, Vicky (Raymond) Perryman of Bremen, Georgia; grandchildren, Daphne (Scottie) Johnson of Keystone Heights, and Mathew Fowler of Hampton; and great-grandchildren, Dominick Rodgers and Alexander Johnson.

No services are scheduled at this time. Memories and condolences may be expressed to the family at her Book of Memories page at www.johnsonoverturf.com

Arrangements are entrusted to Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home in Palatka. PAID OBITUARY



Scott Morgan

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Scott "Booher" Morgan of Keystone Heights passed away Monday, December 13, 2021 at UF Health Hospital in Gainesville after battling cancer since mid 2021. He was born on January 10, 1961 in Starke to Don R. Morgan and Sharon "Booher" Morgan. He loved the outdoors, and also managed a family gator farm in early years. Later, he owned and operated his own businesses; Rust Busters (Sandblasting), and Sod Busters (Lawn Care). He was an avid hunter and fisher in many states from Florida to Alaska. He also enjoyed working with the family Watusi cattle. He never knew a stranger. His big heart was always open for anyone needing care and will always be fondly remembered. He created a special niche in the short time he was with us. He was preceded in death by his mother, Sharon Lynn "Booher" Morgan; and his brother Donald "Chase" Morgan.

He leaves behind his father, Don R. Morgan; and sister, Tamara "Milikin" Morgan; a son, Clint Sheppard, all of Keystone Heights; daughter, Michelle Morgan of Gainesville; and three grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held at Jones Gallagher Funeral Home Chapel, Keystone Heights, Friday, Dec 17, at 6 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Lungcancerresearchfoundation.org

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



Thomas Ramsey

MELROSE Thomas Denson Ramsey, 87, of Melrose died at the E.T. York Care Center on Sunday, December 5, 2021. He was born on October 6, 1934, in Lambert, Mississippi to the late Everett and Edna (Keel) Ramsey. He served in the United States Army. He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Ramsey; parents; sisters, Annette Dunn, Irma Hawkins, and Evelyn Wright; and his brother, Randolph Ramsey.

Survivors include his daughters, Donna Jones of Waldo and Janet Bruce of Altoona, Alabama; sons, Davy (Dawn) Jones of Raynham, Massachusetts and Philip (Wanda) Jones of Keystone Heights; brother, Bill F. Ramsey of Centerpoint, Alabama; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held Saturday, Dec. 11, at Forest Meadows Memorial Park-West: 700 NW 143rd Street, Newberry..

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home.

David Todd

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS - David "Dave" Lee Todd, 75, a longtime resident of Keystone Heights passed away at his home Monday, December 6, 2021. He was born December 27, 1945, in Jefferson City, Missouri to Carl and Ruby (Hollingshed) Todd and served in the United States Navy. Dave owned and operated NAPA Auto Parts in Keystone Heights for many years prior to his retiring. He was an avid car and racing enthusiast. He loved entertaining his family and friends every opportunity he had, and mentoring others. He was a founding member of the Keystone Heights Jaycees. He was a member of the Lions club, Rotary and AmVets. In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by his sister, Suzi Brown.

Survivors include his wife of 43 years, Dana (Tarver) Todd of Keystone Heights; three children, Jeffrey Todd of Keystone Heights, Lynda (Mario) Rimart of Miami, and Jason (Lisa) Todd of Keystone Heights. Also left behind is his sister, Debbie (Guppy) Kollar of Pennsylvania. He was known around town as Uncle Dave, Davey Poo, and was lovingly called Pop by his grandchildren, Brice (Shianne), Blair, Lillian, Gina (Christopher), Krysta (Juan), Alexa, Landon, Colton, Lyla, and great-grandchildren, Summerlin, Walker, Jace, Shane and Nathan. As well as a nephew, nieces, a great-niece and a great-nephew. Dave also leaves behind his beloved dogs, Lexi & Yappie; grand dogs Norbie, Ernie & Beefo; grand-cat, Oscar; and great-grand-dogs, Benny, Maci, Bailey and Winston.

A Celebration of Life was held Sunday, Dec 12. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Community Hospice & Palliative Care of Putnam County, 5111 Crill Ave., Palatka, FL 32177.

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



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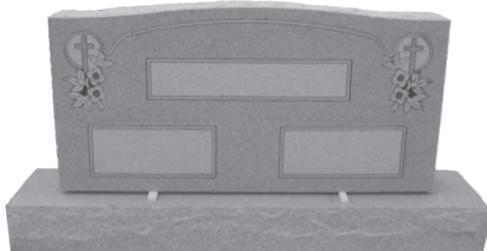
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Frank Mastronardi III

GREEN COVE SPRINGS Frank John Mastronardi III, 55, of Green Cove Springs, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on Friday, December 10, 2021. He was born November 2, 1966 in Panama City. After graduating from Bradford High School, he served in the US Navy. He then worked for many large national companies recovering outstanding accounts receivables, followed by a career in welding. Most recently he was proud of his work and friends at his employer, Green Cove Springs Marina. He was an avid fisherman, excellent golfer, and talented artist. His creativity and sense of humor constantly entertained us. He was dearly loved and will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his daughter, Mallory Mastronardi; mother, Laura Harris; siblings, Floyd Mastronardi, Tina Harris, Barbara Franklin, and Ruth Walker; and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

A graveside service to honor his life will be held Saturday, Dec 18, at 11 a.m. at Keystone Heights Cemetery, 7304 SR-100 Keystone Heights. Fellowship to follow at Eliam Baptist Church in Melrose at 12 p.m.

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



WALDO

Continued from page 10

than other dogs because of their training and what they endure physically.

Dogs like Waldo can work pretty much until they begin having health issues, Swaggerty said.

When Waldo's done with his law-enforcement career, Swaggerty said he won't want to partner with another dog.

"I know I'm one and done," he said.

That's not because of the experience he's had with Waldo, which he has enjoyed and still enjoys.

"Waldo has made a really big impact on me just for the simple fact I didn't want a dog," Swaggerty said. "I never saw myself as a K-9 handler. I still don't see myself as a K-9

handler. The dog is a tool, and I'm just the guy holding the rope. The dog knows what to do."

Swaggerty may downplay his role in his relationship with Waldo, but the sheriff obviously saw something in him to make him think he'd be good with a K-9. It's just like when Sheriff Smith saw Swaggerty as an ideal deputy to place in the school system.

"He is good with people," Smith said of Swaggerty. "Good people skills and good with teenagers and the younger population. We thought he might be a fit. At first, he was not sure that's what he wanted to do, but once we put him in there in a temporary spot, he came back and said, 'This is what I'd like to do.' He fell in love."

Waldo apparently fell in love, too, but Swaggerty said that's to be expected.

"He's very protective of me," he said. "He's not trained to do that, but that's typical with any dog. They're going to get



Waldo's "school" photo, which generated a lot of "likes" and comments on Facebook.

protective of their person."

Most likely there's a lot of truth in that, but it's also clear to Sheriff Smith that Swaggerty possesses something that makes him a good K-9 handler. In fact, Swaggerty has shown a willingness to tackle any area he's worked in at the sheriff's office — on the road, at the jail,

in communications and now in the schools, partnered with a K-9.

"He's worked his way through all the ranks as a young man. He's worked through all aspects of law enforcement and then found a niche," Sheriff Smith said, adding, "Jacob's just been one of those natural fits wherever we put him. He adjusts and does what's asked of him."

And if Waldo could ask Swaggerty something, it'd be to give him his toy to play with. In fact, Swaggerty said when Waldo's not on the job, he's pretty much a "goofball."

"He'll take his rope toy, and he'll sling it up in the air and try to catch it," Swaggerty said. "If he's getting into something he's not supposed to, I can call his name once, and he'll act like he wasn't even doing it. He'll run completely away from (what he was doing)."

"Anybody who sees him outside of being at work says he's a totally different dog."

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Delivering Christmas spirit to Guardian ad Litem youth

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Santa Claus lives at the North Pole, but for the children being served by the Eighth Judicial Circuit's Guardian ad Litem program, there are multiple Santas working in our local correctional facilities and churches.

Thanks to an effort spearheaded by the Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency, Chapter 5, Department of Corrections personnel donate toys so that Guardian ad Litem children can have a merry Christmas. This year, FCCD, Chapter 5, collected

186 gifts from Florida State Prison, Lawley Correctional Institution, Reception Medical Center and Union Correctional Institution employees.

Starke's First Presbyterian Church, as it does every year, contributed gifts as well so that children can have a merry Christmas.

That's not the only church that supports Guardian ad Litem. Starke's First United Methodist Church provides gift cards to children every year for their birthdays.

The FCCD-First Presbyterian Church gifts were delivered to



Angela Armstrong is Eighth Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem director. Photo provided courtesy of Lisa Rodgers.



Assisting FCCD, Chapter 5, with the toy drive every year is the congregation at Starke's First Presbyterian Church. Delivering gifts from the church are (l-r) Ralph Moulder, Win Armstrong, Susan Pethes and Chuck Wesphoff. Photo by Cliff Smelley.



Unloading a truckload of Christmas gifts at Starke's Guardian ad Litem office are (l-r) Chris Cook, Tina Morgan and David Braden. Morgan is the president of Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency, Chapter 5, which spearheads the toy drive for Guardian ad Litem in the Eighth Judicial Circuit. Photo provided by Lisa Rodgers.

the Guardian ad Litem office in Starke on Dec. 7.

As local Guardian ad Litem representatives have said in the past about the children they serve, "Some of them wouldn't have Christmas if it wasn't for the generosity of these people."

Each of the state's 22 judicial circuits has a Guardian ad Litem program, which exists to represent the best interests of children (ages birth-18) in the court system who've allegedly been abused or neglected. The Eighth Judicial Circuit program covers Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy and Union counties.

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.

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.

RAMOS

Continued from page 13

accountable. What does it mean to be not only a good student and a good musician, but to be just an overall good person?"

Ramos' desired culture also consists of professionalism, encouraging students to be on time, be prepared and know what's going on.

Knowing what's going on is something he's working on, Ramos admitted, saying, "There are new things that pop up day to day."

It all comes with a first-time band director settling into the job. He admitted that homecoming week was "intense," while preparing for the marching band music-performance assessment consisted of a "learning curve," based upon the fact the students were learning "challenging" music as part of their performance based on the 1998 movie "The Mask of Zorro."

The students rose to the challenge, earning Overall Excellence at the MPA.

"It's really impressive to see what these kids can do when the moment has arrived. You don't think about that when you're in the trenches rehearsing 4:30 to 7 every Tuesday and Thursday," Ramos said, adding, "When it comes together, that's nice to see."

A transition from one band director to another isn't easy for students, Ramos said, adding that it's important to be enthusiastic in getting the most out of the students. It's creating the idea that "regardless of who's on the podium, we're going to make great music, and we're going to do our best to be as good of a band as we possibly can," he said.

Ramos may be a new director, but he's not lacking a support system. He said parents — especially those who manned the band's concessions stand at football games — have been "wonderful" and have been "helping me put out metaphorical fires throughout the semester."

Just as impressive has been the support from school administrators.

"I was told there was very

good administration here. Now, I've seen that firsthand," Ramos said, adding, "They've been very earnest in saying, 'Yes, we do that,' or, 'That can't happen, but let's try to work through what you need.'"

Through band, Ramos hopes students become lifelong lovers of music. Maybe a student will go on to earn a degree in music. Or maybe he or she will just be ready to take out that instrument and represent BHS once again, as was the case when alumni had the chance to play at one of the home football games.

Watching the alumni play reminded Ramos how important the role of band director is. If band wasn't a positive experience for a student, how likely will he or she as an adult dust off that instrument and play for their alma mater once again?

"They remember from those years how much they enjoyed it," Ramos said.

Just like Ramos remembers how much he enjoyed it when that high school band director gave him a special opportunity as a middle school student.



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BMS cheerleaders lift spirits off the field at Parkside

Bradford Middle School's cheerleaders volunteered their time on Dec. 4 to help Parkside Assisted Living Facility celebrate Christmas.

A cake-decorating competition paired each Parkside resident with a cheerleader. Each team received a can of icing and a box of supplies and had the following rules to adhere to: Each cake had to have a Christmas tree and a gingerbread house as well as

either a snowman or gingerbread man.

Any team that wanted additional supplies for their cakes could have them at a cost, appropriate for the holiday — they had to sing a verse of a Christmas song. The one-hour long and featured lots of singing. Minnie Lou Patray and cheerleader Kylee Kerr sang "Silent Night" for extra graham crackers, Mary Stamper and

cheerleader Lakelyn Sheppard sang "Jingle Bell Rock" for extra Teddy Grahams, and Ramona Crapse and cheerleader Katherine Brugh sang "Here Comes Santa Claus" for extra gumdrops.

Besides singing, laughter filled the room, especially when one resident forgot that the candy was for decorating and not to snack on. That was an easy fix, however. It only cost a team one

song for additional candy.

The Honorable Judge Phyllis Rosier examined the completed cakes, making sure they met the requirements. She deemed the team of Mary Sue Tomlinson and cheerleader Laney Griffis as the winner.

When it was all over, the cheerleaders learned that community service can be fun as well as rewarding.



Cheerleader Lakelyn Sheppard and Mary Stamper sang "Jingle Bell Rock" so they could earn extra Teddy Grahams for decorating purposes.



Minnie Lou Patray and cheerleader Kylee Kerr show off their cake, which needed some extra graham crackers, so they sang "Silent Night" to earn them.



Cheerleader Laney Griffis and Mary Sue Tomlinson were judged the winners of Parkside Assisted Living Facility's Christmas cake-decorating contest, which was held on Dec. 4. Photos provided courtesy of Melissa Gillenwaters.



Cheerleader Brilyn Brown and Bob Kozlowski work on decorating a cake.



Lola Head and cheerleader Desirae Jones are ready to make a festive cake.



Cheerleader Kaydee Crawford and Martha Hires get into the Christmas spirit during a fun day full of laughter, singing, cake decorating and eating.

Northside Christian girls hoops team improves to 5-1

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Northside Christian Academy defeated visiting Corinth Christian (Jasper) 55-17 on Dec. 10 for its second straight lopsided win in girls basketball.

The Eagles (5-1) have won their last two games by an average of 43 points.

Stats from the win over Corinth weren't available by deadline.

Northside opened the season with an easy 39-7 win over

visiting New Testament Christian (Madison) on Nov. 9, getting 12 points, 12 rebounds and six steals from Caroline Smith.

Karissa Lawrence and Finley Poiner had six and five points, respectively, while Tatiana Coleman, Rosalea Norman and Chloe Templeton each had four.

Poiner added nine rebounds to her totals, while Lawrence had four steals.

On Nov. 12, Smith poured in 27 points in a 47-32 win at Open Bible Christian (Valdosta,

Georgia).

Lawrence scored seven points, while Sam Cowart and Chylee Kahakua had five and four, respectively. Coleman and Poiner each chipped in two points.

Smith and Poiner grabbed nine and five rebounds, respectively, with Smith also dishing out five assists. Norman and Poiner had five and three steals, respectively, with Norman also recording four assists.

Visiting Countryside Christian (Gainesville) handed the Eagles

their first loss by a score of 34-33 on Nov. 16.

Smith finished with 16 points, 25 rebounds, four assists and three steals, while Poiner had 10 points and 22 rebounds.

Lawrence and Kahakua added five and two points, respectively, with Lawrence also grabbing seven rebounds and making five steals. Haley Nugent had three assists and two steals.

Northside bounced back with a 41-39 win against visiting Southside Christian (Waycross,

Georgia) on Nov. 19, getting 27 points, 14 rebounds and six steals from Smith.

Cowart and Kahakua each scored four points, with Coleman, Lawrence and Norman each adding two.

Poiner and Lawrence had 10 and seven rebounds, respectively, with Lawrence also adding five steals. Kahakua had three steals.

On Dec. 3, Smith recorded her third straight double-double as the Eagles defeated visiting Faith

Christian (Yulee) 58-11.

Smith had 31 points and 10 rebounds, while also adding three steals.

Kahakua and Poiner scored nine and six points, respectively, while Coleman and Nugent each had four. Cowart and Makayla Price each chipped in two points.

Poiner grabbed 11 rebounds, while Coleman and Kahakua each had five. Kahakua also had four assists and four steals, while Poiner had three steals.



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