

Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, Dec. 19, 2024

146th year, 23rd Issue — \$1

EARLY DEADLINES

Christmas week deadline for ads and all submissions to The Telegraph, Monitor & Times is 12 noon Thurs., Dec. 19, 2024.



RaceTrac plans to open soon

Updates for Wawa and Waffle House

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

The RaceTrac constructed at the corner of U.S. 301 and County Road 227 hopes to open by the end of the month, according to a company spokesman.

There wasn't much more that could be shared at this time, but Senior Communications Manager John Friess said the "modern and sleek 8,100-square-foot travel center provides everything needed to refuel and recharge for professional drivers, commuters, residents and travelers that pass through the area daily."

Florida now has more than 250 RaceTrac locations, with the 250th opening last month in Punta Gorda. As Georgia's second largest privately held company, the brand has more than 580 stores in 14 states, which as of Dec. 12 now includes Ohio.

"RaceTrac has been bringing this 'Whatever Gets You Going' style of convenience to guests since 1934 and proudly operates under the mission of making people's lives simpler and more enjoyable," Friess said.

Selections include "grab and go" pizzas, sandwiches, salads, six blends of "Crazy Good Coffee" complete with a variety of creamers and sweeteners, and a "RaceTrac Swirl World" frozen treat station with ice creams, frozen yogurts and sorbets with toppings to pile on. Classics include fountain and frozen drinks, breakfast sandwiches, hot dogs and a stuffed, fried tortilla they call a "Tornado."

Wawa and Waffle House

After a slow start, the Wawa convenience store and service station on 301 at Edwards Road has been on a fast track, but not fast enough to open before 2025. The most recent estimate is early February, according to Lance Campbell with Starke building and zoning, but he said these dates are often optimistic and subject to change.

And while there is work at the site of a future Waffle House on 301 between the railroad crossing and KFC, it is related to a state environmental mitigation project. Campbell said Waffle House has been submitting plans, however it is unknown when that project will begin.



Starke Elementary hosted Santa for their annual Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 7. Hundreds of families smiled for the camera after sharing their wishlist with Jolly St. Nick. Cousins McKenzie Blye, Josiah, Blye, Kendall Blye and John Tyson posed with matching smiles and shirts! For more from this and other holiday events, see inside. Photo by Melissa Pyle.

Tigers Den to close on or before June 30

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

Union County School Board members voted to close the district's daycare before or on June 30 during a December 17 school board meeting.

During the same meeting, the board also ended a cell phone reimbursement policy, terminated the district's contract completion supplement, and modified support of some employee health benefits.

School Board Member Becky

Raulerson said she asked a lot of questions about the proposed cuts and appreciated community feedback.

"I did the best job I could to represent my constituency and at the same time, I have to remember that my job is to protect our student body and the integrity of our district, including the financial integrity of our district."

Board Member Chris Hodgson directed the audience to photos of previous board members in the building's foyer and said that the

current board's difficult decisions were one in a long line of challenges past district leaders have faced.

"A lot of struggles went behind the scenes there," he said of previous district difficulties, "depending on what time and what year it was and what the climate was. And that goes from schools burning to recessions to a lot of needs. So, I can only imagine any decision that they made was well thought out as well."

State's motion denied in Melrose shooting

Defendant bonds out of jail

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

Judge James M. Colaw denied a prosecution motion that would have kept the defendant in a Melrose shooting behind bars until his trial.

According to a Bradford deputy's body camera video played during a December 11 hearing, Michael Robinson, 60, admitted to deputies that he shot his nephew in his home using two different weapons.

The victim was transported to a hospital with non-life-threatening wounds to his leg and foot.

Deputies arrested the 60-year-old for attempted second-degree murder.

During a hearing regarding the state's motion, Bradford Sheriff's Detective Joseph Shiller testified that Robinson said he shot the victim because the nephew refused to leave the defendant's residence.

However, under cross-examination by Assistant Public Defender Eddie Edwards, Shiller added that before the shooting, Robinson disengaged from an argument the two were having. The victim then attacked Robinson when the defendant re-entered the living room and pinned the defendant down on his bed, which was in the living room.

"Okay," Edwards said to Shiller, "So, Mr. Robinson walks out, leaves the living room, and then comes back." Shiller: "Yes, sir."

Edwards: "And at that point, (the victim) attacks him?"

Shiller: "Yes, sir."

Edwards: "Pins him on the bed?"

Shiller: "Yes, sir."

Edwards: "He can't move?"

Shiller: "Yes, sir."

Edwards: "And he can't move, meaning Mr. Robinson couldn't move because Mr. Robinson was pinned on the bed?"

Shiller: "Yes, sir."

Edwards: "At that point, not being

able to move, Mr. Robinson breaks free?"

Robinson: "Yes, sir."

Edwards: "In his own house?"

Shiller: "Yes, sir."

Edwards: "In his own living room?"

Shiller: "Yes, sir."

Edwards: "Being pinned down on his bed, he got his breath and then got up and then went to retrieve the firearm."

The defense lawyer added that Florida is a stand-your-ground state and asked Shiller, "Is it reasonable if someone has been attacked in their own home and held against their will in their own bed for them to defend themselves?"

Shiller responded that after breaking free from the victim, the defendant could have exited the home rather than retrieving the 9mm handgun that he used to fire the first shots.

Edwards countered that under Florida law, the defendant had no duty

See BOND, page 7



WORTH NOTING

Trim a tree for a senior citizen

This month, the Alligator Creek Garden Club will celebrate the holidays by trimming mini Christmas trees for the residents and staff of Windsor Manor Nursing Home. Everyone is invited to join them. There will also be refreshments and door prizes.

The event is this Thursday, Dec. 19, at 2 p.m. at the Bradford County Senior Center, located at 1805 N. Temple Ave. (north 301 in front of the health department).

If you have a mini tree or tiny ornaments to donate, bring them with you. If not, bring yourself and maybe a friend.

For more information call Tracy Meadows at 904-585-6692 or Pat Caren at 352-339-3673.

Lawley Christmas Parade Saturday

Lawley's Christmas Parade will take place Saturday, Dec. 21, beginning at 10 a.m. Come enjoy the lineup of classic cars, church and community floats, horses, Santa and more. The parade travels from Lawley Elementary School, east down Lake Street (C.R. 225) and turns around at Walk by Faith Ministries.

There will be a gathering at the home of Ben and Emma Strong with free food and drinks while they last. For more information, contact Ben Strong at 904-782-3130 or Cynthia Ross at 904-782-3107.

Christmas party for kids

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County and Murray Ford Superstore are sponsoring the annual Christmas party for children from 6 months to 14 years old on Saturday, Dec. 21, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the RJE gymnasium on Pine Street in Starke. There will be free toys and refreshments, plus raffles for bicycles.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.



YEAR END SPECIALS ON ALL NEW CHEVROLETS IN STOCK

YEAR END TAX ADVANTAGES FOR BUSINESS OWNERS

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION IS JOB #1

NEW OWNERSHIP



TITANCHEVY.COM

Rebates up to \$5000 on new 2024 Silverados!!

WE SERVICE:





Keeping your holidays flowing!

GT Plumbing

New plumbing contractor in the city of Starke!
904-796-7228 • gtplumbing.com

Lic. #RF11067979 GT plumbing-mechanical LLC.
DBA as GTPumbing

SPIRES GENERAL STORE
EST. 1890

Get your Christmas fixin's at Florida's Oldest Grocery Store

Market Fresh Angus Rib Roast **\$9.99 Lb**

Spires Market
610 SW 1st Street
Lake Butler, Florida
386-446-3361

GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE ONLINE AND IN STORE

Libby's
Art of Healing
MASSAGE & WELLNESS

Libby's Massage & Wellness
107 E. Call Street • Starke, FL 32091
904-964-HEAL

Blue Water Bay

319 FL-26,
Melrose, FL 32666
(352) 475-1928

The Bay's Stocking Stuffer!
1 for \$6 or 2 for \$10

GIFT CARDS Available

SHOP LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON!

Knives • Pets • Fish Garden Tools & More

BRYAN'S ACE HARDWARE
1101 S Walnut St • Starke
871 North SR 21 • Melrose
251 E. Walker Dr. • Keystone Heights
BRYANSACE.COM

Beautify Your Home for the Holidays

Mention ad for **10% OFF!**

JACKSON BUILDING SUPPLY
904-964-6078 • 386-496-3079

937 S. Walnut Starke 145 SW 6th Ave Lake Butler

14 Great Gift Ideas for the Holidays!

Check for Gift Certificates, too!

GREAT GIFTS! for the ones you love

KEYSTONE GIFTS & GUNS
352-473-8684

155 South Lawrence Blvd
Keystone Heights, FL 32656

KEYSTONE Gifts & Guns

CUSTOMIZED CHRISTMAS GIFTS

SPORTING CHANCE
218 N. Temple Ave.
904-466-1265

Trophies • Gifts • Engraving • Shirts • Caps

SUBSCRIBE!

Bradford County Telegraph
UNION COUNTY TIMES
Lake Region Monitor

YOUR LOCAL & BREAKING TRI-COUNTY NEWS FROM ANYWHERE, ON ANY DEVICE!

SANTA'S STOCKING STUFFER \$4.95

GIFT CERTIFICATES Available

CALL US **904-964-6305**
SEND YOUR DIGITAL GIFT FROM OUR WEBSITE FOR SPEED & EASE:
WWW.BCTELEGRAPH.COM

Giving Kids Christmas Joy!

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County, Inc. & Murray Ford Superstore Annual Christmas Party

Saturday, DECEMBER 21, 2024
(11am–1pm) at **R.J.E. GYM**
1080 PINE STREET, STARKE

Free Toys & Bicycles (Raffling) for Children 6 months - 14 years old & Refreshments.
(Note: All children must be accompany by an Adult)

Please call (904) 966-1100 or (352) 278-3540 for more information.



JESUS LOVES YOU!

New vision for Bradford Arc

Nonprofit celebrating 50 years

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

The Arc of Bradford County's executive director said his group is undergoing a radical change in outlook, transforming from a nonprofit with a specific mission into a group that takes on challenges from a wide array of community needs.

John Williams said the organization's 50th anniversary is the perfect time to expand the group's focus.

"I tell people all the time," said Williams, "we've got this one little table that we've been sitting at for the last 50 years, and unless people come to our table, they don't really know what's going on. But we're a part of the community, so we should be sitting at every table. We should be involved with everything that's going on because not only does it promote access for the people we're serving, but it also gives the community the opportunity to see the people that we're serving for who they are and what they can be a part of."

One project the Arc is participating in this holiday season is a Christmas Shop at Keystone Heights High School.

In partnership with Community Partnerships with Schools, the Starke-based nonprofit organizes and catalogs Christmas gifts so families may purchase them at up to a 70% discount.

Williams said the event is an example of the Arc contributing to the community instead of only seeking contributions from the community.

Expanded business operations

The group is also re-evaluating one of its primary revenue sources.

For years, the facility's woodshop has supported the Arc's clients. The shop primarily produces survey stakes and pallets.

"We're generally doing between \$40,000 and \$50,000 a month Williams said. "So it's a big production that we have here."

He added that when the housing market is strong, revenues are healthy.

"It really is beneficial for us, and it's a great way for our consumers to have a job," he added. "They all make minimum wage. They live on their own, so it's a way for them to support themselves, along with any third-party benefits that they get."

Williams said that many of the woodshop workers would likely not be successful without the support they receive from Arc staff while working there.

Now, the woodshop is expanding its inventory to include raised planters, picnic tables, and Christmas yard decorations to offer more products to the general public.

50th Anniversary

Williams said that with the organization's 50th anniversary, the group's leadership wants to raise the public profile of the Arc.

"I've had several meetings with people recently who said they had no idea who we are," Williams recalled. "They've said, 'I've driven by your building a hundred times. Never knew you existed, never knew what you did.' And so, we're trying to connect with the community and become a resource hub."

"I believe our consumers and clients have so much to offer to the community, but the community doesn't realize they're here," he continued. "So, we're working on ways to engage the community."

Williams has several events planned to commemorate next year's 50th anniversary, including a membership drive in January and a car show the



The Arc's woodshop is expanding its inventory to include raised planters, picnic tables, and Christmas yard decorations, which John Williams displays here. This will allow the shop to offer more products to the general public.

following month. In March, the nonprofit will emphasize a Month of Giving to coincide with its annual meeting. In April, the group plans a progressive dinner and participation in the Clay County Fair. A gala is penciled in for July, and a fall festival is scheduled for September, which features the Cow Patty Bingo.

A joint venture with the Woman's Club is on the drawing board for October. The Arc plans to replicate the Lake Butler Rotary Club's veteran's cross project in November, in which the names of local veterans are written on white crosses and placed along a busy highway, along with American flags.

The Arc plans to repeat its David Dodge Cake Auction in December 2025. The event is named after the late David Dodge, a long-time board member who advocated for the organization on the state and local levels.

"We wanted to kind of commemorate his legacy and so we renamed this fundraiser and his honor," Williams said. "It's a great, great night. Our consumers perform Christmas carols and skits, and then we've got the cake auction."

50 cents a month

The January fundraising drive has a unique feature: donors may pledge as little as 50 cents a month.

"Everybody can do 50 cents,"

Williams said.

The Arc's website also offers monthly commitments of \$19.95, \$50 and \$100.

"But if everyone gets on board with it," added the executive director, "if I've got a thousand people who give 50 cents a month, that's 500 bucks a month, that's six grand a year."

Williams said he wants as many people as possible to support the Arc's efforts to assist individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and its other community efforts.

From coaching to group homes

The Arc provides its consumers with a variety of day services.

One is a life skill development program that teaches a variety of daily living activities. A second is mental health services. Williams said that around 25% of the general population has mental health diagnoses or concerns. That percentage rises to 60% for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities. The Arc offers psychological rehabilitation to those who need help.

For consumers who live in their own homes, the Arc provides coaches who visit them and help them pay bills, go to doctor's appointments, shop, and complete other tasks.

Other individuals need more help, and the Arc provides

someone to stay with them while the other household members leave for work.

The Arc also runs group homes that offer housing to some consumers.

50 years of change

Like other nonprofits and governments, the Arc received additional funding during the COVID years, which masked increasing costs. However, that funding decreased over the last few years, and the Arc recorded a \$450,000 deficit last year. The sale of a piece of property and a tax credit got the organization through the crisis. Williams added that the Arc has operated at deficits in four of his six years in Starke.

He said the financial challenges are another reason to expand the organization's outlook, adding that many similar agencies across Florida are losing money.

Williams said that since the Arc of Bradford County was established in 1975, providing services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities has changed.

Staffing has changed, the funding models have changed, and the needs of the consumers have changed. Williams said the transformation in focus he oversees now is simply another iteration of the changes that will constantly challenge his organization.



The Keystone Heights Airport board approved a \$98,695 contract to build a gate at the facility's new entrance road leading from State Road 100 into the west side of the property.

Airport approves gate for road that public can't use

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

The Keystone Heights Airport board approved a \$98,695 contract to build a gate at the facility's new entrance road leading from State Road 100 into the west side of the property.

However, because the legislature has yet to approve money for turning lanes on State Road 100 leading to the new entry, the Florida Department of

Transportation will only allow the airport to use its new road for emergencies.

During its December 3 meeting, board members also approved a \$99,626 amendment to its contract with its engineering firm. The expenditure is for design and bid management services for a new 80 x 80 hangar.

The airport's engineer, Bill Prange, told board members that a federal grant would finance

95% of the project's estimated \$900,000 cost. The remaining 5% will come from the Florida Department of Transportation.

"If all goes well," he said, "you won't be out of pocket."

The engineer added that with a grant application deadline of June 2025, he hoped to have bids for the board to approve in May 2025.

Starke not convinced about EDC

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

The Northeast Florida Economic Development Partnership is promising strong collaboration with the city of Starke, even if the city does not have a seat on the EDC board.

Commissioners further postponed a decision on joining with the EDC earlier this month because of lingering disagreement over the city's role in the organization.

At issue was the inability — per the EDC's bylaws — for an elected official to have a seat on the board of directors. EDC supporters insist upon the privacy of its discussions with interested developers and the board's decision making. Having elected officials involved could require them to operate publicly "in the sunshine," they say.

But joining the EDC with an annual investment of \$10,000 in public funds and not having a say in how that money will be spent to benefit Starke has left some commissioners with questions.

After several meetings with Amber Shepard, who works for the EDC as strategic alliance business partner, Starke Chief Administrative Officer Jimmy Crosby presented commissioners

with a list of advantages for joining the organization. Crosby and General Manager for Utilities Drew Mullins have been invited to attend EDC meetings on the city's behalf, but this does not include access to closed-door discussions or a vote on the city's behalf.

Commissioner Janice Mortimer said Dec. 3 said she still took issue with no one from the city having a seat on the board — even an ex officio nonvoting seat.

"You, in essence, are still wanting us to give you, just give you, \$10,000 of public funds, and you guys can do whatever you want to do without having anybody from the city represented. I take issue with that," she said.

Crosby said he met several

times with Shepard to discuss the benefits of the city's membership and presented Mortimer's idea for an ex officio position on the EDC board as a compromise. Shepard said it is not something the board wanted to move forward with at this time. Nevertheless, they do want city representation, she insisted, pointing to Crosby's open invitation.

"The reality is that it's not unchecked and not unbalanced, because the proof is in the pudding. We've been working, I've been diligently working since January this year, to bring economic activity to the community. And every executive that comes to this community, I bring them to Mr. Crosby's office so that we can have that meeting,

See EDC, page 7

Bradford High
Class of 1964
Will meet at Cedar River Restaurant (Starke) on Thursday, JAN. 9, 2025 at 1 PM. All graduates & spouses are invited. Please let Jerome Kelly 352.538.0741 OR Eugenia Whitehead at 352.745.1828 know if you plan to attend so we can let the restaurant know how many. **BE THERE!**

"His Gift"
In the pages of history there was a time,
The joy-bells in Heaven did ring out a chime
They tell of the One that came to earth,
The only one born of a virgin birth.
He came to earth His life to give,
He came to earth that we might live.
Thank you Lord for your wonderful **GIFT.**
— By Henry Hodges Lawley, FL

THE ORIGINAL BRADFORD • UNION • CLAY COUNTIES
REGIONAL CHURCH DIRECTORY
Supported by Nearby Local Businesses, Services & Merchants who encourage you to
Worship in the house of the Lord... Somewhere this week!

JBS JACKSON BUILDING SUPPLY "I am the way, the truth & the life. No one comes to the Father but through me" John 14:6 Starke 904-964-6078 Lake Butler 386-496-3079	R ROBERTS INSURANCE EXPERIENCE, SERVICE & GREAT RATES Starke Keystone Heights Middleburg Lake Butler 904-964-7324 904-473-7079 904-976-7246 352-476-3411 www.georgerobertsins.com	Bryan's ACE Hardware Starke 904-964-4642 Melrose 352-475-2400 Keystone Hts 352-473-4006
Southland Surveying & Mapping, Inc. Professional land surveying and mapping services since 1975 www.SouthlandSurvey.com 386-496-3107 Licensed AL, FL, GA	A NAME YOU HAVE COME TO KNOW AND TRUST V. Toled Thermeira Funeral Services Starke Funeral Home Chapel 904-964-5727 Lake Butler Chapel 386-496-1400	FOUNDATION CHURCH 200 N. Walnut St. • Starke (904) 964-6864 foundationchurch.cc info@foundationchurch.cc
JONES-GALLAGHER FUNERAL HOME Distinguished Caring Service for Over 50 Years Joe Gallagher - Owner Starke 904-964-6200 Keystone Heights 352-473-3176	DLPbank Starke Lake Butler Interlachen	Rev. Diane M. Wilson Pastor First Presbyterian Church of Starke 321 E. Call Street Starke, FL 32081 "With God All Things Are Possible" www.1stpc.org Call: (904) 966-7227
Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. Competitive Rates, non-profit, right here in your community A Teachers' Emp' Cooperative Keystone District Office 352-473-4917 • clayelectric.com	Powell's Dairy Freeze After Church on Sunday Come to "Home of the Foot Long Steak" Stop by for Ice Cream on Wednesday Night! US 301 NORTH • STARKE, FL	Come Worship with us STARKE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH Church • Saturday 11:00 a.m. School • Saturday 10:00 a.m. 1649 W. Madison St • Starke, FL
DOUGLAS BATTERY OF STARKE We rebuild starters, alternators, generators. Auto • Marine • Cycle Batteries 407 N. Temple • 964-7911	REGIONAL OUTREACH HERE thousands weekly 904.964.6305 classads@bctelegraph.com	Morgan Road Baptist Church 3784 NW CR 233 Starke Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Evening Worship 6pm 964-4422 Wednesday Evening 7pm

D.R. BAKER CONSTRUCTION
CBC1258123
Custom Homes and Remodels
Dalton R. Baker
Owner
352-266-8587
daltonbaker@gmail.com
www.drbakercorstruction.com

Lake Butler parade and Santa visit please all

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Special to the Times

The City of Lake Butler held its annual Christmas parade on Saturday, December 14, 2024, with residents lining the curbs along the parade route. The theme was Disney, and spirits were high among the spectators and the participants.

The parade began at 6 p.m., led by the Union County High School Tiger Band. The floats were brightly lit and attractive, although more limited in number than in previous years. But all involved showed holiday spirit and put in an enthusiastic presentation.

Floats were presented by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Andrews Site Prep, Lake Butler Hospital, Babe Ruth Baseball, the Union County Soccer Club, the American Legion, the Boy Scouts, and C.B. Dance. There were many smaller vehicles as well as numerous walkers tossing candy to the little ones along the way.

Float judges Kimberly Hayes, Hayden Page, and Elaine Hines had difficulty choosing the top three. Still, they settled on Lake Butler Hospital as the first-place winner, with Andrews Site Prep



The Lake Butler Hospital float is always a winner, and this year, it took first place in the float judging.

placing second and the Soccer Club finishing third. The float awards will be given at the January meeting of the Lake Butler City Commission.

The parade ended with Union County Riding Club members riding their horses, followed by Santa riding atop a Union County Fire Department truck with lights

and siren.

After the parade, most of the spectators relocated to the Lake Butler Hal Y. Maines Community Center so the little ones could visit with Santa and



Gianni Sherman is only 11 months old, but he knows what he wants for Christmas and spends some time with Santa.

receive a gift. Andrews Site Prep provided about 700 toys for the event, with the toys given out by Santa's helpers, including Lake Butler Mayor Melissa Hendricks and former mayor David Stegall.

Young people received their gifts and then lined up to visit with Santa. Everything ran smoothly, and smiles were rampant.

Andrews Site Prep sponsored the holiday events.



Andrews Site Prep fielded a float based on Tim Burton's "Nightmare Before Christmas," and it took second place honors in the float judging.

QUIT TOBACCO with GROUP QUIT

There's never been a more important time to quit.

Free expert-led sessions to help you quit all forms of tobacco.



Virtual Group Sessions -OR- In-Person Group Sessions



Develop your personalized quit plan.



FREE nicotine replacement patches, gum, or lozenges.*



More than **DOUBLES** your chances of success!

*If medically appropriate for those 18 years of age or older

Pre-registration is required.

Sponsored by:

CALL TODAY:

866-341-2730

AHEC
SUWANNEE RIVER
AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER

Woman praises firefighters, neighbors

Union County
Board of County
Commissioners

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Special to the Times

The regular December meeting of the Union County Board of Commissioners had a short agenda but featured several local residents, either during the public comments section of the meeting or later as agenda items.

The first to speak was Gina Norman, a resident of County Road 796. She spoke to the board about her gratitude for the Union County Fire Department members and their work dealing with a fire near her home.

The blaze, assisted by dry conditions and wind, spread rapidly over several properties, at one time reaching the outer edge of the property next to hers. She tearfully told the commissioners that she stood outside, spraying bushes with a water hose to prevent them from catching fire should the flames come closer. She said that Union County firefighters arrived on the scene and began dealing with the situation, and then other county residents began to arrive, bringing containers of water and tools and battling the blaze as well. With the combined effort of the firefighters and members of the Union County community the fire was put out.

"I have never been so frightened and never felt more protected," Norman said. "I had never really thought about the fact that all our county firefighters are volunteers before, but they came and handled the problem with efficiency. But through their quick action and bravery the problem was

dealt with. The same with the community members who came to help. It shows the type of place we live in here in Union County – if someone needs help, they get it. Everyone works to take care of each other."

Norman said she felt the deepest gratitude to all who assisted but singled out the Union County Fire Department for their quick response, professionalism, and dedication.

Students against tobacco

Ezekial Baker, representing Union County High School's Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) gave a short presentation requesting that the board do more to keep public areas, such as the parks, tobacco-free. Baker said that 32,000 lives were lost each year, just in the state of Florida, to tobacco-related issues and that SWAT members were dedicated to reducing this number. He also thanked commissioners for their support of the SWAT program.

Board Chairman Channing Dobbs, who had recently visited with SWAT members at UCHS, asked the board to have a resolution drafted to make all Union County parks tobacco-free, as the City of Lake Butler had done. There was some discussion as to whether such a document already existed, but County Attorney Russ Wade found none. Clerk of Court and Comptroller Kellie Hendricks Rhoades said she would check with her office's recording clerk to see if a resolution existed.

Commissioner Donna Jackson moved that Wade draft a resolution, pending the clerk's search, and the motion passed

unanimously.

Dobbs complimented Baker on his presentation and invited him to return for the January meeting, bringing some of the other SWAT members with him.

Wants more jobs in Union County

Bob Congreave was on the agenda and spoke to the board on the subject of bringing manufacturing back to rural America. Congreave had spoken to the board last month about his concerns that there were not enough jobs in the county and not enough funds coming into county coffers. He told commissioners about a program that incoming President Donald Trump planned on implementing to offer businesses locating in rural areas tax and other incentives to stimulate growth and create jobs.

Congreave suggested that the county develop a business plan outlining what types of businesses they would like to see locate in the county – manufacturing and related businesses – and them actively solicit businesses to consider Union County as location. He said this would allow growth to be planned, including where these businesses would locate and means to reduce the impact on residents by choosing area with no residences nearby and using wooden areas and other ways to reduce visibility. He said such a plan would serve the dual purpose of managing and capping growth.

"When West Fraser closed, the county lost 130 jobs," Congreave said. "And the severance packages for these workers ended last week. We need to do something right now. This county offers very few good opportunities to our young people. I want my kids to be able to stay here when they finish school."

County Coordinator Jimmy Williams said he has been looking into possibilities, as has the county's Economic Development Committee and suggested to the board that Congreave be added to it. Commissioner Melissa McNeal warned that growth was a touchy subject in the county, to which Congreave responded that what was needed was "smart growth."

The board agreed to add Congreave to the committee and to consider the matter further, citing the obstacles to being a desirable location for businesses, such as the lack of full-time fire protection and water service. McNeal said she was open to exploring whatever options were available.

"I just don't want to change our way of life in Union County," McNeal said.

PLEASE JOIN THE
BRADFORD TOUCHDOWN CLUB, INC
FOR A FUNDRAISER

Dinner, Auction, Roast

HONORING
Jamie Rodgers and Coaches

THURSDAY
19
DECEMBER

5:30 PM COCKTAILS | 6:00 PM DINNER

RED SEAT TICKETS
\$65 PER PERSON OR \$400 PER TABLE
TABLE SEATS 8

TICKET INCLUDES
ENTRANCE, DINNER, & ONE COCKTAIL
THE BEN CARTER BAND
EVENT 18 YEARS AND OLDER

SCAN TO PURCHASE TICKETS

ATTIRE
DRESSY CASUAL

GOVERNOR CHARLIE E. JOHNS CONFERENCE CENTER
1610 N TEMPLE AVE, STARKE, FL 32091



Florida
HEALTH

Learn more about all of Tobacco Free Florida's tools and services at
www.tobaccofreeflorida.com/quityourway



Is it even a Breakfast with Santa without a little dash of Grinch? Luke sports his Grinch shirt and cute little grin while posing with friends Ryleigh, Arianna and Londyn at Starke Elementary School.



Breakfast with Santa couldn't happen without Santa's helpers! Here are a few parent volunteers (L-R: Jessica Young, Jessica Pickett, Marlene Hagans, Jessica Holmes) posing with some of the amazing gift baskets donated for prizes.



Student Renlyn Tyson spent part of her Saturday morning in Santa's Christmas Shop at Starke Elementary. Tyson and her family were one of many families who enjoyed all the festivities at the party.



Sisters Mackenzie and Ambrel were thrilled to find their homemade ornament on one of the trees in the cafeteria. Students crafted ornaments and each one was used to decorate the trees in the cafeteria. Families went searching for their special ornament to take home.



Lauren Chrome & Monique Ferguson pose with the multiple Christmas trees on display in the Starke Elementary Cafeteria. The cafeteria was warm, welcoming, and decked out for Christmas!

DIGITAL ONLINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

YOUR LOCAL & BREAKING TRI-COUNTY NEWS FROM ANYWHERE, ON ANY DEVICE!

SEND a **DIGITAL ONLINE GIFT SUBSCRIPTION** from OUR WEBSITE:
BIT.LY/BCTGiftCard

WE'LL SEND A DIGITAL OR PHYSICAL GIFT CARD WITH YOUR MESSAGE!

Send my to: STOCKING STUFFER of the **Bradford County TELEGRAPH** UNION COUNTY TIMES **Lake Region Monitor**
OUR LOCAL TRI-COUNTY NEWS SOURCE!

Name _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

MY DETAILS:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP _____

PHONE1 _____ PHONE2 _____

MY GIFT MESSAGE: (PLEASE PRINT / OR ATTACH TYPED MESSAGE)

BUY A PRINTED PAPER SUBSCRIPTION ONLY \$100/wk = \$52 FOR ONE YEAR

MAKE YOUR CHECK TO: BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH
ATTN: SANTA DEAL • P.O. DRAWER A • STARKE, FL 32091

Thank you!

Keystone celebrates holidays with market, parade, afterglow

BY JENN SAMSEL
Special to the Monitor

Keystone Heights has once again hosted a fantastic annual Christmas Parade and festival.

The festivities commenced on December 14th with the Christmas Market, open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and featuring various vendors and delicious food.

At 6 p.m., the 53rd annual Lake Region Kiwanis Christmas Parade took place, followed by the After Glow with Santa at 7:30 p.m. The Woman's Club hosted this event, providing hot cocoa and cookies, with a line that extended around the Keystone Beach Pavilion.

This year's theme was "Christmas Cheers Throughout the

Years," and the judges had a tough time making a decision, as many floats performed exceptionally well.

There were a total of 44 entries, and ten winners were chosen.

In attendance were City Councilman Tony Brown and Mayor Nina Rodenroth.

"I'd like to tell everybody that our Christmas parade was awesome, just like always, but even better and bigger this year. So everyone wants to see a good Christmas parade come to Keystone Heights, but we know how to do it," said Brown.

Lake Region Kiwanis President Karen Lake added, "We're very proud of being able to host both the Christmas and Fourth of July parades every year. It gives our community an opportunity to make memories with their families and showcase our collective goodwill to the Lake Region at large."

The parade winners were:
1st Place Judges Choice- Keystone Heights Animal Hospital,

1st Place Most Original- Moccasin Creek Jeep Club,

1st place Closest to Theme - Lake Hill Baptist Church,

1st Place Best Youth Entry- Keystone Heights Basketball,-

1st Place Best Marching



Kiwanis President-elect Fred Geotzman presents the Best Marching Entry Award to Justin Coker and Shannon Southampton of the Keystone Heights High School Band.



The staff of Keystone Heights Animal Hospital accepts the first-place award for Judges' Choice from Kiwanis President Karen Lake.



Melissa and Eddie Higginbotham accept the second-place Best Business Entry award from Kiwanis President-elect Fred Goetzman.



Elizabeth Summers aboard the Garden Club of the Lake float.

Entry-Keystone Heights High School Marching Band,
1st Place Best Business Entry- Ride Right Custom Carts,
2nd Place Judges Choice- Ian Gunter,

2nd Place Most Original- Garden Club of the Lakes,
2nd Place Closest to Theme- Starling Family,
2nd Place Best Youth Entry- Clay County 4-H (Southern

Charms Rabbit Club),
2nd Place Best Marching Entry- Keystone Heights High School JROTC,
2nd Place Best Business Entry- Clay Electric Cooperative.



Branson shows off a fresh face painting with Chandler and Jessica at the Christmas Market.



Clay Electric Cooperative's entry.



George and Sue Galeze are dressed for the occasion.

Lifeline food giveaway

Lifeline Ministries and Gleaners Dispatch will hold a food giveaway on Saturday, Dec. 21, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at 325 N. Christian St. in Starke.

Christmas Eve service

First Presbyterian Church of Starke, 921 E. Call St., will have its Christmas Eve service beginning at 6 p.m. on Dec. 24. Everyone is welcome.

Collection site closings

Bradford County's solid waste collection sites will close on Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 24 and 25, for Christmas. They will reopen on Thursday, Dec. 26, at 10 a.m.



Members of the Keystone Heights High School Athletic Leadership Council organized games for children at the Christmas Market. (L-R) Ty Mitzel, Brynn Creekmore, Aubrey Nelson, Volleyball Coach Jessica Marquart, Brayden Wester, Ashlyn Brown, and Rigby Morford.

Food distribution at True Vine

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Farm Share and True Vine Ministry will take place Tuesday, Dec. 24, at 10 a.m. at True Vine Outreach Ministry in Starke. Food boxes often include fresh produce, deli and bakery items, dairy and some meats. Inventory is subject to change based on availability. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR NEW UNION COUNTY JAIL IN LAKE BUTLER, FLORIDA

The Union County Board of County Commissioners is requesting written responses from qualified construction firms to provide professional At-Risk Construction Management Services for the Budgeting and Construction Phase on the new proposed Union County Jail (Phase 2 and 3 of the new Public Safety Complex). Facility is to include demolition of site elements and sitework. The approximate budget for construction and all other activities is \$13,870,100.00.

The complete Request for Qualifications (RFQ) information page can be obtained from the Union County, Florida website – <https://unioncounty-fl.gov/advertisements-notice-and-rfps/> or by emailing Dir. Timothy Allen at allentc@unionsheriff.us.

RFQ's due by January 13, 2025

Union County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We encourage all small and minority-owned businesses to apply.

Crime

Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

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

Bradford

Tyciala Brown, 34, of Gainesville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 9 for a probation violation.

Kenneth Bussom, 28, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 8 for battery and obstructing justice.

Cayla Carter, 33, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 11 for a probation violation.

Joshua Dilas, 40, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 10 for intimidation and a probation violation.

Ashley Huskisson, 31, of Lawtey, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 10 for possession of drugs and driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Philip James, 30, of Gainesville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 11 for withholding support.

Rebecca Kennard, 39, of Hampton, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 13 for a probation violation and an out-of-county warrant.

Grayson Patrick, 25, of Lawtey, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 10 for being an out-of-state fugitive.

Guyland Reid, 63, of Hampton, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 13 for an out-of-county warrant.

Michael Robinson, 60, of Melrose, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 13 for aggravated assault, battery, and aggravated battery.

Brian Rodriguez, 41, of Jacksonville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 11 for a probation violation.

Kevis Shephard, 31, of Temple Terrace, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 11 for possession of marijuana.

Wesley Tanner, 41, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 7 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Shaun Thornton, 35, of Starke, was arrested by FHP troopers on December 11 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Raymond Tyson, 65, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 8 for possession of marijuana and possession of drug equipment.

Shaquana Williams, 25, of Macclenny, was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 9 for an out-of-county warrant.

Union

Willie Hill, 65, of Jacksonville, was arrested by Union deputies on December 16 for a probation violation.

Dequan Jackson, 21, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on December 13 for felony battery by strangulation, resisting an officer, and possession of marijuana.

Shannon Miley, 38, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on December 16 for an out-of-county warrant.

Sentoria Robinson, 30, of Raiford, was arrested by Union deputies on December 13 for an out-of-county warrant, resisting an officer and aggravated battery.

Jesse Smith, 34, of Archer, was arrested by Union deputies on December 11 for trafficking in drugs, trafficking in amphetamine, possession of drug equipment, and possession of marijuana.

Clay

None reported.



Assistant State Attorney Ryan King shows body camera video of Bradford detectives interviewing Michael Robinson after the 60-year-old shot his nephew.

BOND

Continued from page 1

to retreat because he was in his own home.

Assistant State Attorney Ryan King emphasized that after firing the 9mm handgun at the victim, Robinson then obtained a .22-caliber rifle and fired more rounds at his nephew.

"This is a situation where we heard from the defendant," King said, recalling the body camera video. "There was a scuffle,

there was an argument, and there was not one but two shootings. The initial fracas happens. The defendant shoots the victim with a nine-millimeter. You heard the defendant say on the body camera the victim was not on the bed. He then turns and, instead of calling 911, taking other reasonable steps, acquires the second firearm and, because the victim wouldn't leave, shoots him again. And that is not anything that I believe would be within a consideration of stand your ground."

The prosecutor added that Robinson was convicted in 1991 of aggravated manslaughter of a child and had additional convictions in the 1990s for possession of controlled substances.

After denying the state's motion, Colaw set Robinson's bond at \$100,000. The defendant was released from the Bradford County jail later that day.

Released from jail on Wednesday, arrested again on Friday

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

A Speedville man released on bond for an attempted second-degree murder charge was arrested for a second time less than 48 hours later for two counts of aggravated assault and one count of battery.

Michael Robinson, 60, posted a \$100,000 bond on Wednesday after Circuit Judge James M. Colaw denied a prosecution motion to hold the defendant in custody until his trial.

During the hearing in which the State argued for the detention, prosecutors showed body camera video in which the defendant admitted to shooting his nephew because the houseguest refused to leave the defendant's home after the two argued and the victim attacked Robinson.

According to an arrest report, just after midnight on Friday, December 13, deputies responded to the Winn Dixie on State Road 21, where a 36-year-old female told deputies Robinson pointed a handgun at her and struck her with the weapon. She and a 41-year-old man who was with the victim during the incident also claimed the Speedville resident pointed

the gun at the male.

"(The victim) stated that she is friends with Michael Robinson, who has been in the Bradford County Jail since November 30, 2024," wrote Sheriff's Sergeant Logan Hough in an arrest report. "While in jail, Michael's house was broken into, and he asked her to lock his house up and take his important papers out of his house so they would not be stolen."

The sergeant added that according to the female, after the defendant bonded out of jail on the attempted murder charge, her male friend picked her up and drove her to Robinson's house to return papers the defendant asked her to secure.

According to the victim, after she knocked on the door, Robinson opened the entryway and pushed her in the neck with one hand while holding the handgun in the other.

"(The victim) fell back off the steps and hit the ground," reported Hough. "She immediately got up and ran to the car and got in. Michael followed her to the car and opened the passenger door, where she was sitting. Michael then hit (the victim) on the right cheek with the gun."

The woman claimed Robinson then pointed the weapon at her head and pointed it at her male friend, who was driving the car, threatening to kill the pair.

When interviewed at his home about the incident, Robinson told Hough that the alleged victim broke into his house and stole papers, guns, and his vehicle.

According to the lawman, Robinson added that when the victim came to his home, he demanded the woman return his vehicle and other belongings while pushing her shoulder.

"Michael then went back inside his residence and armed himself with a handgun," Hough wrote. "Michael stated that he never went outside the house with a handgun and denied ever striking or threatening either victim with a gun."

Hough also wrote that Robinson told deputies he placed the gun on a dryer in the back of the house. However, when officers walked to the rear of the home, they could not find the weapon.

A woman with Robinson in the house at the time of the incident backed up his version of the event.



Commissioner Carolyn Spooner (center) is pictured with Meridian President and CEO Lauren Cohn and Bob Milner, vice chair of the Meridian Board of Directors.

Spooner honored for making a difference for behavioral health care

Commissioner Carolyn Spooner was recognized as the recipient of the Heart, Life, Community Award by Meridian Healthcare on Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024, during the organization's Annual Board of Directors Meeting. The event was held at the University of Florida Hilton in Gainesville.

This is an award presented to an individual who acts as a difference-maker, bringing heart and purpose to all they do in support of behavioral health care to strengthen our community.

H.E.A.R.T. is an acronym for the organization's new values,

which are below:

Hope — A healthy dose of hope helps us stay positive on the most challenging days.

Empathy — We are committed to compassion, understanding, and genuine human connection.

Accountability — We all have a responsibility to work with integrity as we strive to deliver high-quality care.

Resilience — Our community depends on us to show up and continually give our best.

Teamwork — Collaboration is key to providing exceptional care.

The Meridian Board

of Directors Vice Chair, Bob Milner, presented this prestigious award to Commissioner Spooner, along with the new President and CEO of Meridian, Lauren Cohn.

The organization also recognized the following employees:

Rose Taber, Employee of the Year

Alexis Day, Supervisor of the Year

Michelle Lisk, Leadership Award

Patricia Powers, Innovation Award

EDC

Continued from page 3

have that conversation, and make sure that it's a good fit for the community," Shepard said.

The efforts they make are expensive and require funding, she said, which is what they look to their members to provide. She extended the same invitation for Crosby to city commissioners to attend the meetings if the EDC is aware in advance so their presence can be placed on the agenda.

Mortimer said she did not doubt the EDC's mission to generate economic development.

"I just still have a concern about spending public money with a private organization that completely shuts us out," she said, asking whether the invitation to meetings and communications with the city about development would continue even without the \$10,000 investment.

"Absolutely," Shepard said. "It would be foolhardy not to."

Mortimer said in many cases the city commission would have a say on approving development plans in Starke, even if not allowed "a say on the front end."

"You can't bring a business into our city without the city making some kind of accommodations," she said.

"We have invited your group to attend our meetings, and your insight is very valuable to us," Shepard said. "And if Mr. Crosby says to me, 'Amber, that's not a good fit,' I'm going to listen to that. I'm not trying to fit a square peg into a round

hole. We're all working together for the best opportunities for the city of Starke, for Bradford and for our region."

Mortimer said they are to be commended for their work, but she still did not understand why the EDC was rejecting the idea of naming an ex officio member, especially if Crosby was already performing the role. She understands the groups bylaws, she said, but bylaws can be rewritten. She asked to postpone a decision on EDC membership for further explanation and so every commissioner could be there to vote.

She said her vote would hinge on having an ex officio member named to the EDC board.

"If we can get that, if I can see you guys are willing to give in on that, then I support you 100%. I support you 100% already, but I would support the city contributing \$10,000 of public funds," she said.

Commissioner Danny Nugent said there were other groups focused on the same work, so he didn't support spending the money to duplicate services.

Mayor Andy Redding said he supported having a "symbiotic relationship" with the EDC. Even without a vote on its activities, he said the city's \$10,000 investment would give it a voice, otherwise the city could withdraw future financial support.

Shepard discussed some of what she has been at work on, such as using a \$75,000 state grant to create a strategic plan for economic development, including ways to market the community to developers

and creating an inventory of available properties. She recently attended a global manufacturing conference in South Korea where the conversation included the benefits of foreign companies locating within the United States to avoid higher tariffs on their goods. While they did lose one potential business to another community with a readily available building, they made a good impression on someone who still sees potential in Bradford County.

"We did such a good job of presenting the community to him that he really believes in our mission — understands that this is not just about bringing businesses here, but trying to attract businesses that are willing to invest in our community, businesses that are willing to partner with our schools to build certifications that will help feed their workforce needs, and that will introduce things like robotics and other STEM technologies that we don't have in our community yet," she said.

Shepard compared her work to planting fruit trees, which take several years to produce fruit.

"In the event that we are unable to change the bylaws and unable to get that traction, I feel that it's important for the commission to know that, from my perspective, the insights of this community are invaluable. I can't be successful doing it on my own. This really does take a team, and I am personally committed to ensuring that there is strong collaboration," she said.



RUSS WADE

Attorney at Law

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

386-496-9656

Probate • Family • Wills • Adoption • Litigation • Corporate

BHS celebrates 1st-year Cambridge AICE results

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School recognized students who passed courses and exams as part of the Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education Program during a Nov. 18 ceremony in the school's auditorium.

Courses in English General Paper, Environmental Management, European History and Thinking Skills were offered in the program's first year in 2023-24, with 27 students passing all four.

In all, 49 students passed at least one AICE course.

BHS Principal Chris Coffey said he and school staff were "cautiously optimistic" about how students would perform on year-end assessments. That optimism turned to celebration as 48 students passed at least one assessment. Seven students passed assessments for all four subjects.

Students earn college credits by passing assessments. Passing a certain number of assessments also results in earning a Bright

Futures Scholarship. "We had 91 AICE assessments passed during last school year and 96 percent of students who took a Cambridge course passed at least one of the exams, which is phenomenal," Coffey said, adding, "Everybody who passed an assessment — that accounted for nearly \$60,000 in college tuition that was saved just last year by you guys passing those assessments. Great job."

BHS Assistant Principal Nichole Stafford, who was the Cambridge assessment coordinator last year, presented the students who passed AICE courses, beginning with the 20 who passed just English General Paper: Kelsey Burgin, Jacob Ferguson, Mauriye Hankerson, Hayden Kilby, Landon King, Trace Kite, Ashlin Libby, Kendrick Munnerlyn, Destiny Osteen, Blakemon Porfiriadis, Noah Stoehr, Saniya Thompson, Amber Thornton, Savanna Trollinger, Mia Tyson, Adan Urrutia, Kaylah Vargas, Reese Wainwright, Daniece Westberry and Emmalee Yates.

Emma Weimern passed three

courses (English General Paper, Environmental Management and European History), while 28 students passed all four courses: Wyatt Acevedo, Isabella Brennan, Daelyn Cornwall, Kameron Crawford, Malia Deese, Evan Franks, Rachel Hager, Koy Hartley, Laila Hill, Addyson Hinds, Jamiee Lin, Summer Martin, Kayla Mueller, Camron Newman, Alixiyah Nicolas, Diego Ochoa, James Powell, Amy Prescott, Dominic Randolph, Kelsey Reddish, Ryland Rike, Kailyn Teal, Addison Thornton, Kylee Thornton, Kate Wainwright, Makalya Webb, Blake Wimpy and Charles Zink.

Audrey Murphy, who is the current Cambridge assessment coordinator, presented the students who passed pre-AICE courses.

"Those are our students who are taking an honors-level course," Murphy said. "It does not have an end-of-the-course exam and does not earn you college credit, but it does prep you for those classes that do."

Hayden Paris passed the pre-

AICE English Language course, while the following passed both pre-AICE English Language and World History: Destiny Alexander, Kadynce Brown, Wyatt Canipe, Trevor Clements, Kellsie Cochran, Emalyn Crawford, Kaydence Crawford, Brylee Gibson, Hayden Goodwin, Harley Grantz, Tucker Griffis, Brandy Hall, Jashyah Hendrieth, Victoria Hudgens, Ariana Lee, Donald Painter, Patrick Pendarvis, Henry Prescott, Hailey Redding,

See RESULTS, page 9



Passing the English General Paper course were (l-r) Daniece Westberry, Kaylah Vargas, Adan Urrutia, Saniya Thompson and Kelsey Burgin. Not pictured: Jacob Ferguson, Mauriye Hankerson, Hayden Kilby, Landon King, Trace Kite, Ashlin Libby, Kendrick Munnerlyn, Destiny Osteen, Blakemon Porfiriadis, Noah Stoehr, Amber Thornton, Savanna Trollinger, Mia Tyson and Emmalee Yates.



Passing all four of the Cambridge AICE courses (English General Paper, Environmental, European History and Thinking Skills) were (l-r) Jamiee Lin, Laila Hill, Rachel Hager, Malia Deese, Evan Franks, Isabella Brennan and Wyatt Acevedo. Not pictured: Daelyn Cornwall, Kameron Crawford, Koy Hartley and Addyson Hinds.



Passing the Thinking Skills exam were (l-r) Kate Wainwright, Ryland Rike, Kelsey Reddish and Amy Prescott.



The following passed all four Cambridge AICE courses (English General Paper, Environmental, European History and Thinking Skills): Charles Zink, Kate Wainwright, Addison Thornton, Kailyn Teal, Ryland Rike, Kelsey Reddish, Amy Prescott, James Powell, Alixiyah Nicolas, Diego Ochoa, Camron Newman and Kayla Mueller. Not pictured: Summer Martin, Dominic Randolph, Kylee Thornton, Makalya Webb and Blake Wimpy.



Passing the English General Paper assessment were (l-r) James Powell, Alixiyah Nicolas, Diego Ochoa, Camron Newman, Kayla Mueller, Jamiee Lin, Laila Hill, Rachel Hager, Evan Franks, Malia Deese, Daelyn Cornwall, Kelsey Burgin, Isabella Brennan and Wyatt Acevedo. Not pictured: Kameron Crawford, Jacob Ferguson, Mauriye Hankerson, Koy Hartley, Addyson Hinds, Hayden Kilby, Landon King, Trace Kite, Ashlin Libby, Kendrick Munnerlyn and Destiny Osteen.



Passing the English General Paper assessment were (l-r) Charles Zink, Emma Weimern, Daniece Westberry, Reese Wainwright, Kaylah Vargas, Adan Urrutia, Addison Thornton, Kailyn Teal, Saniya Thompson, Ryland Rike, Kelsey Reddish and Amy Prescott. Not pictured: Isaiah Scott, Noah Stoehr, Amber Thornton, Kylee Thornton, Savanna Trollinger, Mia Tyson, Makalya Webb, Blake Wimpy and Emmalee Yates.



Passing the Environmental Management assessment were (l-r) Charles Zink, Emma Weimern, Ryland Rike, James Powell, Amy Prescott, Alixiyah Nicolas, Diego Ochoa, Laila Hill, Rachel Hager, Malia Deese, Evan Franks and Daelyn Cornwall. Not pictured: Kendrick Munnerlyn.



Passing the European History assessment were (l-r) Emma Weimern, Kailyn Teal, Ryland Rike, Kelsey Reddish, Alixiyah Nicolas, Amy Prescott, Kayla Mueller, Jamiee Lin, Laila Hill, Rachel Hager, Malia Deese and Isabella Brennan. Not pictured: Kendrick Munnerlyn.



Passing the Thinking Skills assessment were (l-r) James Powell, Alixiyah Nicolas, Diego Ochoa, Camron Newman, Kayla Mueller, Jamiee Lin, Laila Hill, Rachel Hager, Malia Deese, Evan Franks, Daelyn Cornwall and Wyatt Acevedo. Not pictured: Kameron Crawford, Summer Martin and Kendrick Munnerlyn.

**EARLY DEADLINES
CHRISTMAS WEEK**
ads. legals, obits & submissions
see front page top right corner

The Matthews Museum (Bradford County Museum) Needs Volunteers!

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

To find out more

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





Emma Weimern passed the English General Paper, Environmental Management and European History courses.



Reese Wainwright passed the English General Paper course.

Emma Weimern passed the English General Paper, Environmental Management and European History assessments, while Jamiee Lin, Kayla Mueller and Kelsey Reddish passed the English General Paper, European History and Thinking Skills assessments.

The following passed the English General Paper, Environmental Management and Thinking Skills assessments: Daelyn Cornwall, Evan Franks, Diego Ochoa and James Powell.

Charles Zink passed the English General Paper and Environmental Management assessments, while Isabella Brennan and Kailyn Teal passed the English General Paper and European History assessments. Passing the English General Paper and Thinking Skills assessments were Wyatt Acevedo, Kameron Crawford and Camron Newman.

Summer Martin and Kate Wainwright passed the Thinking Skills assessment, while the following passed the English General Paper assessment: Kelsey Burgin, Jacob Ferguson, Mauriye Hankerson, Roy



Students passing both pre-AICE English Language and World History courses were (l-r) Bryston Williams, Bailey Smith, Brooke Rodriguez, Henry Prescott, Tucker Griffis, Wyatt Canipe and Sevon Smart. Not pictured: Destiny Alexander, Kadynce Brown, Trevor Clements, Kellsie Cochran, Emalyn Crawford, Kaydence Crawford, Brylee Gibson, Hayden Goodwin, Harley Grantz, Brandy Hall, Jashiyah Hendrieth, Victoria Hudgens, Ariana Lee, Donald Painter, Patrick Pendarvis, Hailey Redding, Remington Redding, Koen Reddish, Reece Scoggins, Jackson Snyder, Samuel Stephens, William Turner, William Warren, Zachary Wells, Hayley Whiteley, Julia Zurfliuh and, passing the pre-AICE English Language course only, Hayden Paris.

RESULTS

Continued from page 8

Remington Redding, Koen Reddish, Brooke Rodriguez, Reece Scoggins, Sevon Smart, Bailey Smith, Jackson Snyder, Samuel Stephens, William Turner, William Warren, Zachary Wells, Hayley Whiteley, Bryston Williams and Julia Zurfliuh.

Students who passed assessments were presented by teachers Marie Appling

(Thinking Skills), Peter Cleary (General English Paper/pre-AICE English Language), Jeremy Mullins (Environmental Management) and Jerilyn Rogers (European History/pre-AICE World History).

Passing assessments for English General Paper, Environmental Management, European History and Thinking Skills were Malia Deese, Rachel Hager, Laila Hill, Kendrick Munnerlyn, Alixiyah Nicolas, Amy Prescott and Ryland Rike.

Hartley, Addyson Hinds, Hayden Kilby, Landon King, Trace Kite, Ashlin Libby, Destiny Osteen, Isaiah Scott, Noah Stoehr, Saniya Thompson, Addison Thornton, Amber Thornton, Kylee Thornton, Savanna Trollinger, Mia Tyson, Adan Urrutia, Kaylah Vargas, Reese Wainwright, Makalya Webb, Daniece Westberry, Blake Wimpy and Emmalee Yates.

At the start of the ceremony, Coffey talked about the Cambridge AICE Program, saying it "prepares competitive students to gain admission and scholarships to universities, while earning college credit during high school," thus aligning with the high school's goal.

"The mission of Bradford High School is to provide our

students with an environment that challenges all students academically, to empower them to become lifelong learners in a very diverse, global community," Coffey said. "That part right there is one of the biggest reasons why we wanted to bring the AICE program here, to bring a very rigorous program here that was going to prepare our students to be successful."

Highly Rated Local Businesses!

Craig Falstreux Heating & Air, Inc
228 S Walnut St, Starke, FL 32091
(352) 792-4426

"Our AC quit blowing last night and Danny came out first thing today and had the issue found and fixed within an hour! Fair price and extremely nice! Could not recommend them more! Thanks so much!"

T.E.S. Rentals
2000 N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 452-0888

"These guys do great business, highly recommend! Truly outstanding customer service and very fair pricing."

GT Plumbing Lic. #RF11067979
4050 L.M. Gaines Blvd, Starke, FL 32091
904-796-7228
GTPlumbing.com

- New construction
- Septic tank & drain field installation
- Building, sewer, & drain repair
- Bathroom, shower, & kitchen remodels
- Service calls • Back flow certified

Pressure Perfect Massage
By Lana Taylor
7426 State Rd 21, Keystone Heights, FL 32656
(859) 415-3886
pressureperfectmassage.square.site

"Lana is the best deep tissue therapist I have ever used! She is so intuitive as to where I need her to focus on. Definitely a gift she has. Her massages leave me feeling so much better without being sore the next day. I highly recommend her!"

Bradford County Eye Center
292 Lafayette St, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-8076

"I saw Dr Jenn. She and the staff were very friendly & professional. They listened to my questions and answered them without looking disinterested. I am grateful."

Andrews Site Prep
(386) 867-0572
Services 20 different counties!

"A wonderful company! They get the job done right and they get the job done fast. Thank you Andrews Site Prep for always being somebody that we can count on!"

C & S Site Prep
22787 NW 34th Ave, Lawtey, FL 32058
(352) 235-1210

Land Clearing, Driveway, Culverts, Excavation, Ponds, House Pads, Drainage, Grading, Erosion Control, Dirt, Lime Rock, Asphalt, Sand, Crushed Concrete, 57 Stone

The Chiropractic & Injury Clinic of Starke
601 E Call St, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-8018

"I love this place! They make me feel like family here! Karen is my bestie, she's great. You'll love the two assistants in the back. They're so nice and very funny too! Dr. Lowry does awesome adjustments and is very friendly and welcoming. I always feel like a new person when I leave. No joke when I say this is the kindest medical staff I've ever dealt with. 10/10 recommend."

Hometown Health & Wellness
110 Nightingale St, Keystone Heights, FL 32656
(352) 664-7702

"I have gone here multiple times to see both Jen and Bryan. I love that the location is close to home, they are open various hours to fit your schedule but most of all I love the small town feel when you walk in the door! You are welcomed and made to feel at home. I am very happy with all services I have received and am so thankful."

Phillip McDonald Plumbing
740 S Orange St, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-3737

"I would definitely use this company again in the future. They showed up on time. Zach was very respectful and went over everything that needed to be done."

Turners Automotive & Transmission
135 Commercial Cir, Keystone Heights, FL 32656
(352) 473-3404

"Best mechanic around. These guys always do top quality work, and if they can find a cheaper solution that is just as viable, they won't hesitate to save you money. They did for me."

Durrance Pump
864 N Temple Ave STE C, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-7061

"The guys at Durrance came out and drilled a well and installed the pump at my new house and I couldn't be happier. They even came back after hours to correct a slight sulfur smell in the water."

JBS Jackson Building Supply
"Serving Our Community For Over 60 Years"

- LUMBER & BUILDING MATERIALS
- PAINT, LADDERS & SUPPLIES
- ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING SUPPLIES
- METAL ROOFING & SHINGLES
- DOORS & WINDOWS
- HAND & POWER TOOLS
- HOME & FARM HARDWARE
- BATHROOM VANITIES
- HOT WATER HEATERS
- LAWN & GARDEN

STARKE US-301S 964-6078
Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6
LAKE BUTLER 145 SW 6th Ave. 496-3079

Robert's Insurance
986 N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 452-7784

"The insurance agency helps keep the insurance prices down." "Always a great place to visit and get help!"

Hearing Aids Today
450 S Lawrence Blvd, Keystone Heights, FL 32656
(352) 877-4471

"They are very specific people. When asked to do something they do it. I love the people at Hearing Aids Today. They have really helped me! If you need an adjustment they get you in immediately. Great people."

Stor-Mor of Starke
12046 US-301, Hampton, FL 32044
(386) 339-7543

"Great customer service! The owner is very confident in Stor-Mor sheds and is well knowledgeable about all the different kinds that they sell!"

Teal Tile Carpet One
131 N Cherry St, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-7423

"High quality in every way!!!! Product was great. Workmanship was great. Pleasant staff. Just a pleasure to work with. Highly recommend!"

DLP Bank
811 S Walnut St, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-7830

"Very welcoming bank. They learn and know you by name and will not stop until they have helped with whatever your needs may be. I love this bank."

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
3760 State Rd 21, Keystone Heights, FL 32656
(352) 875-6079
10:00 AM - Adult Bible Class
11:00 AM - Worship Service

Bradford County Sheriffs Office
945-B N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 966-6161

"I need to take a minute to recognize my jail command team, the people I'm surrounded by. Each unique and strong in their own areas. There is nothing anyone asks of them they don't do and almost always with a smile. They take care of business and take care of people at the same time."

Miller HVAC Services, Inc.
(904) 626-0963
Serving Northeast FL

"I have used Miller's HVAC services for many years, one of the only companies that you call and they actually answer the phone and show up and do what they said they would do. They have fair prices and their service is phenomenal. I highly recommend them."

KHHS' Brunt to play soccer at Trinity Baptist College

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School senior Luke Brunt isn't going to let anything interfere with a soccer practice or game, so it makes sense that he'd want to play the sport at the collegiate level.

He's given himself the opportunity to do so after signing a letter of intent to play at Jacksonville's Trinity Baptist College during a Dec. 11 ceremony in the KHHS media center.

"I'm just excited and ecstatic," Brunt said.

So, too, is his high-school

coach, Trevor Waters. Waters said coaches always have players who miss practices here and there for one reason or another, but that's never been the case with Brunt.

"He doesn't miss a practice," Waters said, adding, "He schedules around that."

Brunt said his passion for soccer has grown since he began playing it at the age of 3.

"I've always enjoyed the sport," he said. "I've watched it. I've played games. It's my life."

A three-year varsity starter, Brunt recorded a team-high 20 assists for Keystone during his junior season. He was also third in goals with 17.

This season, Brunt is leading the team with 12 assists and is second in goals with nine.

Waters said senior Aaron Wiley may get more recognition because of his goals (37 last year and 21 so far this season), but a lot of those goals happened because of Brunt.

"Luke's getting the assist, or Luke's getting what we call in hockey the assist before the assist," Waters said.

The Keystone coach said Brunt's vision is what makes him a standout center midfielder.

"He knows where to go with the ball," Waters said.

Trinity Baptist Head Coach Asithorn Romyanond attended the signing ceremony and thanked Brunt's parents, Nathan and Toni, for their support of their son.

"I have five children myself. It's very tough," Romyanond said of making the sacrifices to support your children's activities.

Romyanond expressed his thanks to Waters for his time and dedication and thanked all those in attendance for helping to make what will be a special memory for Brunt.

"Ten years from now, you're going to look back at this moment," Romyanond told Brunt. "It's priceless."

What also made the moment special is that a Keystone soccer



Luke Brunt (second from right) signs his letter of intent to play soccer at Jacksonville's Trinity Baptist College, which was represented at the Dec. 11 signing by Head Coach Asithorn Romyanond (far right). Also pictured are Brunt's parents, Toni and Nathan.

player getting the chance to play collegiately has been a rare occurrence. Waters said he can remember only four players who've done so.

"This doesn't happen very often," Waters said.

Waters said Keystone could've had more soccer players receive college opportunities, but noted it takes a commitment to put oneself in that position.

"If you're unwilling to work hard, you're not going to make it in collegiate soccer or collegiate

sports," Waters said.

Brunt's father, Nathan, who's also an assistant coach to Waters, echoed the sentiment, saying it takes hard work on the field and in the classroom. Then, looking at the other soccer players in attendance, said, "Every single one of you boys over there could be going somewhere, but you've got to put in the work."

Brunt has shown he's willing to do so, while acknowledging that he'll find the going tougher after high school.

"I think it's going to be more difficult, for sure," he said. "It's going to be harder."

The Trinity Baptist signee said he's looking forward to the challenge, which will include finding himself in unfamiliar surroundings. Still, once he steps onto the field, it'll feel familiar to him because he'll be playing the sport that has become his life.

"It's definitely going to be new," Brunt said. "New people, new environment, but it's still going to feel like home."

Curtis A. "Lex" Sanders Attorney at Law



- Personal Injury
- Divorce and Family
- Bankruptcy
- Criminal Law
- Auto Accidents
- Real Estate
- Traffic/DUI
- Wills, Trusts, Probate
- Estate Planning

(904) 964-4111

407 W. Georgia St. • Starke

The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Before you decide, ask us to send you information about our qualifications and experience.



MeLissa Pellerito
REALTOR®

MeLissa Pellerito
352-494-1829 call/text
mpelleritorealtor@gmail.com
275 S Lawrence Blvd • Ste 1
Keystone Heights, FL 32656



Florida Homes
Realty & Mortgage

"Absolutely amazing to work with MeLissa. Her professionalism, market knowledge, prompt attention to all matters makes her a true professional who cares about the service she provides. Thanks MeLissa!"



For Sale!

MLS #2011631



6261 Little Lake Geneva Rd
Keystone Heights, FL 32656



Ron Blake
352-235-1644
2518 State Rd 21,
Melrose, FL 32666

"Their knowledgeable and professional attitude is a winning combination."

For Sale!



MLS #2059300



7015 King Street
Keystone Heights, FL 32656

Featured Listings From Your Local Realtors!



COLDWELL BANKER
SMITH & SMITH
REALTY

Marty & Lisa Shaw
904-964-9222
415 E Call St,
Starke, FL 32091

"Marty and Lisa helped my husband and I purchase some property back in March. We were almost to closing when all the chaos from COVID-19 started. Through it all they worked over time to help us get all the details organized, finalized, and to closing on time. Not a single step was missed and we could not have been more pleased with their professionalism and coordination of all of our needs."

Lisa Shaw
(904) 759-2216



For Sale!

MLS #2059461



10992 SW 106TH Ave
Hampton, FL 32044



Justis Smith
352-258-4619
100 E Nightingale St.
Keystone Heights, FL 32656
justis@southland-realty.com

SouthLand
REALTY
& MANAGEMENT CO

TBA SW County Rd 100A,
Starke, FL 32091

For Sale!



MLS #11338853



6.63 Acres!

Classified Ads - 904-964-6305



Where one call does it all!



Class Ads
12/19/24

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 Property (Rent, Lease, Sale)

TURN KEY BEAUTY SALON. Located at 144 W. Call Street, next to Walgreens. \$700/mo. 1st, last & security. Call 904-964-6305.

OFFICE FOR RENT. Located next to post office. Turn key for commercial space or specialized space. \$800/mo., first, last &

deposit. Call 904-964-6305 for info.

50 For Rent

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

NEWLY RENOVATED 2BR/2BA SW, 3BR/2BA DW Lake Butler. No pets. 18 acres for sale. Starke-Lake Butler. 1-678-438-6828

UPCOMING Lakefront located in Keystone. 2BR/1BA \$1400/mo., 3BR/1BA \$1500/mo. No pets, lawncare included. 904-613-5715

THREE STALL work shed. Thirty gallon air compressor. 8x10 storage shed, power on and ready. 904-966-2911

EARLY DEADLINES CHRISTMAS WEEK

DUE 12/19/24 12 pm: ALL ads. legals, obits & submissions see front page top right corner

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS Southern Villas of Starke

Ask about our 1&2 BR Apartments HC & non-HC Units. Central AC/Heat, on-site laundry, playground, private, quiet atmosphere.

Located on SR-16, 1001 Southern Villas Dr. Starke, FL
Call 904-964-7295
TDD/TTY 711
"Equal Housing Opportunity"

WELL DRILLING
QUALITY SERVICE SINCE 1964
24 Hr. PUMP SERVICE
964-7061
STATE LICENSE #1305
DURRANCE PUMP

HERITAGE VILLAS
Accepting Applications for 1 & 2 BR Apts
607 Bradford Court
Starke, FL 32091
904-964-6216
TDD 771
This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider

Orangewood Apartments
801 South Water Street
Starke, FL 32091
904-964-4214
TDD/TTY 711
Accepting Applications! Rental Assistance!
1, 2, & 3 bedroom HC & Non-HC accessible apartments.
"This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer."
"Equal Housing Opportunity"

Lake Butler Apartments 1, 2, 3 & 4 BEDROOM APARTMENTS
HC & Non-HC accessible.
1005 SW 6th St. Lake Butler, FL
386-496-3141
TDD/TTY 711.
Accepting Applications! Rental Assistance!
"This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer."
"Equal Housing Opportunity"

Tri-County Classifieds
Telegraph Monitor TIMES
INDEX
40 Notice
41 Vehicles Accessories
42 Motor Vehicles
43 RV's & Campers
44 Boats
45 Land for Sale
46 Real Estate Out of Area
47 Commercial Property Rent, Lease, Sell
48 Homes for Sale
49 Mobile Homes for Sale
50 For Rent
51 Lost/Found
52 Animals & Pets
53 Yard Sales
54 Keystone Yard Sales
55 Wanted
56 Trade or Swap
57 For Sale
58 Building Materials
59 Personal Services
60 Secretarial Services
61 Scriptures
62 Vacation/Travel
63 Love Lines
64 Business Opportunity
65 Help Wanted
66 Investment Opportunity
67 Hunting Land for Rent
68 Rent to Own
69 Food Supplements
70 Money to Lend
72 Sporting Goods
74 Computers & Computer Accessories
Reach All 3 Counties Bradford • Union • Clay
Worded Classified Ad up to 25 words is \$10
Classified Display Ad is \$10 per col. inch
Deadline for Classified ads - **Tuesday 12 noon**
904-964-6305
classads@bctelegraph.com
WE ACCEPT
MasterCard Visa American Express

BHS basketball teams record huge wins at home

Boys team beats Crescent City for another 30-plus-point victory

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Maliki Cobarris scored 15 points as part of a second quarter in which the Bradford High School boys basketball team outscored visiting Crescent City 22-6 en route to a 61-30 win on Dec. 13.

It was the second straight 30-plus-point win for the Tornados, who won their fourth straight game.

The game was competitive in the first quarter, with the visitors scoring the first five points. Three-pointers by Jy'Quez Cason and K.J. Taylor helped Bradford take a 9-7 lead.



Jordan Cason (far left) puts up a shot against Interlachen's Dante Astin.

A rebound putback and free basket by Jordan Cason made it two points from Breion Johnson. Jordan Cason and Taylor led the Tornados in rebounds with seven and six, respectively.

Cobarris and Jordan Cason each had four steals, with Cobarris leading the team in assists with five. Cason added four assists.

The Bradford girls team avenged its season-opening 52-31 loss to Fort White and has now won six straight in improving to 7-2.

Ar'Nayshia Griffin led the team in scoring with 24 points, rebounds with 15, assists with three and steals with six.

Nichelle Brown scored 16 points and had eight rebounds,

three steals and two assists. Cherish Bing and Ky'lee Johnson chipped in five and four points, respectively, with Bing also adding 13 rebounds. Johnson had seven rebounds.

The boys team was scheduled to play at P.K. Yonge on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 7:30 p.m. and will travel to Lake Butler to play Union County on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m. Bradford then travels to play Middleburg on Friday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m.

Bradford's girls team was scheduled to host Hawthorne on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. The Tornados will then be off until hosting Williston on Thursday, Jan. 9, at 7 p.m.

Bradford scored the first nine points of the second quarter. Griffin made two free throws and then assisted on a basket by Brown. It was the first of two consecutive baskets by Brown.

After a basket by Griffin, Brown made a free throw for a 38-6 lead before Suwannee scored its first points of the

Girls team defeats Suwannee for 4th straight win of at least 20 points

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School overwhelmed the visiting Suwannee Bulldogs, scoring the first 22 points and winning 66-16 in girls basketball action on Dec. 13.

It was the fifth straight win for the Tornados, who've won by at least 20 points in each of the last four games.

Nichelle Brown and Ar'Nayshia Griffin combined to score 41 points. All but two of those occurred in a first half that ended with Bradford leading 52-8.

Griffin scored the game's first basket when she drove the length of the court after grabbing a defensive rebound. She added a free throw after a Suwannee turnover and then came away with a backcourt steal, which led to a basket by Brown.

A Brown defensive rebound led to a basket by Griffin. Cherish Bing, after a Brown steal, scored off an offensive rebound to make the score 9-0.

The Tornados got two free throws from Brown and a rebound putback by Khamyra Hankerson for a 13-0 lead. Brown, after grabbing an offensive rebound, passed the ball to Griffin for a basket. A Hankerson steal then led to a basket by Bing and a 17-0 score.

Bing scored off her own steal. Then, after a free throw by Griffin, Bing scored again, rebounding a missed shot after a Hankerson steal. That put Bradford up 22-0.

Suwannee, which turned the ball over 17 times in the first half, finally got on the board with a free throw with 2:17 remaining in the first quarter.

After Griffin sank a three-pointer, Suwannee made a long-range shot of its own for its first field goal. The Bulldogs added another field goal before Bing knocked down a trey for a 28-6 Bradford lead.

Bradford scored the first nine points of the second quarter. Griffin made two free throws and then assisted on a basket by Brown. It was the first of two consecutive baskets by Brown.

After a basket by Griffin, Brown made a free throw for a 38-6 lead before Suwannee scored its first points of the



Nichelle Brown (right) prepares to score a basket in transition in the win over Suwannee.

quarter.

Griffin made two three-pointers in the second quarter and finished with 25 first-half points, which was her final total for the night. She had 11 rebounds for her sixth straight double-double and also tallied seven assists.

Brown had 14 first-half points and finished with 16, while Bing's 11 first-quarter points helped her finish with 13.

Ky'lee Johnson added four points, while the following had two points each: Hankerson, Wynter Barrington, A'drionna Hankerson and Nyasia Lopey.

The win over Suwannee was the third of three games that week, which began with a 58-38 win over visiting Episcopal on Dec. 10. Griffin poured in 32 points, with 12 coming at the foul line. She grabbed 12 rebounds and had four assists.

Bing and Brown scored nine and eight points, respectively, with Brown adding eight rebounds and three assists.

Johnson scored six points, while Hankerson had three.

The Tornados traveled to play Palatka on Dec. 12, with Griffin scoring 19 points and grabbing 11 rebounds in a 64-37 win.

Brown scored 15 points, while Khamyra Hankerson and Bing also reached double figures with 13 and 11, respectively.

Barrington, Johnson and Jayda Sambolah each had two points.

Bradford got seven rebounds each from Barrington and Hankerson, while Brown grabbed six.

Griffin led the team in assists with five.

Brown had four assists and a team-high four steals.

Tornados keep up winning ways in boys, girls hoops

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School's basketball teams continued their winning ways on Dec. 16, with the boys team defeating host Belleview 70-58 and the girls team defeating host Fort White 49-39.

The boys team, which hasn't lost since its season opener, improved to 4-1, getting double-digit points from the following: Jordan Cason with 16, Jy'Quez Cason with 14, Maliki Cobarris with 13 and K.J. Taylor with 10.

Bradford also got eight points from Jonathan Andrews, seven points from Steven Carter and

two points from Breion Johnson. Jordan Cason and Taylor led the Tornados in rebounds with seven and six, respectively.

Cobarris and Jordan Cason each had four steals, with Cobarris leading the team in assists with five. Cason added four assists.

The Bradford girls team avenged its season-opening 52-31 loss to Fort White and has now won six straight in improving to 7-2.

Ar'Nayshia Griffin led the team in scoring with 24 points, rebounds with 15, assists with three and steals with six.

Nichelle Brown scored 16 points and had eight rebounds,

three steals and two assists. Cherish Bing and Ky'lee Johnson chipped in five and four points, respectively, with Bing also adding 13 rebounds. Johnson had seven rebounds.

The boys team was scheduled to play at P.K. Yonge on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 7:30 p.m. and will travel to Lake Butler to play Union County on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m. Bradford then travels to play Middleburg on Friday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m.

Bradford's girls team was scheduled to host Hawthorne on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. The Tornados will then be off until hosting Williston on Thursday, Jan. 9, at 7 p.m.



5 place in top 3 for BMS wrestlers

Bradford Middle School's wrestling team placed fifth out of 13 schools at Lake City's Falcon Invitational, with five individuals earning top-three finishes. Jaland Carey and Kaison Pierce both won their weight classes, while Avery Gardner and Julius Givings each placed second. Jereem Jenkins won a third-place medal.



LBMS wrestlers earn top-4 finishes at tourney

Lake Butler Middle School's wrestling team placed eighth out of 13 schools at Lake City's Falcon Invitational, with four individuals earning top-four finishes. Kyson Waters won his weight class, while Carter Rogers and Winston Sparkman placed second and third, respectively. Gage Seay wrestled his way to a fourth-place finish.

Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Dec. 19, 2024

10301 Wayzata Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55305. (952)-491-6837.

12/19 2tchg 12/26-BCT

BRADFORD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
To satisfy the owner's storage lien, KO Storage LLC will sell at public sale on January 21, 2025. The personal property in the below-listed units, which may include but are not limited to: Household goods, boxes/totes/bags, clothing, bedding, tools and toys. The public sale of these items will begin at 10AM on January 14, 2025 and end at 10AM on January 21, 2025. The public sale will take place on www.storage-treasures.com. KO Storage of Starke - S Walnut St, 1650 South Walnut Street, Starke FL 32091, (952)-491-6837
Time: 10:00AM CST
A15, Rhoden, William, A21, Wilson, Kelley, A48, Wallace, Marisa
Public sale terms, rules, and regulations will be made available on www.storage-treasures.com. All sales are subject to cancellation. We reserve the right to refuse any bid. Payment must be by credit/debit card, we do not accept checks or cash. Buyers must secure the units with their own personal locks. To claim tax-exempt status, original RESALE certificates for each space purchased is required. By KO Storage LLC,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2024-0131-CP
IN RE: ESTATE OF JAMES M. LILLICO
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of James M. Lillico, deceased, whose date of death was October 20, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 945 N. Temple Ave. Starke, FL 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
The personal representative has no duty to discover whether any

property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in ss. 732.216-732.228, Florida Statutes, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under s. 732.2211, Florida Statutes.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is December 19, 2024.
Attorney for Personal Representative: Stephen M. Witt
Florida Bar Number: 231916
PO Box 2064
LAKE CITY, FL 32056-2064
Telephone: (386) 755-2863

Fax: (386) 752-1732
E-Mail: stephen@attorneywitt.com
Secondary E-Mail: carey@attorneywitt.com
Personal Representative: Christopher J. Lillico
1064 SW 242nd Terrace
Newberry, Florida 32669
12/19 2tchg 12/26- BCT

UNION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA
CASE NO: 63-2020-DR-0136-FMXX-MA DIVISION:
IN RE: THE MATTER OF: WILLIAM CHAD ANDERSON, Petitioner, and BRITTANY HAIRE, Respondent.
To: William Chad Anderson
4534 S.W. 84th Trail
Lake Butler, FL 32054
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Supplemental Petition for Modification of Timesharing and Child Support has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Maria Aguilu, Esq. Attorney

for Petitioner at 2318 Park Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32204 email: maguilu@immigrationlawfla.com, phone: 904-385-9377 on or before January 1, 2025, and file the original with the clerk of this court at: Union County Courthouse, 55 West Main Street, Room 103, Lake Butler, FL 32054 before service on Respondent or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.
Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the address(es) on record at the clerk's office.
WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.
Dated: December 4, 2024
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT BY: C. HOLLINGSWORTH

DEPUTY CLERK
12/12 4tchg -01/02/2025 UCT

LAKE REGION

Notice of Public Auction
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Monday, December 30th, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Unit# 234, containing misc. household items.
12/12 2tchg 12/19-LRM

Notice of Public Auction
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Monday, December 30th, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Unit# 304, containing misc. household items.
12/12 2tchg 12/19-LRM

Bradford County Telegraph
USPS 062-700
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Starke, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Bradford County Telegraph
131 West Call Street • Starke, Florida 32091
Phone: 964-6305 • P.O. Drawer A • Starke, FL 32091
John Miller, Publisher
Editor: Mark J. Crawford
Sports Editor: Cliff Smelley
Advertising: John R. Tillman
Typesetting: Mary Goodge
Advertising & Newspaper Prod: C. Hurston
Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts: Macie Hamilton
Bookkeeping Asst: Heather Wheeler
Front office Asst: Mary Goodge

Subscription Rate in Trade Area
Area: \$52.00 per year;
\$26.00 six months
Outside Trade Area:
\$52.00 per year;
\$26.00 six months

Lake Region Monitor
USPS 114-170
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Keystone Heights, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Lake Region Monitor
P.O. Drawer A - Starke, FL 32091
131 W. Call Street - Starke, FL 32091
Phone: (904)964-6305 • Fax: (904)964-8628
John Miller, Publisher
Editor: Dan Hildebran
Sports Editor: Cliff Smelley
Advertising: John R. Tillman
Typesetting: Mary Goodge
Advertising & Newspaper Prod: C. Hurston
Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts: Macie Hamilton
Bookkeeping Asst: Heather Wheeler
Front office Asst: Mary Goodge

Subscription Rate in Trade Area
Area: \$52.00 per year;
\$26.00 six months
Outside Trade Area:
\$52.00 per year;
\$26.00 six months

UNION COUNTY TIMES
USPS 648-200
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Lake Butler, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
UNION COUNTY TIMES
131 W. Call Street • Starke, FL 32091
uctimeseditor@gmail.com
904-964-6305 • fax 904-964-8628
John Miller, Publisher
Editor: Mark J. Crawford
Advertising: John R. Tillman
Typesetting: Mary Goodge
Advertising & Newspaper Prod: C. Hurston
Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts: Macie Hamilton
Bookkeeping Asst: Heather Wheeler
Front office Asst: Mary Goodge

Subscription Rate in Trade Area
Area: \$52.00 per year;
\$26.00 six months
Outside Trade Area:
\$52.00 per year;
\$26.00 six months

Obituaries

Cynthia Barnum

Cynthia "Cindy" Elizabeth Barnum, 61, of Starke, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 8, 2024, at UF Health Shands Hospital in Gainesville. She was born in Miami on Feb. 9, 1963, to the late Leon T. Odom, Jr and Mary Louise Odom. She (and her family) moved around as a child due to her father being in the ministry. She relocated to Starke in 1971 and made Bradford County her forever home. She attended and graduated from Gainesville High School in 1981. Shortly after school, she began her career as a bank teller at Community State Bank, where she worked for many years before becoming a stay-at-home mom after having her son, Austin. She was a devoted mother, raising her son and being actively involved in his life. She met her future husband, Pete Barnum, in 2003, and they were happily married on Oct. 28, 2004. Cindy's nurturing and loving nature made her a pillar of support for her family. She was a magnificent housekeeper who took great pride in maintaining a warm and welcoming home. Her house was always immaculate, a reflection of her dedication and care. In her spare time, she cherished moments spent with her family and her beloved cat, Lucy. She was a kind soul and will be deeply missed by all who knew her. She was preceded in death by her parents; and husband, Pete Barnum.

She is survived by her son, Austin James O'Dell of Starke; brothers, Leon Odom III of Starke, Michael T. (Julie) Odom of Trenton and Robert John "Bobby" (Terri) Odom both of Coolidge, Georgia; and nephew, Robert Chase Odom of Coolidge, Georgia; along with many extended family members.

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

PAID OBITUARY



Tom Fagan Jr.

Tom Keith Fagan Jr., 72, of Keystone Heights passed away Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2024, surrounded by family. He was born Sept. 9, 1952, in Gainesville to the late Tom Keith Fagan Sr. and Evelyn (Currie) Fagan. He graduated from Gainesville High School in 1970 and continued his education at Daytona Community College and the University of Central Florida. Prior to retirement, he worked as a medical photographer at both Baylor College of Medicine and the University of Florida. He also worked for the state of Florida as a correctional officer before becoming a sergeant. His last job was a bus driver for the city of Gainesville. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend.

Survivors are his wife, Lori Fagan of Keystone Heights; children, Timothy Kyle (Amber) Fagan, Taryn Kasey Coffee, Tyne Korey (Justin) Bryant, Eva Montgomery, and William Myers. Also left are his siblings, Buddy (Carrie) Fagan, Mary Walker, Jerry (Betty) Schofield, Terry (Jennifer) Schofield; and nine grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, Dec. 21, at 10 a.m. at the First Assembly of God in Keystone Heights.

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Keystone Heights, 352-473-3176 www.jonesgallagherfh.com.



Janelle Harris

Janelle Aileen Harris, 69, of Lawtey, passed away Monday, Dec. 16, 2024, at her residence, with her loving family by her side. She was born in Gibson City, Illinois on Dec. 24, 1954, to the late Virgil McPherson and Charlene Wallenstein Horridge. She graduated from Whitewater High School and, shortly after, married the love of her life, James "Donald" Harris. The two were blessed with 46 amazing years together. She was most passionate about her family, loved being a mother, and enjoyed tending to her family. She enjoyed a long, successful career with the Bradford County Sheriff's Office, where she served as a communications operator. She was a woman of faith and loved attending Raiford Calvary Temple Church of God. She certainly enjoyed praising and worshipping her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, with her fellow church family. In her spare time, she enjoyed cooking and sewing. But more than anything, she loved spending precious time with her family. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, who was deeply treasured and will be forever missed. She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert Horridge, Charlene Horridge and Virgil McPherson; brother, Darrell McPherson; and sister, Pam Britt.

She is survived by her loving husband of 46 years, James "Donald" Harris of Lawtey; daughters, Stephanie (Brandon) Herndon of Lawtey and Charnelle (Michael) Whittemore of Starke; brothers, Dana (Claudia) McPherson, Lonnie McPherson, and Tony (Terri) McPherson, all of Wisconsin, and Randy (Kim) McPherson of Tennessee; sisters, Lexa (Sparks) Sparks, Trula (Steve) Smith, and Tanya (John) Hood, all of Wisconsin; grandchildren, Braylon Herndon, Braydon Herndon, Dylan Whittemore and Tristen (Dallin) Crews; great-granddaughter, Blair Crews; along with many extended family members and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held Friday, Dec. 20, at 11 a.m. at Raiford Calvary Temple Church of God with Pastor Larry Thornton officiating. Interment to follow at Crosby Lake Cemetery. The family will receive friends Thursday, Dec. 19, from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel.

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

PAID OBITUARY



Judith Brown

Mrs. Judith Lee McRae Brown, known to most as "Judy," 77 of Starke, passed away peacefully in her sleep Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2024, at Charter Senior Living, Assisted Care Facility in Gainesville. She was born in Westerly, Rhode Island to the late Julian Earl "Judy" McRae and Nita McRae of Theresa and was a resident of Starke for most of her life. She attended St. Mark's Episcopal Church, pursued her education at Santa Fe College, the University of Florida and St. Leo University. She maintained a long career in education within the Bradford County school system, holding various posts, including registrar and bookkeeper. To all who knew her, and even those that didn't (having never met a stranger), she was optimistic, intelligent, witty and spunky. She was an excellent role model, fiercely loyal and the life of the party. She was family and community service-oriented and enjoyed reading, puzzles, cards, cooking and rocking babies. She was an adept storyteller and loved to regale everyone with accounts of raising her triplets. Her other passions included knitting, singing, making jewelry and painting. In her retirement, she enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren, having a nice meal and taking long drives with her husband.

She is survived by her loving and devoted husband of 57 years, Gilbert Marvin Brown; children, Jason M. (Jami W.) Brown of Chieffland, Jennifer L. (Scott R.) Brown-Jackson of Gainesville, and Jody L. (Amy T.) Brown of Gainesville; grandchildren, Madison L. (Savannah R.) Jackson of Gainesville and James Edward Ricketson of Chieffland; siblings, Cherrie (Plenn) Gnam of Theresa, Jeff S. (Jan S.) McRae of Theresa, and Mary (John) Kegley of Wakefield, Rhode Island/The Villages; and a host of nieces and nephews and many other family members and friends.

The family received friends at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Starke on Saturday, Dec. 14, for a Celebration of Life, followed by a reception in the adjoining Parrish Hall. In lieu of flowers, contributions to St. Mark's Episcopal Church would be most appreciated.

PAID OBITUARY



Carolyn Jarrard

Carolyn Peoples Jarrard, born Aug. 23, 1938, in Perry, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2024, at her daughter's home in Lake Butler, surrounded by the warmth and love of her family. A devoted homemaker, she dedicated her life to nurturing her loved ones, leaving legacy of her unwavering spirit of care-giving and immense family bonds. In her life, she exemplified the art of living fully and lovingly, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of all who had the privilege to know her. Her memory will forever be cherished by her family and the many lives she touched throughout her remarkable journey on this earth. She was preceded in death by her beloved parents, Daniel and Lorena Grubbs Peoples; her husband, Billy Jarrard; her cherished sons, Mitchell and Darrell Shadd; and siblings: W.C. Peoples, Ralph Peoples, Charles Peoples, Latrell Lundy, and Louise Whitfield.

She was the heart of her family, a gentle and steadfast presence in their lives. She found immeasurable joy in the company of her children, Bonnie Smith, Jeff (Marsha) Shadd, Lori (Harold) Archer, and Becky (Eddie) Lee, whose aspirations and successes she celebrated with pride. Her legacy continues through her grandchildren, Doug, Davy, Melissa, Michelle, Josh, Daland, and Jason, who were the joyous light of her later years. The laughter and warmth of her great-grandchildren, Kelvi, C.J., Gavin, Robert, Lily, Josiah, Teirney, Ava, Maci, Scarlett, Liam, Eli, and the twin girls yet to enter this world, were a testament to the love and nurturing spirit she embodied. A loving sister to Eldis (Quinton) Bloodsworth, also survives along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services honoring her took place Sunday, Dec. 15, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home in Lake Butler, beginning with a visitation and followed by a service. She was laid to rest immediately following the service at Ft. Call Cemetery.

Archer-Milton Funeral Home is once again honored to serve the Shadd family during this time. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

PAID OBITUARY



BHS

Continued from page 11

a 14-8 game.

Crescent City trailed by three and scored the first four points of the second quarter, which gave the Raiders a 17-16 lead. Bradford then scored eight straight, with Cobarris sinking two three-pointers and Jordan Cason scoring off a Taylor assist.

The Raiders then scored their last basket of the half, with Bradford answering with a 14-0 run. Kyren Green scored off a Cobarris assist before Cobarris was fouled driving to the basket following a Jordan Cason steal. Cobarris made both free throws for a 28-19 lead.

A turnover led to Cobarris' third three-pointer of the quarter, while Jy'Quez Cason made his own shot from beyond the arc, giving the Tornados a 15-point lead.

Jordan Cason had a steal that led to a basket by Cobarris. Cobarris then ended the scoring for the half when he made two free throws, sending the Tornados into the locker room leading 38-19.

Bradford forced the Raiders into nine turnovers in the second quarter.

The Tornados kept their foot on the gas to open the second half, scoring the first 17 points of the third quarter. Taylor had consecutive baskets before Cobarris scored off a turnover. Cobarris, Johnson, Taylor and Jy'Quez Cason each had a basket before Taylor knocked down a three-pointer to make it 55-19 game.

Cobarris and Taylor finished with 19 and 12 points, respectively, while Bradford also got nine points from Jordan Cason, eight from Jy'Quez Cason, seven from Johnson, four from Green and two from Larry Ardley.

Jordan Cason led the team in

rebounds with eight and also had a team-best five steals.

Green and Johnson each had five rebounds.

Cobarris recorded four assists, while Steven Carter and Jordan Cason each had three.

The Tornados entered the game off a 69-30 win over District 3-3A opponent Interlachen on Dec. 12 in Starke.

Bradford scored the game's first seven points, with Cobarris hitting a three-pointer and Taylor and Jordan Cason scoring on drives to the basket.

The Tornados outscored Interlachen 20-2 in the first quarter. After the Rams got their only basket, Bradford scored 13 straight points. The run began with consecutive baskets by Cobarris. Jordan Cason scored off an offensive rebound before Cobarris added another basket. Jordan Cason had a layup off a Cobarris assist before Jonathan Andrews scored off a Carter assist. Andrews was fouled on the play and made the ensuing free throw to give the Tornados an 18-point lead.

Cobarris had two baskets early in the second quarter, giving him 14 for the half.

Taylor scored 10 straight points as part of a 12-2 run to close out the first half and send the Tornados into the locker room leading 42-10.

Four players finished with double-digit points: Cobarris with 20, Taylor with 17, Jordan Cason with 12 and Carter with 11.

Bradford also got four points from Green, three points from Andrews and two points from Jy'Quez Cason.

Jordan Cason and Cobarris grabbed seven and six rebounds, respectively, while Jy'Quez Cason had five.

Jordan Cason and Jy'Quez Cason each had six assists, with Jy'Quez Cason also coming away with four steals.

Carter added three assists.

The Genuine. The Original.



Overhead Door Company of Gainesville

• Garage Doors & Openers • Springs, Cables & Sections Replaced
• Residential & Commercial • Free Estimates • Licensed & Insured

Sales - Installation - Service

352-468-2733 www.OverheadDoor.com

KEEP FLORIDA
BEACHES & PARKS
TOBACCO FREE

Cities and counties can keep our beaches and parks safe, healthy, and clean of debris, including cigarette butts and vape cartridges, by implementing local tobacco free parks and beaches policies, thanks to a recent update to the Florida Clean Air Act.

Communities can protect public health and be part of a cleaner Florida.

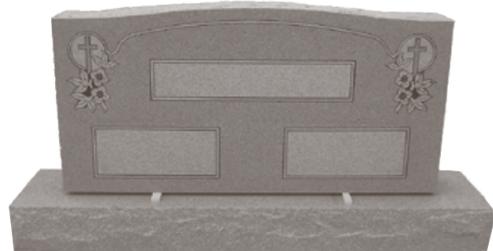
For more information on how to get involved, visit
TobaccoFreeFlorida.com/get-involved.



Florida
HEALTH

Charles Custom Memorials

Serving Families in North Florida since 1973



The area's largest supplier of Colored Granite
When Quality Counts, You Can Count On Us

STARKE OFFICE OPEN 8:30 to 5:00 MON-FRI
Hwy 301 North, Starke • 904-964-2010
(Next to Best Western)

Primary Location in Lake City at 561 NW Hilton Ave.

CharlesMonuments.com

Member of Better Business Bureau
Monument Builders of North America
Florida Monument Builders

FL Lic. # F037700

Starke church's volleyball event helps feed families



Northside Baptist Church of Starke hosted its November Smash Volleyball Tournament on Nov. 16, with nine teams participating. A portion of the proceeds supported the church's Feeding Bradford community service project, resulting in 200 families receiving free Thanksgiving meals on Nov. 23. The Cross Fires team won the tournament championship. The team consisted of (l-r) Will Yeldell, Tim Searle, Bre Dufault, Allie Cox, Jessi Yeldell and Nam Nguyen.



The runner-up Legit 2 Hit team (l-r): Edrick Hamilton, Dawn Nielsen, Elijah Hamilton, Elizabeth Warren, Scott Olmsted and Sandy Gottschalk.



The Silent Snipers (l-r): Gabriel Nuckols, Emily Knox, Julia Jiannuzzi, Anna Nuckols, Jenna Jiannuzzi, Kamryn Jenkins, Laiton Pechin and Miriam Ruzh.



The Bradford County Sheriff's Office: (front, l-r) Melanie Chalker, Master Dep. Quenisha Johnson, Amanda Hines, Christy Milligan, Lt. Andy Johnson, (back, l-r) Blake McGriff, Lt. Beth Griffin, Lt. Jason Smith and Lt. Bill Goodge.



The Feast Mode team (l-r): Jared Velazquez, Anna Schutler, Sara Foster, Lainie Rodgers, Hanna Baker, Hayes Fulford, Lurne Eaker and Clayton Adkins.



The Harvest Hustlers: (front, l-r) Jodey Garrison, Callie Potts, Maddy Garrison, (back, l-r) Madison Burke, Bella Smith, Brooklyn Cooper, Nicole Trowell and Noah Liston.



The Hot Stuffins (l-r): Jared Sapp, Rebekah Sapp, Aniston Pilcher, Blake Hall, Ashlyn Pilcher, Jade Baker, Brock Parmer and Amberlyn Pilcher.



BHS Red Storm and Gray Thunder: (front, l-r) Lakelyn Sheppard, Tatum Burkhalter, Manduo Wei, Ella Hewitt, (back, l-r) Isabel Pritchett, Kingslee Phillips, Maddison Lee, Autumn DeKorver, Jordyne Goddard, Katherine Brugh, Kinley Burkhalter and Robbie Best.



Some of the Northside Baptist Church volunteers included (l-r) Ty Garrison, Judy Clark, Rebekah Garrison, Andrew Knight and Susan Knight.

Williams earns pair of 2nd-team honors at Iowa State

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Iowa State cornerback Jontez Williams, a 2022 Bradford High School graduate, received second-team honors with the release of the All-Big 12 teams and the Associated Press All-Big 12 teams.

Williams, a redshirt sophomore, had four interceptions this season, which currently ties him for third-best in the conference. All his interceptions occurred in four consecutive games (20-0 win over Houston on Sept. 28, 43-21 win over Baylor on Oct. 5, 28-16 win over West Virginia on Oct. 12 and 38-35 win over UCF



Jontez Williams, a sophomore at Iowa State, earned second-team All-Big 12 honors in his first season as a starter. Photo provided courtesy of Iowa State Athletics.

on Oct. 19), making him the first least one interception in four Iowa State player since Ronnie Osborne in 1982 to record at

See HONORS, page 14

Balfour earns All-AAC honor, will transfer to Texas Tech

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Former Bradford High School football player Dontae Balfour received honorable mention with the release of the All-American Athletic Conference teams.

Balfour, a redshirt junior at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, recorded two interceptions and 49 tackles (fourth-best on the team) at his position of corner.

This was the second straight year that Balfour has tied the Charlotte school record for pass breakups in a season. He had 11 in each of the last two years, with his total of 22 in a career setting a school record.

Balfour, a 2021 BHS graduate, had a season-high nine tackles (eight solo) in a 29-27 win against UAB on Nov. 30. Other standout games included recording seven tackles (six solo) in a 21-20 win over Rice on Sept. 28 and five tackles (four solo) in a 52-14 loss to Indiana on Sept. 21.

In two years, Balfour has totaled 103 tackles (70 solo) and three interceptions.

Balfour, who spent his first



Dontae Balfour (right) earned honorable mention on the All-AAC team in his second year at Charlotte. Photo provided courtesy of Charlotte Athletics.

two seasons at North Carolina, University for his final year of announced Dec. 12 that he's transferring to Texas Tech eligibility.

\$300 HOLIDAY BONUS

Open a FREE checking account with qualifying activities! Use promo code: 24CHK300



4.90% APY²
7-month CD Special
\$1,000 min. balance

4.60% APY²
9-month CD Special
\$1,000 min. balance

4.25% APY²
13-month CD Special
\$1,000 min. balance

FCU CD deposits are federally insured by NCUA.
IRA CD Specials also available!

70 YEARS Florida Credit Union

904-964-1427
flcu.org

1. Offer can be canceled at any time. Free membership is open to anyone within Florida Credit Union's 48 county field of membership. Offer excludes anyone who has held an FCU checking account in the past 24 months. Must be 18 years old or older to qualify. One per household. Credit approval and initial \$5 open deposit required. \$500 cumulative direct deposit amount must be made to this account within the first 60 days of account opening. Your direct deposit needs to be an electronic deposit of your paycheck, pension or government benefit (such as SSI) from your employer or the government. Person-to-person payments (such as Cash App, Venmo, or PayPal) are not considered a direct deposit. If the requirements are met and the account remains open and in good standing for 90 days, the \$300 will be credited to account. \$300 is considered interest and will be reported on IRS form 1099-INT. 2. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 12/18/24. Subject to change; see certificate agreement for current rates, terms and requirements. Minimum balance to open share certificate varies per certificate with a maximum of \$5,000,000. After maturity, if you choose to roll over your CD, you will earn dividends according to the CD agreement or at the then current APY as stated on flcu.org at that time. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawals which may reduce earnings. Fees may reduce earnings.

Starke Branch - 2460 Commercial Dr.

Lam scores 4 goals in KHHS girls' 8-1 win

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Halea Lam scored four goals for the Keystone Heights High

School girls soccer team, which improved to 3-0 in District 4-3A with an 8-1 win at Interlachen on Dec. 16.

Lam also had two assists as the Indians improved to 9-4-2 overall.

Alyssa Townsend scored two goals, while Tayler Buchanan and Kayden Huntley each had one.

The Indians got one assist each from Buchanan, Huntley, Townsend and Kayle Buchanan.

Goalie Aspen Krohn made five saves.

Keystone went 1-0-1 in its previous two matches, with the tie a scoreless affair against host Trinity Christian on Dec. 12. Krohn made seven saves.

On Dec. 13, Keystone traveled

to play Trinity Catholic, getting two goals each from Huntley, Lam and Townsend in defeating the Celtics 8-1.

Kaylee Park and Alexis VanNordstrand each had one goal.

Townsend led the team in assists with four, while Lam, Tayler Buchanan and Kaleigh Coffey each had one.

Xana Briley made eight saves in goal.

The Indians travel to play district opponent Palatka on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 7 p.m.

matches in a row in boys soccer, but the Indians have now won three straight, with the latest win coming by a score of 8-0 at District 4-3A opponent Interlachen on Dec. 16.

Aaron Wiley scored four goals and had one assist as the Indians (8-4-1) improved to 3-1-1 in the district.

A.J. Nilsen scored two goals, while Luke Brunt and Noah Jaramillo each had one.

Brunt and Sammy Wachala led the team in assists with two apiece. Landon Spence added one.

Each win in the Indians' current streak has been a shutout on the road, with Nate Bardier handling goalie duties in all three.

Keystone ended its losing streak with a 10-0 win at Trinity Christian on Dec. 12 in which the second half wasn't played due to the mercy rule.

Wiley scored five goals, while

Brunt and Wachala each had two. Ryder Thomas added one goal.

Wachala and Wiley each had two assists, with the following each recording one: Brunt, Thomas and Kipton Spence.

On Dec. 13, the Indians got two goals and an assist from Wiley in a 4-0 district win at Palatka.

Brunt and Thomas each had one goal and one assist.

Nilsen also had one assist. Keystone hosts Middleburg on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 7:20 p.m.

HONORS

Continued from page 13

straight games.

In his first season as a starter, Williams also has 38 tackles, with a season-high 11 (six solo) coming in a 21-3 win over North Dakota on Aug. 31.

Another standout game for Williams was a six-tackle effort in the win over West Virginia.

Williams has 44 tackles (24 solo) in two seasons. He played in all 13 games his freshman year, making two starts.

It has been a notable season for Iowa State, which won 10 games for the first time in the school's 133-year history. The 10-3 Cyclones, who were 7-2 in the Big 12, will play Miami in the Pop-Tarts Bowl in Orlando on Saturday, Dec. 28, at 3:30 p.m. on ABC.



TEAL TILE

CARPET ONE

Local Flooring Specialists • since 1976

Sales • Service • Installation

Free Estimates

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

THANK YOU

for allowing us the opportunity to serve you for the last 48 years.

Call for DIY specials!

12 months interest free financing on approved credit.

We will beat all competitor pricing!

M-F 8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Saturdays by Appointment

• Vinyl • Carpet
• Ceramic Tile

• Hardwood &
• Laminate Floors

131 N. Cherry Street
Starke, FL 32091



DISCOUNT PRICING POWER OF OVER 1,400 STORES!!

904-964-7423

KHHS boys soccer team gets another shutout win

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School had dropped three

Florida Twin Theatre
904-964-5451 REGULAR SCHEDULE!
Visit us on-line at www.FloridaTwinTheatre.com

<p>THURSDAY 12/19 MOANA 2-6:30 (Downstairs) THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER-6:30 (Upstairs)</p>	<p>FRIDAY 12/20 SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 3-7:00 (Downstairs) MUFASA-6:45 (Upstairs)</p>
<p>SATURDAY 12/21 SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 3-4:00 & 7:00 (Downstairs) MUFASA-3:45 & 6:45 (Upstairs)</p>	<p>SUNDAY 12/22 SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 3-4:00 & 7:00 (Downstairs) MUFASA-3:45 & 6:45 (Upstairs)</p>

Call us today for maintenance on your tankless water heater!

- Septic Tank Pump Out
- Liftstation
- Septic System Inspection
- Septic & DF Installation
- Sump Pumps
- Residential & Commercial
- Service Repairs
- Repipe
- Water Heater
- New Construction & More!

Scan the QR code for our Google Reviews!

PHILLIP McDONALD
PLUMBING AND SEPTIC
904-964-3737
CFC 1428926
(904) 964-3737

COLD SHOWER?
"Hate, hate, hate. Double hate. Loathe entirely."
-The Grinch Us too.

JOIN TOBACCO FREE UNION TODAY!
CALLING ALL BUSINESS LEADERS & FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS TO BE CHAMPIONS OF HEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY

TOBACCO FREE UNION

The mission of Tobacco Free Union is to advance policies that will help end nicotine addiction in Union County. We work collectively towards eliminating initiation and use of tobacco and alternative nicotine products among Union County residents, supporting tobacco policy change and educating decision makers about the impacts of tobacco use and nicotine addiction on the lives of Union County residents and visitors.

WE NEED YOUR INVOLVEMENT!
WAYS THAT BUSINESSES & FAITH BASED COMMUNITIES CAN BE INVOLVED:

- 1 Educate employees, community members and congregations on tobacco-related issues.
- 2 Promote the benefits of healthy and nicotine free lifestyles.
- 3 Join the partnership to build strong community relationships for collaborative efforts.

TOBACCO FREE UNION MEETINGS
TOBACCO FREE UNION MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE VIA GOOGLE MEET AT 3:15 PM

February 19, 2025
April 16, 2025

For more information about the partnership, contact info@tobaccofreeunion.com or visit www.tobaccofreeunioncounty.com

SPIRES COUNTRY DELI

CHRISTMAS DINNER
Ham or Smoked Turkey, rolls and choice of 3 sides (2 qt size)
Serves 8-10

Place your orders by Dec. 20th.
Pick up by noon on Dec. 24th.

Side Choices
MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY
SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE DRESSING
BROCCOLI CASSEROLE
MACARONI & CHEESE
POTATO SALAD
COLE SLAW
GREEN BEANS

Additional 2 qt sides \$15 each

99.99

Sliced off the bone Ham & rolls
or Smoked Turkey & Rolls without sides \$39.99

610 SW FIRST STREET
LAKE BUTLER, FLORIDA

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION
386-496-3969