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# Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, December 23, 2021

142nd year, 19th Issue — \$1



## SHOP WITH A COP AND HIS K-9

Lawtey Elementary student Delanie Kelly was one of 334 children who participated in this year's Starke Police Department Shop With a Cop, which allows children to enjoy \$100 shopping spree at Walmart. Delanie not only picked out some great toys while shopping with SPD's Michael Gillick, but she got a nice bonus in that Gillick allowed her to visit with K-9 Officer Erin. See inside for more on the 17th annual event. Photos by Cliff Smelley.



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**WORTH NOTING**

## Winter Mentoring Camp

The 12 Guys in Bowties and 12 Girls in Pearls program is offering a four-day Winter Mentoring Camp from Dec. 27-30 at the Bradford County Faith Community Center, 721 Old Lawtey Road in Starke.

From 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. each day, participants will work on a variety of art projects, team building exercises, and play indoor and outdoor games. Breakfast and snacks are provided, but participants will need to bring their own lunches.

The camp fee is \$125. To register, visit <http://bcfaithcc.org>, or contact Edrick Hamilton at [12gibt.12gip@gmail.com](mailto:12gibt.12gip@gmail.com) or 904-364-0868.

## Upcoming food distribution

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

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

## Schools: 'Don't share threats on social media'

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Bradford schools asked families to monitor their children's online activity and said threats that appear online should be reported to the school, not shared on social media.

Threats on social media — real or pranks — are not new, but they seem to have reached a new level last week as part of a user-driven "challenge" on TikTok that resulted in students sharing posts promoting school shootings on Dec. 17.

The threat followed closely after a mass shooting at Michigan's Oxford High School on Nov. 30. According to Education Week, there have been 24 school shootings since Aug. 1 and 34 in 2021. There were 24 in 2018 and in 2019.

Making such public threats, serious or not, is illegal, and when law enforcement tracks down and arrest perpetrators, they are charged

with terrorism-related crimes. The fear induced by the threats has led to school closures across the country and tied up authorities in time-consuming investigations. School administrators and parents are forced to choose between erring on the side of caution or minimizing the threats to prevent learning disruption. Districts that are able may opt for virtual learning for a day or two, while others may choose to continue classes during school lockdowns — neither an ideal option.

Sometimes the posts can appear as warnings, and there have been cases where a threat was uncovered. Even if posts aren't credible, they can succeed in causing disruptions and spawn copycats.

That's why it the Facebook post from Dec. 16, the Bradford County School District told students potential threats should be with school staff or a trusted adult.

See THREATS, page 6

## Redistricting on hold

*Delay not expected to impact local elections*

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — A small change proposed to voting district boundaries proved too small for most county commissioners.

Because of the delay in receiving census information and commissioners' desire to take a more comprehensive look, redistricting won't be completed this year. That means the next available opportunity is 2023 as it must be completed in an odd-numbered year.

Commissioners discussed their reservations at their Dec. 17 meeting.

Supervisor of Elections Amanda Seyfang and her deputy supervisor, Matt Barksdale, had previously suggested a small change in the boundaries of District 1 and District 3 to restore the former's minority population to more than 50% and preserve the opportunity for racially diverse representation in local

government.

East of the Starke city limits, Districts 1 and 3 are divided by State Road 16. The proposed changes would have shifted that line so that, east of the city limits, the district line moves north to Northeast 173 Street, Northeast 12th Avenue and Northeast 171st Street.

It was a small change that would help preserve District 1's minority population as a majority, but it did nothing to balance the populations of the remaining districts.

In fact, attorney Will Sexton pointed out, it would further decrease the population of District 1 and increase the population of District 3, which are already the smallest and largest districts. District 1 is nearly 1,900 people below the countywide average of 4,189, or 45% smaller. District 3 is nearly 9% larger with 4,525 residents. The other districts miss the mark by 6-8%.

Commissioner Carolyn Spooner said by making the adjustment

See HOLD, page 6

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Lyla Libby was among over a hundred library patrons who the jolly couple from the North Pole greeted at Bradford County Public Library.



Thanks to donations from Altrusa and Friends of the Bradford County Public Library, each child who visited Santa Claus at the library went home with a toy. Autumn Hoyer is shown here with a Dora the Explorer Lenticular Puzzle, which shows extra motion and depth over traditional puzzles.



Before her visit with Santa Claus at Bradford County Public Library, Layla Stanley took time to list a few holiday wishes in a letter to give to him.

**Celebrate Christmas Mass**

St. Edward Catholic Church invites you to join us in celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Christmas Mass will be held on Friday, Dec. 24, at 4 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 25, at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

**Bethlehem Christmas program**

Greater Bethlehem, located at 505 Ash St. in Starke, will be having its annual Christmas program on Friday, Dec. 24, at 6:30 p.m. The title of the program is "When I Think Upon Christmas." Come out and celebrate Jesus' birth.

**New Year's Eve service**

True Vine Ministry will be hosting New Year's Eve celebration services Friday, Dec. 31, at 10 p.m. Prophet George Young III, senior pastor of Due Season Deep Fishing Ministry in Gainesville, will be the featured speaker. Please come out to worship, praise and ring in 2022 together.

**Season's Greetings!**

*May you experience the magic and blessings of the joyous holiday season.*

*Amanda Seifang*

Office of  
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www.bradfordelections.com

**Merry Christmas**

**Remember to put Jesus first this Christmas**

**Jerry Feltner**  
Lawtey Chief of Police-Elect

**Merry Christmas**

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# Merry Melrose Christmas



Riding for the Democratic Women's Club of the Lake Area are (front seat) Fran and Joe Rossano (back seat l-r) Cheryl Owen, Rissi Cherie and Kate Ellison.



Line dancers from Smooth Flava Dance in Gainesville (l-r) front: Lorraine Weary, Gwendolyn Anderson, Wanda Lloyd, Yvette Kelley and Carla Law. Back: Jeramiah Gordon, Andrea Wyatt, Albina Stewart, Marlene Jones, Lindy Lee, Kim Terrell, Clifford Law, Anne Gilroy and Angela DeCarlis.



(L-r) Melrose Elementary Principal Leah Lundy was the parade's grand marshal, accompanied by Assistant Principal Joni Burnett, Zoe Gibson and Don Aarons.



On the Historic Melrose float are (l-r) James Peffley, Eli Peffley, (back) Angela Peffley, Lynn Hughes and Sara Hebert.



Father Tony Powell (left) of Melrose's Trinity Episcopal Church.



Tom Germano of the Melrose Business and Community Association and Amy Stanley of Melrose Patriots, prior to the Merry Melrose Christmas parade on Dec. 11.



On the Friends of Melrose Elementary float: (L-r) Caiden Hebert, Julie Tillson, Scarlett Tillson, Tyler Mullen, Emily Mullen, Serena Vaquez Holt, Coral Mixon and Zoe Taft.



Elijah and Preston Musgrove, moments before the start of the parade.

## Why Melrose has 2 Christmas parades

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

MELROSE— Many smaller towns don't have a single Christmas parade, but the community at the corners of Bradford, Putnam, Clay and Alachua counties featured two Christmas parades this year: the Merry Melrose Christmas Parade on Dec. 11 and the Bonnie Melrose Christmas parade the following Saturday.

Tom Germano, the second-year president of the Melrose Business and Community Association said last year, the COVID-19 pandemic knocked out the daytime parade the MBCA had produced for years.

Amy Stanley of Melrose Patriots added that when her group heard about the cancellation, its members decided to step in.

"We found out during Halloween that the regular daytime Christmas parade had been cancelled, because of COVID," said Stanley, "and so many people in the community were bummed out about that because we were missing out on so many events because of COVID. We decided to throw one together as quickly as we could."

"It was an overwhelming success," she added. "Lots of people came out. Lots of people had fun and we wanted to do it again this year."

"The Patriots did the night parade (last year) and it turned out very well," Germano added. "I think a lot of people missed the day parade and I'm so happy that we're doing it this year."

Germano further noted that in addition to the parades, both groups organized accompanying events at Heritage Park and at Mossman Hall.

He said the two Christmas celebrations reflect Melrose's community spirit.

"There is a lot of community spirit here," he said. "People are proud of Melrose, and I think both parades highlight that."

Germano added that while some may view the two parades as competing events, he does not agree.

"I know a lot of people probably look at it that way," he said. "I don't see it that way. The MBCA welcomed the Patriots parade last year. We didn't try to stop it."

Germano also noted that this year, each group is participating in the other organization's parade.

"We are two different organizations that are both trying to do a lot for the community," he added.

Stanley said that in addition to community pride, another factor figures into the existence of the two parades.

"It's an extra ounce of Christmas spirit that we have in Melrose," she said.

Merry Christmas from All of Us at Williamson's Grocery!



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During this year's Christmas break 12G Mentoring Program is hosting its 1st Annual Winter Camp at The Bradford County Faith Community Center, 721 Old Lawtey Rd., Starke, FL 32091.

This camp will be arts and crafts based. Breakfast & snacks will be provided, but participants will have to bring their own lunch. To register please go to [www.cogbf.org](http://www.cogbf.org) or contact Edrick Hamilton at [12gibt.12gip@gmail.com](mailto:12gibt.12gip@gmail.com) or 904-364-0868.

<p>7:30a - 8:00a 8:10a - 9:00a 9:10a - 10:00a 10:10a - 11:00a 11:10a - 12:00p 12:10p - 1:30p 1:40p - 2:30p 2:40p - 3:30p 3:40p - 4:30p 4:40p - 5:30p</p>	<p><b>Breakfast</b> <b>2D Arts</b> <b>Team Building</b> <b>Yarn/String Arts</b> <b>Card Games</b> <b>Lunch &amp; Movie</b> <b>Outside Games</b> <b>Sculpting Arts</b> <b>3D Arts</b> <b>Board Games</b></p>
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William "Chip" Nelson, Joan Alexander and Gary Bennett place a wreath honoring U.S. Marine veterans.



Mark Alexander, Eddie Grabowski and Harold Sanders place a wreath honoring U.S. Army veterans.



Pamela Stoppelbein, Don Hall and Les Legere place a wreath honoring U.S. Merchant Marine members.



Bob Conneely, Robert Protomastro and Jerry Keefer place a wreath honoring U.S. Navy veterans.



Former Clay County Commissioner and retired U.S. Marine Gayward Hendry issues a warning about America's future.

# Lake Region observes Wreaths Across America

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS— Around 240 people gathered at the Keystone Heights Cemetery to honor fallen veterans at the Lake Region's Wreaths Across America event, Saturday, Dec. 18.

This was the first year the Lake Region ceremony was not organized by Joan Jones. Due to declining health, the Australian native and World War II war bride turned the event over to Clay County School Board Member Tina Bullock.

During the ceremony, Keystone Heights Mayor Karen Lake paid tribute to Jones, pointing out a plaque the city installed at the cemetery in Jones's honor.

A new addition to this year's program was the Keystone Heights Elementary School chorus, directed by Melissa Mann. The children led the crowd in the National Anthem and sang "On Veteran's Day", in addition to "God Bless America" at the end of the ceremony.

Other program participants were Art Tenney from the First Coast Highlanders Band on bagpipes, an invocation and benediction by Pat Lucas of American Legion Post 250 in Middleburg, presentation and retiring of colors by the Keystone Heights Junior-Senior High School JROTC, the Pledge of Allegiance led by American Heritage Girls Troop 7884 in McRae and taps by Roger Smith of AMVETS Post 86.

Bullock said the American Heritage Girls raised more money for wreaths this year than any other group.

U.S. Marine Gayward Hendry delivered the keynote address.

Hendry reminded the crowd that hundreds of other Wreaths Across America ceremonies were simultaneously occurring across the country.

He added that a country that forgets its heroes are worse off than countries with none.

"Poor is the nation that has no heroes that they can honor," he said. "Even poorer and shameful is the nation that has them but refuses or forgets to honor them."

Hendry said that as ugly as war is, there is one thing uglier: "The decayed and degraded stage of a country's moral and patriotic feelings which thinks there is nothing worth going to war for. Where is America on that scale? Is there anything left that we would fight for?"

He also said that for military members who swear to support and defend the constitution, that oath is a lifetime commitment.

"An oath is not for a day or a month or a year," he said. "The oath you take is for a lifetime."

He said the American soldier stands at the forefront of ensuring the United States endures.

"The American soldier will endure any hardship and undergo any sacrifice for the cause of freedom and service to his country," he said. "That is why we're here today."

He also said that how a nation

honors its veterans will impact future conflicts.

"General Washington, our first commander in chief, gave some insight to the longevity of our nation by saying this," Hendry said. "The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve the country in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional as to how they perceive the veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation."

"The American military is unbeatable in war," he continued, "not so much because of the hatred they have in front of them but for the love of the people that are still behind them."

## A warning for the future

Hendry also issued a warning about what he saw was a threat to the future of the country.

"I fear that we're starting down a road full of shame and tears," he said. "Today, the character and integrity of our nation's leadership and a good portion of our population is in serious question."

"This year, dozens of statues honoring our founding fathers have been pulled down and desecrated by the mob," he added. "Could the tombstone of our fallen warriors be next?"



Keystone Heights Mayor Karen Lake and Clay County School Board Member Tina Bullock.



## Christmas at Starke Church of God

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

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

\* A Christmas Wish \* \* A Christmas Wish \* \* A Christmas Wish \*

*"Christmas"*

It's Christmas time, oh the good spirit,  
In it a message, let us hear it.  
He came down and dwelled among us,  
In Him let us trust.  
A sign, a sign He is here,  
The angels tell us He is near.  
Oh wonderful child — God in flesh,  
In Him let us rest.  
Oh Savior Lord, you are here,  
To save us from eternal fear.  
The Christ Child — became a man,  
To fulfill His master plan.  
To save the world from their sin,  
He is the beginning and the end.  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
Christmas is all about the Christ Child.  
— Henry Hodges, Lawtey, FL

\* A Christmas Wish \* \* A Christmas Wish \* \* A Christmas Wish \*

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<p><b>Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.</b></p> <p>Competitive Rates, non-profit, right here in your community</p> <p>A TruGreen Energy Company</p> <p>Keystone District Office 352-473-8917 • clayelectric.com</p>	<p><b>After Church on Sunday Come to Powell's Dairy Freeze</b></p> <p>"Home of the Foot Long Steak"</p> <p>Stop by for Ice Cream on Wednesday Night!</p> <p>US 301 NORTH • STARKE, FL</p>	<p>Come Worship with us</p> <p><b>STARKE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH</b></p> <p>Church • Saturday 11:00 a.m. School • Saturday 10:00 a.m. 1649 W. Madison St • Starke, FL</p>
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<p>REACH TENS OF THOUSANDS of LOCAL CUSTOMERS in OUR TRI-COUNTY REGION EVERY WEEK • COST EFFECTIVE</p> <p>Call Beth or John Ryan at 904-964-6305</p>	<p><b>DOUGLAS BATTERY OF STARKE</b></p> <p>We rebuild starters, alternators, generators.</p> <p>Auto • Marine • Cycle Batteries</p> <p>407 N. Temple • 964-7911</p>	<p><b>Norton Telecom/A+ Alarms</b></p> <p>904-964-4580</p> <p>884 N. Temple Ave   Starke • State Lic # LG15000304</p> <p>PLEASE DRIVE BY TO SEE THE NEW HOME OF HIS CROSS</p>

**Merry Christmas Dear Friends!**

We at Jackson Building Supply count it a blessing that our relationship has grown and flourished with the passage of time as we joyfully celebrate our 66<sup>th</sup> Christmas season and welcome in a new year with you!

At this time of year we need to slow down and remember what is important to us. We need to remember how wonderful our family and friends are — but most of all...

**The Greatest Joy in All the World is Knowing Jesus Christ, God's Gift to All Who Will Receive Him. He is the reason for the season!**

Our Starke and Lake Butler locations will be closed on Friday, December 24th & the 25th. We will re-open on Monday, December 27th at 7:30 am.

from

**The Jackson Building Supply Family & Staff**

STARKE  
937 S. Walnut St.  
(904)964-6078

LAKE BUTLER  
SW 6<sup>th</sup> Ave  
(386)496-3079

# Crime

## Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

Dec. 11 through Dec. 17

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

#### Argued over watch

Jailen Stephan Bass, 22, of Melrose was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 11 for battery and assault.

According to an arrest report, the defendant and victim argued over ownership of a gold watch. The two then exchanged blows. Witnesses told arresting officer Savannah Duncan that Bass started the fight and struck the victim on the left bicep with a metal curtain rod.

Shirone Kennard Bonnett, 42, of Lawtey was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 14 for vehicle theft and larceny.

#### Neighbors can't get along

Cecil Darius Cox, 73, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 13 for aggravated assault.

According to an arrest report, on Dec. 11 the defendant and a neighbor argued over where the victim parked his vehicle. The victim told arresting officer Lekiesha Lewis that during the argument, Cox pointed a handgun at him. Deputies recovered the weapon in the center console of Cox's vehicle.

Lewis noted that deputies have responded in the past to disputes between the two neighbors. In June 2019 deputies were called after the two men argued over Cox cutting branches off a tree that was in the victim's yard.

Wayne Douglas Crawford, 44, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 16 for an out-of-county warrant.

Joshua Jarred Gibson, 42, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 15 for possession of drugs, possession of drug equipment and a probation violation.

#### Caught by hunting cabin camera

Kenneth Daniel Keene, 37, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 14 for criminal mischief with property damage, burglary and larceny.

According to an arrest report, on Jan. 31, 2021 a surveillance camera showed Keene and his girlfriend near a hunting cabin off SR 100 between Starke and Keystone Heights. Sleeping cots, a generator and other items were later discovered missing from the cabin. Law enforcement officers from Union and Columbia counties, in addition to Gainesville police helped identify Keene as the person captured on video, accomplices to the thefts and the location of the stolen property.

During his arraignment for the charges, the defendant pleaded no contest and was sentenced to 40 months in prison to be served concurrently with other sentences. He was also ordered to pay \$2,000 in restitution to the victim.

#### Trapped victim in bathroom

Jeremy James Manning, 43, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 15 for battery, false imprisonment, obstructing justice and a probation violation.

According to an arrest report, the defendant choked and spat in the face of a family member and trapped her in a bathroom for up to 10 minutes. When leaving the Cherry Street residence, the defendant took the victim's cell phone with him to prevent the victim from calling police.

Mathew Wayne Odom, 35, of Palatka was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 14 for an out-of-county warrant.

Shawn Leroy Perkins, 22, of Jacksonville was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 12 for possession of drugs.

Robert Earl Terrell, 49, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 17 for driving with a revoked or suspended license.

Jasmaine Renee Teston, 26, of Lake Butler was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 15 for possession of drugs, possession of drug equipment and an out-of-county warrant.

Miranda Jean Varnum, 43, of Hampton was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 18 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Barry Keith Warren, 31, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 16 for resisting an officer, possession of drugs, possession of drug equipment and an out-of-county warrant.

Isedore Leonard Washington, 54, of Gainesville was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 13 for contempt of court.

### Union

Johnny Everett George, 57, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 17 for a probation violation.

Timothy Steven Cox, 29, of Worthington Springs was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 15 for an out-of-county warrant.

Katlyn Marie Henley, 26, of Brooker was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 17 for a probation violation.

### Clay

Amber Lynn Bruce, 38, was arrested by Clay deputies on Dec. 14 in Keystone Heights for possession of methamphetamine.

Hubert Benjamin Edenfield, 33, was arrested by Clay deputies on Dec. 17 in Keystone Heights for failure to appear.

Robin Danielle Lusk, 20, was arrested by Clay deputies on Dec. 14 in Keystone Heights for possession of drug equipment.

Justin Dave Nobles, 36, was arrested by Clay deputies on Dec. 17 in Keystone Heights for battery.

Louis Elmer Platt, 33, of Melrose was arrested by Clay deputies on Dec. 12 in Melrose for battery.

Shonte R. Swogger, 40, was arrested by Clay deputies on Dec. 12 in Keystone Heights for DUI.

FLTreasureHunt.Gov

About FAQs Resources Events Report/Remit

## Join Florida's Treasure Hunt

One in five Floridians has unclaimed funds from a forgotten financial account

START YOUR SEARCH

RECEIVED A LETTER OR CALL?
CHECK STATUS OF YOUR CLAIM

One in five Floridians has unclaimed funds available, according to FLTreasureHunt.gov.

## The state could have a check waiting for you

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

Don't you love that feeling of reaching into a jacket pocket and discovering a \$10 bill you'd forgotten about?

The truth is, there could be tens, hundreds, even thousands of dollars out there waiting for you, and you only have to look where to look.

According to the Florida Department of Financial Services, there is more than \$2.5 million in unclaimed funds belonging to Floridians.

Housing deposits, refunds, insurance claims and more from a variety of sources is waiting to be claimed. Around \$1.6 million is owed to residents in Bradford County, \$536,000 to residents in Union County and \$11.5 million to residents in Clay County.

The search is as simple as

typing your name and searching the database at FLTreasureHunt.gov. You can narrow the search by entering address information. (There is also a security feature which will ask you to identify objects in order to prove you are not a robot trying to access the database.)

If your name pulls up a match for your address, click on the account number and you will be told the type of property held and who reported it. You will also have a chance to file a claim to receive it.

While impossible to produce a complete list, a quick search for common names found more than 30 hits for people named Griffis in the 32091 zip code, including multiple account numbers for Brittany, Clare, Gladys, Rodeny and Ruby Griffis. There were 23 for Jackson, including Clifford,

Elaine, Elsie, Luree and four for Selma. There was also a listing for the estate of Gladys Jackson.

There were 18 hits for Crawford in Lake Butler, including Angel, Dennis, Douglas, Gerald and Gerald Jr. There were more than 30 Smiths, including Bert, Jeffery, Josh and Rhonda.

It's not just individuals with property to claim. Businesses may also find themselves listed. There were four listings for Bradford County Telegraph. The Lake Butler search for Smith returned to listings for Smith and Sons.

Searching takes very little time, but could result in a nice Christmas surprise. If you are fortunate enough to receive a generous refund or other claim, let us know.

Happy treasure hunting!

Welcome Web User

### Welcome to Unclaimed Property Search

Begin your search by entering an individual's last name or the name of a business.

For the best results, search all known names. (maiden name, married names, nick-names)

If your search yields too many results, you can narrow the results by performing "advanced" searches, with the options of adding middle name, city, and/or zip code.

Name Search

\* Last Name/Business Name

First Name

Narrow your search with the following fields:

Middle Name

City

Zip (ex: 32399)

I'm not a robot

## THREATS

Continued from page 1

"This situation serves as a good example of why it is important to avoid sharing posts online that refer to school safety threats. Even if they are not credible threats, they can cause a great deal

of stress and anxiety for our students, families and staff. We ask our families to monitor their children's social media activity and speak with them about proper behavior online."

Concerns can also be shared with law enforcement anonymously.

The American

Psychological Association suggests parents listen to their kids and encourage them to talk about what's going on at school.

"Parents should acknowledge to children that bad things do happen, but also reassure them with the information that many people are working to keep them safe, including their parents, teachers and local police," according to the association.

Parents should also look for signs that their children need help.

"Such indicators could be a change in the child's school performance, changes in relationships with peers and teachers, excessive worry, school refusal, sleeplessness, nightmares, headaches or stomachaches, or loss of interest in activities that the child used to enjoy."

## HOLD

Continued from page 1

the county would at least resolve the falling minority population issue in District 1. It would, Commissioner Chris Dougherty said, but doing so would have no impact on any election before 2023. Taking more time would allow them to take a broader look at the maps and get feedback from the school board members, who were not included in the prior discussion.

Commissioner Diane Andrews, who had questions about boundaries in her district, agreed, saying they could do a better job at getting the districts closer in size.

Commissioner Danny Riddick recalled that after the 2010 census, the commission created a committee of citizens who met with the supervisor of elections and developed several options for

commissioners and school board members to choose from.

Sexton said between the requirement to close the population gaps between districts and a court order to maintain the high minority population of District 1, they struggle with competing interests.

"So, I appreciate what Ms. Seyfang did. I think they were trying to quickly resolve the top priority," he said. "There is no magic answer to comply with all the federal requirements. You have to do your best to be as compliant in each case as you can."

The minority population of District 1 is high, if not the highest, priority, he said.

### Starke also delayed

Starke hasn't redistricted since its district lines were first drawn after the losing the lawsuit filed by the NAACP

in the 1980s. This year, the commission decided to take that on, seeking a consultant to analyze the numbers and propose any needed changes while preserving the minority population of Starke's District 2.

Attorney Clay Martin has asked the city commission to extend the deadline for the advertisement and project deadline by four weeks to because of a disagreement over whether public university employees can continue advising or testifying on matters such as redistricting. Many of the consultants who would offer such assistance are involved in academia, he said. He hoped the additional time would allow the matter to be resolved.

Commissioners hope to wrap up redistricting in the spring. According to Martin, the city is not under the same requirement to redistrict in odd-numbered years.

## Stricklands

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## RUSS WADE

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### Waste collection site hours

Over the holidays, the Bradford County solid waste collection sites will be closed on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 24 and 25, and on Saturday, Jan. 1. They will be open from 1 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2. Hours will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 27-31. Regular hours will resume Monday, Jan. 3.

### Bradford library holiday hours

Bradford County Public Library will be open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 20-23. The library will close from Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, through Dec. 27. The library will reopen from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 28-30 and close for New Year's Eve on Dec. 31.

Library hours will return to normal in 2022: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday;

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday; and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday.

### Bingo at Legion Post 56 home

American Legion Post 56 is hosting bingo games every Monday evening. Early bird games start at 6:30 p.m. and regular games at 7 p.m. Proceeds aid veterans in need. Post 56 is located at 715 Edwards Road in Starke.

# COVID changes show clearly in LB festivities

BY LARRY DUPEE  
Special to the Times

The world has changed a great deal in the past two years that the COVID-19 virus, and it's variants, have been with us and nowhere has it been more evident than in how local residents celebrate the holidays. While many of the traditional Union County events carried on this year (after some took Christmas 2020 off for health and safety reasons), but attendance has been much lighter than in previous years, and the Lake Butler Christmas Parade and Santa event at the lake had fewer people come to watch and participate.

The annual Christmas parade, help on Dec. 18, 2021, seemed to have fewer people watching it and did, in actuality, have fewer persons participating at the lake event.

Many usual entrants in the parade, among the most notable being Community State Bank and Lake Butler Hospital, did not sign up to participate this year. The event featured a parade lasting a little less than 15 minutes, with fewer people than is usual standing along the route to watch. There were also fewer participants in the parade itself.

A Union County Sheriff's Office car led the way, closely followed by the Boy Scouts of America Troop and Pack 140 Color Guard. Next came the Flag Corps. manipulating seasonally



Lake Butler Christmas Parade 2021

decorated hoops in a coordinated display. Right behind came the band itself, under the direction of Band Director and UCHS Teacher of the Year Kelly Dorsey, who walked along the musicians and waved at the crowd.

The BSA Troop and Pack presented a float on the event as well. Other floats included: Lake Butler Public Works, Babe Ruth Softball, Babe Ruth Baseball, the American Legion & the UCHS JROTC (sharing a float), Lake Butler Church of God, Southern Goddess and Andrews Site Prep. In addition, Pierce Tree Service sent along a lighted bucket truck which virtually glowed against the darkening sky.

The floats were judged by the team of Mallory Southwell, Jeanette Mantilla and Danika Zhao, who deemed the Andrews Site Prep float worthy of first place, with the Babe Ruth Baseball float taking second place and the Lake Butler Church of God float coming in third.

Also on hand, filling out the parade were decorated cars by Libby Massage and Wellness, the UCHS Homecoming Queen and King 2020-21, the Allstars Twirling Academy (with the car followed by several ranks of twirlers, including two with fire batons), Miss Union County High, the Bradford/Union Strawberry Queen and Princess, Little Miss Union County Queen and Princess and Carr Creations. Sue Hardin and Kathy Ruling rode in a brightly lighted golf cart and Junio Miss Northeast Florida participated in a truck.

The rear guard of the parade was made up of the Brantley/Prescott family horse and, as always, the Union County Riding Club, with a Union County Fire Department truck carrying Santa for his first appearance of the evening.

The action moved to the big pavilion at Lakeside Park, where about 125 children got to visit with Santa and tell him their

Christmas wishes. The line was long, but not as long as in previous years, but the young folks were accompanied by one or both parents or other family member.

While the parade and Santa event were going on, the Union County Senior Citizens Club was holding its annual Christmas party and dinner. There was live music for dancing and a delicious potluck dinner was served.

Also part of the city holiday events was the naming of the winners of the Downtown Decorating Contest in Lake Butler. Terry's Florals took top honors, followed by Simply Blessed and the Supervisor of Elections office.

While the crowd were smaller the holiday spirit was present at all of the events and the children scrambled for thrown candy at the parade with their usual eager energy. The children were the happiest people in attendance, perhaps less directly affected by



The Union County High School Band put on their usual, mood-setting show. Here they are seen marching down SR-100, accompanied by UCHS Band Director Kelly Dorsey.



Pierce Tree Service's bucket truck lit up the night and added some holiday cheer to the event.

the help concerns that have kept many adults in constant stress for almost two years. But while the stress, and financial issues may dampen many people's holiday

spirit, the community survives and will see more Christmases starting next year. Merry Christmas, Union County!



While the parade and Santa event were going on outside, the Lake Butler Senior Citizens Club was holding their Christmas party/dinner. With over 100 members, the club meets almost every Saturday night at the Hal Y. Maines Community Center at the lake.



Caylynn Morris, 6, seems totally comfortable sitting with Santa, telling him all the things on her Christmas list.



Abigail Wilbur seems not too happy to be sitting on Santa's knee, but her sister, Emily Wilbur, seems right at home talking to the "jolly old elf."



A crowded cafeteria at Starke Elementary School enjoyed the entertainment at this year's Santa Breakfast.



Students sing carols for the families gathered to celebrate Christmas.



Teachers Melissa Hines and Pam Campbell.



Teacher Lynn Woods watches while Callen Phillips plays ball.



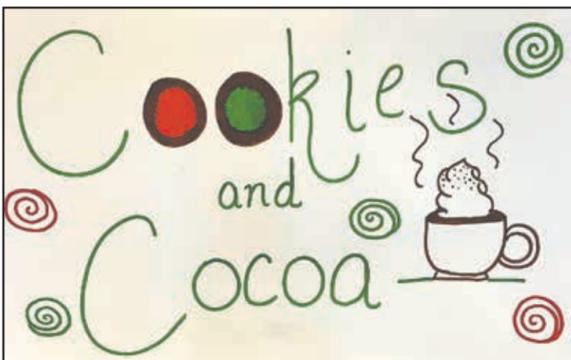
The stage was set for photos with Santa.



Teacher Cindi Asmuth



Music teacher Cindy Canova and students Amaryn Gunter and Ava Hines.



Southside Elementary School hosted its first Christmas event in a few years — Cookies and Cocoa. Children decorated cookies and wrote wish list letters. Pictured are Principal Cassie Melvin and daughter, Brilee, with Santa.



Junior Miss Winterfest Chloe Simon with Assistant Principal Lauren Morgan.

## Legal Notices

### Bradford

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
Certificate Number: 761  
Year of Issuance: 2014  
Parcel Number: 02674-0-00000  
Case Number: 2021-TD-0017  
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
Name in Which Assessed: ROSA MAE JONES  
Name on last tax roll, if different: ROSA MAE JONES EST  
All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 2ND day of March 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk  
DATED: November 30, 2021  
Legal Description: 02674-0-00000 I Beginning at the SW corner of the NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section Twenty-two, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, and run East on Quarter Section line 610 feet for point of beginning, thence run North 200 feet, thence East 100 feet, thence run South 200 feet to Quarter Section line, thence West 100 feet to point of beginning,  
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
Certificate Number: 774  
Year of Issuance: 2014  
Parcel Number: 02697-0-00000  
Case Number: 2021-TD-0018  
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
Name in Which Assessed: ANDREW CARTER III  
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk  
DATED: November 30, 2021  
Legal Description: 02697-0-00000 A strip of land 50 feet North and South and 200 feet East and West in the Southwest corner of the following, described lands: Beginning at the Northwest corner of the West half of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, thence run South seventy yards, thence East on hundred and forty yards, thence North seventy yards, thence West one hundred and forty yards to the point of beginning; the same being two acres of land and being in the Northwest corner of the West half of Southwest Quarter of Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East,  
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
Certificate Number: 833  
Year of Issuance: 2014  
Parcel Number: 02941-B-00103  
Case Number: 2021-TD-0019  
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
Name in Which Assessed: BRADFORD LAND TRUST ET AL; ALFRED H WOLF, TRUSTEE ETC;  
KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC;  
SCOTT HUGHES, TRUSTEE ETC;  
KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC  
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk  
DATED: November 30, 2021  
Legal Description: I 02721-0-00000 The following described land, situate, lying and being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida, to wit: E 1/2, of W 2A of S 1/2 of SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4, Section 22, Township

6S, Range 22E, Public records of Bradford County, Florida,  
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT  
**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)**  
PROFESSIONAL GENERAL & PLANNING ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS AT KEYSTONE HEIGHTS AIRPORT (42J)  
Due Date and Time: Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 4:00 p.m.  
The Keystone Heights Airport Authority, Florida, pursuant to the "Consultant's Competitive Negotiation Act" (CCNA) section 287.055, Florida Statutes, as may be amended, and Federal Aviation Administration Advisory Circular 150/5100-14E, hereby requests statements of qualifications and performance data from professional engineering/planning firms (hereinafter "Consultant"), that are duly licensed and registered to practice in the State of Florida, and that desire to render such services for the Keystone Heights Airport (42J). Services may include the performance of all preliminary, design, bidding and negotiation, and construction phase related services for general aviation planning, land acquisition, and site/civil development and reconstruction projects, including, but not limited to, surveying, subsurface explorations, geotechnical analysis, civil, structural, environmental, mechanical, electrical, landscaping, architectural, bidding/award, construction administration, resident inspection, technical studies, preparation of plans, specifications, construction contract documents, engineer's design reports, cost estimating and scheduling, grant administration and all other related services as may be requested by the Authority.  
All Qualifications received in response to this RFQ will be reviewed by an Evaluation Committee. In order to be considered, submittals must be received by the Airport Manager, Keystone Heights Airport Authority, 7150 Airport Road, Starke, Florida, 32091, no later than 4:00 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 which time all responses to this request will be opened and recorded in the presence of one (1) or more witnesses. A copy of the Instructions and RFQ Document can be obtained from the Keystone Heights Airport Authority, 7150 Airport Road, Starke, Florida, 32091. Attention: Maria Hitt, Airport Manager, mhitt@keystoneairport.com or on our website at www.keystoneairport.com.  
The solicitation does not commit the Authority to award any contracts, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a response to this RFQ, or to contract for any services. The Authority reserves the right to reject any or all submittals received as a result of this solicitation, or to cancel in part or in its entirety this RFQ, if it is in the best interest of the Authority to do so.  
The Keystone Heights Airport Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Drug Free Work Place. Maria Hitt, Airport Manager, Keystone Heights Airport Authority  
12/16 2TCHG 12/23-BCT

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
Certificate Number: 834  
Year of Issuance: 2014  
Parcel Number: 02941-B-00107  
Case Number: 2021-TD-0020  
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
Name in Which Assessed: BRADFORD LAND TRUST ET AL; ALFRED H WOLF, TRUSTEE ETC; KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC; SCOTT HUGHES, TRUSTEE ETC; KEVIN BROWNE, TRUSTEE ETC;  
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk  
DATED: November 30, 2021  
Legal Description: 02941-A-00107 Lots 13 (except the Northerly 10 feet of Lot 13) of Bradford Villas, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 3, page 55, of the public records of Bradford County, Florida. OR 1333, PG 49  
LOT 13 (EXCEPT THE NORTHERLY 10 FEET OF LOT 13) OF BRADFORD VILLAS, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 55 of the Public Records of Bradford County, Florida. OR 1212, PG 472  
12/9 4tchg 12/30-BCT

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
Certificate Number: 783  
Year of Issuance: 2014  
Parcel Number: 02721-0-00000  
Case Number: 2021-TD-0021  
Description of Property: SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
Name in Which Assessed: KARYM CASAS & SAMUEL CASAS  
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2022, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk  
DATED: November 30, 2021  
Legal Description: I 02721-0-00000 The following described land, situate, lying and being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida, to wit: E 1/2, of W 2A of S 1/2 of SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4, Section 22, Township

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

MIRACLE AUTOMOTIVE & TRUCK SERVICE CENTER INC. gives notice that on 01/14/2022 at 12:00 PM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 620 N THOMPSON ST. to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78. 1FT8W3D63JEC17290 2018 FORD 1GCEC14V94Z92712 2004 CHEV 2CARCIBG4LR125723 2020 CHRY 2FMDK3JCXABB74062 2010 FORD SGTEN13E588142970 2008 HUMM  
12/23 1tchg-BCT

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

MIRACLE AUTOMOTIVE & TRUCK SERVICE CENTER INC. gives notice that on 12/31/2021 at 12:00 PM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 620 N THOMPSON ST. to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78. 1FTX15Y1SKB81168 1995 FORD  
12/23 1tchg-BCT

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

MIRACLE AUTOMOTIVE & TRUCK SERVICE CENTER INC. gives notice that on 12/31/2021 at 12:00 PM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 620 N THOMPSON ST. to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78. 1FTX15Y1SKB81168 1995 FORD  
12/23 3tchg 1/6/22-BCT

#### NOTICE OF SALE

T & M Towing gives notice of lien and intent to sell these vehicle(s) on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at T & M storage yard at 1451 Hayes Ave, Starke, FL 32091. T & M reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. 2015 Chevrolet  
VIN# 3N63MOYV3FK697938  
12/23 2TCHG 12/30-BCT

#### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME

Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given that the undersigned: Chad Brown and Sofya Brown, 2532 NW 223 St, Lawley, FL 32058, joint owners, doing business under the firm name of: Compost Power Lab, 2532 NW 223 St, Lawley, FL 32058, intends to register fictitious name under the aforesaid statute. Dated this 17 day of December A.D., 2021, in Bradford County.  
12/23 1tchg-BCT

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Starke 301 U-Store LLC, pursuant to SECTION 83.801-809 Florida Statutes "Storage Facility

Act" will sell to the highest bidder the contents of the following storage units located at 1650 S. Walnut Street, Starke, Florida 32091. Said contents consisting of personal property, household and other goods, furniture, etc., or as otherwise indicated. Sale will take place January 8th, 2022 @ 11:00 am. This sale is being made to satisfy a statutory lien. Registration will begin at 10:15 am.  
B-04 Jeffery Atkinson  
B-10 Ebony Butler  
A-15 Frank Lauffer  
A-56 Henrietta Butler  
A-68 Henrietta Butler  
A-74 Henrietta Butler  
Entire contents of the following units will be sold to satisfy a lien & other charges according to Florida Statutes 83.806. Seller reserves the right to reject any bids and to withdraw any unit from such sale. Open bids only. CASH PAYMENTS ONLY All Sales Are Final. 10% Buyers Premium. Contents must be removed by close of business 1/08/2022. For any winning bid the buyer must present a \$50.00 cleaning fee for each winning unit and is refundable upon returning the unit broom swept by close of business 1/08/2022.  
12/23 2tchg 12/30-BCT

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

MIRACLE AUTOMOTIVE & TRUCK SERVICE CENTER INC. gives notice that on 01/14/2022 at 12:00 PM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 620 N THOMPSON ST. to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78. 1FT8W3D63JEC17290 2018 FORD 1GCEC14V94Z92712 2004 CHEV 2CARCIBG4LR125723 2020 CHRY 2FMDK3JCXABB74062 2010 FORD SGTEN13E588142970 2008 HUMM  
12/23 1tchg-BCT

#### THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED

that the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida will hold a meeting on January 3, 2022 at 9:30 AM at the Bradford County Courthouse, located at 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida. The public is encouraged to visit www.bradfordcountypfl.gov/meetings or to call the Office of the County Manager at (904) 966-6327 to obtain a copy of the agenda for this meeting.  
12/23 1tchg-BCT

#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS MOWING OF AREA REFERRED TO AS "SPRAYFIELD"

The City of Starke is soliciting quotes for the mowing of approximately one hundred forty (140) acres of irrigated and thirty (30) acres of unirrigated land (spray field) at least four times per calendar year. This solicitation is subject to approval by the Starke City Commission, and the City reserves the right to accept or reject any proposals. All quotes should be received no later than 5:00PM EST, Thursday, January 13, 2022, at the addresses given below (choose one)  
U.S. Mail:  
City of Starke  
209 N Thompson Street  
Starke, FL 32091  
ATT: Mowing Services  
Office of the City Manager  
Email: (electronic copies are fine)  
Mail quote and any supporting documents to: dmullins@cityofstarke.org  
12/23 3tchg 1/6/22-BCT

#### UNION COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council announces a business meeting to which all persons are invited. DATE AND TIME: January 11, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. PLACE: Union County Transportation Facility located at 255 SW 9th Avenue, Lake Butler, Florida  
DIAL IN NUMBER: Toll free 1.888.585.9008  
CONFERENCE CODE: 864 183 272  
GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: To conduct the regular business of the Union County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. Per the updated Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, fully vaccinated people are not required to wear a mask or physically distance except where required by federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations including local business and workplace guidance. It is recommended that unvaccinated people wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth and stay six feet apart from others who do not live with you.  
For additional information or to obtain a copy of the agenda interested persons may contact: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council,

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; godfrey@ncfprc.org or 352.955.2200. The meeting agenda will be posted at https://www.ncfprc.org/transportation-disadvantaged.  
Any person may submit written or other physical evidence which he or she intends to offer into evidence during the meeting to Lynn Godfrey, Senior Planner, at North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; or godfrey@ncfprc.org.  
Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 2 business days before the meeting by contacting 352.955.2200. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800. 955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800. 955.8770 (Voice).  
If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence from which the appeal is to be issued.  
12/23 1tchg-BCT

### Union

#### BRADFORD COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

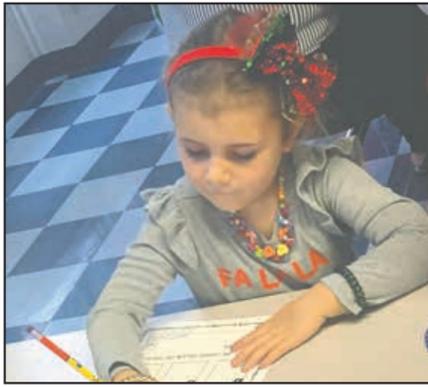
The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council announces a business meeting to which all persons are invited. DATE AND TIME: January 11, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. PLACE: Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room located in the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 North Temple Ave., Starke, Florida.  
DIAL IN NUMBER: Toll free 1.888.585.9008  
CONFERENCE CODE: 864 183 272  
GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: To conduct the regular business of the Bradford County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. Per the updated Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, fully vaccinated people are not required to wear a mask or physically distance except where required by federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations including local business and workplace guidance. It is recommended that unvaccinated people wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth and stay six feet apart from others who do not live with you.  
For additional information or to obtain a copy of the agenda interested persons may contact: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; godfrey@ncfprc.org or 352.955.2200. The meeting agenda and supporting materials will be posted at https://www.ncfprc.org/transportation-disadvantaged.  
Any person may submit written or other physical evidence which he or she intends to offer into evidence during the business meeting to Lynn Godfrey, Senior Planner, at North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; or godfrey@ncfprc.org.  
Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 2 business days before the meeting by contacting 352.955.2200. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800. 955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800. 955.8770 (Voice).  
If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence from which the appeal is to be issued.  
12/23 1tchg-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO.: 20000058CAAXMX  
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, FOR MANUFACTURED HOUSING CONTRACT SENIOR/SUBORDINATE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATE TRUST 2000-3, Plaintiff,  
VS.  
ESTATE OF CHARLIE L PERRY A/K/A

CHARLIE LEON PERRY A/K/A CHARLEY LEON PERRY A/K/A CHARLEY LEON PERRY, JR., DECEASED; et al., Defendant(s).  
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure (In Rem) dated December 13, 2021, entered in Civil Case No.: 20000058CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Union County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, FOR MANUFACTURED HOUSING CONTRACT SENIOR/SUBORDINATE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATE TRUST 2000-3, Plaintiff, and ESTATE OF CHARLIE L. PERRY A/K/A CHARLEY LEON PERRY A/K/A CHARLEY LEON PERRY, JR., DECEASED; UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, TRUSTEES OF CHARLIE L PERRY A/K/A CHARLEY LEON PERRY A/K/A CHARLEY LEON PERRY, JR., DECEASED; ANGELA HOPE EDMOND; CHARLEY LEON PERRY III, A MINOR; DERRICK BERNARD PERRY; JOSEPH JACKSON PERRY; DAVON CORNELIUS PERRY A/K/A DAVEN CORNELIUS PERRY; ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PARTIES, including, if a named defendant is deceased, the personal representatives, the surviving spouse, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, and all other parties claiming, by, through, under or against that defendant, and all claimants, persons or parties, natural or corporate, or whose exact legal status is unknown, claiming under any of the above named or described defendants, are Defendants. I will sell to the highest bidder for cash, in the Front Lobby of the Union County Courthouse, 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, FL 32054 at 11:00 AM, on the 24th day of February, 2022, the following described real property as set forth in said Judgment, to wit: COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SW 1/4 OF SE 1/4 OF SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 18 EAST, AND THENCE RUN NORTH ON FORTY LINE 947 FEET FOR POINT OF BEGINNING; FROM POINT OF BEGINNING AS THUS DESCRIBED, THENCE RUN EAST 210 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 105 FEET PARALLEL WITH WEST FORTY LINE, THENCE RUN WEST 210 FEET OR TO ROAD RIGHT OF WAY, THENCE RUN NORTH 105 FEET TO POINT OF BEGINNING, SAID LAND CONTAINING ONE-HALF (1/2) ACRE, MORE OR LESS, AND SITUATE IN ; THE SW 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 OF SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 18 EAST, TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 1997, 56X24 CYPR MOBILE HOME, SERIAL NUMBER GMHGA445961418A AND GMHGA4459614184B.  
If you are a person claiming a right to funds remaining after the sale, you must file a claim with the clerk before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. If you fail to file a timely claim you will not be entitled to any remaining funds. After the funds are reported as unclaimed, only the owner of record as of the date of the Lis Pendens may claim the surplus. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a proceeding, you are entitled to be provided with certain assistance at no cost to you. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 East University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601 (352-337-6237) at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice-impaired, call 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service. If you are deaf or hard of hearing and require an ASL interpreter or an assisted listening device to participate in a proceeding, please contact Court Interpreting at interpreter@circuit8.org a WITNESS my hand and the seal of the court on December 15, 2021!  
KELLIE HENDRICKS RHOADES — CLERK OF THE COURT  
BY: Crystal Norman  
Deputy Clerk  
Attorney for Plaintiff:  
Brian L. Rosaler, Esquire  
Popkin & Rosaler, P.A.  
1701 West Hillsboro Boulevard  
Suite 400  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442  
Telephone: (954) 360-9030  
Facsimile: (954) 420-5187  
12/23 2tchg 12/30-UCT



Stella Rike decorated her cookie with blue sprinkles.



Shaylen Rogers writes a letter to Santa.



Letters to Santa were mailed to the North Pole via Santa Mail.



Capp Hartley enjoys the cookie he decorated.



Assistant Principal Lauren Morgan, Principal Cassie Melvin, School Board Member Erica Reddish, Behavioral Resource Teacher Edrick Hamilton, and School Board Members Cheryl Canova and Sheila Cummings with Santa.

### MLK banquet, brunch announced

In honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Concerned Citizens of Bradford County Inc. is sponsoring the following events:

—Saturday, Jan. 15 at 6 p.m., The Annual Service Awards Banquet at the Gov. Charley E. Johns Conference Center, 1610 N. Temple Ave. in Starke. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Paul Broadie II, Santa Fe College president. Ticket donations

are \$35 for adults and \$15 for children 8–17.

—Monday, Jan. 17, at 11 a.m., the annual MLK Program and Brunch at the RJE Complex, 1080 N. Pine Street in Starke. In accordance with the CDC guidelines, the events will be outside in front of the RJE gym, and each participant is asked to wear mask and bring a lawn chair.

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## NORTH FLORIDA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Brad Bishop, Director  
 Keith Kirby, Coordinator

### Spring 2022 Schedule

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

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

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

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

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**North Florida Technical College**  
**609 N. Orange Street, Starke, FL 32091**  
**904-966-6764 - [www.nftc.edu](http://www.nftc.edu)**

# Shop With a Cop: a reward for children and adults



Lawtey Correctional Institution's Teniya Shuman (center) escorts Starke Elementary students Dasean Tisdale (far left) and Avah Britt. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

They weren't dashing through the snow, and the sound of sirens was nothing like the sound of jingling bells, but the police escort of children to Walmart is a sure sign to people in Starke that Christmas is upon us.

The Starke Police Department's 17th annual Shop With a Cop took place Dec. 14-15, allowing 334 children from Southside, Starke, Lawtey and Lake Butler elementary schools to participate in a \$100 shopping spree. They were escorted by members of various law enforcement and other agencies as well as employees of the Florida Department of Corrections Region 2 institutions.

Michael Gillick of SPD has participated every year but one during the 14 years he's been at SPD and Lawtey Police Department before that. He escorted children both days at this year's event.

"It's always fantastic," he said.



Madison Correctional Institution's Thomas Smith (left) and Southside Elementary student Marieh Williams are all smiles, and they haven't begun shopping in earnest yet. As you can see, Marieh has her Christmas list in hand.

"It's one of the truly rewarding things we get to do."

Like Gillick, Florida State Prison's Cindy Sibley has participated multiple years and took part in both days at this year's event.

"It's very rewarding to see the smiles on these kids' faces," she said. "Some of them wouldn't get anything (otherwise). It means a lot. It really does."

SPD Maj. Barry Warren, who organizes the event and does the legwork in collecting donations and keeping in contact with the schools, said the event is a way of rewarding those children who are identified by teachers and school administrators as having a need, but who are still behaving and working hard to succeed in school.

Warren, dressed in his festive red-and-green attire and identifying himself as "Po-Po Elf," addresses the children each year prior to the start of their shopping sprees and tells them as much.

"If you're here, guess what? You've been doing the right



Decisions can be tough, but Southside Elementary student Chloe Dickinson (left) has Bradford County Sheriff's Office Deputy Brandon Whitehead to help her out.

things in school," Warren told the group of students from Lawtey

and Starke elementary schools, adding, "We are proud to take you on a shopping trip."

Who the children shop with is as important as rewarding students for putting forth their best effort at school. Warren said the goal is for children to have positive experiences with members of law enforcement.

Sibley said allowing children to have this type of interaction with law enforcement is "very important."

"A lot of kids are scared (of law enforcement). They're getting told police are bad," she said.

Sibley said she had a girl ask her at one of the events, "Are you a nice lady?" She replied, "Well, honey, what do you think?" When the girl said, "I think you're really nice," Sibley told her, "OK. See?"

In talking to the Lawtey and Starke elementary students, who took part in their shopping sprees on Dec. 15, Warren said, "A lot of these officers are off duty

See SHOP, page 17



Lawtey Elementary student Jamiah Gipson (left) shows off the Batmobile he selected with the help of escort Johnathon Guinn of the Starke Police Department.



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Lawtey Elementary student Scarlett Puff and Lawtey Correctional Institution's Mark Spittle are having a fun time shopping.



## Merry Christmas

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VeRonica and Peter with their children: Peter II, Margarete, Francena, Evangelena and Christiane.



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James 4:12 — There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save.



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# Tornadoes go 1-2 in annual McDonald's-Kiwanis tourney

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Host Bradford High School got off to a good start with a 19-point win, but then dropped a nail-biter to Clay before ending play with a 29-point loss to Paxon, which was awarded the championship trophy at the Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis of Starke Christmas Basketball Tournament, which was held Dec. 16-18.

Paxon (8-1) was the only team to go undefeated, getting wins over Clay and Jacksonville's Hope Christian before beating Bradford in the tournament finale. The Eagles' Dameon Jones Jr., who scored 25 points in the win over the Tornadoes, was named tournament MVP.

In its first game of the tournament, Bradford (2-2) opened the fourth quarter with a 14-1 run in defeating Suwannee 65-46.

Shayne Davis, who had a game-high 23 points, scored every point during that run as the Tornadoes pulled away after entering the fourth quarter with just a two-point lead.

The Tornadoes got off to a strong start, scoring four of the game's first five field goals. Davis' three points in the latter part of the first quarter, which ended with Chalil Cummings scoring on a buzzer-beating layup off a pass from Hunter Crawford, helped Bradford build a nine-point lead.

Suwannee closed the second quarter with an 8-4 run, which left the Bulldogs trailing 27-18 at halftime.

Bradford could've had a bigger lead, but went 6-for-13 at the foul



Jontez Williams (far right) hangs in the air on a shot attempt in the Tornadoes' win over Suwannee on day one of the Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis of Starke Christmas Basketball Tournament. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

line in the second quarter.

Despite getting six points from Crawford early in the third quarter, Bradford saw its lead begin to evaporate. The Bulldogs closed the quarter with a 10-5 run to make it a 38-36 game.

Davis had a basket in transition

and another off a turnover to put the Tornadoes up 42-36 to start the fourth quarter. After making two free throws, Davis then sank a three-pointer following a turnover to give Bradford an 11-point lead.

A Crawford steal led to the first of two consecutive baskets by Jontez Williams, which put the Tornadoes ahead 54-37. Davis later added three more baskets as the Tornadoes outscored Suwannee 27-10 in the final quarter.

Crawford finished with 11 points, while Williams and Robbie Simmons-Godwin had seven and six, respectively. Keith Ardley and Amari Jones each scored five points, with Cummings adding four. Tiravez Hankerson scored two points, while Jametrius Pringle chipped in one.

Cummings led the team in rebounds with seven, while Crawford, Davis and Simmons-Godwin each had five.

Cummings also had four assists and four steals, while Davis had four assists and five steals. Williams added five assists and three steals.

On the tournament's second day, Bradford and Clay were involved in a game that came down to the finals seconds,



Bradford's Shayne Davis (center) gets airborne and draws contact in the win over Suwannee.

See BHS, page 12



This year's Christmas on Call Street Car Show included 98 entries — a record. Photos submitted courtesy of Mitchell Gunter.

## Judges choose from among 98 vehicles at Christmas on Call Street

Ray Williams and his 1972 AMC AMX Javelin took Best of Show at this year's Christmas on Call Street Car Show, which was held Dec. 11.

The event featured 98 entries — the most ever. Organizer Mitchell Gunter noted the show has grown every year, from approximately 15 participants the first year to 30-plus last year, but this year's jump was surprising. Gunter thanks car clubs for allowing him to post the event on their Facebook pages. He believes that was a big factor in the turnout.

"Vehicles just started pouring in left and right," he said.

Top 20 awards were presented to the following: David and Bonnie Sprinkle, Nancy Peacock, Mike Byerly, Richard Stockrahm, Frank Patterson, Doug Hoar, Ron Perry, Dwayne Winstead, Theresa Peters, and Eric Shupe.

Receiving Top 10 awards were Charlie Pierro, Randy Winney, Mike Teston, James Padgett, Chris Taylor, T.J. Boice, Tommy Hasty, Howard McKibben, Chris Hiam, and Robert Hazel.

Cindy Flanders, Glenn Gunter, David Rodgers and Dwayne Vanzant judged this year's entries. Gunter said they had their work cut out for them as there were a lot of nice vehicles on display.

Award sponsors were Making the Cut, A Bradford Plus Insurance, Sapp Station, The Downtown Grill, It's Your Day Bridal, Red Dog Saloon,

Sporting Chance, The Shoppes at Thompson Street, Edward Jones, Williams Jewelry and On The Spot with David Rodgers.

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Best of Show, Top 20 and Top 10 awards were presented at the Dec. 11 event.

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## Local DAR chapter meets on Jan. 3

The Col. Samuel Elbert Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, will host its next meeting on Monday, Jan. 3, at the Montgomery Conference Center (88 S.E. 75th St., Starke).

The meeting, which begins with a \$10 brunch at 10:30 a.m., will feature a program on Morgan's House, which has been established to offer emergency shelter/transitional housing to victims of addiction, abandonment and abuse in the Northeast Florida.

Do you have a Revolutionary War-era patriot in your family tree? If you would like to find out, DAR can help with its genealogical resources. Any woman 18 years or older,

regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove direct descent from a person who aided in achieving American independence between

April 19, 1775, and Nov. 26, 1783, is eligible for membership. Please contact Registrar Jane Argo Romeo at 352-478-3544 for more information.

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**Chalil Cummings (left) goes up for a basket in the Tornadoes' two-point loss to Clay on day two of the Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis of Starke Christmas Basketball Tournament. Bradford, after a 1-2 showing, is now playing in Fleming Island's Battle on the Island tournament. The Tornadoes were 2-2 prior to Dec. 21.**

quarter sent the Tornadoes into halftime trailing 24-23. Simmons-Godwin scored the first two baskets of the run, with the second coming off a steal by Cummings. Cummings then had another steal, which eventually led to points when Williams scored off an offensive rebound before the buzzer.

Simmons-Godwin and Williams combined to score 11 points in the third quarter. Shayne Davis drove to the basket for a score, getting fouled in the process, with 24 seconds left in the third quarter. He made the ensuing free throw to put Bradford ahead 37-35, but Clay's D'maurion Frazier scored to even it up going into the final quarter.

Clay missed the front end of a one-and-one opportunity with 1:09 to play and a 49-48 lead. Bradford's Davis made two free throws 16 seconds later to put the Tornadoes ahead 49-48.

Each team had an 0-for-2 trip at the foul line in the final 30 seconds, but the Tornadoes' misses with 19 seconds remaining proved to be more costly.

The Blue Devils J'den Golding drove to the basket for a score, getting fouled in the process, with 12.8 seconds on the clock. He made the free throw to put Clay ahead 51-49, leaving Bradford with one possession to either tie or win the game.

Simmons-Godwin and Williams finished with 16 and 12 points, respectively, while Cummings had 10. Davis scored eight points, with Crawford adding two. Jones chipped in one point.

Cummings grabbed a team-high seven rebounds, while Crawford, Davis and Simmons-Godwin each had five. Cummings also had four assists and four steals, while Williams had five assists and three steals. In their final game of the

tournament, the Tornadoes were outscored 29-6 in the third quarter of a 65-36 loss to Paxon.

Paxon scored the first seven points, with six points coming on three-pointers by Dameon Jones. A three-pointer by Camden Tyner put the Eagles up 11-2.

The Tornadoes scored six straight points. Cummings scored off a steal by Amari Jones, while Williams scored off another Paxon turnover. Simmons-Godwin added a bucket to make the score 11-8, but Paxon went on its own 6-0 run to close out the quarter, which ended with the Eagles' Jones and Tyner each scoring eight points.

Paxon increased its nine-point lead to 13, closing out the second quarter on a 7-2 run. Tyner knocked down a three-pointer, while Jones scored twice following turnovers.

The Eagles opened the third quarter with a 13-1 run. Eight of those points came off turnovers.

Bradford got four points each from Cummings, Jones and Williams in the fourth quarter.

The Tornadoes closed the game with an 11-2 run. Williams missed both free-throw attempts on a trip to the foul line, but Cummings rebounded the second miss and scored. Simmons-Godwin was fouled on a drive to the basket. He made 1-of-2 free throws, but rebounded his second miss and put it back for two to make the score 63-31. Williams and Cummings had consecutive baskets, with Cummings getting fouled on his. Cummings missed his free-throw attempt, but Hankerson grabbed the rebound for the Tornadoes and scored.

Amari Jones led Bradford with eight points, while Cummings and Williams scored seven and six, respectively. Simmons-Godwin had five points, with Crawford and Pringle adding four and three points, respectively. Ardley had one point.

The Eagles had two players besides Dameon Jones finish in double figures, with Tyner and Kyle Jones scoring 14 and 13 points, respectively.

Bradford is currently playing in Fleming Island's fifth annual Battle on the Island tournament. The Tornadoes, participating in the Green Championship Division, played Baker County this past Tuesday and played either Buchholz or Ribault on Wednesday, Dec. 22.

Tournament play concludes on Thursday, Dec. 23, with the seventh-place game at 9:45 a.m., the consolation championship at 12:45 p.m., the third-place game at 3:45 p.m. and the championship game at 6:45 p.m.

Bradford's then off until Tuesday, Jan. 4, when it travels to play Eastside at 7:30 p.m.

Bradford entered the Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis of Starke tournament off its first game of the season — a 61-54 win over host West Nassau on Dec. 14.

The teams entered halftime tied, but the Tornadoes outscored the Warriors 37-30 in the second half.

Davis and Simmons-Godwin scored 20 and 16 points, respectively. Williams and Crawford scored eight and six points, respectively, with Cummings adding four points. Torrin Brazell had three points, while Hankerson and Jones each had two points.

Simmons-Godwin led the team in rebounds with nine, while Cummings, Hankerson and Williams each had five.

Jones and Cummings had six and five assists, respectively, while Williams had three steals.

**BHS**

Continued from page 11

with Williams missing a pull-up jumper at the foul line that would've forced overtime in the Tornadoes' 51-49 loss.

Bradford went up 5-1 on baskets by Simmons-Godwin and Williams, but the Blue Devils went on a 15-0 run before

Simmons-Godwin made a three-pointer. Clay led 16-8 going into the second quarter.

Simmons-Godwin's basket seemed to be the spark the Tornadoes needed. Bradford scored the first six points of the second quarter, getting two free throws from Crawford and a turn-around jumper and free throw by Cummings.

A 6-0 run to close the second

**BHS opens with win over Warriors**

**Keystone girls basketball team wins 5th in a row**

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School got a double-double from Dezaray Bright for the third straight game in the Indians' 52-26 win over host Union County in a Dec. 17 girls basketball game.

Bright scored 15 points and grabbed 10 rebounds as Keystone (9-1) won its fifth straight game. Bright also had three steals and two assists.

Kiley Channell almost recorded a double-double with 17 points and nine rebounds. She added six steals.

Yasmin Bryant and Lindsay Qualls scored seven and six points, respectively, while Madi Mitzel, who had three steals, added three. Emma Rogel and Kasey Valentine each had two points.

The Indians entered the game off a 45-43 win over visiting Bradford on Dec. 16.

Bright scored 16 points and had 20 rebounds to go along with five steals. Rogel and Bryant added 10 and six points, respectively, while Mitzel had



**Dezaray Bright has had a double-double in each of the Indians' last three games. File photo by Cliff Smelley.**

five points, nine rebounds and three steals.

Channell and Qualls each scored four points, with Qualls tallying a team-high four assists.

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# Obituaries

## Rosetta Coggins

GAINESVILLE Rosetta Mildred Sisk Coggins, 76, received her wings on Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2021, at North Florida Regional Medical Center in Gainesville. She was born on April 11, 1945, in Gainesville to Fletcher Alvin Sisk Jr. of Williford and Verna Thelma Green Sisk of Gainesville. She lived in Chiefland and was married to her loving husband, Dennis Elvin Coggins of Waycross, Georgia for 58 years. She loved the beach, shelling, looking for treasures at flea markets, casinos, camping, soft shell crabs, and seafood of all kinds. She loved roses, butterflies, birds, smiley faces, and sunflowers. Most of all she loved her family dearly and loved spending time with them. She was preceded in death by her two brothers, Steve Sisk, and Harold Sisk both of Gainesville.



She is survived by her husband, Dennis Coggins; her sister, Genny (Mike) Walker; her three daughters, Brenda Drow, Angela (David) Espinosa, and Denise McElroy; her aunt, Geraldine Swafford; grandchildren, Christopher Drow, Jessica Drow, Alyssa Walters Winslow, and Aaron Forehand; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Monday, Dec 20, in the Chapel of Williams-Thomas Funeral Home Downtown, 404 N. Main St., Gainesville. Interment followed at Dekle Cemetery, Lake Butler. Please visit her memorial page at [williamstomasfuneralhome.com](http://williamstomasfuneralhome.com).

PAID OBITUARY

## June Cox

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS June Evelyn Cox went to her eternal rest on Friday, Dec. 10, 2021, after completing 98 years of a very active life. Born in Rolfe, Iowa on June 14, 1923, she was the fifth child of Milo and Mayme Ives, who raised eleven children. She was a dental technician in the U.S. Navy during World War II and served for over twenty years attaining the rank of Chief. In 1967, she moved to Keystone Heights and was an active member of the Keystone Heights Community Church and later Fresh Start Fellowship. She spent the last two years of her life as a resident of Park of the Palms in Keystone and was grateful for the care she received. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of five years, Elmo Cox; a stepson, Paul Cox; brothers, Tom, Roger, Allen, Leonard, and Jack; sisters, Marjorie Lund, Dorothy Green and Marilyn (who died in infancy).



Her survivors include her brother, Burton (Pat) Ives; a sister, Joyce Williams; stepdaughter-in-law Ann Cox and stepson Larry (Marian) Cox. She was fondly called "Gramma June" by a total of 19 step-grand, great-grand, and great-great grandchildren. She was also cherished by a large group of Ives descendants.

Honoring her wish to donate her body for medical education and research, there will not be a funeral service. Death does not separate us from those who we love. Instead, it deepens our union with them, God and with each other.

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 340 E. Walker Drive, Keystone Heights, 352-473-3176, [jonesgallagherfh.com](http://jonesgallagherfh.com).

PAID OBITUARY

## Walter Frick

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Walter Jerome Frick, 95, of Keystone Heights, formerly of Starke, died Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021, at Haven Hospice E.T. York Care Center in Gainesville. He was born on Jan. 31, 1926, in St. Joe, Indiana to the late Frank Frick, Sr. and Ada (Taylor) Frick. He was a WWII Navy veteran, a member of the First United Methodist Church of Starke and a lifetime member of the American Legion Post 56. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 76 years, Mildred "Midge" (Hall) Frick; son, Michael Frick; his siblings, Bonnie Greene and Donald Frick.

Survivors are his children, Ricky Frick of Indonesia, and Dennis Frick of the Philippines.

Memorial services will be announced at a later date.

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Starke.

## Daryl Geer

LAKE BUTLER Daryl Ray Geer, 48, of Lake Butler was born on Jan. 5, 1973, and after an extended illness, God and His mighty angels took him home to Heaven on Tuesday, Nov. 25, 2021. He lived most of his life in Union County. He worked his entire career as a master carpenter in the construction industry and his many talents and work can be seen throughout residential and business areas in Union and all surrounding counties. He had a very helpful, giving spirit and loved to donate his time to anyone in need. His hobbies included fishing, camping, canoeing, horseback riding, traveling and most of all spending time with his loved ones. He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Robert and Juanita Wiggins; his paternal grandparents, Charles and Eva Mae Geer; and his brother, Charlie Geer.



He is survived by his loving wife, Sheila Sams; his "papa" Charles "Junior" Geer; and "mama" Sheila Geer; his biological mother, Mary Luther; a daughter, Kelsey (Luke) Hamel-Tyler; a son, Devon Geer; and two grandchildren. He is also survived by three sisters, Kimberly "Sissy" Geer, Kelly Geer, and Angel Geer; two brothers, Drew Geer and David Geer; his uncle, Randy Wiggins; his lifelong best friend/brother, Greg Ward; and many loving nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life is being planned for May 2022, when his ashes will be spread in a special place in Tennessee.

Daryl, you're peacefully now sleeping in a world of purest light, where angels sing their sweet refrain and everything shines bright. Beside the tranquil waters you walk along each day, where the blossoms are so beautiful with the colors they display. You're dearly missed and thought of, but every precious memory has left a lovely rainbow that will last eternally. We will hold you close with our hearts and there you will remain to walk with us throughout our lives until we meet again. Love always, your loving family.

PAID OBITUARY

## David Jones Jr.

STARKE David Jones Jr., 74, of Starke, died on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021, at North Florida Regional Medical Center in Gainesville. He was born in Starke and was a lifelong resident of Bradford County. He was a graduate of Bradford High School and a member of Mt. Pisgah AME Church in Starke.

He is survived by his wife, Mini Jones; sons, David Antonio Jones, Trammel Jones, Herbert Lee McCloud Jr., and Collis Warren; daughter, Tiajuana Jones; brother, Edward L. Jones; sister, Yvonne Jones; and ten grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, Dec. 22, at First Baptist Church, Starke. Interment was held at Clark Cemetery in Starke, under the direction of Haile Funeral Home Inc. of Starke.

## Perry Lutke

LAKE BUTLER Perry Dee Lutke, 60, of Lake Butler passed away at his home on Sunday, Dec. 19, 2021. He was born in Cadillac, Michigan to the late Adrian and Alice Marie Lamb Lutke. He joined the United States Navy after high school where he proudly served our country for 10 years and met the love of his life, Mrs. Helen Grant. After leaving the military, he moved to Lake Butler and began his career as a corrections officer. After his retirement from the Department of Corrections, he worked as a housekeeper with the VA in Lake City. He was an avid fisherman who loved going deep-sea fishing but also enjoyed throwing his pole off the Lake Butler Lake dock. He is preceded in death by his parents.



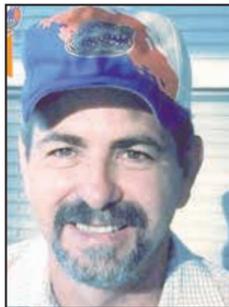
He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Helen Grant Lutke of Lake Butler; his daughter, Sylvia Adrian Lutke of Lake Butler; his son, Joseph Luke of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; brother, Vernon Lutke of Appomattox, Virginia; and sisters, Nadie Fay Lutke of Wellborn, and Carmen (David) Williams of Lutherville, Georgia.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler, 386-496-2008, [archerfuneralhome.com](http://archerfuneralhome.com).

PAID OBITUARY

## Maris Sapp

LAKE BUTLER Maris Daniel Sapp, 57, passed away at his home on Monday, Dec. 6, 2021. He was born and raised in Lake Butler to Hayford "H.D." and Ruth Thornton Sapp. He worked for many years at Ray's Nursery in Sanderson. He was an avid Florida Gator fan who loved fishing and the outdoors. He was always a happy person and would give you the shirt of his back. Most of all, he loved his family and the Lord.



He is survived by his children, Miles, Tyler and Ashley Sapp; five grandchildren; his parents, H.D. and Ruth Sapp; his sister, Anita (Kenny) Clark; and brother, Kevin (Jamie) Sapp.

A memorial service will be held at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec 28, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home. The service will be officiated by Pastor Randall Griffis.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler, 386-496-2008, [ArcherFuneralHome.com](http://ArcherFuneralHome.com).

PAID OBITUARY

## Annie Smith

STARKE Annie Lee Smith, 79, of Starke, died on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021, at her residence. She was born in Lawtewy on April 9, 1942, to the late Theodore Sinclair Crews and Annie Mae Bell Crews. She attended Bradford High School and has been a lifelong resident of Bradford County. She was a member of Smyrna Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; two brothers; one sister; and grandson, Minor C. Catledge III.



She is survived by her children, Thomas (Robin) Smith, Jr. of Melrose and Debie Catledge of Starke; stepdaughter, Willy Bailey of Saint John, Washington; two brothers; three sisters; and eight grandchildren.

A Graveside Celebration was held on Tuesday, Dec 21, at Lawtewy Cemetery.

Arrangements were under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel.

## Curtis A. "Lex" Sanders Attorney at Law



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## Michael Tomlinson

MOODYVILLE Michael Louis Tomlinson, 58, of Moodyville, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 12, 2021, from an illness. He was born on June 14, 1963, in Lake City, to Chief (Gene) Louis Tomlinson and Paulette Beasley Contois. He grew up in Lake Butler and was a 1981 graduate of Union County High School. After graduation, he worked for Doc Seay for a few years before beginning his Department of Corrections career. After 34 years, he retired in June of 2017 as an Assistant Warden. He attended Sampson City Church of God. When the kids were younger, he taught Sunday School. He was an avid outdoorsman who loved fishing, hunting, and being on the water. He loved spending time with his family and loved going to the Smokey Mountains where he and Lisa purchased a condo after retirement. He was preceded in death by his father, Chief (Gene); his siblings, Tony and Beverly Tomlinson; stepdad, Joe Contois; and father-in-law, Mark Moody.



He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Lisa Moody Tomlinson of Moodyville; his children, Lauren (Joshua) Green of Lake City and Josh Tomlinson of Moodyville; grandson, Wyatt Green and one on the way; his mother, Paulette Beasley Contois of Old Town; brother, Paul Tomlinson of Old Town; numerous nieces and nephews also survive.

A visitation with the family was held on Thursday, Dec 16, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home. Pastor Gene Bass officiated.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, 386-496-2008, [ArcherFuneralHome.com](http://ArcherFuneralHome.com).

PAID OBITUARY

## Shirley Young

MELROSE Shirley Young, 73, of Melrose died on Monday, Dec. 13, 2021, at her son's residence in Gainesville. She was born in Jacksonville on Nov. 20, 1948, to the late Charles Blackwell and Kate Beula Griffin Blackwell. She was raised in Jacksonville and graduated from Ribault High School. She was a member of Eliam Baptist Church in Melrose. She was preceded in death by her parents; and sister, Wanda Fryer.



She is survived by her husband, James Edgar Young of Melrose; her sons, Chris (Christina) Hester of Gainesville and Brian (Tammy) Hester of Waldo; stepchildren, James "Jim" (Kimbra) Young III, Debbie (James) Macallister, and David (Tootsie) Young of Starke.

A Celebration of Life was held on Friday, Dec 17, at Eliam Baptist Church in Melrose.

Arrangements were under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel.

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# BHS JV team goes 0-3 in tournament

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Mattox Burgin was hot from beyond the arc, but the Bradford High School junior varsity boys team struggled overall, going 0-3 in the Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis of Starke Christmas Basketball Tournament, which was held Dec. 16-18 at BHS.

The annual event normally consists of varsity teams only, but due to some teams decommitting late, this year's tournament format consisted of three varsity games and one JV game per day.

Bradford's JV team played Jacksonville's Joshua Christian, Clay and Jacksonville's

Riverside, with Burgin making a total of nine three-pointers and leading the Tornados with a three-game point total of 30.

Despite his efforts, every game was a double-digit loss for Bradford (0-4).

In the opening game of the tournament on Dec. 16, Joshua Christian went on a 12-0 fourth quarter run in handing the Tornados a 49-31 loss.

Bradford held the early lead, with back-to-back three-pointers by Race Black making the score 6-2. Black was later fouled on a shot beyond the arc and made all three free throws. Burgin then knocked down his first try to put the Tornados ahead 12-5.



**LEFT: Journie Sampson (right) fights for a rebound in the Bradford junior varsity team's loss to Joshua Christian on day one of the Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis of Starke Christmas Basketball Tournament. BELOW: Mattox Burgin (left) dribbles his way into the lane. He led Bradford in scoring with a total of 30 points in three games. Photos by Cliff Smelley.**



**Race Black (right) drives to the basket in the Tornados' loss to Joshua Christian.**

Joshua Christian scored the first eight points of the second quarter to go up 17-12. Bradford narrowed the gap to trail by just two going into halftime, but the Tornados didn't help themselves at the foul line, going 3-for-9 in the quarter.

Black scored on a drive to the basket and knocked down a jumper early in the third quarter, but the Eagles began pulling away, putting together a 10-2 run that included two three-pointers.

Bradford and Joshua Christian exchanged baskets to start the fourth quarter before the Eagles went on a 12-0 run to go up 47-28.

Black led the Tornados with 16 points, while Burgin had nine. Journie Sampson and Jordan Thomas scored three and two points, respectively, while Willie Pollard chipped in one.

On Dec. 17, Bradford watched an opponent put together a huge fourth quarter again. This time, it was Clay outscoring the Tornados 22-6 in the final quarter to hand Bradford a 55-38 loss.

Burgin made three three-pointers in a neck-and-neck first half that saw the Tornados enter halftime trailing 21-20.

Clay went up by five points in the second quarter, but Bradford got a three-pointer from Burgin as well as a two-point basket from Black to tie the score at 15-15. Burgin would hit another trey to put the Tornados ahead 18-17, but the Blue Devils scored two consecutive baskets, with

the second coming off a turnover. Following Clay's last score of the half, Bradford's Charles Barnes found himself all alone under the basket. He received a long pass from a teammate and scored on a layup to make the halftime margin one point in favor of the Blue Devils.

Bradford got off to a quick start in the third quarter. Pollard scored a basket in transition, while Sampson added another bucket to put the Tornados ahead 24-21. Two-point and three-point baskets by Black and Thomas, respectively, helped Bradford maintain a slim lead, but a 6-0 spurt put the Blue Devils ahead 33-29. Burgin made his fourth three-pointer of the game to send the Tornados into the fourth quarter trailing by one point.

A basket by Sampson off a nice pass by Trejan Tyson interrupted a 6-0 run by Clay to start the fourth. The Blue Devils, though, made two three-pointers, sandwiched around two Pollard free throws, to go up by nine. The long-distance shots were part of a 13-2 run.

Burgin led Bradford with 12 points, while Sampson had eight. Pollard and Black scored six and five points, respectively, with Thomas scoring three. Barnes and Mikey Oliver each added two points.

The Tornados didn't have much chance to make a game of it on the final day of the tournament, with Riverside

See JV, page 15



**Dustin Brown puts up a shot in the lane for Northside Christian in its loss to Clay on day three of the Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis of Starke Christmas Basketball Tournament. Photos by Cliff Smelley.**

# Brown has a solid tourney for NCA despite 0-3 showing

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Dustin Brown averaged 17 points per game as Northside Christian Academy took the opportunity to play outside of the Southeastern Christian Conference, but the Eagles went 0-3 in the Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis of Starke Christmas Basketball Tournament, which was held Dec. 16-18 at Bradford High School.

Brown entered the tournament averaging 14 points per game. In his first game, he scored 20 points, which is his second-highest total of the season.

The Eagles (4-7) opened play on Dec. 16 with an 84-37 loss to Jacksonville's Hope Christian.

A basket by Caden Talton and a pair of free throws by Brown left the Eagles trailing 7-4 in the game's early stages, but the Warriors outscored Northside 21-4 to take a 20-point lead into the second quarter.

The second quarter began with a steal by Brown, which led to Sam Bolen scoring off a Caleb Talton assist. That began a brief exchange of baskets, with Northside getting a basket from Caden Talton in between three-pointers by Hope's Travon Miller and Emauri Hampton.

After a Brown three-pointer, the Warriors closed out the half on a 20-0 run.

The Warriors made four three-pointers in the third quarter as

they increased their lead to 51 points. They'd finish the game with 12 baskets from beyond the arc.

Northside scored 16 points in the fourth quarter, with Brown scoring all but five of those. A Brown three-pointer sparked a 15-2 run. Caden Talton and Waylen Kahakua each had a basket before Brown knocked down back-to-back three-pointers. Brown then scored off a rebound putback.

Brown's 20 points made him the game's second-highest scorer.

Caden Talton finished with eight points, while Caleb Talton had four. Bolen and Kahakua each scored two points, with Noah Liston chipping in one.

Brown and Caleb Talton grabbed seven and five rebounds, respectively, while Kahakua led the team in assists with three.

On the tournament's second day, Northside kept it close into the second quarter, but Jacksonville's Joshua Christian began pulling away with a 12-4 run to close out the first half, eventually defeating the Eagles 55-35.

Joshua Christian made four three-pointers in the first quarter, which ended with a basket by Northside's Caden Talton. That sent the Eagles into the second quarter trailing 16-9.

See NCA, page 15

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Ne-O Addison handles the ball for Bradford in its game against Riverside.

Black and Burgin each had a three-pointer early in the first quarter, with Burgin's shot leaving the Tornados trailing 9-6. Riverside then closed out the quarter with a 15-5 run.

Points proved hard to come by for Bradford, which trailed 46-17 at halftime. Burgin had nine of those points on three three-pointers.

Sampson scored two consecutive baskets to close out the third quarter, which helped give him eight points for the game.

Burgin led Bradford with nine points, while Tyson scored seven. Black had three points, while Thomas added one.

The Tornados next play at Eastside on Tuesday, Jan. 4, at 6 p.m. They then play two straight at home, hosting West Nassau on Monday, Jan. 10, at 6 p.m. and Newberry on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 4:30 p.m.



Northside Christian's Caden Talton (left) drives to the basket against Joshua Christian.

## NCA

Continued from page 14

Kahakua scored the first basket of the second quarter. Caden Talton later added two free throws to make the score 16-13.

Caden Talton, who scored nine first-half points, added another free throw to make it an 18-14 game, but Joshua Christian scored the next six points and would take a 12-point lead into halftime.

Kahakua made a three-pointer early in the third quarter, but that was in the midst of a 19-5 Joshua Christian run.

Brown scored eight points in the fourth quarter to finish with a team-high 13 points, which he shared with Caden Talton. Kahakua added seven points, while Caleb Talton had two.

Brown was two rebounds shy of a double-double with eight, while Caden Talton had five. Talton also had three assists, while Wyatt Harden had three steals.

Other than Brown, the Eagles found little success against Clay on the tournament's final day on Dec. 18, losing 67-22.

Brown, who finished with 17 points, made a three-pointer

following a turnover to make it a 4-3 game in favor of Clay early, but the Blue Devils scored 13 of the next 17 points to take a 17-7 lead into the second quarter.

Clay scored the first 14 points of the second quarter, with 10 of those coming off turnovers.

Brown stopped the run with a basket — the first of three he had in the quarter. Caleb Talton scored on a drive into the lane to end the half, but the Eagles were trailing 45-13.

Talton finished with the two points.

Caden Talton scored all three of his points on a successful drive to the basket and ensuing free throw as he was fouled in the process.

Besides leading the Eagles in scoring, Brown grabbed a team-high seven rebounds.

Northside will return to action on Tuesday, Jan. 4, hosting Lake City's Hart 2 Hart at 5:30 p.m. The Eagles travel to High Springs to play First Christian on Thursday, Jan. 6, at 6:30 p.m. before returning home to play Ocala's First Assembly Christian on Monday, Jan. 10, at 5:30 p.m.

On Tuesday, Jan. 11, Northside travels to play Gainesville Christian Community at 7 p.m.

RIGHT: Sam Bolen goes up for a layup in the Eagles' game against Hope Christian. BELOW: Wyatt Harden (center) gets fouled underneath the basket in Northside's game against Clay. The Eagles return to action on Tuesday, Jan. 4, with a 5:30 p.m. home game against Hart 2 Hart.



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# Let's 'Shop With a Cop!'



LEFT: Lawtey Correctional Institution's Tiffany Ross escorts Southside Elementary's Crystal Martin (left) and Lake Butler Elementary's Destiny Tyson during Starke Police Department's Shop With a Cop. BELOW LEFT: Lake Butler Elementary's Chasen Harold scans the aisles as he shops with Florida Highway Patrol's Dylan Bryan. Photos by Cliff Smelley.



Starke Elementary students Andrew Chastain (left) and Levi Davis show off some nice items they picked out while shopping with Union Correctional Institution's Gregory Garrett.



Southside Elementary's Stephanie Linkkila (right) shows off one of the toys she picked to Lawtey Correctional Institution's Andy Brown.



Starke Elementary's Brooke Nugent (left) and Raymond Arenz (center) are escorted by John Beatty of the Bradford County Sheriff's Office.



RMC's William Jerrels (left) listens as Lawtey Elementary's Demarius Kelley discusses his shopping strategy.



Southside Elementary's Braxton Tetstone (left) is escorted by Greg Jackson of the Florida Forest Service.

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# SHOP

Continued from page 10

today. They put their uniforms back on to come here on their day off, to escort you all around this event because they care. I hope you will get to know them and understand that we, as police officers, care about you. When you're with that officer, talk to them. Tell them how school's going. Let them know what's going on in your life and get to know them."

As you can imagine, Warren delights in seeing children talk to their escorts, making the experience more than just, "What toy do I grab next?"

"That's what it's all about," Warren said. "That's what I encourage."

## Big hearts, big event

Needless to say, if SPD alone provided escorts, more than 300 children would not be participating in Shop With a Cop. The number could be about 20 if

every member of the department participated.

Thanks to other agencies, including those from outside of Bradford County, the event can include many deserving children. The participation of the Department of Corrections is what really takes the event to another level. DOC provided all but 55 of this year's total number of escorts.

"Without them, this wouldn't be possible at this magnitude," Warren said. "There's no doubt about it."

The Department of Corrections could send every employee possible, but they'd have nothing to do if the money's not there to pay for the shopping sprees. That's where the entire community comes in. It's donations and fundraisers by individuals and businesses that determine just how many children get to participate.

Remember how the Grinch's heart grew three sizes? Well, that still left him with a heart that seems tiny when compared to the generosity Shop With a Cop benefits from.

"It just shows the heart of the

community," SPD Chief Jeff Johnson said. "The heart of this community is for kids and what we can do for kids."

Warren said, "This is a huge event because Bradford County's heart is so huge."

Most every year, the event has consisted of Bradford students only, but some Lake Butler Elementary students participated this year thanks to the efforts of some individuals in Union County.

"They called me in advance this year and said they had a goal to raise enough money to take care of 30 kids," Warren said.

Warren admitted he was anxious in regard to this year's event. Businesses and individuals have been hurting because of the pandemic.

However, if they're struggling, they're not alone. As Warren put it, "If they're having a hard time, what are these kids having in their lives?"

The Christmas spirit this year proved to be alive and well and then some. This year's Shop With a Cop consisted of the highest number of children ever and marked the third time the

event has consisted of at least 300 children.

"In the last two years, we've needed hope," Johnson said. "We've needed people to work together, and that's what happened. This doesn't happen without the businesses and the community coming together."

If there's a similar event anywhere else that is as big as SPD's Shop With a Cop, neither Johnson nor Warren know of it. It's pretty impressive to see, whether you're standing on the periphery or actively participating.

"The effort and community participation that go into it are fantastic," Gillick said. "They spend so much time and work organizing it. To see it turn out year after year after year, being able to help more kids every year, is fantastic."

Though he doesn't need one, Warren sometimes gets a reminder of what Shop With a Cop means to the children who participate. During this year's event, he met a man outside Walmart who was waiting for his children to get done with their shopping sprees.

"He had two daughters chosen," Warren said. "He said he and his daughters cried when they were notified. They lost their mother this year."

Warren had a tough time controlling his emotions. He told the man, "That's why we do this, sir."

Not every child who participates, of course, has experienced the loss of a parent, but it demonstrates that sometimes you just don't know what a child is going through in his or her life and what they're struggling with. It's impressive to know that those children are still striving to do their best at school.

Therein sums up what Shop With a Cop is all about. It's a reward for those children, but it's also a reward for those who take them on their shopping sprees.

"When you get up early in the morning, and you come in on your day off and stuff like that, seeing them happy is what makes it worth it," Gillick said.

Sibley said, "It's awesome. It really is. I love it."



RMC's Gina Brewington escorts Starke Elementary shoppers — and sisters — Emily Alvarez and Lauren Alvarez.



Community State Bank of Starke, through its fundraising efforts, once again raised \$6,000 to support the Starke Police Department's Shop With a Cop event. Pictured are: (foreground) SPD Maj. Barry Warren, (front row, l-r) Tammie Woodard, James Eison, Carolyn Reddish, David Bridgeman, Jon Grebinger, Betty Trawick, Jay DeAndrade, (middle row, l-r) Mey Collado, Susan Nicklas, Sherrie Norman, Pam Rebusman, Aileen Adams, Emily McCarter, Alison Henke, Mary Powell, (back row, l-r) Kaylyn Sapp, Casey Mueller, Kristin Cannon, Jessica Brown, Chris Page and Tim Barber. Photo by John Ryan Tillman.

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**STARKE STAFF**  
BACK ROW, L-R: Kaylyn Sapp, Casey Mueller, Kristin Cannon, Jessica Brown, Chris Page, Tim Barber.  
CENTER ROW, L-R: Mey Collado, Susan Nicklas, Sherrie Norman, Pam Rebusman, Aileen Adams, Emily McCarter, Alison Henke, Mary Powell.  
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<b>STARKE</b> 811 South Walnut Street (904) 964-7830	<b>LAKE BUTLER</b> 255 South East 6th Street (386) 496-3333	<b>MICANOPY</b> 106-C NE Highway 441 (352) 339-7980	<b>INTERLACHEN</b> 1120 State Road 20 (386) 684-6154
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