

Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, Dec. 7, 2023

145th year, 21st Issue — \$1

TORNADOES WIN!!!



Freshman football player Tyler Wallace (left) and senior cheerleader Alexis Berry rush onto the field to celebrate Bradford High School's come-from-behind 22-21 overtime win over Pensacola Catholic in the Class 2S state semifinals, which earned the Tornadoes a berth in the state-championship game for the first time since 1985. Bradford will play Cocoa on Friday, Dec. 8, at 8 p.m. at Bragg Memorial Stadium at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee. See inside for more. Photo by Cliff Smelley.



WORTH NOTING

Early release Friday

Bradford County Public Schools will release students early on Friday, Dec. 8, in recognition that families will be traveling to the championship football game in Tallahassee. Elementary students will be released at noon, and secondary students will be released at 1 p.m.

Hayes is Lake Butler's new city manager

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Special to the Times

LAKE BUTLER — The city of Lake Butler has appointed a new city manager and is now waiting for the contract details to be worked out to get her on the job.

At a Nov. 30 special meeting, the city commission selected Kimberly Hayes for the role, filling a slot that has currently been manned by Mayor David Stegall while the application process has been underway. The city has been taking applications for the post for about six weeks after starting over. A previous two-month call for applications did not yield the expected result. Three applicants were chosen from the most recent pool of applications, one of whom failed to attend the interview, one who withdrew his application and Hayes.

Hayes was interviewed by the entire board, with questions ranging from employee management, budgeting ability and in regard to her previous experience as supervisor of Union County Solid Waste, Mosquito Control and Animal Control. She spoke to the board members about her experience in employee relations



Lake Butler City Manager Kimberly Hayes

and supervision, citing her 27 years' experience with the Department of Corrections and her five years as a department head with Union County.

"I fell that I have a lot to bring to the table for the city and would really like to serve the city," she said.

See **MANAGE**, page 6



View of final flight track data. The line indicates the airplane flight track for the last approximate 40 minutes of flight. Image: NTSB.

Keystone pilot lost in weather before crash

The National Transportation Safety Board said in its preliminary report of a Tuesday, Nov. 14 fatal plane crash that the 21-year-old pilot was heading to the Keystone Heights Airport when he reported he was lost in weather.

The pilot, identified by the family as Adrien James Valentine, crashed the Piper PA-28-180 in the Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park near Micanopy.

According to the NTSB preliminary report, the 2020 Keystone Heights High School graduate made several erratic 360-degree turns, as well as numerous climbs and descents to a

maximum altitude of 6,900 feet and a minimum altitude of 500 feet between 1:35 p.m. and 2:09 p.m. before losing radar contact.

"Preliminary review of air traffic control communications revealed that during the erratic maneuvering, the pilot called 'mayday' and stated he 'was lost in weather,'" the report states. "During this period, the pilot reported multiple times that he was having issues with his instruments, he 'mistakenly flew into weather,' 'it's completely white,' and he could not see anything outside."

BHS football team to travel past all schools on way to state championship

Bradford High School's football team will leave at 11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 8, and will travel past all of the county's public schools before heading to Tallahassee to play Cocoa for the Class 2S state championship that night at 8 p.m. at Florida A&M University's Bragg Memorial Stadium in Tallahassee.

The bus will leave BHS and travel on Orange Street to Weldon Street. It will take Weldon Street to Starke Elementary School. From Starke Elementary, the team will travel down Weldon Street back to Orange Street so that it can pass Bradford Middle School. The bus will continue to S.R. 100, turning east and then turning south on U.S. 301. It will turn onto Southeast 144th Street so that it can travel past Bradford Elementary School.

From Bradford Elementary, the bus will travel along Southeast 144th Street and turn west onto S.R. 100. It will then take the fork onto Colley Road and turn west onto Call Street. The bus will turn north onto U.S. 301 and travel out of town, passing Lawtey Elementary School as it goes.

UCHS JROTC Raider Team wins at state championship

The UCHS JROTC Raider Team won the 2023 State Championship on Saturday in the Male-Mix division. The team placed in all five events.

They placed first in the Raider Fitness Challenge (an obstacle course that includes carrying a variety of weighted items). They placed first in the One-Rope Bridge (constructing and navigating a one-rope bridge across a 71-foot span).

They placed second in the Cross-Country Rescue (navigating a weighted litter and four weighted rucksacks on a half- to three-quarter-mile course through obstacles). They placed second in the Raider Fitness Test (shuttle run carrying 30 lb. kettlebells). They placed third in the 5K Team Run.

All events are conducted as a 10-member team.



Pictured are (front row, l-r) Jamaal Reynolds, Mackenzie Ring (Team Commander), Brooke Burgess (Tiger Battalion Commander), Hunter Smith, (middle row) LTC (Retired) Kevin Steverson, Isabelle Kirsten, Stacey Parks, Savannah Thompson, Chloe Harris, Michelle Lacey, CW4 (Retired) Derek Brown, (back row) Davien Presley, Matthew Ring, Cason Forbes, Aiden Bell, Gavin Sparkman, Ashton Southerly and Kamerohn Wilson.

Holiday meal at American Legion

American Legion Post 56 will hold its annual holiday meal Friday, Dec. 8, at 6 p.m. at the Legion's post home at 715 Edwards Road in Starke.

Turkey and ham will be served. Guests are requested to bring a covered side dish or dessert. All veterans and their family members are invited. They need not be a member of the American Legion.

Food distribution in Starke

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Feeding Northeast Florida and True Vine Ministry will take place Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 8:30 a.m. at the RJE Complex in Starke.

Food boxes often include fresh produce, deli and bakery items, dairy and some meats. Inventory is subject to availability. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



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Have a safe holiday season

The Florida Department of Health in Bradford and Union counties encourages residents and visitors to enjoy a safe and healthy holiday season. From traveling to decorating and

cooking, the holidays are time for family and friends to come together and celebrate. The department advises Floridians to follow these tips to ensure their safety.

Food safety

- Thaw meat in the refrigerator or in a sink filled with cold water before cooking.

The water needs to be changed every 30 minutes. Do not thaw it on the counter, as foodborne bacteria can quickly grow.

- Keep raw foods separate from cooked foods and wash your hands, utensils, and surfaces frequently to avoid cross contamination.
- Use a food thermometer to ensure foods are cooked to

proper internal temperatures.

- Once the food is prepared, keep hot foods above 140 degrees Fahrenheit and cold items below 40 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Hot and cold leftovers need to be refrigerated within two hours of being served.
- Do not consume raw batter or dough that is made with flour or eggs to avoid harmful bacteria like E. coli and salmonella.
- Keep hot foods insulated and place cold foods on ice or gel packs while in the car.

Decoration safety

- Avoid placing poisonous plants in areas accessible to children and pets. Holly berries, mistletoe, amaryllis, and English ivy are a few poisonous plants that are popular around the holidays.
- Secure and cover extension cords to prevent trips and falls.

Place candles where they cannot be knocked over. If a fire occurs, do not pour water on the candle. Have a fire extinguisher nearby to use instead.

- Be cautious when using spray-on artificial snow. Inhalation can cause irritation to the lungs.
- Keep fireworks away from people, houses, and flammable material. Never point or throw fireworks at another person.

Travel safety

- Ensure that children have proper car seats. Set up a seat check here.
- Make sure to be well rested before getting behind the wheel.
- Designate a sober driver.

County lists 2 parcels on website

The Board of County Commissioners has listed two real estate parcels on GovDeals.com. The website said in a news release that Bradford County has used the site to sell surplus equipment, but this is the first time it has used the site to sell real estate.

One parcel at 915 North Temple Avenue in Starke previously served as a Pizza Hut. It features an 18,140-square-foot building set on 0.416 acres of land.

The second property is at 18853 Charlotte Avenue in Brooker. The building was previously operated as a repair shop.

Breakfast with Santa

Starke Elementary School's Breakfast with Santa is Saturday, Dec. 9, from 8 to 10 a.m. Breakfast is \$4 for kids and \$5 for adults, and photos with Santa are \$2 each. Items in the Santa Store will be sold for \$2.50. Purchase bingo tickets to play for \$1 each (cards cost two to five tickets). In addition, students will be providing live Christmas music.



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<p style="font-size: 0.7em;">FRIDAY 12/8 TROLLS BAND TOGETHER 6-45 (Upstairs)</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">THE SHIFT 6-45 (Downstairs)</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.7em;">SUNDAY 12/10 TROLLS BAND TOGETHER 4-00 & 6-30 (Upstairs)</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">THE SHIFT 4-00 & 7-00 (Downstairs)</p>

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2023

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Eighth Judicial Circuit



STATE BOUND

2023

Lake Region

Sprawling oak could join Moon Tree as landmark

Hardwood might become a tourist attraction

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
General manager

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS —
The Keystone Heights Heritage

Commission wants to designate a large oak tree behind City Hall with a historical marker.

A member of the public told the commission during its Nov. 21 meeting that a similar large oak in Thomasville, Georgia has become somewhat of a tourist attraction.

“They’ve got a camera across the street, and you text it, and it takes pictures of you in front of the tree and then sends it to your phone,” the citizen said.

The area around City Hall already has one tree recognized for its uniqueness.

An American Sycamore on

library property, known as “The Moon Tree,” grew from seed that traveled on the Apollo 14 moon mission in February 1971. The seed was planted west of the library in 1984 and now has a stone at its base, recognizing its travels.

Christine Arnold told her



The Keystone Heights Heritage Commission is seeking a historical designation for an oak tree between City Hall and the Clay County Library. Photo: Dan Hildebran.

colleagues on the commission gave her the names of several arborists who might estimate the tree’s age without drilling into the hardwood.

Commission member Dierdre Murphy said a county official told her the specific wording the city council would have to approve for the tree to be formally designated as historical.

Arnold said a master gardener

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Bidding will end at 7:30 PM on Dec. 14th.

Winning bidders will be announced at Bradford County Public Library during Santa's Winter Wonderland Christmas Carnival on December 14th.

Thank you for your support!



KHES dedicates new facilities

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
General manager

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — Clay County Public Schools officials held a ribbon cutting ceremony for Keystone Heights Elementary School's new cafetorium, eight-classroom suite, and media center.

Although the new facilities have been in use, officials said they wanted to recognize the people who were instrumental in the project's success and allow the public to tour the new buildings.

Principal Beth Turbeville described the additions as "a lovely, covered play court, a magnificent colossal cafetorium with a state-of-the-art kitchen, eight brand new classrooms, and the most stunning media center

in Clay County." The administrator added that it was stressful to add the role of construction liaison to her regular duties as the school principal but that throughout the process, her team on the Southwest Pecan Street campus kept telling her the adversity would be worth it.

"Honored and distinguished guests," she said, "I'm here today to tell you that my KHE family was right. It was worth it. The gorgeous facilities that you'll see today will stand for many years and will serve thousands of students for years to come."

Turbeville also asked the audience to remember the real heroes of the project: the Clay County taxpayers.

Contractor Domenic Scorpio said the project occurred during

unprecedented inflation in construction materials, and that its success resulted from the teamwork exhibited by his workers, Architect Paul Stressing and district staff.

Superintendent David Broskie said Keystone is one of those places that always has a hometown feel.

He added that because of its isolation in the county's south end, some residents feel the area does not get the resources other parts of Clay County get.

"Folks, take a look around," he told the audience. "This is the very best of the best. We're so proud that the Clay County School District can provide that to this community because you know what? These children deserve it."



Keystone Heights Elementary School Principal Beth Turbeville cuts the ribbon on the campus's new cafetorium, media center and classroom suite. Turbeville is flanked on her left by School Board Member Mary Bolla and Superintendent David Broskie. To the principal's right are (l-r) School Board Members Michele Hanson and Beth Clarke. Photo: Dan Hildebran.

School board asked to join social media lawsuit

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
General manager

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — A Jacksonville attorney asked the Clay County School Board to join a class action lawsuit against the owners of Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and other social media companies.

Wayne Hogan told board members during a Nov. 28 workshop that his firm is representing the Putnam and Duval County school districts in a lawsuit against the social media companies and hopes to add the Clay, St. Johns, and Lake school districts as plaintiffs.

Hogan said that in the same way his firm is seeking compensation from opioid manufacturers and consultants for the additional costs school districts must incur because of the opioid epidemic, his firm is now going after the social media companies.

He said mobile devices and social media platforms dominate the lives of 11 to 13-year-olds and that social media platforms

are responsible for the increase in depression, anxiety, eating disorders, low self-esteem, and suicides of teenagers.

"And the end result of that is that school districts all across the country are having to bear the additional expense for mental health counseling (and) other types of assistance," he said, "and the security concerns that are involved when students are in one way or another out of control or unable to control their own actions."

Board member Beth Clark called Hogan's proposal "a wonderful idea."

"I just cringe at the thought of having to do with more mental health," she said. "We're already so burdened with that. I'd love to see it go the other way."

Hogan said that before the board joins the litigation, it should get input from the community. He added that he would stay in touch with the board's attorney about any further action the school district might take.



High Ridge Estates could get new name

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
General manager

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — A technical assistance panel from the Urban Land Institute is recommending road, utilities, and zoning upgrades to the High Ridge Estates neighborhood. The panel also suggested the county rebrand the area, replacing the neighborhood's name and designating new names for the area's streets.

In a presentation to the Clay County Board of County

Commissioners on Nov. 28, the panel said the county should establish clear ownership of the neighborhood's rights of way, develop a dirt-to-pave road schedule for the community, and fund the road improvements.

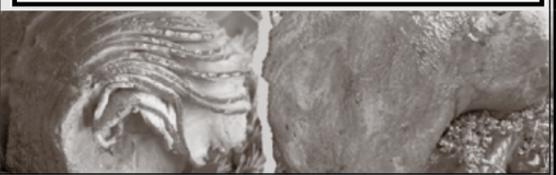
The panel also recommended changing the zoning in the area to allow single-family housing, duplexes, triplexes, and quads.

To pay for the improvements, the panel recommended that the county determine if Florida's Live Local initiative could fund the infrastructure improvements.

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Christmas on Call Street

Christmas on Call Street kicks off with caroling and lighting the city Christmas tree at the Downtown Square. That will take place Friday, Dec. 8, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Activities downtown on Saturday, Dec. 9, including a car show from 2 to 5 p.m., lead up to the Starke Christmas parade at 6 p.m. Santa will arrive and meet children following the parade.

Downtown Grill's Breakfast with Santa takes place Sunday morning, Dec. 10. Reservations required.

Breakfast with the Grinch

Lawtey Elementary School, on the other hand, has Breakfast with the Grinch planned for 10 a.m. on Dec. 9. Have a sit-down feast with this favorite character. Tickets are on sale through Dec. 1 for \$7 per person. No ticket sales at the event.

Lawtey's pre-K through sixth grade students will perform in a Christmas concert at the Bradford High School auditorium on Thursday, Dec. 7, at 6 p.m.

Joyful Voices Christmas Program

The Joyful Voices of Lawtey will present the annual Community Christmas Program on Sunday, Dec. 10, at 4 p.m. at the Lawtey Church of God on U.S. 301. The public is invited to join and celebrate this holy season with community churches.



Winter Carnival at the library

Bradford County Public Library will present Santa's Winter Wonderland Carnival on Thursday, Dec. 14. From 5 to 8 p.m., there will be games, train rides, a bounce house, face painting, prizes for children and adults, and more. Everything but the food is free.

And ensuring that this will be a white Christmas, the library is making this a foam party with the help of Foam Fantastic. Be sure to wear a bathing suit to take part in the fun.

Live nativity at Morningstar

Morningstar Baptist Church will present "The Reason for the Season" featuring a living nativity scene on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 9 and 10, from 6 to 8 p.m. each night. The church is located at 11250 W. C.R. 18, one mile west of S.R. 121 in Worthington Springs.

Lake Butler Christmas Parade

The 2023 Lake Butler Christmas Parade has been

scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 16, at 6 p.m. This year's theme is "A Classic Christmas." Choose any of your favorite classic Christmas movies or cartoons to create your float.

Entry forms are available at Lake Butler City Hall and online at www.cityoflakebutler.com. Return forms by Wednesday, Dec. 13.

The parade will line up along Northeast Third Street, travel to Northwest Sixth Street where it will turn left, and then right on Main Street, ending at Southeast Fifth Avenue.

Lawtey Christmas Parade

Lawtey's Christmas Parade will take place Saturday, Dec. 16, beginning at 10 a.m. Come enjoy the lineup of classic cars, church and community floats, horses, Santa and more. The parade travels from Lawtey Elementary School, east down Lake Street (C.R. 225) and turns around at Walk by Faith Ministries.

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



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UNION COUNTY

96 entries in 4-H bake-off

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Special to the Times

LAKE BUTLER — Union County 4-H held its annual Holiday Bake Off last Monday, Dec. 4, with 96 entries in six categories, filling several long tables with sweet treats. The theme was Christmas in Florida, and many of the entries showed Christmas themes. 4-H members were allowed to enter one item per category and could compete in as many categories as they wanted. Competition was held in each 4-H age group (Cloverbud, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior), with overall winners selected in each category.

Judges for the event were Karen Cossey, Mac Johns, Vicky Johns, Lauren Kunze, Andrea Kinneman, Angie Griffis, Kerri Patrick, Stephen Etchison, Patrick Maxwell, Priti McNutt and Rebecca Hall. After sampling all the entries, the judges were treated to an Appreciation Lunch of tacos to thank them for their services and help them recover from the sugar overload many were suffering from. Winners were announced by Union County 4-H Extension Agent Meagan Daniel. Prizes were given to the top three 4-H'ers in each age group and then special gold and silver spoons, with gift cards, were given to the overall winners in each category. The event was funded with some of the proceeds from the 4-H



Presley Emery and Cadence Duniven won the top two places for Cloverbud Gingerbread Houses.

Auction, held earlier this year.

In the Gingerbread Houses category there were 10 entries. The winners were: Cloverbud — Cadence Duniven, Presley Emery and Wave Croft; Junior — June Brooks, Callie Dicks and Nolan Elliot; Senior — Cailyn Boggs and Sydney Box. Overall winners were June Brooks and Cadence Duniven.

In the Brownies category there were 13 entries. The winners were: Cloverbud — Wayne Hartley; Junior — Tripp Pittman, Reed McNeal and Ryder Akins;

Intermediate — Alyssa Lee, Weston Daniel and Layleigh Thornton. Overall winners were Tripp Pittman and Reed McNeal.

In the Cookies category there were 26 entries. The winners were: Cloverbud — Cadence Duniven, Lyle Neuhofer and Peyton Williams; Junior — Turner Dukes, Atticus Allen and Kylee Thomas; Intermediate — Ella Griffis, Mandy Scha and Natiana Hampton. Overall winners were Ella Griffis and Cadence Duniven.

In the Candies category



Nolan Elliot, Callie Dicks and June Brooks won the top three spots in the Junior Division for Gingerbread Houses.

there were 10 entries. The winners were: Cloverbud — Writ Griffis, Raylan Dyal and Warren Dukes; Junior — Lexi Kirby, Addy Reid and Anderson Griffis; Intermediate — Mandy Schafaasma, Kamryn Hartley and Alyssa Lee. Overall Winners were Writ Griffis and Lexi Kirby.

In the Cupcakes category there were 9 entries. The winners were: Cloverbud — Shaw Daniel, Clairabelle Martin and Weston Androlevich; Junior — Paislee Ricketson, Lola Allen and Josie Harlow; Intermediate — Kamryn

Hartley and Kalyn Reynolds; Senior — Cailyn Boggs. Overall winners were Paislee Ricketson and Cailyn Boggs.

In the Cakes category there were 28 entries. The winners were: Cloverbud — Ryder Gill, Noah Thomas and Weston Androlevich; Junior — Raylan Dyal, Sawyer Dyal and Lane Hartley; Intermediate — Gabe McNeal, Marcus Jefferson and Callie Smith. Overall winners were Gabe McNeal and Ryder Gill.

The final winners announced

were the overall bake-off winners. They were Paislee Ricketson (cupcakes) and Ella Griffis (cookies).

Once all the awards had been granted, the audience of friends and family members were told to get in line and help themselves to the treats. The line moved slowly, as everyone made their selections. More than one expressed their admiration for the array of goodies spread before them. "These kids can cook!"



June Brooks and Cadence Duniven, with 4H Agent Meagan Daniel, having just received their awards for best overall Gingerbread Houses.



Tripp Pittman and Reed McNeal placed first and second in the Junior Division for Brownies.



Gabe McNeal, Callie Smith and Marcus Jefferson won the Junior ribbons for Cakes.



Mandy Schafaasma, Kamryn Hartley and Alyssa Lee were judged the three top candy makers in the junior division.



Gabe McNeal receives his golden spoon from Meagan Daniel as best overall in Cakes.



Paislee Ricketson (#1 in cupcakes) and Ella Griffis (#2 in cookies) to the overall Bake Off champions.

Union sheriff reports another scam

LAKE BUTLER — The sheriff's office said that on December 3, many Union County residents had received realistic-sounding phone calls from scammers claiming to represent the agency.

"These scam calls even spoof our phone number to make it look more realistic," the office said. "They can even use names similar to some of our current deputy sheriffs."

The office said the scammers claimed that the residents had missed court or jury duty and that an arrest warrant was being obtained for them.

"And this is where they will try to convince you to obtain

a pre-paid credit card, gift card, or digital currency," or a money transfer the agency said. Alternatively, some callers push to get personal information from residents.

Like all law enforcement agencies, the Union County Sheriff's Office does not call ahead before serving arrest warrants. Deputies instead drive to the defendants' homes and take them to jail.

"Many of these calls have been traced overseas, and all the appropriate authorities are aware," the office said. "These scammers do their best to convince you to give them your personal information and access to banking or credit card/pre-paid cards/gift cards, etc., to obtain money from you."

Do not fall for these scams, the agency emphasized. Hang up.



Mandy Scha, Naliana Hampton and Ella Griffis won the Intermediate class for Cookies.

MANAGER

Continued from page 1

Commissioner Annette Redman said she had spoken to several acquaintances who worked with Hayes during her years at the state and that no one said anything negative about her. Other commissioners added that there had been a number of phone calls since she was named as an applicant and

that all the comments had been positive. The board had advertised the meeting as interviews of applicants with the option to hire their selection and they did so. Motion was made by Redman to offer the position of city manager to Hayes and to set the salary at \$85,000 (the upper limit of the salary range advertised) with her start date pending contract review with Mayor Stegall and City Attorney John

Maines — upon agreement of the contract Stegall, Maines and all of the board members would be authorized to sign the contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Melissa Hendrix and passed the board unanimously. Hayes was appointed as city manager and accepted the appointment.

Hayes said she was pleased to have been granted the position and said she is looking forward to the challenges of her new position.

UCHS Class of '74 reunion

Union County's Class of 1974 will celebrate 50 years on Saturday, June 22, 2024. Save the date. The reunion will take place at 3 p.m. at Lake Butler Community Center. Additional details are forthcoming.

Senate hopeful makes stop in Starke

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
General manager

STARKE — A lawyer and entrepreneur hoping to unseat Senator Rick Scott made a campaign stop in Starke on December 4.

Keith Gross said that everywhere he has traveled in Florida, voters are worried about the economy, which he said is being damaged by out-of-control spending in Washington.

He said uni-party candidates are pushing oversteering on both sides of the aisle.

“That’s one of the key priorities when I get to Washington,” he said, “is stop this out-of-control spending.”

Gross said that the \$7 trillion dumped into the economy during the COVID-19 Pandemic has driven inflation over the last few years.

The Panama City native, who amassed his fortune in Melbourne but recently moved back to his hometown, is challenging Scott for the Republican nomination.

The candidate’s upbringing was one with which many rural Florida residents can identify.

“I grew up in a small town in North Florida, and we lived in a trailer when I was born,”



Keith Gross (left) stopped in Starke to promote his campaign for the U.S. Senate.

Gross recalled. “I was raised by a single mom. The folks like my mom who raised me are now scraping by to make ends meet while Congress sends hundreds of billions of dollars to foreign nations.”

He said he is going to Washington to give people like his mother and the residents of his hometown a voice.

Gross also emphasized his

commitment to individual freedoms and limited government, adding that allowing gun owners to open carry is one example of a personal freedom he would fight for.

Gross said he has not met with local officials or held any events in Bradford County yet, but he has in Gainesville and plans to frequent Northeast Florida throughout the campaign.

Supervisor looking for election heroes

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
General manager

STARKE — Bradford County Supervisor of Elections Amanda Seyfang said she is looking for election workers to fill a vital role in American democracy.

“Our election workers are the people who run the election on Election Day and early voting too,” she said. “They’re the ones who check IDs, check in voters, issue ballots, make sure ballots are accepted in the tabulators, reconcile totals at the end of the night, and then they give us that information and bring the ballots to us once the polls have closed. So, they’re the heroes of Election Day.”

Seyfang said she needs to fill three jobs at each precinct. The first is the clerk, who runs the operation.

“They’re the ones with the most responsibility and who have to sign off on the most documents,” Seyfang said.

Inspectors do most of the work inside the precinct, like signing voters in, issuing ballots, and ensuring the ballots run through the machines.

“And then you’ve got your poll deputy who is actually sworn in by the sheriff’s office,” she said. “They’re the ones who typically stand outside just to make sure all of the no-solicitation rules are being abided by and to help answer questions or help any voters into the polling place that may need it.”

Seyfang said workers for



“We do know election days are a long day for people to be working at the polls,” said Bradford County Supervisor of Elections Amanda Seyfang, “but again, it is a very important role for our community.”

the minimum-wage positions must attend a four-hour training course and be prepared to work during early voting.

“It’s really good hands-on training for Election Day and especially when we’re so close to answer any questions that might arise,” Seyfang said of early voting.

The main event is an all-day affair from 6 a.m. to at least 7:30 or 8 p.m.

“But polls could always be extended by the governor, and we just don’t know that,” she said. “We do know election days are a long day for people to be working at the polls, but again, it is a very important role for our community.”

People interested in working during elections may call the elections office at 904-966-6266.

What are you paying for solid waste?

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

When Bradford County commissioners raised the annual special assessment for solid waste for the first time in 36 years, the county explained the need to cover the cost of services, which had obviously grown over time.

Those services include operating the county’s six collection sites, transporting garbage to the landfill and paying the disposal fees.

The special assessment went from \$75 to \$125 a year.

Commissioners also addressed misuse of its collection sites by those who do not pay for these services by reimplementing a decal system last month. Only those who acquire a decal at a collection site by proving they pay the solid waste assessment are permitted to use them.

That blocks attempted dumpers from out of county as well as those living with the city of Starke.

Starke residents do not pay the county’s solid waste special assessment. Starke has a contract with a third party who collects garbage twice a week, with separate pickups for yard waste and appliances/furniture. According to Starke’s billing department, residents pay \$19.50 on their monthly utility bill for this service. They don’t worry about a special assessment, and

the city of Starke receives a franchise fee from the hauler.

Bradford County does not have a door-to-door collection service. Residents are free to hire a private company for this service, or they can utilize the nearest collection site, which, except for holidays, they will find open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday through Saturday, and from 1 to 6 p.m. on Sundays. They are for residential, not commercial, disposal.

One load of trash, yard waste or debris is accepted per household every day. A load is a full-size pickup or 8-foot trailer. Appliances and disassembled metal items are accepted as well, along with up to five tires per month. Accepted recyclables are aluminum cans, newspapers and cardboard (broken down).

Lawtey double billed?

Following the increase in the assessment, some in the city of Lawtey claimed they were being billed twice for garbage. In addition to the solid waste assessment billed annually by the county, Lawtey charges residents \$10 a month for trash collection.

Unlike Starke, however, this is not an all-inclusive collection service run by a contractor. According to City Clerk Lisa Harley, the city has its own employee who performs the job

with the assistance of inmate labor. (The loss of inmate labor temporarily had the city paying two people, an additional cost the city’s budget had to absorb.)

According to Lawtey’s most recent audit, the charges for garbage collection amount to around \$26,000 a year, less than the nearly \$38,000 the city spends. This covers collection only. Harley said because residents also pay the county’s special assessment, the city does not pay additional money for landfill disposal.

Lawtey residents are also free to use the solid waste collection sites for additional yard waste, housing debris, tires, appliances and recycling.

Lawtey residents are not being charged twice for the same service, but they appear to be paying slightly more for less service. Starke’s use of a private contractor provides for multiple weekly collections of a wider variety of garbage, and residents appear to pay less for this. It could be, however, that charges for Starke’s commercial customers are helping offset the cost to residents.

Lawtey would only know how much a more comprehensive service would cost by shopping around. It would be up to citizens to tell the council whether they would rather pay more every month versus having the county’s assessment on their tax bill.

Fairgrounds owes bright future to benefactor’s generosity

(Editor’s note: We asked the Bradford Fair Association would be willing to share an update on its financial status, and they provided the following release.)

The Bradford Fair Association has announced that their recently publicized financial condition has been rectified due to the generosity of former Starke businessman Jim Gissy.

In 2018, the BFA received a \$1.5 million loan to complete the 10,000-square-foot arena, which was hardened to meet state hurricane codes. The state of Florida provided an initial \$1.5 million grant with another \$1.5 million planned for the second year.

However, after experiencing back-to-back statewide emergencies, the state never provided the additional \$1.5 million. With limited means of income and rising interest rates, the fair association was unable to meet the payments as required by Community State Bank (now DLP Bank).

The Bradford County Commission held two special meetings expressing a desire to purchase the note from the Community State Bank, perhaps to avoid foreclosure, which would have eventually given the county title to the entire BFA property, valued at more than \$7 million.

Now a successful real estate

investor and owner of several businesses in central Florida, Jim Gissy, offered to buy the loan note from Community State Bank and his offer was accepted.

Bradford Fair Association President Bob Milner said although the family has been gone from the area for many years, Mr. Gissy and his six brothers and sisters still have very strong ties and fond memories of their upbringings in Starke. All seven children of Joe and Mary Gissy graduated from Bradford High School and have gone on to successful careers.

“The BFA is eternally grateful for the generosity of Mr. Gissy, and this is evidence of his continued love for the way his parents raised him and his siblings in Bradford County,” said Milner.

Jim Gissy is the son of long time Starke residents Joe and Mary Gissy. Joe retired from the Continer Corporation and Mary retired after 37 years working for Bradford Middle School. After retiring from Bradford County, they lived out their remaining years in the Dunnellon/Rainbow Springs area.

Milner said the fair association is focused on obtaining the remaining \$1.5 million from the state of Florida, but for now, all efforts are concentrated on having the biggest and best fair ever in 2024.

Three new barns have been completed due to a \$3 million grant from the Department of Agriculture, and the BFA continues to make improvements to the midway and buildings.

“We are in the process of confirming several shows separate from the expanded midway rides along with local entertainment and a special food truck night, giving exciting options for fairgoers,” Milner added.

Negotiations are under way to have events at the fairgrounds every month in 2024 including barbeque contests, remote controlled car racing, a Hawaiian-themed evening and numerous musical acts. New fair association board member Michael Heeder is planning a four-day event to celebrate the country’s independence around the 4th of July.

The future of the BFA and the fairgrounds property is to hold as many communitywide entertainment events as possible in addition to the annual fair and swine and livestock sale held in March.

“The future of the Bradford Fair Association and the fairgrounds property is exciting for our community, and we owe much of that to the generosity of Jim Gissy,” said Milner.

Have a safe holiday season

The Florida Department of Health in Bradford and Union counties encourages residents and visitors to enjoy a safe and healthy holiday season.

Food safety

- Thaw meat in the refrigerator or in a sink filled with cold water before cooking. The water needs to be changed every 30 minutes. Do not thaw it on the counter, as foodborne bacteria can quickly grow.

- Keep raw foods separate from cooked foods and wash your hands, utensils, and surfaces frequently to avoid cross contamination.

- Use a food thermometer to ensure foods are cooked to proper internal temperatures.

- Once the food is prepared, keep hot foods above 140 degrees Fahrenheit and cold items below 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

- Hot and cold leftovers need to be refrigerated within two hours of being served.

- Do not consume raw batter or dough that is made with flour or eggs to avoid harmful bacteria like E. coli and salmonella.

- Keep hot foods insulated and place cold foods on ice or gel packs while in the car.

Decoration safety

- Avoid placing poisonous plants in areas accessible to children and pets. Holly berries, mistletoe, amaryllis, and English ivy are a few poisonous plants that are popular around the holidays.

- Secure and cover extension cords to prevent trips and falls.

- Place candles where they cannot be knocked over. If a fire occurs, do not pour water on the candle. Have a fire extinguisher nearby to use instead.

- Be cautious when using spray-on artificial snow. Inhalation can cause irritation to the lungs.

- Keep fireworks away from people, houses, and flammable material. Never point or throw fireworks at another person.

Travel safety

- Ensure that children have proper car seats. Set up a seat check here.

- Make sure to be well rested before getting behind the wheel.

- Designate a sober driver.

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Crime

Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

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

Bradford

Robert Lee Cain, 84, of Starke was arrested by Starke Police and Bradford deputies on November 27 for making a bomb threat and failure to appear.

Joshua Gordon Gaines, 34, of Perry was arrested by Bradford deputies on November 30 for withholding support.

Jeremiah Lamar Givens, 22, of Gainesville was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 1 for a probation violation.

Mike Gabriel Gonzalez, 45, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 1 for an out-of-county warrant.

Ami Michelle Grant, 36, of Gainesville was arrested by Bradford deputies on November 28 for a probation violation.

Johnny C. Gunter, 50, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on November 30 for a probation violation.

Adam Anthony Hall, 41, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on November 28 for failure to appear.

Bryce Harding Hoffman, 27, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on November 26 for DUI.

Willis Chibueze Court Ibeh, 29, of Winter Garden was arrested by Bradford deputies on December 1 for a probation violation.

Heather Lyn Lambert, 23, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on November 27 for failure to appear.

Cody James McLaughlin, 35, of Ocala was arrested by Bradford deputies and state troopers on November 28 for failure to appear and DUI.

Gina Beth Price, 48, of Citra was arrested by Bradford deputies on November 27 for a probation violation.

Jeremiah Prigden-Rozier, 32, of Lawtey was arrested by Starke Police on November 29 for a probation violation, possession of marijuana, possession of drug equipment, and possession of drugs.

Yendel Santana, 18, of Lake City was arrested by Bradford deputies and state troopers on November 29 for hit-and-run and fleeing and alluding.

Garrett Andrew Thornton, 25, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on November 29 for a probation violation.

Drew Anthony Weaver, 25,

was arrested by Starke Police on November 25 for possession of drugs.

Union

Tavion Jamarri Cox, 21, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on November 28 for a probation violation.

Nicholas Wayne Gregory, 37, of Kenosha, Wisconsin was arrested by Union deputies on November 27 for an out-of-county warrant.

Malik Retron Hamm, 26, of Gainesville was arrested by Union deputies on November 28 for failure to appear.

Deborah Marie Karr, 22, of Raiford was arrested by Union deputies on November 29 for a probation violation.

Anthony Michael Weir, 58, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on December 1 for an out-of-county warrant.

Clay

John William Cardenas, 60, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on November 27 for aggravated domestic battery.

Michael Raymond Williams, 36, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on November 28 for resisting arrest and trespassing.

Christopher Allen Willingham, 50, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on November 25 for domestic battery.

Bradford plans more opioid treatment and prevention

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

Bradford County wants its allocation from lawsuit settlements with drug companies to go toward the prevention and treatment of opioid addiction.

Shelley Katz, chief operating officer for LSF Health Systems, and Erin Whitaker-Houck, associate vice president of clinical program operations, recently spoke to the county commission about their role in making that happen.

LSF Health Systems is one of seven behavioral health managing entities contracted by the Florida Department of Children and Families to manage the state-funded system of behavioral health care for people who face poverty and are without insurance.

Services provided through contracted behavioral health care providers include prevention, intervention, treatment and care coordination to support optimal recovery. The managing entity's jurisdiction covers 23 north Florida counties, including Bradford, Union and Clay.

Many of the dollars from these lawsuits against pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors are being funneled through the attorney general's office from a number of sources, according to Katz. LSF and other entities contracted with the state manage those funds, at least for counties like Bradford with populations under 300,000. Some of the funding is allocated to counties specifically, and other amounts can be used as needed across all 23 counties.

Bradford's first allocation through LSF is just over \$321,000.

The settlement outlines a number of goals, the priority being expanding the availability of treatment. That includes medication-assisted treatment, coordinating treatment through a network of providers, hospital bridge programs, and peer support and community recovery organizations.

"Using the valuable experience that individuals who have walked the road of recovery from addiction to support others that are beginning that journey is a really, really effective process," Katz said.

Comprehensive, wrap-around services must be evidence based and address multiple problems that prevent successful recovery, such as access to transportation or housing. Attention will also be paid to workforce development for addiction specialists and reducing the stigma for seeking treatment and support.

In order for there to be a return on the investment of these dollars, Katz said they want to make sure people are receiving the assistance they need.

Unlike the other behavioral health services they manage, these dollars are not tied to one's income or insurance status, Katz said. The funding is to provide care for anyone with opioid use disorder or anyone at risk of developing opioid use disorder. That includes providing medication-assisted treatment, which she said is the most effective means of treating opioid addiction.

LSF has a built a network of 78

providers, the largest in Bradford County being a familiar name — Meridian Behavioral Healthcare. Katz and Whitaker-Houck said their role is to work with the county in determining how best to utilize its allocation.

"We can identify and work with you on your plan in terms of where you'd like those dollars to go making sure that they get into contracts, take care of the data recording and all of those things that are going to be required through the state," Whitaker-Houck said. The Statewide Council on Opioid Abatement — which Commissioner Chris Dougherty serves on — will be monitoring outcomes over the 18-year term of the settlement. The amount of money available to counties will, however, taper off over time.

It will be up to the county to develop a plan for the use of these dollars, at which point LSF can assist with procurement, contracts, etc.

The county also directly received more than \$130,000 for 2022 and 2023 that it can use toward addressing the opioid epidemic. Board Chair Carolyn Spooner said the LSF and the clerk's office should coordinate the use of these dollars once the board has decided on an action plan.

Nonfatal emergency room visits due to drug overdoses totaled 48 in Bradford County in 2021, 22 in Union County and 553 in Clay County. Most of these overdoses were unintentional, i.e. not intending to inflict self-harm. Bradford had two overdose deaths. Clay had 28.

Bradford audit reflects funding assistance

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

An infusion of outside funding raised the numbers in Bradford County's audit for Fiscal Year 2022.

Brandon McKittrick, a CPA with James Moore, delivered the presentation on the audit for the year that ended on Sept. 30, 2022.

The audit found no issues with internal controls and compliance. A separate audit over controls and compliance related to the county's receipt and use of federal funds was equally clean, as were most of the audits for the financial officers.

The sheriff's audit contained a significant deficiency.

"The significant deficiency had to do with the sheriff's office relying quite a bit on the external auditors in prior years for year-end wrap-up, adjusting entries, stuff of that nature," McKittrick said. "Really, from an independence perspective, we're really supposed to be separate. We can't be a part of that internal control process."

The recommendation was for the sheriff's office to work with a third-party CPA, and McKittrick noted that the sheriff brought in

Lora Douglas from DDF CPA group to consult, so the comment will be resolved in the next audit.

The clerk's office received a recommendation from auditors to be mindful of year-end financial activity to make sure they are reported in the correct time period.

McKittrick presentation also focused on the commission's general fund balance, which grew from \$5.7 million to \$12.15 million from the end of Fiscal Year 2021 to 2022. Most of that money, however, is state or federal funding which the county has since assigned to a specific purpose — primarily the expansion of the city of Starke's water and wastewater lines to a multiuse development on S.R. 16 at the bypass.

The unassigned general fund balance only grew by around \$100,000.

Even so, McKittrick used the full amount to calculate how many months of recurring expenditures the fund balance could cover, and it amounted to nearly six months, well beyond the two months two months recommended by the Government Finance Officers Association. That was closer to a quarter of the year in 2021.

Combined, the county's other governmental funds for FY 2022 ended nearly \$400,000 ahead of the prior year at \$16.8 million. Although some funds, including

the library, fines and forfeitures, and emergency medical services, saw reduced fund balances, none of the individual funds was at a deficit.

Something noted in management's letter was the county's increase in net position. The difference between its assets and deferred outflows exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows by \$50.5 million. It was an increase of nearly \$7.47 million. Most of that — \$37.4 million — represents the county's capital assets. More than \$3.3 million is restricted for other purposes, but \$9.8 million is unrestricted — an increase of \$8 million over 2021. This was again attributable to grant proceeds.

The county also noted revenues exceeded expenditures from governmental funds by \$6.8 million. In addition to federal grant funds, there was a nearly \$2 million tax increase.

This was the firm's first year auditing the county's financial statements, and McKittrick thanked the board for the opportunity as well as the constitutional officers and their staff members for assisting.

Because James Moore was not engaged until December of last year, the audit for FY 2022 did not get started until April of this year. McKittrick expressed confidence the county would not miss the June 30 deadline again.

December sobriety checkpoints announced

During the month of December, the Bradford County Sheriff's Office will be conducting sobriety checkpoints in one or more of the following locations: U.S. Highway 301 and Market Road, S.R. 100 West, S.R. 100 East and Southeast 109th Street,

Southeast S.R. 21, S.R. 16 and Southwest S.R. 231.

Church of God food distribution

Starke Church of God by Faith and Farm Share plan a food distribution on Thursday, Dec. 7, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. This is a drive-thru distribution. The church is located at 730 Old Lawtey Road in Starke. This

distribution may begin early depending on the arrival of the food truck.

Foster, adoption classes

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Preserve now part of the scenic trail

North Florida Land Trust, the Florida Trail Association and the U.S. Forest Service will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new two-mile segment of the Florida National Scenic Trail that runs through NFLT's Smith Lake Preserve in Clay County.

The new trail is part of the 1,500-mile Florida National Scenic Trail, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary. The new portion of the trail will eliminate the need for hikers to walk on the road in this location. This regional highlight of the Florida Trail opened to the public Dec. 2. There will not be a trailhead at this location. Hikers will need to park further down the trail at Gold Head Branch State Park.

"The Florida Trail Association greatly appreciates our partnership with the North Florida Land Trust," said Royce Gibson, executive director of the Florida Trail Association. "Their dedication to conserving the Smith Lake Preserve is

instrumental to our mission to close the gaps along the Florida National Scenic Trail. Our partnership with NFLT and other land managers across the state ensures that future generations will be able to enjoy the natural beauty of our treasured trail."

NFLT acquired the 463-acre Smith Lake Preserve in 2019. The nonprofit land conservation organization has been working to restore the natural areas and habitats which consist of significant areas of long-leaf pine sandhills, flatwoods and scrub habitats. These habitats are critical for many wildlife species including the Gopher tortoise, wild turkey, southern fox squirrel and Eastern indigo snake.

Smith Lake Preserve is located within the Ocala to Osceola Wildlife Corridor, a 1.6 million-acre network of public and private lands that connect the Ocala and Osceola National Forests, a critical link within the Florida Wildlife Corridor.

Cheers and games: BHS students enjoy community pep rally



Niviaiah Foster (left) and Kemari Hall cheer at a community pep rally hosted by Bradford High School the day of the Tornadoes' state-semifinal football game. The event consisted of students competing in games as well as performances by the cheerleaders and band. Photos by Cliff Smelley.



ABOVE: Brayden Smyth does push-ups during one of the pep rally's activities. LEFT: Blake Wimpy isn't falling over. His part of the relay race is to bear crawl.



LEFT: Deonah Perkins loses a shoe as she competes in a race. BELOW LEFT: Niko Vargas participates in a race in which he has to run backward. BELOW: Jaleel Easley tries to keep his glasses on his face as he bear crawls toward the finish line.



ABOVE: Izarriya Desue hops her way to the finish line. LEFT: Chase Breaux is about to hop right out of his sack.



A football game consists of sacks of a different sort, as demonstrated by Henry Prescott (left) and Iyen Addison.



Daniel Fulladosa has to do a certain number of push-ups as his part of a relay race.



Teagan Bradley (left) and Myia Sanchez lead cheers for the student body and the community members who came out to show their Tornado pride prior to the football game.



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Tornadoes rally, make it to state off OT win

Bradford to play Cocoa for 2S title at 8 p.m. in Tallahassee

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Destiny.

It was hard for Bradford Head Football Coach Jamie Rodgers and several of his players to come up with the words to describe what had just happened, but senior linebacker/tight end Chason Clark managed to come up with "destiny."

That seems fitting. A team that has been working toward fulfilling the goal of getting to the Class 2S state-championship game since its state-semifinal loss to Cocoa in 2022 overcame five turnovers and a 14-0 fourth-quarter deficit to force overtime and defeat visiting Pensacola Catholic 22-21 in the Dec. 1 state semifinals.

Cheers were aplenty, of course, amid the celebratory fireworks that followed quarterback Jeremiah McKenzie's 1-yard touchdown run and quarterback Dae'Jon Shanks's subsequent run on the two-point conversion for the win.

The aftermath consisted of tears, too.

"As soon as I crossed the line, I started crying," said Shanks, a senior. "It's an honor (being able to play for a state title). I've been dreaming about this since my (Youth Football League) days. It happened."

Senior defensive lineman/tight end Torin Brazell was down on one knee crying as well afterward.

"I can't even get the words



Chason Clark (left) and Torin Brazell celebrate after Clark's touchdown reception in the Tornadoes' 22-21 state-semifinal win over Pensacola Catholic. The score, with Declan Hense's PAT, tied the score at 14-14 and eventually forced overtime. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

out," Brazell said, adding, "Our senior class — we've been playing together since we were 6. It's all from God. Just knowing we can go to state our senior year is just amazing."

The win not only sets up a rematch with the team that ended Bradford's 2022 season; it sets up a battle between the top two teams in Class 2S. It'll be top seed Cocoa (13-1) versus second seed Bradford (14-0) for the state title on Friday, Dec. 8, at 8 p.m. at Florida A&M University's Ken Riley Field at Bragg Memorial Stadium.

This will be the first time Bradford has played for the state championship since 1985, when it finished as runner-up to

Bartow.

"I'm so happy for them," Rodgers said. "I knew the grit and determination they had."

It took every bit of grit and determination in a game where things weren't going the Tornadoes' way for most of the game. The Crusaders (11-3) scored twice in the second quarter and had 239 yards in the first half to Bradford's 90.

Rodgers said he told his players at halftime, "We played so bad, guys. All we have to do is play clean. We're going to hold them to zero in the second half. We're going to come back and win it."

"They made me a truth teller," he said.

Clark said, "We told each other we had no other option. The option was to win."

A rough 1st half

On Pensacola Catholic's second series, Bradford's Jordan Daniels and Duke Lewis teamed up to tackle running back Nigel Nelson to no gain on first down, but two more runs by Nelson gave the Crusaders a first down at the Bradford 30. Nelson was held to no gain on his fourth straight carry by Trente Jenkins and was then dropped for a 2-yard loss by Jenkins and Lewis. On third-and-12, the Tornadoes' Chalil Cummings broke up a pass in the end zone that was a near interception. The Crusaders elected to go for it on fourth down, with Cayden Jasso coming up 2 yards shy of a first down on a screen pass.

The Crusaders' next two series resulted in a punt and a fumble, which was recovered by Bradford's Brian Cliffin. The Tornadoes' offense, though, was struggling. Their first four series resulted in a 24 total yards.

Pensacola Catholic primarily ran an offense that consisted of Nelson taking direct snaps from center, which has been the Crusaders' formula for success this postseason. They entered the game with quarterback Ryan Huff having attempted only seven passes in three playoff games.

Huff, though, did get on the field more against Bradford and had the game's first score when he connected with Jayvion Showers on a 66-yard pass play with 7:21 to play in the second quarter. Pierce Hopson kicked the extra point as the Crusaders took a 7-0 lead.



A tearful Torin Brazell (second from right) is joined by teammate Parviele Lee (second from left).



Amy Prescott (far left) looks on as fellow cheerleader Skyla Bounocore (far right) tearfully hugs Cheer Coach Jenna Hewett following the thrilling victory.

Bradford's offense finally got a drive going, sparked by Brazell's 9-yard reception. Shanks later got loose for a 48-yard run to the

Pensacola Catholic 23-yard line. Willie Pollard, making his return

See WIN, page 14

Bradford to play reigning state champion Cocoa

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

The team that ended the Bradford High School football team's season

last year is now the team the Tornadoes will face in the Class 2S state championship game, which will kick off at 8 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 8,

at Florida A&M University's Bragg Memorial Stadium.

Bradford, the second seed in Class 2S, faces top seed Cocoa in its quest

to win its first state title since 1966. This is the Tornadoes' first trip to the championship game since 1985.

Cocoa (13-1) had little trouble in reaching the title game. The Tigers opened the playoffs with a 54-7 win over Eustis and followed that with a 35-0 win over Dunnellon. Cocoa did trail 14-12 in the Region 3 championship game against South Sumter before ultimately winning 34-14.

The Tigers defeated Booker 41-3 in the state semifinals.

This is the 17th straight year Cocoa has advanced to at least the Final Four and their third straight trip to the state-title game. The Tigers lost 21-19 to Fort Lauderdale's Cardinal Gibbons in the 2021 Class 4A championship game and defeated Florida High 38-31 in the 2022 2S championship game.

Last year was Cocoa's fifth state championship. The Tigers also won titles in 2008 (7-6 over Tallahassee's Godby in Class 3A), 2009 (27-13 over Belle Glades' Glades Central in Class 2A), 2010 (14-13 over Glades Central in Class 2A) and 2016 (31-17 over

Bolles in Class 4A).

The Tigers were state runners-up three times: 2017 (13-10 loss to Raines in Class 4A), 2018 (27-13 loss to Raines in Class 4A) and 2021, when they lost to Cardinal Gibbons.

Cocoa is in the playoffs for the 20th straight year and has a postseason record of 56-19.

The Tigers are averaging 260 passing yards per game and 133 rushing yards per game.

Sophomore quarterback Brady Hart has completed 261 of his 399 attempts (65 percent) for 3,517 yards, 40 touchdowns and nine interceptions. He's coming off an 18-of-30 performance in the state semifinals, finishing with 294 yards, three touchdowns and two interceptions.

Junior Jayvan Boggs is the leading receiver with 1,445 yards and 21 touchdowns on 86 catches. Senior C.J. Bragg has 67 receptions for 960 yards and six touchdowns.

Against Booker, Boggs caught seven passes for 141 yards and two touchdowns.

The rushing game is led by

sophomore Latrison Lane, who has 1,035 yards and 11 touchdowns on 148 carries. Junior Malachi Coney has 543 yards and seven touchdowns on 83 carries.

Lane carried the ball 13 times in the state semifinals for 129 yards and two touchdowns, while Coney gained 105 yards and scored once on 14 carries.

Senior linebacker Samadrae Hawkins leads the team in tackles with 130 (20 for loss), while senior linebacker Dai'veon Parham has 118 (20 for loss). The Tigers also have two players with more than 80 tackles each: junior defensive end Javion Hilson with 87 (25 for loss) and senior linebacker Joshua Brown with 84.

Hilson leads the team in sacks with 14, while senior defensive end Davi'yon Hawkins-Ingam has 9.5. Senior linemen Loren Ward and Da'varrius "Peewee" Robertson have eight and seven, respectively.

The Tigers have created 23 turnovers (12 fumbles, 11 interceptions).

See COCOA, page 12

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All-star volleyball game has local players in consolation final

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Senior volleyball players participated in The Prep Zone All-Star Showcase on Dec. 2 in Alachua, with Union County's Jurney Crim and Jordan Hendricks helping their North team win the consolation championship 2-1 over the East team, which included Bradford's Riley Blankenship and Keystone Heights' Taylor Marquart and Abbie Roach.

The event consisted of four all-star teams. Besides Bradford, Keystone and Union, the following schools were represented: Bell, Belleview, Branford, Buchholz, Chiefland, Columbia, Countryside Christian, Dixie County, Forest, Gainesville, Lafayette, Newberry, North Marion, Oak Hall, P.K. Yonge, Santa Fe, St. John Lutheran, Suwannee, West Port and Williston.

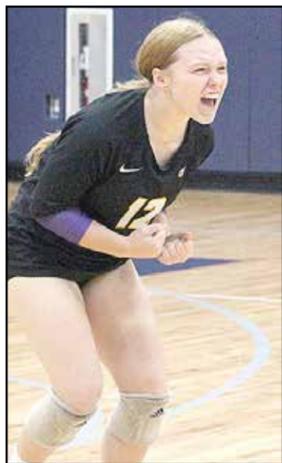
Head coaches were Gainesville's Chancie Vice (East), Santa Fe's Eric Marshall (North), Forest's Jimmy Collins (South) and Oak Hall's Perry McDonald (West). Assistant coaches were Gainesville's Courtney King and P.K. Yonge's Enrique Wiseman (East), Santa Fe's Ashton Marshall (North), Forest's Angel Rivera (South) and Williston's Kevin Tiller (West).

A semifinal round got things started, with the North playing the West and the East playing the South. The winners played for the championship match, while the losers played in the consolation championship.

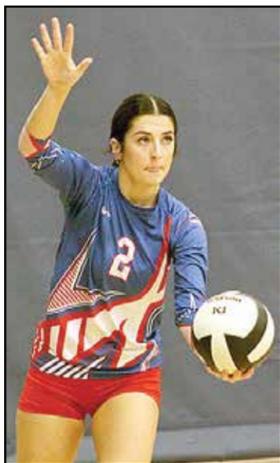
Hendricks recorded an assist on a kill by Santa Fe's Jordan Czaplowski that tied the score at 11-11 in the first set of the North-West semifinal. The North team fell behind 23-14, but outscored the West 5-1 to make it a five-point game. Hendricks had two assists in helping her team close the gap before ultimately losing 25-21.

The West team won the second set 25-22 to put the North team in the consolation final.

In the other semifinal match, the South team won the first set 25-21, but the East team won the second set 30-28, with Marquart serving for the winning point.



Jurney Crim is fired up.



Taylor Marquart serves.



Rylie Blankenship lays out for a dig attempt. Also pictured is Buchholz's Emmy Rowland (foreground) and P.K. Yonge's Autumn James. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

A Roach tip led to an early point that put her East team ahead 4-3 in the third set. Roach later had a kill that gave her team an 11-6 lead.

The South team would ultimately win the set 15-11.

Hendricks had an assist on a point scored by Santa Fe's JoseLynn Sanjurjo that put the North team up 7-6 in the first set of its consolation match against the East. A point scored with Hendricks serving later put the North team ahead 11-7.

It was 14-14 with Branford's Kennedy Walker serving for the North, but Roach had a kill off a Marquart assist to force side-out.

The East team led 18-17 when it scored another point, thanks

to Blankenship diving out of bounds for a dig that kept play alive and led to an eventual kill.

Crim was serving when her team scored a point to even it up at 19-19, but the East team would build a 24-20 lead.

The North team would score four straight points before Gainesville's Charlotte Gravlee had a kill for side-out. That set Marquart up to earn her second set-winning point of the day, which she recorded by serving for an ace as her team survived 26-24.

Hendricks was serving to start the second set, with her team scoring the first two points.

Santa Fe's Czaplowski attempted to give her team its third straight

point on a kill attempt, but Blankenship made a save that kept play alive for the East team, which had a kill for side-out.

A Hendricks assist on a kill by Suwannee's Rachel Smith put the North team ahead 5-2. Later, the North took a 9-3 lead, scoring a point with Crim serving.

The East team got an assist from Marquart that forced a side-out and a dig from Blankenship that led to an eventual point, but it could never close the gap. The North team scored a point with Hendricks serving to go up 19-8. Then, with a 22-11 lead, it scored

the final three points with Crim serving. Two of those points came off a kill and a block by Santa Fe's Sanjurjo.

That set up a deciding third set. The North team led 4-2 when it scored eight straight points, helping it to the win. The eight-point run featured two assists by

Hendricks and three straight aces by Santa Fe's Olivia Beavers.

Every player received a Prep Zone All-Star Showcase T-shirt and plaque.

The Big Eight Specialty Officials Association provided the event's officials.



Jordan Hendricks (far left) celebrates with Autumn Jones of Columbia (center) and JoseLynn Sanjurjo of Santa Fe.



Keystone teammates Abbie Roach (left) and Taylor Marquart celebrate a point during the East team's first match.



Abbie Roach (left) goes up for an attack as Buchholz's Emmy Rowland looks on



Checking out the T-shirts they received for their participation are (l-r) Rylie Blankenship, Abbie Roach and Taylor Maquart.



Rylie Blankenship (right) receives a serve. Countryside Christian's Delaney Robertson is also pictured.



Jurney Crim (right) and Branford's Kennedy Walker wait for their opponent to serve



Jordan Hendricks sets for a teammate.



Taylor Marquart hits the floor on a dig attempt for her East team.



Abbie Roach sends the ball over the net.



LEFT: Jordan Hendricks (left) makes her fellow Union teammate Jurney Crim laugh during team introductions. RIGHT: Rylie Blankenship serves for her East team.



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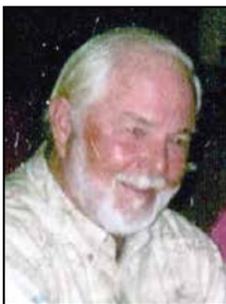
Edwin Johns

Mr. Edwin Franklin Johns, 85, of Starke passed away Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2023, at HCA Florida North Florida Hospital in Gainesville. He was born July 8, 1938, in Theressa to the late Thornton and Oweida Lucille (Hall) Johns and was a lifelong area resident. He was a member of Sampson City Church of God and enjoyed fishing and hunting. He was also an honorary member of Two Buck Hunting Club. Prior to retirement he worked for WW Gay Construction Company as a site supervisor. He also worked as a pipefitter and was a member of the Local Union 234 in Jacksonville. He served in the United States Army and was stationed in Germany. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Oweida Johns; and his brother, Walter "Nub" Johns; along with grandchildren, Brandon Griffis and Lisa Fulgham.

Survivors are his wife of 56 years, Carroll "Johnnie" (Forsyth) Johns of Starke; children, Kevin Johns, Diana (Eric) Knotts, Richard Smith, and Louette (Butch) Smith-Hylton; siblings, Gladys Bundy Thomas (Arley) McRae, and Emily Johns (Rod) McDonald. He was lovingly called "Papa" by grandchildren, Daniel Griffis, Gerad Griffis, Shauna Hylton, Jodie Smith, Chipper Smith, Grace Johns, Garfield Johns, Grady Johns; and great-grandchildren, Kaylin Griffis, Josh Crane, and Dalon Blankenship. Also left are numerous nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends at Sampson City Church of God on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. with memorial services beginning at 11 a.m.

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



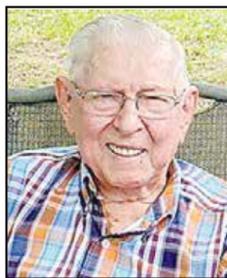
James Kuykendall

James "Leon" Kuykendall, 94, of Keystone Heights, died at home surrounded by his family under the care of Haven Hospice on Monday, Dec. 4, 2023. He was born Dec. 22, 1928, in Brooksville to the late James W. and Lena M. (Leggett). He retired as a dredge operator at E.I. Dupont. He was a member of Hope Baptist Church. He was preceded in death by his wife, Eva Mae (Triest) Kuykendall; his son, John Wayne Kuykendall; daughter-in-law, Sandie Kuykendall; and siblings, Marie Marek, Gladys Bowles Tucker, William "Bill" Kuykendall, and Wilma Parker.

Survivors are his children, Joanne Davenport and Jim Kuykendall of Keystone Heights, Sherry (Doyle) Newsome of Jacksonville; brother, George Kuykendall of Temperance, Michigan; seven grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. at Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home in Keystone Heights. Visitation will be held one hour prior to services. Interment will follow at Hope Baptist Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested contributions to please be made to Haven Hospice, 4300 NW 90th Boulevard, Gainesville, 32606.

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



Richard Stallings

Richard McNeil Stallings, 66, of Starke died Monday, Nov. 13, 2023, at Riverwood Health and Rehab. His father, Everett Marvin Stallings, preceded him in death.

Survivors are his mother, Violet Louise (Forgette) Stallings of Starke; sister, Marvina Steadman of Starke; brother, Daniel (Ann) Stallings; two nephews; and two nieces.

Memorial services will be announced later.

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

Dana T. Todd

Mrs. Dana T. Todd, 68, a longtime resident of Keystone Heights, passed away peacefully at her home Sunday, Dec. 3, 2023, with family and friends surrounding her. She was born Feb. 11, 1955, in Jacksonville to Oma Clifford and Betty Lou (Brakes) Tarver Jr. who both preceded her in death. She retired from Camp Blanding as an Administrative Assistant in the Range Maintenance Division. She loved watching football, especially the Florida State Seminoles. She also enjoyed NASCAR and entertaining her friends at her home. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 43 years, Dave Todd.

She is survived by her children, Lynda (Mario) Rimart of Miami, Jeffrey Todd and Jason (Lisa) Todd, both of Keystone Heights. Also left behind is her brother, Richard Stephen "Steve" (Ann) Tarver of Louisville, Kentucky. She was lovingly called "Nana" by her grandchildren, Brice (Shianne), Blair, Lillian, Gina (Christopher), Krysta (Juan), Alexa, Landon, Colton, Lyla; and great-grandchildren, Summerlin, Camden, Walker, Jace, Shane, Nathan, and Asher. Also left behind is a nephew, Kenton (Megan) Tarver; nieces, Faith Tarver, Missy (Jeff) Hutchinson, and Katherine Kollar; a sister-in-law, Debbie (Guppy) Kollar (Guppy); great-niece, Allyson; and great-nephews Jackson and Wyatt.

A Celebration of Life will be held Sunday, Dec. 10, at 3 p.m. at the Todd residence. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Community Hospice in her name.

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



Sammy Lee Johns

Mr. Sammy Lee Johns, 72, of Keystone Heights, passed away Sunday, Dec. 3, 2023. He was born July 7, 1951, in Deland, to parents Howard Wimbush and Lucy M. (Roberts) Johns. He was a member of Gadara Baptist Church. He enjoyed fishing and working and was a wonderful artist who loved to draw. His parents preceded him in death.

Survivors are his wife, Barbara (Rhodes) Johns of Keystone Heights; children, Melissa Blackwelder and Steven Johns, both of Keystone Heights; siblings, Marian Johns of Deland, and Margaret Sims of Deberry; and he was lovingly called "Grandpa" by two grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

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

Martha Porter

Martha Ann Morris Porter, 72, died Dec. 1, 2023, at North Florida Regional Hospital. She was born Dec. 12, 1950, and attended school in Bradford County.

Viewing will be held Friday, Dec 8, from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. at Haile Funeral Home, 802 N. Oak St., Starke. Services will be Saturday, Dec 9, at 11 a.m. at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 1662 Old Lawtrey Road, Starke with Pastor James Morris officiating. Interment will follow at Oddfellow Cemetery.

Arrangements are by Haile Funeral Home, 802 N. Oak St., Starke.

COCOA

Continued from page 10

Sophomore defensive back Duran Guilford leads the team in interceptions with three, including a pick-six in the Region 3-championship win over South Sumter. Sophomore defensive back O'kece Battle has two interceptions.

Three players have two fumble recoveries each: Hawkins, junior linebacker/defensive back Xavier

Chapple and senior defensive back Jayshawn Smith.

Senior kicker Gunnar Trout is 56 of 59 on PATs and 9 of 15 on field-goal attempts (with a long of 39).

Cocoa is scoring an average of 37 points per game, while opponents are averaging nine points.

Every opponent Cocoa played but one finished the regular season with a winning record. Eight of their opponents qualified for the playoffs, including two that are playing for the state championships in their classes:

third-ranked Class 4S Venice and first-ranked Class 3M St. Thomas Aquinas. The Tigers defeated Venice 31-21, while losing 37-36 to St. Thomas Aquinas.

Cocoa also has wins over second-ranked Class 4M Seminole (28-3), second-ranked Class 4S Treasure Coast (38-0), third-ranked Class 3S Eau Gallie (28-7), eighth-ranked Class 2S Titusville (28-3), ninth-ranked Class 3M Jones (22-20) and 18th-ranked Class 3S Rockledge (26-0).

This is the fourth straight season Cocoa has won at least 10 games.

2022 matchup

In last year's state-semifinal meeting, Bradford and Cocoa were tied at 21-21 in the fourth quarter. In its nine victories to that point, Cocoa had never been in a close game in the fourth quarter, with an average margin of victory of 43 points.

Cocoa's senior quarterback Blake Boda, who led the state in passing, completed 19 of 25 passes for 324 yards and two touchdowns. His 25-yard first-quarter pass to Boggs was the first score of the game.

The Tigers went up 14-0 in the first quarter when Cedrick Hawkins ran for a 2-yard score.

That's the way the score stood at halftime, but Bradford senior Jametrius "Jip" Pringle returned the

second-half kickoff 95 yards. Hayden Hughes kicked the extra point to make it 14-7.

Bradford forced Cocoa to punt on its first series of the second half. Torin Brazell, a senior on this year's team, blocked the punt, which was recovered by current senior Trente Jenkins. Jenkins dragged players on his way toward the end zone before he lateraled the ball to Brazell, who scored. With Hughes' PAT, the Tornadoes had tied the game.

Cocoa went back on top late in the third quarter when Boda and Boggs hooked up for a 76-yard touchdown.

The Tornadoes answered with a 60-yard scoring drive that was capped by current junior Jeremiah McKenzie's 2-yard touchdown run. Hughes added the PAT to make it 21-21 with 7:45 to play.

Boggs, who finished with 200-plus receiving yards, caught a 38-yard pass that set up a 32-yard field goal that put the Tigers up by three with 5:47 left on the clock.

Bradford fumbled on its first offensive play following the ensuing kickoff. That led to the final score of the night — 2-yard touchdown run by the Tigers' Anthony Bridgewater with 1:55 to play.

The Tigers finished with 371 yards to Bradford's 113.

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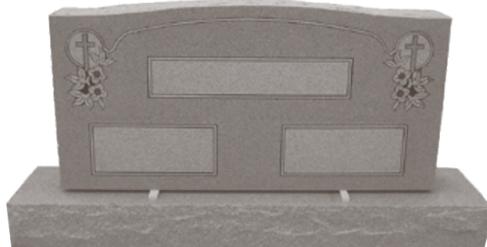
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Brandon D. Aaron

Mr. Brandon D. Aaron passed away on the 3rd of December 2023. Celebration of Life service for Mr. Aaron will be held Sunday the 10th of December 2023 at 2:00 PM at Mt. Zion AME Church 2229, Lake Street Lawtrey, FL 32058. Place of eternal rest will follow in the Peetsville Cemetery.

Public Visitation will be held Saturday at Phillip & Sons Visitation



Suite from 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Precious memories will be cherished forever in the hearts of his family and sorrowing friends. Family and friends are asked to assemble at the church at 1:30 PM to form the cortège.

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352-475-2000



Curtis A. "Lex" Sanders Attorney at Law



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P. Steven Futch
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Austin Gaver
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Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Dec. 7, 2023

BRADFORD

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE PLAINTIFF, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO. 23000392CAAKMX ASSETS
 MORTGAGE MANAGEMENT, LLC VS.
 UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF CARRIE F. LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE FRANCES LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE BAUGHMAN, ET AL., DEFENDANT(S)

NOTICE OF ACTION
 TO: Unknown Heirs, Beneficiaries, Devisees, Assignees, Lienors, Creditors, Trustees and all others who may claim an interest in the estate of Carrie F. Lewallen A/K/A Carrie Frances Lewallen A/K/A Carrie Lewallen A/K/A Carrie Baughman
 Last Known Address: 21189 Ne 20th Lane, Lawtey, FL 32058
 Current Residence: UNKNOWN
 TO: Unknown Spouse of Carrie F. Lewallen A/K/A Carrie Frances Lewallen A/K/A Carrie Baughman
 Last Known Address: 21189 Ne 20th Lane, Lawtey, FL 32038
 Current Residence: UNKNOWN
 TO: Tabatha Renee Clark A/K/A Tabatha Renee Dickerson A/K/A Tabatha Clark
 Last Known Address: 3719 Tully Court, Jacksonville, FL 32207
 Current Residence: UNKNOWN
 TO: Carrie L. Whittlesey A/K/A Carrie Whittlesey A/K/A Carrie Frances Whittlesey
 Last Known Address: 8441 Free Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32211
 Current Residence: UNKNOWN

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:
PART OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST, BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
 COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 35; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 89 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST AND ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SOUTH 1/2 OF SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 35, A DISTANCE OF 662.91 FEET TO A POINT FOR A POINT OF BEGINNING; FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING THUS DESCRIBED, CONTINUE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 505.10 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 05 DEGREES 16 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 331.62 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE RUNNING NORTH 89 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 04 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 492.15 FEET TO A POINT; SAID POINT BEING IN A CURVE CONCAVE TO THE NORTHWEST AND HAVING A RADIUS OF 50 FEET; THENCE ALONG AND AROUND SAID CURVE, AN ARC DISTANCE OF 77.93 FEET; SAID ARC BEING SUBTENDED BY A CHORD BEARING NORTH 44 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 70.28 FEET; THENCE NORTH 01 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 54 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 380 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on MILLER, GEORGE & SUGGS, PLLC, Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 210 N. University Drive, Suite 900, Coral Springs, FL 33071, on or before _____ within or before a date at least thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the Bradford Telegraph, 131 W. Call Street, Starke, FL 32091 and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint
 If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Persons with a disability who need any accommodation in order to participate should call Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 within two (2) working days of your receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired call (800) 955-8771; if you are voice impaired, call (800) 955-8770.
 WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 21st day of November, 2023.
 DENNY THOMPSON
 As Clerk of the Circuit Court
 BY: KANETRA JENKINS
 As Deputy Clerk

INVITATION TO BID
 NW 53RD AVE/ NW 219TH ST/ NW 41ST AVE RESURFACING
 FIN: 436451-1-54-01
 The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners is soliciting sealed proposals for the paving of NW 53rd Avenue, NW 219th Street, and NW 41st Avenue.
 Qualified firms or individuals desiring to provide the required products or services must submit two (2) packages in a sealed envelope or similar package marked "Sealed Proposal for NW 53rd Ave., NW 219th St., NW 41st Ave." to the Bradford County Clerk located at 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091 no later than 2:00 PM, local time, on Thursday, January 4, 2024.
 All proposals MUST have the responder's name and mailing address clearly shown on the outside of the envelope or package when submitted. Proposals will be opened and respondents announced at 2:15 PM, local time, or as soon thereafter as practical, on Thursday, January 4, 2024 in the Board of County BOCC Chambers located at 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091. No faxed or emailed proposals will be accepted.
 RFP will be provided to interested parties via email. Interested parties are to contact Christie McLelland with CHW at christiem@chw-inc.com to obtain an FTP link for download of the RFP.

Project is funded entirely through FDOT SCOP, Financial Project ID: 436451-1-54-01. Design of the project is being handled by CHW, Inc. Bradford County will be performing CEI services.
 A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at the Board of County BOCC Chambers located at 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091 on Thursday, December 21 at 2:00 PM. Representatives of Owner and Engineer will be present to discuss the project. Bidders are encouraged to attend and participate in the conference, but attendance is not required for submittal of Bid.
 The County reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to reject any or all proposals, to cancel or withdraw this solicitation at any time and waive any irregularities in the RFP process. The County reserves the right to award any contract to the respondent which it deems to offer the best overall service; therefore, the County is not bound to award any contract based on the lowest quoted price. The County, in its sole and absolute discretion, also reserves the right to waive any minor defects in the process and to accept the proposal deemed to be in the County's best interest.
 Additional information may be obtained from:
 Jason Dodds, Director of Public Works
 (904) 966-6243
 jason.dodds@bradfordcountyfl.gov
 BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, Bradford County, Florida

12/7 1tchg-BCT

COMMISSION MEETING
 The City of Starke Florida will hold a City Commission Meeting on December 19, 2023 at 5:30 pm at City Hall, 209 North Thompson Street, Starke, Florida 32091 during which the second reading and a vote will occur for the following ordinance:
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-01
 AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO SMOKING AND VAPING IN PUBLIC PARKS WITHIN THE CITY OF STARKE; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; ESTABLISHING AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING SMOKING AND VAPING IN PUBLIC PARKS WITHIN THE CITY OF STARKE; PROVIDING DIRECTION FOR COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES; PROVIDING DIRECTION FOR CODIFICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
 This ordinance is available for public inspection at City Hall, 209 North Thompson Street, Starke, Florida 32091. Interested parties may appear and have an opportunity to be heard at the meeting with respect to the proposed ordinances.

12/7 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF STARKE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
 BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD OF THE CITY OF STARKE, FLORIDA, SERVING ALSO AS THE LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY OF THE CITY OF STARKE, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the City of Starke Land Development Code, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Code, objections, recommendations and comments concerning the amendment, as described below, will be heard by the Planning and Zoning Board of City of Starke, Florida, serving also as the Local Planning Agency of City of Starke, Florida, at a public hearing to be held on December 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard in the City Commission Meeting Room, City Hall located at 209 North Thompson Street, Starke, Florida.

12/7 1tchg-BCT

R230511A, an application by Osceola Land & Timber Co., LLC, to amend the Future Land Use Plan Map of the Comprehensive Plan by changing the future land use classification from COUNTY RESIDENTIAL, LOW DENSITY (less than or equal to 2 dwelling units per acre) to CITY HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (more than 8 less than 20 units per acre) and COMMERCIAL on property described, as follows:
 From COUNTY RESIDENTIAL, LOW DENSITY (less than or equal to 2 dwelling units per acre) to CITY HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (more than 8 less than 20 units per acre):
 A parcel of land lying in Sections 16 and 17, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, Bradford County, Florida. Being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Northeast corner of said Section 17; thence South 01°18'25" East 661.10 feet, along the East line of said Section 17; thence South 01°06'15" East 671.29 feet, along the East line of said Section 17; thence South 01°22'20" East 497.19 feet, along the East line of said Section 17 to the Point of Beginning; thence South 01°22'20" East 816.75 feet, along the East line of said Section 17; thence North 88°18'17" East 1,319.73 feet; thence North 88°18'17" East 1,319.73 feet; thence North 88°18'17" East 1,316.42 feet; thence South 88°18'17" West 1,322.16 feet; thence South 87°40'55" West 182.44 feet; thence North 00°53'16" West 271.12 feet; thence North 54°19'51" West 186.57 feet; thence North 39°52'58" West 105.98 feet; thence North 46°41'46" West 174.22 feet; thence North 62°49'38" West 418.52 feet; thence North 79°34'06" West 274.64 feet; thence North 50°51'37" West 158.52 feet to a point on the Easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 301 (State Road 223), said point lying on a curve concave Westerly, having a radius of 13,625.00 feet, and being subtended by a chord having a bearing and distance of North 28°15'43" East, 235.59 feet; thence Northeasterly, along said Easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 301 (State Road 223) and the arc of said curve through a central angle of 0°59'27", an arc distance of 235.59 feet to the end of said curve; thence North 25°36'34" East 1,062.65 feet, along said Easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 301 (State Road 223); thence North 27°11'50" East 36.54 feet, along said Easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 301 (State Road 223); thence North 88°14'53" East 661.77 feet to the Point of Beginning. Containing 77.37 acres, more or less.
 AND
 A parcel of land lying in Section 17, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, Bradford County, Florida. Being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Northeast corner of said Section 17; thence South 01°18'25" East 661.10 feet, along the East line of said Section 17; thence South 01°06'15" East 671.29 feet, along the East line of said Section 17; thence South 01°22'20" East 497.19 feet, along the East line of said Section 17 to the Point of Beginning; thence South 01°22'20" East 816.75 feet, along the East line of said Section 17; thence North 88°18'17" East 1,319.73 feet; thence North 88°18'17" East 1,316.42 feet; thence South 88°18'17" West 1,322.16 feet; thence South 87°40'55" West 182.44 feet; thence North 00°53'16" West 271.12 feet; thence North 54°19'51" West 186.57 feet; thence North 39°52'58" West 105.98 feet; thence North 46°41'46" West 174.22 feet; thence North 62°49'38" West 418.52 feet; thence North 79°34'06" West 274.64 feet; thence North 50°51'37" West 158.52 feet to a point on the Easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 301 (State Road 223), said point lying on a curve concave Westerly, having a radius of 13,625.00 feet, and being subtended by a chord having a bearing and distance of North 28°15'43" East, 235.59 feet; thence Northeasterly, along said Easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 301 (State Road 223) and the arc of said curve through a central angle of 0°59'27", an arc distance of 235.59 feet to the end of said curve; thence North 25°36'34" East 1,062.65 feet, along said Easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 301 (State Road 223); thence North 27°11'50" East 36.54 feet, along said Easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 301 (State Road 223); thence North 88°14'53" East 661.77 feet to the Point of Beginning. Containing 77.37 acres, more or less.
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WIN

Continued from page 10

from an injury he sustained on Oct. 6, had a 5-yard run to the 18. After an incomplete pass, Shanks had consecutive runs of 2 yards each. The second run, on fourth down, left the Tornadoes shy of a first down by a yard, resulting in a turnover on downs at the 14 with 3:44 remaining until halftime.

The Crusaders picked up two first downs on consecutive 10-yard runs by Nelson and Vaughn Howard. Bradford's Jenkins was then on consecutive tackles, holding two run plays to a total of 2 yards. Nelson, though, broke loose for a 56-yard run to the Bradford 2-yard line. Nelson scored on a run from there with 1:07 on the clock. Hopson added the extra point to make it 14-0.

Pensacola Catholic recovered a fumble on the ensuing kickoff, which put its offense back on the field at the Bradford 48. The Crusaders drove to the 28 before time expired.

Nelson rushed for 129 yards in the first half on 19 carries, while Huff completed 4 of 8 passes for 92 yards.

"We weren't doing what we were supposed to do," senior linebacker Devon McBride said. "In the locker room, we just knew we had to turn it up and be the most physical team and work harder."

The Tornadoes' defense held Pensacola Catholic to 39 total yards after halftime, with Nelson gaining just 13 yards on 12 carries and Huff completing 3 of 5 passes for 24 yards.

"We really had to dig deep and show that hard work that we've been putting in in the weight room," McBride said.

Defense shines, but turnovers an issue

Bradford opened the third

quarter with two first downs on two plays — an 11-yard run by Jyquez Cason and an 18-yard pass from Shanks to Cummings. Two plays later, though, the Tornadoes fumbled, with Pensacola Catholic recovering.

The Tornadoes had a promising drive going the next time they had the ball. Pollard, who rushed for 73 yards on 15 carries, had a 10-yard run to get the drive started, while a 2-yard run by Shanks resulted in another first down at the Pensacola Catholic 48. A pass-interference penalty moved the Tornadoes to the 31. The Crusaders were able to then drop Shanks for a 6-yard loss, but Pollard ran for a 12-yard gain to set up third-and-4, which Bradford converted on an 8-yard McKenzie run.

Runs by Shanks, who finished with 95 yards on 19 carries, would help the Tornadoes get inside the 10-yard line, but a fumble at the 2-yard line was recovered by Pensacola Catholic.

The Tornadoes held to Crusaders to no yards on three plays and forced a punt, but a fumble on the return was recovered by Pensacola Catholic.

On the first play following the turnover, Nelson was held to no gain on first down before being tackled for a 3-yard loss by Lewis on second down. He was then held to a 2-yard gain by McBride, forcing a punt on fourth-and-11.

Needed spark

Bradford finally got on the board when Cummings caught a screen pass in the middle of the field from Shanks and turned it into a 64-yard touchdown at the 10:12 mark of the fourth quarter.

"When he took that screen pass and went the distance, we all started believing," Rodgers said. "Everybody started believing. That's all it took."

Declan Hense kicked the extra point to make it 14-7.



Chalil Cummings (right) sprints his way to Bradford's first touchdown on a 64-yard pass play.

Bradford's defense forced a three-and-out, but the Tornadoes fumbled the ball on the punt return again, with the Crusaders' Jonathan Flynn recovering at the Bradford 29 and returning it to the 17.

The Crusaders had three run plays net 1 yard, forcing them to attempt a 33-yard field goal that was no good with 5:56 to play.

Bradford then put together an 80-yard drive to even the score. A 12-yard run by Shanks and three runs for 22 yards by Pollard moved the Tornadoes to the Pensacola Catholic 46. A personal-foul facemask penalty later put Bradford at the 28.

Cason had a 6-yard run to convert a third-down play and give his team a first down at the 16. Two passes into the end zone to Brazell and Cummings were incomplete. Shanks tried to find Cummings in the end zone again, with Pensacola Catholic being penalized for pass interference. Pass interference isn't an automatic first down in high school, and since Bradford was inside the 20, half the distance was marked off, setting the Tornadoes up with third-and-2 at the 8-yard line. Nelson made a defensive play for Pensacola

Catholic, tackling Shanks for a 1-yard loss.

Shanks was injured on the play, so he exited the game and was replaced by McKenzie. On fourth-and-3, Clark caught a touchdown pass from McKenzie. "I was definitely nervous," Clark said. "It was like slow motion. I vividly remember telling myself, 'Calm down. Catch the ball.' That's all I had to worry about."

Hense kicked the extra point to make it 14-14 with 1:27 left in regulation.

Rodgers said he wasn't thinking of going for two at that point.

"Honestly, I thought we needed to tie it on that end after the touchdown just because I thought we had them on the ropes," he said. "It thought they were tired. If we could get them to overtime, we would come out on top. Fortunately, that's what happened."

Pensacola Catholic threatened to score and avoid overtime. Bradford's kickoff went out of bounds, with the Crusaders electing for a re-kick rather than take the ball at their own 35. The Crusaders fielded a squib kick at the 45 and returned it to the 50.



Dae'Jon Shanks (far left) carries the ball for a 12-yard gain on the touchdown drive that tied the game in regulation.

Huff completed a 10-yard pass to Jasso and then completed passes of 4 and 10 yards to Jasso and Cunningham, respectively, as the Crusaders drove to the Bradford 26. On first down from there, Clark tipped a pass at the line of scrimmage that was incomplete.

Clark then pressured Huff on second down, which resulted in another incomplete pass. Nelson carried the ball for a 2-yard gain on third down.

With time for one more play,

See BHS, page 17

Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Dec. 7, 2023

BRADFORD

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO.: 04-2023-113-CP
IN RE: ESTATE OF ELIZABETH DIANE ADAMS
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of ELIZABETH DIANE ADAMS, deceased, whose date of death was August 16, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for BRADFORD County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Post Office Drawer B, Starke, FL 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is December 7, 2023.

Attorney for Personal Representative: GEORGE A. YOUNG
Attorney
Florida Bar Number: 0051728
222 N. 3rd Street
Palatka, Florida 32177
Telephone: (386) 328-1111
Fax: (386) 328-3003
E-Mail: pleadings@holmesandyoung.com
Personal Representative:

JAMES JACKSON GREEN
104 Bardin Estates Court
Palatka, Florida 32177
12/7 2tchg 12/14-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
FILE NO.: 04-2023-CP-117
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM L. GRIFFIN, DECEASED.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The formal administration of the estate of WILLIAM L. GRIFFIN, who died on October 12, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court of Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is the Clerk of the Circuit Court, 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091. The names and addresses of the PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE and attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the DECEDENT and other persons having claims or demands against the DECEDENT'S estate on whom a copy of this NOTICE is required to be served must file their claims with this COURT WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the DECEDENT and other persons having claims or demands against the DECEDENT'S estate must file their claims with this COURT WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this NOTICE TO CREDITORS is December 7, 2023.

KELLEY EATON
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
1039 NE 9th Street
Gainesville, FL 32601
Respectfully submitted,
VeRonica R. Owens,
Attorney at Law, P.A.
By: /s/ VeRonica R. Owens, Esq.
Fla. Bar No.: 73568
VeRonica@VeRonicaROwens.org

189 South Lawrence Boulevard
Keystone Heights, FL 32656
2000 Henley Road, Suite B
Middleburg, FL 32068
Telephone: (352) 473-5000
Attorney for PETITIONER
12/7 2tchg 12/14-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2023-CP-000049
Division: Probate

IN RE: ESTATE OF MICHAEL E. LOVELL
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the Estate of Michael E. Lovell, deceased, whose date of death was April 21, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091. The names and addresses of the Curator and the Curator's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is December 7, 2023.
Attorney for Curator:
Paige Hammond Wolpert
Florida Bar Number: 23213
Shuffield, Lowman & Wilson, P.A.
1000 Legion Place, Suite 1700
Orlando, Florida 32801
Telephone: (407) 581-9800
Fax: (407) 581-9801
E-Mail: pwolpert@shuffieldowman.com
Secondary E-Mail:

Probateservice@shuffieldowman.com
Curator:
Julie Lovell
1939 Seatonham Street
Winter Garden, Florida 34787
12/7 2tchg 12/14-BCT

UNION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO.: 21000046CAAXMX
NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICES
Plaintiff(s),
vs.
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF NATHANIEL B. HARRIS DECEASED; REGINA MERRICKS, THE UNKNOWN PERSONS IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF NATHANIEL B. HARRIS DECEASED
Last known address: Unknown
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a civil action has been filed against you in the Circuit Court of Union County, Florida, to replevin certain personal property described as follows:

1999 Fleetwood, 30x76 Waverly Crest, Mobile Home Series Number(s): FFLW70A26362WC21 and FFLW70B26362WC21.
Property address: 11162 Southwest 42nd Street, Lake Butler, FL 32054
You are required to file a written response with the Court and serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Padgett Law Group, whose address is 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312, at least thirty (30) days from the date of first publication, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

DATED this 13th day of November, 2023.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
As Clerk of the Court
BY: Crystal Norman
Deputy Clerk
11/16 4tchg 12/7-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO.: 22000014CA
SOUTHWEST STAGE FUNDING, LLC DBA CASCADE FINANCIAL SERVICES
Plaintiff(s),
vs.
RANDALLA GRIFFIS, JR.; TERRISSA D. GRIFFIS;
Defendant(s).

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to the Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale entered on October 26, 2023 in the above-captioned action, the Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the front door lobby of the Union County Courthouse, 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida 32054 in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the 4th day of January, 2024 at 11:00 AM on the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure or order, to wit:

A parcel of land lying in Section 30, Township 5 South, Range 21 East, Union County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows: Commence at a found 2 inch iron pipe located at the Northwest corner of said Section 30 and run North 84 degrees 29 minutes 06 seconds East, along the North line of said Section 30, for a distance of 1528.89 feet to a found 1/2 inch iron rod located on the Westerly right of way line of County Road 793 (80 feet right of way); thence run South 11 degrees 59 minutes 17 seconds East, along said Westerly right of way line, for a distance of 987.20 feet to a found 1/2 inch iron rod for the Point of Beginning. From the Point of Beginning thus described continue South 11 degrees 59 minutes 17 seconds East, along said Westerly right of way line, for a distance of 110.09 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod; thence run South 84 degrees 27 minutes 55 seconds West, for a distance of 409.74 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod located on the West line of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 30; thence run North 01 degrees 08 minutes 07 seconds West, along the West line

of said Northeast 1/4 of Northwest 1/4, for a distance of 109.51 feet to a found 1/2 inch iron rod; thence run North 84 degrees 26 minutes 06 seconds East for a distance of 388.97 feet to the Point of Beginning. Subject to any covenants, easements, and/or restrictions of record. Together with that certain 2018 mobile home bearing Serial Numbers: LOHGA21833204A and LOHGA21833204B.
Property address: 11311 Northeast CR 793, Raiford, FL 32083
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at (352) 337-6237, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance. If you are hearing or voice impaired, please call 711. If you are deaf or hard of hearing and require an ASL interpreter or an assisted listening device to participate in a proceeding, please contact Court Interpreting at interpreter@circuit8.org.
Kellie Hendricks-Rhoades
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
As Clerk of the Court
BY: Crystal Norman
Deputy Clerk
11/30 2tchg 12/7-UCT

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE
Please take notice Lake Butler Mini Storage, located at 1015 SW 3rd St. Lake Butler, FL, 32054 intends to hold an auction of goods stored in the following units in default for non-payment of rent on Lockerfox.com. The sale will occur on 12/30/2023 at 12:00 am on Lockerfox.com. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings.

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Unit #54, Kiara Randolph
Unit # 45, 46 Altonia Alexander
Unit #33 Wanda Kehrl
Unit #12 Katherine Morabito
Unit #35 Kara Gilhooly
Unit #3 Jane Doe
All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. See manager for details.
12/7 2tchg 12/14-UCT

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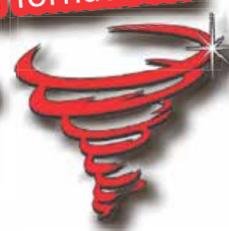
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KHHS football team is top 2S team in GPA

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School's football team is a Florida High School Athletic Association Academic Champion for the third time in four years with a cumulative team GPA of 3.191.

"I think it says a lot about the students and the parents that we have in this community," KHHS Head Coach Steve Reynolds said. "I think it says a lot about the commitment our coaching staff and our athletic department have for academics."

The Indians were number one in Class 2S, finishing ahead of Pensacola Catholic, which had a team GPA of 3.094.

Reynolds said the accomplishment speaks to the effort of the players, who are juggling schoolwork with practices and games. He said it also speaks to the fact they have future goals they're striving to meet.

"The kids know what the priorities are to set themselves up academically for their job path or education path after high school," Reynolds said. "They take that seriously."

"We've had a valedictorian (Caleb Moncrief, Class of 2022) who was a football team member. We've got another one next year — he's looking like he may be the valedictorian."

Keystone will receive a commemorative plaque from the

FHSAA in recognition of being an academic champion.

Academic Champions are named for each sport in each classification. A team with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on an unweighted scale of 4.0 can be nominated by its athletic director.

The KHHS football team was Academic Champion of its class in 2020 and 2022 as well. The Indians were fifth in their class in 2019 and fourth in 2021.

Keystone's volleyball team had the sixth-highest team GPA in Class 4A at 3.533. The Indians placed behind Fort Lauderdale's Pine Crest (3.825), Pompano Beach (3.74), Lakeland's McKeel (3.705), Pensacola (3.638) and Englewood's Lemon Bay (3.557).

In 1A boys golf, Keystone's team GPA was 3.523, which was 16th. Pine Crest topped the class with a team GPA of 3.896.

Keystone's boys cross country team had the 21st-highest GPA in Class 2A at 3.439. Fort Lauderdale's NSU University School had a GPA of 3.932, which was the best in the class.

KHHS girls soccer team defeats visiting Ridgeview 2-1

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Ella Hutchins scored two unassisted goals, while goalies Xana Briley and Aspen Krohn combined for a second-half

shutout in the Keystone Height High School girls soccer team's 2-1 win over visiting Class 5A Ridgeview on Dec. 4.

Keystone (4-2-1) took a 1-0 lead in the eighth minute when Hutchins connected on a long shot from the corner of the field.

The Panthers just missed tying it up three minutes later on a shot that sailed over the net. In the 17th minute, Ridgeview had an unsuccessful corner-kick opportunity as well as a long shot on goal that bounced off the corner post.

Krohn made a save in the 19th minute, but the Panthers found the mark in the 24th minute, making it 1-1.

That's how the score stood at halftime, with Krohn making saves in the 26th and 32nd minutes.

Hutchins scored what would be the match-winning goal in the 55th minute.

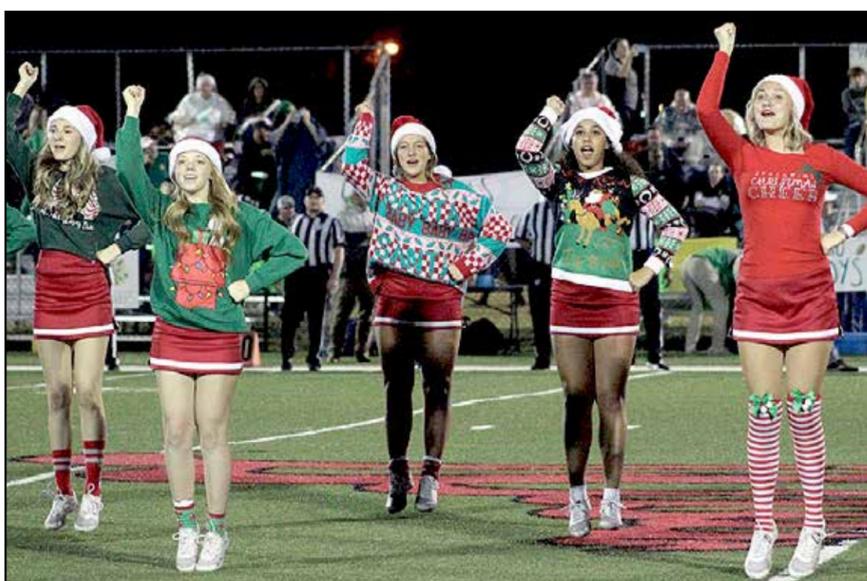
Krohn finished with 10 saves, while Briley had five.

Keystone entered the match off an 8-1 District 4-3A win over host Interlachen on Nov. 28. Kiersten Shaw took 15 shots on goal, connecting on six. Hutchins and Ashly McCarthy each added a goal.

Hutchins, Halea Lam and Kaylee Park each recorded one assist.

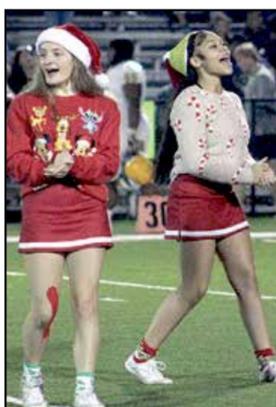
Krohn made seven saves.

The Indians travel to Ocala to play Class 5A Vanguard on Thursday, Dec. 7, at 5:30 p.m. They then travel to play district opponent Fort White on Monday, Dec. 11, at 6 p.m. before returning home to play Class 4A Suwannee on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 7:20 p.m.



Christmas cheer for Big Red

Christmas was the theme for the student section at Bradford High School's state-semifinal football game against Pensacola Catholic on Dec. 1, so the cheerleaders donned Christmas sweaters and red and green attire. TOP: Helping to bring the Christmas cheer are (l-r) Abbigale Moore, Abigail Casey, Kendall Cook, Alexis Berry and Emma Mueller. BELOW: Christmas or Grinchmas? Kailey Marr and Jhailaa Coleman both wear sweaters of the green guy whose heart grew three sizes. Photos by Cliff Smelley.



Skyla Bounocore and Kamryn Shanks bring the Christmas cheer with Disney characters and candy canes.



Cheering before kickoff are (l-r) Chloe Hales, Kendell Shanks and Jamiee Lin.



Sade Peterson wears a shirt that says 'Tis the Season. The Tornados proved 'tis the season for championship football.

KHHS boys get 6 1st-half goals in 8-0 district win over Rams

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bryce Huntley and Noah Jaramillo combined to score five goals for the Keystone Heights High School boys soccer team, which recorded an 8-0 District 4-3A win over host Interlachen on Nov. 28.

Huntley had three goals and an assist for the Indians, who improved to 3-0 in the district

and are now 4-0 overall.

Jaramillo scored two goals, while the following had one each: Luke Brunt, Jacob Stahman and Aaron Wiley.

Landon Spence and Sammy Wachua led the team in assists with two apiece. Jaden Park and Ryder Thomas each added an assist as well.

The Indians played Bell this past Tuesday and will host Palatka on Thursday, Dec. 7, at 7:20 p.m. Keystone then hosts district opponent Fort White on Monday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m.

On Wednesday, Dec. 13, the Indians travel to Gainesville to play district opponent P.K. Yonge at 7 p.m.

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Lake Region Monitor

BHS

Continued from page 14

Pensacola Catholic set up for a 41-yard field goal, which was no good.

Going for the win

Bradford won the toss and elected to play defense first in overtime. In overtime, each team begins a possession 10 yards from the end zone, getting up to four plays to either score a touchdown or attempt a field goal.

Nelson threw a pass in the end zone to Jeremiah Shelby on first down that was broken up by the Tornados' Cason. Nelson then had two carries of 5 yards each, resulting in a touchdown and extra point by Hopson to put Pensacola Catholic up 21-14.

Bradford's first offensive play was a 9-yard run by Pollard to the 1-yard line. McKenzie was stopped on a run up the middle from there on second down, but McKenzie tried again on third down, extending the ball across the goal line for the score.

Then, it was decision time. Kick the extra point or go for two?

"We huddled up," Brazell said. "Coach asked us what we wanted to do. We said, 'We're going for two. We want to go and win.' That's how it was."

Clark said, "We were thinking about running a trick play, but Torrin and I, we both said, 'Run it behind us. It's our last game. We'll give it everything we've got.'"

That's the way it played out, with Shanks following Brazell and Clark (as well as Pollard) into the end zone for the win and a berth in the state-championship game.

A hard-fought state-championship berth.

"You face adversity every day," Brazell said. "It just showed how big we are as a team and how we can prevail over challenges."

Shanks said, "We're always ready for adversity, but we've just never had it throughout the



Willie Pollard (right) carries the ball in his first action since Oct. 6, when he was injured. His 9-yard run set up Jeremiah McKenzie's 1-yard touchdown in overtime.



Center Ridge Bradley (center) squares off against Pensacola Catholic's Desjon Robertson.



Trente Jenkins (right) wraps up Pensacola Catholic's Nigel Nelson for a loss.



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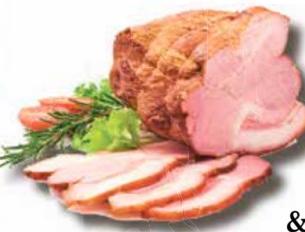
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