

The Sweetest Strawberries this side of Heaven

Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, December 8, 2022

144th year, 15th Issue — \$1

Family left without following house fire

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Staff Writer

An early evening fire at a Union County residence has left one family without a home at Christmas.

Denise Norman and her son, Jonathan, were at home last Saturday evening waiting at their home next door to the old Club 100 Bar on S.R. 100 near the bridge over New River, for Denise's mother, Sis Whitehead, to come by after the Lake Butler Christmas parade. When Whitehead arrived, bringing sandwiches, she and Denise were at one end of the home, while Jonathan was at the other. Then they noticed the smoke and Jonathan yelled "Fire!" Whitehead called 911 as the house was quickly becoming engulfed with flame. Denise and her son managed to locate and remove two of their four rescue dogs from the residence before they had to stay out.

The fire truck which had transported Santa in the parade had just returned to the station and was back in service when the call came in. Eight fully trained volunteer fire fighters



Fire broke through the roof within a minute of the arrival of the Union County Fire Department and kept accelerating despite their best efforts.

responded immediately. Union County Fire Department Chief Mark Hughes said that the home already 60% engulfed in flame when they

arrived and that flames began to rise through the roof within a minute of their arrival. Bradford County sent three firefighters and a tanker truck

full of water to assist. Together, the two departments pumped 36,000 gallons of water on the blaze, several working with tears in their eyes from the cries of the two dogs still trapped in the house, but although they tried there was no way to reach the animals. Despite all the efforts to save the home, it was a total loss.

"We did everything we could do," Hughes said.

The house was of wood frame construction, with the center section being almost 100 years old. At one time it had been the home of John and Vivian Whitehead after his retirement from the office of Union County Sheriff. It was now owned by Sis Whitehead. The home was not insured. The center section of the home was the oldest part of the home, with additions built on either side. Sis said the center section was built largely from "lighter wood" and that accounted for the speed of the spread of the fire. The fire was caused by electrical issues.

See FIRE, page 6

Clay Electric lowers power cost adjustment

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — Clay Electric Cooperative said it is lowering the power cost adjustment it charges members beginning in December.

The co-op said in a news release that members using the industry household average of 1,000 kWh of power will now pay \$149.90.

"The previous cost was \$159.50," the utility said. "The cooperative is able to lower the cost of power due to a slight decrease in the price of natural gas, which Seminole Electric Cooperative, Clay's wholesale power provider uses to

generate a sizable portion of the wholesale electricity it provides.

"We're pleased to be able to lower the PCA in time for the holidays," said General Manager/CEO Ricky Davis.

The power cost adjustment is a separate line item on each Clay Electric statement, which reflects increases and decreases in the co-op's cost of power. The co-op said the cost of wholesale power is more than 70 percent of Clay's total expenses.

"When the cost of power is greater than the amount included in the base rate, the PCA is a charge," the co-op said. "When the cost is less, it's a credit."

Two elected in Lawtey

BY MELISSA PYLE
Telegraph Staff Writer

LAWTEY — The city of Lawtey held elections Dec. 6., voting in two city council members. Group two, was won by newcomer Amy Blom. Blom, a lifelong Lawtey resident, defeated John Merceir with a 111 votes to 37.

Lawtey City Council Group 4 was won by Virginia "Ginny" Warner. Warner defeated Gwendolyn T. Anders by a vote of 88 to 59. Warner has served in the past on the council but after a year away she is ready to serve again and looks forward to meeting the challenges ahead. One such challenge is Lawtey's infrastructure.

Both Bloom and Warner look forward to listening to the voice of local residents and are eager to get to work serving their fellow Lawtey residents beginning with their swearing in ceremony on Jan. 3.



Virginia Warner and Amy Blom

Come celebrate Christmas on Call Street

Starke's Christmas on Call Street will feature the lighting of a new Christmas tree and more when the event kicks off at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9. (Vendors begin setting up at 3 p.m. that day.)

The Downtown Square is the place to be when the live music begins. Christmas light tours are returning, but in a new form. Funtastic Fire Brigade will be offering the tours atop a fire engine. Bring the whole family or a group of friends to check that out. Tours begin at 6:30 p.m. and continue every 15 minutes. (Limit of 12 per tour.)

Local officials will be on hand for the Christmas tree lighting, which is scheduled for 6:45 p.m., and the seasonal magic continues at 7 p.m. with the Call Street Christmas Choir and a live nativity at the concert pavilion in the square.

Live entertainment resumes and continues throughout the day on Saturday, Dec. 10. The day begins

at 10 a.m., and vendors will be set up for shopping and refreshments. Bounce houses will be up by 11 a.m. A car show is scheduled from 3 to 5 p.m. Live entertainers include Jaelyn Jackson, Lee Ann Purvis, Starke Dance Academy and more.

Then as the sun sets and evening settles in, Starke's annual Christmas Parade will light up Call Street, with entries from local schools, churches, businesses and community groups. The parade lines up at the Starke ER and travels through historic downtown, moving west down Call Street, looping around the college to Jackson Street, and ending at the city parking lot.

Each year, the parade brings the arrival of Santa Claus, and both he and Mrs. Claus will be at the Downtown Square following the parade for photos.

Sunday morning, Dec. 11, ends the celebration with Santa Breakfast at The Downtown Grill beginning at 8



Winners of this year's Miss Winterfest pageant were (l-r) Queen Jaydin Borgner, Jr. Queen Remi Hipps, Little Princess Isabella Williams and Little Miss Maci Orton.

a.m. Reservations are required for this event, so be sure to call 904-964-9253. Breakfast is \$10 per person. Bring your own camera for Santa photos.

Christmas on Call Street sponsors

include the city of Starke, Starke Downtown Merchants, North Florida Regional Chamber of Commerce and Funtastic Fire Brigade.

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WORTH NOTING

Food distribution in Lake Butler

There will be a Farm Share food distribution in Lake Butler on Saturday, Dec. 10, at 8 a.m. at the Lake Butler Community Center, 155 NW Third St. This is a drive-thru distribution. Volunteers will be on hand to assist. Please have your trunk open as you proceed through the distribution line. There is a limit of two families per vehicle.

Food distribution at True Vine

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Farm Share and True Vine Ministry will take place Tuesdays, Dec. 13 and 27, at 10 a.m. at True Vine Outreach Ministry in Starke.

Food boxes include a variety of nonperishable items and some meats. Inventory is subject to availability. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Food distribution Thursday

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Feeding Northeast Florida and True Vine Ministry is taking place Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 8:30 a.m. at the RJE Complex on Pine Street 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.

Walk through Bethlehem

Morningstar Baptist Church will present a Living Walk through Bethlehem on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 10 and 11, from 6 to 8 p.m. nightly. The biblical account of the Christmas story will feature actors and animals. Explore the village of Bethlehem and view the Nativity.

The church is located in Worthington Springs, three-quarter miles west of S.R. 121 and C.R. 18.

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Fairgrounds Phase 2 set to begin

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Work can begin in earnest on new fairgrounds buildings now that the cost of construction permits has been decided.

Fair Manager Dale Woodruff and Fair Board President Bob Milner asked the county commission Dec. 6 to waive the building and other permitting fees for the project. The board waived a portion of the fees based on the original calculation — \$2,655 — but not the final calculation, which had ballooned to \$7,440.

Commissioners questioned why permitting had not been considered as a cost when seeking \$3 million from the state to continue the rebuild. Economically, the board is also not in a position where it can waive fees.

Fees on permits do not fund general government, but they do fund the costs of the Building and Zoning Office.

Woodruff and Milner said the fees had been waived historically, including the first phase of the project that constructed a new arena that can double as a Category 5 hurricane shelter for more than 800 individuals. That is a public purpose unique to

Bradford County in this area. The new barns will serve as storm shelters for animals as well.

Woodruff also countered Commissioner Carolyn Spooner's claim that the fair was a profit-making enterprise. While they would very much like it to be and work toward that goal, Woodruff said the fair loses money. The fair lost \$70,000 last year, he said. Wet weather forced closure of the fair because of a "river" running through the midway.

Preventing a repeat of that disaster is why the fair board is bringing in hundreds of truckloads of fill dirt to elevate the fairgrounds by six inches or more. Stormwater will drain to ditches along the highway and railroad.

"This will hopefully allow for the expansion of the midway, which is key to doing this whole thing," Woodruff said.

Phase 2 will see the construction of three new barns — one each for cattle and swine, and a third for poultry, rabbits and goats. The first two will be 9,500 square feet and the third will be 5,000 square feet. They will be state of the art facilities, Woodruff said.

Milner talked about a third phase that could also serve a public purpose. That phase

will see the demolition and replacement of buildings one and two with a new building featuring a full commercial kitchen and meeting space. In addition to rental for events, it could also serve as an emergency operations center and staging ground for emergency response.

There was confusion or miscommunication about why the fairgrounds was not utilized when a storm shelter was opened at Starke Elementary earlier this year. Schools must be closed for the duration that a shelter is opened there. Inability to predict how long a shelter will be open can lead to additional days of canceled classes.

According to the fairgrounds, they were not approached. While the school district makes the call on school closures, it is the emergency management office that decides the opening of storm shelters, Milner said, and they are happy to work with emergency management when called upon.

The board voted to reduce the permit fees by \$2,655.

Woodruff said they are ready to break ground on Phase 2 as soon as the permits are issued.

Most work will not be complete by the 2023 fair in March, aside from work to elevate and improve drainage of the midway.



County Judge Tatum Davis with school board members Sheila Cummings, Lynn Melvin and Gayle Nicula.

Melvin new edition to local boards

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Bradford's newest school board member, Lynn Melvin, was sworn in alongside returning board members Sheila Cummings and Gayle Nicula.

Melvin joins the board after a lifetime dedicated to education. She was a teacher in Bradford schools, where she was also educated. She went on to lead Starke and Brooker elementary

schools as principal, retiring after 35 years on the job.

Her daughter-in-law, Cassie, is currently principal at Southside Elementary.

Melvin ran on her experience and her promise to be an active and supportive school board member.

"I'm honored to represent the residents of District 5 as a school board member for the next four years," she said, adding she was looking forward to working with Superintendent Will Hartley

and her fellow school board members. "I'm also excited to meet and work with our employees in our schools, and I am especially excited to get to know our students and celebrate their successes."

County Judge Tatum Davis led the school board members through the oath of office Nov. 22 and joined returning county commissioners Kenny Thompson and Danny Riddick for their ceremony on Dec. 6.

Builders still facing permitting delays

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — The discussion has come back to the county commission multiple times, but contractors are still facing delays with septic tank permitting.

With much of the development taking place in District 4, Commissioner Danny Riddick has been approached repeatedly by frustrated contractors wanting a solution. Riddick has brought the matter to the board and even held a meeting in March with the county's former attorney, building official and health department director.

There was never quite agreement on the scope of the problem. Alternatives to Alachua County providing permitting were never pursued.

Months later, the turnaround time is a minimum of four weeks according to those who spoke to the commission Dec. 6, causing unnecessary delays and driving up costs.

Jannyck Gonima of Palatka is a private site inspector with past experience working in government permitting. Many local contractors have been turning to him for initial site inspections to try and jumpstart the process, but when permit applications are submitted, they remain in limbo for weeks.

"It is disappointing to say the least that it's taking so long to get permits issued," Gonima said. Much of the time, he said getting a septic permit is key to getting other permits issued. "I don't know exactly what's going on. I know that the turnaround right now to get a permit here in Bradford County is four to six weeks, if not longer."

Gonima said he's seen it take as long as three months.

Communication with the Alachua environmental health office is frustrating, and sometimes speaking with someone seems to draw the process out even further.

Riddick pushed for the board to hear from some of the local contractors present, saying none of them was getting paid to take time off and attend a commission meeting.

"They're not getting paid one dime to sit in that chair out there, I guarantee it. They get paid for what they do," he said.

Sam Nadler of Keystone Plumbing said much of his work in septic system repair. The added weeks of waiting are costing county residents a lot of additional money.

"A lot of my customers are having to have their tank pumped out an extra two or three times just waiting on these permits, he said. They pay hundreds of dollars more and suffer sewage spills in their homes or on their property, he said.

Brandon Smith, a building contractor from Keystone Heights, said despite charging \$300 more per home for Gonima to perform private site evaluations and soil sampling to

remove Alachua County from the initial permitting steps, they are still waiting around two months for septic permits.

"On our side, that prevents us from pulling a building permit, which means no work can happen," he said. Bradford's building office can complete a construction permit in a week or slightly longer, according to Smith, but not while they are waiting indefinitely for a septic permit from Alachua.

A small home that would take four to five months to complete is now taking seven or eight months, Smith said. With mortgage rates going up, homeowners are taking on additional debt.

"What we would all like to see is someone in our county," he said. The only relief Smith said he has experienced is from speaking with a local legislator's office. Twice following these calls, the unresolved permits were issued the same day.

"So, they're sitting there and all they've got to do is approve them. They're just not doing it," he said.

Commission Chairwoman Diane Andrews said they were

See DELAY, page 8

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County Judge Tatum Davis also conducted the ceremony for Kenny Thompson and Danny Riddick, the county commissioners representing Districts 2 and 4. Both were reelected during the August primary.

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

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Lake Region

Condon elected chair of county commissioners

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — Clay County commissioners chose Lake Region representative Betsy Condon to chair their board for the next year. Commissioner Jim Renninger nominated the Crystal Lake resident. Condon served as commission vice-chair during 2022, while Wayne Bolla led the five-member panel.

Condon was first elected to the Clay County School Board in 2014 by defeating incumbent Tina Bullock. Four years later, Bullock regained the seat by capturing 53.6% of the vote.

In 2020 Commissioner Gavin Rollins resigned to run for U.S. Congress, and Condon successfully campaigned to fill the remaining two years in Rollins' term. In 2022 the Keystone Heights resident won reelection.

According to the commissioner's biography on the county's website, Condon earned a bachelor's degree in environmental health from the University of Georgia and worked on environmental health projects for Atlanta's MARTA transit system, including preparing the transit system's safety infrastructure for the 1996 Olympic Games.

She then worked for Energizer Power Systems in Alachua County, managing all environmental compliance programs, including EPA RCRA compliance, all hazardous waste management and disposal, the groundwater contamination monitoring program for over 200 monitor wells, and all state and local compliance.

Condon held similar environmental and safety



New Board of County Commissioners Chair Betsy Condon (right) at the recent ribbon cutting for Chemours at Camp Blanding. Also pictured (l-r) are County Manager Howard Wanamaker and State Rep. Bobby Payne. Photo: Dan Hildebran, Monitor Editor.

positions at Moltech Power Systems Ltd. and Regeneration Technologies Inc. While at RTI, she was named the 2006 Compliance Magazine Safety Director of the Year.

In 2015 Condon and her husband Joe launched Auxadyne in Keystone Heights. Through a licensing agreement with Florida State University, they develop high-performance foam padding applications for medical devices, military and first responder equipment, sports equipment and apparel.

Condon's civic leadership includes serving as president of the Keystone Recreation Association and as a member

of the Keystone Heights Rotary Club, the Keystone Methodist Church, the Capital City Bank Community Board and the National Rifle Association. She and her husband, Joe, have two children.

Renninger elected vice-chair

Commissioner Mike Cella nominated Renninger as vice-chair. Commissioners unanimously approved Cella's nomination for the Orange Park representative.

Renninger was first elected to the board of county commissioners in 2020 after

serving on the Orange Park Town Council for three terms and as mayor twice.

The county said that in 1996 Renninger retired as a captain in the Navy after 26 years of service. His assignments included three commands, and he served as chief of staff for the USS George Washington Battlegroup under Admiral Mike Mullen, who later became chief of naval operations and chairman of the joint chiefs of staff.

After leaving the Navy, Renninger was appointed director of Florida State College at Jacksonville's Aviation Center of Excellence. While at FSCJ, his testimony to Congress in 2007 led to the authorization and development of the college's air traffic control education and training program. His last assignment at the school was as dean of workforce programs at the downtown campus.

Renninger's current business activities center around real estate investments. He and his wife, Dr. Phillis Renninger, own and operate Grant Development and Management LLC.

The couple has been married for over 50 years and has four children and six grandchildren. All four children graduated from Orange Park High School and attended Florida universities.

Renninger's civic leadership includes serving as the president of the Northeast Florida League of Cities, the Penney Farms Retirement Community board, and the boards of Portofino Condominium Association in Pensacola and the Seasons Condominiums in Orange Park. He is a member of the Clay County Republican Executive Committee, Republican Men's Club and past President of the Navy League, Jacksonville Council. Renninger is a member of Grace Anglican Church in

Fleming Island.

Compere begins term

In addition to electing a chair and vice chair, commissioners also welcomed Alexandra Compere to the board. Compere won the District 2 seat after incumbent Wayne Bolla was termed out. The district covers the Oakleaf Plantation area.

A Clay County native and nearly 10-year resident of Oakleaf, Compere comes from three generations of sugar cane farmers. Her parents migrated from Haiti to the U.S. in the 1980s.

While campaigning for the seat, Compere said she earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of North Florida, a master's degree in Christian education from North Florida Theological Seminary, and a Juris Doctor degree from the Florida Coastal School of Law.

The commissioner's civic service includes board memberships on Clinical Pastoral Education International and Clay County's Republican Executive Committee. She is a member of Morning Star Family Church in Middleburg.

Compere is an attorney with the Law Office of Craig Gibbs in Jacksonville. There she focuses on personal injury law.

At the conclusion of the Nov. 22 board of county commissioners' meeting, Compere told her colleagues she had always been warned that politics was "a dark kind of place."

"I'm so thankful that y'all have been able to show me that that's not really true everywhere," she said. "It's been wonderful already. I'm truly grateful for all of you, and I'm so excited about working with you."

Clay elections worker fired

Mistakes allowed 12 people to vote twice

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — Clay County's canvassing board reported to state officials that one elections worker has been terminated after the worker failed to follow procedures for paper jams in a tabulation machine.

The mistakes allowed 12 voters in the Nov. 8 general election to cast two ballots each.

The board made the disclosure on its Conduct of Election Report, which must be filed with the state after every election.

In a telephone interview about the filing, Supervisor of Elections Chris Chambless said that when a paper jam occurs while a voter puts his or her ballot into a tabulation machine, the elections worker should first verify whether or not the machine counted the votes on the jammed ballot.

"If it did, the ballot gets dropped into the receptacle, the voter gets a sticker, and is sent on his way," Chambless said. "If not, then the ballot is returned to the voter to be sent through the tabulation machine again."

The elections chief said that instead, the seasonal contract employee sent the voters back in line to get a second ballot. The voters then filled out the ballots and ran them through the tabulation machine.

At the end of the day, workers discovered 12 additional ballots in the receptacle than the number of voters who went through the precinct.

See FIRED, page 5

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Airport celebrates 80 years

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — The Keystone Heights Airport celebrated its 80th anniversary Saturday with exhibits, vendors, and tours.

The U.S. Army Air Corps established the facility in 1942 to support Camp Blanding and to host a reconnaissance school.

After the war, the federal government turned the facility over to the City of Keystone Heights.



Representing the College of Missionary Aviation are (l-r) Airframe and Powerplant Apprentice Paul Clark, Student Cameron Wenger, President Robert Britton, Hangar Manager Richard Caldwell and Instructor Deborah Britton.



Mark Sulfridge (left), a maintenance manager with MHD Rockland gives a tour of a Lockheed P-3 Orion to Chad Haas.



New School Board Member Michele Hanson is sworn in by Scotty Taylor (right) during a Nov. 22 school board organizational meeting. Photo: Clay County Public Schools.

New Lake Region school board member sworn in

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—Clay County Public Schools swore in a new board member representing the Keystone Heights area during a Nov. 22 organizational meeting. Michele Hanson of Middleburg won the District 4 seat during the August primary by defeating Keystone Heights resident Tina bullock with 55% of the vote.

Hanson taught in Clay County schools for 18 years. She holds a master's degree in special education with a certificate in educational leadership. In 2016 she won the Florida Agricultural Teacher of the Year award. She also won school-level teacher of the year three times and was a finalist for the countywide award once.

Hanson served for three years on the State Curriculum Advisory

Commission.

"I currently have nine teaching certifications," she said while running for the school board, "but spent most of my years teaching English and Intensive Reading from fourth through tenth grade."

Hanson said that having a daughter that followed in her footsteps to become a teacher was one of her proudest moments as a mother.

Also sworn in for her first term was Fleming Island representative Erin Skipper. Ashley Gilhousen of Green Cove Springs took the oath of office for her third, four-year term on the school district's governing board.

Gilhousen's colleagues elected her as chair of the board for the year. The panel elected outgoing chair Mary Bolla as vice-chair.

Superintendent David Broskie

presented Bolla with a word cloud to commemorate her service as chair.

"Traditionally, we had a plaque that we gave, and it was kind of a nondescript plaque, so we decided to go off-script and do something entirely different that we've never done before in honoring our chair," Broskie said.

The superintendent said the collection of words in different sizes and fonts was arranged in the shape of an apple. He added that several district employees were asked to contribute comments that they felt described Bolla.

"There are several words that are on here," Broskie said, "conscientious, optimistic, genuine, respected, honest, authentic, kind, empathetic and modest. All of those certainly describe Mary Bolla."

FIRED

Continued from page 4

"This individual made multiple mistakes," Chambless said, "and there is very little room for error here. The individual did not adhere to the training we provided."

Chambless said that, at a minimum, the worker should have checked with a supervisor when the paper jams occurred.

In other events reported to state elections officials:

Public denied access to opening and closing procedures

The Conduct of Election Report stated that the public was denied access to opening and closing procedures at a precinct in one instance.

Chambless said that at one polling location, a person representing the Honor Your Oath YouTube channel appeared at 6 a.m. to record the opening procedures of elections workers. The Honor Your Oath YouTube

channel was founded by St. Augustine resident Jeff Gray and has gained notoriety by filming traffic stops by Lawtey Police and recording public records requests from government officials.

Chambless said the elections worker preparing for the 7 a.m. opening alone was surprised by the YouTuber's appearance at the precinct and was concerned about her safety if she let the man in.

The elections chief added that the public is allowed to observe the opening and closing procedures by elections workers and that the man should have been allowed to watch but not record the preparations.

"Videotaping is not allowed in any polling location," Chambless said, adding that the YouTuber did not explain his intentions to the elections worker.

"She should have called the office," Chambless said of the worker.

He added that the office would provide additional training to avoid repeat occurrences.

Equipment malfunctions

The Conduct of Election Report described several instances of equipment malfunctions during the election.

In one case, an ExpressVote machine's video screen stopped working. ExpressVote devices are used chiefly by voters with disabilities. The machines allow voting by touchscreen and are also equipped with headphones and a tactile keypad for voters who require an audio ballot.

During voting, one ExpressVote machine's video screen went out, and the machine was replaced.

The elections office uses an EViD poll book to record and track voters arriving at precincts. The electronic tablet devices allow election workers to check voters in and verify their identities.

The Conduct of Election Report stated that one of the tablets failed to communicate with the elections office and was replaced.

Other EViD poll books suffered from a software bug introduced between the primary and general elections.

"Sometimes when attempting to reprint a ballot on the EViD compact," the report states, "the

print spooler would enter into an errant condition, the ballot would not print, and the EViD was nonresponsive. The solution was to power cycle the EViD. This occurred intermittently throughout most all of the precincts."

Problems with mail-in ballots

The canvassing board's Mail Ballot Reconciliation Sheet reported several problems with mail-in ballots, including 20 that had no signatures, 101 where the signatures did not match signatures on file with the elections office and 154 which were returned too late to the elections office.

Fifty-four mail-in ballots were rejected because the ballots sent in for the Nov. 8 general election were for other elections, such as ballots from the Aug. 23 primary.

The canvassing board said eight mail-in ballots were received from voters who had moved out of the county before Nov. 8 and were therefore rejected.

Another five mail-ins were rejected because the voter

sending in the mail-in also voted in person.

The canvassing board, consisting of Chambless, Board of County Commissioners Chair Wayne Bolla and County Judge Timothy Collins, rejected 370 of the 22,199 mail-in ballots presented for the Nov. 8 general election.

County Judge Kristina Mobley and Commissioner Jim Renninger served as alternates on the canvassing board.

Holiday tours in Melrose

Historic Melrose Inc. will conduct Holiday Home Tours on Sunday, Dec. 11, from 1 to 5 p.m. Seven historic home and three historic buildings will be featured, plus live music and refreshments at the Homemakers Club.

Tickets are \$10 and will be on sale at the Merry Melrose Parade on Dec. 10 at Dauer History Center from 10 to 11 a.m., and beginning at 12:30 p.m. on Dec. 11 at the Baldwin Store.

Trimming trees for seniors

The Alligator Creek Garden Club will gather on Thursday, Dec. 15, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Bradford County Senior Center to "Trim A Tree." These trees will be donated to Windsor Manor Health and Rehabilitation Center after the meeting to bring a touch of cheer to people not able to be in their homes.

The club invites the community to participate. Bring a small tree and some miniature decorations and join in the fun. Members will all be bringing decorations and "pool" them for a wide variety and an opportunity to bring a little bit of magic to those in need of cheer.

Free gift wrapping

First Baptist Church of Lake Butler will offer free gift wrapping services to the community on Wednesday, Dec. 21, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. The church is located at 195 E. Main St.



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UNION COUNTY



Lake Butler Hospital fielded the float that was to win first place in the annual City of Lake Butler contest. Photos: Larry Dupee.



Boy Scout Pack 140 took third place honors in the judging at the parade.



The Union County Tiger Band looked and sounded good as they provided the first Christmas music of the parade. Band Director Kelly Dorsey also looked good, marching with her students wearing red.

LB Christmas first in the county

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Staff Writer

LAKE BUTLER — The city of Lake Butler held its annual Christmas parade and visit with Santa last Saturday, Dec. 3, with parade goers lining the streets and children lining up to see Santa.

The theme for this year's parade was "Christmas on the Railroad" and the participants were with the program as most of the 24 floats and vehicles were decorated in a train theme and some even were broadcasting train sound effects as they rolled down the streets.

In the annual judging of the floats, Lake Butler Hospital took first place honors, followed by Culture House Church in second

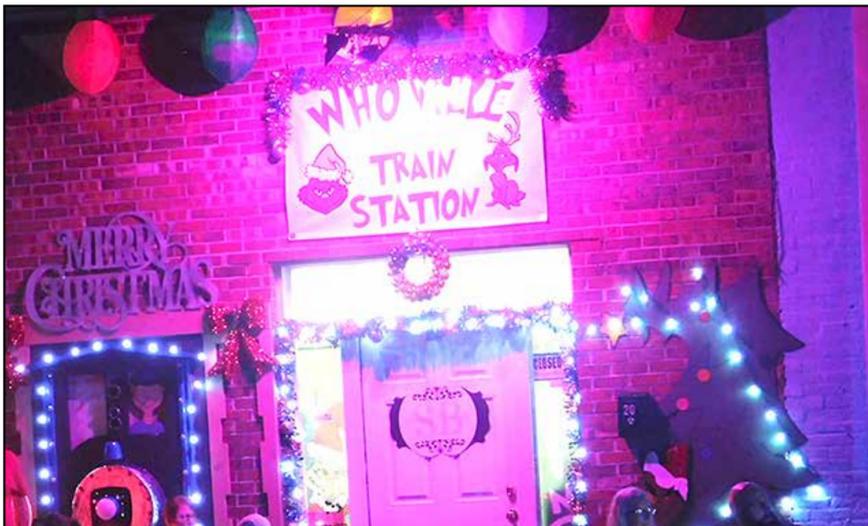
place and Boy Scout Troop 140 coming in third.

In addition to the floats and vehicles, the Union County Tiger Band was on hand, leading the parade and the Union County Fire Department brought up the rear (except for the horses who ALWAYS go last in line) with Santa riding on top of the engine.

Several floats and walkers threw candy to the onlookers and two gave out toys as they passed down the street. The gift bags given out by Santa were sponsored by Comcast, with the Florida/Georgia Safe Stuffed Animals For Emergencies/Lake Butler Women's Club and Andrews Site Prep providing the toys and stuffed animals given to kids as they watched the parade.

At the big pavilion at Lake Side Park, there was already a line before the "jolly old elf" managed to make it to the park after getting off the fire engine. Santa was patient and spoke with every child there to see him. Santa has Amanda Brown, from the Lake Butler City Hall doing elf duty for him as he gave away 65 gift bags to the waiting children.

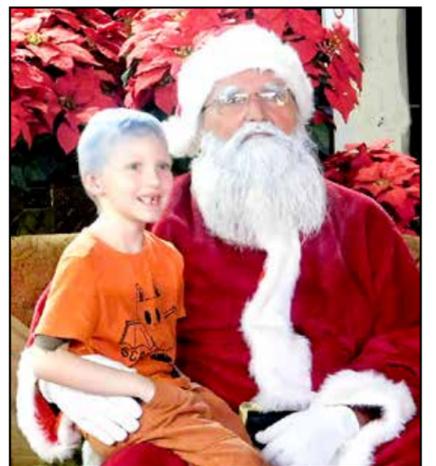
Christmas may still be about two weeks away, but Union County is already enjoying the holiday cheer. Next Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022, there will be two holiday events in the county — Breakfast with Santa at the Raiford Community Center at 8 a.m. and Christmas in the Park (featuring crafts, fun, music and treats) in the city park in Worthington Springs at 6 p.m.



Local businesses along Main Street in Lake Butler decorated for the parade.



Weston Bryant seemed totally comfortable in Santa's arms and didn't cry like some of the older toddlers did.



Canaan Foss looks ready for a "Blue Christmas" as he sits on Santa's knee and makes his requests.

FIRE Continued from page 1

Denise was quick to praise the response time and efforts of the Union County firefighters. She said she knew that they did all they could to save at least part of her home and belongings and said she understood that there was no way to save the two dogs. "I am so glad the firefighters were here," Denise said. "They did all they could, but water was an issue. We have no fire hydrants out here in the county and the well on my property requires electricity to work. They brought in all the water they could and if they had left to refill the trucks it would have taken so much time the end result would have been the same. Water is always an issue out in the county."

Denise said she was greatly saddened by some of the comments posted on Facebook about the fire and the loss of the

dogs, but that the fire department was in no way at fault in the matter.

"It was a really emotional scene when you could hear the dogs," she said. "It was bad and some people have made unfair and false comments about what went on. Once the attic was in flames there was no way to get the dogs out. No one is at fault in any way, they did their best for us."

As of Monday, Denise and her son have lost everything they have. They are currently living in a tent and have no way to cook. They are in need of food and clothing and are scavenging the still steaming ashes for what little they can find. They are in need of food and clothing — Denise wears ladies size 14 and size 8 shoes, Jonathan wears large shirts, 32/34 pants and size 12 shoes. They say they hope to rebuild on the site, but as yet have no idea when or how.

Santa Express at LBES

Lake Butler Elementary School's Santa Express will take place after school on Thursday, Dec. 15, from 3 to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and are on sale through Dec. 12. There will be Christmas crafts, photos with Santa and other fun activities. Students can be picked up in front of the cafeteria at 5 p.m.

Grandparents Day invitation

Greater Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church is having Grandparents Day on Sunday, Dec. 11, at 11 a.m. and inviting everyone who is or was a church member to attend. Descendants of members are also invited to come show support for the grandparents.



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Lawmakers hear Union County requests

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

LAKE BUTLER — Government officials from Union County told Tallahassee lawmakers about their problems with state government, and some asked for state assistance, particularly for local funding shortages they claimed were caused by the Department of Corrections.

Board of County Commission Chair Ryan Perez, County Coordinator Jimmy Williams, Sheriff Brad Whitehead, Schools Superintendent Mike Ripplinger, Lake Butler Mayor Annette Redman and County Judge Mitchell Bishop all spoke during the county's annual legislative delegation meeting.

State Senator Jennifer Bradley and Rep. Chuck Brannan hosted the session at the Lake Butler City Hall.

Perez thanked the lawmakers for listening to Union County's concerns, then let Williams explain the county's requests.

The county coordinator asked the two lawmakers to support a new formula for distributing the state's supplemental sales tax revenues, taking into account inmate populations.

Lost revenues from state housing

"For Union County," Williams said, "we have a ratio of inmate to citizen of 31.1%. The next county under us is at 20%, that's Liberty, and then it drops all the way down to 16, 10, and so forth, so we have a lot higher ratio in this county than any other county here."

Williams also said county tax revenues have been hurt by the 247 state housing units within Union, which generate no property taxes and no garbage or ambulance assessments but still require the county and school district to render services to residents in those state housing units.

Williams said the county and school district is losing over \$200,000 a year in ad valorem taxes because of the property-tax-exempt state housing and another \$34,580 in lost garbage and

ambulance service assessments.

The county coordinator added that between May 2021 and May 2022, the Union County Sheriff's Office responded to 197 calls from state housing, and the county's fire rescue responded to 177 calls for a total of 374.

"That's money that the citizens are paying the bill for also," he said of Union County's taxpayers.

"The Department of Corrections rents these homes out," Williams continued. "They rent them out to people at a reduced rate because that's one of the recruitment tools to try to get correctional officers. But then they expect the county just to flip the entire bill for all the services that we provide in the county and that the school (district) provides and so forth."

Williams also asked for additional inmate labor from the Department of Corrections. He said correctional facilities have partially restored inmate crews after suspending them during the pandemic and correctional officer shortages but that the teams have not yet been restored to pre-pandemic levels.

Williams also asked for funding to update the county's aging fleet of fire trucks and ambulances.

Support for emergency operations center and jail

Whitehead updated the lawmakers on the construction of the county's emergency operations center and planned jail upgrades.

The sheriff said that although the legislature appropriated \$3 million for the project last year, it is still not fully funded, and the county is proceeding with the demolition of the old library behind the jail next week without the guarantee of full state funding for the construction project.

Help with alternative teacher certification

Ripplinger gave the lawmakers

a copy of the legislative agenda of the Northeast Florida Educational Consortium.

The superintendent added that one of the biggest problems he and his colleagues face is getting new teachers through the alternative certification process.

"More and more of our teachers are coming to us that did not go to school to be a teacher," he said, "so they're going through alternative certification."

Ripplinger added that one of the biggest obstacles prospective teachers encounter is the general knowledge test all certification candidates must pass.

"It deals with their math skills, reading and writing," Ripplinger said, "and of course, these people are coming to us, many of them have been out of college for quite some time. They may have been pursuing other interests, and now they've decided to come into the field of education, and it's been quite a while since they've had college algebra or geometry or things such as that."

Ripplinger asked that the state consider relaxing the requirements for the technical subjects since the candidates have already demonstrated competency in those areas, albeit long ago during their college days.

"Why do I need geometry or algebra if I'm teaching fourth-grade math or if I'm teaching fifth-grade science or things such as that?" he asked.

The superintendent added that Union County has emerged from its teacher shortage with only one or two open teaching positions now, compared to double-digit openings a year ago.

Thanks for wastewater treatment

Lake Butler Mayor Annette Redman thanked the lawmakers for the \$3.5 million grant announced by Gov. Ron DeSantis earlier this year for the city's wastewater plant.

"With that improvement," Redman said, "it will ensure, among other goals, that the city and RMC will have reliable, advanced wastewater treatment

and disposition that will also meet the goals of the Santa Fe River (Basin Management Action Plan)."

Redman also applauded the Suwannee River Water Management District and Florida's Department of Environmental Protection for supporting the project. She said groundbreaking for the plant should occur next year.

DOC crimes adjudicated in Union County court

Bishop thanked the two lawmakers for their support in upgrading security at the courthouse. He also emphasized the need for upgrades to the Union County Jail, adding that the capacity and quality of the jail impact judicial services.

"There's something about being able to have capacity and not be maxed out so frequently and having to borrow off of other jails and have (inmates) go there," he said.

Bishop added that 30% to 40% of his felony docket is Department of Corrections cases.

"(These are) DOC inmates who have no connection to Union County other than the fact that they are housed by the Department of Corrections at UCI or RMC," he said.

Bishop added that some DOC defendants pose a safety risk to people in the courtroom.

"They're notorious, and they are flight risks," the judge said. "They are security risks; they are problems. We have a handful on our docket right now that are a problem for the safety of the people in the courtroom and the safety of everybody working in the courthouse."

Bishop said the sole death penalty case pending in Union County now is a Department of Corrections case in which one inmate is accused of murdering other inmates.

"Again, no connection to Union County, but for the fact that he was housed here and committed a couple of first-degree murders in the Department of Corrections," Bishop told Bradley and Brannan. "And



Senator Jennifer Bradley and Rep. Chuck Brannan listen to Union County officials during a legislative delegation meeting in Lake Butler.

obviously, both of you would be familiar with the expense that a death case (imposes) on a county."

Bishop added that while serving on the Union County

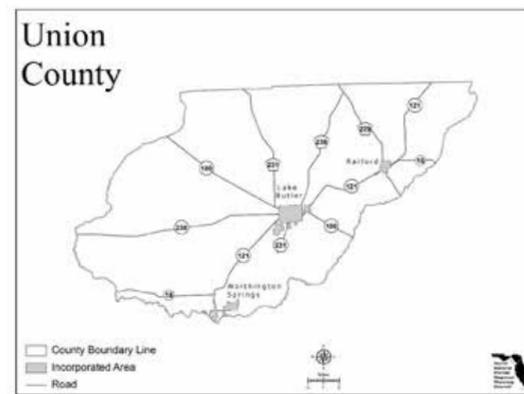
bench, he has seen the number of DOC cases grow, many of them contraband charges.

"Sometimes that contraband is a cell phone, and sometimes that contraband is a weapon," he said.

NOTICE OF LAND USE CHANGE

The Board of County Commissioners of Union County, Florida proposes to regulate the use of land within the area as shown on the map below by amending the text and Future Land Use Plan Map Series of the Comprehensive Plan, hereinafter referred to as the Comprehensive Plan, as follows:

CPA 22-01, an application by the Board of County Commissioners, to amend the text and the Future Land Use Plan Map Series of the Comprehensive Plan, based upon an evaluation completed by the County, and in response to the Objections, Recommendations and Comments Report issued by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, dated November 21, 2022, to reflect changes in state requirements pursuant to Section 163.3191, Florida Statutes, as amended.



A public hearing will be conducted by the Board of Commissioners to consider the amendment and enactment of the ordinance adopting the amendment on December 19, 2022 at 5:55 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, Union County Courthouse located at 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida. The title of said ordinance reads, as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 22-05

AN ORDINANCE OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO AN AMENDMENT TO THE TEXT OF THE UNION COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION, CPA 22-01, BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, UNDER THE AMENDMENT PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED IN SECTIONS 163.3161 THROUGH 163.3248, FLORIDA STATUTES, AS AMENDED; PROVIDING FOR AMENDING THE TEXT AND THE FUTURE LAND USE PLAN MAP SERIES OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, BASED UPON AN EVALUATION COMPLETED BY THE COUNTY, AND IN RESPONSE TO THE OBJECTIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS REPORT ISSUED BY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, DATED NOVEMBER 21, 2022, TO REFLECT CHANGES IN STATE REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 163.3191, FLORIDA STATUTES, AS AMENDED; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing.

At the aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the amendment.

Copies of the amendment are available for public inspection, at the Office of the Board of County Commissioners, located at 15 Northeast First Street, Lake Butler, Florida, during regular business hours.

All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact Dianne Hannon, Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners at 386.496.4241 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 800.955.8770 (voice) or 800.955.8771 (TTY).

City exploring options for future of spray field

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Staff Writer

LAKE BUTLER — A number of Lake Butler residents are deeply concerned about the future plans the city may have for the larger part of the land making up the current wastewater spray field. Social media has allowed some to turn the matter into tempest in a teapot, with misunderstanding and lack of information being the main cause.

According to City Manager Dale Walker, the new waste water treatment plant will require the use of only a fraction of the large property, the exact acreage needed yet to be determined as the design phase of the project progresses. It may be as much as five years before the field will no longer be needed by the current wastewater treatment system. At this point the city commission is simply exploring possible uses the land might be good for, so it hired a consultant to look at the land and tell them the options on possible use. Because the large tract of land presents few possibilities for use by the city and the maintenance of the land

would be cost prohibitive, the city is planning on selling the land and wants to know how to market the land and what changes will need to be made in the land development regulations (LDRs) and zoning to control what it can be used for.

The city paid CHW to look at the land and give their opinion on what uses the land was suitable for. Gerry Dedenbach attended the Oct. 18, 2022 meeting of the Lake Butler City Commission with his report on possible uses the land might be used for by a buyer. He presented three possible options, all of which would require a second entrance to the property to allow adequate access for fire, rescue, law enforcement and other services.

The first concept presented was for a buyer to create a residential area. He outlined a four-phase plan that could create a development of up to 500 units of residential housing, including a common recreation area. The second concept presented would be for a clean industrial area, with such businesses as tile and flooring or woodworking. The third concept is a hybrid of the

two, with some residential area and some clean industrial.

The commission paid \$3,000 for the study and felt that they were meeting their requirement for due diligence by doing so.

"The commissioners wanted to know the best possible uses for which the land could be marketed," Walker said. "The city is not a developer and therefore cannot implement any of these uses itself but can still control the development through regulations. Anyone buying the land would be aware of what they could and could not do with it, including things like residential density allowable and what type of industry would be appropriate. The city now knows what possibilities it is willing to allow and what changes will be necessary in the LDRs and zoning regulations to make sure that the land cannot be used in any other way. The use to which the land is to be put can be included as part of any sales agreement. We just wanted to use the services of a specialist in land use to make sure we had all the information we need to proceed."

Walker was emphatic that the

housing density suggested by the study would not be allowed in the city. There will not be 500 houses built on the property, with the density being controlled by law. When the city is ready to put the land on the market, with any restrictions and new regulations in place, it will have a much better idea of how and where to list the land for sale. The sale will place funds in the city coffers, increase city ad valorem tax revenue and, if a buyer should choose to create an industrial area, create jobs for local workers and stimulate the economy.

"As always, the city commission is looking forward in time to see what will be best for the city in the future," Walker said. "To plan for the future they must have the information at hand to make the best possible decisions and that is what has been done with this study. The board can now make informed decisions about the property and they know what changes will need to be made in the LDRs and zoning to see that the land use falls into line with the character of the city."

BOCC welcomes member and makes assignments

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Staff Writer

LAKE BUTLER — The Union County Board of County Commissioners had a new member at its Nov. 22, 2022 with Commissioner Mac Johns taking over the District 4 seat, which he was elected to in November (the delay caused by the need for him to be sworn in as an elected official before assuming his new role).

Also at that meeting the board conducted its usual annual business of electing a board chairman and vice-chairman for the coming year and assigning various

commissioners to serve as representatives of the county on several boards and committees that the county is a member of.

Ryan Perez (District 1) was elected to serve for the next year as board chairman, with Channing Dobbs (District 2) elected to serve as vice-chair.

Commissioners discussed the committee assignments, often asking to remain in a position they had held or to take on a new position in which they had an interest. The assignments are as follows:

Florida Crown Workforce – Mac Johns.

Transportation Disadvantage Board – Jimmy Tallman.

North Florida Regional Planning Council – Jimmy Tallman.

New River Tri-County Library/Landfill – Jimmy Tallman and Channing Dobbs.

New River Public Library Cooperative – Jimmy Tallman and Channing Dobbs.

Union County Public Library – Willie Croft and Mac Johns.

SREC/Suwannee River Economic Council (a one-year term to begin in March 2023) – Willie Croft and Mac Johns.

S.H.I.P. (New construction and rehabilitation) – Ryan Perez and Mac Johns.

North Florida Economic Development Partnership – Ryan Perez and County Coordinator Jimmy Williams.

Small County Coalition – Ryan Perez.

One or both (when two are named) commissioners will attend meetings of their assigned boards, representing Union County's interests, and reporting back to the BOCC as to matters pertinent to the county that come up in the discussions.

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

Thomas Allen Box, 40, of Lawley was arrested by Bradford deputies on Nov. 29 for arson and a probation violation.

Jeremy Christopher Brewer, 30, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Nov. 27 for an out-of-county warrant.

John Write Burch, 64, of Daytona Beach was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 1 for burglary and criminal mischief with property damage.

Tyler Jason Caldwell, 41, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Dec. 2 for possession of drugs, selling drugs, possession of drug equipment, selling opium and maintaining a public nuisance.

Taryn Kasey Coffee, 34, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on Nov. 27 for battery, resisting an officer and misusing the 911 system.

Marion Milton Coleman, 37, of Gainesville was arrested by Bradford deputies on Nov. 28 for a probation violation.

Tiffany Lanae Dobbs, 34, of Gainesville was arrested by Bradford deputies on Nov. 28 for disturbing the peace, battery and burglary.

Priscilla Lacy Gilmore, 45, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Nov. 30 for aggravated battery.

Reyon R. Graham, 35, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on Nov. 30 for a probation violation.

Tia Carlondria Grissett, 30, of Macclenny was arrested by Bradford deputies on Nov. 29 for a probation violation.

Thirlun Etimothy Jackson, 47, of Alachua was arrested by Bradford deputies on Nov. 26 for DUI.

William Earl Kapellen, 34, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Nov. 27 for battery.

Alaina Rae Lilly, 32, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Dec. 1 for selling drugs and unlawful use of a two-way communications device.

Duncan James Lloyd, 20, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Nov. 28 for possession of drugs.

Ashley Marie Luther, 38, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Nov. 29 for larceny.

Shane Patrick Mroz, 29, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Nov. 29 for a conditional release violation.

Lowell Travis O'Brien, 34, of Minneola was arrested by Starke police on Nov. 29 for battery, arson, trespassing and criminal mischief with property damage.

Morgan Rachele Ritchie, 26, of Gainesville was arrested on Dec. 2 for a probation violation.

Kiara Cyteria Scott, 24, of Gainesville was arrested on Nov. 27 for DUI.

Union

Mahaley Mae Harris, 51, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on Nov. 29 for a probation violation.

James Vernon Herndon, 29, of Lake City was arrested by Union deputies on Nov. 30 for a probation violation.

Jonathan Hersh, 36, was arrested by Union deputies on Nov. 30 for smuggling contraband into a correctional facility.

Ronnell Lowe, 22, was arrested by Union deputies on Nov. 30 for battery and resisting an officer.

Markus Stephen McLain, 57, of Lake Butler was arrested by

Union deputies on Nov. 28 for a probation violation.

Edward Earl Mitchell Sr., 64, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 4 for battery.

Cole Dewitt Seay, 24, of Raiford was arrested by Union deputies on Dec. 1 for a probation violation.

Clay

Reggie Lemond Glover, 35, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Nov. 30 for battery.

Colton Roy Mathes, 30, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Nov. 29 for battery, child abuse and vandalism.

Man dies after driving motorcycle into ditch

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

STARKE — The Florida Highway Patrol said a 64-year-old Archer man died after he overran an intersection on his motorcycle and hit a ditch.

According to an FHP report, the biker was riding south on U.S. 301 around 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3.

When he came to the intersection with State Road 223, also known as the Starke Bypass, the rider failed to turn, drove through the junction and into a ditch. The motorcycle then flipped on its side.

The crash occurred between the town's Walmart and Murray Ford.

Bradford EMS transported the man to North Florida Hospital in Starke, where he was pronounced dead.

According to the report, the biker was wearing a helmet at the time of the crash.

Rescuers also responded to a Friday afternoon accident on Dec. 2. The vehicle-versus-semi accident occurred around 3 p.m. at the southern bypass exchange. There was road blockage as firefighters extracted a patient from the vehicle.



UCHS JROTC Raiders place high at state meet

Union County High School's JROTC Raider Team was runner-up at the State JROTC Raider Meet Championship held in Lake Wales. The team finished first in the 5K Team Run, first in the Raider Fitness Challenge, second in the One Rope Bridge, and third in the Cross Country Rescue for an overall second-place finish. Pictured are team members (front row, l-r) Cason Forbes, Tierra Williams, Adrianna Gonzalez, Brooke Burgess (Raider Team Commander), Talya Trent (Battalion CSM), Matthew Ring, (second row) Jamaal Reynolds, Layla Piggott, Savannah Thompson, Davien Presley, Jay Parks, Mackenzie Ring, (back row) Aiden Bell, Adam Ali (Battalion Commander) and Jordon Clarke.



The team competes in the tire flip event

Letters

Thanks, Starke McDonald's

Dear Editor:
This is not an advertisement for a fast-food chain. I have no family members employed at any McDonald's, but most people who know me also know it is my favorite restaurant. Yes, it is a restaurant!

Now is finally the time! I decided to quit saying I'm going to write a letter praising the Starke McDonald's and actually write it. What sparked this? Today at a Gainesville McDonald's, as is often the case, my half-cut tea was pure sweet, and neither my husband nor I got a straw. At least today the employees were polite; often this is not the case at Gainesville McDonald's.

Since McDonald's is my favorite restaurant, I can truly say we often visit their drive-thrus in Keystone, Gainesville, Green Cove Springs, Jacksonville and Starke. Sometimes over the years we have good experiences at other locations, even in the Florida Keys, out of state, but Starke has never disappointed us!

I'm in the Starke drive-thru at least once a week. They are consistently far above average. Ordering is easy. Paying is easy. Lines move smoothly. Everyone is nice. Orders are correct. We always get straws. Half-cut tea is always just that: half sweet, half unsweet. Fish sandwich buns are warm and soft. Can you tell we have had issues with these things at other McDonald's?

I think good should always be recognized and applauded. Starke is truly fortunate to have a terrific McDonald's. Thanks, y'all for being good at your jobs. Maybe you guys should be the area training site!

Peg Stanwix-Hay

A well-deserved thank-you

Dear Editor:
A few months ago, Randy Kelly retired from the Bradford County School Maintenance Department

after 35 years of service. Randy is a master carpenter and does the job well. Along with general maintenance work, Randy renovated many rooms over the years, built small buildings and fences, designed and built walkway covers, and did concrete work.

Randy is also a master locksmith. He kept all the locks working throughout the system.

I worked with Randy for a few years. He is the one of the most hardworking men I know. If you know Randy, when you see him, give him a handshake and thank you. He deserves it! Enjoy retirement, my friend!

Gene Norman

Local government can take action to protect our youth and make parks tobacco-free

Every person in Bradford County should be free to enjoy the great outdoors without exposure to toxic smoke and litter. Thanks to recent legislation, counties and municipalities can now restrict smoking and vaping in local public parks and beaches.

There is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke, half (50%) of youth in Bradford County report being exposed to it. Both cigarettes & vape products contain lead, formaldehyde, and other cancer-causing substances, and secondhand smoke is associated with thousands of deaths each year.

These products are a health and safety threat to kids. In 2020 alone, U.S. poison control centers reported more than 9,500 cases involving children under six years of age consumed or were exposed to tobacco or nicotine products.

Not only do tobacco products

harm the human body, but they also wreak havoc on the environment—ending up in our waterways, and in our parks. Cigarette butts account for an extraordinary amount of waste. Cigarettes are the most common form of litter and an estimated 766,571 metric tons of cigarette butts make their way into the environment every year. Only 10% of cigarette butts are properly deposited in ash receptacles.

Tobacco Free Bradford Partnership and its partners support tobacco-free policies that protect youth. We know that smoke-free public policies can prevent initiation and reduce exposure to secondhand smoke. According to the 2022 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey, over 30% of Bradford County youth, ages 11-17, report they have ever tried cigarettes, cigars, smokeless, hookah or electronic vapor products and over 16% say they currently use one of these products. This issue requires unwavering attention. For more information on how Tobacco Free Bradford Partnership is addressing this issue and how you can get involved, visit tobaccofreebradford.com.

Through policy implementation, education, and awareness we can continue to improve the health outcomes for not only our local youth but every resident. Passing an ordinance that prohibits smoking and vaping in our local county and city parks can create a cleaner environment and reduce the risk of secondhand exposure.

Tobacco Free Bradford Partnership

DELAY Continued from page 3

under the impression that the issue had been addressed. Riddick urged the board to get County Manager Scott Komegay and attorney Rich Komando involved in developing a solution. This could include working with Union County to jointly hire someone to issue the permits for both counties, he said.

Bradford's Building and Zoning Office has offered space for that individual, and Riddick said it could offer contractors a one-stop shop to handle their business.

"There's got to be something different. It's not working. We've had this conversation, I think, three times now," Riddick said. "I guarantee you, tomorrow, every one of you will get your permits. But then four months from now, we'll be right back to the same meeting."

Komegay said he would work with the Building and Zoning Office to bring the board a solution in January.

Lawley Christmas Parade Dec. 17

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

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

Bradford Legislative Delegation hearing

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

in Starke.

The Bradford County Legislative Delegation includes Sen. Jennifer Bradley (R-Fleming Island) and Rep. Chuck Brannan (R-Macclenny). The 2023 regular session of the Florida Legislature will convene on Tuesday, March 7, in Tallahassee.

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

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.



RUSS WADE

Attorney at Law

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

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Probate • Family • Wills • Adoption • Litigation • Corporate

Tornadoes display 'grit,' but lose 31-21 in state semis

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Special teams provided a spark for the second straight week as the Bradford High School football team put Cocoa in an unusual situation — having to pull out a victory in the fourth quarter.

In the end, the visiting Tigers took advantage of a late fumble to score with 1:55 remaining and leave Starke with a 31-21 Class 2S state-semifinal game on Dec. 2.

"That's a really good football program. They're used to being here," Bradford Head Coach Jamie Rodgers said of Cocoa, which was making its 16th straight semifinal appearance. "They make deep runs all the time. You've got to play your best game. We just didn't tonight, but that's OK. We played hard. That's the most important thing."

Cocoa (10-3) now plays Florida High (14-0) for the state championship on Friday, Dec. 9.

The Tornadoes (12-2) never led, falling behind 14-0 in the first half, but they tied the game twice. The first time was the result of two special-teams touchdowns, including one by Jametrius "Jip" Pringle who took the opening kickoff of the second half the distance for the second week in a row.

Bradford fell behind 21-14, but evened it up again with a 60-yard scoring drive. It was the first time this season that last year's Class 4A state runner-up had been involved in a tie in the fourth quarter. Cocoa's average margin of victory entering the game was 43 points.

"If you've got grit, and you're tough, it might look like you're out of it, but you're never out of it," Rodgers said.

The Tornadoes have been stout defensively all season, having allowed just 48 total points prior to playing the Tigers. However, they faced a tough task against the state's leading passer in Blake Boda. The senior quarterback

wound up completing 19 of 25 passes for 324 yards and two touchdowns, giving him more than 3,700 yards for the season.

Boda has plenty of weapons at his disposal, even without leading receiver DayDay Farmer, who was out because of a suspension. Rodgers said the Tigers can put four to five good receivers on the field at a time.

"It just puts a lot of pressure on your defensive backs," Rodgers said.

Rodgers said the Tornadoes lost "probably our best man-to-man cover guy" in Jarrin Alexander, who injured his shoulder on the first play from scrimmage. Secondary players Pringle and Chalil Cummings also received injuries as the game went on, forcing the team to rely on some players who hadn't seen action since the junior varsity season.

"We started having to try to piece things together," Rodgers said.

Besides the loss of Alexander, the first play of scrimmage was actually a positive one for the Bradford defense when Trente Jenkins tackled Cocoa's Jaden Edgcomb for a 3-yard loss. Boda then completed three straight passes as the Tigers moved from their 24-yard line to the Bradford 42. On a third-and-7 play, Boda hooked up with Cedrick Hawkins for a 12-yard gain. Two plays after that, Jayvan Boggs hauled in a Boda pass for a 25-yard touchdown at the 7:12 mark of the first quarter. Mao Saito kicked the extra point for a 7-0 Cocoa lead.

Cocoa struck again after its defense forced the Bradford offense to go three-and-out. Running back Malachi Coney was held to 3 yards on two straight carries by Cummings and Chason Clark, but Boda threw a 33-yard pass to Boggs on third-and-7, resulting in a first down at the Bradford 21. A pass-interference penalty later gave the Tigers a first down at the



Jametrius "Jip" Pringle (far right) finds a crease as he returns the kickoff to open the second half 95 yards for a touchdown in the Tornadoes' 31-21 state-semifinal loss to Cocoa. Photo by Cliff Smelley.

11-yard line. Hawkins capped the 71-yard drive when he took a direct snap from center and scored on a 2-yard run. Saito added the PAT to make the score 14-0 with 1:13 left in the first quarter.

Bradford's offense went three-and-out again, but the Tigers couldn't make anything happen on their third offensive series as they couldn't overcome a holding penalty.

The Tornadoes put themselves in scoring position the next time they had the ball, thanks to a personal-foul facemask penalty and a 30-yard pass play from Dae'Jon Shanks to Clark. Bradford had the ball at the Cocoa 17-yard line, but high shotgun snaps prevented them from putting points on the board. An errant snap resulted in a loss of 13 yards after Clark's

reception. Shanks was able to scramble for 18 yards to set up third-and-5 at the 12, but another bad snap resulted in a loss of 20 yards. Bradford eventually turned the ball over on downs at the Cocoa 32.

Cocoa threatened to go up by three touchdowns on the following drive, which began with Hawkins pulling down a pass in double coverage for a 40-yard gain to the Bradford 28. A 5-yard sack by Bryson Bowen put the Tigers into a third-and-11 play. Boda threw a 29-yard touchdown pass to Hawkins, but the score was negated by a holding penalty. Cocoa eventually punted.

In the Tornadoes' previous game (a 28-17 win over Baker County), Pringle returned the kickoff to open the second half 98 yards for a touchdown. The

senior did it again against Cocoa, fielding the ball at his own 5-yard line and finding a crease that had him sprinting the distance for a 95-yard score. Hayden Hughes kicked the extra point to make it a 14-7 game.

Pringle had four kickoff returns in all for a total of 164 yards.

The Tigers picked up a first down in two plays on their first possession of the half, but Bradford's defense clamped down. Cummings and Gavin Cook dropped Boggs for a 1-yard loss on a pass play, followed by Torin Brazell sacking Boda for a 15-yard loss. Cocoa set up to punt on fourth-and-8 from its own 48. Brazell blocked the punt, which was recovered by teammate Jenkins. Jenkins refused to go down, dragging players on his back until he finally lateraled

the ball to Brazell, who was able to take it into the end zone for a touchdown at the 8:13 mark of the third quarter. Hughes added the PAT to tie the score at 14-14.

A fired-up Bradford defense went back out onto the field and forced the Tigers to go three-and-out. Brazell tipped a pass at the line of scrimmage on Cocoa's first-down play. Brazell then teamed up with Clark to tackle Anthony Bridgewater for a 1-yard loss. Cook broke up the third-down pass play, forcing a Tigers punt.

Bradford picked up just its third first down of the game on the ensuing series, with Cook catching a Jeremiah McKenzie pass for a 22-yard gain on third-and-15. That moved the Tornadoes past midfield, but the drive stalled, with two run plays netting 3 yards and McKenzie being sacked for a 2-yard loss.

Four plays after Bradford's punt, Boggs caught a deep pass along his own sideline for a 76-yard touchdown. After the PAT, the Tigers led 21-14 with 1:28 remaining in the third quarter.

Boggs finished the night with more than 200 receiving yards.

The Tornadoes, who had been held to 58 yards on five drives, put together their best offensive series, which began at their own 40 after a 30-yard kickoff return by Pringle. A 7-yard run by McKenzie and an offside penalty resulted in a first down, while a 17-yard run by Shanks to the Cocoa 36 resulted in another. A pass-interference penalty moved Bradford to the Cocoa 20. After a 3-yard McKenzie run, Willie Pollard got loose for a 9-yard run, setting up first-and-goal at the 8. McKenzie then had a 7-yard carry to the 1. It was the first of three straight runs for McKenzie, who scored on a 2-yard run at the 7:45 mark of the fourth quarter. Hughes kicked the extra point to tie the game again at 21-21.

A 38-yard reception by Boggs

See BHS, page 13

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Your Christmas & Holiday Sales

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Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Dec. 8, 2022

BRADFORD

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that LEWIS CHAFF the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:
Certificate Number: 852
Year of Issuance: 2020
Parcel Number: 03761-0-00101
Case Number: 04-2022-TD-0019
Description of Property: 03761-0-00101 Lots 1 and 2 of Block 47 of "JOHNS ADDITION", a subdivision as recorded in Deed Book "L" page 629 of the public records of Bradford County, Florida

Name in Which Assessed: LK WHITEHEAD & MAY BELLE WHITEHEAD

Name on last tax roll, if different: MAY BELLE WHITEHEAD (DEC)
All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 02/15/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

Denny Thompson,
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk
DATED: November 8, 2022

11/17 4tchg 12/8-BCT

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

Case No: 04-2022-DR-439
DEXTER M. CARLTON
Petitioner

and
MARIA E. CARLTON
Respondent,

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (NO CHILD OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT)

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

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

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request.

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

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.

Dated: November 18, 2022

DENNY THOMPSON

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
BY: K. JENKINS
DEPUTY CLERK

11/24 4tchg 12/15-BCT

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

CASE NO. 04-2021-DP-113
IN THE INTEREST OF:
W. B. (M) DOB: 9/25/2021
Minor child

NOTICE OF ACTION TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

STATE OF FLORIDA
TO: Jeremy Smith
ADDRESS UNKNOWN

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the State of Florida, Department of Children and Families, has filed a Petition to terminate your parental rights and permanently commit the following child for adoption: B. W. born on 9/25/2021. A copy of the Petition is on file with the Clerk of the Court. You are hereby commanded to appear on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 9:50 AM, before the Honorable Jodi Cason, at the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091, for an ADVISORY HEARING.

*****FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THIS CHILD IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION ATTACHED HERETO *****

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court at Starke, Bradford County, Florida, on this 23rd day of November 2022.

Denny Thompson

Clerk of Circuit Court

By: Romane Jefferson

Deputy Clerk

Special Accommodations. Under the American with Disabilities Act, if you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at (352) 337-6237, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance. If you are hearing or voice impaired, please call 711.

If you are deaf or hard of hearing and require an ASL interpreter or an assisted listening device to participate in a proceeding, please contact Court Interpreting at interpreter@circu18.org.

12/1 4tchg 12/22-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

File No. 22000112CPAXMX
IN RE: ESTATE OF
STEPHEN FRANKLIN STEED,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of STEPHEN FRANKLIN STEED, Deceased, whose date of death was July 22, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Bradford County Courthouse, 945 N. Temple Ave. P.O. Drawer B, Starke, FL 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this notice is December 8, 2022.

Attorney for Personal Representative: Scott R. Bugay, Esquire
Florida Bar No. 5207
Citicenter, Suite P600
290 NW 165th Street
Miami FL 33169

Telephone: (305) 956-9040
Fax: (305) 945-2905
Primary Email: Scott@srblawyers.com

Secondary Email: angelica@srblawyers.com

TROY STEED,
Personal Representative

12/8 2tchg 12/15-BCT

PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on dates below these vehicles will be sold at public sale on the date listed below at 10AM for monies owed on vehicle repair and storage cost pursuant to Florida Statutes 713.585 or Florida Statutes 713.78. Please note, parties claiming interest have right to a hearing prior to the date of sale with the Clerk of Courts as reflected in the notice. The owner has the right to recover possession of the vehicle without judicial proceedings as pursuant to Florida Statute 559.917. Any proceeds recovered from the sale of the vehicle over the amount of the lien will be deposited clerk of the court for disposition upon court order. "No Title Guaranteed, A Buyer Fee May Apply" at 10:00 AM 01/23/23
The Shop Of AG/Auto Sales INC.
10362 Hampton Ave Starke, FL 32091
20093 FORD 1FBSS31L53HA12068 \$6,741.47

12/8 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

To satisfy the owner's storage lien, KO Storage LLC will sell at public lien sale on December 28, 2022. The personal property in the below-listed units, which may include but are not limited to: Household goods, boxes/totes/bags, clothing, bedding, tools and toys. The public sale of these items will begin at 10AM on December 21, 2022 and end at 10 AM on December 28, 2022. The public sale will take place on www.storage treasures.com.

KO Storage of Starke, 1650 South Walnut Street, Starke FL 32091, (952) 314-7121 Time: 10:00AM CST
A37, Fitts, Johnnie, B03, Berry, Edward, A10, Jenkins, Doron

Public sale terms, rules, and regulations will be made available on www.storage treasures.com. All sales are subject to cancellation. We reserve the right to refuse any bid. Payment must be by credit/debit card, we do not accept checks or cash. Buyers must secure the units with their own personal locks. To claim tax-exempt status, original RESALE certificates for each space purchased is required. By KO Storage LLC, 10301 Wayzata Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55305. (952)-314-7121.

12/8 2tchg 12/15-BCT

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, the following application for permit was received on November 18, 2022: Town of Brooker, PO Box 127, Brooker, FL 32622-0127 has submitted Water Use Permit application #216644-4, for modification to add a 4-inch diameter well and continue maximum daily use of 0.0492 million gallons for public supply use. This project is located in Section 8, Township 7S, Range 20E, in Bradford County.

Interested persons may comment upon the application or submit a written request for a staff report containing proposed agency action regarding the application by writing to the Suwannee River Water Management District, Attn: Resource Management, 9225 C.R. 49, Live Oak, Florida 32060. Such comments or requests must be received by 5:00 PM within 14 days from the date of publication.

No further public notice will be provided regarding this application. A copy of the staff report must be requested in order to remain advised of further proceedings. Substantially affected persons are entitled to request an administrative hearing, pursuant to Title 28, Florida Administrative Code, regarding the proposed agency action by submitting a written request after reviewing the staff report.

12/8 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME

Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given that the undersigned: SURESH SHUKLA, 23670 US Hwy 301 N., Lawtey, FL 32058, sole owner, doing business under the firm name of: BUDGET INN OF LAWTEY, 23670 US HWY 301 N., Lawtey, FL 32058, intends to register fictitious name under the aforesaid statute. Dated this 5th day of December A.D., 2022, in Bradford County.

12/8 1tchg-BCT

Keith H. Kelly

Last known address of:
16392 SW 66th Ln
Starke FL 32091

You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.

Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph
Amanda Seyfang
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections
P. O. Box 58
945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C
Starke, FL 32091
Date: December 5, 2022

12/8 1tchg-BCT

Notice is hereby given:

Christopher W. Olive

Last known address of:

1655 E Brownlee St

Starke FL 32091

You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.

Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph
Amanda Seyfang
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections

P. O. Box 58

945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C

Starke, FL 32091

Date: December 5, 2022

12/8 1tchg-BCT

Notice is hereby given:

Rebecca L. Wheeler

Last known address of:

4850 NW 177th St LOT 4

Starke FL 32091

You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.

Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph
Amanda Seyfang
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections

P. O. Box 58

945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C

Starke, FL 32091

Date: December 5, 2022

12/8 1tchg-BCT

COMMISSION MEETING

CANCELED
THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the regular meeting of the Bradford County Board of County Commissioners, scheduled to be held Thursday, December 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at the Bradford County Courthouse, inside the County Commission Chamber, 945 N. Temple Ave. has been CANCELED.

12/8 1tchg-BCT

PUBLIC HEARING

Bradford County School Board will hold a Public Hearing on December 12, 2022, 6:00 P.M. Revision to the Student Progression Plan on-Valedictorian, Salutatorian, Honor Graduates, and Class Rank and Revision to the Student Code of Conduct OUTSIDE FOOD/DRINKS - No outside food/drinks may be brought or dropped off during the school day. It will be on the school board agenda for approval immediately following the public hearing. December Regular School Board Meeting.

12/8 1tchg-BCT

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Board/Consortium Meeting
Date: December 14, 2022
Time: 11:00 am (Wednesday)
Place: Teleconference
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89565786135?pwd=YWxINTVFMtI1d1RUVEHSTUWWhZkZjZjQ09

Meeting ID: 895 6578 6135
Participant ID: #
Passcode: 541238

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
The public is invited to attend.

Notice has been made of this meeting, through publication, to comply with the "Government in the Sunshine Law". All CareerSource Florida Crown public meetings are listed on the CareerSource Florida Crown web site at www.careersourcefloridacrown.com. CareerSource Florida Crown is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711. Contact Jeff Geering at 386-755-9026 X 3221.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need to record the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

12/8 1tchg-BCT

Interested persons may comment upon the application or submit a written request for a staff report containing proposed agency action regarding the application by writing to the Suwannee River Water Management District, Attn: Resource Management, 9225 C.R. 49, Live Oak, Florida 32060. Such comments or requests must be received by 5:00 PM within 14 days from the date of publication.

No further public notice will be provided regarding this application. A copy of the staff report must be requested in order to remain advised of further proceedings. Substantially affected persons are entitled to request an administrative hearing, pursuant to Title 28, Florida Administrative Code, regarding the proposed agency action by submitting a written request after reviewing the staff report.

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12/8 1tchg-BCT

12/1 2tchg 12/8-UCT

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, the following application for permit was received on November 21, 2022: City of Lake Butler, 200 SW 1st Street, Lake Butler, FL 32054, has submitted for renewal, Water Use Permit application number 220148-3, to authorize daily withdrawals of 0.25 million gallons of groundwater for public supply use. This proposed is located in Section 29, Township 5S, Range 20E, in Union County.

Interested persons may comment upon the application or submit a written request for a staff report containing proposed agency action regarding the application by writing to the Suwannee River Water Management District, Attn: Resource Management, 9225 C.R. 49, Live Oak, Florida 32060. Such comments or requests must be received by 5:00 PM within 14 days from the date of publication.

No further public notice will be provided regarding this application. A copy of the staff report must be requested in order to remain advised of further proceedings. Substantially affected persons are entitled to request an administrative hearing, pursuant to Title 28, Florida Administrative Code, regarding the proposed agency action by submitting a written request after reviewing the staff report.

12/8 1tchg-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 December 30, 2022 at 11:45 am on Lockerfox.com. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Unit#1 Morgan Geisenburg, Unit #67 Simmones, and Unit #43 Ternes. 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.

12/8 2tchg 12/15-UCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CONCERNING AMENDMENTS TO THE UNION COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, SERVING AS THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND THE LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Sections 163.3161 through 163.3248, Florida Statutes, as amended, and the Union County Land Development Regulations, as amended, the following amendments, objections, recommendations and comments concerning amendments, as described below, will be heard by the Board of County Commissioners of Union County, Florida, serving as the Planning and Zoning Board of Union County, Florida, and the Local Planning Agency of Union County, Florida, at public hearings on December 19, 2022 at 5:45 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matters can be heard, in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, County Courthouse, located at 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida.

(1) Z 22-01, an application by Ridge Point Structures LLC, to amend the Official Zoning Atlas of the Land Development Regulations by changing the zoning district from AGRICULTURAL-4 (A-4) to INDUSTRIAL, LIGHT AND WAREHOUSING (ILW) on property described, as follows:

A parcel of land lying in Section 36, Township 5 South, Range 18 East, Union County, Florida. Being more particularly described, as follows: Commence at the Southwest corner of said Section 36, thence North 88°22'28" East 1,000.03 feet, along the South line of said Section 36 to the Point of Beginning; thence North 01°05'10" West 1,242.11 feet to the South right-of-way line of State Road 238; thence North 85°35'45" East 350.24 feet, along the South right-of-way line of said State Road 238 to the East line of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 36; thence South 00°58'10" East 1,259.12 feet, along the East line of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 36 to the Southeast corner of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 36; thence South 88°22'28" West 347.10 feet, along the South line of said Section 36 to the Point of Beginning. Containing 10.00 acres, more or less.

(2) Z 22-02, an application by the Paul S. Bergsma Trust, to amend the Official Zoning Atlas of the Land Development Regulations by changing the zoning district from AGRICULTURAL-4 (A-4) to INDUSTRIAL, LIGHT AND WAREHOUSING (ILW) on property described, as follows:

A parcel of land lying in Section 24, Township 6 South, Range 18 East in Union County, Florida. Being more particularly described, as follows: Commence at the Southeast corner of said Section 24; thence South 86°36'17" West 1,184.21 feet, along the South line of said Section 24; thence North 02°48'30" West 11.38 feet to the North right-of-way line of County Road 18; thence South 86°11'50" West 300.00 feet, along the North right-of-way line of said County Road 18 to the Point of Beginning; thence continue South 86°11'50" West 60.00 feet, along the North right-of-way line of said County Road 18; thence North 03°12'47" West 217.00 feet; thence South 86°11'50" West 183.30 feet; thence North 03°12'47" West 123.00 feet; thence North 86°11'50" East 248.30 feet; thence South 03°12'47" East 340.00 feet to the Point of Beginning. Containing 1.00 acre, more or less.

The public hearings may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearings shall be announced during the public hearings and that no further notice

Tigers close gap in 4th quarter before losing 21-11

BY JADEE O'STEEN
Special to the Telegraph-Times-Monitor

Union County High School's football team held Northview to its lowest point total of the season, but the Tigers were held to three points in the first three quarters before eventually falling 21-11 to the host Chiefs in a Class 1R state-semifinal game on Dec. 2.

Northview, which had scored at least 34 points in every game, now advances to the Friday, Dec. 10, championship game against Hawthorne (11-0).

The Tigers (8-3) traveled 338 miles to the panhandle to face the undefeated Chiefs. Despite the distance, Tiger Nation showed up in force, with hundreds once again cheering their team on in its first Final-Four appearance in 12 years.

Union came up short of advancing to its first state-championship game since 2003, but

The Tigers came up short, but finished off a great season in which their only losses (prior to Northview) were to Class 1M state semifinalist University Christian and fellow 1R team Hawthorne.

Union's defense showed it came to play early. After a couple of runs, Northview (13-0) had the ball at Union's 1-yard line. The Tigers made a stand, keeping the Chiefs out of the end zone as part of a scoreless first quarter. Both teams were making plays and hitting mighty hard.

The Chiefs scored early in the second quarter of the game, thanks to a 32-yard run by Jamarkus Jefferson.

Union had an opportunity to put points on the board, but a fumble put the ball back in the Chiefs' hands, but the ball ended up back in the Chiefs hands. Shortly afterward, Jefferson, who is the fourth-leading rusher in the state, scored on a 33-yard run to make it a 14-0 game.



Dayviontae Thompson (right) carries the ball in the Tigers' 21-11 state-semifinal loss to Northview. Photo by Jadee O'Steen.

The Tigers' offense was struggling to make any yardage, with the Northview defense making it hard for Union to make any big gains.

Defensively, the Tigers got a big play when junior Dayquan Distor intercepted Chiefs quarterback Kaden Odom at his own 9-yard line.

After a couple of plays and some yardage, Union got down to the Northview 21-yard line before Jonathan Edwards was called to the field. He connected on a 38-yard field goal, making the score 14-3 with two minutes remaining in the first half.

Edwards had an awesome junior season. He was 46 of 47 on extra-point kicks, with the one miss the result of a block, and went 4 of 4 on field-goal attempts, including the kick against Northview.

With less than one minute in

the half, Thomas Williams gave the Tigers another interception, taking the ball back to the Chiefs' 40-yard line.

Williams, a junior, had quite an impressive season, entering the game with 47 tackles (second best on the team), one interception, three forced fumbles, one fumble recovery and one blocked punt.

Thanks to Edwards' field goal and Williams' interception, the Tigers went into halftime with some hope in their hearts and ready to turn the game around.

"We knew that we were playing a tough opponent, so getting into a position where we were only down by 11 gave us a lot of confidence," Edwards said.

Neither team was able to score in the third quarter, but the Union defense did come up with its third turnover when it recovered

See UCHS, page 15

Christmas on Call Street

Starke's Hometown Christmas Celebration



Events Schedule

Friday, Dec. 9th

- 6:00 PM: Live Music Begins
- 6:30 PM: Funtastic Christmas Light Tours
- 6:45 PM: Christmas Tree Lighting
- 7:00 PM: Call Street Christmas Choir & Live Nativity at Concert Pavilion

Saturday, Dec. 10th

- 10:00 AM-9:00 PM: Vendors & Live Entertainment
- 11:00 AM-6:00 PM: Bouncehouses
- 3:00 PM-5:00 PM: Car Show
- 6:00 PM: Christmas Parade on Historic Call Street
- 6:30 PM: Santa & Mrs. Claus at Downtown Square

Sunday, Dec. 11th

- 8:00 AM: Breakfast with Santa at Downtown Grill
- *Reservations Required

Sponsored By:
Starke Downtown Merchants
City of Starke
North Florida Regional Chamber of Commerce
Fantastic Fire Brigade



Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Dec. 8, 2022

UNION

NOTICE OF ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ordinances, which titles hereinafter appear will be considered for enactment by the Board of County Commissioners of Union County, Florida, at public hearings on December 19, 2022 at 5:55 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matters can be heard, in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, Union County Courthouse located at 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida. A copy of said ordinances may be inspected by any member of the public at the Office of the Board of County Commissioners, located at 15 Northeast First Street, Lake Butler, Florida, during regular business hours. On the date, time and place first above mentioned, all interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to the ordinances. The titles of said ordinances read, as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 22-08
AN ORDINANCE OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 95-4, AS

AMENDED; RELATING TO THE REZONING OF TEN OR MORE CONTIGUOUS ACRES OF LAND, PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION, Z 22-01, BY THE PROPERTY OWNER OF SAID ACREAGE, TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS OF THE UNION COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR REZONING FROM AGRICULTURAL (A) TO INDUSTRIAL, LIGHT AND WAREHOUSING (ILW) OF CERTAIN LANDS WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

ORDINANCE NO. 22-09
AN ORDINANCE OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 95-4, AS AMENDED; RELATING TO THE REZONING OF LESS THAN TEN CONTIGUOUS ACRES OF LAND, PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION, Z 22-02, BY THE PROPERTY OWNER OF SAID ACREAGE, TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS OF THE UNION COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR REZONING FROM AGRICULTURAL (A) TO INDUSTRIAL, LIGHT AND WAREHOUSING (ILW) OF CERTAIN LANDS WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF

UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE
The public hearings may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearings shall be announced during the public hearings and that no further notice concerning the matters will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearings.
All persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decisions made at this public hearings, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact Dianne Hannon, Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners at 386.496.4241 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 1.800.955.8770 (voice) or 1.800.955.8771 (TTY).

12/8 1tchg-UCT

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- BATHROOM VANITIES
- HOT WATER HEATERS
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964-6078

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6

LAKE BUTLER
145 SW 6th Ave.
496-3079

Obituaries

Thomas Barker Sr.

Thomas W. Barker Sr. of Starke passed away at his home on Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022. He was born in Leavenworth, Kansas to Kenneth Wayne Barker and Elizabeth Whiner Barker Simeral on Nov. 13, 1953. He graduated from Newberry High School. He worked many years for the Florida Department of Corrections at Union Correctional and Florida State Prison. He served in the U.S. Army and the Florida National Guard. He was preceded in death by his parents; and his brother, Jimmy Barker.

He is survived by his son, Thomas W. Barker (T.J.) Jr.; and brothers, Keith, George, Jerry, and Larry; and his sister, Christina Murphy.

Tommy will be missed by many, but especially by his son. They were 'two peas in a pod.'

There will be no services at this time.



PAID OBITUARY

Harry Craig Sr.

Harry Jerome Craig Sr., 84, of Starke died Nov. 29, 2022, at Riverwood Health and Rehabilitation Center. He was preceded in death by parents; brother; and his daughters, Rosanne and Katerina Craig.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Chloe Gayle Craig of Starke; children, Leonard Craig of Texas, Harry Craig Jr. of Arizona, and Serena (Scott) O'Neil of Fruitland Park; along with many extended family members.

A Celebration of Life was held Monday, Dec. 5, at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel. Interment followed at Crosby Lake Cemetery.

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

James Dyal

James Edward "Eddie" Dyal, 60, of Starke, passed away peacefully on Sunday, Nov. 27, 2022, at West Marion Community Hospital in Ocala. He was born on March 20, 1962, in Starke, to the late James Edward Dyal Sr. and Martha Sue Finley Dyal. He was a lifelong resident of Bradford County. He graduated from Bradford High School and was a star athlete in football and basketball and excelled in baseball. He was drafted by the Detroit Tigers. He was a huge Florida Gator fan. He served our country in the United States Army and retired with a rank of Sergeant (E5) in the U.S. Army Reserve. After retirement, he worked at The Arc Bradford County and really enjoyed working with the residents, whom he shared a special bond with. He was a good soul and had a heart of gold. He will be missed by all who knew him. He was preceded in death by his parents; grandparents, Thomas M. Finley and Lucy F. Finley; and many close relatives.

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



PAID OBITUARY

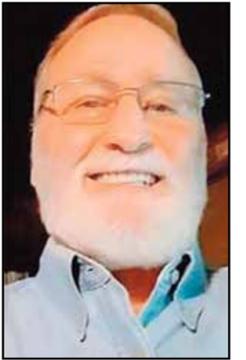
Michael Norman

Michael Lewis Norman, 70, of Melrose passed away on Friday, Dec. 2, 2022. He was born Aug. 7, 1952, to Harold Norman and Loca Rafuse. He graduated from Bradford County High School in 1970 and served in the National Guard for six years. He worked as a produce broker and traveled the country before establishing his own company, Fancy Brokerage in Texas. Mike was known for his fiery spirit and outgoing nature. He will be forever missed by his friends and family. He was preceded in death by his brother, Charles; his sister, Sheila; and his brother, Kevin.

He leaves behind his wife of 41 years, Jaime; sons, Jason Norman of Keystone Heights, Joshua Norman and Matthew (Meghan) Norman, both of New Orleans of New Orleans; daughter, Erica (Mike) Bemiss of New Jersey; sisters, Vickie (Steve) Larkin and Cathy Norman; six grandchildren; and several cousins, nieces, and nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Thursday, Dec. 8 at 11 a.m. at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel with Pastor Bruce Cubbedge to officiate. Interment will follow at Crosby Lake Cemetery. The family will receive friends an hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

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



PAID OBITUARY

Robert Chastain

Robert Lee Chastain, 50, of Keystone Heights, died Monday, Dec. 5, 2022, at Shands in Gainesville. He was preceded in death by his mother, Elizabeth Chastain; daughter, Kayla Dawn Chastain; and his brother, Randall Chastain.

He is survived by his son, Cameron Chastain of Starke; sisters, Patricia and Brenda Jackson; girlfriend, Linda Johns along with many extended family members and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 4 p.m. at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel with Pastor Jay Baker officiating.

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

Willard Fisk

Willard "Willy" Raymond Fisk, Jr., 57 of Keystone Heights died Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022, at his home following an extended illness.

He is survived by children, Jacob Fisk of Keystone Heights, Terrance Fisher, and Candace Fisher; along with his sister, Cheryl Rossi, all of Pennsylvania; two grandchildren, Axl and Elizabeth; and a close family friend, Nicole Evancho and her son, Liam of Keystone Heights.

There are no scheduled services at this time.

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

Charles Floyd Jr.

Charles Donald Floyd Jr., 76, passed away at the Malcom Randall Veterans Affairs Medical Center on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2022. He was born in Raiford on Oct. 27, 1945, to the late Charles D. Floyd Sr. and Jeannette Waters Cowart. After high school, he joined the United States Air Force, where he proudly served for two years. He traveled the country and the world, but always called Lake Butler home. While living in San Diego, he became an advocate for the AIDS community. He spent most of the 1980s providing emotional, as well as financial, support to those afflicted with the disease. He also proudly stood up for the rights of gay people, taking on several companies who had mistreated gay employees. He was charming and charismatic; never meeting a stranger. He loved people and people loved him. He was a phenomenal cook, especially when it came to Southern cuisine. He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Jeannette; his grandparents, Charles and Olive Floyd; and brothers, Jesse and Gary Williams.

He is survived by his partner of 25 years, Jeffrey Sweet of Lake Butler; his sister, Sharon (John) Harris of Homosassa; and a host of extended family and friends.

A graveside service will be held at Dekle Cemetery in Lake Butler on Monday, Dec. 12, at 1 p.m. The service will be officiated by Pastor Don Kerce. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donation be made to Operation Catnip of Gainesville at ocgainesville.org.

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



PAID OBITUARY

James Piper

We are sad to announce the passing of James "Jim" Piper of Keystone Heights. He died at the age of 95 on Saturday, Nov. 19, 2022. He breathed his last breath at his home surrounded by loved ones. He was an active and beloved member of St. William Catholic Church. He will long be remembered for his volunteering and cheerful spirit and his devotion to Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Jim's Funeral Mass will be held at St. William Catholic Church on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 11 a.m. Reception to follow at the church hall. We invite you to make a donation to Haven Hospice in his honor in place of sending flowers.



PAID OBITUARY

John Powell

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of John Powell of Bell. He was 60 years old and a graduate of Bradford County High School. Following graduation, he served in the US Army for two years. He then earned his nursing degree from Santa Fe Community College and served as a nurse for several years. John, with his wife Debi, was a horticulturist and lover of nature. He spent many hours on the Santa Fe River scuba diving, snorkeling, canoeing and fishing, and sharing the beauty of the river and its springs with nieces, nephews, and other family members and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Debi; his sons, John and Trevor; his stepsons, Justin and Johnny; his sister, Karen of Tennessee; and by his brothers, Tommy of North Carolina, Gene of Texas, and Lane of California. Luke 23: 42-43.



PAID OBITUARY

Robert Rascicot

Robert "Bob" Rascicot, 82, of Keystone Heights died at his home Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Doreen (Kelley) Rascicot; and their children, Doreen, Robert, Lisa, Bryan, Janette, Janel, and Jaime; two siblings, Albert and Sally; and many extended family members.

A memorial service will be held via Zoom on Saturday, Dec. 10, at 2 p.m. Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 340 E. Walker Drive, Keystone Heights, 32656. 352-473-3176. www.jonesgallagherfh.com

Larry Sapp

Larry Michael Sapp, 61, of Keystone Heights passed away on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2022, in Middleburg. He was born on Oct. 21, 1961, to the late John William and Anna Fay (Beckam) Sapp.

Services will be held on Monday, Dec. 12, at Keystone United Methodist Church beginning at 4 p.m. Private interment will be in Windsor at Providence Cemetery.

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

Roger Sanderson

Roger Neal Sanderson, 76, of Keystone Heights died Friday, Dec. 2, 2022. He is survived by his wife Debbie Sanderson; brother, Walter (Helen) Sanderson of Barnesville, Georgia; son, Jason (Vanessa) Sanderson of Jacksonville; daughter, Angela (Bill) Hanssen of Gainesville; and three grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Trinity Baptist Church in Keystone Heights on Friday, Dec. 9, at 11 a.m. Visitation will be held beginning at 10 a.m. prior to the service.

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

William Williams Jr.

William Leroy Williams Jr., 80, of Miami passed away on Friday, Dec. 2, 2022. He was born in Augusta, Georgia on Dec. 15, 1941, to the late William L. Williams and Helen Francis Williams (Giddens). He was raised in Miami and attended school in Dade County. Shortly after high school, he enlisted in the United States Army, where he served our great country for many years. He met Ruth Thornton at a friend's house in Lake City and they were married Jan. 31, 1986. He was a devoted husband and loved Ruth very much. He was a member of the First United Pentecostal Church in Starke. He was employed at the Bradford Telegraph for 20 years. He was preceded in death by his parents; and loving wife, Ruth.

He is survived by his nine children, Rebecca Ford, Joseph Klimczak, Kimberly Zakrajsek, Krista Kelley, Mary Mullins, Phillip Garver, Richard Garver, Sara Flannery, and Thomas Robinson; 19 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, Dec. 9, at 2 p.m. at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel. Interment will be at Dyal Cemetery later.

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

Do you have an In Memory or Card of Thanks to submit? Please email socials@bctelegraph.com.

Curtis A. "Lex" Sanders Attorney at Law



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

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V. TODD FERREIRA



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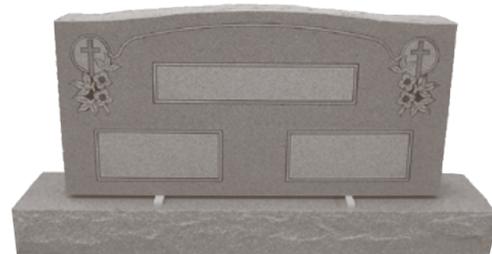


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Obituaries

Mary Zimmerman

Mary Lou Zimmerman was born in Huntington, West Virginia on Oct. 27, 1933, and, shortly thereafter, she was blessed with a baby sister named Betty. Mary and Betty had a very difficult childhood, in which, at a young age, their parents could no longer care for them and put the girls in a Catholic orphanage. Mary did not talk much about her childhood, but living in the orphanage shaped her outlook on life. During her later teen years, Mary and Betty were graciously taken in by an aunt. After she turned 18 years old, Mary was out on her own. With clerical skills that she learned in high school, Mary worked various secretarial positions. Coupled with her bigger than life personality, in 1959, she landed a job as the personal Secretary to the Ohio State Senate Majority Leader, Frank King. While working for the Senator, she met, entertained and had pictures taken with numerous VIPs and dignitaries, including United States Senator and future United States President John F. Kennedy and former First Lady Elenor Roosevelt. Mary met and married Dr. David Zimmerman of Cincinnati, Ohio and they have four wonderful children, Stephen, Matthew, Lisa (Nathan), and Heidi (Randy), as well as 10 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, who were an absolute blessing to her life. While living in Oxford, Ohio, she served as the Office Manager at her husband's busy dental practice. Even though Mary and Dave had a wonderful and picturesque life, they were spiritually searching for something greater. While attending Northern Hills Bible Chapel, Mary entered into a personal relationship with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This is where her legacy began. She led her husband to the Lord and influenced the salvation of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The Lord works in mysterious ways, and h



He used Mary to lead many family, friends and strangers to a saving knowledge of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Because of her childhood, Mary had a heart for the needy, and those who seemed to have been forgotten. She never met a stranger, and provided love, encouragement, and physical, spiritual and monetary assistance to anyone that required it. Regardless of the situation, Mary would literally give away her very last penny to someone less fortunate or in a time of need. Shortly after her husband sold his dental practice, Mary and Dave moved to Keystone Heights, where they both served in Christian ministry at Park of the Palms. Additionally, Mary served 14 years at Lake Swan Camp, where she was known for her amazing, sweet tea. Throughout the years, Mary and Dave hosted many missionaries in their home, held pool parties for Christian camp staff and, being the life of the party and having the gift of hospitality, Mary was known for her over-the-top Thanksgiving dinners and Christmas celebrations. Mary loved her family, her friends, Park of the Palms, Lake Swan Camp, the Keystone Inn, Johnny's Barbeque, Diet Pepsi, Samaritans' Purse, everything Christmas and, most importantly, Jesus Christ. Mary lit up the room with her warm smile, kind heart, and loving spirit. She was also quick-witted and funny. Some of her favorite sayings were "You keep that smile," "Let go and let God," "You are my favorite," "For this I have Jesus" and "Shoot, dang," which would make everyone laugh. If you were down or having a tough day or week, she was willing to listen; to provide a shoulder to lean on and she always knew the right thing to say. As most of you know, she suffered from a debilitating disease called Alzheimer's. As her mind and body began to deteriorate, her spirit never died. For the last few years, she resided at the Willey Manor and eventually, ended up at Riverwood Nursing Home. Even with her memory fading, she enjoyed visits from family and friends, blowing bubbles, listening to the Gaithers, scripture reading; walks around the park and singing old hymns.

In closing, Mary Lou Zimmerman had an impact on this world. Like most of us, she wasn't famous, powerful or rich. However, she was a sinner saved by the Grace of her Lord Jesus and was a godly lady that truly lived out her faith. She lived 89 earthly years and was married 60 years to the love of her life, Dave. She would not want us to be sad or mourn her passing, but rather, she would want us to rejoice, for Mary is now reunited with her loving husband, and is in the presence of her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. On the morning of Monday, Nov. 28, she did not die, but transitioned from this life into everlasting glory. There, I am quite sure, she was met by the open arms of the Lord, and our Heavenly Father decreed, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

A graveside service was held Monday, Dec. 5. Interment followed at Keystone Heights Cemetery. Please omit flowers and make a memorial donation to Lake Swan Camp, 647 S.R. 26, Melrose, 32666.

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



Kiwanis Club supports Starke Shop With a Cop

Maj. Barry Warren (left) of the Starke Police Department accepts a \$1,000 donation from Kiwanis Club of Starke President David Kniseley in support of Starke Shop With a Cop. Starke Shop With a Cop allows children who have a need, but who are still striving to do their best in school, to enjoy a shopping spree at Walmart of Starke, escorted by a member of law enforcement or the Florida Department of Corrections. This year's event will be held Dec. 12-13. Photo by Cliff Smelley.

McDonald's-Kiwanis hoops tourney is Dec. 19-21 at BHS

The Bradford High School boys basketball program is set to once again host the Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis of Starke Christmas Basketball Tournament, which will take place Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 19-21. Daily admission is \$5. Joining the 2021-22 Class 1A state-champion Tornadoes will be Keystone Heights, North Marion, Paxon, Suwannee and Tavares.

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

p.m. and 7:30 p.m. On Dec. 19, the first game pits Paxon against Tavares. Keystone will then play North Marion, followed by Bradford taking on Suwannee.

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

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

BHS Continued from page 9

on the following series helped set the Tigers' Saito up for a 32-yard field goal that put Cocoa ahead 24-21 with 5:47 to play.

On Bradford's first offense play following the ensuing kickoff, Cocoa recovered a fumble, which put its offense back onto the field at the Bradford 45. Bridgewater broke at least three

tackles on a 32-yard run to the 13-yard line. The Tigers came up short of a first down on a run on third-and-3, but a penalty gave them first-and-goal at the 2. Cole Crosby then tackled Bridgewater for no gain, but Bridgewater would get the handoff again on the next play, finding the end zone with 1:55 to play.

"We played so hard to come back from being down," Rodgers said. "I'm forever grateful for their effort and what they did.

I'm just proud of them."

The Tornadoes didn't manage much with their run game, though Shanks did gain 37 yards on seven carries. Shanks also completed 2 of 3 passes for 42 yards, while McKenzie completed 2 of 7 for 34 yards.

Cook was the team's leading receiver with two catches for 34 yards, while Clark had one for 30 yards.

Bradford finished with 113 total yards, while Cocoa gained

371. It was a special season for the Tornadoes, which Rodgers, in his first year as head coach, chalked up to the talent he inherited and the staff he was able to put together to coach that talent.

Now, the job is to work toward putting together seasons that hopefully will be even more special.

"We're going to stay here," Rogers said. "We're going to build this."

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LIBRARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT 1 - Circulation. The Bradford County Public Library is accepting applications for a full time Library Technical Assistant 1 to work in the circulation Department of the Library. This position in this position

works with the public so experience working with people of all ages is required cash handling experience is preferred. Some experience working in a Library is preferred. The starting salary is \$14.66 per hour. Applications can be picked up at the Library Circulation Desk beginning on Monday, November 28, 2022 and must be returned to the Library by 2:00 pm on Friday, December 9, 2022. Bradford County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR The New River Solid Waste Association is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Equipment Operator. Responsibilities will include operation of a variety of heavy equipment in addition to screening wastes for removal of unauthorized materials. Experience in the operation and maintenance of heavy equipment and/or landfill operation experience is desired. Employee will be required to complete a

Landfill Operator and an Inmate Supervision course within 6 months of employment. Valid Florida Driver License and high school graduation or GED needed. Salary range will vary based on experience. Applications can be picked up at the Administration Office at New River Regional Landfill located at 24276 NE 157th Street, Raiford FL 32083 or requested via email to lgreene@nrswa.org. Deadline for submitting applications will be Thursday, December 22, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. For further information, call 386-431-1000. New River Solid Waste is a drug-free workplace; drug testing will be required. NRSWA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

REPORTERS-WRITERS...Need writers to cover local governmental meetings. Law, Hampton, Brooker, Starke, Lake Butler; Bradford & Union Counties: These will be day and evening meetings on different days of the week. If you are interested send email to clas-

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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR of library services full time administrative position. The Bradford County Public Library is currently accepting applications for the Assistant Director of Library Services. Applicants must possess a Master's Degree in Library Science from an ALA accredited program. Deadline for accepting applications is Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 7:00 pm. Applications along with a detailed job description may be obtained from the Bradford County Public Library. The application and job description may also be obtained from the Bradford County website at [www.bradfordcountypublib.org/](https://bradfordcountypublib.org/). For inquires please contact Library Director Robert Perone at (904) 368-3920. Assists the Library Director in the management, supervision, and

administration of the library to provide maximum services to library patrons in accordance with library policy. The Assistant Director supervises the operation of the Technical Services, Children's Department and Circulation Departments. The Assistant Director will coordinate special projects, as requested. Bradford County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Reasonable

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Keystone Head Coach Jessica Carter (far left) is pictured with the Winter Shootout All-Tournament team. Pictured (l-r) are MVP Kiley Channell of Keystone, Dezaray Bright of Keystone, Aniya West of Eastside, N'Coreyia Atkins of Fort White, Keara Hunt of Branford, Jacee Smith of Northside Christian and Brooke McCloud of Hope Christian. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

KHHS defeats NCA, Eastside in annual Winter Shootout

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School recorded double-digit wins over Northside Christian Academy and Eastside at the girls basketball program's annual Winter Shootout, which took place Dec. 3.

Hope Christian Academy, Branford and Fort White were also part of the field.

Tournament sponsors were Vulcan, Southland Realty and Management Co., Hatch Realty Services, Mil-Con Electric, Santa Fe Title Company, Bryan's Ace Hardware, Hometown Health and Wellness, Custom Screen Enclosures, Karl's Pool Service, C&C Cabinets and Doors, 3G Fabrication, Beal's Team Lake Area Realtor, the Massey family, Conant's Remodeling LLC, Fancy Nails and Spa, and Urban Finds.

The day was supposed to consist of six games, but Hope had to pull out of its matchup against Fort White due to a player illness.

Keystone took on Northside to start the tournament at 9 a.m., with the Indians getting 12 points and 10 rebounds from Dezaray Bright in a 57-13 win.

Bright and Kiley Channell proved to be tough defensively, with each coming away with seven steals.

Channell scored 12 points as well, while also adding five assists and two blocks. Yasmin Bryant scored 11 points, with McKinley Kirkland adding six and Alana Anderson, Bryanna Channell, Jaynell Hill and Kadence Massey each adding four.

Massey grabbed 10 rebounds, while Kirkland had three steals.

Northside got four points each from Jacee Smith and Ava Welsh. Leona Harden and Kiara Boyd scored 3 and two points, respectively.

The morning session also featured Branford defeating Hope 42-11 and Fort White defeating Eastside 38-25.



Keystone's Dezaray Bright (left) drives to the basket against Eastside's Kacie Singleton.

3-point contest, All-Tournament team

A three-point shooting contest took place after the third game of the tournament was played, with players from each team taking turns to see how many shots they could sink in a minute.

The Indians' first contestant was Bryant, who made six. Kiley Channell then made seven, which put her at the top of the field until Branford's Annmarie Mowrer made seven as well.

A four-way tie for first was eventually created when Fort White's N'Coreyia Atkins and Eastside's Precious Marshall also made seven each.

Fort White's Madison Brown came up just short of joining the leaders, making six.

Atkins, Channell, Marshall and Mowrer each participated in another round to determine the event's winner, which turned out to be Atkins, who made six shots. Channell made five, followed by Marshall with three and Mowrer with two.

Following the three-point contest, the All-Tournament team, as voted on by coaches, was announced, with Keystone's Kiley Channell named MVP. The other members of the team were Keystone's Bright, Hope's Brooke McCloud, Northside's Smith, Branford's Keara Hunt, Eastside's Aniya West and Fort White's Atkins.

NCA falls in 2nd game to Branford

It was just a five-point game at the half, but the Northside Eagles eventually lost 22-6 to Branford when action resumed after the naming of the All-Tournament team.

The Eagles turned the ball over 11 times in the first quarter, but trailed only 4-0 going into the second. Northside got a strong defensive effort from Welsh, who had three steals and forced another turnover in the opening quarter.

Branford's Mowrer had two baskets to put the Buccaneers up 8-0.

Arianna Norman finally put the Eagles on the board when she made a free throw with 1:31 to play in the first half. Less than a minute later, Smith scored on a layup, which made it an 8-3 game going into the break.

Northside had few highlights in the second half, though the Eagles' Smith did score a basket off an offensive rebound.

Welsh had four steals in the second half.

Bright pours in 20 points in KHHS win

Bright led all scorers with 20 points as the tournament concluded with the Indians defeating Eastside 44-30.

The first quarter began and



Northside Christian's Arianna Norman (left) handles the ball against Branford.

ended with three-point baskets by Bryant, with the second sending Keystone into the second quarter leading 15-9.

After scoring eight points in the first quarter, Bright poured in 10 points to help the Indians take a 29-17 halftime lead. Six of her points in the quarter came on eight free-throw attempts.

Eastside faced some serious defensive pressure from Kiley Channell, who came away with four steals in the first half. She also drew a charge on Eastside's Kacie Singleton after Singleton made a backcourt steal in the second quarter.

The Indians held Eastside to three points in the third quarter as built a lead of 18 points. Keystone's Jaynell Hill had two steals in the quarter, which consisted of seven Eastside turnovers in all.

Bryant and Channell finished with eight and seven points, respectively. Anderson, Hill, Brynn Creekmore and Rexi Lewis each had two points, while Bryanna Channell added one.

Bright and Kiley Channell had 12 and eight rebounds, respectively, while Hill had six. Channell led the team in steals with seven and assists with five.

Upcoming games for KH, NCA, HCA

Keystone (5-2) played Union County this past Monday (Dec. 5) and will host Baldwin on Friday, Dec. 9, at 6 p.m. The Indians then travel to play Middleburg on Monday, Dec. 12, at 6 p.m.

Northside (1-4) played Corinth Christian on Dec. 5 and will host in Cedar Key on Friday, Dec. 9, at 6 p.m. The Eagles travel to play Covenant School of Jacksonville on Monday, Dec. 12, at 6 p.m.

Hope (1-2) played Gainesville Christian Community this past Tuesday (Dec. 6) and will travel to Jasper to play Corinth Christian on Thursday, Dec. 8, at 5:30 p.m. The Lions travel to Jacksonville to play Old Plank Christian on Monday, Dec. 12, at 6 p.m. and then travel to play Ocala Christian on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 6:30 p.m.

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 second time in three years with a cumulative team GPA of 3.311.

The Indians topped the schools in Class 2S, finishing ahead of Fernandina Beach, which had a team GPA of 3.204.

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 Indians were Academic Champion of their class in 2020 as well. They were fifth in their class in 2019 and fourth in 2021.

Keystone's volleyball team had the 14th-best GPA among nominated schools in Class 4A at 3.531. The boys cross country team had the 15th-best GPA in Class 2A at 3.6, while the boys golf team had the 18th-best GPA in 1A at 3.631.

BHS girls drop district game to P.K. Yonge

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Struggles with maintaining possession and shooting from the field and at the foul line plagued the Bradford High School girls basketball team, which lost 53-30 to District 2-3A opponent P.K. Yonge on Dec. 1 in Starke.

The Tornadoes (3-1) had won their last two games by margins of 56 and 59 points, but trailed by as many as 26 to the Blue Wave, which improved to 3-0.

Bernaria Nichols led Bradford with 17 points. Ar'Nayshia Griffin had seven points, while Destiny Crum and Sky McMillian each had three.

Prior to playing P.K. Yonge, Bradford had no trouble with Middleburg, outscoring the visiting Broncos 52-7 in the first half en route to a 70-11 win.

Griffin scored 14 of her game-high 18 points in the first half.

Nichols and Nichelle Brown each scored 10 points in the first half and finished with 12 points each.

Yanna Pringle scored seven points, while Crum and McMillian scored six and five, respectively. Jada Hankerson and Kimber Woods each added four points, while Jackson had two.

The Tornadoes played Dunnellon on Dec. 6 and will host Williston on Thursday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. On Monday, Dec. 12, Bradford travels to play Bishop Snyder at 7:30 p.m.

Shaw scores 5 goals in KHHS girls' 7-0 win, leads state

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Kiersten Shaw scored five goals for the Keystone Heights High School girls soccer team, which defeated host Trenton 7-0 on Dec. 5.

Ella Hutchins added two goals as the Indians improved to 6-3.

It was the third time Shaw has scored at least five in a match this season. She leads the state with 26 total goals. Poinciana's Valerie Correa has 23 goals.

On Nov. 29, Keystone got three goals from Shaw in a 5-3 at West Nassau.

Hutchins and Elizabeth Waughon each had one goal.

Kendall Gagnon had two assists, while Hutchins and Shaw each had one.

Goalkeeper Miranda Yow made five saves.

The Indians traveled to play Gainesville on Dec. 2, losing 6-0.

Aspen Krohn made six saves.

Keystone played District 4-3A opponent Fort White this past Tuesday (Dec. 6) and will travel to play district opponent Newberry on Friday, Dec. 9, at 5 p.m. The Indians travel to play Columbia on Monday, Dec. 12, at 7:20 p.m. before traveling to play district opponent Williston on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 5:30 p.m.



Hope's Tavian Frazier (center) puts up a shot in the Lions' 28-22 win over Northside Christian. Photo by Malena Hanson.

Hope boys open with win over Northside

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Hope Christian Academy held visiting Northside Christian Academy to no points in the third quarter as the Lions opened the boys basketball season with a 28-22 win on Nov. 29.

The Lions trailed 12-10 at halftime, but took an 11-point lead into the final quarter.

Marcus Chever scored 15 points, while Tavian Frazier had four points and nine rebounds.

Julio Casielles and Jude Hanson each scored three points, with Hanson also coming away with four steals.

Traven Chandler added two points and eight rebounds, while Aiden Wilson scored one point.

Hope improved to 2-0 with a 76-25 win over Westwood Christian on Dec. 1.

The Lions played Gainesville Christian Community this past Tuesday (Dec. 6) and will travel to Jasper to play Corinth Christian on Thursday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m. Hope travels to Jacksonville to play Old Plank Christian on Monday, Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m.

KHHS boys soccer team rebounds with 7-2 victory

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Four days after suffering a 5-0 loss at Crescent City, the Keystone Height High School boys soccer team got three goals and two assists from Skylar Kedgley in a 7-2 win at Trenton on Dec. 5.

Logan Spence scored two goals, while Pelayo Martinez and Aaron Wiley each had one.

Martinez and Spence also had one assist each.

The Indians (4-2) played at West Nassau on Nov. 29, getting three goals from Spence in a 6-0 win.

Kedgley had two goals, while Wiley had one.

Gabe Buchanan led the team in assists with two, while Keystone also got one each from Kedgley, Martinez, Spence and Liam Callahan.

Goalkeeper Carson Eatmon made two saves.

The Indians played District 4-3A opponent Fort White this past Tuesday (Dec. 6) and will travel to play district opponent Newberry on Friday, Dec. 9, at 7 p.m. Keystone then travels to play district opponent Williston on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m.

NCA girls open hoops season with 31-10 win over Hope

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Finley Poynter recorded a double-double as the Northside Christian Academy girls basketball team opened the season with a 31-10 win over host Hope on Nov. 29.

Poyner scored 14 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, while also coming away with three steals.

The Eagles' Arianna Norman flirted with a double-double as well with eight points and eight rebounds. She also had four steals.

Jacee Smith added five points for Northside, while Leona Harden and Makayla Price each had two. Rosalea Norman grabbed seven rebounds and had three steals.

Hope got three points from Addyson Wilson, while Jadie Clark, Alyssa Hunt and Charlotte Natirboff each had two. Brooke McCloud added one point.

The Eagles followed up the win with a 49-18 loss to host Saint Francis on Dec. 1.

Smith, Arianna Norman and Rosalea Norman each had seven rebounds, with Smith also scoring a team-high nine points. Arianna Norman added four points, while Rosalea Norman had two points and nine steals.

Lexie Welsh scored three points, while Harden had four steals.

Northside then hosted Zarephath Academy on Friday, Dec. 2, losing 22-6.



Jadie Clark (center) battles for a rebound in Hope's 38-20 win over Redeemer. Also pictured is Addyson Wilson (far right). Photo by Malena Hanson.

HCA girls get 38-20 win over Redeemer

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Addyson Wilson shot 6 of 10 from the field and scored 12 points as the Hope Christian girls basketball team bounced back from its season-opening loss to defeat visiting Redeemer Christian 38-20 on Dec. 1.

The Lions held a six-point lead before outscoring Redeemer 16-4 in the fourth quarter.

Charlotte Natirboff and Brooke McCloud scored nine and six points, respectively, while Jadie Clark had four points. Ashlyn Crews added three points, while Alyssa Hunt and Makenzie McRaney each chipped in two.

Natirboff grabbed a team-high 11 rebounds. Hunt and Wilson had eight and seven, respectively, while Clark pulled down six.

Wilson also came away with six steals, while Crews had four to go along with three assists. Natirboff had three assists also and three steals, while Hunt had two steals.

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State champ BHS is back in action

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bradford High School, which won the 2021-22 Class 1A boys basketball state championship, returned to the court this past

Tuesday (Dec. 6) against North Marion and will travel to Gainesville to play Eastside on Thursday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m.

The Tornadoes take part in the North Marion Shootout on Saturday, Dec. 10, before

traveling to Callahan to play West Nassau on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m.

Bradford's first home game is Saturday, Dec. 17, against Baker County at 7:30 p.m.

UCHS

Continued from page 11

a fumble.

Senior running back Rayvon Durant gave the Tigers their only touchdown, scoring on a 3-yard run with 10 minutes remaining in the game. The Tigers' leading rusher entered the game having gained 1,483 yards on 180 carries for a 148 yards-per-game average.

Senior quarterback A.J. Cortese carried the ball into the end zone on the two-point conversion attempt, leaving a persistent Tigers team trailing by just three points — 14-11.

Northview responded with a 15-play, 59-yard scoring drive that consumed almost eight minutes and featured three successful fourth-down conversions. Jefferson, who touched the ball every play, scored on a 12-yard reception on fourth-and-7.

The Tigers had an incredible season, which started with a loss to University Christian and ended in the Final Four. The team will still have a lot of talent in 2023.

"Union County is always rooting for them," senior defensive lineman Markus Strong said about the juniors who are set to lead the team next year.

After missing the 2021 season due to an ACL injury, Strong (prior to the Northview game) led the team in tackles with 48 and sacks with 10.5. He recovered two fumbles and caused three.

"We've had a season we will always remember," said Strong, who has multiple Division-I offers. "It has meant a lot to me to play with that group of guys."

Junior running back Jamez Jamison said he appreciates all of the experiences he shared with the seniors this season. Jamison will most likely fill the shoes of Durant in 2023.

"I look forward to seeing what lies ahead for the seniors," Jamison said. "They inspire me to work harder."



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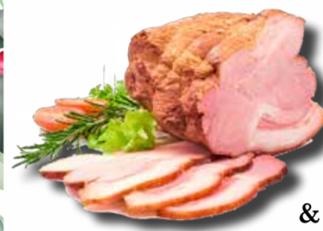
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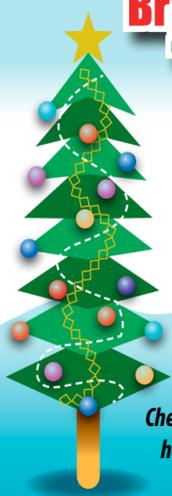
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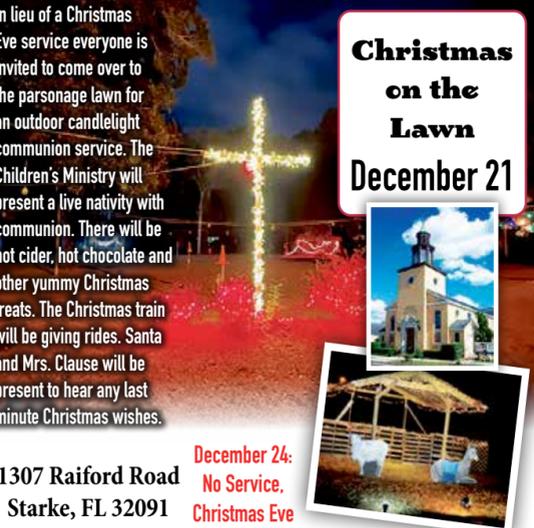


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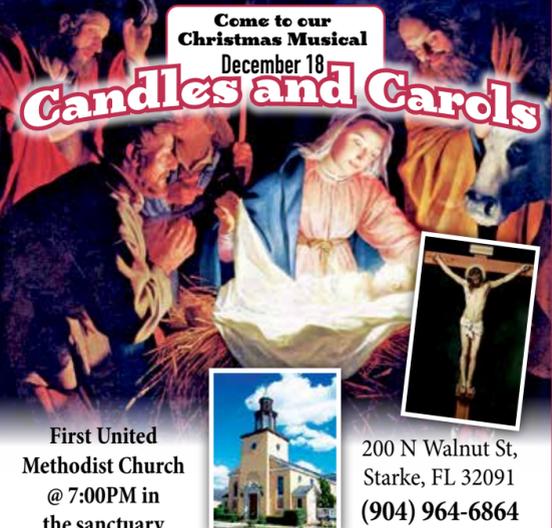
In lieu of a Christmas Eve service everyone is invited to come over to the parsonage lawn for an outdoor candlelight communion service. The Children's Ministry will present a live nativity with communion. There will be hot cider, hot chocolate and other yummy Christmas treats. The Christmas train will be giving rides. Santa and Mrs. Clause will be present to hear any last minute Christmas wishes.

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