



# Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024

145th year, 29th Issue — \$1

## 2 dead after pickup goes under log truck

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
General manager

STARKE — The Florida Highway Patrol said two men died after their pickup ran under a log truck early Thursday morning.

FHP reported that the log truck was entering U.S. 301 from a private drive, attempting to make a northbound left turn onto the four-lane when the southbound pickup collided with the trailer and became lodged underneath.

The collision caused a secondary crash when the drivers of a dump truck and a sedan tried to avoid the first collision. The two vehicles struck



one another and came to rest on the highway's southbound shoulder.

Both vehicles in the secondary collision had minor damage, and one person was transported to a hospital with minor injuries.

Bradford County Fire Rescue, Clay County Fire Rescue, the Bradford County Sheriff's Office, and FHP responded to U.S. 301 and Northwest 265th Street, north of Lawtey.

FHP said the 23-year-old driver of the pickup and his 18-year-old passenger died at the scene.

The driver of the log truck was not injured.

WJXT in Jacksonville reported that the 18-year-old in the pickup was Carlos Henriquez Contreras, who left behind a 2-month-old daughter and an 18-year-old girlfriend.

"He was like my son," Reina Garcia, his girlfriend's mother, told News4JAX the day following the crash. "He was a kid that, when he was 15, came to this country by himself."

Garcia added that Contreras, an immigrant from Honduras, was working on building a home for his young family.

## Union board member says he's being investigated

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Special to the Times

LAKE BUTLER — During the commission member's comments portion of the Jan. 16 meeting of the Union County Commission, one board member disclosed to his colleagues that he had been notified that he was under investigation by the Florida Ethics Commission for possible violations.

Union County Commissioner Mac Johns told the board that the ethics panel had notified him that he was being investigated about two separate complaints to see if he violated the ethical standards required for elected officials. He added that he was provided with a copy of the complaints and that the complaints had been submitted by County Coordinator Jimmy Williams "on behalf of the Board of Commissioners."

"I took this job mainly because of recreation, but from day one, I saw problems with Jimmy Williams, then saw the infighting between departments," Johns said.

Except for the December meeting, Johns has consistently moved for the

dismissal of the county coordinator. However, each time he made a motion for Williams's termination, his motion died for lack of a second.

In a conversation last week, the Times discovered that the complaints result from numerous phone calls complaining about Johns and two packets of information turned in at the commission office by two individuals (names kept confidential). When looking at the records kept in the office on the activities of the recreation board, it was noted that no meeting minutes had been turned in to the office since 2019 and that no financial reports had been submitted for the same period.

The Union County Recreation Board oversees the operation of the county's recreation department. It is required by law to submit meeting minutes and financial reports outlining funds spent (from grants, donations, and the county) and money taken in from concession stand sales and other special event fees.

When Williams was asked about turning the matter over to the Ethics Commission for investigation, he said that he had made the complaints

as a private citizen, following a motion made by Commissioner Jimmy Tallman at the Sept. 25, 2023, regular commission meeting that any problems in the county that were in any way questionable be investigated, with the motion passing unanimously. He said he included notes from the many phone calls received at the board office and the packets of information dropped off there. He stated that his motives were not personal but that he had felt it necessary to turn the information over to the commission in light of Tallman's motion and the board's approval of it. He said his decision was influenced by the volume of calls and materials from citizens concerned about the issue.

Information concerning the materials turned over to the commission is sparse, which will neither confirm nor deny that an investigation is underway. In a phone interview with an ethics commission representative, the Times was told that if such an investigation were underway, there would be no release of information until the matter was resolved. It was mentioned, however, that Johns could choose to make the

complaints public record if he wished.

One of the complaints seems to concern John's involvement with the recreation board, most notably after being elected a county commissioner and the lack of outside oversight concerning financial matters.

The other complaint centers around Johns doing business with a governmental board to which he has been designated the county board's representative. Johns owns and operates an automotive repair shop, which, before his election to the county commission, did repair work on vehicles used by the Transportation Disadvantaged Board. When Johns was elected and volunteered to serve on this board, he was told that he would no longer be able to provide paid services to them, as it would be considered a conflict of interest/ethics violation. He continued to work on the vehicles and is apparently still doing so.

It could be several months before the Ethics Commission concludes its review and investigation of the matter and the results are made public.

## Commissioner rips state on boat ramp

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
General manager

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — County Commissioner Betsy Condon criticized Florida's Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for giving conflicting answers on the status and future of the county's King Street boat ramp leading to the western shore of Lake Brooklyn.

The Crystal Lake resident who represents eastern Clay County said the boat launch had a concrete ramp 30 years ago, but when lake levels receded, the county removed the exposed ramp and converted the facility into a kayak and non-motorized boat launch.

Condon said that since water levels in the Keystone Heights lakes are now rising, she is getting calls from residents who want to launch motorboats from the King Street boat ramp.

The commissioner said that according to information she received from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the county owns the land up to the water line, but

the state owns the land underneath the water, and Fish and Wildlife regulates boat ramps leading into waterways.

Condon added that some residents have gotten different answers than she received when they called FWC and the St. Johns River Water Management District about the facility. She added that because of the conflicting information, some have questioned her credibility.

"I've been called all kinds of names," she said during a January 23 Board of County Commissioners meeting. "I've been called a liar, I've been called everything you can think of, which is really fine. You can call me what you want to... but it is quite frustrating to be called all kinds of names."

Condon added that one particular Fish and Wildlife staff member had been giving residents information that was at odds with what she had been told.

"The FWC guy who was out there today was telling the residents that FWC will never put any concrete back out there or anything like that,"



**A county sign at the King Street boat ramp reads: "Lake Brooklyn Boat Ramp is currently open for kayak and canoes ONLY. The ramp remains closed for motorized boats due to low water. We are working with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to get the ramp open as soon as the water levels have reached the specified level required by FWC. If you have any questions, please call the Parks & Recreation office at 284-6378x3 or FWC at 850-488-5600." Photo: Dan Hildebran.**

Condon said. "He was there today. He hadn't been there since March...and he's the one who has told the residents that it's the county's responsibility."

"I'm going to publicly tell the residents of Keystone Heights," she continued, "I have told you tonight

everything that I know; I don't have any other information. I'm quite frustrated because I can't get a straight answer. And I've asked for meetings with these people, and nobody can set up meetings."

## Starke's law enforcement transition is underway

Chief plans to stay and says commission has more to decide

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Bradford Sheriff Gordon Smith said the transfer of policing authority in the city of Starke to his office is going smoothly with the cooperation of Police Chief Jeff

Johnson.

On Jan. 16, city commissioners voted 4-1 to move forward contracting with Smith. Several factors contributed. To reduce spending of utility revenue on general government and prioritize neglected infrastructure, the commission cut the budgets for the police and fire departments last year. Some of the police department's most senior employees departed, leaving the vacancies to be filled by less experienced officers. Then, what

Johnson called "oversights" during the budgeting process made it clear the department's \$1.1 million budget would be overspent.

At the commission's request, the sheriff sent a proposal saying he would take over law enforcement in the city for the equivalent of 2.5 mills of the commission's 4.8754-mill property tax levy. According to the city finance office, that currently amounts to \$625,000.

Several of the police officers

applied to work for the sheriff's office, and Smith said two have been hired pending their background checks. Others have applied or been offered positions out of county, and a couple employees are pursuing opportunities in the private sector. Smith also fired two who will not be coming back, he said.

Records are being turned over, and the Florida Department of Law

See POLICE, page 4



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**WORTH NOTING**

## Overnight detours through Feb. 9

As part of the Florida Department of Transportation's Starke Railroad Overpass Interchange Improvements project, Monday, Jan. 29 through Friday, Feb. 9, overnight asphalt paving operations will be taking place, weather and unforeseen circumstances permitting.

During this time period, operations will take place on multiple areas: State Road 100, eastbound and westbound frontage roads, South, Walnut, Thompson, Church and Cherry streets and other areas. During construction activities, there will be lane closures, closures with detours and flagging operations.

Road closures and detours will be utilized between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., motorists should follow posted detours during these times.

Schedule is subject to change due to weather and unforeseen circumstances.

## Community prayer planned Thursday

River of Life Church will host community prayer on Thursday, Feb. 1, beginning at 6 p.m. The church is located at 2225 N. Temple Ave. in Starke.

For more information, please contact the Starke Church of God by Faith prayer team at 904-964-9396.

## Spades and bingo tournament

Join 12 Guys in Bow Ties and 12 Girls in Pearls in celebrating the month of Love with its Spades Tournament and Bingo Fundraiser at the Downtown Grill on Tuesday, Feb. 13, from 4 to 7 p.m.

Teams enter the spades tournament for \$50, and the winning team will win half the entry fee pot. Maximum of 20 teams ages 18 and up. Enter by Feb. 6. Pay via Cash App to \$12GMentoring of PayPal to 12gibt.12gip@gmail.com.

Play 10 games of bingo with a \$20 card, and \$5 for each additional card. There will be prizes for every winner, including gift cards, cakes and more.

All proceeds benefit the mentoring program, including 20% of all food sales, so if you don't want to play, come dinner and the entertainment.

For more information, contact Edrick Hamilton at 904-364-0868.

## Church of God food distribution

Starke Church of God by Faith is distributing food on the first and third Thursdays each month. The Feb. 1 and 15 giveaways will take place from 10 a.m. to noon at the church, 730 Old Lawtey Road in Starke.



# Educator of the Month



January 2024



We are *proud* to sponsor the educator of the month at **Bradford High School!**

**Rebecca Wilhite**

“The influence of a great teacher can never be erased.”

-Unknown

Amanda Seyfang  
Bradford County Supervisor  
of Elections



We are *proud* to sponsor the educator of the month at **Keystone Heights High School!**

**Erin Verplanck**

“The influence of a great teacher can never be erased.”

-Unknown

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**Candance Brannen**

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We are *proud* to sponsor the educator of the month at **McRae Elementary!**

**Sara Zipperer**

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We are *proud* to sponsor the educator of the month at **Bradford Elementary!**

**Donna Padgett**

“The influence of a great teacher can never be erased.”

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Lake Area Glass & Mirror Inc.



We are *proud* to sponsor the educator of the month at **North Florida Technical College!**

**Aleta Durant**

“The influence of a great teacher can never be erased.”

-Unknown



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We are *proud* to sponsor the educator of the month at **Hope Christian Academy!**

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“The influence of a great teacher can never be erased.”

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“A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning”  
- Brad Henry



Small businesses are the backbone of local economies.

# Educator of the Month



January 2024



We are *proud* to sponsor the educator of the month at **Keystone Heights Elementary!**  
**Allison Sanders**

“The influence of a great teacher can never be erased.”  
-Unknown



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Keystone Heights, FL 32656  
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We are *proud* to sponsor the educator of the month at **Providence Christian Academy!**  
**Melody Johns**

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-Unknown




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-Unknown




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**Nancy Esford**

“The influence of a great teacher can never be erased.”  
-Unknown



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We are *proud* to sponsor the educator of the month at **Lake Butler Elementary!**  
**Katherine Holmes**

“The influence of a great teacher can never be erased.”  
-Unknown



“Political advertisement paid for and approved by Chad Ali, Republican for Union County District 3 County Commissioner.”




We are *proud* to sponsor the educator of the month at **Bradford Middle School!**  
**Jennifer Frees**

“The influence of a great teacher can never be erased.”  
-Unknown




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We are *proud* to sponsor the educator of the month at **Melrose Elementary!**  
**Stacey Morris**

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-Unknown



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Northside Christian Academy will be featured next week on February 8th!




We are *proud* to sponsor the educator of the month at **Brooker Community School!**  
**Karrie Kulbacki**

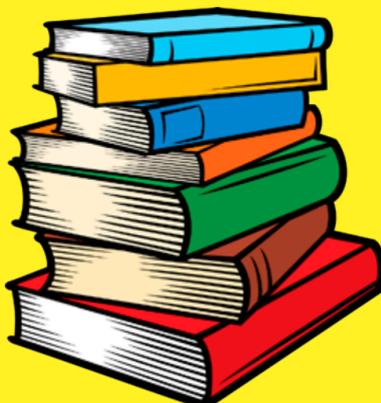
“The influence of a great teacher can never be erased.”  
-Unknown



Brooker Baptist Church  
Bible Fellowship Groups - 9:45 AM  
Sunday AM Worship - 11:00 AM  
Wednesday (Awanas Club) - 6:00 PM  
17198-17168 Bradford Ave,  
Brooker, FL 32622  
(352) 485-1875



“A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning”  
- Brad Henry



Small businesses are the backbone of local economies.

# Most officials plan to run again

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Most Bradford County officials with expiring terms on 2024 say they plan on running for office again.

This includes Sheriff Gordon Smith and Supervisor of Elections Amanda Seyfang, both of whom have already filed paperwork. The other constitutional officers Clerk of Court Denny Thompson, Tax Collector Teresa Phillips and Property Appraiser Kenny Clark have also confirmed they will run for reelection.

Joining that list is Superintendent of Schools Will Hartley and District 4 School Board Member Candace Osteen. The county commissioners for Districts 1, 3 and 5 — Carolyn Spooner, Chris Dougherty and Diane Andrews — have also confirmed reelection runs.

The only elected official to say otherwise was District 3 School Board Member Cheryl Canova. She will be leaving the board at the end of her second term.

So, again, the county offices are all up for reelection as is the superintendent of schools position, the county commissioner seats from Districts 1, 3 and 5, and school board seats from Districts 3 and 4.

Without a challenger on the ballot, incumbents who declare their candidacy will automatically retain their offices.

These are all salaried positions with benefits. The state sets the salaries based on county population size. For Fiscal Year

2023-24, the state has set the salary for county commissioners at \$38,858 and school board members at \$33,044.

Most of the county's constitutional officers have the same salary. The clerk of courts, supervisor of elections, tax collector and property appraiser salaries were set at \$124,849. That is the school superintendent's salary as well.

The exception is the sheriff, whose salary is set at \$162,767.

The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District supervisors for districts 2, 3 and 4 will also be selected. These are voluntary positions concerned with the land management practices and the protection of land and water resources.

State and national elections Bradford will help decide include president, U.S. representative and senator, state attorney and public defender, and state representative.

For information on becoming a candidate, call the elections office at 904-966-6266 to make an appointment and pick up a candidate handbook.

## Election dates

The first election date is in a few weeks. Florida's presidential preference primary is March 19, with early voting from March 9-17. Florida is a closed primary state, and that means only registered Republicans will be choosing who gets their nomination. President Joe Biden was the only name submitted by Florida Democrats, so they will not have a presidential preference

primary.

The primary election for other offices will be Aug. 20, with early voting from Aug. 5-18. Election Day is Nov. 5, with early voting from Oct. 21-Nov. 2.

## Ways to vote

To vote in person, got to your polling location on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. or to the courthouse on one of the early voting days from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Early voting takes place in the commission meeting room at the courthouse. Polling locations vary by precinct. Updated voter registration cards were mailed when redistricting altered voting precincts. If you need to update your address, do so by calling the elections office at 904-966-6266.

Registered voters may also vote by mail by calling the office or signing up at [www.votebradfordfl.gov](http://www.votebradfordfl.gov). All vote-by-mail ballot requests on file expired at the end of 2022. The deadline to request a mail ballot is March 7 for the presidential preference primary, Aug. 8 for the primary and Oct. 24 for the general election.

Signatures on file with the elections office are used to verify vote-by-mail ballots, candidate and petitions for candidates and ballot initiatives. If your signature has changed, you can update it at the elections office or by mailing an updated voter registration.

For information on voter registration, candidates, what is on the ballot, where to vote and much more, visit [www.votebradfordfl.gov](http://www.votebradfordfl.gov).



Master Gardener Donna Solze looks over available publications while BSWCD Supervisors Ok Sun Burks and Paul Still advise residents on planting their free trees.

## Arbor Day event to return annually

For Florida's Arbor Day on Jan. 19, 130 free cypress trees were given away by Bradford County Soil and Water Conservation, University of Florida IFAS Extension Bradford County and the Alligator Creek Garden Club. The organizations teamed up to provide planting and care information, youth activities, and advice from Bradford Master Gardeners on gardening and planting for their site conditions.

There are plans to make this an annual event for Bradford residents, and you can get soil, water and planting advice all year long! For plant and garden advice contact UF/IFAS Extension Bradford County at 904-966-6299. For advice on soil and water related issues such as drainage, erosion and invasive species, contact Bradford County Soil and Water Conservation at 904-368-0291.



Youth nature art was one of the hands-on activities available at the event.

# Former campuses surplus as Bradford prepares for new school

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — The Bradford County School Board voted last week to dispose of the former Hampton Elementary School property.

The recommendation came from Superintendent Will Hartley who added that the board will next be asked to dispose of the former Brooker Elementary School as well.

Hartley said deeding the

Brooker property to the organizers of the charter school that operates there now was part of the original agreement.

The Hampton property won't be changing hands right now, although surplussing the property would allow the district to put the property on the market. The Arc of Bradford County has moved programs to the Hampton campus, and there is also a Community Health and Wellness Hub open once a month at the location.

Hartley said if it was going to be sold, the district would like to sell it to The Arc, which is leasing the campus.

All of this is in service of a larger vision and that is pursuing another new school. By disposing

of former schools, the district erases those "student stations" from the books before the district begins requesting funds for a new junior-senior high school.

Hartley said they will begin meeting soon to plot that process and the future of the middle and high schools.

In other business:

—the school board also approved a state evaluation system for Brooker Community School, and amended the agreement with the charter school to include the addition of a sixth grade next school year. The amendment also states that if the charter school ceases to function, the school district will take possession of all the equipment and capital acquisitions.

## Letters

### Becoming too smart?

Dear Editor:  
Did you know that Keystone Heights is considering becoming a Smart City? After watching the first city council meeting on the subject, I researched what exactly a Smart City is. It is part of the global movement to unite the world under a one-world government. The World Economic Forum that meets in Davos, Switzerland, every January has a great interest in Smart Cities.

It is tied in with the Go Green movement. Most of us know what that is — destroying the fossil-fuel industry, electric cars, no gas ranges, regulating the temperature of your home, and your use of lighting and water. All of these innovations require surveillance, which requires expensive technology that must be maintained by outside service companies.

The person who did the presentation to the council talked about placement of trees to improve local living temperatures, and placement of lighting, along with an idyllic vision of parks and recreation. The cost of such was not discussed as I remember, but she did emphasize that none of this would be done without the approval of the city. I hope that means the citizens, as "we the people" are the ones who would be paying for such.

How successful has the Green Movement been? Do you want to support more of it? Do you want more surveillance by government that is trying to help you by regulating your life?

In the meantime, Keystone Heights has some immediate basic

needs, and having to do with trees. Right in the center of the city, on the street I live on (Sylvan Way) there are two old, rotten camphor trees standing close to the most-used sidewalk in the city, threatening the life of anyone who walks past them. And, on the corner of Sylvan and Palmetto, there is a street drain that overflows every time we get a heavy rain. And there are well-placed alleys that need to be paved.

Sometimes, it is possible to become too smart!

Rosemary Hyslop  
Keystone Heights

### Harrison announces retirement

Dear Editor:  
It is with mixed feelings that I am announcing my retirement from Florida Farm Bureau effective Dec. 31, 2023.

My family and I greatly appreciate the trust and confidence you placed in me to service your insurance needs for the past 30-plus years. I would like you to know how honored you have made me feel and we will be forever grateful for the love and support received from our community. I was fortunate to have been raised in this community, and so it was easy to want to assist my friends and family with their insurance needs.

Your friendship means so much to me and will always be treasured.

I will continue to work with the Health Benefits for the UCSB employees.

John Harrison and Family



Pictured (l-r) American Legion Post 56 Vice Commander Raymond Hunt, first-place winner Hagan Kadlec, Post 56 Commander Norman Dowdy, contest runner-up Kaitlyn Hunter and American Legion Department of Florida Commander Michael Raymond.

## American Legion announces speech competition winner, runner-up

The American Legion National Oratorical Contest winners for the local level are Hagan Kadlec in first place and Kaitlyn Hunter as runner-up.

These contestants will advance to the district level of the national contest, which will be conducted and hosted by American Legion Post 56 on Saturday, Jan. 27, at 10 a.m.

The local competition was held Jan. 13 at Post 56 in

Starke with the Florida State American Legion Commander Michael Raymond present for the ceremony and to present the awards. Post 56 Vice Commander Raymond Hunt said, "It was indeed an honor for us at our local branch of the Legion to have him travel up from Orlando and participate in our ceremony and assist in the presentation of the awards and show his deep interest in our students."

The winner of the district contest will advance to the area contest to be held no later than March 9, and the winners there will advance to the state contest in Orlando on March 30.

The winner of the state contest will advance to the national contest to be conducted May 17 through 19 in Hillsdale, Michigan, where the \$25,000 first-place scholarship will be awarded.

## POLICE

### Continued from page 1

Enforcement will inventory evidence before it is transferred. Several vehicles are also being transferred to the sheriff's office as well.

Deputies have already been assigned to cover the city of Starke and the sheriff's office is taking on more calls inside the city.

Smith said Johnson, a lifelong friend and colleague, has made the process "pretty much seamless."

"It's actually moving at a fast pace, but much smoother than we anticipated," Smith said. Johnson described the process as "organized chaos," but he agreed things were getting done to comply with the commission's decision.

The amount paid to the sheriff does not include the cost of the police chief's salary. That will continue to be a factor as Johnson said he isn't going anywhere. He doesn't anticipate the commission altering his pay. Ordinance requires a minimum annual salary of \$45,000.

Some commissioners have been asked if they were going to pay the police chief to do nothing.

"I don't think that's going to happen," Smith said. "He loves the city. There's going to be advantages there. He's not going to sit around and be lazy and do

nothing. I don't believe that at all."

Both Smith and Johnson were ambiguous on Johnson's role, saying he would be a liaison between the city commission and sheriff's office.

Johnson's term doesn't end until the city's next election in the fall of next year, but his status as an elected official will remain up to the people. Yes, Johnson said he plans on running for police chief again in 2025.

The only thing that could change that he said is the city commission holding a charter referendum and voters removing the police chief as one of the city's elected officials. He has previously expressed confidence that the vote would go his way, and so he plans on holding the commission to the requirements of the charter. In addition to holding an election for police chief, that includes hiring a nightwatchman.

Aside from the salary and benefit packages, Johnson said they will need an office budget that covers operations, vehicles, maintaining certifications, etc. He didn't estimate the cost, but it would be in addition to what the city commission has agreed to pay the sheriff's office and diminish any projected savings.

Johnson said the city commission will also have to confront the police retirement issue. The city doesn't have the money to close the police retirement system and buy

everyone out, he said, estimating 10 current retirees receiving payments and several more vested and waiting to reach retirement age. The commission would have to pay them all if the plan is closed, he said.

"They've got a lot of stuff to try to figure out. They got a lot to do," he said.

Johnson said he was "extremely upset" by the commission's police department decision, but not for his own sake. Financially, he said he is in "good shape."

"I just hated if for the guys. I got 11 guys who just overnight lost their job (as of) March 1," he said. "They gave these guys six weeks. That is not how we need to operate as a city. We need to take care of the employees who have taken care of us, and we didn't do it."

In Johnson's opinion, the commission didn't think the decision through with the exception of one member.

"I want to thank Danny Nugent for his support the entire time. He has not wavered from his support," Johnson said.

Smith said he doesn't think anyone has noticed or will notice a difference. The city will receive the same amount of law enforcement coverage, he said, but inside things will be more streamlined and efficient.

"I won't fail. It's just that simple," Smith said.

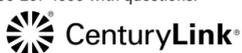
### Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

The Florida Public Service Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$30.50 per month and business services are \$43.50 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in the Lifeline program, which makes residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers may qualify for Lifeline discounts of \$5.25/month for voice or bundled voice service or \$9.25/month for qualifying broadband or broadband bundles. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload to qualify.

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# Lake Region

## Woman's Club celebrates 100 years

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
General manager

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — The Keystone Heights Woman's Club celebrated its 100 years of service to the Lake Region during a January 20 ceremony.

President Brooklyn Hayes-Yelin recognized longtime members, including 50-year member Tina Bullock, 28-year member Joan Vaughn, 24-year member Joanne Motter, 15-year member Barbara Crawford, 14-year member Sally Linton, 13-year member Darlene Hart, Mary Lewis: 10 years and Maria Walker.



"It's only fitting on today's celebration that we also dedicate the clubhouse in her honor," Brooklyn Hayes-Yelin said of Tina Bullock, while handing over to her a metal plaque that will be posted on the clubhouse. "She has been a guiding light, offering not only her time but also her wealth of knowledge. This space will forever be a living tribute to her legacy." Also pictured (left) is Janice Goetzman. Photo: Dan Hildebran.

### Three clubhouses and 50 years

Longtime club leader Tina Bullock told the crowd that the organization's first clubhouse was built in 1924.

"The land was donated by the Lawrence Development Company, and a 20 by 30 building was used," she said.

The following year, a larger building was constructed on a lot purchased from the Community Church.

"For the next 37 years," Bullock said, "it was used as a community center."

In 1958, the club joined the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, and the first Keystone Heights Junior Women's Club was formed.

In 1962, a fire destroyed the clubhouse near Community Church, which also housed the first public library in the city.

The church bought the lot back and provided interim space for the club until 1969, when H.T. Williams and Charles Oliver donated the former site of the Chautauqua Opera House, and Triest Construction built the club's current home.

In 1974, the Junior Woman's Club launched the Keystone Heights Christmas Parade, which, 50 years later, still exists and is operated by Lake Region Kiwanis.

In 1985, the first junior club

dissolved.

Bullock said that throughout the last century, the club has provided scholarships to deserving students, and supported animal rescues, the Lake Area Ministries food bank, the Seeds of Grace book bus, and countless other worthwhile projects.

"A house is just a house until a family moves in and makes it a home," she said. "And this building is just a building until the members and community make it a club of its own."

### A fusion of legacies, values, and wisdom

The celebration also marked the merger of the Woman's Club and Junior Woman's Club. Bullock recognized the outgoing board members, including copresidents herself and Sally Linton, Secretary Charlotte Evans, Corresponding Secretary Karen Lake, Treasurer Patricia Hatch, and Card Party Chairs Darlene Harp and Maria Walker. Bullock added that Walker is also the club's 2023 Volunteer of the

Year.

Bullock said that several years ago, as she watched many community organizations, especially those with clubhouses such as the Lions Club and the Jaycees, close their doors, she began to look at the inevitable for the Woman's Club and had many sleepless nights.

"I worried and then prayed," she recalled, "and that prayer was answered two years ago as Dana Bennett Eatmon, whose mom was also a junior back in the day, talked to me about forming another junior club."

Bullock said the new group formed and proved volunteerism is alive and well as the new group put its time, energy, and resources to work.

"I met with our board and proposed that we merge and become one and turn the leadership over to them," Bullock said. "Our board said, let's make it to a hundred. And so today, it gives me great pleasure to hand this gavel over to Brooklyn, and I challenge each one in this room to support and encourage the longevity of this club and its leadership."

Hayes-Yelin introduced the



(L-r) Woman's Club Secretary Janice Goetzman, President Brooklyn Hayes-Yelin, Past Co-president Dana Eatmon, Past President Tina Bullock, Past Co-president Tori Hersey, Senior Liaison and Rental Chair Patricia Hatch, and Vice President Heather Abrahamson. Photo: Dan Hildebran.

combined club's new board, which includes Vice President Heather Abrahamson, Past Co-presidents Tori Hersey and Dana Eatmon, Secretary Janice Goetzman, and Senior Liaison and Rental Chair Patricia Hatch.

Hayes-Yelin said the merger is not just the coming together of two groups.

"It is a fusion of legacies, values, and the collective wisdom of years gone by," she said. "As we move forward, we carry the torch of tradition while also embracing the winds of change that will propel us forward. As a club, we're very committed to our community and building upon the legacy these incredible ladies have set before us."

### Summary and outlook

Hayes-Yelin added that the younger members led the group in painting the clubhouse and cleaning the landscaping around the building.

"We've begun the daunting task of replacing our aging roof," she said. "This project will be a

huge undertaking, so we hope that you will support us."

Hayes-Yelin said the junior group had two successful festivals in 2023 and will have another one this fall.

"We had a scholarship golf tournament in April and raised enough money to give five scholarships worth \$500 each," she said. "Our goal had been two scholarships, so five was a huge accomplishment."

The club's president added that this year's scholarship golf tournament will be on March 2, with a goal of funding 10 scholarships.

"We participated in Boo on the Boulevard," Hayes-Yelin said. "Our Christmas float won first place. We had very informative, entertaining meetings from music bingo to unarmed self-defense to gardening classes."

She added that over the holidays, the group gave 12 high school students backpacks full of items they needed and some fun items as well.

"We also had a wrapping party and helped wrap lots of presents for our local holiday helpers," she said.

The president said that the organization's goals in 2024 are to continue to bring the community together and bridge the gap between generations.

"As we are now one club," she continued, "we hope to reach more women in the community and remind the community what the club is all about."

### Bullock honored

Hayes-Yelin then called Bullock back to the podium to thank the organization's golden member for her 50 years of service to the club.

"It's only fitting on today's celebration that we also dedicate the clubhouse in her honor," Hayes-Yelin said of Bullock while handing over to her a metal plaque that will be posted on the clubhouse. "She has been a guiding light, offering not only her time but also her wealth of knowledge. This space will forever be a living tribute to her legacy."

## School security, jail renovation are top projects for Clay sheriff

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
General manager

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — The assistant chief of patrol south for the Clay County Sheriff's office told a Lake Region civics group that expanding the county jail by 20% and taking over school security from the school district's police department are the top projects for his agency this year.

Jeremy Clark told the Keystone Heights Rotary Club that last year, the school board authorized Superintendent David Broskie to phase out the district's internal police force and start negotiations with Sheriff Michele Cook to take over school security.

"It's a minimum of 51 new staff that we have to hire or transfer or otherwise incorporate in order to cover it," Clark said of the additional responsibility. "And so, it's a big lift for us, and we're putting a lot of resources into it. We're standing up a whole new department within the agency that is going to manage



Jeremy Clark oversees the sheriff's office patrols for the southern part of Clay County. He was hired by Sheriff Scott Lancaster in 1999, and his jobs within the agency have included road deputy, patrol sergeant, detective, drug unit commander, and homicide investigations commander. "I'm originally from McLenney, from Baker County," he told the Keystone Heights Rotary Club. "Don't hold that against me." Photo: Dan Hildebran.

the juvenile function and the school system."

Clark added that the new

department will have its own director and administrative staff and will get support from an

assistant chief.

"We're in the process right now of getting all those resources lined up and transferring people that want to move from the current school board police over to Clay County," he said, "going through the process of transferring them over, going through the process of hiring direct hires, (and reviewing) our own internal applicants that are expressing interest in it— a lot of moving parts."

The assistant chief said the agency will be prepared to handle security for the district's 42 schools when classes begin for the 2024-2025 school year on August 5.

Clark said the agency normally increases its staff by 10 people a year, so adding five times that number is challenging.

### Jail renovation

Clark said the jail renovation project should be completed by the end of 2024 and will add 100 beds to the 27-year-old facility

with a current capacity of 500.

"Over the last decade, we've averaged a daily population of usually around 400 to 450 inmates," Clark said, "so we're usually at 80% to 90% capacity."

The assistant chief added that the jail became obsolete 15 years ago, and the agency has been propping up the facility with what he called band-aids.

Clark said a new jail is not something county commissioners were prepared to commit to, so converting the third-floor administration area

into additional inmate space was the best solution the sheriff could negotiate with county leaders.

"It's a big project," he said, "but it's a lot less expensive than a new jail. It's not a solution, but it buys us time— buys the county and the community time to manage the growth."

### Other initiatives

Clark said another project

See SHERIFF, page 7

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# UNION COUNTY

## 4-H members compete for ribbons

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Special to the Times

LAKE BUTLER — Union County 4H held its annual county events last Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, with club members presenting projects with demonstrations and illustrated talks on subjects across the scope of the activities they participate in as part of their 4H membership, as well as public speaking and a Share-the-Fun talent competition. Members (except the youngest group, the Cloverbuds, under eight when the 4H year starts) must participate in the event if they hope to show an animal at the fair. Young people were divided into four groups by age for competition, and subjects ranged from “how to incubate eggs” to “how to pickle a rabbit hide.”

Members competed singly or in teams, and many ribbons were handed out by UF IFAS 4H Extension Agent Meagan Daniel to recognize the members’ efforts. Twenty-seven residents volunteered their time to serve as judges for one or more of the competitions.

The winners and their ribbon placements were:

Public Speaking, Citizenship, and Public Service – Cadence Duniven – green Cloverbud ribbon; Cooper Gemelli – white; Brentley Blanton – blue; Huck Alvarez – blue; Preston Fischer – red; Paisley Schmitt-Theus – blue and Kamryn Hartley – red.

Healthy Living – Callen Collins and Corbin Neal – red; Naliana Hampton – red; Alayah Jefferson – red; Kalyn Reynolds – white; and Gabe McNeal – blue.

Animals (intermediates and seniors)– Ruby Hunter – white; Travis Hunter – red; Sawyer Dyal – blue; Lawson Roddenberry – blue; Lane Hartley – blue; Tinsley Moates – white; Luke Alvarez – red; Atticus Allen – blue; Ryleigh Croft – blue; Cain Addison – blue; Baler Gill – blue and Hudson Parrish – white.

Animals (juniors) – Madison Parker – red; Mandy Schaafsma – blue; Riley Pferffer – red; Brylee Gay – red; Koleson Tetstone – red; Emmy Croft – blue; Delana Barton – blue; Maddie Croft – blue; Marcus Jefferson – blue; Cadence Collins – blue; Cuyler Collins – blue and Kinzley Scott – blue.

Nature and the Outdoors – Lyle Neuhofer and Shaw Daniel – green; Everett Emery – blue; Hudson Thomas



Ryker Sellers Demonstrating How to Make Iced Coffee.



Brislyn Hamill and Kyleigh Groves Demonstrating How to Make Hydration Tea.

and Hagen Thomas – white; Braxton Johnson – blue; Landon Douglas – red; Lexi Kirby – blue; Zeke Balkin-Gainey – red and Weston Daniel and Jenson Tetstone – blue.

Communication and Expressive Art – Madison Jackson – red; Ayda McNeal – blue; Peyton Welch – red; Sadie Croft – white; Latoya Hampton – blue; Allie Salanci – white; Celia Elixson – blue and Klayton Neuhofer – blue.

Share-the-Fun – Clairabelle Martin – green; Charley Box – blue; Lola Allen – blue; Kylee Thomas – blue; Ava Lynn Thomas – blue; Clay Emery – blue; Sybil Thomas – blue; Cole Welch and Rafe Alvarez – blue; Kalli Kadlec – blue; Farrah Elixson – blue and Naomi Croft – blue.

Healthy Living 1 – Rylan Boyette – green; Ryker Sellers – green; Ryder Akins – red; Raylan Dyal – blue; and Kristen Balkin-Gainey – blue.

Healthy Living 2 – Kenna

Dicks – red; Reagan Douglas – blue; Evan Hann – blue; Grace Box – red; Kennon Willis – red and Brislyn Hamill and Kyleigh Groves – red.

Judges for the event were: Abigail Ripplinger, Alyssa Rose, Amy Simonne, Ashlyn Burke, Ashlyn Gladding, Ashton-Kara Shaw, Audyn Woodington, Becky Sharpe, Brittney McGee, Camryn Warner, Chrissie Griffiths, Christy Huntley, Elanie Mason, Eric Simonne, Holly Tucker, Jaley Moseley, Jim DeValerio, Karrie Patrick, Kellie Rhodes, Laura Park, Loren Kunze, Maegan Beatty, Marcie Tucker, Niki Shaw, Pam Williams, Pam Woodington and Reagan Robinson.

Tim Rose, Youth Pastor at Sardis Baptist Church, hosted the event, volunteered, and ran the sound system for the event.



Share-the-Fun ribbon winners were: (l-r) Naomi Croft, Farrah Elixson, Clairabelle Martin, Lola Allen, Ava Lynn Thomas, Kylee Thomas, Kalli Kadlec and Clay Emery.



Ribbon winners in Public Speaking were: (l-r) Huck Alvarez, Brentley Blanton, Paisley Schmitt-Thoms, Kamryn Hartley and Cadence Duniven.



Nature and Outdoors winners were: (back row, l-r) Everett Emery, Zeke Balkin-Gainey, Landon Douglas, Weston Daniel, Jenson Tetstone and Braxton Johnson; (front row, l-r) Hudson Thomas, Hagen Thomas, Lyle Neuhofer, Lexi Kirby and Shaw Daniel.



The winners in the Animals category were: (back row, l-r) Kinzley Scott, Maddie Croft, Marcus Jefferson, Atticus Allen, Emmy Croft, Cain Addison, Mandy Schaafsma, Delana Barton, Cadence Collins and Cuyler Collins; (front row, l-r) Sawyer Gill, Baler Gill, Lawson Roddenberry, Lane Hartley and Ryleigh Croft.



Ribbon winners in Healthy Living were: (back row, l-r) Callen Collins, Kalyn Reynolds, Naliana Hampton, Alayah Jefferson, Kenns Dirks; (front row, l-r) Ryder Akins, Brislyn Hamill, Kyleigh Groves and Grace Box.

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## County commission welcomes Jackson

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Special to the Times

LAKE BUTLER — At its regular January meeting, the Union County Board of County Commissioners welcomed its newest member, Donna Jackson, to the board. Jackson was appointed by the governor to fill Seat 1, which was left vacant by the resignation of Ryan Perez late last year. Jackson said she was happy to have been selected to finish Perez’s term and looked forward to working with the other board members to benefit the county and its citizens.

Public comment was light at the meeting, with only two people coming to the podium to speak to the board.

Asher Sullivan told the board that he was concerned about the county administration, feeling that three or four influential

people had formed a cluster, making decisions on their own. He said he would like to see the county functions quantified.

Malory Hopwell, a member and secretary of the county recreation board, told county commissioners that she was there to address allegations that Mac Johns runs the board and hand-picks the members.

She said she was an authorized check signer for the board (two signature checks) and that she had seen no evidence of any financial misappropriation. She reminded the commissioners that all the board members were volunteers, giving their time to help the county’s young people.

During the monthly financial report, Jackson asked the board to approve her motion that the finance department provide more detailed statements, including account balances and

bills. Her motion was approved unanimously.

Williams reported to the board that the advertisement for the open solid waste director had closed on Jan.3 and that there had been 12 applicants. The applicants had all been interviewed, and the top three had been selected.

Commissioner Channing Dobbs said he would like the board to meet the candidates face to face, and it was decided to call a special meeting for the board to interview them and make their pick. The meeting was set for noon on Jan. 26. Johns commented that he was unaware that the position had been advertised.

Williams also informed the board that Florida Rural County Days was coming up, Jan.24-25,

See COUNTY, 7

# Hayes takes over as city manager

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Special to the Times

LAKE BUTLER — It's official; with the contracts signed, Kimberly Hayes is the new city manager of Lake Butler and is already on the job learning her duties.

Hayes is from Bradford County but has spent most of her working life in Union. She worked with the Department of Corrections for 27 ½ years, leaving to take the position of Union County Solid Waste Director in 2018. She said she would miss her co-workers, staff, and the county commissioners, but she "saw a need and felt like she would be a good candidate (for the manager position)." She said she felt she would be an asset to help the city recover from past problems.

Hayes, 56, has been married to husband, Dale Hayes, for 30 years, and the couple has two grown children. When not working, she said she enjoys gardening, working with livestock, family time, cooking for her family, and spending time with her four grandchildren, of whom she said she was very proud.

Hayes said she knows she is facing a steep learning curve in her new position and likes it. She said she is being trained by Mayor (and former acting city manager) David Stegall, former city manager, and current Finance



**New Lake Butler City Manager Kimberly Hayes, 56, has been married to husband, Dale Hayes, for 30 years, and the couple has two grown children. When not working, she said she enjoys gardening, working with livestock, family time, cooking for her family, and spending time with her four grandchildren, of whom she said she was very proud.**

Director Dave Mecusker, and they are teaching her the ins and outs of her new position.

"I am up for the challenge," Hayes said. "All you can do is grab the bull by the horns and hang on. I am excited to help the city move forward."

# Mayor relinquishes city manager duties

Saved municipality nearly \$40,000

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Special to the Times

LAKE BUTLER — Mayor David Stegall is finally going to get some time off — after he smooths the transition for new City Manager Kim Hayes, that is.

Stegall moved to the Providence area with his family in 1977 and eventually moved to Starke. In 2010, he moved back to Lake Butler and plans to stay put.

Stegall was appointed mayor by the Lake Butler City Commission in July 2023. He was first elected to that body in 2020, holding Seat 1.

He worked in Starke for Horizon Global Americas (formerly Draw-Tite Hitch Co.). He was with the company for 27 years, the last 17 as a Distribution Center Manager. Then, the company was bought out, and the new owners downsized the operation, shutting down several distribution centers, including the one in Starke. Stegall did not want to leave the area to stay in the new company's employ, so he accepted a generous severance



**David Stegall was paid nothing by the city for his service as acting city manager. In fact, his service saved Lake Butler \$39,729, what a city manager's salary would have been for that time.**

package and determined to take a little time off since he had not taken a vacation in several years. His last day at the distribution center was April 29, 2023, and he relaxed for a couple of months, beginning his search for a new job in July. Then, the city found itself without a manager, and Stegall volunteered to fill the

position as acting city manager until one could be found — that happened on August 24, 2023. He put his job search on hold and spent the next 3 ½ months coming to city hall daily to try and help make sense of the city finances.

"It was just good luck that I was available when the city needed me," Stegall said.

Stegall's run as acting city manager ended on Jan. 18 with the first day of newly hired city manager Kimberly Hayes. For the duration of his time in the post, Stegall was paid nothing by the city — in fact, his service saved Lake Butler \$39,729, what a city manager's salary would have been for that time. He will remain in his role as mayor until July when the commission reorganizes after this year's election.

Stegall is no longer running the city daily, but at City Hall, he is still there to assist Hayes in learning the job, and he plans to stay around until he finds a job. And he also plans to continue as a public servant (as a city commissioner) after that. He brought in former city manager Dave Mecusker in late September 2023 as a temporary budget analyst while he was acting manager. In December,

Mecusker was appointed to the also-vacant finance director position.

"All the time the commission was looking for candidates, my goal was to work to create stability so the new manager coming in would walk into a smooth transition," Stegall said. "I love the city of Lake Butler and wanted to help it recover from the previous bad management it had been subjected to."

Stegall said he thought Hayes was a good fit for the manager position and was pleased that the city would continue to move forward with her at the helm. He said she would face a tight year with the budget but that the city was in good hands. He expressed his confidence in her abilities to continue to work to improve operations.

Stegall said that everyone in the city has supported his efforts. He also said he was very thankful to the staff, his fellow commissioners, and the people of Lake Butler for their understanding and confidence during his time as acting city manager.

"Everything we have done was a team effort," Stegall said, "and it took everyone to get us where we are today."

## COUNTY

Continued from page 6

at the capital in Tallahassee, and that he and two commissioners would represent Union County.

Rural County Days is an opportunity for local officials to meet with state legislators and representatives of various grant funding departments and organizations, allowing county representatives to meet these people and make the needs of their county known. In the past, these meetings have led to several appropriations and grants to the county for important projects.

The board heard a report from Johns on behalf of Fire/EMS Director Toby Witt, who was on

vacation, that Fire Coordinator Paul McDavid was resigning. He said that Witt had gotten together with the firefighters, and it was decided to elect a department member as fire chief. The firefighters selected long-time Union County volunteer Mickey Foster to serve in that capacity. Foster has decades of firefighting experience and has served as a chief in other departments.

The board also updated its committee assignments to remove Perez and add Jackson. Jackson will be filling Perez's assignments on the Brownfields Grant, Special Projects/Historic Preservation Grant, and FRDAP Grant committees and volunteering to serve on the Purchasing Policy Committee.

## Brain Bus coming to town

Free services for dementia patients and families

The Alzheimer's Brain Bus will make a stop in Bradford County on Thursday, Feb. 1, and in Union County on Monday, Feb. 19, to provide free support services to families facing Alzheimer's and other dementia. The bus will be at the Bradford County Health Department (1801 N. Temple Ave. in Starke) and at the Union County government offices (15 NE First St. in Lake Butler).

The bus will be available at the Bradford County Health Department from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and at the Union County Board of County Commissioners from 4-8 p.m. Trained staff will be onsite to help families

navigate caregiving challenges, understand steps to get an accurate diagnosis and connect to local resources. No appointment is necessary.

Alzheimer's is a type of dementia that affects memory, thinking and behavior. Symptoms eventually grow severe enough to interfere with daily tasks. Currently, 11.7% of Bradford County residents and 10.7% of Union County residents age 65 and up are living with Alzheimer's. Statewide, the number of Floridians living with Alzheimer's is projected to increase to 720,000 by 2025, a 24% increase since 2020.

Unique to Florida, the Brain Bus program is managed by the Alzheimer's Association Florida chapters and funded in partnership with the Department of Elder Affairs and Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas.

For more information, including upcoming programs and support groups, call 800-272-3900 or visit alz.org/CNFL.

## Dinner and assistance for landowners

A multiagency event will showcase assistance for landowners in Baker, Bradford, Clay and Union counties as well as surrounding areas.

Programs for technical help, best management practices, conservation and more will be highlighted by the USDA/NRCS, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, UF/IFAS Extension and others.

Representatives will be on-hand to discuss available programs. The event will be held Thursday, Feb. 15, at 6 p.m. at the Gov. Charley E. Johns Conference Center in Starke. Dinner provided thanks to the

Clay County Farm Bureau and Toro Ag. Space is limited: RSVP by calling UF/IFAS Extension Bradford County at 904-966-6299

## Shrove Tuesday at St. Mark's

St. Mark's Episcopal Church at 212 N. Church St. in Starke will hold its annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Feb. 13 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Donations of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 4 to 11, children 3 and under eat free. Donations are used for outreach and programs.

## SHERIFF

Continued from page 5

underway now is acquiring a rapid DNA machine that will allow the office to analyze DNA from arrestees rather than sending samples to a Florida Department of Law Enforcement lab, which is the current practice.

"It's a new technology with a very expensive machine that we can put in our jail that allows us to process the samples in real-time on-site and then upload the data directly to the database," he said. "We get immediate results, instant results where we can get that DNA checked against evidence that's been collected or can be checked against warrants or flags in the system."

Clark said that now, because of the time lag in processing the cheek swabs, arrestees could be released that should be kept in custody.

"So, if we had a suspect who was wanted for murder in another state and got arrested on a minor crime here and nobody knows about it," the chief said, "he may

be out of jail on the minor crime before the old way of doing DNA would come back."

Clark added that the Clay County Sheriff's Office is one of four agencies in Florida that received a grant for the new technology.

"So, it's not costing the county a dime, and we just have to put it in, train on it, come up with some policies, and start using it," he said.

## Trust and transparency

Clark said the office is also working to improve communication between the agency and community, especially about jail programs that reduce recidivism and increase the probability that inmates will be successful after release.

"We have a lot of programs within the jail aimed at our sentenced inmates, to keep them from getting back into the system, whether that is education, vocational skills, or getting them

off of drugs, alcohol or other addictions," he said. "We spend money on it, we put people in place to work on it, and we get quite a bit of success out of it, but largely, no one knows about it."

Clark said his agency enjoys a trusting and open relationship with the community, and Sheriff Cook wants to keep it that way.

He added that other law enforcement agencies across the country do not have a good relationship with their constituents.

"It runs the gamut from distrust to downright despisement," he said. "I mean, they just can't stand each other and do not work together to make the community better for everybody. That's not Clay County. It has never been, and we don't ever want it to be that. So, we are very, very guarded about our relationship with our community, and it has to remain one of our priorities."

Clark said the key to retaining trust is following the basics of respecting others.

"It means being transparent as much as we can, making sure that every member of the

organization at every level, from the lowest deputy to the most seasoned leader, listens to the people in the community, takes their concerns seriously, and follows up, returns phone calls," he said. "Whatever it is, if it's important to someone, then it needs to be important to us."

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# Crime

## Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

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

### Bradford

Brianna Roshae Aaron, 33, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 24 for fleeing and eluding, possession of drugs and possession of drug equipment.

Steven Alexander, 61, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 21 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Edward Lee Blocker, 57, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 24 for a probation violation.

Lindsey Maria Brown, 27, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 20 for DUI.

Shannon Lafaith Butler, 26, of Starke was arrested by Starke Police on January 23 for failure to appear.

Shelley Cain Byrne, 61, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 20 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Micheal Antonio Carter, 21, of Holiday was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 20 for possession of marijuana.

Timothy Lee Conrad, 56, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 25 for child cruelty, and battery.

Shawn Lee Costello, 49, of Kingsland, Georgia, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 20 for DUI and driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Branden Gene Cox, 43, of Hampton was arrested by Bradford deputies on January

23 for possession of drugs, possession of drug equipment, resisting an officer, and a probation violation.

Wayne Douglas Crawford, 46, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 24 for possession of drugs, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, sexual assault, and delivering or distributing drugs.

Tracie Lee Dielmann, 56, of Fleming Island was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 20 for DUI.

Christopher Claude Gill, 38, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 25 for being an out-of-state fugitive.

Antwan Laquie Green, 37, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 20 for possession of marijuana and a weapons offense.

Fernando Hernandez, 45, of Brooker was arrested by Starke Police on January 22 for an out-of-county warrant.

Eric Shawn Douglas Holzapple, 29, of Middleburg was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 24 for possession of drugs.

Kirstyn Jade Key, 24, of Raiford was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 24 for possession of cocaine, possession of drugs, and possession of drug equipment.

Cynthia Marie Lavery, 56, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 20 for burglary and aggravated battery.

Christopher Ryan Lee, 31, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 25 for a probation violation.

Jonathan Ricardo Monteagudo-Amaya, 30, of Bradenton was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 20 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Gerald Wyman Starling, 47, of Glen St. Mary was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 25 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Jermain Ashford Strong, 42, of Starke was arrested by Bradford

deputies on January 20 for an out-of-county warrant.

Peyton Toni Westfall, 25, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 20 for an out-of-county warrant.

Brandon Race Williams, 34, of St. Cloud was arrested by FHP troopers on January 22 for DUI.

Francisco Zamora Reyes, 33, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 20 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

### Union

Gregory S. Barton, 39, of Baker County was arrested by Union deputies on January 26 for a probation violation.

Wesley Harold Lewis, 55, of Raiford was arrested by Union deputies on January 26 for possession of drugs, selling methamphetamine, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Tara L. West, 34, of Raiford was arrested by Union deputies on January 26 for possession of drugs.

### Clay

Sean Francis Anest, 30, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay Deputies on January 21 for possession of a controlled substance without a prescription and possession of drug equipment.

Erika Dawn Epps, 42, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on January 25 for battery on a person 65 years or older, child abuse, and domestic battery.

Liliane Marie Chapman, 59, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on January 23 for domestic battery.

DeAngelo Ruben Perez, 27, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on January 22 for criminal mischief and obstructing justice.

## Lane change puts Starke man in retention pond

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
General manager

STARKE — The Florida Highway Patrol said a Starke man was sent to a hospital with critical injuries after a Middleburg crash.

According to an FHP report, the 57-year-old man was traveling southbound on State Road 21 Near County Road 18 when he sideswiped a sport utility vehicle while trying to change lanes. His van collided with a utility pole and then went into the retention pond, submerging his vehicle.

FHP reported that Clay deputies extracted the man from the pond after the Thursday, January 25 incident. The driver of the other vehicle, a 33-year-old woman, and an accompanying 3-year-old girl were not injured.

## Deputies say 16-year-old kidnapped, beaten

STARKE — Bradford deputies arrested two men and a woman after they said the trio kidnapped a 16-year-old at gunpoint and beat the victim unconscious while looking for a car thief.

Leroi Lamont Luzunaris, 47, of Jacksonville, Tiescha Latrese Mitchell, 35, of Starke, and Donnie Risby, 64, of Starke, were arrested for kidnapping and aggravated battery.

According to court papers, the victim told deputies that on January 8, he was walking on Starke's Estelle Street near Dell Street when a gray vehicle approached him, and Mitchell and Luzunaris exited the car.

"According to (the victim)," wrote Detective Zachary Jones in a complaint, "Leroi pulled a handgun and demanded he get into the vehicle."

The victim added that the pair took him to a residence on Lamar Street where Luzunaris, Mitchell, and Risby beat him with a tire iron, fists, feet, and possibly a handgun.

The victim reported that he began to drift in and out of consciousness, and a third party called law enforcement and emergency medical services to get him assistance.

Jones added that surveillance footage provided to investigators show Luzunaris and Mitchell in a gray vehicle, talking about finding a car they believed the victim stole.

"In another clip," wrote the detective, "you can see the vehicle on Estelle Street and see several individuals get out of the vehicle and then can see what appears to be those same individuals forcing another individual into the vehicle."

## Man flees accident, escapes from handcuffs

STARKE — A 30-year-old Starke man was sentenced to 120 days in jail after pleading to leaving the scene of an accident.

Luke Paul Fluder also pleaded to driving with a suspended or revoked license and resisting an officer.

According to an arrest report, the victim told deputies that she swerved into a turn lane on U.S. 301 to avoid rear-ending a car stopped at a traffic signal on the four-lane, and a blue Mazda struck her Dodge Challenger as the driver of the Mazda attempted to avoid the same car the victim steered clear of.

The victim added that she and Fluder had a verbal altercation about the crash, and as she was calling 911, the defendant left the scene. The victim followed Fluder to the State Road 16 exit on the Starke Bypass, where she left the expressway and waited for law enforcement.

Lawtey police stopped the defendant at U.S. 301 and County Road 121.

A Bradford deputy reported that while transporting the defendant to the jail, Fluder slipped out of his handcuffs. After the officer stopped and put the restraints back on the defendant, the 30-year-old initially refused to re-enter the deputy's patrol car.

## Knocked man out, ran over his legs

STARKE — A 35-year-old Starke man was arrested after witnesses claimed he knocked a man out on the roadway, ran over the victim's legs, and tried to strike the witnesses with his vehicle.

David Carlos Johnson was arrested for three counts of aggravated assault.

According to an arrest report, the two witnesses said they saw the victim and Johnson arguing in the middle of Southeast 125th Street and then saw the defendant hit the victim, rendering him unconscious.

"David and an unknown female, who was a passenger in the vehicle, picked (the victim) up and placed him in the listed vehicle," wrote Deputy Jared Mallard in the report. "The vehicle proceeded to leave the area with the door open, causing the victim to fall out of the vehicle, running over (the victim's) legs."

The witnesses said that when Johnson stopped, they intervened, yelled at the defendant, and tried to aid the victim.

"David entered his vehicle, drove up the roadway, and made a U-turn," reported Mallard. "(The two witnesses) observed the vehicle make a U-turn, so they attempted to remove (the victim) from the roadway. During this time, David accelerated his vehicle and drove directly at the victims."

Mallard added that the two witnesses had to quickly remove the victim from the roadway to avoid being hit, and they believe Johnson intended to strike them with his vehicle.

Mallard wrote that he later made contact with the defendant, who appeared to be intoxicated. He added that home surveillance cameras recorded the incident.

## Probation for \$100k bad check

STARKE — A former Bradford political candidate was sentenced to five years' probation and ordered to pay \$105,000 in restitution after pleading to writing a \$100,000 bad check.

In July, deputies arrested Storm Zedra Hamilton, 30, of Starke for two counts of fraud-insufficient funds check.

According to a sworn complaint, one victim and her attorney contacted Bradford Sheriff's Detective Michael Garmon on Aug. 15, 2022, claiming that the defendant persuaded the Wellington, Florida victim to invest \$100,000 in exchange for a one percent

stake in Eastern MedWaste, Hamilton's upstart biomedical waste management business.

"After several months had passed with no dividends being received by (the victim) from Eastern MedWaste, she texted Storm in hopes of getting some clarification," wrote Garmon. "After receiving several text messages which appeared to be non-committal on Storm's behalf, (the victim) requested a full refund of the money she invested."

The investigator added that after several more months, the victim received a \$100,000 check from Hamilton, but when she attempted to deposit the negotiable instrument at a credit union, she was told there were not enough funds to cover the check.

In the second count, Bradford Union Cattle Show and Sale officers claimed the defendant wrote a worthless check for \$5,510.97 on Sept. 20, 2022.

Prosecutors dropped the charge associated with the cattle show check.

In a probation order, Circuit Judge James M. Colaw ordered the defendant to deliver a \$15,000 cashier's check to the Department of Corrections for the victim within 10 business days of sentencing and ordered him to pay \$1,500 a month for the 60 months of his supervision period.

In a letter to the judge, the victim wrote that Hamilton presented a fraudulent business opportunity to her, used a federal agent as his supposed business partner, exploited the credentials of a legitimate business, claiming a merger that never existed, and deceitfully told her he had invested a significant amount of his own money in the enterprise.

She said that the defendant gave her the runaround for two years while she tried to recover her money.

"I watched Mr. Hamilton lead a life of luxury—a lavish wedding, extravagant holidays, and a seemingly endless stream of luxuries," she wrote, "all while I struggled to make ends meet."

In 2020, the defendant ran for the open seat of Bradford's Supervisor of Elections following the retirement of Terry Vaughan.

Hamilton, running with no party affiliation, lost to Republican Amanda Seyfang in the Nov. 3 general election, garnering 22% of the vote.

## License plate reader snags shoplifting defendant

STARKE—Police used store video and a license plate reader on the Starke Bypass to identify a man accused of stealing a television and microwave from Walmart.

Kevin Aurther Ratliff, 36, of Melrose, was arrested on December 28 for the February 25 offense of grand theft.

According to a warrant affidavit, a Walmart loss prevention officer told police that a white male left the retailer through the garden exit with stolen merchandise, including a Samsung television and a microwave.

The store employee provided Officer Jarred Altman with a video of the incident and a photo from which the officer could identify the make and model of the suspect's vehicle, along with the first three characters of the Ford Expedition's license plate.

Altman wrote in the report that he asked a sheriff's office deputy to access the data from a license plate reader station at the south end of the bypass and search for a vehicle matching the description of the suspected getaway car. The search yielded a 1997 Ford Expedition belonging to the defendant passing the reader minutes after the theft.

"I ran Kevin Ratliff's Florida driver's license, and based on his driver's license photo compared to the video footage from Walmart, I was able to determine that Kevin Ratliff was the suspect in the shoplifting," wrote Altman. "Kevin Ratliff also has a Florida inmate release status for trafficking in stolen property."

The officer added that the value of the stolen merchandise totaled \$1,096.55.



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# KHHS girls repeat as district weightlifting champs

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Paige Harrington won two championships, while Chloe Still won one in helping the Keystone Heights High School girls weightlifting team claim both traditional and Olympic trophies for the second straight year at the District 6-1A meet, which was hosted by KHHS on Jan. 26.

The Indians won the Olympic team championship with a score of 57, which put them two points ahead of Baldwin. Keystone and Baldwin each had 42 points to finish as co-champions of the traditional event.

Harrington topped the 183-pound class in both events. She had a snatch of 105 and a clean and jerk of 140 to finish with a 245 total in the Olympic event. Her bench press of 120, when paired with her clean-and-jerk total, gave her an overall total of 260 in the traditional event.

The traditional event also saw Still win the 139 class with a 280 total. She had a bench press of 145 and a clean and jerk of 135.

Still also had a snatch of 85, which helped her finish as the runner-up in her class in the Olympic event.

Class champions automatically qualified for the Region 2 meet, which will be held Saturday, Feb. 3, at 11 a.m. at Chiefland High School.

Still will compete in the Olympic event at the Region 2 meet after earning an at-large bid. She was one of 12 Keystone lifters to receive Olympic at-large bids, joining Cadie Bowles, Alivia Richardson, Madison Sapp, Kourtney Marsh, Bella Parmeter, Ashlyn Brown, Kenly Chitty, Morgan Wilson, Raegan Lee, Lily Mitchell and Ava Herman.

The Indians had nine receive traditional at-large bids: Bowles, Brown, Chitty, Herman, Lee, Marsh, Mitchell, Richardson and Wilson.

## 15 lifters earn Olympic points

Lifters placing in the top six earned points toward Keystone's team score. The Indians had 13 lifters besides Harrington and Still earn points in the Olympic event.

Still was just one of five Olympic runners-up, with Bowles, Marsh, Brown and Mitchell also earning second-place finishes. Bowles had a 145 total (60 snatch, 85 clean and jerk) in the 101 class, while Marsh had a 185 total (75, 110) in the 119 class. Brown had a 245 total (115, 130) in the 154 class, while Mitchell was runner-up to Harrington in the 183 class with a 200 total (85, 115).

Marsh finished in a tie with Eastside's Lacy Liddie, who was awarded third place due to the weigh-in tiebreaker.

Four lifters earned third-place finishes: Richardson with a 140 total (60, 80) in the 101 class, Sapp with a 160 total (65, 95) in the 110 class, Chitty with a 230 total (95, 135) in the 154 class and Wilson with a 205 total (85, 120) in the 169 class.

Lee was fourth in the 169 class with a 185 total (80, 105), while Jaden Fernandez and Herman earned fifth-place finishes. Fernandez had a 135 total (55, 80) in the 110 class, while Herman had a 225 total (90, 135) in the unlimited class.

Fernandez was 15 pounds shy of advancing to the Region 2 meet as an at-large qualifier.

Parmeter and Trista Harrison also earned points with sixth-place finishes. Parmeter had a 155 total (65, 90) in the 119 class, while Harrison had a 175 total (75, 100) in the 129 class.

Harrison was 5 pounds away from receiving an at-large bid to the Region 2 meet.

Also competing were Shelby Wilson, who had a seventh-place total of 160 (65, 95) in the 129 class, and Dakota Herring, who had a seventh-place total of 210 (90, 120) in the unlimited class.

Herring was 5 pounds away from advancing to the Region 2 meet, while Wilson fell 15 pounds short.

## 12 earn points in traditional event

Besides Harrington and Still, 10 lifters earned points for the



Paige Harrington competes in the clean and jerk. She won the Olympic and traditional championships in the 183-pound class.



The Keystone Heights High School girls weightlifting team poses for a photo with the District 6-1A Olympic championship trophy. The Indians were also co-champs in the traditional event. Photos by Cliff Smelley.



Chloe Still competes in the bench press, lifting her way to the championship in the 139-pound class in the traditional event and a runner-up finish in the Olympic event.

Indians in the traditional event, including Mitchell, who was the runner-up to Harrington in the 183 class with a 255 total (140 bench press, 115 clean and jerk).

Bowles and Chitty earned third-place finishes. Bowles had a 165 total (80, 85), while Chitty had a 245 total (110, 135).

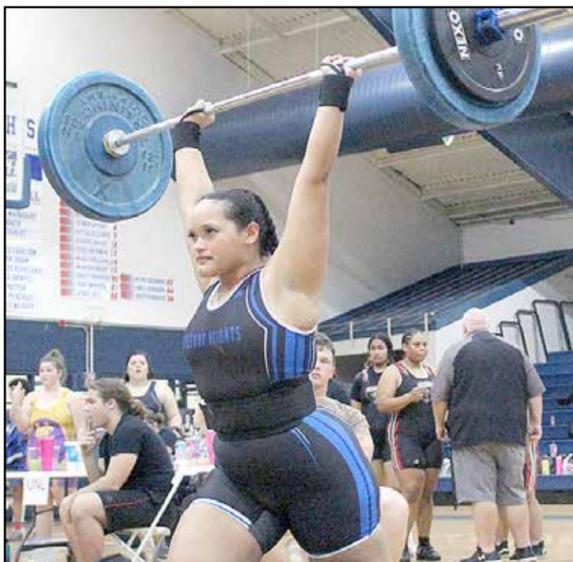
Three lifters placed fourth: Richardson with a 145 total (65, 80), Brown with a 240 total (110, 130) and Morgan Wilson with a 245 total (125, 120).

Other lifters who earned points were Marsh with a fifth-place total of 200 (90, 110), Herman with a fifth-place total of 280 (145, 135), Fernandez with a sixth-place total of 145 (65, 80) and Lee with a sixth-place total of 230 (125, 105).

Also competing were Shelby Wilson, who had an eighth-place total of 185 (90, 95), and Herring, who had an eighth-place total of 240 (120, 120).



Cadie Bowles competes in the snatch. She was the runner-up in the 101-pound class in the Olympic event and placed third in the traditional event.



Lily Mitchell competes in the clean and jerk. She was the runner-up in the 183-pound class in both the Olympic and traditional events



Kenly Chitty competes in the snatch. She placed third in the 154-pound class in both the Olympic and traditional events.

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# BHS, UCHS each have 1 champ at District 6-1A meet

**Blankenship wins 119 class, will be joined by 5 teammates at the Region 2 meet**

**BY CLIFF SMELLEY**  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bradford High School's Rylie Blankenship won a championship for the second straight year at the District 6-1A girls weightlifting meet, which was held Jan. 26 at Keystone Heights High School.

As a champion, Blankenship qualified for the Region 2 meet, which will be held Saturday, Feb. 3, at 11 a.m. at Chiefland High School.

Blankenship won the 119-pound class with an overall total of 240, which was 40 pounds better than the total she had in winning the 110 class at last year's district meet.

In the clean and jerk, Blankenship missed her first attempt of 115. She tried again successfully on her second attempt. Blankenship then made a 10-pound jump, which resulted in her having the best clean-and-jerk total in the class by 15 pounds.

Blankenship also made a 10-pound jump in the bench press, going from 105 to 115.

She finished in first place by 10 pounds.

Five Bradford lifters were at-large Region 2 qualifiers: Brianna Brooks, Kellsie Cochran, Raelynn Moore, Blakeleigh Smith and Addison Thornton.

Thornton placed third in the 199 class with a 130 bench press and a 120 clean and jerk, giving her a 250 total. That earned her a medal at the District 6 meet.

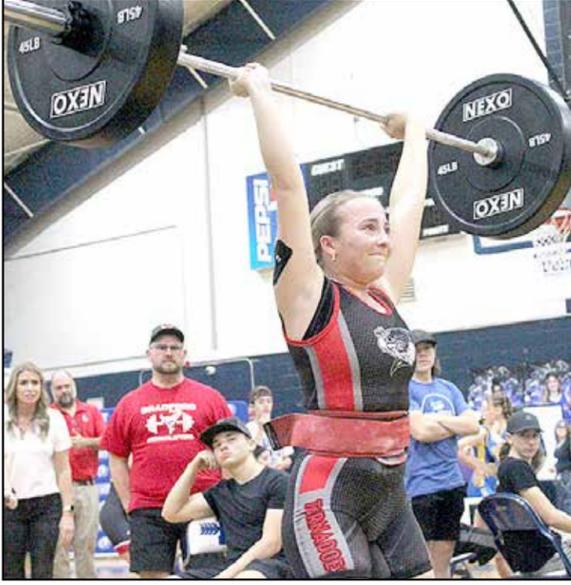
Brooks and Moore just missed out on earning medals, which were awarded to the top three in each class. Moore had a fourth-place total of 205 (100 bench press, 105 clean and jerk) in the 119 class, while Brooks had a fourth-place total of 290 (165, 125) in the unlimited class.

Lifters placing in the top six earned points toward their team score. Bradford, which was tied for sixth out of nine teams, also got points from Smith, who was fifth in the 154 class with a total of 235 (120, 115).

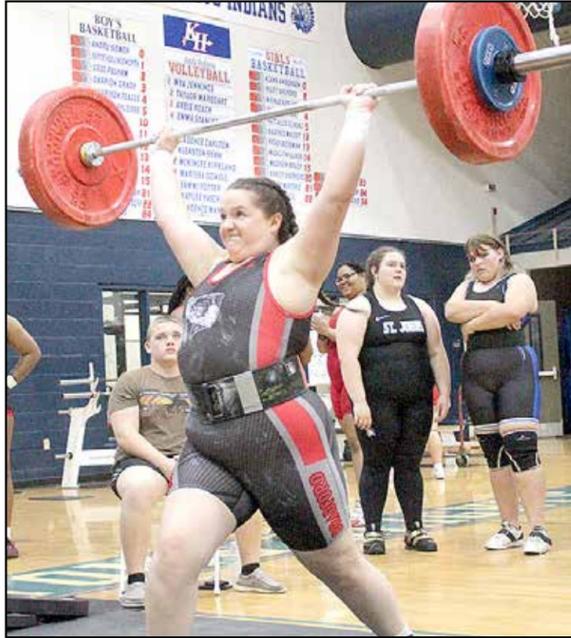
Cochran just missed out on adding to the team score, placing seventh in the 169 class with a 220 total (115, 105).

Also recording official results for the Tornados were Aliyah Pueschel, who had an eighth-place total of 205 (105, 100) in the 169 class, Kadynce Brown, who had a ninth-place total of 165 (90, 75) in the 129 class and Mallory Frazier, who had a 10th-place total of 170 (80, 90) in the 139 class.

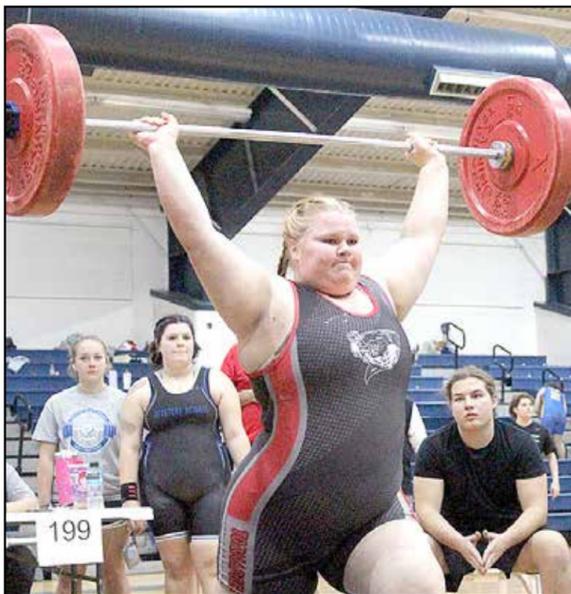
Pueschel fell 15 pounds shy of earning an at-large Region 2 berth.



**Rylie Blankenship cleans and jerks 125 pounds, which helped her win the championship in the 119-pound class by 20 pounds. Photos by Cliff Smelley.**



**Addison Thornton competes in the clean and jerk. She placed third in the 199 class.**



**Brianna Brooks lifts her way to a fourth-place finish in the unlimited class. Like her teammate Rylie Blankenship, she is advancing to regional competition for the second straight year.**

**Cyr wins 169 class, will be joined by 5 teammates at the Region 2 meet**

**BY CLIFF SMELLEY**  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Alexia Cyr won her weight class, while Riley Gibson and Holly Halfacre were runners-up for Union County High School at the District 6-1A girls weightlifting meet, which was held Jan. 26 at Keystone Heights High School.

The district champions automatically qualified for the Region 2 meet, which will be held Saturday, Feb. 3, at 11 a.m. at Chiefland High School. Cyr earned the right to advance in the 169-pound class, which she won with an overall total of 285 pounds.

Cyr finished in a tie with Newberry's Dalia Johnson, but was awarded the championship because of the weigh-in tiebreaker. Johnson was better in the clean and jerk with a best total of 150 to Cyr's 125, but Cyr came back and bested Johnson in the bench press. She started out at 150, which was 15 pounds better than Johnson's best attempt. Cyr would go on to then do 155 and then 160 on her final attempt.

Gibson and Halfacre will compete at the Region 2 meet as well after receiving at-large bids. The Tigers also had three other at-large qualifiers: Tai Allen, Emma Handley and Briena Haight.

Halfacre had an overall total of 185 in the 110 class, which tied her with Sofia Conde of St. Johns Country Day. Conde was awarded the championship due to the weigh-in tiebreaker.

Conde and Halfacre each finished with a 100 total in the clean and jerk. They both did 80 and 85 on their first two bench-press attempts before each missed a final attempt at 90.

Gibson took second in the 119 class with a total of 230, finishing 10 pounds behind champion Rylie Blankenship of Bradford. Gibson finished with a 110 total in the clean and jerk. In the bench press, she was unsuccessful on her first two attempts, but got her final attempt of 120, which was the best total in the class.

Allen and Haight received medals, which were awarded to the top three lifters in each class. Allen had a third-place total of 215 (105 bench press, 110 clean and jerk) in the 129 class, while Haight had a third-place total of 275 (150, 125) in the 169 class.

Allen had the same total as Santa Fe's Destiny McBroom, but placed ahead of her with the weigh-in tiebreaker.

The Tigers finished in a tie for third place with Newberry. Each team had 26 points to finish behind co-champions Keystone and Baldwin, who each had 42 points.

Handley also contributed to Union's team score (the top six



**Alexia Cyr competes in the clean and jerk in the 169-pound class, which she won. Photos by Cliff Smelley.**



**Holly Halfacre (left) is pictured with St. Johns Country Day's Sofia Conde. They each had a 185-pound total to top the 110-pound class, but Halfacre was the runner-up to Conde due to the weigh-in tiebreaker.**



**Riley Gibson competes in the bench press as she finished as runner-up in the 119 class.**

lifters earned points). She had a sixth-place total of 190 (95, 95) in the 119 class.

Three Union lifters placed seventh: Layla Barber with a 195 total (90, 105) in the 129 class, Hayden Andersen-Davis with a 195 total (95, 100) in the 139 class and Gracie Manning with a 175 total (90, 85) in the 154 class.

Also competing for the Tigers were Addison Wright, who had a ninth-place total of 175 (80, 95) in the 139 class, and Tifton Roseke, who had a 10th-place total of 210 (110, 100) in the unlimited class.



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# BMS girls, LBMS boys are SMAC basketball runners-up

**Tornadoes put together late runs, but come up short, 31-26**

**BY CLIFF SMELLEY**  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bradford Middle School put together runs of 10-3 and 10-4, but couldn't overtake Williston in the end, losing 31-26 in the championship game of the Suwannee Middle Athletic Conference girls basketball tournament on Jan. 25 in Keystone Heights.

The second seed Red Devils never trailed and led by as many as 17 in the second half.

Bradford, the top seed, struggled to start the game, committing eight turnovers in the first quarter and falling behind 11-0. It wasn't until 30 seconds remained in the six-minute quarter that the Tornadoes got on the board, thanks to Cayson Hampton stealing an inbound pass underneath the Williston basket and sinking a jump shot.

Takayla Barnes made a jump shot to make the score 13-4 early in the second quarter. The Devils scored two straight baskets, including one off a turnover, before Barnes made another basket that left Bradford trailing 17-6.

The Tornadoes were 0 for 8 from the foul line in the first half as they went into the break trailing 19-6.

A three-point basket early in the third quarter helped Williston go up by 16. Bradford then put together a 10-3 run that extended into the fourth quarter. Hampton made two baskets to start the run, while Elaina Smith made two free throws at the end of the third quarter after the Tornadoes had missed their first 12 attempts from the foul line.



**Cayson Hampton drives to the basket. Photo by Cliff Smelley.**

Wynter Barrington scored off a Hampton assist to start the fourth quarter. Williston made two free throws to go up 25-14 before Barrington scored again, this time off a Barnes assist.

Barrington scored eight points in the fourth quarter. She had the first two points in a 10-4 run that closed out the game.

Two free throws by Jayda Sambolah made it a 27-20 game with 2:16 to play. After Williston made a free throw, Hampton grabbed an offensive rebound and scored to make it a six-point game at the 1:37 mark.

Each team missed two field-goal attempts before the Devils finally put a shot in with 46 seconds remaining. Hampton scored on a drive to the basket with 20 seconds remaining to make the score 30-24. Sambolah then stole the ensuing inbound pass, which led to a basket by Barrington.

The Devils made a free throw with a second left in the game to cap the scoring.

Hampton led the Tornadoes with 10 points, while Barrington finished with eight.

**Tigers cut into deficit late, but lose 57-51 to top seed Williston**

**BY CLIFF SMELLEY**  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Tyrese Chandler scored 14 of his team-high 22 points in the second half and helped Lake Butler Middle School make things interesting late before the Tigers eventually lost 57-51 to Williston in the championship game of the Suwannee Middle Athletic Conference boys basketball tournament on Jan. 25 in Keystone Heights.

The second seed Tigers rallied from trailing by 14 points, but could never overtake the top seed Red Devils, who led the entire game.

Williston scored six of the game's first eight points, but a Jackson Andersen-Davis offensive rebound led to a basket by A.J. Chandler, who was also fouled on the play. Chandler made the awarded free throw to pull Lake Butler to within 6-5.

Baskets by Andersen-Davis and Garrison Smith (off his own steal) helped the Tigers make it a one-point game, but the Devils would take a five-point lead into the second quarter.

Lake Butler missed five of its first six field-goal attempts of the second quarter as Williston build a double-digit lead. Cadenz Merriex scored off an A.J. Chandler steal to get the margin back into single digits, but the Tigers committed six turnovers in the quarter as the Devils managed to stay in front by eight to 12 points.

Tyrese Chandler scored off an offensive rebound to make it 27-17 with 1:16 left in the first half. He scored again following a Williston turnover to send Lake Butler into the break trailing by eight.

The Tigers' first five points of the third quarter were scored by Tyrese Chandler. He then recorded an assist on a basket by A.J. Chandler, which made it a



**Tyrese Chandler (right) drives to the basket in the second quarter. Photo by Cliff Smelley.**

34-26 game. Another basket by Tyrese Chandler cut Williston's lead to six.

Andersen-Davis scored after receiving a court-length pass from Tyrese Chandler, who rebounded a Williston miss, making the score 36-30. Williston then scored four straight baskets, three of which followed turnovers.

The Devils led 44-30 when the Tigers went on an 11-3 run, which carried over into the fourth quarter. Merriex, after Tyrese Chandler blocked a shot on the defensive end, made two free throws to start the run, while Williston went 0 for 6 at the foul line to close out the third quarter.

Andersen-Davis scored the first points of the fourth quarter on a layup, which was set up by a Smith assist. A.J. Chandler, after a Williston free throw, made two attempts from the foul line to make the score 45-39.

Tyrese Chandler answered a Williston basket with one of his

own, which left the Tigers trailing 47-41 with 3:27 remaining.

Williston scored five straight points, including two off a field goal that followed a turnover. Tyrese Chandler got an opportunity at the foul line and made 1 of 2 attempts. He then returned to the foul line after a Williston turnover, making both attempts for a 52-44 score.

After Williston went 1 of 2 from the foul line with 1:04 left, A.J. Chandler sank two free throws, making the score 53-46.

The Devils went up by nine after making two free throws, but Lake Butler's Aiden Mitchell drained a three-point shot to make it 55-49.

Lake Butler then missed three straight field-goal attempts before Tyrese Chandler scored the final points of the game.

A.J. Chandler finished with 11 points for the Tigers, who also got six from Andersen-Davis, five from Smith, four from Merriex and three from Mitchell.

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# Obituaries

## Lynn Crossway

Lynn "Gator Bait" Crossway, 66, of Lawtey passed away at his home unexpectedly on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Red Dog Saloon.

Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 620 E. Nona St., Starke 32091. 904-964-6200. www.jonesgallagherfh.com.

## Deloris Dicks

Deloris Ann Dicks, 82, passed away Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, at the North Florida Regional Medical Center. She was born on May 10, 1941, in Lawtey to the late William Theodore and Martha Ann Brannen. She built a beautiful life alongside her husband, Laurie Floyd Dicks, and worked tirelessly to support their shared dreams. She embraced her role as a dedicated homemaker while also actively engaging in the success of her husband's airplane business. She possessed an extraordinary talent for cooking and took pride in creating mouthwatering dishes from scratch. Her family always delighted in the delicious meals she prepared with love. Alongside her culinary skills, she was a skillful seamstress whose nimble fingers brought countless projects to life. From sewing intricate quilts and Christmas crafts to canning vegetables from her bountiful garden, she poured her heart into everything she set out to accomplish. She also found solace within her faith community at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Her strong devotion led her to actively participate in various church callings and activities and lend a helping hand wherever it was needed. The church became not only a place of worship but a second home where she found comfort, friendship, and endless opportunities to serve others. She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Martha Ann Brannen; two brothers; and eight sisters.

She will be deeply missed by her husband of 67 years, Laurie Floyd Dicks; her children, Gary (Pam) Dicks, Tommy (Erin) Dicks, James (Reene) Dicks, Mark (Julie) Dicks, and Lori Ann (Barry) Todd; 17 grandchildren and 41 great-grandchildren; her brother, Theodore Brannen; and a host of nieces and nephews.

A service to honor her will be held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Lake Butler. Visitation will take place from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 2, followed by a funeral service starting at 11 a.m. She will be laid to rest immediately following the service at Oak Grove Cemetery.

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



PAID OBITUARY

## Mary Fitts

Mary Brooks Fitts, 82, of Melrose passed away on Friday, Jan. 26, 2024. She was born in Live Oak and moved to Melrose in 1983 from Winter Haven. She was of the Baptist faith.

She is survived by her husband of 41 years, David L. Fitts of Melrose; son, Craig Woodham of Live Oak; stepsons, Randy Woodham of Tampa, David L. (Brenda) Fitts Jr. of Hartford, Alabama, Jeff (Paula) Fitts of Keystone Heights; brother, Johnny Brooks of Live Oak; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

There was a visitation held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 30, at Daniels Memorial Chapel with a service following at 2 p.m. with Rev. Jackie Carmiche officiating. Interment was held at the Live Oak Cemetery. Please keep the family in your prayers and sign the online guestbook at [www.danielsfuneralhome.com](http://www.danielsfuneralhome.com)

Daniels Funeral Homes & Crematory, Live Oak and Branford was in charge of all arrangements.



PAID OBITUARY

## Austin Fitzgerald

Austin Douglas Fitzgerald, 30, of Jacksonville passed away on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024. He was born in Jacksonville on July 5, 1993, to Elizabeth Denise Turner and the late William Don Fitzgerald. He was a resident of Keystone Heights the majority of his life and relocated to Jacksonville in 2021. After graduating Keystone Heights High School in 2011, he started his longtime career in sales. He was a sales agent at Comcast and Culligan for many years. His passion was music and he loved playing his guitar and having jam sessions with family and friends. He loved life, lived to the fullest and found great joy in the simple things in life. He was most proud to be a father and he loved his son more than anything. He was treasured by many. His legacy will live on through his family and friends, and he will be forever missed. He was preceded in death by his father, William Don Fitzgerald; and maternal grandfather, Herbert Turner.

He is survived by his mother, Denise (Gary) Proctor of Interlachen; son, Myles Fitzgerald of Jacksonville; brother, William "Scott" (Tabitha) Fitzgerald of Keystone Heights; sister, Kaitlyn Johnson of Starke; maternal grandmother, Ruth Turner of Macclenny; nieces, Rylin, Arizona, Sutherlyn, and Magnolia-Mae; nephew, Martin; and many stepsiblings, aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Feb. 3, at 11 a.m. at Northside Baptist Church with Pastor Joey Hay officiating. The family will receive friends an hour prior at the church.

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](http://www.ferreirafuneralservices.com) to sign the family's guest book.

PAID OBITUARY



## William V. Lunn

William "Bill" Vastine Lunn passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024, in Highland at the age of 99. He was born in Payne, Ohio, on May 13, 1924. He was the son of the late Frank "Doc" Lunn and Cora Lewis Lunn and a brother to his 10 siblings.

He married the love of his life, Betty Overton Lunn, on Sept. 8, 1951. He was in the Marines; therefore, they lived in many cities before settling down in Highland. They had four beautiful children together, Kathleen Mitchell, Linda Lee, Karen Lunn, and William Lunn. He proudly served in the United States Marine Corps.

He enlisted in the Marines on Nov. 27, 1942, and completed his basic training in San Diego, California. He served in World War II (amphibious recon) in the Pacific and the Korean War (aerial photograph interpreter). He received many service ribbons and awards during his military career. He retired on Feb. 1, 1975, as a Staff Sergeant.

He was passionate about education. After World War II, he returned to Payne, Ohio and earned his high school diploma in 1947. He would always encourage his grandchildren and great-grandchildren to make good grades and was happy to reward them. He was a proud father of an Army veteran and grandfather of a Marine. He encouraged his other grandsons to join the Marines frequently. He was known for his storytelling. If you sat with him for more than a few minutes, you were going to hear a story about the pranks he pulled on his siblings, his friends in the military, how he met the love of his life, and many other topics. He was agitating people for fun when he was not telling a story. He also enjoyed fishing and watching sports. He was an avid fan of the Ohio State Buckeyes and New York Yankees.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Karen Lunn; six brothers, Lewis Lunn, Pete Lunn, Bud Lunn, Frank Lunn, Carl Lunn, and Paul Lunn; and four sisters, Margaret "Peg" Lunn, Ruth Lunn Carter, Mary Jane Fulk, and Enid Lunn Brooks.

Bill will be sadly missed by his two daughters, Kathleen (Michael) Mitchell of Sebastian and Linda Lee of Highland; his son, William "Bill" (Allison) Lunn of Starke; grandchildren, Darlene (Kevin) Rinehardt of Conneaut, Ohio, Richard (Natalie) Ziegler of Ashtabula, Ohio, Kelly (Nathan) Babay of Cleveland, Ohio, Justin (Tammy) Lee of Keystone Heights, Timothy (Jolee) Lee of Starke, Camron Lunn of Gainesville, and Christopher (Candice) Lunn of Middleburg; great-grandchildren, Kaitlyn Brunson, Hailey Ziegler, Cory (Jasmine) Cox, Dalton Lee, Kirsten Lee, Kayden Lee, Koleson Lee, Colton Lunn, Sutton Lunn; his great-great-grandchildren, Mailona and Rowan; brother-in-law, Keith Carter; and many nieces and nephews.

There will be a memorial on Thursday, Feb. 15, at 2:10 p.m. at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to hospice.

PAID OBITUARY



## Robert Myer

Robert Edwin Myer of Keystone Heights passed away Friday, Jan. 12, 2024, at the age of 79. He was born June 27, 1944, in Pontiac, Michigan to the late Forrest "Buck" and Martha (Meriverta) Myer. He was an amazing husband, father, and grandfather. He had eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He was a renowned horse farrier for 25 years and was extremely talented in the art of working with wood. He was an honest, Christian man who never hesitated to help others in need. His hobbies included spending time with family, hunting, fishing, golfing, and wood carving. Family and friends are honored to have received some of his collection of carvings.

His survivors are his loving and devoted wife of 60 years, Barbara (Beaudet) Myer of Keystone Heights; their three children, Debi (Adam) Haynes of Melrose, Robert "Robbie" (Lecia) Myer Jr. of Texas, and Michael "Mike" (Super) Myer of Grandin; and a brother, Jim (Sandy) Myer of Michigan.

At his request there will be no services.

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

PAID OBITUARY

## Wiley Sweat

Perry Wiley Sweat passed away Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024. He was born Sept. 20, 1947, and worked for the City of Starke for over 25 years.

Survived by his loving wife, Jeanette; daughters, Angela Sweat (Bobby) Forte, and Amber Sweat (Harry); stepdaughters, Sharon Huddleston, and Karen Cribbs (Cody) Jeffrey; stepson, Anthony (Tristan) Sweat; grandchildren, Dylan Forte, Levi, Remington, Savannah Jeffrey, Allison, Skyla and Haley Gorman; brothers, Jimmy (Janet) Sweat and David (Tamara) Sweat; and his four-legged companion, Oliver.

According to his wishes no services will be held.

PAID OBITUARY



## Dennis Waters

Dennis Wayne Waters, 60, of Lake City, passed away on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024, at HCA Florida Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville. He was born and raised in Lake Butler and had made Lake City his home for many years. He was a graduate of Union County High School Class of 1981 and worked for many years as a surveyor with Donald F. Lee and Associates in Lake City. He was of the Mormon faith and was raised in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. In his spare time, he enjoyed fishing, hunting and tinkering on old trucks. He was preceded in death by his mother, Kathryn Douglas Little; a sister, Tracy Annette Little; and a brother, Curtis Oliver Waters Sr.; and a nephew, Curtis Oliver Waters Jr.

Survivors include his parents, Robert and Patricia Waters of Lake Butler; four siblings, Robert Jackson "Bobby" Waters Jr. of Lake Butler, Kathryn Regina Ball Donna Marie Little, and Donald Ellis (Tawnya) Little Jr., all of Lake City; stepfather, Donald Ellis Little Sr. of Lake City; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Graveside funeral services will be conducted on Thursday, Feb. 1, at 11 a.m. at Oak Grove Cemetery in Lake Butler with Brother Paul Waters, Second Counselor of the Lake Butler Ward, officiating. Interment will follow. A time of visitation with the family will be from 10 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. at Oak Grove Chapel at Oak Grove Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gateway-Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 3596 S US Hwy 441, Lake City 32025. Please leave words of comfort for the family at [www.gatewayforestlawn.com](http://www.gatewayforestlawn.com).

PAID OBITUARY



## Joyce Williams

Mrs. Joyce Francis Williams, 87, of St. Augustine, formerly of Starke, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024, at Moultrie Creek Nursing and Rehab Center in St. Augustine. She was born in Bradford County on Jan. 2, 1937, to the late Russell and Lucia (Starling) Thomas and, prior to



retirement, worked for the Bradford County School Board. She was a longtime member of Madison Street Baptist Church. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Gerald Williams.

Survivors are children, Jerry (Sam) Williams of St. Augustine, Randy (Ruth Ann) Williams of Hartsville, Tennessee, Chris (Lisa) Williams of Panama City; siblings, Barbara (Lonnice) Davis of Hampton, Ray Thomas of Starke, Leon (Donna) Thomas of Starke, Bonnie (Mike) Targonski of Jacksonville, Libby (Kenneth) Carlton of Starke, and Nancy (Martie) Touchstone of Lake Butler. Also left are grandchildren, Joy (Mark) Scott, Jay (Jen) Williams, Josh (Crystal) Williams, Alan Williams, Anna (Adam) Panisiak, Megan (Chris) Golden, and Haley (Michael) Allen; and great-grandchildren, Johnathan, Zachary, Madelyn, Caleb, Gigi, Luke, Briana, Clayton, Eli, Mac, Clark, and Emma Grace.

The family received friends at Madison Street Baptist Church on Monday, Jan. 29, with funeral services following. Interment was at Eliam Cemetery in Melrose. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Madison Street Baptist Church, Building Fund, 900 W. Madison St., Starke, 32091, or The Baptist University of Florida, 5400 College Dr., Graceville 32440.

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Starke, 620 Nona St., Starke, 32091. 904-964-6200 www.jonesgallagherfh.com.

PAID OBITUARY

**Do you have an In Memory or Card of Thanks to submit? Please email [socials@bctelegraph.com](mailto:socials@bctelegraph.com), or call 904-964-6305 for more information.**

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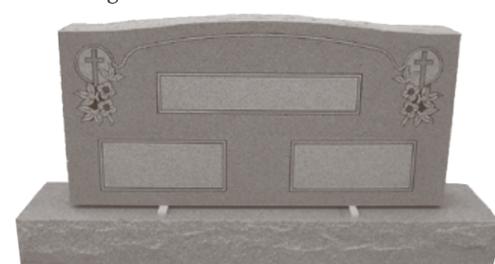
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# Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Feb. 1, 2024

## BRADFORD

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that VG SOLO401K PLAN & TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
 Certificate Number: 392  
 Year of Issuance: 2020  
 Parcel Number: 01513-0-0000  
 Case Number: 04-2023-TD-0042  
 Description of Property: 23 5S 22 LOT 19, ALSO: COM NE COR OF LOT 19, E80°, S274°, W130°, N74° TO SW COR LOT 19, EAST TO SE COR OF LOT 19, N TO POB. EX: S1/2  
 Name in Which Assessed: 360 DEGREEZ CONSULTING LLC  
 Name on last tax roll, if different: All 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 03/13/2024, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
 Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court Bradford County, Florida  
 BY: KYRAH SMITH Deputy Clerk  
 Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem  
 DATED: January 9, 2024  
 DATE OF PUBLICATION: 01-11-2024 / 01-18-2024 / 01-25-2024 / 02-01-2024

1/11 4tchg 2/1-BCT

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
 Certificate Number: 734  
 Year of Issuance: 2017  
 Parcel Number: 02612-0-00100  
 Case Number: 2023-TD-0038  
 Description of Property: A parcel of land lying in Block 1 North, Range 2 East of Simon J. Temple's Subdivision as per plat thereof recorded in Deed Book C, Page 424 of the public records of Bradford County, Florida, and being more particularly described as follows:  
 Commence at the initial point of Simon J. Temple's Subdivision said initial point being located at the

intersection of the center line of the right of way of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad and the center line of Market Road (formerly Center Street). From said initial point run South 72 degrees and 15 minutes East along said center line of Market Road (formerly Center Street) a distance of 516.8 feet to a point; run thence North 15 degrees and 54 minutes East a distance of 30 feet to a concrete monument; run thence South 72 degrees and 15 minutes East along the Northerly boundary of the right of way of said Market Road a distance of 312.87 feet to a concrete monument for point of beginning.  
 From point of beginning thus described continue South 72 degrees and 15 minutes East along said Northerly boundary a distance of 65 feet to a concrete monument; run thence North 17 degrees, 25 minutes and 10 seconds East a distance of 160 feet to a point; run thence North 72 degrees and 15 minutes West a distance of 65 feet to concrete monument; run thence South 17 degrees, 25 minutes and 10 seconds West a distance of 160 feet to point of beginning.  
 Name in Which Assessed: LEVY MCCLOUD  
 Name on last tax roll, if different: All 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 03/13/2024, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
 Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court Bradford County, Florida  
 BY: KANETRA JENKINS, Deputy Clerk  
 Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
 DATED: January 9, 2024  
 DATE OF PUBLICATION: JANUARY 11, 2024; JANUARY 18, 2024; JANUARY 25, 2024; FEBRUARY 1, 2024

1/11 4tchg 2/1-BCT

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
 Certificate Number: 1168  
 Year of Issuance: 2017  
 Parcel Number: 05079-0-01001  
 Case Number: 2023-TD-0032  
 Description of Property: Commence at the Southwest corner of Lot 9 of Block 7 of said Town of Hampton and run N 01°25'06"W, along the West line of Lots 9, 10,

11 and 12 of said Block 7 and along the Easterly R/W line of Florida Avenue (a 50' platted street) for a distance of 100.00 feet to the Northwest corner of said Lot 12 of Block 7; thence run S 88°28'54"W, along a Westerly prolongation of the North line of said Lot 12 of Block 7, for a distance of 25.00 feet to the centerline of said Florida Avenue for the Point of Beginning. From the Point of Beginning thus described run S 01°25'06"E, along the centerline of said Florida Avenue, for a distance of 125.00 feet to the intersection of the centerline of said Florida Avenue and Plum Street (50' platted street); thence run S 88°29'49"W, along the centerline of said Plum Street, for a distance of 25.00 feet; thence run N 01°25'06"W, along the Westerly R/W line of said Florida Avenue, for a distance of 25.00 feet to the Southeast corner of Lot 8 of Block 10 of said Town of Hampton; thence continue N 01°25'06"W, along the Westerly R/W line of said Florida Avenue and along the East line of Lots 8, 7, 6 and 5 of said Block 10, for a distance of 100.00 feet to the Northeast corner of said Lot 5 of Block 10, thence run N 88°28'54"E, along an Easterly prolongation of the North line of said Lot 5 of Block 10, for a distance of 25.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.  
 Name in Which Assessed: TERESA A EVANS; WILLIAM T LANEY; MARTHA G LANEY  
 Name on last tax roll, if different: TERESA A LANEY ET AL  
 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 03/13/2024, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
 Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court Bradford County, Florida  
 BY: KANETRA JENKINS, Deputy Clerk  
 Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
 DATED: January 9, 2024  
 DATE OF PUBLICATION: JANUARY 11, 2024; JANUARY 18, 2024; JANUARY 25, 2024; FEBRUARY 1, 2024

1/11 4tchg 2/1-BCT

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that MIKON FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC AND OCEAN BANK 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: 949  
 Year of Issuance: 2021  
 Parcel Number: 05488-A-00600

Case Number: 2023-TD-0040  
 Description of Property: Lots 20, 21, 22 Smokerise Subdivision as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 33 of the Public Records of Bradford County, Florida  
 Name in Which Assessed: JACQUES TODD CALDWELL AS TENANTS IN COMMON; MARY JEANNE CALDWELL CABANELAS TENANTS IN COMMON  
 Name on last tax roll, if different: JACQUES T CALDWELL ET AL  
 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 03/13/2024, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
 Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court Bradford County, Florida  
 BY: KANETRA JENKINS, Deputy Clerk  
 Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
 DATED: January 9, 2024  
 DATE OF PUBLICATION: JANUARY 11, 2024; JANUARY 18, 2024; JANUARY 25, 2024; FEBRUARY 1, 2024

1/11 4tchg 2/1-BCT

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO USE UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTING NON-AD VALOREM SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") of Bradford County, Florida (the "County") hereby provides notice, pursuant to Section 197.3632(3)(a), Florida Statutes, of its intent to use the uniform method of collecting non-ad valorem assessments for more than one year to fund annual costs incurred by the County in providing fire protection and emergency medical services. The uniform method allows for the collection of non-ad valorem assessments, sometimes referred to as special assessments, on the annual property tax bill mailed each November by the county tax collector. The Board will consider the adoption of a resolution electing to use the uniform collection method, commencing in November 2024, at a public hearing to be held at 6:30 p.m. on February 15, 2024, at the County Commission Chambers located at 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091.  
 Such resolution will state the need for the levy and will contain a legal description of the boundaries of the real property subject to the levy. The non-ad valorem assessments may be levied within the entire County; provided, however, that the imposition and collection of non-ad valorem assessments from any incorporated area of the County shall be subject to the consent by ordinance of the

governing body of the affected municipality as required by section 125.01(1)(q), Florida Statutes. The resolution does not impose any assessments, it only preserves the County's ability to collect assessments on the annual property tax bill beginning in November 2024, if the Board takes additional steps before then to impose fire protection assessments. Such additional steps include public hearing and mailed notice at least twenty (20) days before the public hearing to all owners of real property subject to the assessments. Copies of the proposed form of resolution are on file at the office of the County Manager, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091. All interested persons are invited to attend the public hearing. In the event any person decides to appeal any decision by the Board with respect to any matter relating to the consideration of the resolution at the referenced public hearing, a record of the proceeding may be needed and in such an event, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the public hearing is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence on which the appeal is to be based.  
 In accordance with the American with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation of an interpreter to participate in these proceedings should contact the County Manager at (904) 966-6327, at least 48 hours prior to the time of the hearing.  
 Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida  
 1/18 4tchg 2/8-BCT

Public Auction  
 Ron Denmark Mini Storage will hold a public auction on 2/2/24 10:00am at 2117 N. Temple Ave. Starke, FL on the following units containing personal items:  
 Unit # 42 - Belonging to P. Toney  
 Unit # 81 - Belonging to A. Ramirez  
 1/25 2tchg 2/1-BCT

### NOTICE OF SALE

T & M Towing gives notice of lien and intent to sell these vehicles on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at T & M Storage yard located at 3687 Ambient Air Rd., Starke, FL 32091. T & M Towing reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.  
 2019 VW Vin # VV3B7AX9KM123891  
 1/25 2tchg 2/1-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
 CIVIL DIVISION:  
 CASE NO.: 2023-CA-0356  
 U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,  
 Vs.  
 HEATHER RENEE SCRIMSHAW  
 2/1 2tchg 2/8-BCT

## Free Trading Post

FOR SALE BY OWNER  
 FREE ADS

The Telegraph / Times / Monitor REGIONAL CLASSIFIED ADS will run your for sale by owner ad for free.

ACT NOW! If interested, email up to 20 words to classads@bctelegraph.com by 12PM every Monday.



Get rid of unwanted:

- CARS
- TRUCKS
- TRACTORS
- MOWERS
- BOATS
- ENGINES
- DISHES
- FURNITURE
- APPLIANCES
- RVS
- LAND
- HOMES



A service of the Telegraph, Times and Monitor.

**FOR SALE BY OWNER**

Your ad will run for 2 weeks only.  
 AVAILABLE TO REGIONAL RESIDENTS ONLY  
 you must include your contact info, name, phone, location.  
 To re-run your ad, you must email again.

For more information, contact us at (904)-964-6305.

Users/responders release liability toward this paper, publisher, its agents or representatives who are not liable for any mistakes, errors, misrepresentations.

# CLASSIFIEDS

Yard Sale

Now Hiring

Don't Miss the DEADLINE!

FOR RENT

TUESDAY by 12 pm

CALL 904-964-6305 OR EMAIL CLASSADS@BCTELEGRAPH.COM

### CLASS ADS 02/1/24

#### 40 Notices

**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY.** All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 in which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion,

sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate in which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that

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

50

#### For Rent

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

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

2BR/1BA MH \$900/mo., 3BR/2BA \$1100/mo., 3BR/1BA \$1000/mo. in

Raiford. Lawn care included. No smokers, no pets. 1st/last & security deposit required. Leave message or send text if no answer. 904-662-3735.

#### 53A Yard Sales

MOVING SALE; Fri. & Sat. 8am-4pm. Furniture, antiques, knick-

knacks, & more. 3632 NW 198<sup>th</sup> St. off Hwy 301 N.

YARD SALE; Saturday only, 9:30-3:30. 610 Colley Rd. Near Hospital.

#### 59 Personal Services

IRISH LADY available to care for sick or elder-

ly person. Light house-keeping, cooking, shopping, doctors appts. as needed. Excellent references.(CNA). Please call Anya 561-914-0657.

### WANTED: Highwaymen Art

Buckner, Newton, Hair, Walker, Butler, Backus

**CALL or TEXT WALTER 863-517-1986**

### NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

**Southern Villas of Starke**  
 Ask about our 1&2 BR Apartments HC & non-HC Units. Central AC/Heat, on-site laundry, playground, private, quiet atmosphere.  
 Located on SR-16, 1001 Southern Villas Dr. Starke, FL  
 Call 904-964-7295 TDD/TTY 711  
 "Equal Housing Opportunity"

## Tri-County Classifieds



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Reach All 3 Counties Bradford • Union • Clay

Worded Classified Ad up to 25 words is \$10  
 Classified Display Ad is \$10 per col. inch  
 Deadline for Classified ads - **Tuesday 12 noon**

904-964-6305  
 classads@bctelegraph.com

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

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

## PINE FOREST/STARKE HOMES APARTMENTS

1530 Madison St • Starke  
**(904) 964-6312 TDD 711**  
**NOW RENTING**  
**1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apartments!**  
 • Central Heat & Air  
 • Playground  
 • Laundry Facilities  
 • Accessible Unit Available 24 Hr  
 • Emergency Maintenance  
 • All Apartments Ground Level  
 Starting at \$588-\$694  
 1 Bedroom starts at \$588-\$694  
 2 Bedroom starts at \$629-\$744  
 3 Bedroom starts at \$653-\$783  
 This institution is an Equal Housing Opportunity Provider and Employer.

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

**WELL DRILLING**

QUALITY SERVICE SINCE 1964

24 Hr. PUMP SERVICE

964-7061

STATE LICENSE #1305

**DURRANCE PUMP**

## DAR chapter meets Feb. 5

The Col. Samuel Elbert Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, will meet on Monday, Feb. 5, at 10:30 a.m. at Keystone Beach Historical Pavilion.

Do you have a Revolutionary War-era patriot in your family tree? If you would like to find out, DAR can help with its genealogical resources. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove direct descent from a person who aided in achieving American independence between April 19, 1775, and Nov. 26, 1783, is eligible for membership. If you're interested in joining

the chapter, please attend, and you will be assisted with becoming a member.

## DAR accepting applications for scholarship

The Col. Samuel Elbert Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, will award the \$1,500 Betty Warren Memorial Scholarship to a deserving student who has completed 24 hours at Santa Fe College.

Applications may be obtained from Patricia Landon at the Santa Fe College Andrews Center in Starke or Karen Lake at the Santa Fe College Watson Center in Keystone Heights.

## BCEF selling chances to enter 3 prize drawings

The Bradford County Education Foundation is holding a drawing for three prizes, with the winners being announced at the Saturday, Feb. 3, North Florida Regional Chamber of Commerce annual meeting/banquet.

Two prizes are vacation packages. One (donated by Carrie Crews) is a four-day, three-night stay at The Blissful Bear cabin in Ellijay, Georgia, while the other (donated by Drew Reddish) is a seven-day stay in October at Ocean Gallery Condo in St. Augustine.

Tickets to enter the drawings for the vacation packages are \$50 each, with 100 tickets only being sold for each.

The third prize is a 10x10 storage shed, donated by Frank Sheffield. Tickets to enter the drawing are \$100 each, with 200 total being sold.

Tickets for either drawing can be purchased at Capital City Bank in Starke or from any BCEF board member: Cheryl Canova, Christina Cornwall, Sheryl Dixon, Brenda Donaldson, Justin Durrance, Matt Dyal, Lisa Gault, Will Hartley, Vorease Jones, Keith Kirby, Sarah Long, Dimple Overstreet, Paula Register, Lila Sellars, Leisa Sims, Chrissy Thompson, Brenda Thornton, Kara Wainwright and Eugenia Whitehead.

You can also reach out on the Bradford County Education

Foundation Facebook page.

## Mentoring group to benefit from bingo-spades fundraiser

A bingo fundraiser/spades tournament will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at the Downtown Grill in Starke to benefit the student mentoring group 12 Guys in Bow Ties and 12 Girls in Pearls.

To play bingo, it's \$20 for a card in each of the 10 games. Extra cards can be purchased for \$5 each. Prizes will be awarded to all winners.

The spades tournament (for

ages 18 and up) will consist of up to 20 teams at an entry fee of \$50 per team. First place wins 50 percent of the entry fee total. The tournament format is Big Joker, Lil Joker, Deuce of Diamonds and Deuce of Spades.

Team entry fees for the spades tournament must be paid by Tuesday, Feb. 6, via CashApp (\$12GMentoring) or PayPal (12gibt.12gip@gmail.com). Team registration will take place at 3:45 p.m. on the day of the tournament.

Twenty percent of food purchases will be donated toward the mentoring group as well, so even if you don't play bingo or spades, show up and enjoy the entertainment.

For more information, please contact Edrick Hamilton at 904-364-0868 or 12gibt.12gip@gmail.com.

# Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Feb. 1, 2024

## BRADFORD

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

File No# 04-2024-CP-000011  
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CLAYTON PATRICK PERRY JR., DECEASED.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The formal administration of the estate of CLAYTON PATRICK PERRY, JR., who died on February 9, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court of Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is the Clerk of the Circuit Court, 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091. The names and addresses of the PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE and attorney are set forth below. All creditors of the DECEDENT and other persons having claims or demands against the DECEDENT'S estate on whom a copy of this NOTICE is required to be served must file their claims with this COURT WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this NOTICE TO CREDITORS is February 1, 2024. CHRISTOPHER LEE PERRY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE 20264 Wolf Springs Court Clermont, FL 34715 Respectfully submitted, Veronica R. Owens, Attorney At Law, P.A. By: /s/ Peter Penrod, Esq.

Fla. Bar No.: 70235  
Peter@OwensPenrod.com  
189 South Lawrence Boulevard  
Keystone Heights, FL 32656  
2000 Henley Road, Suite B  
Middleburg, FL 32068 |  
Telephone: (352) 473-5000  
Attorneys for PETITIONER

2/1 2tchg 2/8-BCT

CITY OF HAMPTON, FLORIDA  
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION CLOSING AND ABANDONING ROADWAY  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Hampton, Florida, at a duly advertised public hearing held on Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. and pursuant to the authority provided by Florida law, exercised its authority close and abandon that certain roadway and/or right-of-way running east and west between Block 17 and Block 18 and through the middle of Block 1 in the City of Hampton, Bradford County, Florida according to a survey made by the GA. Southern and Florida R.R. Co. by the adoption of Resolution 2024-01.

A copy of Resolution 2024 - 01 may be obtained by any member of the public at the Office of the City Clerk/Administrator, located at 5784 Navarre Avenue, Hampton, Florida 32044 during the regular business hours Monday through Thursday, exclusive of holidays, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

2/1 1tchg-BCT

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida shall hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:30 P.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Board of County Commissioners Chambers at the Bradford County Courthouse, located at 945 N. Temple Avenue in Starke, Florida, to consider the exercise of its authority pursuant to Chapter 336, Florida Statutes, to close and abandon a 30 foot platted street along the Northerly 15 feet of Lot 43 & the Southerly 15 feet Lot 46 of Woodlawn and the Westerly 15 feet of a 30 foot platted street along the Westerly boundaries of Lots 46 & 59 of Woodlawn, Plat Book 1, Page 17 of the public records of Bradford County, Florida as it pertains to the following Bradford County Parcel Number; **01131-0-02501**

Copies of materials related to this public hearing may be obtained by any member of the public at the Office of the Zoning Department, located at 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida, during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, exclusive of holidays, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.). On the date, time and place first above mentioned, all interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to this matter.

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.

All persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at the public hearing, 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 who require assistance to participate in the meeting are requested to notify the Clerk of the Court, Bradford County Courthouse, Starke, Florida, 904-966-6280 at least two business days in advance; if you are hearing or voice impaired call 1-800-955-8771.

2/1 1tchg-BCT

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida shall hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:30 P.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Board of County Commissioners Chambers at the Bradford County Courthouse, located at 945 N. Temple Avenue in Starke, Florida, to consider the exercise of its authority pursuant to Chapter 336, Florida Statutes, to close and abandon the Westerly 15 feet of a 30 foot platted street along the Easterly boundaries of Lots 39 & 42 of Woodlawn, Plat Book 1, Page 17 of the public records of Bradford County, Florida as it pertains to the following Bradford County Parcel Number; **01295-0-00102**

Copies of materials related to this public hearing may be obtained by any member of the public at the Office

of the Zoning Department, located at 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida, during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, exclusive of holidays, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.). On the date, time and place first above mentioned, all interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to this matter.

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.

All persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at the public hearing, 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 who require assistance to participate in the meeting are requested to notify the Clerk of the Court, Bradford County Courthouse, Starke, Florida, 904-966-6280 at least two business days in advance; if you are hearing or voice impaired call 1-800-955-8771.

2/1 1tchg-BCT

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida shall hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:30 P.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Board of County Commissioners Chambers at the Bradford County Courthouse, located at 945 N. Temple Avenue in Starke, Florida, to consider the exercise of its authority pursuant to Chapter 336, Florida Statutes, to close and abandon a 30 foot platted street along the Northerly 15 feet of Lot 42 & the Southerly 15 feet Lot 47 of Woodlawn and the Easterly 15 feet of a 30 foot platted street along the Easterly boundaries of Lots 47 & 58 of Woodlawn, Plat Book 1, Page 17 of the public records of Bradford County, Florida as it pertains to the following Bradford County Parcel Number; **01131-0-02500**

Copies of materials related to this public hearing may be obtained by any member of the public at the Office of the Zoning Department, located at 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida, during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, exclusive of holidays, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.). On the date, time and place first above mentioned, all interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to this matter.

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.

All persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at the public hearing, 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 who require assistance to participate in the meeting are requested to notify the Clerk of the Court, Bradford County Courthouse, Starke, Florida, 904-966-6280 at least two business days in advance; if you are hearing or voice impaired call 1-800-955-8771.

2/1 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A VARIANCE AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE BRADFORD COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS BY THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the Bradford County**

Land Development Regulations, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Regulations, objections, recommendations and comments concerning a special exception, as described below, will be heard by the Board of Adjustment of Bradford County, Florida, at a public hearing on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the County Commission Meeting Room, North Wing, County Courthouse located at 945 N. Temple Avenue in Starke, Florida.

V 24-01, an application by Debra Lassalle, to request a Variance be granted as provided for in Section 4.7 "RE" Residential Estate, Section 4.7.7 Minimum Yard setbacks from a required 10' to a requested 5' along the Southerly line at the property being described as follows; Lots 13 & 14, Block 2, Santa Fe Shores, Plat Book 2, Page 74 of the public records of Bradford County, Fla. and being Bradford County Parcel Number 06219-B-01300.

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. Aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the appeal.

Copies of the material are available for public inspection at the Office of the Director of Zoning, Planning, and Building, County Courthouse located at 945 North Temple Avenue, North Wing, Starke, 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 proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

2/1 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME**

Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given that the undersigned: 4W HOME SERVICES, INC., 1722 Adams St., Lawley, FL 32058, sole owner, doing business under the firm name of: FIVE STAR BATH SOLUTIONS OF GAINESVILLE, 1722 Adams St., Lawley, FL 32058 intends to register fictitious name under the aforesaid statute. Dated this 30 day of January A.D., 2024, in Bradford County.

2/1 1tchg-BCT

## UNION

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

CIVIL DIVISION  
CASE NO. 23000011CAAXMX  
U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST, Plaintiff,

vs.  
LLOYD S. HEDMAN, JR. A/K/A LLOYD S. HEDMAN A/K/A LLOYD HEDMAN A/K/A LLOYD SONDEE HEDMAN, JR.; TAMMY J. HEDMAN A/K/A TAMMY B. HEDMAN A/K/A TAMMY HEDMAN; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED,

Defendant(s).  
NOTICE OF SALE  
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated

TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE HOME DESCRIBED AS 1998 MERI, #S FLHMLCB135917048A & B, TITLE #S 71559242 AND 71559241

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DATED at Lake Butler, Florida, on January 29, 2024.  
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Deputy Clerk  
Diaz Anselmo & Associates, PA.  
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Bradford High School's cheerleading team: (front, l-r) Skyla Bounocore, Abbigale Moore, Abigail Casey, Sade Peterson, Haydn Sanford, Jakyiah Dean, Kayla Mueller, Jhailaa Coleman, Nivaiah Foster, Lily Mercer (back, l-r) Emma Mueller, Teagan Bradley, Hayden Goodwin, Myia Sanchez, Alexis Berry, Chloe Hales, Kami Crawford, Rose Wilsey and Coach Jenna Hewett.



Union County High School's cheerleading team: (front, l-r) Aubrie Muse, Jahliya Woodall, Taley Smith, Zoe Elixson, Calli Morrow, Ashlyn Thomas, (back, l-r) Kadence Adams, Sydney Box, Taliyah Harper, Aliyah Smith, Bobbie Jo Montford, Eshawna Rollins, Terriana Holton, Brooklyn Bingham and Brittany Stinson. Not pictured: Ava Walker, Head Coach Kristen Adams and assistant coaches Keesha Hankerson, Alexis Thomas and Teyona Paige.

## BHS and UCHS cheer teams advance to state semifinals

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bradford and Union County high schools, with fourth- and 10th-place finishes, respectively, both earned the right to advance to the Class 1 A state cheerleading semifinals after their performances at the Jan. 27 Region 1 meet in Port St. Joe.

Both teams compete in the Medium Non-Tumbling division and will compete at state on Saturday, Feb. 3, at R.P. Funding Center in Lakeland. Bradford is scheduled to perform at 1 p.m., while Union is scheduled to

perform at 1:24 p.m.

The Tornadoes had a raw score of 66.5 and, factoring in point deductions, a final score of 63.5, which tied them with Interlachen. That placed Bradford behind West Nassau (87.7 raw score, 86.7 final score), Orange Park (67.1, 67.1) and Parker (64.2, 63.7).

Bradford's raw score was three points higher than Interlachen's.

A state send-off will be held at the BHS gym on Friday, Feb. 2, at 4 p.m. This free event is a chance for people to watch the team's routine.

The Tigers had a raw score of

61.6 and a final score of 56.6.

Placing sixth through ninth ahead of Union were Milton (58.3, 58.3), Newberry (61.6, 58.1), Williston (58.9, 57.9) and Fort White (59.2, 57.2).

Raw scores were used to determine who advanced to state. West Nassau, as the district champ, will automatically be placed in the finals round at state.

Advancing to the semifinal round besides Bradford and Union are Orange Park, Parker, Interlachen, Newberry and 11th-place finisher Rickards (62.4, 56.4).

## KHHS girls reach soccer title match

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School reached the District 4-3A girls soccer championship match by defeating Williston 3-2 in a Jan. 26 semifinal match in Williston.

The second seed Indians (12-5-1) played top seed P.K. Yonge (12-3-3) for the title this past Tuesday. It's the fifth straight season Keystone and P.K. Yonge have played each other in the championship match. The Blue Wave won the title in each of the last four seasons.

To qualify for the Region 1 playoffs, which begin with the quarterfinal round on Tuesday, Feb. 6, at team must win its district championship or receive an at-large berth, which is determined by Florida High School Athletic Association power rankings.

Keystone is attempting to advance to regional play for the third time in four years.

The Indians got one goal each from Kayle Buchanan, Alea Horton and Ella Hutchins in its District 6 semifinal win over third seed Williston (11-5). Kiersten Shaw recorded one assist for Keystone, which trailed 2-1 entering the second half.

Goalie Aspen Krohn made 10 saves.

Keystone reached the semifinals by defeating seventh seed Fort White (5-8-2) 7-0 in a Jan. 24 quarterfinal match.

Shaw scored five goals, while Hutchins and Alyssa Townsend each had one.

Buchanan and Shaw led the team in assists with three and two, respectively. Hutchins and Ashly McCarthy each had one assist.

The Indians kept the Fort White goalie busy, taking a total of 35 shots on goal. Conversely, Krohn had to make only four saves in helping the Indians get the shutout.

## KHHS boys fall in district semifinals

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School lost to Williston for the second time in four matches, with the latest loss coming by a score of 9-3 in the semifinals of the District 4-3A boys soccer tournament on Jan. 29 in Williston.

The second seed Indians (13-3-2) were attempting to reach a district-championship match for the first time since 2020.

Aaron Wiley scored two goals, while Noah Jaramillo had one. Luke Brunt recorded one assist.

Third seed Williston (13-6-1), which got five goals from Jamalle Wolfe, played top seed P.K. Yonge (18-2) for the District 4 title on Jan. 31.

Keystone advanced to the semifinals off a 9-1 win over seventh seed Interlachen (7-10-1) in a Jan. 24 quarterfinal match.

It was a slow start for the Indians, who found themselves trailing early, but Jaramillo came off the bench and scored four goals in helping Keystone to the mercy rule win.

Wiley added three goals for the Indians, who also got one goal each from Brunt and A.J. Nilsen.

Nilsen led the team in assists with three, while Bryce Huntley and Sammy Wachu each had two.

The Indians will wait to see if they earn an at-large playoff berth. The Region 1 playoffs begin with the quarterfinal round on Tuesday, Feb. 6.

## BHS girls defeat 4A Buffalo for 5th straight win

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Ar'Nayshia Griffin and Jada Hankerson scored 20 and 21 points, respectively, as the Bradford High School girls basketball team defeated Class 4A The Villages 50-27 on Jan. 25.

It was the fifth straight win for the Class 3A Tornadoes, with all of those wins coming against schools in larger classifications.

Griffin, who's averaged 22 points per game during the win streak, also had nine rebounds,

six steals and three assists, while Hankerson, who's averaged 17 points during the last five games, added seven steals.

Destiny Crum and Kayla Evans each scored three points, while Nichelle Brown had two.

The week began with Bradford (13-7) defeating host Dunnellon 42-41 on Jan. 22. Dunnellon entered the game ranked 15th in the Florida High School Athletic Association's Class 4A power poll.

Bradford outscored the Tigers 17-10 in the opening quarter and led by six at halftime. Dunnellon rallied and took a 37-35 lead into the fourth quarter.

Griffin and Hankerson scored 15 and 14 points, respectively. Griffin also had 12 rebounds, five assists and three blocks, while Hankerson had six steals.

The Tornadoes also got six points from Ajiyah Jackson, five from Crum and two from Kha'Myra Hankerson.

Kha'Myra Hankerson and Jackson grabbed seven and six rebounds, respectively.

Bradford hosted Class 6A Oakleaf on Jan. 23, with Jada Hankerson pouring in 31 points to help lead the Tornadoes to a 42-22 win.

Hankerson also had seven rebounds, six steals and three assists, while Griffin had 16 points, 14 rebounds, four steals and three assists.

The Tornadoes got six points from Crum, two from Kailyn Teal and one from Brown, who made her return from an injury she suffered last spring playing flag football.

Jackson grabbed 12 rebounds.

Bradford, which is currently 19th in the FHSAA Class 3A power rankings, will host Fort White on Thursday, Feb. 1, at 6 p.m. The Tornadoes will play in the District 2 tournament next week.

Tournament details weren't known by deadline.

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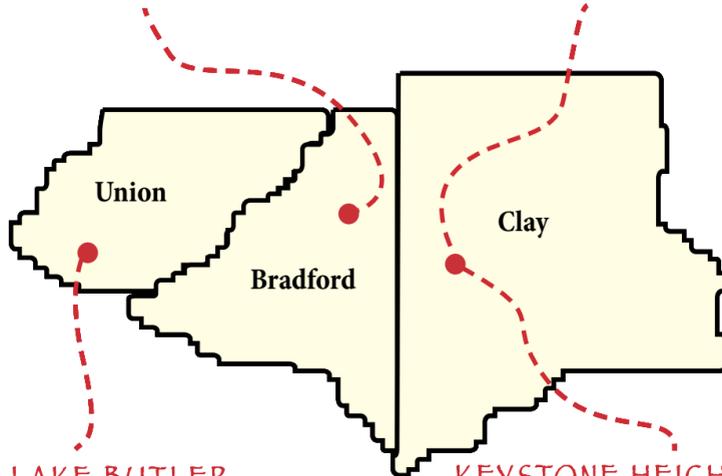
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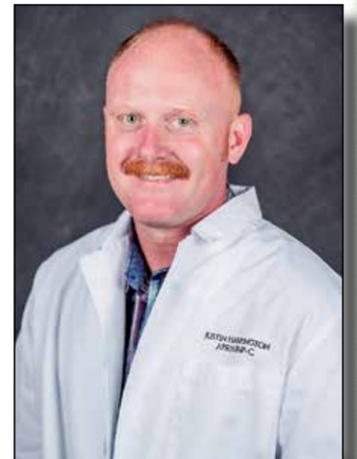
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