

Bradford County Telegraph

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Thursday, February 2, 2023

144th year, 23rd Issue — \$1

Fire spreads from dryer to home in Hampton

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

HAMPTON — A Hampton neighborhood was on fire Jan. 25 and multiple agencies responded to assist.

Bradford County Fire Rescue was dispatched around 4:15 p.m. to the 10000 block of Florida Avenue where a home near the intersection of South Division Avenue and Pine Street was ablaze under a canopy of old trees.

Within a couple of hours, fire rescue reported the fire was under control. Additional resources had been called in, including Starke Fire Rescue, Clay County Fire Rescue, the State Fire Marshal's Office,



Firefighters work to protect a Hampton neighborhood from the fire that broke out at this home. Photos: Bradford County Fire Rescue.



Bradford Emergency Management, and Florida Power and Light.

Firefighters remained on scene until after midnight Thursday morning.

Fire Chief Ben Carter expressed appreciation for the cooperation,

which also included the Bradford County Sheriff's Office and Public Works department.

Carter said there were no injuries. No one was living at the house, but it was being used for storage, which added fuel to the fire. The fire began in an outbuilding, where a load of laundry was being dried. Windy conditions caused the fire to spread quickly to the house, Carter said.

The day before, Bradford County Fire Rescue worked with the Florida Forestry Service to get a five-acre brush fire under control. The fire was in the 7700 block of Southeast 11th Avenue, which is northwest of Keystone Heights near the Santa Fe Swamp Conservation Area.

Firefighters used bulldozers to contain the fire and prevent its spread to nearby homes and property.

Providence residents oppose commercial development

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Staff Writer

LAKE BUTLER — The Union County Board of County Commissioners met Jan. 17 as the Union County Planning and Zoning Board to consider applications for changes to the zoning and land use portion of the county's comprehensive plan.

The seating area was full of Providence residents who were vocal in their opposition to making the changes that would allow a store to locate in their community.

The meeting ran for one hour and 15 minutes, with a full 50 minutes taken up with citizen comment against the applications. There were no citizen comments made in favor of the matter.

The application for both changes

was made by Gerry Dedenbach of CHW Professional Consultants in Alachua, acting as agents for the Ann Christoforidi's Trust asking the comprehensive plan to be amended, changing the land use to Commercial General from the current Agriculture and that the zoning classification of the property also be changes to the same.

The property in question is in Providence, at the intersection of C.R. 241 and C.R. 18. It is comprised of approximately 3.2 acres.

Dedenbach spoke to the commission, informing them that the changes were being requested to allow the construction and operation of a retail store with a small grocery section. Although he did not name this store, members of the audience

were all referring to it as a Dollar General store. Dedenbach answered commissioners questioned whether the commercial use of the property would present any hazard to the nearby river, and he said no problems were anticipated due to the property being located above the river's floodplain.

A total of eight citizens spoke against the approval that would allow the project, citing numerous reasons why they did not want it in their community. After each spoke the audience applauded what they had said.

Dr. Bill Lennon told commissioners that he had moved to Union County 50 years ago because he wanted to raise his children and grandchildren in the county. He said the store would increase crime, make more potholes

from the increased traffic (both cars and tractor-trailers), and would release more pollutants into the atmosphere. He asked commissioners, "What do you want the county to look like in the future? What kind of legacy do you want to leave the county?"

Sean Newsome spoke next, saying that he was speaking for a number of families, none of which wanted the store to be built. He cited concerns that it would first be a store, then another, then a gas station and then other commercial enterprises. He also cited the situation of an out-of-state trust represented by an out of county developer. He asked the board to "Keep Union County Union County."

Wayne McDaniel said that C.R. 18

See OPPOSE, page 5



Call Street work underway

The Florida Department of Transportation began resurfacing Call Street over the weekend. Work will continue on both eastbound and westbound Call Street as well as Walnut and Thompson streets for a few weeks. The intersection work will close one lane of Call Street at a time, necessitating detours and making some on-street parking unavailable. Photo: Dan Hildebran.



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WORTH NOTING

Party for Kittles latest project

A prerelease party for the new film "Among the Beasts" starring Bradford County native Tory Kittles will be held Friday, Feb. 3, from 5 to 7 p.m. at 210 E. Call St. in Starke. There will be music, food and autographed posters while they last.

The independent film will be released for purchase Feb. 10 and can be preordered now through iTunes and other stores. According to the IMDB synopsis: "When a gangster's daughter reluctantly teams with a former Marine to find her kidnapped cousin, the combat veteran must overcome his own demons in order to rescue the child."

VFW fundraising dinner

VFW Commander Willie Wright and VFW Auxiliary President Barbara Fischer announce that Post 10082 is having a fundraising dinner on Friday, Feb. 10, at 6:30 p.m. They will serve grilled/smoked chicken with all the fixings. The recommended donation is \$10 a plate. Please call Fischer at 904-263-0647 to reserve your plate. Takeout is also available.

Pink and Red Event for women's health

On Saturday, Feb. 18, the Florida Department of Health is hosting a Pink and Red Health Event for women from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Starke Downtown Square in observance of American Heart Month.

Precision Imaging will be on site to perform free mammograms. (Preregistration is required at TheBeautifulGateInc.com). The UF Mobile Unit is expected to be present for pelvic exams and wellness checks. There will be free screening for blood pressure and diabetes, plus a wealth of health education.

Bradford County Faith Community Center and The Beautiful Gate Inc. are partnering with the health department for this event. For more information, please call 904-964-7732, ext. 1600.



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Pictured are Bradford Food Pantry representatives (l-r) Herb Sellers, Linda Markman, Carol Milner, Bob Milner and Allen Crawford, and in back Clay Electric Foundation representative Pat Mundorf. Photo by Laurel Ring.

Food Pantry accepts \$20K grant from Clay Electric

Representatives of the Bradford Food Pantry were overjoyed to receive one of the first \$20,000 grant ever awarded by the Clay Electric Foundation as a result of the Round Up program from Clay Electric customers.

The previous limit was \$15,000 and was raised in January.

According to Food Pantry President Bob Milner, the pantry will use the funds to purchase and install a walk-in freezer measuring 12x8x12 feet.

"This will have a tremendous positive impact on our ability to accept and store frozen meat in much larger quantities than we have been limited to, and we cannot thank the Clay Electric Foundation and their customers enough," he said.

Milner added that when Bradford County has a declared emergency requiring housing by emergency management, the food pantry can better assist in providing meat and other goods as well as its weekly distributions.

Bradford charities land \$51K in grants

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Telegraph Staff Writer

STARKE — The Clay Electric Foundation awarded 14 charities \$135,320 in grants for January, including four in Bradford County, which received \$51,000 in funding.

The foundation awarded \$1,000 to Concerned Citizens of Bradford County Inc. to fund the organization's six-week summer camp program.

Clay Electric said in a news release that Concerned Citizens is an outreach organization dedicated to the needy, deprived, and seniors, especially to the proper rearing of children to become model citizens.

The group specializes in educating, teaching character, building confidence, and modeling positive behavior through its after-school club, summer day camp, senior club and youth sports.

The Altrusa Club of Starke received \$10,000 for its kindergarten through second-grade literacy program.

The foundation awarded

the Bradford Food Pantry \$20,000 to purchase a walk-in freezer and \$20,000 to Bradford's Communities in Schools for programming to increase graduation rates in the county.

Other January grant recipients were:

ReNew Recovery Café was awarded \$15,000. The Daytona Beach nonprofit offers free, low-barrier, trauma-informed community-based services to diverse populations on the path to recovery. Funds for the grant will be applied to the renovation of the center's kitchen to help prepare meals for members;

Seamark Ranch in Clay County: \$15,000. Seamark Ranch was organized in Northeast Florida in 2001 to provide a solid Christian home for abused, neglected, abandoned, orphaned, and homeless children in need of a chance. Grant funds will cover a portion of the children's mental health program;

The Frank DeLuca YMCA Family Center in Marion County received \$2,500 for its scholarship fund;

ISKCON of Gainesville, commonly known as Krishna House, received \$13,920. The Alachua County nonprofit administers food programs that fight food insecurity. Grant funds will help increase the number of meals that can be served each week;

Marion County's Stirrups 'n Strides Therapeutic Riding Center was awarded \$3,000 to fund scholarships for riders.

Stirrups 'n Strides' provides therapeutic horseback riding and carriage driving to anyone with physical, mental or emotional challenges;

Catholic Charities Bureau in Putnam County received \$10,000 for its emergency assistance program, which provides financial assistance to clients for essential utilities, housing, transportation or medication.

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Community Hub celebrates grand opening

BY CAROL MOSLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

STARKE — The new Community Partners Health and Wellness Resource Hub cut the ribbon to open a new home for wellness resources for anyone who needs them. The goal is to cut through the red tape to get residents connected with the services they need.

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County hosted the Grand Opening at the Faith Community Center in Starke. Guests were greeted by the elegant Bradford High School jazz band performing on the front lawn to everyone's delight. After the ribbon was cut, the crowd was free to partake of refreshments and visit the tables full of information and promotional goodies such as calendars, bag clips and rubber exercise squeeze balls.

Commissioner Carolyn Spooner and County Manager Scott Kornegay were there to show the county administration's appreciation. Spooner expressed her admiration saying, "The Concerned Citizens of Bradford County is an important group in our community which strives to improve the quality of life for all. The Bradford Community Hub is a giant step in bringing much needed services into the northeast region of Starke. This will make it so much easier for people to come to a central location for the many services needed, thereby saving people time and addressing the lack of transportation in getting to so many different service providers. I thank God for this community partnership with all of the service providers, Concerned Citizens



Tables with information and small gifts were set up at the center to preview what hub users can expect.

and the leadership of Iana Patterson of Bradford County Health Department in bringing these services to fruition."

The programs offered are designed to encourage healthy lifestyle habits as well as provide opportunities in education and employment. Some provide training while others offer advice or counseling. Some assist with financial support or physical needs. The Community Hub will connect people with those programs and services.

The project is an initiative of the Florida Department of Health, and other Hubs are being coordinated regionally. Concerned Citizens of Bradford County took the lead to bring these services, open to all, in a centrally accessible location. Together, the groups operate as Bradford Community Partners.

The Community Hub will operate out of the Faith Community Center, at 721 Old Lawley Road in Starke, until

the RJE Community Center makeover is completed. The Hub will be open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday. Groups offering services will sign up for 1-4 hours slots. The public can see which groups will be on site at which times by going to www.bcfaithecc.org. Walk-ins are welcome. Local groups wanting to provide services to the community can sign up at www.bcfaithecc.org.

The services being offered include: blood pressure monitoring, diabetes prevention, mental health counseling, disability services, veterans services, elder affairs, SNAP, welfare transition, adult education, job skills, parenting skills, youth development, GED training/classes, financial literacy, employment services. Even though not all service representatives will be on-site at all times, residents can still gather contact information and utilize the computers.

Iana Patterson is the Human Services Program Specialist for the Bradford Department of Health. Her specialty is Minority Health and Equity Liaison. Her passion for assuring equity in health options was an impetus for bringing this Community Hub to our community.

"It is our hope the hubs will bring needed resources and services to the local community that will give everyone a fair chance for better health and wellness. I hope everyone will see the value and take advantage of it."

If you need help and you're not sure where to go, the Community Hub is a good place to start. They can steer you to the agency or organization that specializes in your need. For more information contact Iana Patterson at Iana.Patterson@flhealth.gov or call 904-964-7732, ext.1600.



Commissioner Carolyn Spooner and Iana Patterson from the health department. Photo: Carolyn Spooner.



Members of the BHS Jazz Band welcomed visitors to the event.

Vote coming on Bradford County code enforcement fines

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Sheriff Gordon Smith said it is rare that property owners don't comply when informed of a code enforcement complaint, but when that happens, they need a process to resolve the problem.

Joined by Deputy Harvey Ward, his code enforcement officer, and Laura Gapske, who will serve as magistrate during code enforcement hearings, Smith updated the county commission on their progress.

Smith said his office relies to code enforcement complaints, and most people take care of the problem when asked. They've worked with neighbors, youth groups and organizations to help when needed. He expects as they do more, they will run into more resistance.

That outlook has led to the updates being made, including recommended fines.

"It's not that we're trying to do something new. We're just trying to update and keep current, live within the laws, and have some teeth as we move forward," Smith said.

Ward has been working with the county attorney and manager to confirm there are active and enforceable codes for matters like noise complaints, accumulated

trash and debris, overgrown and unkempt lawns, junk cars and abandoned equipment, using campers and sheds as residences, and house parties and large gatherings.

When the code enforcement officer follows up on a complaint and finds there is a code violation, a notice of violation will be issued. If the problem persists without at least some progress being made, the property owner would be subject to a citation and fine. If the case advances to a hearing before the magistrate, a running fine could be ordered, which could eventually turn into a lien against the property.

The fines proposed are based on the type of violation as well

as whether the property owner complies in a timely manner. For example, accumulated trash could result in a \$50 citation on the first visit, \$100 on the second visit, and then \$10 a day after a third visit. The same schedule applies to overgrown lawns.

For junk cars and equipment on property, the citation is \$100 on the first visit, \$250 on the second visit and then \$50 per day after the third visit.

The fines are steep for using campers or sheds as residences, beginning at \$100 per day on the first visit. The fine is \$250 per day after the second visit and \$500 on the third visit.

The sheriff's office also wants to regulate unapproved house

parties and large gatherings. Failure to pull a permit could lead to a \$500 fine. They also want to require groups of a particular size to hire security.

Determining the group size to impose these requirements is proving tricky. The sheriff agreed with Commissioner Chris Dougherty that in Bradford County, a family gathering could easily exceed 50 people.

These are not the groups that cause problems for law enforcement. Smith said it is the surprise events that pop up and shut down streets, disrupting entire neighborhoods and even

charging admission to get in. Many of these parties don't live in Bradford County. Ward said they've had to request backup from other agencies to deal with past problems.

Smith said Ward has a great personality and a knack for solving problems. It's rare the sheriff hears a complaint, which many times arise from a family squabble.

"We try to resolve those diplomatically," he said. "We just want everybody to live in peace and harmony, but we have certain expectations."

It's one thing to live in the

"back 40" where no one sees your accumulated junk, he said. But if you live in a neighborhood with multiple junk cars in your driveway, you're impacting others and the value of their properties.

The sheriff's office will continue working on an ordinance to address large gatherings and that will be brought to the commission for approval. A vote on the proposed fines is expected this month.

"I think all of us working together can make a better place for all of us to live," Smith said.



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Lake Region

Melrose killer sentenced to death

Mark Wilson used a hammer and knife to murder teens

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Telegraph staff writer

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS— Circuit Judge Howard McGillin sentenced Mark Wilson Jr., 32, to death for the murders of two Melrose teens during a Friday, Jan. 27 hearing in Palatka.

The bodies of Robert Baker, 12, and Tayten Baker, 14, were found by their mother on Aug. 26, 2020, inside their home four miles east of Melrose.

In October 2022, a jury convicted Wilson of the killings and recommended two death sentences.

On Friday, McGillin said he found no cause to override the jury's recommendation.

"The defendant committed two truly horrific murders of innocent children," said McGillin at the beginning of the hearing. "Tayten's death, in particular, was especially cruel and undoubtedly painful."

"Yes, Mom, I did it."

During the trial, the victims' mother, Sarah Baker, told jury members she found her sons' bodies covered in blood-soaked blankets.

She added that she found Tayten first.

"You could tell that his throat was severed completely through, almost to the bone," she said. "That's when I realized there was no pulse."

Baker testified that after she discovered her other son in the



Mark Wilson Jr. exits a Palatka courtroom after being sentenced to death by Circuit Judge Howard McGillin.

same blood-soaked condition, she screamed at the top of her lungs and ran to her father's home for help.

There she found her stepmother.

Debbie Benson told jurors that when Baker ran into her home, she shouted to call 911: "I think my kids are dead."

The defendant's mother, Chrisy Adkins, also testified during her son's trial.

On the witness stand, Adkins told jury members that the night after the murders, her son and his girlfriend spent the night in her home.

She said she encouraged Wilson to cooperate with investigators and take a lie-detector test to clear his name.

"He said, 'Mom, I can't do that,'" Adkins told jury members,

recalling her talk with Wilson.

"I said, 'Why, Mark? Did you hurt those babies?' Mark's left arm went straight down. His head went sideways. And in a voice that was not his own, he says, 'Yes, Mom, I did it.'"

Planned to kill entire family

Before the trial, Wilson, through his attorneys, offered to plead guilty to the killings in exchange for a life sentence, but prosecutors refused the offer, opting to go forward with the death penalty trial.

Putnam County Sheriff Gator DeLoach said the victims' family moved from Polk County to their Shiloh Road home two

weeks before the murders. Soon after they arrived in the Melrose area, they invited Wilson and his girlfriend to stay in a shed on the property. Wilson's girlfriend is the sister of the victims' mother.

"They were trying to be supportive of family members and invited her sister and (Wilson) to live with them in a shed on their property."

"The Baker family did a lot to help these two individuals and their family," he added, "and unfortunately it ended in the brutal deaths of Robert and Tayten."

According to a warrant affidavit, detectives recorded a conversation between Adkins and Wilson after the defendant's mother went to law enforcement

following Wilson's confession to her.

"During the recorded conversation between (the witness) and Mark, Mark admitted to killing the boys because he felt the boys' family was trying to put 'stress' on his family by reporting them to DCF," detectives wrote in the affidavit.

The affidavit also states that Wilson and his girlfriend, identified in the document as Cindy, plotted to murder the entire family, with Wilson killing the teenagers and the girlfriend killing the boys' mother and four-year-old brother.

"Mark went on to say that he was angry because Cindy did not follow through after he killed the two boys," detectives wrote.

Abusive husband

While Adkins testified against her son during his trial, she took the witness stand on Wilson's behalf during the sentencing phase, telling jurors that the defendant's father, Mark Wilson Sr., went into fits of rage beginning when she was eight months' pregnant with the defendant.

She added that the father spat on her, poured beer on her and threatened her life.

She also said she never saw Mark Wilson Sr. abuse their son.

A pediatric neurologist testified that scans of the defendant's brain showed abnormalities in the areas of the brain associated with impulse control, stress and memory.

The defendant's 22-year-

See KILLER, page 7

3 appointed to KH airport board

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Telegraph Staff Writer

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS— The city council appointed two new members and reappointed one incumbent to the Keystone Heights Airport board during the council's Jan 9 meeting.

The council green-lighted the applications of newcomers Charlie Van Zant and Rex Siemer.

Siemer addressed the council before his appointment. He told council members that he has served as a firefighter-paramedic for the cities of Starke, Orange Park and Jacksonville, as well as achieving the rank of captain in the Florida National Guard as an ordinance officer.

Van Zant is a former Clay County Schools superintendent. Before he was elected superintendent in 2016, he served for 14 years on the school board. He also served on the city's charter review committee.

Van Zant is a decorated veteran. He was awarded air medals as a combat pilot in Iraq and a Bronze Star for his meritorious service in command of special forces air operations in Afghanistan. Before retiring from the military, Van Zant flew Black Hawk and Apache attack helicopters.

The council also reappointed David Dagenais to the airport board.

From 2001 until his retirement

in 2021, Dagenais worked at Florida State College at Jacksonville's Cecil Center, where he helped establish the college's airframe and powerplant program.

Before that, Dagenais served in the Navy, which assigned him to Cecil Field in Jacksonville. There, he worked on A-7 jets for four years.

He retired in 2001 as a flight engineer on a Lockheed P-3 Orion, the same aircraft pilots train on at the Keystone Heights Airport.

Dagenais also spent five years managing a small airport in northern Louisiana.

In other news from the Jan. 9 Keystone Heights City Council meeting:

Update from Lake Region Development Corporation

Acting Executive Director Vivian Katz James told the council that the corporation's mission is to promote and facilitate communication, cooperation, and collaboration among stakeholders from the public and business sectors to enhance the quality of life in the Lake Region through proactive, well-reasoned, and strategic policies, programs and practices.

"I want to say that 'facilitate'

is the operative word," James said. "As an example, we are the sponsors of the Lake region Prosperity Partners. They meet once a month. This brings businesses together, promotes a cohesive business community, and provides an opportunity to interact and hopefully promote each other's businesses."

James said the corporation is also working on the Geneva Project, which she described as a potential joint venture between the St. Johns River Water Management District, the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation, Clay County Government and the City of Keystone Heights.

"Basically, the objective of the project is to clear out Lake Geneva of the standing trees and vegetation," she said. "We must do that within the next two to three years before water starts flowing into Geneva. So, we're actively working on that."

100th anniversary of Community Church

Linda Jones of Community Church told the council that 2023 marks the 100th year of the congregation's existence in Keystone Heights.

She added that the church will celebrate its century mark on Sept. 10 with services focusing on the congregation's rich history and service to the Lake Region.

Jones said that before the establishment of Lake Area Ministries, the congregation operated its own food bank, and since the incorporation of LAM, the church has supported the community-wide food ministry for 45 years.

Jones added that Community Church also provided a safe alternative to Halloween for 25 years and operated a Christian School in Keystone Heights for 20 years.

"Since 2010, (Community Church) has been doing back-to-school backpacks and support," she said. "This event provides clothes, shoes, coats, school supplies, and other needs to local children. And this event serves anywhere from 200 to 300 of our local children annually."

Jones also discussed the church's rummage sales, which she said provide affordable shopping solutions for hundreds of locals who may not otherwise be able to afford clothes, shoes or household items such as appliances.

"All these items are at an affordable cost for everyone," she said. "We started the rummage sales in 1980."

Jones said over 55% of the church's budget goes to missions and ministries.

See BOARD, page 6

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UNION COUNTY

UC BOCC looks at repair, vehicle and park needs

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Staff Writer

LAKE BUTLER — The Union County Board of Commissioners held its regular meeting Jan. 17 after a long meeting of the Planning and Zoning Board earlier in the evening.

After the lack of any public comment, the board recognized the Union County Volunteer Firefighter of the Year. Commissioner Mack Johns introduced Volunteer Firefighter Mickey Forster, who talked a little bit about how the honoree was chosen (by his peers at the fire department) and what criteria they used to make their selection (participation, frequent

response and attention to duties). Forster then called up Volunteer Firefighter Rob Koch to accept his plaque and have a picture taken with the commission. Forster told the commission that Koch had served the county for approximately 25 years.

In other discussion and action, the Union County Board of Commissioners:

—discussed the need to complete the remodeling and repair of the commission's office building. County Coordinator Jimmy Williams asked that the commission approve the needed repairs, painting the walls and replacing the carpet and the floor in the conference room.

The board instructed Williams

to create an estimate of the funds needed to get the job done at the least possible cost and bring it to then at the next meeting. The funds will most likely be taken out of the ARPA funds the county still has as it is an approved expense.

Williams also informed commissioners of the county's vehicle needs. He said the pickup truck at the building department and is used by the building inspector is breaking down frequently and needs to be replaced. The extension office has no vehicle but needs a mid-size passenger van for 4-H member transportation. The road department needs two 15-passenger vans for inmate

transport, solid waste needs a mid-size pickup truck for departmental use and recreation needs a 3/4-ton van for equipment and inmate transport. He also said the commission office needed a midsize SUV if possible.

Commissioner Perez said he would rather not buy a vehicle for the commission office, while Commissioner Johns said that the road department's needs should be seen to first because their vehicles were in really bad shape. The board instructed Williams to research the cost of the needed vehicles, using the state contract discount, and report back to them. The cost is an acceptable expense for the

ARPA funds and they could be used to pay for the vehicles.

—heard a question for Lake Butler Rotary Club's Treasurer Becky Elixson, who asked the board if the county could donate \$4,000 to help pay for the fireworks for Independence Day as it had in the past. Clerk of Court and Comptroller Kellie Rhoades said the amount was in the budget and that a check could be cut as soon as the club brought her an invoice.

Elixson said the event is being planned for July 1 to make the most of the funds available. She said that to do the fireworks on July 4 would cost \$1,000 for each minute of the show.

—approved the hiring of a new

IFAS Extension Service Director for the Union County office. The new hire is Jim Devalario, a veteran extension agent and plant pathologist.

—heard a request from Williams to clarify their motion on what they want done in the county's parks. He said, in various parks, there were needs for new playground equipment, equipment repair, fencing and, in one case, some lighting. He asked the commissioners to look at the parks in each of their districts and determine the needs they want to address. He can then compile a list of needs and prices and present it to the board at its February meeting.

OPPOSE Continued from page 1

had been more than rough enough for years and then asked what the increase in truck traffic would do to it. He said he had moved to his property 56 years ago because he wanted to be away from commercial development. He said, "If I wanted to be closer to stores, I would have moved closer to them."

Mallory Southwell brought the commission a petition against allowing the store signed by 150 residents. She said the store would harm the local economy, according to her research that showed when such a store opened it decreased local profits by 30% on average.

Brandon Elixson said that the commission had always done a good job protecting residents

personal property rights in the past, and he cautioned them that their zoning must be "strategic." He added that he had not encountered one person in favor of the project.

Clay Dale told board members that his father had bought the property because it was rural and that he (Clay) wanted it to stay that way. He told commissioners that, "I would rather have my butt beat rather than go to town, I sure don't want town coming to me."

Ryan Southwell told commissioners that the citizens "Don't want growth here."

Donald Parrish voiced his opinion as well, saying, "We don't want this."

Dedenbach came back to the podium, telling the commissioners that his firm had placed many such stores around the state, some in small counties such as Levy.

"Since the 2005 recession we have placed about 300 such stores," he said. "The goal is to never do a bad job. This is not an attempt to hurt the county, but change happens inevitably."

Matt Cason, president of the development company said that it is incorrect that no one want the store because his company first started looking at the area because of request from residents.

"Some of the counties where we have located actually created new land use and zoning classes to accommodate us," he said.

Once everyone had spoken the matter was taken up by the commission and discussed.

District 4 Commissioner Mack Johns said he was glad to see the people that had come to the meeting to make their wishes known and said he really doesn't want to see commercial development in his district.

Commissioner Jimmy Tallman asked County Attorney Russ Wade whether he should abstain from voting on the applications because he owned a business that could be considered a candidate for having his sales hurt by the new a new store. Wade said it was a tough call. Tallman answered that there could be some overlap of merchandise and if he voted against the project, he was afraid of it being perceived as a conflict of interest.

Commission Chairman Ryan Perez thanked all the citizens in attendance for coming to the meeting.

"I love citizen participation," Perez said. "It makes the commission's job so much easier when we know what the people want."

Commissioner Channing Dobbs said he had talked to a number of citizens over the phone and that he sees some of

the problems anticipated from the project in his home district in Raiford, which has a similar store.

"I want to commend the people here tonight, who took their time and came out and gave their opinion," Dobbs said.

Perez added that he had asked the Union County Property Appraiser, Bruce Dukes to check on the value of the property and then asked the Tax Collector to give him at least an estimate on how much the store would raise for the county through ad valorem taxes. He said the answer was not a great deal, only about \$4,000 per year.

Dedenbach suggested that the matter be tabled and stricken from the agenda to allow him time to talk with his client and see what they wanted to do. Newsom spoke up again, asking why the group and/or the county had not held a public, town-hall

style meeting on the matter. Dedenbach also pointed out that the order in which the matter was listed was not correct, since the comprehensive plan should have been listed first and then the zoning issue.

Wade said the order should be changed if the commission planned to vote on the matter, because the comprehensive plan issue was more legally defensible and the zoning issue was more actionable.

Dobbs made motion to deny the application to amend the land use regulations in the comprehensive plan as requested in the application and the motion passed the board 4-0, with Tallman abstaining. With this decision the board negated the need to address the change of zoning.

Health Sciences program at UCHS gives students a head start on careers

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Editor

LAKE BUTLER — Students at Union County High School have numerous opportunities to take classes that will help them on the way to future careers with good pay and benefits, but some of the programs available to them offer quicker employment and start them on the road to success sooner, often immediately after graduation.

The Career and Technical Education Program is a group of classes that enable students to enter the workforce immediately after they earn their diploma — often in well-paying fields that allow the student to delve deeper and pursue more advanced learning opportunities while already making a good living.

One such offering is the Health Sciences Program, a three-year endeavor that allows a student to graduate with their Florida Certified Nurse's Assistant credential, ready to go to work the day after graduation if they wish.

Candace Brannen is the lead instructor of the second and third years of the program and works with students at all three levels as an advisor and mentor. She is a product of the program, graduating from UCHS in 2004 with her CNA certification. She began working in the field and was lucky enough to have an employer willing to pay for her to continue her education (not uncommon, she says). She worked while getting through nursing school at the former Lake City Community College, graduating as a registered nurse with an associate degree in nursing. She has worked at UF Shands, Palm Gardens, Shands



Alena Boyer practicing her foot care skills on fellow student Brooke Boyer.

UF and then as an instructor at Columbia County High School for three years.

"When the UCHS program grew so large, Superintendent Mike Ripplinger (the then UCHS principal) called me and asked if I was ready to come home," Brannen said. I took it, coming to work with lead instructor Lori Howard."

The first year component of the program is by far the most academically demanding of the student. Human anatomy is easily the most academically

challenging of the three program components. It is taught by Diana Jackson, who also teaches health science at the middle school. Students must make a passing grade in anatomy in order to be allowed to enroll in the second and third components of the program.

The second year of the program is titled Foundations and provides students with a medical overview of what students need to know to successfully enter a medical profession. Also discussed are specific areas in the field,

including medical concerns, legal issues and ethics. Students practice on mannequins and each other, taking temperature, heart rate and blood pressure, as well as techniques such as CPR, assisting a patient in getting out of bed, sitting in a chair and walking.

The third year is titled CNA and involves hands on procedures with patients in nursing homes doing general patient care — such as helping them to dress, bathing, hair care and general wellness assessments. CNA students are not allowed to deal with medications or perform invasive procedures such as drawing blood. They do, however, conduct health screenings at the elementary and middle schools, checking vital signs as well as height, weight, hearing and vision.

"All this learning relates to simple patient care and the activities of daily life," Brannen said. "They learn techniques to keep patients comfortable and healthy (in the sense of not developing any new issues beyond what caused them to become patients in the first place). It's a good experience for the students and it is also good for the patients as many of the nursing home residents truly enjoy frequent visits and conversations with young people."

Students learn in classrooms with hospital beds and mannequins which are equipped for practice on procedures such as CPR and natural movement assistance. Students read, watch videos and then work hands-on, putting what they have learned into practice, often on each other.

The program is approved by the Florida Board of Nursing,

representatives of which have toured the classrooms and watched the teaching process. At the end of the program, in the spring, students take the state tests, both written and hands-on skills tests, and if they pass, they will receive their CNA license. Recruiters come from several area hospitals and nursing homes, as well as the state hospital in Macclenny, to talk to the students about working for them. Many of the students have a job waiting for them when they graduate.

Classes are small. The CNA level has a cap of 15 students, so more than one section is offered. More females than males enroll in the program, but there are some young men with interest who often excel. The classes offer many activities that cover all of the learning styles of students and there are guest speakers who are working medical professionals who talk about many topics. Also covered are different cultures and the differences that may be encountered in treating different ethnic or religious patients.

UCHS students have toured both the UF and FSU medical schools. This school year there are about 40 student enrolled in anatomy, about 35 in Foundations and 16 in the CNA class. The classes are considered electives, not part of the required core curriculum all students must take. The classes also allow the students to earn honors credits.

The program has had a pass rate well over the state average for the last 10 years — over 90% on the state tests. There are past students that are now in medical school and many other in nursing school or other programs in medical fields. The completion of the program successfully earns the students points that are

needed to get into nursing school. There have been students in the program who have used the skills they have learned to save the life of a loved one. All are making a good living in a professional area of great demand and many are advancing through scholarships from their workplaces or paying for their own education rather than running up a huge student loan debt.

"One good thing about the program is that it allows students to try out the medical profession before they have spent a small fortune on paying for post-secondary education," Brannen said. "We have a few over the years that have decided that it is just not for them and this gives them time to explore other opportunities."

Brannen is in her 10th year at UCHS and has no plans to go elsewhere. She is married to her high school sweetheart, Joe, and the couple has three children.

"There is no way we could do this without the support and encouragement of the district and the administrators at both the district and the school level. It's a team effort to get students through this program. The three mannequins we use have vital signs and talk to the students. We got a \$50,000 grant to purchase them. These are learning tools that are usually only seen in colleges. I don't know of any other high school in the area that has one."

"My students walk out and make good money — these are not minimum wage jobs," she continued. "They have jobs which offers them a decent lifestyle and the satisfaction of knowing they make a difference almost every day. It's good for everyone involved."

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Flood risk maps under revision — get involved

BY CAROL MOSLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

HAMPTON — Hampton City Council and the community at large is being encouraged to get involved in the approval of new flood risk maps for Bradford County.

The Jan. 24 council meeting opened with a presentation by Leroy Marshall of the Suwannee River Water Management District. In conjunction with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the agencies are in the process of developing new flood risk maps. Marshall was there to encourage residents to attend the upcoming Flood Risk Review Meetings. The public meeting for Bradford County will take place on Feb. 21 from 5-8 p.m. at the courthouse in Starke.

Anyone who is unable to attend the meeting can visit the “virtual event space” by searching for SRWMD Virtual Tour. Homeowners in Bradford County may be affected by the redrawing of the maps, so the district is seeking public feedback. Soon there will be an online portal for residents “to

review the maps and locate their property to see how it may be impacted.”

Marshall said it is important for homeowners to voice concerns during the redrawing process because once the final maps are drawn, any changes to be made would need to be accompanied by an engineer’s report. The link will be provided at www.MySuwanneeRiver.com.

Funtastic eyes Hampton Fire Station

The council was excited by a proposal presented by Michael Heeder to turn the former Hampton Fire Station into a “Funtastic Fire Brigade” location for housing his revamped fire equipment and hosting events ranging from birthday parties to community outreach programs.

Heeder expressed that he experienced a tragedy as a rookie firefighter, at which a six-year-old boy died. That left him with a lifelong passion for fire prevention education. After 38 years as a firefighter, Heeder

figured a good way to spend retirement and still have access to his favorite “toys” would be to share his passion for both fun and firefighting.

His toys consist of fire trucks, an ambulance, adult- and kid-sized gear, and even an 18-foot inflatable movie screen for outdoor viewing. The community outreach programs he envisions include CPR training and fire safety classes. But other uses might range from food banks to toy drives, and even car seat inspections.

Heeder thinks Hampton is an ideal location and believes his idea would be a benefit to the city image, drawing people and businesses from other areas to Hampton. The town could even host a Fire Prevention Week carnival.

He proposed a low rent and said he would take responsibility for the interior, with Hampton responsible for the exterior maintenance. Chairman Bill Goodge offered his volunteer labor. The county currently manages the property but would like to relinquish it since the fire department for the area now

operates out of the Sampson City Fire Station.

City Clerk Mary Lou Hildreth said she is certainly in favor of the idea but is duty bound to be sure any potential obstacles are also considered. A main drawback is the lack of parking at that location. Discussion was had about exploring the possibility of obtaining access to the adjoining lot to use for parking. More details will be forthcoming about the firehouse rental.

Trail nearing completion

Hampton resident Janece Mullett joined the discussion of developing tourism by pointing out that the trail under construction to the trailhead at Bobby Shephard Memorial Park on C.R. 235 is near completion. Mullett, an avid cyclist, touted the benefit this will bring with cycling groups visiting the city.

A comment was made that a small restaurant might be inclined to open.

A grant was obtained from the Florida Department of

Transportation for improvements to the park. More than \$73,000 will be spent this year on a design. Construction is expected to commence in Fiscal Year 2025 at an approximate cost of \$400,000.

Code enforcement update

Deputy Glen Ward from Bradford Code Enforcement. Sheriff Gordon Smith is working to update the codes and institute administrative fines in hopes of greater voluntary compliance. The goal is to alleviate the need for punitive measures and try to work with residents to achieve resolution. Deputy Ward said he has 25 shed and camper complaints at this time. If a complaint is filed, code enforcement is obligated to respond.

The idea would be to first issue a 30-day warning. If an inspection then finds honest effort and progress is being made, an extension could be granted. The third time it goes to a magistrate for legal resolution. Failure to

pay fines imposed could lead to a lien on the property.

Hildreth asked if the complaints can be made anonymously, and the answer was no. She asked if residents could bring their complaint and have it filed by the clerk with the city as the complainant. That answer was yes.

Grant would provide new well

The city feels secure that they were awarded \$600,000 from a federal Community Development Block Grant for installation of a well. They just await the executed contract, which may take some months for completion. A space of 100x100 feet is required, and they discussed getting a property appraisal for a local church, which is for sale. The appraisal would cost \$1,000. If even some of the property could be purchased, the well could be placed on the site. It could also provide space for additional parking.

County, school board take on redistricting work

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — County commissioners and school board members are back at work on redistricting, and they’ve been given a hard deadline if they want to get it done this year.

The delayed release of census information from 2020 is one reason redistricting has been postponed. Midterm elections were another.

Supervisor of Elections Amanda Seyfang and her office will begin preparing later this year for the presidential primary in March 2024. Ballots are mailed out in February. Additionally, the office must complete lists and

maintenance activities 90 days prior to the election, which means they will be mailing voters about district and precinct changes in December of this year.

If leaders can decide on a map, her office will be looking at weeks of work making sure voters are in the correct districts and making any necessary precinct changes. This is manual work, she said, and it takes months to enter the information into the system and double check it for accuracy.

For that reason, she gave county and school board leaders until the end of May to decide on a new map for the five districts.

Assistant Supervisor of Elections Matt Barksdale is

also the office’s IT expert. He instructed commissioners and school board members on using the site Davesredistricting.org. Anyone can create an account and begin using its features to redraw district lines by selecting census blocks — groups of voting-age residents.

The features of the site allow the user to see how the population and demographics of a district change as census blocks are added or taken away.

This is not a process of random selection, however. There are several goals leaders are trying to achieve, and it’s not as simple as it looks.

Districts need to be as equal

in voting age population as practically possible. They also want to maintain a majority minority district, which helps ensure diverse representation. They are not allowed to remove an incumbent official from their district, and the district need to be contiguous and avoid strange boundaries. This generally means you can travel between two points in a district without crossing into another district.

Barksdale said in the past, maintaining a majority minority district was valued more than maintaining equally populated voting districts. Achieving both goals at once is proving difficult.

Leaders have been working on

maps of their own, and they have maps proposed by law student Colson Douglas. Members of the public are also encouraged to develop and submit maps. The website allows transmitting maps to your which can be sent to the county manager’s office at scott_kornegay@bradfordcountyfl.gov or the supervisor of elections office at sellers.lila@mybradford.us.

Leaders also have the option of putting together a committee to evaluate and propose a selection of maps to the boards or to contract the work out to a consultant.

Nick Ward from the ACLU in Florida said he has been working

with small cities and counties, including Starke, and offered his help as well.

“I do want to say from having worked in a lot of places from Jackson County and Panama City and other places, it’s all doable. I know it’s super stressful for you all probably as elected officials talking about this, but it’s all doable, and it’s all in the service of making sure that everyone has an equally weighted voice on the board,” he said.

The county commission and school board aim to hold another workshop on Feb. 27 and then discuss a timeline to hold public hearings on proposed changes.

Housing development trying again in Starke

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Starke City Commissioners approved a \$11,000 traffic study for Westmoreland and Pratt streets that could impact approval of a housing development in that neighborhood.

According to City Clerk Jimmy Crosby, a revised site plan for the Sandcastles Pines development has been submitted and is being reviewed by city engineers.

Additional traffic and wear and tear on the roads were among the concerns that led the commission to deny a requested

zoning change that would allow for multifamily housing last October.

At the time, Sandcastles Foundation Board Chairman Christopher Crowder said they would spend \$7.5 million in mostly state housing funds to construct 25 4-bedroom rental homes for working professionals who met median income requirements, including teachers and correctional officers.

Sandcastles requested a zoning change to a category that allowed multifamily housing to decrease lot sizes for the homes. Representatives testified the six-plus-acre parcel could accommodate 25 homes

without the zoning change, but the engineer for the project said smaller lot sizes improved the layout.

It is unclear whether the new version of the site plan would require a zoning change.

Residents spoke out at the previous hearing about the flooding that already exists in the neighborhood as well as the condition of the streets and lack of sidewalks. They also didn’t want a rental development with a revolving door of tenants who weren’t invested in the neighborhood.

That convinced the commission to vote against it.

Most commissioners, however,

approved the traffic study, even if they didn’t like the price. Commissioner Shannon Smith cast a dissenting vote because of the cost.

The same engineers at Kimley-Horn reviewing the site plan for the city will perform the traffic study. The study will determine what, if any, improvements are needed to accommodate current residents and the development. The improvements could become conditions on the developer to receive project approval.

City Manager Drew Mullins supported the study and called for even more data on local roads to help plan resurfacing and other projects. Mayor Scott Roberts

said one reason to put impact fees back in place is to cover the cost of infrastructure studies and improvements.

Crosby wasn’t sure when the development would come back before the board for approval, but he expects it will be sooner rather than later, he said.

RJE grant still possible

Last year, Starke was informed it would not be eligible for a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant that would be used to help

the restoration of the RJE gymnasium. The city appealed, and Crosby has reported that Starke will be considered for the grant after all.

Starke’s committal of \$200,000 from its federal relief funding to the Concerned Citizens of Bradford County was contingent on not receiving the grant. If the grant is approved, the city would hold onto the relief funds for another purpose, while bringing the Concerned Citizens even closer to their goal of restoring and modernizing the gym.

Crosby credited Mullins with writing an effective appeal.

BOARD

Continued from page 4

Smoke shops and cannabis store regulations

The council approved the second reading to regulate cannabis stores and smoke shops in the city’s industrial zone.

Golf cart regulations

Council members reviewed a proposed ordinance regulating golf carts within the city, including definitions, age restrictions and speed limits.

Council members tossed around several proposed speed

limits for the low-speed vehicles and reached a consensus of 25 miles per hour. The council sent the proposed ordinance back to staff for further development and will take up the measure again at a future session.

Solicitation regulations

City Manager Lynn Rutkowski said several residents and businesses complained after people solicited donations at the corner of Lawrence Boulevard and Walker Drive last week.

“I did have conversations with our sheriff’s office, who did send a deputy down to make sure that they were abiding by all the laws and regulations that they can address,” Rutkowski said, “but I wanted to brief the council and let you know that our ordinances

right now do not stand as far as requiring identification showing where they’re from and making sure that (the solicitors represent) a 501 (c) (3) organization.”

The city manager added that she is working with Clay County Government and state lawmakers to draft an ordinance regulating solicitations within the city.

Ecotourism grant

Rutkowski said that although the state has not finalized its \$42,000 ecotourism grant to the city, she has already toured the city’s parks with an engineer and anticipates holding two community-wide workshops about developing ecotourism within Keystone Heights.

“Just to get community input of what it is that we have now that they are in favor of, what

amenities such as a pickleball court or a splash park (we could develop, and) ...what our businesses feel are going to be able to attract the most to help with the ecotourism side and bring in visitors,” she said of the workshops.

Community service for vandalism

Rutkowski said she is working with the sheriff’s office and state attorney to develop work details for young people convicted of vandalism of city property.

She said the parents of repeat offenders have reimbursed the city for damages, but some damages, such as graffiti, do not cause significant monetary loss.

The city manager added that she is working with law enforcement to ensure that youths accused of vandalism receive due process and, if convicted, may be sentenced to community service at city parks or the airport.

“Maybe a little bit of labor will deter them,” she said.

Council members endorsed Rutkowski’s efforts and instructed her to continue working with law enforcement agencies on the matter.

Airport anniversary a success

Airport board chair David

Kirkland reported that the facility’s 80th Anniversary celebration was a success.

“Probably one of the best events we’ve had in years,” Kirkland said. “It’s estimated that over 2,000 people attended. We had them drive in and fly in from Georgia, South Florida, just all over.”

Kirkland added that MHD Rockland’s tour of its P-3 aircraft was so popular that the company brought in a second Lockheed for attendees to tour.

He also said that over 60 young people took free flights offered by the Live Oak Experimental Aircraft chapter.

Kirkland updated the council on several upcoming projects at the facility. He said a \$1 million taxiway rehabilitation and a \$300,000 runway lighting upgrade will occur later in the year.

He also said a draft of an environmental assessment for airport infrastructure improvements is available for public inspection at the airport and at the Bradford County Library in Starke.

Popeyes Chicken continues progress

Rutkowski told council members that developers of a proposed Popeyes Chicken outlet have gained city approval for the restaurant and are now

going through county permitting.

The development site is on Green Way between Walgreens

Food distribution at True Vine

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Farm Share and True Vine Ministry will take place Tuesdays, Feb. 14 and 28, at 10 a.m. at True Vine Outreach Ministry in Starke.

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

Community prayer planned for first Mondays

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County will host community prayer on the first Monday of the month. Join the Concerned Citizens on Monday, Feb. 6, at noon in front of the RJE gymnasium, 1050 N. Pine St. in Starke. Everyone is invited.



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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

Lorene Malia Aguilar, 45, of Hampton was arrested on Jan. 25 for possession of drugs, trafficking in amphetamine and destroying evidence.

Shakeela Banks, 40, of Temple Terrace was arrested on Jan. 24 for failure to appear.

Gerald Lee Brown, 63, of Hampton was arrested by FHP troopers on Jan. 21 for an out-of-county warrant.

Argued over television show

Brison Ellis Bynum, 23, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Jan. 27 for aggravated battery on a pregnant person.

According to an arrest report, the defendant told a deputy he and the victim got into an argument over a television show and that the victim left their mobile home without shoes or socks. Bynum added that he went outside to bring the victim back indoors.

A witness told the officer that he heard a woman screaming, "Help, please stop."

The neighbor added that he saw a black male dragging a woman by her hair into the back door of a trailer. The witness then called 911.

The victim told Deputy Trinton Lovell that the defendant struck

her in the face, headbutted her in the face, and dragged her into the residence by her hair.

Bynum admitted to Lovell that he knew the victim was pregnant.

Jacob Wallace Crenshaw, 38, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Jan. 24 for DUI.

Dogs found chained and starving

Tracy Denise Davy, 52, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Jan. 26 for animal cruelty.

According to an arrest report, the owner of a Thomas Street residence called police after being told that a dog was inside the owner's rental property.

"The owner advised there shouldn't be anyone in the residence due to them being evicted," wrote reporting officer David Clancy Jr. in the report.

Clancy added that he drove to the Thomas Street lot to investigate.

"After I knocked, I could hear a dog barking from inside the residence," he wrote. "After locating the dog inside the residence, I found three more dogs on the property that were chained up. The dogs did not have any shelter, food, or water near their area."

The officer called Bradford County Animal Control to the scene.

"Animal Control advised that the three dogs were malnourished to the point they could possibly die from this act," Clancy wrote. "Animal Control had to use equipment to cut the chains off around the dogs' necks to get them free. Three more dogs were located inside the residence and were showing signs of malnourishment to the point of possible death. The dogs were to the point you could see their bones from underneath their skin."

Christopher Trevor Holland, 33, of Macclenny was arrested on Jan. 27 for contempt of court.

Threatened motel maids

Matthew Ross Houchin, 32, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Jan. 22 for assault.

According to an arrest report, a manager at Starke's Best Western told police the defendant had threatened his employees.

One victim told reporting officer Jonathon Guinn that while she and another employee were cleaning a room, Houchin, who was in a neighboring room asked to speak with her.

"(The victim) was listening to him until he began to make belligerent statements," Guinn wrote. "(The victims) then went into the laundry room and Matthew followed them. (The victims) advised Matthew he was not allowed to be in this location and requested him to leave. Matthew then threatened (both victims), by stating, 'I will throw you over the rail.'"

Guinn added that according to the victims, Houchin chased both women until they reached another room and locked the door behind them.

La'tavis Damario Jacobs, 20, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on Jan. 23 for a probation violation.

Ronald Eugene James, 46, of Gainesville was arrested on Jan. 27 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Defendant: sex claims motivated by divorce

Samuel Macedo-Cervantes, 44, of Ft. Mead was arrested by Bradford deputies on Jan. 26 for lewd and lascivious behavior.

According to a sworn complaint, the minor victim told police the defendant touched her genitals and attempted to "make a baby" with her.

The victim's mother said she discovered the lewd offenses while inspecting her daughter's mobile phone about an

undisclosed boyfriend.

The defendant denied the allegations and told police that the victim's mother instructed the victim to make false accusations because of a divorce between the mother and the defendant.

"Macedo-Cervantes advised that he had been expecting this and that (the mother) had been threatening him for a while, saying that she'd have (the victim) accuse him of touching her if he did not comply with her wishes in regard to their divorce and their joint property," wrote Detective Samantha Clark in a 2018 sworn complaint. "He also stated that he filed a report at the end of 2015 with the Polk County Sheriff's Office in regard to those threats."

Jerrid Allen Mangus-Rogers, 31, of Starke was arrested on Jan. 27 for an out-of-county warrant.

Daris Prenell McCutchen, 40, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Jan. 25 for failure to appear.

Stole beer from convenience store

Joseph Lee Mitchell, 54, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Jan. 23 for larceny and trespassing.

According to an arrest report, employees of the Circle K at 312 West Brownlee St. told police the defendant took a 24-pack of Natural Ice Beer and left the store without paying.

Police located Mitchell walking, detained him, and returned the merchandise, valued at \$12.83 to the store.

Reporting officer Moses C. Bellamy wrote that he viewed the theft on store video.

The day following his arrest, Mitchell pleaded no contest to larceny and was sentenced to 45 days in jail.

William Lee Newham, 43, of Lake City was arrested on Jan. 25 for an out-of-county warrant.

Sudhakar Yadav Palla, 37, of Tampa was arrested by FHP troopers on Jan. 26 for DUI.

DNA links man to baby of underaged mother

Garrett Bernard Petteway, 30, of Hampton was arrested by Bradford deputies on Jan. 26 for lewd and lascivious behavior and cruelty toward a child.

According to an April 28, 2022, sworn complaint, Starke police

wrote that the victim claimed she and the defendant had intercourse two to three times before she got pregnant and that although the two were no longer in contact, their relationship occurred between October 2021 and April 2022.

Detective Hunter Redding wrote in the complaint that he obtained buccal swabs from the cheeks of the victim's child.

The detective then obtained a search warrant for DNA buccal swabs of the defendant.

When Petteway arrived at police headquarters for an interview, he declined answering questions without a lawyer. Redding then presented him with the search warrant and obtained buccal swabs from the defendant's cheeks.

Redding wrote in the complaint that a Florida Department of Law Enforcement lab report stated that the probability that the defendant is the father of the child is greater than 99.99%.

Mom threw potatoes at autistic son

Lori Dennette Rhoden, 51, of Lawtey was arrested by Starke police on Jan. 23 for abuse on an elderly or disabled person.

According to an arrest report, the defendant's son told reporting officer Jarred Altman that the defendant slapped him on the arm and threw potatoes at him.

"(The victim) stated he felt he was having an anxiety attack and EMS was summoned to check him per his request," wrote Altman.

The victim added that the defendant has been bullying him on a regular basis.

Altman wrote that a witness corroborated the victim's claims and said Rhoden and her son had been arguing throughout the day.

The officer wrote that because the victim is autistic, Rhoden was arrested for abuse of an elderly or disabled person.

William Trevor Sheering, 21, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Jan. 21 for a probation violation.

Richard Lee Soilberry, 37, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Jan. 27 for selling drugs, possession of drugs, possession of cocaine and selling cocaine.

Mark Ashley Thomas, 42, was arrested on Jan. 27 for a probation violation.

Patti Sue Williams, 46, of Starke was arrested by Starke

police on Jan. 26 for a probation violation.

William Lee Woods, 37, of Hampton was arrested by Bradford deputies on Jan. 24 for possession of drug equipment.

Union

Thomas Robert Bruce, 37, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on Jan. 5 for a probation violation.

Shawn Wayne Clark, 35, of Middleburg was arrested by Union deputies on Jan. 5 for a probation violation.

Blake Curtis Cook, 35, of Trenton was arrested by Union deputies on Jan. 5 for a probation violation.

Johnny Everett George, 58, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on Jan. 26 for resisting an officer.

John Leo Love, 51, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on Jan. 25 for resisting an officer.

Jason Hayward Smith, 40, of Jacksonville was arrested by Union deputies on Jan. 27 for battery.

Mark Ashley Thomas, 42, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on Jan. 27 for an out-of-county warrant.

Clay

Scott Gene Ballou, 34, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Jan. 27 for trespassing.

Cody Arthur Carpenter, 30, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Jan. 27 for possession of drug equipment and a violation of a domestic violence protection order.

Dyllan Brad Page, 19, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Jan. 27 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Angela Leah Stewart, 50, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Jan. 27 for being a fugitive from justice.

James Eric Watson, 45, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on Jan. 21 for possession of a controlled substance without a prescription.

KILLER

Continued from page 4

old sister also testified. Kayla Woodard told jurors that her brother supported her throughout her school years and encouraged her to complete high school.

Assistant Public Defender Rosemarie Peoples asked Woodard if she loved her brother. "Very much so," the defendant's sister replied.

Assistant State Attorney Jennifer Dunton reminded jurors of the brutality of the murders, telling them that the older boy left a trail of blood as he tried to crawl away from the attack.

Dunton said Tayten Baker was alive for at least 30 seconds after Wilson began stabbing him, and she said cuts on the teen's hands showed he tried to defend himself before Wilson hit him in the head with a hammer.

Law enforcement shocked

Seventh Judicial Circuit State

Attorney R.J. Larizza said in a news conference shortly after the 2020 murders on Shiloh Road that he was shocked by the viciousness of the crimes.

"I've been in the criminal justice system working since 1980," he said, "and these are some of the most brutal murders I've ever heard about. I can tell you the defendant, he attacked these kids without mercy."

"When you have a murder with the level of violence that we had in these particular cases," he added, "it's disturbing not just to law enforcement and prosecutors but the community as a whole."

After Wilson's sentencing, DeLoach said his heart was broken for the family.

"There will never be enough to right the terrible wrong this monster did to these children and this family, but if anyone deserved the death penalty, it is Mark Wilson," the sheriff said in a social media post. "I personally cannot wait to have this waste of existence vacate my jail and be delivered to death row at the Florida State Prison in Raiford."

May God have mercy on your soul

During the sentencing hearing, Judge McGillin said the case met all the requirements of a death sentence. He added that the mitigating factors, such as the abuse of Mark Wilson Sr. and the scans of the defendant's brain that showed abnormalities, were proven.

However, the mitigating circumstances did not outweigh the aggravating factors that warranted a death sentence.

In concluding the four-minute hearing, McGillin told Wilson the sentence would be automatically appealed to the Florida Supreme Court for review.

"May God have mercy on your soul," the judge said. "We're adjourned."

Evangelist Miller at Bradford Baptist

Bradford Baptist Church (located on S.R. 100, 1.3 miles east of U.S. 301) welcomes evangelist Chris Miller on Sunday, Feb. 5. Miller will speak during adult Sunday school at 10 a.m., the morning service at 11 a.m. and the evening service at 6 p.m.

For more information, please call Pastor Rick Jackson at 904-964-3708.

Veterans can learn about health care enrollment

VFW Commander Willie Wright and VFW Auxiliary President Barbara Fischer announce that Post 10082 is coordinating three events in

conjunction with the Bradford County Senior Center and the American Legion Post 56 in Starke.

Special Enrollment Period Health Care Education sessions will be held on Monday, Feb. 6, at the senior center located at 1803 N. Temple Ave. at 10 a.m.; Monday, Feb. 6, at the American Legion Post located 709 Edwards Road at 6:30 p.m.; and Thursday, Feb. 9, at the VFW Post located at 16483 SE 83rd Terrace in Lake Butler at 7 p.m.

Military retirees and spouses with TRICARE for Life can learn about their options during the special enrollment period. There is no cost or obligation to attend. Free bingo will be offered at all three locations. Light refreshments will be served. For more information call Carole Armstrong at 888-456-0776.



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Education Foundation holding drawing for 2 vehicles and 1 vacation

The Bradford County Education Foundation is currently selling tickets to enter drawings for three prizes: a 2016 Dodge Charger, a 2006 Honda Rancher 350 4x2 and a four-day, three-night stay at a cabin in Ellijay, Georgia.

Tickets for the drawing for the Charger, which was donated by the Starke Police Department, are \$100. Tickets to enter the drawings for the Rancher, which was donated by the Bradford County Sheriff's Office, and the Ellijay cabin (Blissful Bear), are \$50 each. The cabin sleeps four.

Tickets can be purchased from any BCEF member or at Capital City Bank of Starke. All profits go to help Bradford County public schools.

The drawings will be held at the Saturday, Feb. 4, Northeast Florida Chamber of Commerce banquet.

Tory Kittles to star in new movie 'Among the Beasts'

Bradford County native Tory Kittles stars in the movie "Among the Beasts," which will be made available via video on demand on Friday, Feb. 10, as well being shown in select theaters as part of a limited release.

The plot consists of a gangster's daughter reluctantly teaming up with a former Marine to find her kidnapped cousin. Kittles portrays the former Marine (LT).

Kittles also currently stars as Detective Marcus Dante in the

CBS series "The Equalizer."

You can view the official trailer of "Among the Beasts" on YouTube.

Local DAR chapter to next meet on Feb. 6

The Col. Samuel Elbert Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, will meet on Monday, Feb. 6, at 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall of Keystone United Methodist Church (4004 S.R. 21).

Honorary Chapter Regent Susan Lucas will serve as hostess and will present a program on President's Day observations.

Do you have a Revolutionary War-era patriot in your family tree? If you would like to find out, DAR can help with its genealogical resources. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove direct descent from a person who aided in achieving American independence between April 19, 1775, and Nov. 26, 1783, is eligible for membership. Please contact Romeo at 352-478-3544 for more information.

BHS baseball to host home-run derby, alumni game Feb. 11

Bradford High School's baseball program will host a home-run derby on Saturday, Feb. 11, at 4 p.m., followed by an alumni game.

Participation in the derby is \$20 (20 pitches), while the cost to play as an alumnus is \$40.

The deadline to sign up is Friday, Feb. 3.

Please contact Varsity Head Coach Caleb Polk at 904-796-0755.

Bradford Transition Academy at NFTC: teaching life skills

Editor's note: In recognition of Career Technical Education Month, the Telegraph will present a series of stories on North Florida Technical College.

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

North Florida Technical College is all about putting students on the road to a better life. Mostly, that's in the form of providing a glimpse into possible careers or offering classes that allow students to become certified in particular skills and ready to be hired in high-demand jobs.

Then, there's the Bradford Transition Academy, which helps its students with life in general. The academy is for those with special needs in the 18-22 age range.

Lisa Gault, who's in her ninth year of teaching in the academy, said the goal is teach students such things as how to cook, how to dress for a job or simply how to interact socially with others.

"The purpose is to prepare them to be adults," Gault said. "We give them life skills."

Gault has four students in the academy this year, though she's had as many as 12 before.

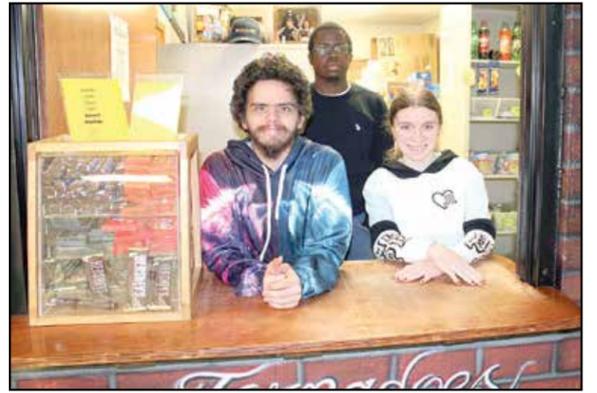
Some of what students learn is done in their classroom on campus. Maybe it's learning how to fill out a resume and prepare for a job interview. Or it could be learning how to cook, do laundry or mop floors. In fact, students clean their entire classroom toward the end of their day.

Of course, each student is unique, so Gault learns what areas they need the most help in. "I try to do whatever fits them," she said. "It's very individualized."

The students operate a school store in their classroom that offers candy, snacks and drinks. That allows them to interact with others and handle transactions. Gault said the store does \$200-\$250 worth of business each day. Plus, the students also accompany Gault on trips off campus to purchase items for the store.

"They go shopping with me," Gault said. "They go to BJ's. Then, they go to Walmart."

On Mondays, you can find academy students at the Colonel



Bradford Transition Academy students (l-r) Chris Norman, Elijah Alexander and Summer Crews man a school store in their classroom at North Florida Technical College. Photo by Cliff Smelley.

Arley W. McRae Bradford Food Pantry, preparing items that'll be handed out to customers on Fridays. On Tuesdays, students are at the Clothes Closet at Madison Street Baptist Church, where they separate hangers and sort and hang clothing. On Fridays, students visit Parkside Assisted Living Facility, where they play bingo with the residents.

It all amounts to learning a variety of skills and putting students in social settings.

"It's just trying to make you a more well-rounded adult," Gault said.

The academy enjoys a good relationship with Bradford High School's special-needs students. Recently, the BHS students were invited to the academy classroom. To coincide with the fact the BHS students were learning about the Trail of Tears, the academy students prepared four Native American-themed art projects for the BHS students to participate in. They made dream catchers, pottery bowls, drums and pictures of wolves on wood.

"We had to shop and get it all organized," Gault said.

The academy students will visit the BHS campus at a future date. Gault said academy student Summer Crews has prepared a project in which she will teach the BHS students how to draw Native American symbols. Crews will also tell a story, using rocks that she's painted Native American symbols on.

Crews has proven to be quite creative. She designs T-shirts to coincide with different seasons and holidays (she has Valentine's shirts on sale now) and would like to have an online presence in which to sell her shirts as well.

Bradford Transition Academy students simply need some assistance to complement the skills they already have. They are already capable of doing quite a lot, which has often surprised those who've witnessed the students in work situations. For example, Gault has heard people at the food pantry say they didn't

See BTA, page 13



Summer Crews (pictured with NFTC volunteer Richard Platt) organizes hangers at the Clothes Closet at Madison Street Baptist Church. File photo by Cliff Smelley.

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Keystone Heights High School claimed the District 6-1A trophies in the Olympic and traditional girls weightlifting events. Pictured are: (front, l-r) Tessa Herring, Ashlyn Brown, Ava Herman, Kat Brossette, Dakota Herring, (second row, l-r) Trista Harrison, Harmony Geiger, Lily Mitchell, (third row, l-r) Jaden Fernandez, Heidi Knapp, Kenly Chitty, Abbey Anthony-Rozier, Alexys Schleeter, Raegan Lee, Morgan Wilson, (back, l-r) Coach Todd Gillenwaters, Kaylee Wright, Ariel King, Paige Harrington and Coach Kelly Cook. Photo by Cliff Smelley.

Keystone girls lift way to 2 District 6-1A team titles

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School captured the championship trophies in both the Olympic (snatch and clean and jerk) and traditional (bench press and clean and jerk) events at the District 6-1A meet, which was held Jan. 28 at St. Johns Country Day School.

"The ultimate goal, as I told them this week, was I wanted both trophies," Keystone Coach Todd Gillenwaters said. "We got both trophies."

"I'm ecstatic. I'm elated. We're on the rise (as a program)."

Keystone had three individual champions in the Olympic event and one in the traditional event. They qualified automatically for the Region 2 finals, which will be held the Saturday, Feb. 4, at 9 a.m. at West Nassau High School.

The Indians had a team score of 58 in the Olympic event, placing 15 points ahead of runner-up Baldwin.

Kaylee Wright, who won the 169 class with a 280 total (120 snatch, 160 clean and jerk), was the second-best pound-for-

pound lifter in the Olympic event behind St. Johns Country Day's Addison Frisbee, who competes in the 129 class.

The Indians had two other Olympic champions in Kenly Chitty, who won the 154 class with a 220 total (90, 130), and Paige Harrington, who won the 183 class with a 210 total (85, 125). Chitty was the fourth-best pound-for-pound lifter, while Harrington was eighth best.

Four lifters were runners-up in their classes: Heidi Knapp with a lift of 160 (65, 95) in the 119 class, Lillian Mitchell with a lift of 175 (75, 100) in the 183 class, Harmony Geiger with a lift of 185 (65, 120) in the 199 class and Dakota Herring with a lift of 190 (75, 115) in the unlimited class.

Knapp and Herring were each 5 pounds away from winning their classes.

All four second-place finishers earned at-large berths in the Region 2 finals.

Gillenwaters said Geiger came through in a big way. He said she knew she could earn points in the Olympic event because of the competitors in her class,

but it had been a while since she had done the snatch. Plus, Geiger had scratched out at her three previous meets because she couldn't get a clean-and-jerk attempt that counted.

Geiger missed her first snatch attempt of 65, but got the total successfully on her second attempt before unsuccessfully trying 70 on her third attempt.

"Then she goes and nails all three of her clean and jerks, which she hasn't even done since before Christmas," Gillenwaters said. Geiger had clean-and-jerk totals of 110 and 115 on her first two attempts before getting the 120 on her third attempt.

Placing third were Abigail Anthony-Rozier with a lift of 145 (60, 85) in the 119 class, Ashlyn Brown with a lift of 200 (95, 105) in the 154 class and Morgan Wilson with a lift of 190 (80, 110) in the 169 class. All three earned at-large Region 2 berths.

Alexys Schleeter and Trista Harrison also earned points. Schleeter was fourth in the 139 class with a lift of 160 (60, 100),

See KHHS, page 11

BHS takes runner-up trophy

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bradford High School had four individuals win their weight classes as the Tornadoes captured the team runner-up trophy in the traditional event (bench press and clean and jerk) at the District 6-1A girls weightlifting meet, which was held Jan. 28 at St. Johns Country Day School.

As individual district champions, Takeirra Bakken, Rylie Blankenship, Brianna Brooks and Gabby Oliver automatically qualified for the Region 2 finals, which will be held Saturday, Feb. 4, at 9 a.m. at West Nassau High School.

Allie McFarland earned an at-large berth and will also compete at the meet.

Bakken, who was third at state in the 183 class last season, proved to be the district meet's best pound-for-pound lifter. She had a bench press of 190 and a clean and jerk of 185 to finish with a 375 total, which put her in first in the 199 class by 70 pounds. She was one of only three lifters in the 12-member class to surpass 300 pounds.

"I has done an awesome job," Bradford Coach David May said. "She plays softball as well. I can't wait to watch her on the diamond. As strong as she is, she'll hit that softball a long way. "She works hard, too. She's



Bradford High School earned the District 6-1A runner-up trophy in girls weightlifting. Pictured in the front (l-r) are the Tornadoes' Region 2 qualifiers: Brianna Brooks (district champ), Rylie Blankenship (district champ), Takeirra Bakken (district champ), Allie McFarland (at-large qualifier) and Gabby Oliver (district champ). Photo by Cliff Smelley.

been a real pleasure to coach all year long."

Oliver, who was the state runner-up in the 199 class last year, has dropped down two classes this season. She won the district title in the 169 class with a 340 total (180 bench press, 160 clean and jerk) and was the second-best pound-for-

pound lifter. She actually tied with Keystone Heights' Kaylee Wright, but was awarded the championship based on the weigh-in tiebreaker.

Blankenship, competing on the team for the first year after being encouraged to lift weights

See BHS, page 11

Clark wins title for UCHS lifters

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Leah Clark won her weight class, while seven of her teammates placed either second, third, fifth or sixth at the District 6-1A girls weightlifting meet, which was held Jan. 28 at St. Johns Country Day School.

Clark, who was the third-best pound-for-pound lifter at the meet, won the 139 class in the traditional event (bench press and clean and jerk) with an overall total of 270 (130 bench press, 140 clean and jerk), automatically qualifying for the Region 2 meet, which will be held Saturday, Feb. 4, at 9 a.m. at West Nassau High School.

Five lifters received at-large berths and will also compete: Hayley Burke, Jaira Highland, Gracelyn Manning, Hailey Rivera and Taleya Smith.

The Tigers finished fourth in the team standings with a score of 27. Ten of those points came from Rivera and Smith finishing as runners-up in their classes. Rivera had a 185 total (80, 105) in the 119 class, while Smith had a 245 total (120, 125) in the 154 class.

Rivera scratched on two bench-press attempts at 90 pounds. If she had gotten that total, she would've won her class.

Holly Halfacre had a 155 total (65, 90) to place third in the 119 class, while the following placed fifth: Stefani Nash with a 115 total (50, 65) in the 101 class and Manning (199) with a 240 total (120, 120) in the 199 class.

Burke and Highland placed sixth in the 154 and 199 classes, respectively. Burke had a 205 total (95, 110), while Highland



Leah Clark

had a 240 total (120, 120).

Also competing for the Tigers were Jeanette Allen with a 180 total (90, 90) in the 129 class, Hannah Rivera with a 180 total (85, 95) in the 129 class and Addison Wright with a 175 total (85, 90) in the 139 class.

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- ELECTIONS:** Candidates running for local offices. Upcoming elections & election results; any local voting glitches.

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Protecting Florida Land Program: \$2.6 million available to landowners

Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Wilton Simpson and the Florida Forest Service announced that \$2.6 million is now available to landowners through the Sequestering Carbon and Protecting Florida Land Program. The program offers landowners incentive payments to help increase the acreage of healthy forests in Florida.

"We are proud to offer the Protecting Florida Land Program to help landowners offset the

initial cost of site preparation for planting trees," Simpson said. "Since most of our state's forests are privately owned, Florida landowners are key to maintaining and conserving our forests for future generations, and this program will empower them to make a long-term investment in protecting Florida's robust forest lands."

Forests remove carbon-dioxide emissions as well as produce oxygen, contribute to

clean water and provide homes for wildlife.

The Sequestering Carbon and Protecting Florida Land Program Florida is open to non-industrial, private landowners, local governments and registered nonprofit organizations. Applicants may request funding for tree establishment site preparation practices on a minimum of 20 acres and up to a maximum of 500 acres. The monies originate primarily

from federal funds such as USDS and US Forestry Service incentive programs to states and are designed to maintain the long term sustainability of non-industrial private forests and wildlife habitats.

In 2022, the Florida Legislature appropriated more than \$8 million for this program. More than \$5 million has already been used to increase the acreage of healthy forests in Florida, and the remaining \$2.6 million will

be used by landowners to prepare for future plantings.

To obtain an application and learn more about the Sequestering Carbon and Protecting Florida Land Program Florida, visit [FDACS.gov/CarbonProgram](https://fdacs.gov/CarbonProgram).

The Florida Forest Service, a division of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, manages more than 1 million acres of state forests and provides forest-

management assistance on more than 17 million acres of private and community forests. The Florida Forest Service is also responsible for protecting homes, forestland, and natural resources from the devastating effects of wildfire on more than 26 million acres.

For more information about Simpson and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, visit [FDACS.gov](https://fdacs.gov).

KHHS girls soccer team advances in district tourney

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Ella Hutchins and Kiersten Shaw combined to score nine goals for the Keystone Heights High School girls soccer team, which had no trouble advancing in the District 4-3A tournament with an 11-0 win over seventh seed Interlachen on Jan. 27 at P.K. Yonge.

Shaw scored five goals and had one assist, while Hutchins had four goals and two assists.

The Indians, who are the tournament's second seed, also got one goal each from Kendall Gagnon and Madeline Sweezy.

Sweezy also had one assist, as did Tingleigh Gubics.

Interlachen didn't pose much of a scoring threat, but Keystone goalkeeper Aspen Krohn did make one save.

Keystone (18-4) played third seed Williston in a semifinal match this past Tuesday (Jan. 31). If the Indians won, they will play either top seed P.K. Yonge or fifth seed Trinity Catholic for the championship on Thursday, Feb. 2, at 7 p.m. at P.K. Yonge.

BHS girls cap regular season with 50-24 win

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bradford High School had no trouble emerging victorious on the last night of the regular season in girls basketball, scoring as many points in the first half as visiting Fort White did for the game in a 50-24 win on Jan. 20.

The Tornados (10-9) opened the game with a three-pointer by Ayanna Pringle and scored 13 of the first 15 points of the opening quarter.

Bradford led by only seven entering the second quarter, but started pulling away with a 7-1 run. Jada Hankerson scored off a turnover. Then, after Ajjyah Jackson made free throw, the Tornados got baskets from Nichelle Brown and Ar'Nayshia Griffin.

Kailyn Teal scored off an offensive rebound at the end of the half to send Bradford into halftime leading 24-9.

Griffin scored six of her game-high 15 points in the third quarter as the Tornados increased their lead to 22 points. Griffin also had two steals in the quarter.

Kimber Woods, who, along with Pringle, was honored as part of Senior Night, made two three-pointers in the fourth quarter.

Pringle and Woods finished with seven and six points, respectively.

Bradford also got six points from Brown, five points each from Hankerson and Jackson, four points from Teal and two points from Destiny Crum.

The win snapped a four-game losing streak.

Bradford is the third seed in the District 2-3A tournament. The Tornados were scheduled to play at second seed Trinity Catholic on Wednesday, Feb. 1, at 6 p.m. If Bradford won that game, it will play top seed P.K. Yonge for the championship on Friday, Feb. 3, at P.K. Yonge. Tip-off time wasn't known by deadline.

Union Co. boys defeat Crescent City 61-44 for 3rd straight win

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Thomas Williams and Gavin Jenkins scored 16 and 15 points, respectively, as the Union County High School boys basketball team won its third straight game, defeating visiting Crescent City 61-44 on Jan. 21.

The Tigers (11-9) got a huge third quarter from John

Nichols, who scored 10 points and finished with 12. He sank a three-pointer between halfcourt and the arc at the buzzer to send Union into the fourth quarter leading 47-35.

Jenkins scored eight points in the fourth quarter.

The Tigers also got eight points from Cole Andersen-Davis, five points from Dee Williams, three points from Deonte Jones and two points from Jayden Jenkins.

Before their winning streak began, the Tigers lost 37-32 at Trenton on Jan. 14. Gavin Jenkins had 11 points and seven rebounds, while Dee Williams had nine points and six rebounds. Andersen-Davis, Jones and Thomas Williams scored four points each.

On Jan. 17, four players scored in double figures in a 57-32 win over visiting Bell.

Thomas Williams and Gavin Jenkins scored 12 and 11 points, respectively, while Andersen-Davis and Jayden Jenkins each had 10 points. Andersen-Davis and Williams had five and four steals, respectively, with each also grabbing five rebounds. Jenkins had three assists.

Dee Williams and Nichols scored six and five points, respectively. Williams also had five rebounds and four steals, while Nichols had three steals.

Kam Paytee, Jayce Puni and Aurtrell Ross each had one point, with Puni also grabbing five rebounds.

Dee Williams posted a double-

double with 11 points and 11 rebounds in a 57-36 win at Dixie County on Jan. 19.

The Tigers also got a team-high 15 points from Thomas Williams, nine points from Jones, eight points from Gavin Jenkins, six points from Andersen-Davis, five points from Nichols and three points from Jayden Jenkins.

Nichols and Dee Williams each had three steals, while Jayden Jenkins had six rebounds.

Gavin Jenkins and Thomas Williams had five and three assists, respectively.

Union played Middleburg this

past Monday (Jan. 23) and will host Interlachen on Thursday, Feb. 2, at 7:30 p.m. The Tigers then close the regular season with an 8 p.m. home game against Branford on Friday, Feb. 3.

The District 6-1A tournament begins Tuesday, Feb. 7. Union, the fourth seed, will host fifth seed Bell in a quarterfinal game at 7 p.m. If the Tigers win, they'll travel to play top seed Newberry in a semifinal game on Wednesday, Feb. 8.

The championship game is Friday, Feb. 10.

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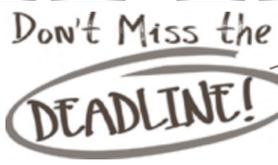
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40 Notices

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

45 Land for Sale

LOTS FOR SALE. Each located on Geiger Rd (4). Buy one or all for your future home. City water & sewer available. \$16k each or all for \$45k. Owner financing avail-

able with 10% down. Call 904-364-9022.

VACANT LOTS FOR SALE. 1 acre on SR 100, 4 miles West of Starke and just 2 miles from Sampson & Crosby Lakes. \$20k for each. Call 904-966-8089.

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. 18 acres for

sale. Starke-Lake Butler. 1-678-438-6828

3BR/2BA DW. Newly remodeled, no pets. 2 miles South of Starke. \$900/mo. plus deposit. 352-468-2674.

53 A Yard Sales

YARD SALE; Fri. & Sat. 9am-2pm. 20932 NE 20th Lane (Strawberry Acres) off 301. Little bit of everything, follow signs. Cancel if rain.

55 Wanted

DO YOU HAVE a talent or skill that you want to and should be sharing with others, please text your interest to: Cynthia at 904-769-1147.

57

For Sale

DINING ROOM SET, two arm chairs, four regular chairs, old dining room table with two extensions plus three buffets. Asking \$450. Call Martha 904-437-7050.

65 Help Wanted

APARTMENT GROUNDS Maintenance worker needed part-time. Must have reliable transportation. Please apply in person at: Pine Forest Apartments 1530 W. Madison St. Starke, FL. 32091. Mon-Fri 9:00am-5:00pm

THE CITY OF LAWTEY is taking applications for full time/part time Maintenance Supervisor. Appli-

cant must be able to pass and maintain a non-DOC supervisor class, drug test and background check, to get inmate labor. Application and full job description can be picked up at Lawtey City Hall, 2793 Lake St. Lawtey, FL. 32058, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Applications are due by February 10, 2023 by 4 p.m. City of Lawtey is an Equal Opportunity employer and a drug free work place.

HOUSE KEEPER WANTED for small house in Bradford County. Part-time, 3 days per week, 10 hours per week for cleaning, grocery shopping & errands, could be more hours per week. No laundry or cooking required. Must have reliable transportation and be able to pass level 2 security check. Applications by phone only, NO texts! 352-281-0260.

EVERGREEN BAPTIST Church in Lawtey, FL. is seeking a Children's & Student Ministry Director to meet students where they are, while sharing God's message of his grace in a way they can connect thru prayer, bible study, teaching & outreach activities. If interested, please send resume to Karen_m58@icloud.com or contact 904-263-8305 for more info.

THE BRADFORD COUNTY Public Works / Road Department is accepting applications for one (1) qualified, Full-Time Heavy Equipment Operator at a pay rate of \$15.00 per hour. Applicants must possess a High School Diploma or G.E.D. Applications along with a detailed job description may be obtained from the Road Department, located at 812B North Grand St., Starke, FL. 32091 or from the county website at www.bradfordcountyfl.gov. The deadline for accepting applications is before the close of business on February 7, 2023. Bradford County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. For inquiries, please contact the Road Department at (904) 966-6243.

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"

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"

Tri-County Classifieds

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Lake Region
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Times

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OUT OF AREA CLASSIFIED ADS

Online Auction Only Florida Spine and Joint Institute, LLC d/b/a IRISE Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors Case No. CACE22-013385 **Assets located in:** Pompano Beach, FL 33069 **Auction ends:** Tues, Feb 7, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. **Auction will consist of:** medical equipment, blood pressure monitors, X-ray aprons, centrifuges, traction tables, patient exam tables, office equipment, TV's, filing cabinets and much more. **Registration, catalog, photos and terms available at** www.moeckerauctions.com **Preview: 02/06 by appointment. Call for details (954) 252-2887 | (800) 840-BIDS** moeckerauctions.com/2022/12/14/atlas-labs-fl-llc/ (No onsite attendance) **AB-1098 AU-3219, Eric Rubin**

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Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Feb. 2, 2023

BRADFORD

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2022-CA-473

MARIAN L. BRIGHT, a/k/a MARIAN H. BRIGHT, Plaintiff, VS. DEMOND STOKES, SR., a/k/a DEMOND L. STOKES, SR., Defendant.

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: DEMOND STOKES, SR. a/k/a DEMOND L. STOKES, SR.
Residence(s): Unknown
Last Known mailing address: 3880 Morning Glory Road Jacksonville, Florida 32210
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to quiet title on the following property in Bradford County, Florida:

The North 102.53 feet of the South 334.53 feet of the West 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 25, Township 5 South, Range 22 East, Bradford County, Florida, said parcel being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at the Iron Pipe at the Southwest corner of said Section 25 and run N 01 deg 23 min 59 sec W, along the West line of said Section 25, a distance of 232.05 feet to an Iron Rod for the Point of Beginning; thence continue N 01 deg 23 min 59 sec W, along last said West line, 102.53 feet to an Iron Rod; thence run N 89 deg 46 min 25 sec E, 270.00 feet to an Iron Rod; thence run S 01 deg 23 min 59 sec E, 102.53 feet to an Iron Rod; thence run S 89 deg 46 min 25 sec W, 270.00 feet to the Point of beginning.

TOGETHER WITH a 30 foot wide Easement for Ingress, Egress and Access being in the SE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 26, Township 5 South, Range 22 East, Bradford County, Florida, lying 30 feet to the left of and parallel to the following described line and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at an Iron Pipe at the Southeast corner of said Section 26 (also being the Southwest corner of Section 25) and run N 01 deg 23 min 59 sec W, along the East line of said Section 26, a distance of 232.05 feet to an Iron Rod for the Point of Beginning of said Easement; thence continue N 01 deg 23 min 59 sec W, along last said East line, 337 feet, more or less, to an existing fence post at the NE corner of the SE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of SE 1/4; thence run S 89 deg 29 min 35 sec W, along the North line of said SE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of SE 1/4, a distance of 150 feet, more or less, to a point; thence run N 01 deg 22 min 58 sec W, 671 feet, more or less, to the Southerly R/W line of County Road N.E. 216th Street, and the End of said Easement Line together with that certain mobile home situate thereon, has been filed against you, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on BERNARD & SCHEMER, ESQUIRE, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 480 Busch Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32218, on or before

2022 or within 35 days of the first date of publication of this notice, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court on the 29th day of December, 2022.
Clerk of the Court
By: K. Jenkins
Deputy Clerk

1/12/23 4tchg 2/2-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 04-2022-CP-0134
Division Probate

IN RE: ESTATE OF THOMAS GERALD MULLIS, SR., Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of THOMAS GERALD MULLIS, SR., deceased, whose date of death was August 25, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 945 N. Temple

Ave., Starke, FL 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this notice is: January 26, 2023.

THOMAS GERALD MULLIS, JR. Personal Representative
3621 Hurst Dr. NE Milledgeville, GA 31061
Matthew T. Harrod, Esq. Attorney for Personal Representative
Florida Bar No. 41134
Harrod Law, PLLC
145 Hilden Rd., Suite 105
Ponte Vedra, FL 32081
Telephone: (904) 373-6665
Email: mharrod@mattharrod.com

1/26 2tchg 2/2-BCT

CITY OF STARKE
Request for Proposals (RFP)
Tank Asset Maintenance Program

The City of Starke is issuing this Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit vendor proposals for professional services for a project to continuously maintain steel and concrete water storage tank assets in the City's water distribution system. Interested parties should send an email to the City of Starke at dmullins@cityofstarke.org or visit https://www.cityofstarke.org/bids/ for a detailed copy of the RFP. Submissions will be received via DemandStar until February 13, 2023 at 4:30 PM local time, at which time they will be publicly opened, and those providing timely and properly submitted submissions will be announced.

2/2 2tchg 2/9-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
MIRACLE AUTOMOTIVE & TRUCK SERVICE CENTER INC. gives notice that on 02/17/2023 at 12:00 PM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 620 N THOMPSON ST, STARKE, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78.
IGCEC14WXYZ184122 2000 CHEV
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 02/02/2023.

2/2 1tchg-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 04-2022-CA-000317

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR BNC MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2006-1, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-1, Plaintiff, vs. THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST, JANICE M. KELLY-BRYANT AKA JANICE M. KELLY AKA JANICE M. N. KELLY AKA JANICE MARGUERITE KELLY AKA JANICE M. NICHOLS AKA JANICE MORTON-NICHOLS KELLY AKA JANICE MARQUERIT MORTON, DECEASED, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION
To: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS,

DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST, JANICE M. KELLY AKA JANICE M. N. KELLY AKA JANICE MARGUERITE KELLY AKA JANICE M. NICHOLS AKA JANICE MORTON-NICHOLS KELLY AKA JANICE MARQUERIT MORTON, DECEASED, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION
To: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS,

DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST, JANICE M. KELLY-BRYANT AKA JANICE M. KELLY AKA JANICE M. N. KELLY AKA JANICE MARGUERITE KELLY AKA JANICE M. NICHOLS AKA JANICE MORTON-NICHOLS KELLY AKA JANICE MARQUERIT MORTON, DECEASED
Last Known Address: Unknown
Current Address: Unknown
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Bradford County, Florida: LOT 1 AND THE NORTH 1/2 OF LOT 4 OF BLOCK 2 OF NAT WILLIAMS ADDITION, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 67, SECTION 22, TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST, BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA. A/K/A 1439 N GROVE ST STARKE FL 32091

has been filed against you and you are required to file written defenses with the clerk of court and to serve a copy within 30 days after the first publication of the Notice of Action, on Albertelli Law, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is P.O. Box 23028, Tampa, FL 33623; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint or petition.

This notice shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in the Bradford County Telegraph.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this court on this 30th day of January, 2023.
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: K. Jenkins
Deputy Clerk

Please send invoice and copy to: Albertelli Law
P.O. Box 23028
Tampa, FL 33623
TNA - 22-007263

**See the Americans with Disabilities Act if you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Persons with a disability who need any accommodation in order to participate should call Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352)337-6237 within two (2) working days of receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired, please call 1-800-955-8771; if you are voice impaired, please call 1-800-955-8770.

2/2 2tchg 2/9-BCT

Notice is hereby given:
Thomas E. Davis
Last known address of:
14945 SE County Road 100A LOT 5
Starke FL 32091

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

Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph
Amanda Seyfang
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections
P. O. Box 58
945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C
Starke, FL 32091
Date: January 31, 2023

2/2 1tchg-BCT

Notice is hereby given:
Terrence L. James
Last known address of:
4996 NW 177th St
Starke FL 32091

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

Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph
Amanda Seyfang
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections
P. O. Box 58
945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C
Starke, FL 32091
Date: January 31, 2023

2/2 1tchg-BCT

Notice of Proposed Ordinance by the City of Lawtey

Notice is hereby given that proposed Ordinance 23-01 whose title appears below, will be considered for enactment by the City Council of Lawtey Florida. The second and final reading will be held on February 6, 2023 at 7 p.m. or as soon thereafter that may be heard at City Hall, 2793 Lake St., Lawtey, FL 32058. A copy of the proposed ordinance can be inspected at City Hall, Lawtey, Florida. Interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAWTEY, COUNTY OF BRADFORD, STATE OF FLORIDA DECLARING THE USE OF AN ENGINE COMPRESSION BRAKE AS A "NUISANCE NOISE" WITHIN THE CITY OF LAWTEY CORPORATE LIMITS, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

2/2 1tchg-BCT

UNION

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

GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
CASE NO. 63-2022-CA-000034
GUILD MORTGAGE COMPANY, Plaintiff,

vs. DONNA L. HAYWOOD, et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered December 8, 2022 in Civil Case No. 63-2022-CA-000034 of the Circuit Court of the EIGHTH Judicial Circuit in and for Union County, Lake Butler, Florida, wherein GUILD MORTGAGE COMPANY is Plaintiff and DONNA L. HAYWOOD, et al., are Defendants, the Clerk of Court, KELLIE HENDRICKS CONNELL, CPA, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the front door lobby of the Union County Courthouse, 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, FL 32054 in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the 16th day of February, 2023 at 11:00 AM on the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOT 5 AND 6, BLOCK A, FOX RUN, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGES 6 AND 6A, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA.
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.
Dated this 17th day of January, 2023.
Deputy Clerk
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
As Clerk of the Court
BY: C. Norman
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Persons with a disability who need any accommodation in order to participate should call Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 within two (2) working days of your receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired call (800) 955-8771; if you are voice impaired, call (800) 955-8770.

1/26 2tchg 2/2-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 22-CA-000053
TD BANK, N.A., a national banking association, Plaintiff, vs. LORRAINE M. JOHNS; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF LORRAINE M. JOHNS, IF ANY; MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC; TENANT #1 and UNKNOWN TENANT(S) IN POSSESSION, IF ANY, Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 19, 2023, and entered in Case No. 2022-CA-

1/26 2tchg 2/2-UCT

000053 of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Union County, Florida wherein TD Bank, N.A., is Plaintiff, and Lorraine M. Johns, et al., are Defendants. The Clerk of this Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder at the lobby of the Union County Courthouse at 55 West Main Street., Lake Butler, FL 32054 on March 16, 2023, at 11:00 a.m., the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure, to wit:
LOT 10 OAK MANOR SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 30, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA.
Property address: 9786 SW 151st Place, Lake Butler, Florida 32054
IF YOU ARE A SUBORDINATE LIENHOLDER CLAIMING A RIGHT TO FUNDS REMAINING AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK NO LATER THAN THE DATE THAT THE CLERK REPORTS FUNDS AS UNCLAIMED. IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS.
DATED this of 24th day of January, 2023.
Kellie Hendricks Rhoades, CPA
Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: Crystal Norman
Deputy Clerk
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFFS:
Danielle Rundlett Burns, Esq.
Duane Morris LLP
1875 NW Corporate Blvd., Suite 300
Boca Raton, FL, 33431
Email: DRBurns@duanemorris.com

1/26 2tchg 2/2-UCT

2/2 2tchg 2/9-UCT

the undersigned: CATHY BANDY, 4744 SW 102nd Ave., Lake Butler, FL 32054 sole owner, doing business under the firm name of: THE GARDEN SHED, 4744 SW 102nd Ave., Lake Butler, FL 32054, intends to register fictitious name under the aforesaid statute. Dated this 2nd day of February A.D., 2022, in Bradford County.

2/2 1tchg-UCT

PUBLIC MEETING
The Historical Preservation Board of the City of Lake Butler will hold its regular quarterly meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Commission Chambers at City Hall located at 200 SW 1st St, Lake Butler, FL 32054.

2/2 1tchg-UCT

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE
Please take notice Lake Butler Mini Storage, located at 1015 SW 3rd St. Lake Butler, FL, 32054 intends to hold an auction of goods stored in the following units in default for non-payment of rent on Lockerfox.com. The sale will occur on March 1, 2023 at 10:00 am on Lockerfox.com. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Unit#1 Morgan Geisenburg, Unit #06 Amy Mullins, and Unit #75 Rachel Davis.
All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. See manager for details.

2/2 2tchg 2/9-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. 63-2022-CP-038
IN RE: ESTATE OF GERALD HALL, Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The name of the Decedent, the designation of the court in which the administration of this estate is pending, and the file number are indicated above. The address of the court is Union County Courthouse, 55 West Main Street, Room 103, Lake Butler Florida 32054. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are indicated below.
If you have been served with a copy of this notice and you have any claim or demand against the Decedent's estate, even if that claim is unmaturred, contingent or unliquidated, you must file your claim with the court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF A DATE THAT IS 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER YOU RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENT AND OTHER PERSONS WHO HAVE CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE DECEDENT'S ESTATE MUST FILE THEIR CLAIMS WITH THIS COURT WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

ALL OTHER CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENT AND OTHER PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE DECEDENT'S ESTATE MUST FILE THEIR CLAIMS WITH THIS COURT WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

2/2 2tchg 2/9-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. 2023-CP-0001
IN RE: ESTATE OF BENJAMIN ANDREW MOORE, JR., Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Benjamin Andrew Moore, Jr., deceased, whose date of death was August 28, 2021, is pending in the Circuit Court for Union County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 55 W Main St. #103, Lake Butler, FL 32054. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of first publication of this notice is February 2, 2023.
Personal Representative
/s/ Jeremy M. Hall
JEREMY M. HALL
644 Hanna Court
Dekalb, Illinois 60115
Attorney for Personal Representative
DARBY PEELE & GREEN, PLLC
/s/ Bonnie S. Green
BONNIE S. GREEN
Florida Bar No. 0107085
1241 South Marion Avenue
Lake City, Florida 32025
Telephone: 1-386-752-4120
Facsimile: 1-386-755-4569
Primary email: bonniegreen@darbypeele.com

2/2 2tchg 2/9-UCT

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME
Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given that

2/2 2tchg 2/9-UCT

Also competing for Bradford were Blakeleigh Smith, who had a 190 total (95, 95) in the 129 class, and Leah Tilton, who had a 170 total (85, 85) in the 199 class.
"I'm very proud of the girls," May said, adding, "It's really exciting to see the girls so excited about new (personal records). There were a bunch of those here today for each one of our girls."

2/2 2tchg 2/9-UCT

2/2 2tchg 2/9-UCT

BHS

Continued from page 9

in preparation for softball, won the 110 class with an overall total of 200 (95, 105), which put her 75 pounds ahead of runner-up Contessa Herring of Keystone. She was the event's sixth-best pound-for-pound lifter.
May said the day showed

how dedicated Blankenship has become to the sport.

"Rylie came in 3 pounds overweight at 9:30 this morning," May said. "She had to go outside and take care of business, so to speak. She came back in and was a pound under."

Brianna Brooks, who was the 10th-best pound-for-pound lifter, had a total of 260 (130, 130) to win the unlimited class by 15 pounds.

Bradford, which had a score of 32 to finish behind champion Keystone (43 points) in the team standings, also got points from McFarland, who placed third in the 169 class with a 285 total (150, 135).

Madison Sapp just missed out on earning points for the Tornados, with a seventh-place total of 190 (100, 90) in the 139 class.

Also competing for Bradford were Blakeleigh Smith, who had a 190 total (95, 95) in the 129 class, and Leah Tilton, who had a 170 total (85, 85) in the 199 class.

"I'm very proud of the girls," May said, adding, "It's really exciting to see the girls so excited about new (personal records). There were a bunch of those here today for each one of our girls."

KHHS

Continued from page 9

while Harrison was fifth in the 129 class with a lift of 165 (75, 90). Harrison earned an at-large Region 2 berth.

Keystone had a score of 43 in the traditional event, which put the Indians 11 points ahead of runner-up Bradford.

Ariel King automatically qualified for the Region 2 meet by winning the 129 class with a 250 total (130 bench press, 120 clean and jerk). She was the fourth-best pound-for-pound lifter.

Four lifters placed second: Tessa Herring with a 125 total (65, 60) in the 110 class, Chloe

Still with a 250 total (120, 130) in the 139 class, Wright with a 340 total (180, 160) and Harrington with a 230 total (105, 125).

Wright and Harrington actually tied with the top lifters in their classes, but were awarded second due to the weigh-in tiebreaker.

Still, Wright and Harrington earned at-large Region 2 berths. Chitty and Mitchell placed third in their classes with totals of 240 (110, 130) and 225 (125, 100), respectively, and will compete at the Region 2 finals after receiving at-large berths.

Geiger was fourth with a 275 total (155, 120), while Brown was fifth with a 205 total (100, 105). Both will compete at the Region 2 meet as at-large qualifiers.
Three lifters placed sixth:

Regan Lee with a 195 total (105, 90) in the 139 class, Wilson with a 215 total (105, 110) and Ava Herman with a 225 total (120, 105) in the unlimited class. Wilson received an at-large Region 2 berth.

Gillenwaters said he got started with coaching the team two years ago alongside Mary Karsher-Smith. They wanted to develop a winning culture, following in the footsteps of the boys team, which has won two straight state championships in the traditional event and was also the snatch state champion last year (the first year the event was part of the state series).

Finding the motivation isn't difficult when you're around your inspiration.

Curtis A. "Lex" Sanders Attorney at Law



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

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- Traffic/DUI
- Wills, Trusts, Probate
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IMPORTANT TAX FILING INFORMATION

The IRS announced it has begun accepting and processing tax returns on Monday, Jan. 23, 2023. The **filing deadline to submit 2022 tax returns** or an extension to file and pay tax owed is **Tuesday, April 18, 2023**, for most taxpayers.

Call me to make a tax preparation appointment ASAP:
Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.– 8 p.m. • Saturdays, 8 a.m.– 12 noon.

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fax 904-782-1810



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Obituaries

James A. Dilts Jr.

James (Jimmy) A. Dilts Jr. died unexpectedly following a brief illness on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023, at Corewell Health Lakeland in St. Joseph, Michigan. He was born March 11, 1951, at Memorial Hospital in St. Joseph, Michigan, the son of James A. Dilts Sr. and Betty S. (Mason) Dilts. He attended high school in Niles and Galien, Michigan, after elementary school at Sorter in Benton Harbor, Michigan. He attended Santa Fe College Andrews Center in Starke. He graduated from Bradford County Truck Drivers Vocational School, also in Starke, and drove a truck for 35 years, over a million miles, without accident. He most recently drove with Transway out of Holland, Michigan until his retirement. In his early years, he worked as a construction laborer, fuel driver, and, most fondly, at Rex Auto Parts, formerly of Benton Harbor, Michigan. He even learned shoe repair from his wife's father, formerly of Brown's Shoe Repair of Benton Harbor, Michigan. He practiced this skill after opening a Western Boot and Shoe Store in Starke until he returned to Michigan. He liked everyone he met, and he called everyone his friend. He mostly enjoyed fishing for Coho salmon on Lake Michigan in his small boat with his friends. In his early years, you could find him on one of the piers in St. Joseph, Michigan fishing for Perch, Coho, or whatever was biting that day, even in a storm. He loved listening to the radio and music of the 50s & 60s and his friend's band, White Summer, whenever they were playing. He was always singing a tune. There wasn't a song he didn't know, or who or when it was made. He was a hard-core Detroit Lions fan, really liked NASCAR, and enjoyed old western movies. Most people were surprised at how nice his voice really was, and they told him so. He was a loving husband and father. He was a good man, always ready to help when he could, and he will be deeply missed. He was preceded in death by his parents; and his brother, Terry.

Survivors are his wife of 50 years, Betty A. Dilts; his son, James Dilts III; sisters, Debora Locklear of Illinois, and Rebecca Medina of Steventown, Michigan; nieces, Kristi Baker of Bridgman, Michigan, Jill Dilts Kinchen of Eau Claire, Michigan; nephews, Shannon (Jen) Locklear of Illinois, Jason Baker of Phoenix, Arizona, Ryan Dilts of Benton Harbor, Ron Brown of Florida, and William (Billy) Brown of Michigan; one very special cousin, Jamie Smith; along with other caring loving cousins and aunts and uncles. As everyone was a friend to him, he had many. Many from the Pilot Truck Stop on Napier Avenue of Benton Harbor, Michigan. A few special friends he spoke of often were Tommy and Margaret Woods, Bill Dodd, Pete Vaughn, and Robbie Smith, all of Florida. And a very special friend, Tyrone of Benton Harbor, Michigan. Other close friends are, Harvey Hardin and Butch of Steventown, Michigan, Rick Lowe, Jimmy Schrader, Jimmy Watkins, Larry Withrow of Benton Harbor, Michigan; his brother, of Alabama, and Wally Strebbs, St. Joseph, Michigan. There are others.

A Celebration of Life will be held, Saturday, Feb. 11, at 2 p.m. at Starks & Menchinger Chapel, 2650 Niles Road, St. Joseph, Michigan. Cremation has taken place per his request. Interment will be at Riverview Cemetery St. Joseph, Michigan. Those who wish to sign his Memory Book online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com. Thank you for being a friend.

PAID OBITUARY



Rodney Jenkins

Rodney Lamont Jenkins went to his heavenly home on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023, following an extended illness. He was born June 24, 1981, to Ronnie Jenkins and Delvory Alexander and has been a lifelong resident of Union County. He was a devoted father, husband, son, brother, and friend. He was preceded in death by his grandfathers, Charles Jenkins Sr. and Prince Alexander Sr.

He leaves behind to cherish his memories his loving wife, Kimberly Jenkins; children, Dajah, Miyah, Jada, Trace, Neveah, Zoey, and Lil Rodney Jr.; stepchildren, Kyla and Brycen Boney, and, Arylah and Zayden Jones; grandchildren, Jaylani, Kehlan, and Kaycen; his parents Delvory (Dale) Green and Ronnie Charles (Phyllis Brown) Jenkins; siblings, Tracy (Kevin) Brown, Yulonda Weeks, Ronnie Charles Jenkins Jr., Marcus Jenkins, Jeremy Jenkins, Jericka Jenkins, and Jermesia Jenkins; loving grandmothers, Lucy Alexander and Janean Jenkins; Godmother, Cynthia Holland; mother-in-law Connie Ogletree; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and a special friend and nephew, Montreal Blount.

A Celebration of Life was held on Saturday, Jan. 28, at Victory Christian Center. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to his widow Kimberly. CashApp: \$KJenkins84

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

PAID OBITUARY



Robin Johnson

Robin Johnson, 61, of Starke, died Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023, at her home.

She is survived by her husband, David Johnson of Starke; parents, Glenn (Linda) Grubb and Margaret Davis; children, Stacey Stewart, Adam (Brandy) Blankenship, David Johnson, Josh Johnson, and Andrew Johnson; three sisters; five grandchildren; and numerous extended family members.

A Celebration of Life was held Wednesday, Feb. 1, at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel.

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

Geraldine Lewis

Geraldine Gay Lewis passed from this earthly life on Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2023, at the age of 77. She was born to Adolph and Hazel (Elliott) Gay on Aug. 8, 1945. She attended schools in Bradford County, graduating from Bradford County High School in 1963. After graduation, she attended Athens State College in Athens, Alabama for a short time, and transferred to Florida State University where she graduated in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in physical education. She began her teaching career in Perry, teaching physical education at Taylor County High School.

It was here that she met Jimmy Lewis, her husband of 53 years. In 1974, she, Jimmy and their twins, Amy and Tim, moved to Starke and both started teaching at schools in Bradford County. She taught at Bradford Middle School until her retirement in 2003. She was loved by many who knew her. Always thinking of others, she was quick to offer herself when someone was sick or had lost a loved one. It was like that was one of her missions in life. Her main mission, though, was her family. All of her being was connected in some way around her family. She longed for family gatherings such as birthdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas. She looked forward to times spent with her children and grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her father and mother, Adolph and Hazel Gay; and her sister, Pauline Tanner.

She leaves behind her husband of 53 years, Jimmy Lewis; daughter, Amy (Jay); sons, Tim (Tonya), and Steve (Farrah); 10 grandchildren, Meghan Helsley, Colten (Courtland) Griffis, Courtney Helsley, Pierson Lewis, Parker Lewis, Ryan Jones, Laya Lewis, Kyler Hall, Logan Lewis and Landon Lewis; and three great-grandchildren, Melaiha, Luke and Lyncee.

As a woman of faith, it was her wish that friends and family would gather to celebrate the eternal life promised to all through Jesus Christ. She would love to be remembered by those friends and family in the sharing of the many funny and hilarious stories that would celebrate what was good and blessed in her life. A gathering is being planned for April 2023.

PAID OBITUARY



William Phillips

William Byron Phillips, 64, of Middleburg, passed away on Monday, Oct. 17, 2022, after enduring many challenging health issues following a stroke several years ago. He was born in Starke, on Nov. 13, 1957, to Erle Leslie Phillips Sr., and Joann Register. He graduated from Bradford High School in 1975 and went on to serve in the Army. After his service, he worked for the Department of Corrections and then for The Clock Restaurant in Gainesville and Jacksonville. He lived in Jacksonville for the majority of his life, the latter part of his life with his father, Leslie Phillips, until his father's passing. His hobbies were following WWE, the Jacksonville Jaguars and the Florida Gators. He was predeceased by his mother, Joann; his father, Leslie; brother, Erle Leslie Jr.; and daughter, Melissa.

He is survived by his grandson Devin Wright; uncle, Daniel L. (Jeanette) Phillips; and many extended family members.

The Neptune Society was responsible for carrying out his last wishes of cremation and did not include a service. A private disposition per his wishes will be carried out later.

PAID OBITUARY



Roger Rothwell Sr.

Col. (Ret.) Roger D. Rothwell Sr., 89, of Melrose passed away peacefully with his family on Thursday, Jan. 19, 2023. He was born on July 29, 1933, in Detroit, Michigan, to the late Katherine M. McPherson and Harry D. Bundy. He was adopted by his late stepfather, Edward E. Rothwell, and was raised by his maternal grandmother, Kay "Nonnie" Kelchner. He married the former Meta Elise "Melise" Ross, of Jacksonville. He graduated from Rolla High School in Rolla, Missouri in 1951. Following this graduation, he enlisted in the Navy and was a seaman before being accepted into the United States Naval Academy. He received his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, in 1957. In August 1969, he attended graduate school and received his master's degree in systems analysis from the University of Rochester in Rochester, New York. Upon graduation from the Annapolis Naval Academy, he transferred to the United States Air Force where he ascended the ranks to command pilot and full colonel. His first military assignment was in June 1957, when he attended primary and basic pilot training in Marianna, and Laredo AFB, Texas. His career spanned almost 30 years, which allowed him to travel all over the United States and overseas. In 1968, he volunteered to serve in Vietnam, where he remained for a year before coming home. He had a decorated career, earning several medals, including the prestigious Legion of Merit.

He is survived by his two sons, Roger (Diana) Rothwell Jr., and Randolph (Vickie) Rothwell; grandchildren, Julie (Travis) Ansley, Rachel (Bo) Bright, Christopher (Jessica) Henderson, and Michael Rothwell; great-grandchildren, Levi Ansley, Amos Ansley, Carter Bright, Denver Bright, Jack Ansley, Addie Mae Henderson, and Memphis Mae Bright.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Immanuel Anglican Church in Keystone Heights. Doors will open at 1 p.m. for visitation and the ceremony will commence at 2 p.m. The tribute will be followed by an evening of fellowship, for all who are interested, at Col. Rothwell's residence located at 8010 Breezy Point Road W, Melrose, 32666. In lieu of flowers, the family requests consideration of a donation to Folds of Honor or Tunnel to Towers.

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

PAID OBITUARY



Sallye Scoggins

Sallye Meng Scoggins of Hampton Lake, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023, at the age of 66. Born on March 29, 1956, to Paul and Ruth Meng in Hampton Lake, she was the fifth of 11 children and grew up on Meng Dairy Farm outside of Starke. After graduating from Bradford High School in 1974, she spent several years as a stay-at-home mom and part-time florist. She put herself through college as an adult and graduated with a master's degree in special education from the University of North Florida in 1996. She spent most of her career teaching special education at Hampton and Brooker elementary schools, where she was a passionate advocate for education and an active leader in the school community. In 2006, she was recognized as Bradford County Teacher of the Year for her faithful service and commitment to her students. She also served many years on the PTO board at her children's schools, organized and ran fundraising events, and much more. On Aug. 3, 1974, she married the love of her life, Randy Scoggins. They were married for 48 years and shared many travels and adventures together. She especially enjoyed kayaking and seeing the manatees at Homosassa River, where she and Randy had a vacation home they loved to share with family and friends. She was an ardent supporter of the restoration and preservation of our beautiful Florida springs and rivers, especially the Rainbow River and Homosassa River. Her greatest adventure of all was being a mom to her three children and "Yaya" to her grandchildren. They were the center of her world, and her home was always filled with love and laughter. Every summer, she hosted "Camp YaYa" for her grandkids, where they spent a week doing crafts, enjoying cooking lessons, and going on adventures. She was a shining light in her home and in her community. She was the ultimate hostess, a true creative, and the life of every party. She lived life to the fullest and always found a way to make people laugh. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ruth (Mouch) Meng in 2015, and Paul Meng in 2020; and her brother, William Michael Meng in 2022.

She is survived by her husband, Randy Scoggins; children, April (Scott) Schroeder, Erik (Jessica) Scoggins, and Thomas (Laloni) Scoggins; and four grandchildren, Madison Schroeder, Adley Schroeder, Reece Scoggins, and Mason Scoggins; and siblings, Carlton Meng of Keystone Heights, Carolyn Hunter-Haast of Hiawassee, Georgia, Phyllis McClure of Tampa, Marty of Old Town, Joyce (John) Thiemann of Hampton Lake, Beverly (David) Wanner of Oxford, North Carolina, Joe (Debbie) of Ochlocknee, Georgia, Mike of Macclenny, and John (Karen) of Pembroke, Georgia; as well as many other beloved friends and family.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Feb. 11, from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. at the home of Erik Scoggins, 9290 SE Ninth Ave. Starke. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Community Hospice & Palliative Care, 4266 Sunbeam Road, Jacksonville, FL 32257, or give online at support.communityhospice.com.

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

PAID OBITUARY



Johnny Webb

Johnny Melvin Webb, 54, of Lake Butler, passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2023, at his home. He was born on Nov. 25, 1968, to Johnny and Geraldine (Taylor) Webb and grew up in Lake City. He moved to Lake Butler over 30



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

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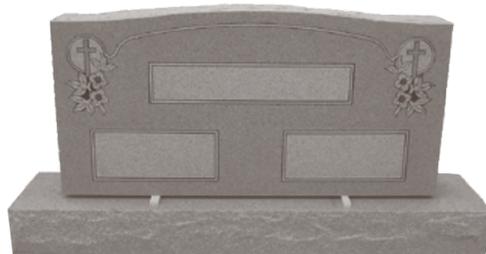
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years ago. He had various jobs, but mostly worked in the timber industry and worked with small engines. He enjoyed being outside, camping, fishing, working with his hands, building things, and cooking. He was a member of the Lake Butler Church of Christ. He was preceded in death by his parents; and his sister, Nancy Mengle.

He is survived by his daughter, Trista Webb (Kameron Martin) of Lake Butler; grandchildren, Kinley Ward, Kaislyn Martin, and Keira Martin all of Lake Butler; siblings, Sheila, Ricky, Danny, Juanita, and Lilly; special children, Mallory, Krista, Michael, and Lilly Young all of Lake Butler; and his caregiver and really good friend, Tammy Page.

A funeral to honor his life was held on Friday, Jan. 27, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home. He was laid to rest at Corinth Cemetery, Lake City.

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

PAID OBITUARY

LBMS boys hoops team is conference runner-up

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

The largest lead either team enjoyed through the first three quarters was three points, but Williston went on an 11-0 run in the fourth quarter as the Lake Butler Middle School boys basketball team lost 43-30 to finish as the Suwannee Middle Athletic Conference runner-up on Jan. 26 in Interlachen.

Lake Butler entered the game off a 36-27 semifinal win over P.K. Yonge on Jan. 24. Trent Nash made two three-pointers and finished with a team-high 10 points. Jackson Andersen-Davis and R.J. Odom had nine and eight points, respectively, while the Tigers also got five points from Tyrese Chandler and two points each from A.J. Chandler and Garrison Smith.

The championship game got off to a ragged start as turnovers and cold shooting plagued both teams. A three-pointer by Smith sent the Tigers into the second quarter leading 5-4.

Williston made two free throws to retake the lead early in the second quarter, but Lake Butler got it right back when Anthony Wiseman scored off an Odom assist to make the score 7-6.

After a Smith basket off his own steal put the Tigers,

Williston made two straight baskets. However, Lake Butler closed the half with two straight of their own — both in the final minute. Smith took a pass from Odom and knocked down a three-pointer. Odom then sank a mid-range jumper before the buzzer to send the Tigers into halftime leading 14-12.

Smith made his third three-pointer of the game to give Lake Butler a 17-14 lead early in the third quarter. With the game later tied, Tyrese Chandler scored off a rebound putback to make it 19-17. Odom, after a defensive rebound by Wiseman, scored on a runout to give the Tigers a four-point lead.

Unfortunately, Lake Butler couldn't build on its lead during a stretch in which Williston went 0 for 4 from the field and 0 for 2 from the foul line. Williston eventually retook the lead off two free throws and a three-pointer. A Smith pass led to a Nash layup and a 23-22 Lake Butler lead.

Nash later scored off an offensive rebound to put the Tigers up 25-23, but Williston made a three-pointer, which left Lake Butler trailing by one point entering the fourth quarter.

Williston scored the first points of the final quarter off a baseline drive, but A.J. Chandler answered with one of his own, keeping it a one-point game. After a backcourt turnover led to a Williston bucket, Wiseman was fouled driving to the basket. He made 1 of 2 free throws, making the score 30-28 in favor of Williston.

A wide-open three-pointer was the start of an 11-0 Williston

run. Lake Butler finally put more points on the board on a drive to the basket by Odom with 1:38 to play, but that left the Tigers trailing by 11. Williston added another basket for the 43-30 final.

Smith finished with 11 points, while the Tigers also got six points from Odom, five points from Wiseman, four points from Nash and two points each from A.J. Chandler and Tyrese Chandler.

Also making up the Lake Butler roster by season's end were Cole Fillyaw, Jayden Griffis, Cadenz Merriex, Darrell Merriex, Aiden Mitchell and Gavin Smith.

Keystone girls finish 2nd in SMAC tourney

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights Junior High School was coming off a 19-point win, but the Indians were no match for top seed Williston, which won the Suwannee Middle Athletic Conference girls basketball championship by defeating Keystone 39-12 on Jan. 26 in Interlachen.

The Indians assured themselves of at least conference runner-up status with a 23-4 semifinal win over Lake Butler on Jan. 24. Daisy Hubbard led scored a game-high seven points, while Riley Shuford and Kaiya Thompson each scored six. Keystone also got two points each from Andrea Brody and

Taylor Hall.

Things started out positively for Keystone in the championship game. Williston missed three of its first four field-goal attempts, with the Indians' Brody grabbing two defensive rebounds and Thompson grabbing one. The Indians, however, struggled with turnovers, which helped Williston take a 21-0 lead. Shuford made a three-pointer before the end of the first quarter to finally put Keystone on the board.

Thompson and Bella Cumbo each had a steal for Keystone early in the second quarter. Cumbo and Hubbard each grabbed a defensive rebound as Williston was unable to increase its lead. Shuford was then fouled on a drive to the basket. She made one free throw to make the score 21-4.

Hubbard grabbed two more defensive rebounds as the Red Devils continued to struggle. Williston eventually scored to go up 23-4, but that would be its only basket of the quarter.

Shuford grabbed an offensive rebound and sank a jump shot to make it a 23-6 game going into halftime.

Hubbard grabbed three defensive rebounds in the third quarter, while Cumbo had two offensive rebounds. However, Keystone couldn't get on the scoreboard, which left the Indians trailing 33-6 going into the final quarter.

Thompson scored the first points of the fourth quarter, making a baseline jumper. Later, following a Williston turnover, Thompson was fouled while

shooting. She missed both free throws, but Hubbard rebounded the second miss and passed it back to Thompson for a basket, making the score 33-10.

Hubbard later picked up a loose ball in the lane and scored as the Indians opened the final quarter with a 6-0 run.

Shuford finished the game with six points, while Thompson had four.

Hubbard, who added two points, came up with four steals and reached double digits in rebounds.

Indians cap girls hoops regular season with loss to Orange Park

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School got double-doubles from Dezaray Bright and Kiley Channell, but lost 53-44 to host Orange Park on Jan. 26 to close out the regular season.

Bright had 12 points and 16 rebounds, while Channell had 17 points, 11 rebounds, six steals and five assists.

The Indians (16-8) also got five points from Kadence Massey, four points from Kaitlin Brown, three points from Brynn Creekmore, two points from Erabelle Conant and one point from Jaynell Hill.

Massey also had seven rebounds.

Keystone entered the game off a 42-29 win over visiting Union County on Jan. 23. Bright recorded team highs with 13 points and 18 rebounds, while also coming up with three steals.

Channell had seven points, nine rebounds, eight steals and six assists, while Yasmin Bryant and McKinlee Kirkland each scored six points. Brown had four points and four steals, while the Indians also got three points from Hill, two points from Rexi Lewis and one point from Abbie Roach.

Keystone next plays in the District 5-4A tournament, which will be hosted by North Marion High School. The top seed Indians will play either fourth seed North Marion or fifth seed Eastside in a semifinal game on Thursday, Feb. 2, at 7:30 p.m.

The championship game is set for Friday, Feb. 3, at 7 p.m.

KHHS boys lose in District 4-3A soccer quarterfinals

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Fifth seed Fort White scored an overtime goal in handing the Keystone Heights High School boys soccer team a 2-1 loss in the District 4-3A tournament quarterfinals, which were played Jan. 26 at Fort White.

The fourth seed Indians (10-5-4) got their goal from Logan Spence as part of a 1-1 first half.

BTA

Continued from page 8

realize her students could do so much.

And the things her students don't know how to do, they can learn if someone is willing to work with them.

"A lot of these young people can do a lot," Gault said. "We just don't give them the credit or

time. Just take the time to show them (how to do something). They can do it."

Gault said she's thankful the academy is on the NFTC campus. Other instructors share their knowledge with her students. For

example, if the academy needs wood to be cut for its art projects that it sells to the community, it can be helped by carpentry teacher David Harris, who'll also take the time to show the students what he's doing and the

tools he uses.

"You have collaboration here," Gault said. "The nursing teacher have brought their LPN students over here to learn how to do blood pressure. They use my kids

as guinea pigs. It's good for my kids to not be afraid of somebody doing that.

"That's the great thing about here. People are always willing to help."

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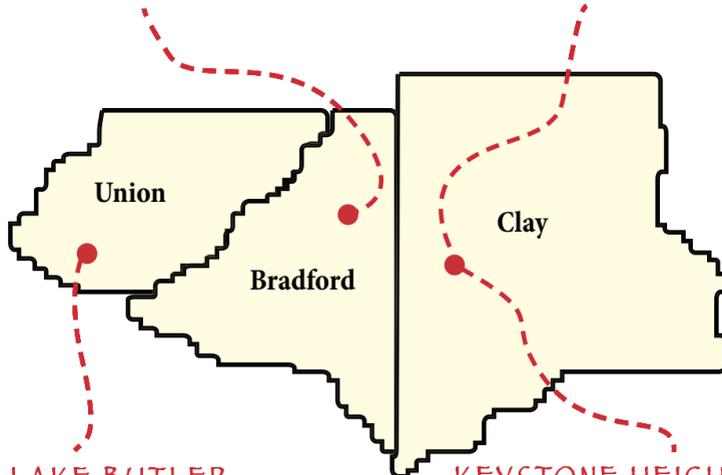
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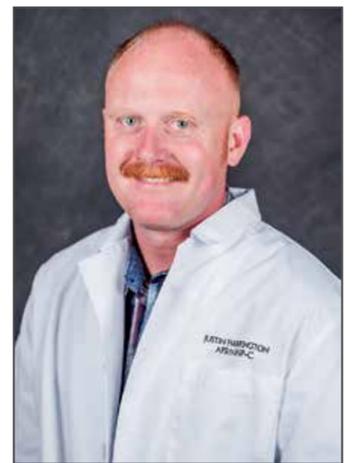
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