



Bradford opens Speedville fire station
Yesterday's Festival steps back in time
Union science fair students shine
Bradford native receives military promotion

The Sweetest Strawberries this side of Heaven

Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025

146th year, 30th Issue — \$1

3rd year for BHS ends in 3rd at state



Bradford High School earned its highest finish at state since forming a competitive cheer team three years ago. The Tornadoes placed third in the Medium Non-Tumbling division at the Jan. 31 Class 1A state meet in Lakeland, finishing with a score of 77.80 (29.6 building, 28.4 cheer, 19.8 overall, 1 penalty point). That left Bradford trailing West Nassau, which won its 11th straight state championship with a score of 87.60 and Homestead's Keys Gate, which had a score of 80.20. This season also marked Bradford's highest finish in region-level competition (second place) and the first time the Tornadoes qualified for the finals round at state off its regional performance (Bradford had to compete in the semifinal round in each of the previous two seasons at state). Pictured above are: (front, l-r) Myia Sanchez, Skyla Bounacore, Amy Prescott, Lily Mercer, (middle, l-r) Madison Sapp, Cadance Rowan, Tenly Hardee, Kelsey Burgin, Kaydence Crawford, Nivaiah Foster, Jhailaa Coleman, (back, l-r) Kylee Kerr, Jakyiah Dean, Aldon Sanchez, Hayden Goodwin, Chloe Hales, Ella Hense and Summer Rhoden.

Bradford begins budget with capital improvements

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
 mark@bctelegraph.com

Bradford County commissioners and staff began budgeting for next year and beyond during a Jan. 28 workshop.

The workshop detailed the commission's Capital Improvement Plan covering the next several years, focusing on fire rescue, solid waste, public works and courthouse improvements. It included the projects and purchases planned and the estimated revenue that would be needed to fund those projects, as well as the anticipated revenue sources.

Only capital projects were explored, not personnel or other operational costs.

For fire rescue, this included station improvements and fleet and equipment purchases. Getting underway now is the construction of living quarters for crews stationed at the Sampson City station using the remaining \$650,000 of a legislative allocation originally obtained by the sheriff to turn the Heilbronn Springs station into a command center for the fire department.

It also includes \$700,000 for living quarters construction at the Theresa station in Fiscal Year 2027 and \$2.5 million in 2029 for the fire rescue headquarters at the courthouse. The county would seek state funding for both projects.

This year, fire rescue is replacing a fire engine with \$475,000 obtained from the state and an ambulance with \$300,000 in revenue from the county's participation in the Public Emergency Medical Transportation program. (Counties receive supplemental payments above those normally covered by Medicaid for transporting those patients.) The same program funding would be tapped next year for a second ambulance replacement (\$350,000), while the state is being asked for nearly \$1.26 million for a new tanker and a fire engine replacement.

In Fiscal Year 2027, fire rescue has slated a third ambulance replacement using \$350,000 in PEMT funding, a fourth in 2028 and fifth in 2029. In 2028, the department is seeking funds for two brush trucks as well, but the county might have to fund the \$500,000 purchase.

The five-year total was \$7.78 million.

The public works report included two years of projected spending. For the current year, two state-funded resurfacing projects were listed: County Road 235 (from County Road 231 to State Road 100) for \$4.6 million and County Road 237 (from the

See CODES, page 3

See BUDGET, page 7

Church of God food distributions

Starke Church of God by Faith and Farm Share's upcoming food distributions are Thursday, Feb. 6 and 20, from 10-11:30 a.m. This is a drive-thru distribution. The church is located at 730 Old Lawtey Road in Starke. (Distribution times depend on delivery times.)

Revival at Bradford Baptist

Bradford Baptist Church (1640 S. Water St.) welcomes evangelist Matt Downs for revival services, which will begin Sunday, Feb. 9, and run through Friday, Feb. 14.

Downs will speak during Sunday school on Feb. 9 at 10 a.m. as well as the 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. services.

Services on Feb. 10-14 begin at 7 p.m.

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

Senior luncheon with heart

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County's Senior Citizen Luncheon will celebrate American Heart Month. Come together to share ideas, foster connections and strengthen community bonds. The luncheon will be held at the RJE Community Health and Wellness Resource Hub on Wednesday, Feb. 12, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The hub is located at 1080 Pine St. in Starke.

Please contact Glenda Ruise at 904-769-1691 or Alica McMillian at 904-966-1100 for more information.

Union discussing code enforcement

BY TRACY LEE TATE
 Special to the Times

The Union County Board of Commissioners is still discussing what is needed to bring professional code enforcement to the county and deal with allowing RV parks in the county.

While the discussion is still in the early stages, pending the completion of the codification of current land use codes and the addition of new codes the board decides are necessary, County Attorney Russ Wade reviewed the codes he could find and explained them to the board.

Wade said that under the existing rules, most of the recreational vehicles in the county are against the rules. RVs are regulated mainly under RV and travel trailer parks (legally there is a distinction between them). The state regulated campgrounds, as well as the health department for the septic systems. The county regulations on land use dictate where

these can be located. He said that there is a distinction made between campgrounds and travel trailer parks legally, but the current code does not make that distinction. Wade said that many of the issues involved required the use of a code enforcement officer as, legally, citation for any violation must be provided by an official who has personally witnessed that violation.

Code enforcement not wanted

Commissioner Mack Johns stated that in his experience the majority of county residents did not want code enforcement begun in the county. Commissioners Donna Jackson and Melissa McNeal both commented that they did not want invasive code enforcement and Jackson elaborated on her comment.

"I have no issue with people living in a travel trailer because they cannot

afford anything else," Jackson said. "I just want a way to make sure that they have safe electric hook-ups and correct, sanitary sewer hook-ups and are paying county taxes just like other residents. They also need to be paying taxes to compensate for the county services they use."

Jackson said she would first like to address situations where the land owner was making money through rental fees to see that they are taxed appropriately. She said she wants to see codes addressing this issue and see them enforced.

Wade said the county could hire a code enforcement officer or inspector and then use either a magistrate or a seven-member code enforcement board, which are considered interchangeable legally. He said the officer or inspector could serve as the required witness for the violation. He said that the county would have to approve all RV park applications



TITAN CHEVROLET



STOP BY AND SAY "HELLO"

ACROSS FROM THE COURTHOUSE IN STARKE
 904.964.7500 VISIT ONLINE: TITANCHEVY.COM



Weekly deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. • Phone 904-964-6305 • Fax 904-964-8628

editor@bctelegraph.com • BCTelegraph.com •



2025 Tree Giveaway

Shade on a sunny day. Lower energy bills. Bird and even butterfly visitors. These might not all come to mind when you hear the word "tree," but with proper

selection and placement trees can provide a host of benefits and even increase property value.

If you are interested in the benefits of trees but unsure where to start, help is available. Get guidance on which trees are a good fit for your property and other important things to consider when you're planning

to plant.

To learn more about the benefits of trees, get a free slash pine and info on tree planting, or just have fun with family activities then come on out for the 2025 Tree Giveaway for Bradford County!

Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District, UF/IFAS

Extension Bradford County and the Alligator Creek Garden Club are hosting this afternoon of learning and fun on Wednesday, Feb. 19, from 2-6 p.m. at the UF/IFAS Extension Office, 2266 North Temple Avenue in Starke. For more info, call 904-966-6224.

Flea market sign-ups

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 230 is holding a community flea market at the post home on March 1 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Each 15-by-15 space can be

reserved for \$15. The auxiliary will serve a pancake breakfast as well as lunch. Contact 352-481-4483 for more information. The post home is located at 20370 E. Hawthorne Road (S.R. 20) in Hawthorne.



TEAL TILE
CARPET ONE

Local Flooring Specialists • since 1976

Sales • Service • Installation

Free Estimates
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

THANK YOU
for allowing us the opportunity to serve you for the last 48 years.

Call for DIY specials!



12 months interest free financing on approved credit.

We will beat all competitor pricing!

M-F 8:30 am – 5:30 pm
Saturdays by Appointment

- Vinyl • Carpet
- Ceramic Tile
- Hardwood & Laminate Floors

131 N. Cherry Street
Starke, FL 32091

904-964-7423

DISCOUNT PRICING POWER OF OVER 1,400 STORES!!



Happy Birthday

Little Peter turns 11 on Valentine's Day!
Where has time gone?

VERONICA R. OWENS
Attorney at Law, P.A.

- Last Will and Testament
- Power of Attorney and Living Wills
- Living Trusts

- Probate Administration
- Real Estate and Closings
- Deed Preparation

- Contracts
- Family and Juvenile Law
- Criminal and Traffic Matters

189 S. Lawrence Boulevard
Keystone Heights, FL 32656

2000 Henley Road • Ste. B
Middleburg, FL 32068

352-473-5000

There is one lawgiver, who is able to save. -James 4:12

- Septic Tank Pump Out
- Liftstation
- Septic System Inspection
- Septic & DF Installation
- Sump Pumps & More



PHILLIP McDONALD
PLUMBING AND SEPTIC
904-964-3737

CFC 1428926

(904) 964-3737

- Residential & Commercial
- Service Repairs
- Repipe
- Water Heater
- New Construction & More!



Jacksonville
RV
MegaShow

NORTHEAST FLORIDA'S LARGEST RV SHOW!

HUNDREDS OF RVS ON DISPLAY!

Booths representing campgrounds, Finance and Insurance Companies, Supplies & Accessories

Daily Door prizes

Fun for the entire family

Motorhomes, travel trailers, folding tent campers, fifth wheels and toy haulers

Admission \$10 Adults
Kids under 12 FREE!

Register to win \$250 Gift Cards (1 each day)





GET UP and Go!

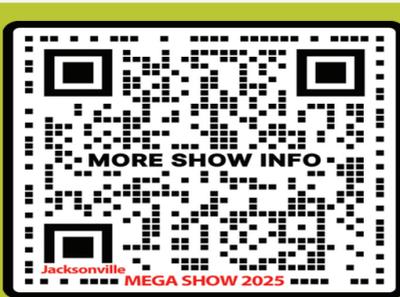
February 6-9, 2025
Thurs-Sat -10-5:30p, Sun-10-4p

Jacksonville Equestrian Center
[12 Miles West of Downtown Jacksonville, Exit #350 off 1-10 / Cecil Commerce Parkway]

Half Off Admission:
Seniors – Thur, February 6th only
Military / 1st Responders
EVERY DAY of the show
Not valid with other discounts

PARKING IS FREE

FRVTA.org
813-741-0488





Altrusa Club of Starke gathered to assemble 100 Teddy Bear Comfort Bags. These bags will be distributed to children coming through the sheriff's office who need victim advocacy services. Pictured are members (front-l-r) Rachel Rhoden (president), Shelly Bowen (vice president), Kim Hamilton, Ashlie Davis, (back) Sandy Luke, Sarah Long, Tanya Ramirez, Rachel Bair, Wanda Smith, Carolyn Reddish, Sylvia Reddish, Kim Roberts, Hilma Gaskins, Sheryl Dixon and Vicki Teal.

Altrusa provides comfort in crisis

BY MELISSA PYLE
Special to the Telegraph

The Altrusa Club of Starke gifted the Bradford County Sheriff's Office 100 "Teddy Bear Comfort Bags" on Jan. 27. The bags were made possible by a grant from the Altrusa International Foundation in the amount of \$2,500 and additional \$500 grant by the local chapter. Sheriff Gordon Smith was on hand to welcome the group and receive the bags on Monday. He thanked them and said these bags will be put into the hands of children and teens and will give them something to focus on

rather than the trauma they've been exposed to. Altrusa Club of Starke President Rachel Rhoden said each new club president sets objectives and goals, and she had a vision to help local children in crisis. Rhoden has seen first hand what many children experience while working as the chief deputy clerk in the Bradford County Clerk of Courts office. Rhoden said she's had an "inside view" to what many children and teens have to endure when tragedy or trauma strikes, and knows these bags will be distributed to children who are in need of

victim advocacy services. Club members gathered together days before delivery to fill each comfort bag with a teddy bear, blanket, book, coloring book, crayons, puzzle, baby wipes, toothbrush, toothpaste and snacks. Rhoden said these items give a sense of comfort to otherwise scared children. The club was excited to achieve 100% participation from members on this project. A project that will provide comfort in otherwise scary circumstances, to the victims of domestic abuse, car accidents, house fires and other life altering situations.



Delivering bags to the sheriff's office. Pictured are (front row, l-r) Altrusa President Rachel Rhoden, Altrusa Corresponding Secretary Kim Roberts, Altrusans Cheryl Canova and Sylvia Reddish, Victim Advocate Jasminique Panther, Altrusan Gale Trotter, Victim Advocate Elizabeth Nazworth, (back) Corp. Raymond Rhoden, Col. Brad Smith, Altrusan Sandy Luke, Sheriff Gordon Smith, and Altrusans Hilma Gaskins, Ashli Davis and Vicki Teal.

CODES

Continued from page 1

as special exceptions, making the process quasi-judicial where turn-downs can be challenged in court, which will hear legally valid reasons for the refusal.

RVs cannot be used as permanent residences

"When writing new codes, we may need to make some things more liberal and other more strict," Wade said. As to RVs used as residences, Wade said they are not allowed with the exception of use on a building site while a home is being built. A temporary permit can be used for this for a period of six months, with an option to be renewed if required. He noted that temporary hardship permits for mobile homes are also available to allow the placement of a mobile home on a single-residence zone lot for use by a family member. He stated that there is no provision of "mother-in-law suites" in the county.

Tiny houses

On the topic of the allowance of "tiny homes" in the county,

Wade said there was not minimum square footage required but that the structures had to meet certain requirements. He said the structure must meet state standards for wind load construction, be wired to residential code, meet foundation guidelines and had sanitary septic system hook-ups. Tiny homes are also required to be fitted with tie-downs such as are used on mobile homes. Currently, the county is at a standstill as it waits for the codes to be organized and needed codes added. In the meantime, a deputy can be sent out to witness any reported violations, most commonly those affecting health and welfare of the residents and surrounding neighbors. Jackson added that she would like to amend the county's comprehensive plan to create a category for RV parks with specific details about what

the county will allow and what requirements must be met by the park owners.

Get help quitting

Quitting tobacco isn't easy. Finding help should be. If you're ready to quit, join the next Tools to Quit Tobacco group. Virtual options by computer and phone are also available. This free, one-time two-hour group will give you tips on how to deal with triggers and withdrawal symptoms and how to prevent relapse. You'll also receive up to four weeks of free nicotine patches, gum or lozenges. Pre-registration is required. Call 866-341-2730 to reserve your spot.

D.R. BAKER
CONSTRUCTION

CBC1258123
Custom Homes and Remodels

Dalton R. Baker
Owner

352-266-8587 daltonbaker@gmail.com
www.drbaakerconstruction.com

New hires recommended to help road department workload

Inmate crews also requested

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

Bradford commissioners continue to consider how to keep up with road maintenance and beautification, and they are also sounding off about the need for litter enforcement measures. Much of the discussion in the county commissioner's first budget workshop last week centered on a five-year forecast of capital costs. (See related story.) Commissioners were also asked to think about whether they want to hire additional public works employees for mowing, weed eating and litter cleanup (plus road and ditch work in the off season to prepare for summer).

Commissioners have previously addressed understaffing and the inability to get this work done in a timely manner. As of a meeting last September, the road department had 13 employees to cover the entire county. Chief Deputy Clerk Rachel Rhoden told the board it takes a month to cover road maintenance in Districts 4 and 5, the county's largest districts. Hiring four new employees at \$17 an hour would add around \$229,000 a year to the county's budget. No additional equipment would be needed.

Commissioner Carolyn Spooner asked about hiring part-time workers, but Rhoden said finding those workers is difficult. "The challenge is it's hard to find temporary, seasonal workers. We have tried to go out in the past for that. Folks are interested in full time jobs. They're interested in benefits," she said, adding seasonal workers also tend to be less careful in their care of county equipment.

County Manager Scott Kornegay said it's not easy find full-time employees for that

work either.

Commissioner Danny Riddick offered his own formula of two to three employees and two new mowers for increased roadside maintenance.

"Otherwise, you all know, when it comes mowing season ... we're going to four foot high because they just can't keep up," he said. "If we want to keep the citizens from ringing our horn off the hook, we probably really ought to look into getting two batwing mowers and at least two additional employees."

Commissioner Diane Andrews said aside from avoiding complaints, it's about Bradford County's image.

"We are trying to bring people into our community, and when we're trying to draw them in, naturally the condition of our roadsides and everything is part of that. There's no way he can keep up, no possible way with the staff that he has," she said of Public Works Director Jason Dodds.

That's why Andrews has advocated for requesting prison inmate crews. She said having an employee monitor a crew of three inmates would accomplish more than a single employee trying to pick up litter and mow. She suggested two new employees could supervise this additional manpower.

"If we could get three inmates for each one, the amount of work we could get done would be awesome and a whole lot better than what we're doing now," she said.

Kornegay said Dodds has been communicating with Lawtey Correctional about inmate crews.

Struggle to stop litter

Tackling one need, led to discussion of another. Whether thrown from a vehicle or blown

out of the back of a truck or trailer, commissioners are fed up with the amount of litter on county roads, especially approaching county dumpsites.

Riddick said the county needs to consider, if possible, making it mandatory that vehicles entering the collection sites have their trash covered.

Commissioner Chris Dougherty said Marion County has cracked down through its "No Horsin' Around" campaign. According to its website, Marion County spent more than \$900,000 removing 1.3 million pounds of litter in 2020. In addition to public education, penalties were put in place, including a \$150 fine for first violations, \$300 along with up to 10 days of jailtime or community service for a second violation, with additional violations tacking on additional jailtime.

Dougherty wondered why anti-litter signage was up if the county wasn't enforcing it, but at the same time he said requiring vehicles to be covered would force employees to take the heat for turning people away.

"It's going to take — and I think somebody on this board said it before — hitting people in the wallet until they realize that's not appropriate," he said of both litter and vandalism of county roads and ditches.

Additional patrols have been requested, but unless address or other identifying information can be found, there is no way to trace the source, said Riddick, who also pointed out problems with illegal dumping.

"I would like to know the hours that our road department spends just picking up trash. I bet it would just blow our minds. And that's just wasted time," he said.

The next budget workshop is set for March 4 at 10:30 a.m. alongside the commission's regular meeting.

Report elder abuse, neglect

Are you age 60 or older and being hurt or taken advantage of by someone you know or trust? To report suspected cases of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation for yourself or someone you know, please call 1-800-96-ABUSE or 1-800-962-2873.

Florida Twin Theatre

904-964-5451 REGULAR SCHEDULE!

Visit us on-line at
www.FloridaTwinTheatre.com

THURSDAY 2/6 DOG MAN- 6:30 (Downstairs) COMPANION- 6:30 (Upstairs)	FRIDAY 2/7 DOG MAN- 7:00 (Downstairs) COMPANION- 7:00 (Upstairs)
SATURDAY 2/8 DOG MAN- 4:00 & 7:00 (Downstairs) COMPANION- 4:00 & 7:00 (Upstairs)	SUNDAY 2/9 DOG MAN- 4:00 (Downstairs) COMPANION- 4:00 (Upstairs)

It's Tax Time!

- Corporate and Individual Income Tax Services
- Business Consulting including Quickbooks & Accounting.
- Bookkeeping & Payroll Services
- Set up new Corporations, LLC's and Partnerships.
- Audit & Accounting Services

Awesome accountants! From top notch customer service, very quick turnaround time, and extremely knowledgeable staff and accountants, I can't say enough good things about Reddish & White. I have worked with several accountants over the years. They have all been competent, but these guys really stand out from the crowd. They do my personal and business accounting. When I have a question, they are always prompt in responding and extremely professional in the breadth of knowledge that they bring to the issue.

REDDISH & WHITE

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

134 East Call Street • Starke, FL

(904) 964-7555



Check out our Google reviews!

Tethering dogs, burning trash discussed at meeting

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

The Clay County Sheriff's Office and the Clay Chamber's Lake Region Prosperity Partners held a joint meeting on Jan. 23 at Keystone Heights's First Baptist Church. Detective Gary

Winterstein and other deputies who investigate animal abuse and environmental violations were the spotlight speakers.

Also attending were County Commissioner Betsy Condon and the county's Animal Services Director Ernest Hagan.

Winterstein said the most

common animal abuse cases stem from underfeeding and tethering.

In 2022, Clay County Commissioners passed an ordinance to protect animals from abuse. Part of the new law restricted tethering or leashing dogs to a stationary object.

Tethering is prohibited for dogs under a year old and for pregnant or unhealthy canines. In addition, dogs cannot be tethered within five feet of a property line, must have access to food and water, and must be visible to the owner at all times while tethered. When discussing the sheriff's

office environmental crimes investigations, the officers talked about restrictions on outdoor burning in the Keystone Heights area.

They said no outdoor fires are allowed within the City of Keystone Heights. Burning outside the city limits in Clay

County is restricted to yard waste only. Residents may not burn garbage, particularly cardboard or plastic, because those materials contain potentially harmful chemicals that could be released when burned.

Clay Sheriff's Office meets with High Ridge residents about crime prevention

BY JENN SAMSEL
Special to the Monitor

On Jan. 28, the Clay County Sheriff's Office hosted a crime prevention class at the Mission of the Dirt Road.

Sgt. Diana Coxen from the Office of Community Affairs began the presentation by stating that her agency considers Clay County one of the safest in the state.

The sergeant then explained to attendees the difference between property crimes, violent crimes, and fraud.

"Scams are the largest growing crime that you'll see in the United States and the world actually," she said, "but in Clay County itself, fraud has up ticked because it's so easy to commit fraud these days, and with social media and all the electronics and technology, frauds have become rampant."

Community Affairs Deputy Dimitri Santiago gave the crowd tips for safeguarding their property.

• Stay Aware of Your Surroundings. Monitor your neighbors and the neighborhood and report any suspicious activity.

• Secure Your Home: Always keep your garage door closed, and do not leave doors or windows unlocked. Use curtains to prevent outsiders from looking in.

• Avoid Hiding Keys Outside: Do not use mats, flowerpots, or fake rocks to hide your house key, as these are easily discovered.

• Install Security Systems: Consider placing an alarm system in your home and vehicle.

• Use Cameras and Signage: Install security cameras and display signs, such as "Beware of Dog" or "This property is protected by [Security System]."

• Maintain Your Yard: Keep your yard tidy and trim hedges low. As law enforcement has noted, high hedges can create ambush points.

• Utilize Defensive Plants: Consider planting thorny or prickly plants near windows for



Sgt. Diana Coxen from the Office of Community Affairs began the presentation by stating that her agency considers Clay County one of the safest in the state.

protection.

• Install Motion Sensor Lights: These can deter intruders by illuminating your property when movement is detected.

• Use Timers for Appliances:



"High Ridge has come a long way towards improving its community." - Community Affairs Deputy Dimitri Santiago

Set timers throughout your home to turn on lights, TVs, etc., giving the impression that someone is home.

• Parking Precautions: If you don't have a vehicle, ask a neighbor to park theirs at your property to create the appearance

of occupancy.

• Keep Your Vehicle Secure: Always lock your car and avoid leaving valuables or keys inside, especially weapons. Do not make your vehicle an easy target for theft or break-ins.

"If you plan on leaving on vacation," Santiago advised, "notify the Sheriff's Department to add you to the step-up program. A step-up is when deputies visit your house every shift to check your property. If your house is on a step-up date, it's mandatory that day."

The deputy also offered advice to break-in victims.

"If you return home and find that your house has been burglarized," he added, "don't go in. Don't go back out, don't touch anything, and call the sheriff's office immediately."

The officers also informed residents of a new trend involving SunPass-related emails and text messages. They said it's important to avoid opening these communications, as scammers are skilled at stealing your

identity. Remember, SunPass will not send you a text message.

If you are a victim of fraud or spam, here are some tips to follow: • File a police report.

• Contact the credit bureaus: Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. Place a fraud alert on your credit report.

• Report the incident to the Federal Trade Commission.

• Block scammers on your phone.

• Do not open emails from unknown senders.

Deputy Santiago concluded by saying, "Regardless of who they are, everyone's afforded safety. If you're displaced and have important property, find a secure place to keep it."

Some residents of High Ridge expressed concerns to the Sheriff's Department on multiple topics.

The Sheriff's Department reassured everyone at the meeting about these concerns.

"High Ridge has come a long way towards improving its community," Santiago said.

Opioid settlement funds Naloxone, fall prevention, chronic disease treatment

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

The Bradford County Fire Rescue lieutenant leading the county's community paramedicine effort gave the Keystone Heights Rotary Club an overview of the program on Jan. 29.

Lt. David Weeks leads the team, and University of Florida interns Elijah Hendley and Casandra Ramirez joined the program as support specialists two weeks ago.

Fire Chief Ben Carter told the civic group that the county's paramedicine program has been running for about one year, is funded through opioid settlement money, and does not cost local taxpayers.

Carter added that he had asked the board of county commissioners for two years to ensure the program had a significant impact.

"If it's not a staple in our community within those first two years," he told the Rotarians, "then let's do away with the program."

The chief added that, in his view, Weeks accomplished that mission in only eight months.

Frequent flyers

"It really has turned into something more than anything we thought it could be," Carter said. "The goal of it originally was for opioid abatement, and so our repeat offenders, drug users, and things of that nature are who we targeted originally."

Carter said one goal of the



(L-R) Bradford County Community Paramedicine Team Leader Lt. David Weeks, Fire Rescue Chief Ben Carter, and County Manager Scott Kornegay.

program is to shift heavy users of the county's emergency medical services and local hospital emergency departments to more appropriate and effective care. He called those individuals frequent flyers.

"Some of our frequent flyers were using the emergency departments as their primary care, and it was crowding the emergency departments," he said.

"I'll give you an example," he told the Rotarians. "We had one patient we transported 52 times last year. That's once a

week. And so, we essentially just spent a lot of resources taking care of that one patient. I don't have the numbers in front of me, but I think it was something around in the neighborhood of \$150,000 that was just on that one patient, essentially between the transports and whatnot."

Carter claimed that through the paramedicine program, that patient no longer requires frequent trips to the emergency department.

"We've not transported that patient in quite some time due to the efforts of Lt. Weeks," he said.

Whatever it takes

Weeks told the group that of the 148 calls for service his program has responded to, 43 resulted from referrals from fire rescue crews. He added that his program had distributed 220 boxes of Naloxone, the nasal spray that rapidly reverses opioid overdoses.

"Whenever they complete a patient report," Weeks said of ambulance crew members, "they have the ability to flag that patient for further follow-up with us. Maybe they've identified that (the patient) needs help with transportation, they have a substance abuse problem, they may have trouble with their insurance, anything like that."

Weeks said the first step is a face-to-face meeting with the patient, whether at home, the hospital, or anywhere else.

"We'll meet 'em on the side of the road," he said. "Whatever it takes. We always try to go to that patient. And from there, once we've identified their initial needs, we'll start to work with that patient. We'll start referring them to any organizations that could help them, whether it's utility assistance, like I said, transportation needs, things like

that."

Four areas of focus

Weeks said his program focuses on four areas: substance abuse, fall prevention, chronic disease, and accessibility.

The substance abuse segment features the opioid abatement measures of free naloxone kits, naloxone cabinets, and public education.

Weeks added that his program had distributed 220 boxes of Naloxone, the nasal spray that rapidly reverses opioid overdoses and is also known under the

brand name Narcan.

Weeks said that in addition to distributing Naloxone, he has established a partnership with Meridian Healthcare to help in the substance abuse focus of the program.

The lieutenant added that his team will start teaching fall prevention courses at the county's senior center soon.

"Fall prevention is another one of the projects that the two interns are going to start working on," he said, adding that the pair will become certified through the

See TREAT, page 6

Terry McCarthy
Complete
TREE SERVICE
& STUMP GRINDING
Free Estimates Provided!

We do tree removal, tree trimming, and skid steer mulching. We have a lift for those hard-to-reach heights and places! WE DO IT ALL!

904-364-7065 Fully Insured

THE ORIGINAL BRADFORD • UNION • CLAY COUNTIES
REGIONAL CHURCH DIRECTORY

Supported by Nearby Local Businesses, Services & Merchants
who encourage you to
Worship in the house of the Lord... Somewhere this week!

<p>JBS JACKSON BUILDING SUPPLY "I am the way, the truth & the life. No one comes to the Father but through me" John 14:6 Starke 904-964-6078 Lake Butler 386-496-3079</p>	<p>R ROBERTS INSURANCE EXPERIENCE, SERVICE & GREAT RATES Starke Keystone Heights Middleburg Lake Butler 904.964.7826 352.473.7209 904.282.7665 386.496.3411 www.georgerobertsins.com</p>	<p>Bryan's ACE Hardware Starke 904-964-4642 Melrose 352-475-2400 Keystone Hts 352-473-4006 The helpful place.</p>
<p>Southland Surveying & Mapping, Inc. Professional land surveying and mapping services since 1975 www.SouthlandSurvey.com 386-496-3107 Licensed AL, FL, GA</p>	<p>A NAME YOU HAVE COME TO KNOW AND TRUST V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services Starke Funeral Memorial Chapel 904-964-5757 Lake Butler Chapel 386-496-1400</p>	<p>FOUNDATION CHURCH 200 N. Walnut St. • Starke (904) 964-6864 foundationchurch.cc info@foundationchurch.cc</p>
<p>JONES-GALLAGHER FUNERAL HOME Distinguished Caring Service for Over 50 Years Joe Gallagher - Owner Starke 904-964-6200 Keystone Heights 352-473-3176</p>	<p>Starke Lake Butler DLPbank Interlachen</p>	<p>Rev. Diane M. Wilson Pastor First Presbyterian Church of Starke 321 E. Call Street Starke, FL 32091 "With God All Things Are Possible" Worship 10:30 Email: ledy@dw@earthlink.net spw@earthlink.net Work: (904) 964-7337 Cell: (904) 966-1223</p>
<p>Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. Competitive Rates, non-profit, right here in your community A Touchstone Energy Cooperative Keystone District Office 352-473-4917 • clayelectric.com</p>	<p>After Church on Sunday Come to Powell's Dairy Freeze "Home of the Foot Long Steak" Stop by for Ice Cream on Wednesday Night! US 301 NORTH • STARKE, FL</p>	<p>Come Worship with us STARKE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH Church • Saturday 11:00 a.m. School • Saturday 10:00 a.m. 1649 W. Madison St • Starke, FL</p>
<p>DOUGLAS BATTERY OF STARKE We rebuild starters, alternators, generators. Auto • Marine • Cycle Batteries 407 N. Temple • 964-7911</p>	<p>REGIONAL OUTREACH HERE thousands weekly 904.964.6305 classes@bctelegraph.com</p>	<p>Morgan Road Baptist Church 3784 NW CR 233 Starke Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Evening Worship 6pm 964-4422 Wednesday Evening 7pm</p>

ONE NIGHT ONLY

TRIBUTE TBQT QUARTET



Dove nominated and award winning Tribute Quartet from Nashville, Tennessee, which includes local talent Josh Singletary, will be in concert at

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH • RAIFORD, FL

Saturday, February 15 at 7 PM
Sunday, February 13 at 11 AM & 5 PM

The church is located 1 mile south of Raiford on SR-121 on the right. For more information call 386-431-1732

Yesterday's Festival takes us back in time

BY JENN SAMSEL
Special to the Monitor

The Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park hosted the 19th annual Yesterday's Festival on Jan. 25.

According to the Yesterday's Festival's Facebook page, the event transported visitors back in time to witness pioneer woodworking, live music, tram

rides, food trucks, historical demonstrations, antique tractors and machines, cannon and muskets, a children's story time, and more.

The event started with a Keystone Heights Junior-Senior High School JROTC presentation, followed by music and several reenactments.

Larry Henderson, past

president, one of the founders, and a board member of the Yesterday's Festival, said, "We came up with the Yesterday's Festival 19 years ago to remember the past, bring things back that people, especially the younger generation, haven't seen. The main purpose of it was to get families to come out with their kids and have fun."



Joseph Sekel and Max Sekel experience life before chainsaws.



Warren Kyle, Jonas Kyle and Eliana Kyle get a close-up view of artillery.



J.J. Adams and Melody Adams shelling corn.



Blacksmith demonstrators Luke and Erin Harlow.



Volunteers Larry Henderson, Kim Fox and Sue Boone.



Evolution of the water pump, with a human-powered version on the left and a more advanced version on the right.



Cannon demonstrators Rick Roberts, Jack Newman, Chris Bunton



Elizabeth Smith of the Florida Forestry Service, with her display.

IMPORTANT TAX FILING INFORMATION

The IRS announced it will begin accepting and processing tax returns on Thursday, Jan. 23, 2025. The filing deadline to submit 2025 tax returns or an extension to file and pay tax owed is Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 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.
As always, we provide client safety with locked documents.

ALL PRO TAX SERVICE

Jean Tanner
24275 US Hwy 301 N.
Lawley, FL 32058
Appointments: cell 904-364-6250
fax 904-782-1810



KEYSTONE YOUTH SOCCER

COACHES & VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED! COACHES & VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED!

SPRING Season Registration • AGES 4-18

TO REGISTER: SIGN UP by **FEBRUARY 19, 2025**
THE FEE is **\$80. Sign up online.**

Supplied uniform will be jersey, shorts & socks.

Register & Pay online at www.KeystoneYouthSoccer.com OR

Trevor Waters Realty, Inc
7374 SR 21 N • Keystone Heights

COACHES & VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED!

For more information call:

Trevor Waters at **352-246-7776**

Registration forms on website www.keystoneyouthsoccer.com



Water filter, AI model, and microplastics analysis win at Union science fair

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

Peyton Kilgore's water filtering system won the overall prize for the Union County Science Fair on Friday, January 17, and took first place in the Environmental Engineering category.

The Union County High School junior calls himself a big agriculture buff and decided on his project after discovering that water waste is a significant problem in the industry.

"I love agriculture," he explained. "I surround myself by it. I have a garden in my backyard. I show pigs."

Kilgore said that once he discovered the magnitude of water waste in agriculture, he realized that gray water waste is not limited to that industry.

"As I looked deeper," he said, "I found that water waste is actually large in all sorts of margins that comes from our daily lives. One in particular is our household wastewater. So, I began researching, and I found that gray water actually accounts for 50% to 80% of our household water waste."

The 11th grader said he wanted to create a system that would address that problem. However, instead of pursuing drinkable water, which he said would be extremely difficult, Kilgore sought to reclaim water for agricultural use.

His filtration system includes activated carbon, gravel, sand, and cloth. It also consists of an aeration chamber, air pump, pH meter, and sensors for turbidity, which is a measure of cloudiness, and total dissolved solids.

He used water from a washing machine, which had gone halfway through its washing cycle as his source water, then ran the gray water through his filtering system.

Kilgore reduced the gray water's pH by around 20%, which showed his system reduced soap and other alkaline substances. He also reduced the fluid's turbidity by around 95% and total dissolved solids by around 25%.

The high school junior



Peyton Kilgore's water filtering system won the overall prize for the Union County Science Fair on Jan. 17, and took first place in the Environmental Engineering category.

concluded that he achieved his goal of filtering gray water into water for agricultural use.

Kilgore displayed a 16-ounce bottle of his final product, which looked crystal clear, but he cautioned that it is not for human consumption.

"I wouldn't recommend it because there's a risk that there would be like a pathogen in there or something like that," he said. "My system can't separate out the biological stuff or chemical stuff like that."

Artificial intelligence beats radiologists

Carolena Rangila was the overall runner-up. She also won the Computational Biology and Bioinformatics category.

Her project evaluated the effectiveness of artificial intelligence in detecting benign and malignant tumors from mammograms.

"Recently, there's been lots of debates on AI being integrated into radiology, and it's been very controversial," she said, "but I wanted to see what impact AI could have for a field I'm about



Riley Woodland was the third-place overall winner and won the Earth and Environmental Sciences category. His project centered around the problem of microplastics in water.

to go into or planning to go into."

According to the high school junior, her AI model slightly outperformed the 10 radiologists she recruited for the project.

She said she built her model using a data set of images she already had, then trained and



Carolena Rangila's project evaluated the effectiveness of artificial intelligence in detecting benign and malignant tumors from mammograms.

tuned the model through several data sets.

"It began picking up on similarities like micro classifications, density of the tissue, and basically any architectural distortion," Rangila recalled. "It starts to pick up on

that — any kind of mass."

The 11th grader then created a web app for further testing.

She said that even though her model only slightly outperformed the humans, her product will continue to improve while the radiologists will likely not get better.

"I'm still refining it, still training it with more data," she said. "So, my accuracy will continue to go up. And AI is a self-learning program, so it keeps learning. My accuracy is still going up. I think for the FDA to approve of it, it has to reach at least 98% accuracy."

Bottled water not as healthy as he thought

Riley Woodland was the third-place overall winner and won the Earth and Environmental Sciences category. His project centered around the problem of microplastics in water.

The Union County High School sophomore said he read a newspaper article that claimed microplastics had been detected in humans and can cause side effects like cardiovascular

disease, intestinal issues, and even cancer in some cases.

Woodland took water samples from bottled water, Butler Lake, municipal supplies, and a filtered refrigerator.

He then ran his samples through coffee filters and examined the results with a microscope.

Woodland found that bottled water had the highest concentration of microplastics, followed by tap water, lake water, and filtered refrigerated water.

"I've always drank bottled water my entire life," he said, "and so seeing that that actually can harm me now is quite astounding."

Other winners

Marlee Trowell won the Plant Sciences category with "The Effect of Salinity on Plant Growth."

Canaan Harris placed second in Environmental Engineering behind Kilgore. Harris tested different water filters and determined that sand worked better than charcoal or gravel.

Jayden Johnson, Hayden Robinson, and Madison Woods worked together to win the Material Sciences category with "Color Clash: Comparing Organic and Inorganic Fruit Dyes."

Phoenix Forbes took second in Material Sciences by testing an old family tradition: freezing batteries to make them last longer. Although her family had stashed the AAs and AAAs in the icebox for generations, Forbes concluded that the hack was worthless.

Russel Wade won the chemistry category with "Salt and Freezing Time."

Holden Webb tested the height, speed, and stability of model rockets with various payload weights. He used pennies to alter the weight of the rockets and won the Astronomy and Physics category.

Noah Visel placed second in Astronomy and Physics with "Musical Coils."

Union commissioners discuss rec. board drama

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Special to the Times

On Jan. 27, the Union County Board of Commissioners held a special workshop to discuss the current problems and issues with the Union County Recreation Department.

About 20 county residents attended the meeting, and, while none chose to speak during the scheduled public comment portion of the meeting, Board Chair Channing Dobbs commented that he and the other board members were pleased to see residents in attendance and hoped they would participate in the meeting by expressing their ideas and views about the matters being discussed.

The workshop began with a discussion about the Recreation Board. Commissioner Donna Jackson commented about the change made to the Recreation Board's by-laws concerning member terms at the BOCC regular December meeting. According to the by-laws (as amended), the Recreation

Board is to be comprised of five volunteers, all Union County residents. All five serve without compensation and are all voting members. The new by-laws about terms of service state that each member be appointed by the board of county commissioners for two-year terms with the option of being reappointed for additional terms.

Union County Coordinator Jimmy Williams commented that he felt the recreation board needed more members, specifically one volunteer from each of the organizations that use county recreation facilities — including the Babe Ruth organization, the Pop Warner organization, soccer, and Union County Middle School athletics. Recreation Board Member Malory Southwell added that East Butler Athletics had recently submitted their insurance information to be allowed to use the facilities. They would be offering various programs, including track, cheer camp, and flag football, throughout the year. That organization was

added to the list of providing a representative to the rec board.

Overdue electric bill

During this discussion the matter of an overdue electric bill for the recreation department came up for discussion. The bill owed was for two months and the power was within a day of being disconnected. Southwell told the commission members that the recreation department usually paid the bill but, that for the last two months they had not had access to the departments post office box and did not have the ability to write checks due to the resignation of the treasurer Chelsea Dukes.

According to Southwell, Dukes had turned in the department's papers, checkbook and keys to the clerk's office. The checks required two signatures, one of which was Dukes' and the other Southwell's. She also noted that none of the remaining board members was interested in

assuming the responsibility of Treasurer.

Asst. County Finance Director Pam Woodington said she could pay the bill the next day but needed board approval to do so as the recreation department normally paid for the electric service out of its account using funds allotted them by the county each year.

General board consent was unanimously given for the bill to be paid the next morning and the discussion moved towards who should be paying the bill regularly. Jackson said she saw no reason why the county could retain the funds usually given to the recreation board to pay for electric service and pay the bill through the finance departments as was done for expenses for the other county parks. This matter is set to be discussed further at the February meeting of the board of county commissioners.

Facilities rentals

Still discussing recreation, Commissioner Melissa McNeal

asked if the O.J. Phillips Park was still allowing rentals. Jackson responded, saying that if the county was going to provide facilities that it needed to be compensated for it, noting that the condition of these facilities must be protected to preserve them for county residents.

Commissioner Mack Johns spoke out against rentals, allowing them only under special circumstances with board approval. Dobbs commented that he would like to see things happen that would generate revenue to help compensate the county for the expenses involved with the operation of the recreation department.

Johns responded with information concerning the recent tournament held at rec department ballfields — the subject of which had caused several heated discussions at a previous meeting as the board had approved for the tournament to be held, providing the county with a \$2,500 fee for usage of the facilities.

"The county did not make

\$2,500 on the tournament, it lost money due to damages to the facilities as a result of the tournament," Johns said. He went on to list these damages — the pitcher's mound on a softball field was damaged due to the removal of a rubber mat installed on it, damage to the septic tank due to cars parking on top of it and also the consideration of the extra work created for the volunteers.

"In my opinion, the park is full and not available for rent," Johns said.

The board agreed to discuss the matter further at a later date, mentioning the possibility of charging an upfront deposit for possible damages to park facilities.

Commissioner Willie Croft commented at the close of the meeting that he had never seen such drama concerning recreation.

"It all used to run smoothly, and now it's the same problem over and over again," Croft said.

TREAT

Continued from page 5

state in the course "A Matter of Balance."

He added that Fire Rescue already has a list of residents who have fallen repeatedly. He said his team would approach those people, asking them to enroll in the eight-hour "A Matter of

Balance" course.

He also said his team will perform in-home assessments.

"We'll first find out why they are falling so much," he said. "Is it a squeaky wheel on their walker, or maybe they're getting dizzy?"

Weeks said Fire Rescue responded to four fall calls from one person within a week.

"So, finally, we were like, all right, let's go talk to this guy, see what's going on," he recalled. "Come to find out, one of the wheels on his walker was deflated, and that was causing him to fall. So, we inflated that wheel and haven't been to him since. It's just little things like that that nobody's really taken the time to address. By doing that, we're able to help these people and ultimately reduce the number of calls that we're receiving."

Weeks said managing chronic

disease is emerging as the most significant part of the community paramedicine program.

"Say you have a patient with real bad diabetes," he said. "They might not be compliant with their medications. We'll go in their home, we'll go over their diet with them. We'll make sure that they're taking the medications that they should, and then we will create a care plan for them."

Weeks added that his team would follow up with weekly visits to ensure the patient followed the care plan.

The community paramedicine program has also taken on what Weeks and Carter characterized as large projects, such as building ramps or decks for patients with accessibility needs.

He said Fire Rescue responded to one patient 12 times in one month, and all the patient needed was help getting from his front door to his car for doctors'

appointments.

"So, what we did was we partnered with local church groups ... and we were able to get this very nice, large ramp built free of cost to the patient," he said, "and I'm happy to report since then, we've been out there twice, and it's been for actual medical emergencies. We haven't had to send any crews out there for any lift assist or anything like that."

People care, not just patient care

Weeks ended his presentation with his team's outlook, inspired by Dr. Pete Gianas, whom Weeks said hired him 12 years ago.

"Something that he always said, and it's always stuck with me and the rest of our guys," Weeks recalled. "People care, not just patient care. The people that we're taking care of, yes, are

patients, but they have a life and a family. Treat them as if they're one of your own. That's really stuck with us, and that's kind of how we run this program."

Get help quitting

Quitting tobacco isn't easy. If you're ready to quit, join the next Tools to Quit Tobacco group. Virtual options by computer and phone are also available.

This free, one-time two-hour group will give you tips on how to deal with triggers and withdrawal symptoms and how to prevent relapse. You'll also receive up to four weeks of free nicotine patches, gum or lozenges.

Pre-registration is required. Call 866-341-2730 to reserve your spot.

HOME • MOBILE HOME INSURANCE

Buying or Building?

- Is it insurable?
- What is the cost?

FREE CONSULTATION

Daryl S. Brewer
Licensed Agent

386-496-2271
dsbrewer@windstream.net



Daryl S. Brewer

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

Ivan Alexander, 20, of Brooker, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 27 for probation violations.

Martin Altman, 24, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 31 for intimidation.

Brandy Chavers, 40, of Melrose, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 27 for an out-of-county warrant.

Andria Corneal, 33, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 25 for DUI.

Katelynn Crawford, 19, of Lawtey, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 28 for larceny.

Ernest Dyal, 62, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 28 for larceny and burglary.

Evan Fraser, 40, of Gainesville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 25 for failure to appear.

Heather Lamb, 39, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 26 for battery and child cruelty.

Brittney McIntosh, 34, of Lawtey, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 25 for DUI.

Kenny Moore, 61, of Douglas, Georgia, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 27 for an out-of-county warrant.

Omar Ramirez, 30, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 26 for battery and resisting an officer.

Zachary Rogers, 48, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 26 for DUI.

Rebecca Sellars, 43, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 31 for child neglect and resisting an officer.

Cindy Wells, 60, was arrested by Bradford deputies on January 31 for disorderly intoxication.

Union

None reported.

Clay

Archie Damon, 37, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on January 31 for felony domestic battery by strangulation.

Noah Goodin, 42, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on January 30 for possession of drug equipment and possession of a firearm or ammunition by a convicted felon.

William Parker, 29, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on January 29 for a probation violation.

Luke Tassell, 21, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on January 26 for domestic battery.



Vince Esson of the Keystone Heights RV Resort cuts the ribbon on the station expansion. Also pictured are Danny Riddick, Joel Haas, Cody Johnson, David Weeks, Ben Carter, Wayne Clemons, Peyton Brown, Matthew Kimball, Scott Kornegay, Colin Taylor, David Jackson, Jeremy Loomis and Kevin Mobley.

Bradford opens Speedville fire station

BY JENN SAMSEL
Special to the Telegraph

On Jan. 31, Bradford County officials held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the opening of Station 10 in Speedville. The fire department bays, constructed in 2017, now feature new living quarters for full-time firefighters.

The Keystone Heights Fire Department ceased operations in 2014, as Clay County Fire Rescue took over emergency response in the southwestern part of Clay County. In 2020, Bradford County replaced its collection of volunteer departments with a countywide paid department.

Many fire departments have made similar transitions, from being strictly volunteer to a combination of paid and volunteer personnel or establishing fire stations with all paid staff.

County Commissioner Danny Riddick credited the Keystone volunteers for jumpstarting the Station 10 effort. He thanked businessman Vince Esson for continuing the momentum.

In 2016, the Keystone Heights Volunteer Fire Department signed over \$1.2 million worth of equipment to Bradford County Fire Rescue. That came with \$75,000 towards the new building. Riddick said Santa Fe College donated the land, and Vince Esson from the Keystone Heights RV Resort donated \$150,000 to complete the station with the new living quarters.

"I also wanted to thank everyone who contributed, and I cannot thank you enough," added Riddick, who represents District 4, which stretches from southern tip of Bradford to west of Hampton Lake. "You have

helped us with this project from the start, and today this station is complete and sitting in the fastest-growing area in the county."

"This is a milestone for Bradford County and a significant step in strengthening fire and EMS services in our southeast region," said Bradford County Fire Rescue Chief Ben Carter. "With this station, we are officially adding 24-7 fire response and advanced life support services, ensuring a faster, more effective emergency response for our residents."

"This station is here today because of the efforts of so many individuals and businesses," he continued, "and to the men and women of Bradford County Fire Rescue, you're the heart of this department."

Bradford satellite office closing temporarily

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

At the same time Bradford has opened Fire Station 10 in Speedville, the courthouse satellite office that had been operating there is closing.

The Bradford County tax collector's satellite office will be temporarily closed starting Wednesday, Feb. 5, due to scheduled training and staffing issues. The office will remain closed until further notice.

In a statement, Teresa Phillips, Bradford County tax collector, apologized for any



inconvenience the closure may cause and thanked residents for their understanding as efforts are made to improve services.

The office serves the southern end of the county, providing a convenient way for citizens to renew their licenses, pay their taxes, purchase permits and more. Many services, however, are now available online.

For assistance during the closure, the public is encouraged to visit the Bradford County tax collector website at www.bradfordtaxcollector.com or contact the office by phone at

904-966-6246 or 904-966-6235 for further information.

Residents who require immediate assistance can always visit the main office in the south wing of the Bradford County Courthouse, located at 945 N. Temple Ave. in Starke. Regular office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phillips expressed appreciation for the community's patience.

Players, sponsors needed for golf tourney

Madison Street Student Ministry is planning golf tournament Saturday, Feb. 15. Enjoy the challenging Quail Heights Country Club golf course in Lake City and support the students of Madison Street Baptist Church as they head to

camp this summer. Registration for the four-person team scramble begins at 7:30 a.m. and the tournament begins at 8:30. Lunch and prizes are at 1:30 p.m.

Registration is \$300 per team of four (\$75 per person), which includes fees, carts and lunch. Team and tournament sponsorships are appreciated. For more information, please call 904-964-7557.

BUDGET

Continued from page 7

Alachua County line to County Road 18) for \$4.25 million. The third state-funded project is a sidewalk on County Road 100A from Lincoln City Park to U.S. 301 for \$1.04 million. Additionally, work on Northeast 219th Street will be funded by \$164,000 in gas tax funding.

This year also includes multiple chip seal projects, the cost of which will be added when those numbers are received. Those projects will be funded by gas tax revenue as well.

Next year, a \$2.3 million state grant will fund resurfacing on County Road 21B (from Southeast 43rd Street to Southeast Eighth Avenue.).

The two-year total, minus the unknown cost of chip sealing, was nearly \$12.4 million.

The Capital Improvement Plan for solid waste incorporated mosquito control and included requests for new truck mounted spray units this year and next totaling \$50,000. Replacement trash compactors and trash containers for this year and the third and fifth year of the plan totaled \$450,000. Next year also included a \$300,000 request for a grapple truck to load limbs and debris, with the same amount requested in Fiscal Year 2028 for a roll-off garbage truck.

The five-year total was \$995,000.

Courthouse improvements in the current year included \$32,500 for roof replacement and \$95,925 for the design of accessibility improvements to comply ADA requirements, totaling \$128,425 in county funds. The county is seeking state funding of \$1.83 million to construct those improvements. If received, that would bring the total to nearly \$1.96 million, according to the plan.

County Manager Scott Kornegay also pointed out the that under parks and recreation was the \$59,850 in vessel fees

that will pay for the design of the Cypress Run boat ramp this year and the \$367,000 grant that will pay for the construction next year.

This was a draft report and will evolve as budget meetings continue. During the discussion of budgeting county funds, for example, Chief Deputy Clerk Rachel Rhoden suggested costs such as the \$500,000 estimate for purchasing the brush trucks for fire rescue be spread over several years leading up to the purchase. In case the state does not appropriate funding, this would give the county time to build up that amount.

Fire Chief Ben Carter was present and discussed the schedule and need to replace aging vehicles in his fleet, including vehicles that date back to the early 2000s or before. Some of the ambulance replacements would be remounts, not new vehicles, he said. He also explained the \$2.5 million request for courthouse headquarters is high based on the increasing costs of construction. As for the need, he said they are "busting at the seams" in the current building.

"But again, this would certainly be something that we would seek appropriations for or alternative funding sources. And that's the good thing with us, as we have multiple grants that we could apply for," he said, referring to it as more of a want than a need right now. "I would never expect the county to foot the bill for two and a half million dollars for a new headquarters over there, or a remodel for that headquarters."

Commissioner Chris Dougherty suggested the project be split into phases, paid for by state requests over multiple years, which Carter and Kornegay agreed was the better idea.

After questions about the need for another grapple truck in the solid waste budget, Rhoden clarified the truck purchased several years ago was paid for with accumulated reserves in

mosquito control funding from the state and with state approval. That reserve is building up again and could be used to fund an additional equipment purchase, which Public Works Director Jason Dodds later confirmed. As for the garbage truck, it would replace one in the fleet, two of which are from 1995.

After a detour into workforce and litter problems (see related story), the workshop wrapped up with the courthouse renovation. The county manager suggested the \$2 million requested from the state also be spread out over several years in the Capital Improvement Plan so the county can begin budgeting to cover the project in the absence of state funding.

Dougherty suggested the portion of out-of-county inmate

housing revenue the board keeps in a set-aside fund be considered for this purpose. If it turns out the county does not need the money for the courthouse, then it

could be used for a future capital project, perhaps at the jail.

Staff will continue to work on the Capital Improvement Plan and the budget. The next

workshop is set for March 4 at 10:30 a.m. alongside the commission's regular meeting when a finalized plan could be approved.

Russ WADE

Attorney at Law

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

386-496-9656
Probate • Family • Wills • Adoption • Litigation • Corporate

CRIME DOESN'T PAY BUT WE DO!

REWARDS

UP TO \$3,000

FIRST COAST CRIME

Remain Anonymous
CALL TOLL FREE

1-866-845-TIPS (8477)

Submit a TIP ON-LINE at:
www.FCCrimeStoppers.com

PD BY CSTF

Kendrick selected for national-level Guard position

Editor's note: Some information in this story was originally published in the July 14, 2022, issue of the Telegraph-Times-Monitor.

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford County native Brian Kendrick, who was serving as the command senior enlisted leader of the Florida National Guard, was recently selected to become the 14th command sergeant major of the Army National Guard.

"Young Staff Sgt. Kendrick, Sgt. First Class Kendrick and even young Sgt. Maj. Kendrick certainly never saw anything like this being possible," the 1989 Bradford High School graduate said. "It's a very humbling experience. I'm just extremely honored to have the opportunity."

Kendrick will replace Sgt. Maj. John Raines, who was selected to be senior enlisted advisor of National Guard Bureau. Raines had been in the position of command sergeant major since 2022.

Since early December, Kendrick's life has been moving fast, as he prepares to transition to his new role and move to Arlington, Virginia. He's already had to take part in events in our nation's capital as the result of Raines already working in his new role.

"I found out the first week in December that I had been selected," Kendrick said. "It's been a whirlwind ever since."

Kendrick, with encouragement from people he worked with, applied for the position. He received a call before Thanksgiving notifying him that Gen. Jonathan Stubbs, the



Brian Kendrick (far left) is congratulated by Gov. Ron DeSantis for his selection as the command sergeant major for the Army National Guard. Also pictured is Florida's adjutant general, John Haas.

director of the Army National Guard, wanted to interview him.

"We kind of shortened our Thanksgiving holiday plans," Kendrick said. "I flew up to D.C., put on my dress uniform and interviewed with Gen. Stubbs. About a week later — the first part of December — he let me know that he'd like to offer me the position. I told him I was honored and would be excited to have the opportunity to work on behalf of our soldiers and their families."

Kendrick and his wife, Tracey, will live in a residence at Fort McNair. Kendrick's office will be at the Army National Guard Readiness Center, which he described as "just a stone's throw from The Pentagon."

The new position will allow Kendrick to continue to do some of the same things he was doing as Florida's command senior

enlisted leader. The difference is that he'll perform those duties while serving all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories of Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

It has been quite a journey for Kendrick, who initially had no thoughts of military service, even though his father, Jim, is an Army veteran who served in the Vietnam War.

'A great deal'

Kendrick, who participated in football and weightlifting at BHS, said he reached that point in his life where he asked himself, "What am I going to do?" He wanted to go to college, but he didn't know how he was going to pay for it.

His father invited an Army Reserve recruiter to the house. The recruiter also brought

along an active-duty recruiter. Kendrick said he listened the Army Reserve recruiter and found it appealing that he could fulfill his commitment while still going to college and possibly working a part-time job as well.

Then he heard what the active-duty recruiter had to say about a two-year commitment and being able to qualify for the GI Bill and the Army College Fund.

"I was like, 'Wow. That sounds like a great deal,'" Kendrick said. "Two years. Maybe get stationed somewhere. Go see the world. Come back, and college will be paid for."

"That's what I did. The Army Reserve recruiter probably regrets having brought the active-duty recruiter along. He just poached a recruit."

Joining a family

Kendrick went to Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri. He became a combat engineer and was assigned to the 9th Engineer Battalion in Germany. He deployed with the battalion in support of Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm.

His service took him to see other countries, which is what he was hoping to get out of joining the Army. He saw how those countries were different from the United States, but he also saw similarities.

"Every culture around the world is different, but people truly are basically the same no matter where you go," Kendrick said. "Moms and dads want their kids to be able to walk to school safely and get a good education. They want them to do a little better than they did. I think that's true of Europeans. That's



Brian Kendrick (right) receives a ceremonial gift from Jasen Pask, state command sergeant major of the Florida Army National Guard, following a Jan. 24 change-of-responsibility ceremony at St. Francis Barracks in St. Augustine. U.S. Army photo by Sgt. N.W. Huertas.

been true when I deployed to predominantly Islamic countries.

"At the end of the day, people really are the same all over."

What Kendrick also discovered is that he fell in love with being in the military, even though he joined the Army expecting just to "do my one hitch and get out."

"At the end of my enlistment, I really had grown kind of fond of the Army," he said, adding, "I think what kept me interested was the camaraderie. When we get it right in the military, it feels like a second family. It really becomes a fulfilling part of your life."

After completing his active-duty requirements, Kendrick transitioned into the Florida National Guard. He spent time at Camp Blanding, mostly with the 221st Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company from 1992

until 2002. He first volunteered as an EOD disposal technician and was later hired full-time to be the administration and supply non-commissioned officer.

Kendrick later spent two years in St. Augustine before returning to Camp Blanding from 2004 until 2008. In 2006, as a first sergeant, he deployed with the 221st EOD Company in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, coordinating multiple explosive ordnance-disposal teams operating in Iraq, Kuwait and Qatar.

In 2008, Kendrick was promoted, becoming the G3 (operations and training) directorate sergeant major at Joint Force Headquarters in St. Augustine. Later, he served as the G1 (military personnel)

See KENDRICK, page 9



Ron Blake
352-235-1644
2518 State Rd 21,
Melrose, FL 32666

"Their knowledgeable and professional attitude is a winning combination."

For Sale!



MLS #2040536



RIGHT ON GRANDIN LAKE!
764 Lake Shore Terrace
Interlachen, FL 32148



Justis Smith
352-258-4619
100 E Nightingale St.
Keystone Heights, FL 32656

justis@southland-realty.com

SW County Road 100A #2
Starke, FL 32091

For Sale!



MLS #11394100



Beautiful cleared 5.98 acres currently zoned RFS-1 Single Family Homes and located on a paved road just outside of town and less than 1/2 mile to bypass for quick commutes. New culvert installed for easy access. Just bring your house plans and start your build! Additional adjoining 6.63 acreage available.

Featured Listings From Your Local Realtors!



MeLissa Pellerito
REALTOR®

MeLissa Pellerito
352-494-1829 call/text
mpelleritorealtor@gmail.com
275 S Lawrence Blvd • Ste 1
Keystone Heights, FL 32656



Florida Homes
Realty & Mortgage

"Absolutely amazing to work with MeLissa. Her professionalism, market knowledge, prompt attention to all matters makes her a true professional who cares about the service she provides. Thanks MeLissa!"



For Sale!

MLS #2011631



6261 Little Lake Geneva Road
Keystone Heights, FL 32656



RE/MAX
PROFESSIONALS

Danette Drageset
352-339-3649
4011 NW 43rd St,
Gainesville, FL 32606

For Sale!



MLS #GC527483

"Danette is an extraordinary person both business wise and personally. Her professionalism is unmatched. I would recommend her to anyone selling or buying a home."



12909 SE 5TH Place
Gainesville, FL 32641

**FIND
YOUR
DREAM
HOME
TODAY!**



Marty & Lisa Shaw
904-964-9222
415 E Call St,
Starke, FL 32091



For Sale!

COLDWELL BANKER

**SMITH & SMITH
REALTY**



"Carson Felcher made all our dreams come true and fulfilled all obligations and more. Carson went above and beyond for us and we would do it all over again thank you so much for our dream home!"

Carson Felcher
(904) 484-8028

CONDO COMING SOON!
LESS THAN ONE MILE
FROM THE BEACH!



502 Marsh Cove Lane
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082



Tax-Aide provides free tax assistance to elderly

Elderly taxpayers can receive free assistance in filing through the AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide program, which will have volunteers working at the Bradford County Public Library. Taxpayers don't need to be AARP members to receive assistance.

Volunteers will begin offering assistance in February, but you can schedule an appointment now by calling 904-863-6047 or filling out a form online at tinyurl.com/starketax.

Appointments will be available on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. beginning Feb. 6.

Taxpayers must present

picture IDs for themselves and their spouses and provide a Social Security card for all who'll be listed on a return. Tax-Aide volunteers gather personal information, including marital and household dependents, income, expenses and life events. All Tax-Aide volunteers sign an agreement to keep all taxpayer information secure, using it only to complete the individual's tax return.

Tax returns are completed by certified counselors and then reviewed for completeness and accuracy by a second certified counselor.

KENDRICK

Continued from page 8

sergeant major.

Kendrick, who was selected for appointment to command sergeant major in 2013, also served as commandant for the NCO academy at the 211th Regiment, Regional Training Institute at Camp Blanding. Additional leadership tours included serving as command sergeant major for the 753rd Brigade Engineer Battalion, command sergeant major for the 83rd Troop Command and state command sergeant major for the Florida National Guard.

In May 2022, Kendrick became the state's senior enlisted leader,

serving in that role until the change-of-command ceremony on Jan. 24 at St. Francis Barracks in St. Augustine. Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Sweat is Florida's new command senior enlisted leader.

Ready for new role

If Kendrick wants any advice on his new position, all he has to do is call his predecessor, who's a friend of his.

"Senior Enlisted Advisor Raines is a good friend, someone who's been a coach and a mentor for me for many years," Kendrick said. "I am incredibly happy that he has not retired. Instead, he just floated up to that next position. I don't have to feel guilty at all about picking up the phone and

picking his brain and getting advice on how he may have handled a particular challenge."

Whatever the challenge, Kendrick would tell you the Florida National Guard has prepared him to meet it. In fact, he believes his involvement in the Florida National Guard played a part in him getting to interview for the Army National Guard's command sergeant major position.

"The Florida National Guard has a strong reputation nationally," Kendrick said, adding, "Their reputation for being right, ready and relevant is known throughout the nation. They demonstrate on a daily basis the National Guard's motto of 'Always ready, always there.'"

If the Florida National Guard's reputation helped land the interview, the many people in Kendrick's life — inside and outside of the Guard — helped him become someone ready to step into the role of Army National Guard command sergeant major.

"I didn't get here by myself," he said. "I'm a product of a lot of coaching and mentorship from folks throughout my career who were willing to invest in me and take that young boy from Bradford County and put him in a position where he could compete and then serve on the national stage."

"I'm just incredibly blessed and thankful."

SHOP LOCAL ALL

2025

Highly Rated Local Businesses!

SHOP LOCAL ALL

2025

North Florida Technical College
609 North Orange Street
Starke, FL 32091
(904) 966-6764



"This school is one of the top institutions for LPN training in North Florida. Mrs. McCord and Mrs. Dickinson are outstanding additions to the nursing program, and I am deeply appreciative of their guidance and support."

Phillip McDonald Plumbing
740 S Orange St,
Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-3737



"Was a pleasure to have him at our home. Did a great job and timely. Thanks for your professionalism."

Town & Country Vet Clinic
1051 S Water St,
Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-6411



"As always, Town and Country was AWESOME! They always treat my baby like he's one of theirs! I love it, and so does my puppy! Thanks, everyone, for treating my fur baby so great!"

Andrews Site Prep
(386) 867-0572
Services 20
different counties!



"A Wonderful Company! They get the job done right and they get the job done fast. Thank you Andrew Site Prep for always being somebody that we can count on!"

Stor-Mor of Starke
12046 US-301,
Hampton, FL 32044
(386) 339-7543



"Very easy and pleasant to work with. Excited to see the finished product."

Hometown Health & Wellness
110 Nightingale St,
Keystone Heights, FL 32656
(352) 664-7702



"Bryan is super friendly and insightful. He has encouraged me and given me plenty of advice to help my journey. I would highly recommend anyone to come to him for all your health and wellness to get you where you want to be."

Hearing Aids Today
450 S Lawrence Blvd,
Keystone Heights, FL 32656
(352) 877-4471



"This is the place to come to! I went many years between hearing exams. Very professional and compassionate in taking care of their customers. They are family owned and operated! The man that owns the place is the one that you deal with. The rest of the staff is amazing also!"

DLP Bank
811 S Walnut St, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-7830



"Very welcoming bank. They learn and know you by name and will not stop until they have helped with whatever your needs may be. I love this bank."

Robert's Insurance
986 N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 452-7784



"The insurance agency helps keep the insurance prices down." "Always a great place to visit and get help!"

Starke Golf & Country Club
15501 NE 14th Ave,
Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-5441



Valentine's Day Tournament: Shot-gun starts at 10:00AM for the first 18 teams, and the second group will go out between 12:00 and 1:00PM. Sponsorships are \$100 for a hole or a teabox!

Bradford County Eye Center
292 Lafayette St,
Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-8076



"Very professional. Kind and thorough. I was referred to this Eye doctor for the good selection of frames but I will stay because of the technical expertise of the staff."

Lake Area Heating and Air
7415 State Rd 21,
Keystone Heights, FL 32656
(352) 473-9595



Formerly Mike Bertie Heating and Air, Serving Keystone Heights and surrounding areas since 2008.

Miller HVAC Services, Inc.
(904) 626-0963
Serving Northeast FL



"HIGHLY RECOMMEND! We have used Miller HVAC for years. At first to get our super old out dated AC kick started back when it would die, they were always Johnny on the spot and had us up and running super fast. Honest, dependable, family owned and operated. Wouldn't go anywhere else!"

North Florida Land Works
(904) 263-6844



"I reached out on a Sunday and they were easy to reach. They came and did a prompt estimate same day, next day worked me into their busy schedule. The team was friendly and easy to work with. Can't say enough, use them!!!"

Teal Tile Carpet One
131 N Cherry St, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-7423



"Teal Tile Carpet One is our hometown favorite businesses for all of our flooring needs! We are doing a small remodel to our mobile home and we chose Teal Tile Carpet One over all others because of their experience, their professional installation of our carpet and waterproof planking in our home, and for their great deals on high quality products."

Turners Automotive & Transmission
135 Commercial Cir, Keystone Heights, FL 32656
(352) 473-3404



"The service I've gotten from Doug has been on point. Very thankful for his honesty and professionalism and taking the time to address the root problems."

Block FL
22530 Park St,
Lawtey, FL 32058



**Tax Prep Made Simple!
(904) 470-0850**

GT Plumbing
4050 L.M. Gaines Blvd, Starke, FL 32091
904-796-7228
GTPlumbing.com



**• New construction
• Septic tank & drain field installation
• Building, sewer, & drain repair
• Bathroom, shower, & kitchen remodels
• Service calls • Back flow certified**

JBS Jackson Building Supply
"Serving Our Community For Over 60 Years"

- LUMBER & BUILDING MATERIALS
- HAND & POWER TOOLS
- PAINT, LADDERS & SUPPLIES
- HOME & FARM HARDWARE
- ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING SUPPLIES
- BATHROOM VANITIES
- METAL ROOFING & SHINGLES
- HOT WATER HEATERS
- DOORS & WINDOWS
- LAWN & GARDEN

STARKE US-301S 964-6078
LAKE BUTLER 145 SW 6th Ave. 496-3079

Craig Falstreux Heating & Air, Inc
228 S Walnut St,
Starke, FL 32091
(352) 792-4426



"My ac broke! They came and fixed it right away. Now it works perfect! The charge was so small. I was very lucky I called them."

Bradford County Sheriffs Office
945-B N Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 966-6161



"I need to take a minute to recognize my jail command team, the people I'm surrounded by. Each unique and strong in their own areas. There is nothing anyone asks of them they don't do and almost always with a smile. They take care of business and take care of people at the same time."

T.E.S. Rentals
2000 N Temple Ave,
Starke, FL 32091
(904) 452-0888



"Rented from them a few times, easy customer service and nice machines!! Highly recommend."

The Chiropractic & Injury Clinic of Starke
601 E Call St, Starke, FL 32091
(904) 964-8018



"I HATE THAT I WAITED SO LONG BEFORE COMING! They got me an appointment immediately. The entire staff was very patient and kind. The doctor actually attentively listens to you and welcomes questions and clarification. They made everything so comfortable and relaxing. I'd give 10 stars if allowed."



Riley Gibson won the Region 2-1A championship in the 119-pound class.

Tigers' Gibson wins Region 2-1A title

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Union County High School's Riley Gibson remained undefeated in the postseason, winning her weight class in the traditional event at the Region 2-1A girls weightlifting meet, which was held Feb. 1 in Chiefland.

As a region champ, Gibson earned an automatic berth in the state finals, which will be held Saturday, Feb. 15, at R.P. Funding Center-Jenkins Arena in Lakeland. She is one of four Union lifters who'll compete, with Alexia Cyr, Briena Haight and Taleya Smith earning at-large bids.

Gibson took first in the 119-pound class by 10 pounds at the Region 2 meet, finishing ahead of runner-up Victoria Vieira of Father Lopez. Gibson had a 245-pound total, which consisted of a 115-pound clean and jerk and a 130-pound bench press. She was 10 pounds out of first after the clean-and-jerk competition, but her bench-press total was the best in the class by 15 pounds.

The effort resulted in Gibson being the sixth-best pound-for-pound lifter at the event.

Cyr placed third in the 139 class with a 290 total (135 clean and jerk, 135 bench press), which surpassed her total at the District 6 event by 10 pounds — a 5-pound improvement in both the clean and jerk and bench press. She was successful on all six of her attempts (three in the clean and jerk and three in the bench press), with her bench-press total being the second-highest in the class.

Smith and Haight placed fifth and sixth, respectively, in the 169 class. Smith had a total of 300 (140, 160), while Haight had a total of 290 (135, 155). Their bench-press totals were third and

fourth best in the class.

Haight's total was 5 pounds better than the one she finished with at the District 6 meet.

The Tigers also had the following compete: Holly Halfacre, who had a 215 total (115, 100) in the 119 class, Emma Handley, who had a 210 total (110, 100) in the 129 class, Gracie Manning, who had a 210 total (105, 105) in the 154 class, and Allaya Blocker, who had a 260 total (120, 140) in the unlimited class.

Halfacre, Handley and Manning each improved her total from the District 6 meet by 5 pounds.

Cyr and Gibson, who were both state qualifiers last season, will lift during the morning session at state, which will begin at 9 a.m., while Haight and Smith will lift during the afternoon session, which begins at 3 p.m.

State tickets, which are \$11 in advance and \$14 the day of the event, can be purchased online at rpfundingcenter.com.

Parking at the event is \$12.

Please note that R.P. Funding Center is a cashless facility.

Still a runner-up for KHHS at region meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Chloe Still, who was one of four Keystone Heights High School girls weightlifters to qualify for state, earned a runner-up finish in the traditional event at the Region 2-1A finals, which were held Feb. 1 in Chiefland.

It was the second straight year Still earned second place at the regional level. She, Ava Herman and Kaylee Park earned at-large traditional bids to state, while Ashlyn Brown received an at-large bid in Olympic.

The state meet will be held Saturday, Feb. 15, at R.P. Funding Center-Jenkins Arena in Lakeland. Park and Still will lift in the 9 a.m. session, while Brown and Herman will lift in the 3 p.m. session.

State tickets, which are \$11 in advance and \$14 the day of the event, can be purchased online at rpfundingcenter.com.

Parking at the event is \$12.

Please note that R.P. Funding Center is a cashless facility.

Traditional results

At the Region 2 meet, Still had a 305-pound total in the 139-pound class, leaving her trailing champion Amya Ramos of Pierson Taylor by 10 pounds. Still had the third-best clean-

and-jerk total of 145 and the best bench-press total of 160.

Though it didn't earn her a state berth, Brown placed fourth in the 154 class with a 260 total (135 clean and jerk, 125 bench press). She was 5 pounds away from qualifying for state.

Herman earned her state bid with a fifth-place finish in the unlimited class. She had a 155 clean and jerk and a 160 bench press for a 315 total, improving upon her District 6 total by 10 pounds. Herman was 6 for 6 on all her attempts (three in the clean and jerk, three in the bench).

Lily Mitchell also earned a fifth-place finish with a 260 total (130, 130) in the 183 class. She was 10 pounds away from earning a state berth. Her total was 5 pounds better than what she did at the District 6 meet.

Park qualified for state by placing seventh in the 129 class with a 240 total (125, 115), which improved upon her district total by 10 pounds. She was successful on all of her clean-and-jerk and bench attempts.

Cadie Bowles was 5 pounds away from earning a state berth in the 110 class, finishing with an eighth-place total of 200 (100, 100).

Paige Harrington also earned an eighth-place finish with a 245 total (125, 120) in the 183 class.

Morgan Wilson placed 10th in the 169 class with a 265 total (125, 140).

Keystone also had the following compete: London Williams, who had a 120 total (65, 55) in the 101 class, Aubrey Miller, who had a 170 total (90, 80) in the 110 class, Kaiya Thompson, who had a 215 total (100, 115) in the 139 class, Makenzi Brinson, who had a 245 total (120, 125) in the 154 class, and Raegan Lee, who had a 245 total (120, 125) in the 169 class.

Olympic results

Brown earned Keystone's only Olympic state berth, placing third in her class with a 250 total (115 snatch, 135 clean and jerk). She had the best snatch in the class.

The next-closest state qualifier Keystone had was Herman, who was 5 pounds away from making state with a sixth-place total of 245 (90, 155).

Keystone had two other sixth-place finishers in Park, who had a 215 total (90, 125), and Harrington, who had a 225 total (100, 125). Park, who was successful on all of her snatch attempts, improved her Olympic total at the District 6 meet by 10 pounds.

Mitchell finished with an

eighth-place total of 215 (85, 130), while Natalie Layfield was eighth in the 129 class with a 205 total (85, 120). Mitchell and Layfield had 5- and 10-pound improvements, respectively, from their District 6 totals.

Still placed ninth with a 235 total (90, 145).

The following also competed for the Indians: Williams, who had a 115 total (50, 65), Bowles, who had a 170 total (70, 100), Miller, who had a 145 total (55, 90), Thompson, who had a 180 total (80, 100), and Wilson, who had a 210 total (85, 125).

Ray lifts way to state for BHS

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School's Timya Ray qualified for the Class 1A state finals with her performance in the traditional event at the Region 2 girls weightlifting meet, which was held Feb. 1 in Chiefland.

Ray placed sixth in the unlimited class with a clean and jerk of 160 pounds and a bench press of 155, giving her an overall total of 315. It was a 15-pound improvement from what Ray did at the previous week's District 6 meet.

The total was good enough to earn Ray an at-large bid to state, which will be held Saturday, Feb. 15, at R.P. Funding Center-Jenkins Arena in Lakeland. She'll lift in the 3 p.m. session.

State tickets, which are \$11 in advance and \$14 the day of the event, can be purchased online at rpfundingcenter.com.

Parking at the event is \$12.

Please note that R.P. Funding Center is a cashless facility.

Though not qualifying for state, Destiny Randolph and Blakeleigh Smith made significant jumps in their totals from the District 6 meet. Smith had a 15-pound improvement with a 225 total (110, 115) in the 139 class, while Randolph had a 20-pound improvement with a 250 total (120, 130) in the 199 class.

Bradford also had the following compete at the Region 2 meet: Hailey Redding, who had a 210 total (105, 105) in the 129 class, Brandy Hall, who had a 210 total (110, 100) in the 129 class, Mallory Frazier, who had a 190 total (100, 90) in the 139 class, and Kellsie Cochran, who had a 230 total (110, 120) in the 183 class.

Redding improved upon her district total by 5 pounds.

Carey wins North Florida Championship title for BMS

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Jaland Carey won his weight class and was one of three Bradford Middle School wrestlers to place at the Feb. 1 North Florida Championships, which were held in Lake City.

Carey took first in the 150-pound class after earning a 16-3 win by major decision over Green Cove Springs' Brant Rountree. Carey reached the championship match by defeating Oakleaf's Elijah Gage by an 18-2 technical fall and then defeating Lakeside's Piper Soto 10-3.

Julius Givings placed third in the 113 class. He started with two wins by pins, defeating Episcopal's Asa Black (9:15) and Green Cove Springs' Jonathan Riley (19 seconds). After a 16-11 loss to Lake Asbury's Carter Gaither, Givings pinned Lakeside's Cobyn Broughton in 4:58 and then defeated Emerald Coast's Carson Haener by sudden victory.

Kaison Pierce also earned a third-place finish for the Tornados. Pierce began his day in the 190 class by recording a 17-2 technical fall over Florida High's Nicholas Papesch. He then lost 4-0 to Suwannee's Colton Shelton, but bounced back by pinning Fernandina Beach's Beau Brazzeal in 2:38. Pierce took a 12-3 major decision over Florida High's Papesch in the third-place match.

Bradford had four wrestlers earn two wins on the day: Avery Gardner (80 class), Demetrius Hunter (95), Nathaniel Givings (120) and Stanley Varnum (132).

Conner Faircloth (85), Colton Rowe (126) and Jacoby Pernell (285) also won matches.

Kyson Waters wrestles his way to North Florida title

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Lake Butler Middle School's wrestling team competed in the North Florida Championships on Feb. 1 in Lake City, with Kyson Waters winning the 85-pound class title.

Waters, who was coming off a Suwannee Middle Athletic

Conference championship, went 3-0. He pinned Oakleaf's Easton Phillips in 16 seconds and then pinned Lake Asbury's Layne Harrell in 1:29, which put him in the championship match against Lake City's Isaiah Wiley. Waters won by another pin, getting the victory in 2:10.

He was one of two Lake Butler wrestlers to place. James Crew took fourth in the 215 class. After getting pinned by Wakulla's Kadyn Reynolds in 4:26, Crew bounced back with a 17-1 win by technical fall over Wilkinson's Josiah Potts. Crew advanced to the third-place match off a win by disqualification over River Springs' Ty'ler Williams. He faced Wakulla's Reynolds again, losing 10-9.

The Tigers' Landon Douglas (126 class) earned three wins in the tournament before being eliminated in the consolation semifinals.

Lake Butler's Carson Rogers (80) had two wins, while the Tigers got one win each from Winston Sparkman (90), Mason Vandervort (106) and Isaiah Cepeda (150).



Lake Butler Middle School's Kyson Waters, pictured after placing first at the Feb. 1 North Florida Championships, was a winner the week before at the SMAC tournament. The Jan. 30 issue of the Telegraph-Times-Monitor reported otherwise.

Correction

It was mistakenly reported in the Jan. 30, 2025, issue of the Telegraph-Times-Monitor that Lake Butler Middle School wrestler Kyson Waters was the runner-up in the 85-pound class at the Jan. 25 Suwannee Middle Athletic Conference tournament. Waters, in fact, pinned his finals opponent and won the championship, adding to his impressive season in which he lost only one match.

We apologize for the error.

Classified Ads - 904-964-6305



Where one call does it all!



Class Ads 2/06/25

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."

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

HERITAGE VILLAS

Accepting Applications for 1 & 2 BR Apts

607 Bradford Court
Starke, FL 32091
904-964-6216
TDD 771



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

ence, 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

47 Commercial Property (Rent, Lease, Sale)

LAKE BUTLER Main Street office building for lease. 1400 sq feet, 1400 a month, already set up and equipped for medical

but can easily be adapted to administrative office. Contact 352-258-0088.

48 Homes for Sale

FOR SALE by Owner
New construction single family home. 3 bed 2 bath house 1,460sqft sitting on a 1.1 acre lot. Right across from a school. Address is 3545 S.E. 144 street Starke. Asking Price is 325,000. Call Leon at 786-260-5286 or Carla at 305-613-518.

50 For Rent

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

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

53 A Yard Sales

HUGE YARD SALE; Fri. & Sat. 9am-3pm. 20932 NE 20th Lane, Lawtey. Follow signs off 301 (Strawberry Acres).

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS Southern Villas of Starke

Ask about our 1&2 BR Apartments HC & non-HC Units. Central AC/Heat, on-site laundry, playground, private, quiet atmosphere.

Located on SR-16, 1001 Southern Villas Dr. Starke, FL
Call 904-964-7295
TDD/TTY 711
Equal Housing Opportunity

MULTI-FAMILY yard sale; Fri. & Sat. 9am-3pm. 8544 SE SR 100, Starke.

57 For Sale

1993 Chevy S10 pickup with '96 Corvette LT 350 engine, 6 speed transmission. Work in progress. \$5,000 OBO. 386-496-1299 leave message.

59 Personal Services

MAID TO ORDER cleaning services. Specializing in house cleaning, organizing, pet sitting, flower help, elder care and more. Free estimates. 904-769-1513

65 Help Wanted

CAREGIVER for Veteran. Background check required. Salary \$18.25/hr. 352-278-4578.

FULL TIME CUSTODIAN The Bradford County Maintenance Department - Custodial is currently accepting applications for a Full Time Custodial Worker. The pay rate is \$15.00 per hour, 40 hours per week and Monday to Friday.

PINE FOREST/STARKE HOMES APARTMENTS

1530 Madison St • Starke
(904) 964-6312
TDD 711

NOW RENTING 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apartments!

Starting at
1BR: \$628-\$715
2BR: \$678-\$768
3BR: \$723-\$820

This institution is an Equal Housing Opportunity Provider and Employer.

Set Right Mobile Homes

Specializing In Relocations, Re-Levels, Set-Ups & Disposal

Rodney A. Carmichael, Owner 904-364-6383
Email: set_right_homes@yahoo.com

Licensed • Bonded • Insured • Lic# IH/1025656



WELL DRILLING

24 Hr. PUMP SERVICE QUALITY SERVICE SINCE 1964

964-7061

STATE LICENSE #1305

DURRANCE PUMP

Tri-County Classifieds

Bradford County Telegraph Lake Region Monitor UNION COUNTY TIMES



INDEX

40 Notice	57 For Sale
41 Vehicles Accessories	58 Building Materials
42 Motor Vehicles	59 Personal Services
43 Rv's & Campers	60 Secretarial Services
44 Boats	61 Scripts
45 Land for Sale	62 Vacation/Travel
46 Real Estate Out of Area	63 Love Lines
47 Commercial Property Rent, Lease, Sell	64 Business Opportunity
48 Homes for Sale	65 Help Wanted
49 Mobile Homes for Sale	66 Investment Opportunity
50 For Rent	67 Hunting Land for Rent
51 Lost/Found	68 Rent to Own
52 Animals & Pets	69 Food Supplements
53 Yard Sales	70 Money to Lend
54 Keystone Yard Sales	72 Sporting Goods
55 Wanted	74 Computers & Computer Accessories
56 Trade or Swap	

Reach All 3 Counties Bradford • Union • Clay

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

904-964-6305
classads@bctelegraph.com



Baseball regular season starts Feb. 10

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

The Florida High School Athletic Association regular season for baseball starts Monday, Feb. 10, with Bradford and Union County both playing games that day.

Bradford will travel to play Middleburg at 6:30 p.m., while Union will host Trinity Catholic at 7 p.m.

The Tigers also host Baker County on Tuesday, Feb. 11, at 7 p.m.

Keystone Heights plays its first baseball game on Feb. 11 when it hosts Clay at 7 p.m.

BMS is runner-up in SMAC boys tourney

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford Middle School put itself in position to play for the Suwannee Middle Athletic Conference in boys basketball, but the Tornadoes had to settle for being the runner-up after a 52-29 loss to Williston on Jan. 31 in Starke.

The Tornadoes, who were the tournament's third seed in the East, reached the championship game by defeating second seed Interlachen and then number-one seed Palatka.

Williston, the second seed in the West, defeated third seed Suwannee and top seed Lake City.

In the championship game, Williston scored the first eight points before the Tornadoes got a



Bradford Middle School's Braylon Shanks, who's trailed by teammate Darrell Pressley, goes up for a second-half basket in the SMAC championship game.

basket from Chase Small. Small would later make a three-point shot to leave Bradford trailing 13-7.

Bradford, though, didn't get many looks at a good shot in the first half, with 17 turnovers hurting the Tornadoes' cause. Williston led 33-10 at halftime.

The Red Devils increased their lead to 29 points entering the fourth quarter.

Bradford played its best ball in the final quarter, outscoring Williston 13-7.

After Williston opened the fourth with a three-pointer,

Bradford went on an 8-0 run that began with Darrell Pressley getting a layup off a Swade Britt assist. The two teams both experienced a bit of a drought before the Tornadoes' Braylon Shanks scored off a Jaden Roberson steal.

Aiden Jackson knocked down a pull-up jumper for Bradford before Roberson scored off a Shanks steal.

Roberson had six points in the fourth quarter and finished with a team-high 10.

Bradford also got six points each from Shanks and Small, four from Pressley, two from Jackson and one from McKenzie Nattiel.

UCHS boys have strong close to the regular season

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Union County High School kept a winning streak intact as it closed out the regular season with wins over Middleburg, Baker County and Hamilton County.

The Tigers (14-3) hosted Middleburg on Jan. 27, winning 81-43. Stats weren't available, but senior Gavin Jenkins did reach 1,000 points for his career. Union traveled to Glen St. Mary to play Baker County for the second time in four days. The Tigers recorded the season sweep, defeating the Wildcats 56-41.

The Tigers hosted Hamilton County in their regular-season finale, winning 76-41.

Union is on a six-game winning streak, with an average

margin of victory of 23 points during that span.

Every win in the streak but one (Hamilton County) came against a school in a larger classification.

The Tigers are 13th in the Florida High School Athletic Association/MaxPreps Rural Class power rankings.

Union earned the third seed in the District 6 tournament, which is being hosted by Bell High School. The Tigers were scheduled to play second seed Trenton in a semifinal game on Wednesday, Feb. 5, at 5:30 p.m. If the Tigers won, they'll play top seed Fort White or fourth seed Bell for the championship on Friday, Feb. 7, at a time to be determined.

Trenton is the Rural Class' 11th-ranked team, while Fort White is ranked eighth.

Union played Trenton once in the regular season, losing by three points.

The Tigers also played Fort White once in the regular season, losing by seven points.

BHS boys don't need another late rally in win over Palatka

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Steven Carter had 10 points in the second quarter to help the Bradford High School boys basketball team build a double-digit lead in what was a 52-40 win over District 3-3A opponent Palatka on Jan. 30 in Starke.

The Tornadoes needed a late rally to beat the Panthers 65-64 on their home court on Jan. 14, but Bradford led by as many

as 19 points the second time around. Palatka was able to cut into the Tornadoes' lead in the second half, but was never able to get closer than seven points.

Bradford scored 11 of the game's first 13 points. Maliki Cobarris had the game's first basket, while Jy'Quez Cason scored off his own steal. Jordan Cason grabbed a defensive rebound and passed the ball downcourt to Cobarris for a transition basket and a 6-0 Tornadoes lead.

Jordan Cason and Breion Johnson each added a basket, while K.J. Taylor had a free throw as Bradford built an 11-2 lead.

Cobarris scored 12 of his team-high 15 points in the first quarter, which ended with Bradford ahead 16-10.

The Tornadoes put together a 16-0 run in the second quarter that began with a Cobarris three-pointer. After a Jordan Cason free throw, Carter scored and drew a foul, making the free throw. Carter then knocked down a three-point shot after a turnover to put the Tornadoes ahead 28-15.

Taylor made two free throws before Carter scored another basket off a turnover as the run continued. Carter was later fouled on a three-point attempt, making 2 of 3 free throws for a 34-15 lead.

Carter would finish with 12 points.

Taylor, who also finished with 12 points, helped the Tornadoes stay ahead in the third quarter. He scored a basket off his own steal and also sank a three-point shot.

Cobarris, Taylor and Jordan Cason each had a basket in the fourth quarter, with Carter and Cobarris also adding points at

the foul line.

Jy'Quez Cason and Jordan Cason finished with six and five points, respectively, while Johnson added two.

Jordan Cason led the team in rebounds with 10, while Cobarris and Jy'Quez Cason each had five.

Cobarris also had five assists and four steals.

Taylor and Jy'Quez Cason had five and three steals, respectively.

Bradford entered the game off its only district loss, which came by a score of 84-49 to host Newberry on Jan. 27.

Johnson and Cobarris led the team in scoring with 16 and 12 points, respectively, with the Tornadoes also getting 10 from Jordan Cason, four from Carter, three from Jy'Quez Cason and two each from Taylor and Larry Ardley.

Cobarris dished out eight assists, while Jy'Quez Cason had five steals.

Jy'Quez Cason and Jordan Cason grabbed six and five rebounds, respectively.

Newberry, which is fifth in the Florida High School Athletic Association/MaxPreps Class 3A power rankings, would go on to finish the regular season undefeated (21-0).

The Tornadoes wrapped up their regular season with a 50-40 win against visiting Belleview on Jan. 31. The Telegraph-Times-Monitor didn't have stats by deadline.

Bradford (15-4) earned the number-two seed in the District 3 tournament and was scheduled to host third seed Palatka in a semifinal game on Wednesday, Feb. 5, at 6 p.m. If the Tornadoes won that game, they'll play at top seed Newberry or host fourth seed Interlachen for the championship on Friday, Feb. 7, at a time to be determined.

Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Feb. 6, 2025

BRADFORD

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, the following application for permit was received on January 29, 2025: Phillip Wayne Davis, 13055 SW 175th Ave, Brooker, FL 32622-2901 has submitted Water Use Permit application 250740-1, to withdraw a maximum of 0.1090 mgd of groundwater for agricultural use. This project is located in Section 36, Township 6S, Range 19E, and Section 1, Township 7S, R19E, in Bradford County.

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

No further public notice will be provided regarding this application. A copy of the staff report must be requested in order to remain advised of further proceedings. Substantially affected persons are entitled to request an administrative hearing, pursuant to Title 28, Florida Administrative Code, regarding the proposed agency action by submitting a written request after reviewing the staff report. PUBLISH: no later than February 6, 2025 /tm

2/6 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME

Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given that the undersigned: CONSTANCE MOHART, 15594 NE 14th Ave., Starke, FL 32091, SOLE owner, doing business under the firm name of: SOUTHERN SLOTS, 15594 NE 14th Ave., Starke, FL 32091 intends to register fictitious name under the aforesaid statute. Dated this 30th day of JANUARY A.D., 2025, in BRADFORD County.

2/6 1tchg-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION Case No. 25000006CPAXMX Probate Division

IN RE: ESTATE OF PAUL T. STENSON,

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Paul T. Stenson, deceased, whose date of death was September 6, 2024, and the last four digits of whose social security number are -7696, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

The personal representative or curator has no duty to discover whether any property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in Sections 732.216-732.228 applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by the surviving spouse or a beneficiary as specified under Section 732.2211.

The date of first publication of this notice is February 6, 2025. Attorney for Personal Representative: Amy C. Kelley, Esq. Fla. Bar No. 119148 Kelley & Kelley, P.L. 700 Plantation Island Dr. S. Suite 206 St. Augustine, FL 32080 Tel: (904) 819-9706 Fax: (904) 819-9707 amy@kelleyandkelley.com sean@kelleyandkelley.com pleadings@kelleyandkelley.com Personal Representative:

Michael Stenson 6 4 Seasons Court Elmhurst, Illinois 60126

2/6 2tchg 2/13-BCT

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

Case No.: 24000358CAAXMX Division: Civil

PNC Bank, National Association Plaintiff,

vs. Erica Hall, et al. Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION AGAINST DEFENDANT ERICA HALL, UNKNOWN SPOUSE (1), BY VIRTUE OF BEING THE SPOUSE OF ERICA HALL AND ANY POTENTIAL HOMESTEAD RIGHTS AND/OR INTEREST THEY MAY HAVE IN THE SUBJECT PROPERTY AND KERRY BRENT PAGE, JR., AS POSSIBLE SPOUSE OF ERICA HALL

To: ERICA HALL 5342 COUNTY ROAD 214 KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, FL 32656 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA UNKNOWN SPOUSE (1), BY VIRTUE OF BEING THE SPOUSE OF ERICA HALL AND ANY POTENTIAL HOMESTEAD RIGHTS AND/OR INTEREST THEY MAY HAVE IN THE SUBJECT PROPERTY 5342 COUNTY ROAD 214 KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, FL 32656 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA KERRY BRENT PAGE, JR., AS POSSIBLE SPOUSE OF ERICA HALL

5342 COUNTY ROAD 214 KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, FL 32656 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and all parties claiming interest by, through, under or against Defendant(s) ERICA HALL, UNKNOWN SPOUSE (1), BY VIRTUE OF BEING THE SPOUSE OF ERICA HALL AND ANY POTENTIAL HOMESTEAD RIGHTS AND/OR INTEREST THEY MAY HAVE IN THE SUBJECT PROPERTY AND KERRY BRENT PAGE, JR., AS POSSIBLE SPOUSE OF ERICA HALL, and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property herein described;

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following described property in Bradford County, Florida: Real property located in the County of Bradford, State of Florida, to-wit: The East half (50 feet) of Lot 2, Block B, in that certain subdivision known as Mount Pleasant on Silver Lake, as the same appears of record in Plat Book 2, Page 45, public records of Bradford County, Florida. has been filed against you; and

you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on MICHAEL E. CARLETON, Plaintiff's attorney, P. O. Box 165028, Columbus, OH 43216-5028, within thirty (30) days after the first 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.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on the 27th day of January 2025.

DENNY THOMPSON CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA By: Kanetra Jenkins Deputy Clerk

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 East University Avenue, Gainesville, FL, 32601, Phone: (352)337-6236, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice-impaired, call 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service.

2/6 2tchg 2/13-BCT

PUBLIC AUCTION

Ron Denmark Mini Storage will hold a public auction on February 14, 2025 10:00am at 2117 N. Temple Ave. Starke, FL on the following units containing personal items: Unit 60 - Belonging to M. McCutchen Unit 39 - Belonging to M. McDuffie Unit 131 - Belonging to C. Risby Unit 49 & 58 - Belonging to K. Noble

1/2 2tchg 2/13-BCT

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT

Cedar River Seafood of Starke Florida, Inc vs. Department of Transportation Notice is hereby given that the above referenced parties have entered into a settlement of claimant's tort claim(s) against the insured, for the total amount of \$30,697.55 to be paid by State of Florida to the claimant.

2/6 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT

Tonie Clemente vs. Pride Enterprises Notice is hereby given that the above

referenced parties have entered into a settlement of claimant's tort claim(s) against the insured, for the total amount of \$200,000.00 to be paid by State of Florida to the claimant.

2/6 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A VARIANCE AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE BRADFORD COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS

BY THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the Bradford County Land Development Regulations, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Regulations, objections, recommendations and comments concerning a variance, as described below, will be heard by the Board of Adjustment of Bradford County, Florida, at a public hearing on February 20th, 2025, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the County Commission Meeting Room, North Wing, County Courthouse located at 945 N. Temple Avenue in Starke, Florida.

V 25-01 an application by David Salter to request a Variance be granted as provided for in Section 4.7 "RE", 4.7.7 Minimum Yard setbacks from a required 10' to a requested 5' along the East lot line of the property being described as follows;

One (1), Block B, Cypress Beach Subdivision, Keystone Club Estates Unit #1, according to plat thereof in Plat Book 2, Page 79 of the public records of Bradford County Fla. and being Bradford County Parcel Number 06060-B-00100. The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation

exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing. Aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the appeal.

Copies of the material are available for public inspection at the Office of the Director of Zoning, Planning, and Building, County Courthouse located at 945 North Temple Avenue, North Wing, Starke, Florida, during regular business hours.

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

2/6 1tchg-BCT

UNION

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT Antonio Hardiman

vs. Amanda Livingston and Florida Department of Corrections Notice is hereby given that the above referenced parties have entered into a settlement of claimant's tort claim(s) against the insured, for the total amount of \$15,000.00 to be paid by State of Florida to the claimant.

2/6 1tchg-UCT

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT Antoine Museau

vs. Department of Corrections Notice is hereby given that the above referenced parties have entered into a settlement of claimant's tort claim(s) against the insured, for the total amount of \$6,000.00 to be paid by State of Florida to the claimant.

The Genuine. The Original.



Overhead Door Company of Gainesville
• Garage Doors & Openers • Springs, Cables & Sections Replaced
• Residential & Commercial • Free Estimates • Licensed & Insured
Sales • Installation • Service
352-468-2733 www.OverheadDoor.com

Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700

Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Starke, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Bradford County Telegraph 131 West Call Street • Starke, Florida 32091 Phone: 964-6305 • P.O. Drawer A • Starke, FL 32091

John Miller, Publisher

Editor: Mark J. Crawford Sports Editor: Cliff Smelley Advertising: John R. Tillman Typesetting: Mary Goodge Advertising & Newspaper Prod: C. Hurston Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts: Heather Wheeler Bookkeeping Asst: Mary Goodge Front office Asst:



Subscription Rate in Trade Area \$52.00 per year: \$26.00 six months Outside Trade Area: \$52.00 per year: \$26.00 six months

Lake Region Monitor

USPS 114-170

Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Keystone Heights, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Lake Region Monitor P.O. Drawer A - Starke, FL 32091 131 W. Call Street - Starke, FL 32091 Phone: (904)964-6305 • Fax: (904)964-8628

John Miller, Publisher

Editor: Dan Hildebran Sports Editor: Cliff Smelley Advertising: John R. Tillman Typesetting: Mary Goodge Advertising & Newspaper Prod: C. Hurston Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts: Heather Wheeler Bookkeeping Asst: Mary Goodge Front office Asst:



Subscription Rate in Trade Area \$52.00 per year: \$26.00 six months Outside Trade Area: \$52.00 per year: \$26.00 six months

UNION COUNTY TIMES

USPS 648-200

Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Lake Butler, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: UNION COUNTY TIMES 131 W. Call Street • Starke, FL 32091 uctimeseditor@gmail.com 904-964-6305 • fax 904-964-8628

John Miller, Publisher

Editor: Mark J. Crawford Advertising: John R. Tillman Typesetting: Mary Goodge Advertising & Newspaper Prod: C. Hurston Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts: Heather Wheeler Bookkeeping Asst: Mary Goodge Front office Asst:



Subscription Rate in Trade Area \$52.00 per year: \$26.00 six months Outside Trade Area: \$52.00 per year: \$26.00 six months

Obituaries

Roger Akers

Roger Dean Akers, 75, of Starke died Friday, Jan. 31, 2025, at his residence with his family by his side.

Survivors are his wife of 55 years, Penny Akers; daughters, Serena Riley, Tabbie Wynne and Diana Lynn Ostrander-Akers; sister, Janet Elwick; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

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

Virginia Brice

Virginia W. Brice, 80, of Lawtey passed away peacefully at her home with loved ones by her side on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2025. Virginia was born in Lawtey on May 2, 1944. She was one of six children born to the late Earl and Louis Bell Prevatt. She was raised and lived her whole life in Lawtey. She met the love of her life, Robert Brice, in the early 1960s and they were married by 1963. Later, they had two children, Pamela and Robbie Brice. She worked at Starke Uniform until its closing. She then retired to stay at home. Virginia had a great passion for taking care of people, her grandkids especially. She loved to spoil them with little gifts and dollar bills, and most of all, food. In her last days, she got to enjoy seeing her grandchildren opening their Christmas gifts and family coming to see her. Her days were filled with happiness and joy. She was so thankful for them. She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Clifton Prevatt, Cecile Prevatt, and Johnny Converse; her husband, Robert Brice; and daughter, Pamela Brice.

She is survived by her children, Robert Brice and Jason Brice, both of Lawtey, and Jodie (Lawrence) Andrews of Jacksonville; brother, Bobby Prevatt; sister, Genelle Wilburn; sisters-in-law, Susan Brice and Patricia Ford, both of Lawtey; grandchildren, Kristin (Justin) Sturgis, Brittany (Carrie) Freeman, Cameron (MaKayla) Farmer, Jeffery (Jessica) Morrow, Jessica (Steven) Paige, Joey (Brittany) Austin, Robbie Brice, Brittany Perkins and Heather Brice; great-grandchildren, Little Robbie, Angela, Hayden, Sky, Cole, Evan, Caleb, Nicholas, Aiden, Ashton, Kelliana, Hunter, Harmony, L.J., Jaxson, Ezekiel, Sommer, Makaila, Justine, Destiny, Camden, Taylor, McKenzie, Cason, Paisley, Cassie, and Madison; along with many extended family members and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, Feb 15, at 10 a.m. at Grace Methodist Church, 1822 Madison St. in Lawtey.

PAID OBITUARY

Debra E. Flynn

Debra Elizabeth Flynn, affectionately known as Debbie, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Feb. 1, 2025, in her hometown of Lake Butler. Born on Nov. 18, 1958, she was a radiant spirit whose generosity and kindness touched the lives of many. Devoted to her family, she shared 25 years with her loving husband, Richard Flynn. Together, they built a life filled with joy, laughter, and countless cherished memories. As a mother, she embraced her role wholeheartedly, nurturing her children, Dawn (Tony) Rizer, Kage (Lindsay) Crews, and Anthony (Kayla) Flynn, with the same warmth and affection she extended to all. Her legacy continues to live on through her wonderful grandchildren, Luke Rizer, Hanna Rizer, Hayden Crews, Mason Crews, Madison Crews, Kaleigh Flynn, Skylar Flynn, Kingsley Flynn, and Aston Flynn, who brought her immense joy and pride. Her generous and loving personality was admired by all who had the pleasure of knowing her. She was outgoing, always ready to care for others and spread generosity wherever she went. The love for her children and grandchildren had no bounds. Debbie was always the "mama hen" ensuring her loved ones were taken care of. Her love for animals and her talent for gardening gave her great pleasure. She found joy in tending to her flowers and teaching her grandchild the art of crocheting, a testament to her nurturing character. Professionally she worked as a shipping manager for Lake Butler Apparel until its closure. She then dedicated her life to serving others as a licensed practical nurse (LPN) for the Department of Corrections, where she continued to make a difference in various lives until her retirement in 2006. She was preceded in death by her father, Donald Jackson.

Along with her husband, children, and grandchildren, she is survived by her beloved mother, Evelyn Jackson; along with her siblings, Donnie (Donna) Jackson and Lynn (Dean) Weaver.

A visitation will be held Friday, Feb. 7, from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m., followed by a funeral service beginning at 11 a.m. Both services will be held at Archer-Milton Funeral Home in Lake Butler. She will be laid to rest immediately following the service at Swift Creek/Mt. Zion Cemetery.

It is the pleasure of Archer-Milton Funeral Home to once again serve Debbie's family.



PAID OBITUARY

Fletcher Myers

Fletcher Myers, 87, of Lake Butler passed away Saturday, Feb. 1, 2025. He was born April 18, 1937, in Sanderson to the late Willie and Bernice Myers. Fletcher was the first African American commissioner of the City of Lake Butler and the first African American mayor for the City of Lake Butler. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was preceded in death by his sisters and brothers, Curtis Myers, Lucille Gaskins, Willie C. Myers, and Betty Paige; sisters- and brothers-in-law, Herbert Jefferson, Earline and Willie Hogan, Deloris Cason, and James George.

His memories will be cherished by his loving wife, Louvonia Myers; daughters, Lecrita (Johnny) King, Debbie Fuller, Jackie (James) Ruise, and Tammy Myers; his loving grandchildren, Emery (Danielle) Fuller Jr., Stirling (Carmen) Jones, Audrey Nelson, Marvin King, Brittany (James) Beattie, Vanessa Myers, and Braioun Ruise; great-grandchildren, Kaelyn, Alexis, Carter, Jaiden, Amara, Darnell, Kristiana, and Austin; siblings, Willie (Sydney) Pearl, Maetta (Malichi) Smith, Michael Myers, Barbara (Harold) Jefferson, and Evelyn Denson; brothers and sisters-in-law, Essie (Virl) Dye, David (Marcel) George, Dorothy Jefferson, and Irvin (Cynthia) George; along with hosts of loving nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 8, at Victory Christian Center, 705 SW Sixth St., Lake Butler. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 8.

Arrangements entrusted to Combs Funeral Home, 292 NE Washington St., Lake City. 386-752-4366.

PAID OBITUARY

Joseph Scanlon Jr.

Joseph A. Scanlon Jr., born on June 17, 1954, in Virginia, passed away peacefully on Friday, Jan. 24, 2025, in San Jose, California. He was 70 years old. Joseph spent his formative years in Starke, where he began a journey marked by dedication and accomplishment. He earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Florida School of Law and built a distinguished career as a partner at Miller Morton Caillat & Nevis LLP law firm before retiring. Beyond his professional achievements and family devotion, he found joy in collecting coins and antiques. This passion reflected his deep appreciation for history and craftsmanship.

A devoted family man, he is lovingly remembered by his wife, Emily Scanlon; daughter, Lauren A. Scanlon; and son, Joseph A. Scanlon III. He is also survived by his sisters, Margaret Jones and Kathleen Severo. He now joins his late parents, Georgia K. Scanlon and Lieutenant Colonel Joseph A. Scanlon Sr., in eternal rest.

Honoring his wishes, his family will return him to Florida for his final rest. A small graveside service will be held at Crosby Lake Cemetery on Thursday, Feb. 6. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. May Joseph's memory bring comfort to all who knew him and serve as a testament to a life well-lived.

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

PAID OBITUARY



Ruth E. Gibson

Ruth E. Gibson, 66, died Thursday, Feb. 2, 2025. She was preceded in death by her husband, Terry Gibson; parents, Russel and Hazel Eberle; and brothers, Donald and Mevin "Robbie" Eberle.

Survivors are children, Terri Doughman and Shawn Gibson; grandchildren, Chevy and Haleigh Doughman; and two nephews.

Graveside services will be held Friday, Feb. 7, at 2 p.m. at Crosby Lake Cemetery.

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

PAID OBITUARY

Janet Meadows

Janet Lee "Jan" Gonce Meadows, 74, of Keystone Heights passed away unexpectedly on Friday, Jan. 17, 2025, in Keystone Heights after a brief illness. She was born at Portsmouth Naval Hospital in Norfolk, Virginia to James and Betty Gonce on Dec. 30, 1950. The family relocated to Florida in 1959. She graduated from Orange Park High School in 1969. She worked in many roles over the years, but spent most of her career as a school nurse working for the state of Florida before she retired in 2012. She enjoyed reading, watching old movies and helping raise her grandchildren. During her life, she was a loved daughter, sister, auntie, wife, mother, grandmother and friend. Known for loving with her whole heart and fiercely protecting those she cared for, she left an indelible mark on everyone who knew her. She was preceded in death by her father, James (Gator); and her mother, Betty.

She is survived by her husband, Daniel Robert Meadows; stepdaughter, Amanda Meadows Alredge; son, Jason Robert Meadows; and her grandchildren, Hunter, Sawyer, and Aubree. She is also survived by sisters, Gail Brown, Joyce Bahr, Melody Cox, and Carol Ertel; and her brother, Jimmy Gonce. She is already missed by her many cousins as well as nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life was held by her family on Sunday, Jan. 26 in Melrose. The celebration was hosted by her loving family and included pictures, stories, food, friends, and a few tears. She may be gone but she will never be forgotten.

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Keystone Heights. 352-473-3176 www.jonesgallagherfh.com.

PAID OBITUARY



Happy Heavenly Birthday
Mr. William "Bill" Cloud

February 8, 1939

April 14, 2024

Love,
Katie & Casey Cloud

Marvin Slocum

Marvin C. Slocum, 52, passed away on Friday, Jan. 31, 2025. Born in Gainesville, he was the son of M. J. Slocum and Erma Dean Tisdale. He was a graduate of Bradford High School and a member of Free Canaan Church of God and Praise.

Viewing will be held Friday, Feb. 7, from 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. at Haile Funeral Home, Starke. The funeral service will be Saturday, Feb. 8, at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church, Starke, with Rev. Alvin Green officiating. Interment will be at Peetsville Cemetery in Lawtey.

Arrangements are by Haile Funeral Home, Inc., 802 N. Oak St., Starke 32091. 904-964-7905.

Lillian Stallings

Mrs. Lillian M. Stallings, 62, of Keystone Heights died Friday, Jan. 31, 2025, at Haven Hospice in Gainesville.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, Feb. 15, at 11 a.m. at Trinity Baptist Church. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the services. The family requests that you wear her favorite color, purple, and dress casually. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Lake Area Ministries, 131 NE Commercial Circle, Keystone Heights, 32656 in her memory.

Arrangements are under the care of Milam Funeral Home Inc., 311 S. Main St., Gainesville 32601. 352-376-5361. www.milamfh.com

Charles Truett

Charles Felton Truett, 81, of Brooker passed away peacefully at his home on Saturday, Feb. 1, 2025, after battling an extended illness. He was born June 8, 1943, in Tallapoosa, Georgia to Howard Felton Truett Sr. and Lizzie Jeanette Davis Truett. He joined the US Navy and also proudly served as a Merchant Marine for many years. He retired as a master diesel machinist. His hobbies included fishing, hunting, and tinkering with his tools. His favorite pastimes were cutting jokes, telling old stories, laughing and spending time with his children and grandchildren.



He was preceded in death by his father, Howard Truett; mother, Lizzie Davis Truett Prescott Sprick; daughter, Angela Ann Bishop; sisters, Francis Estelle Truett Norris, Effie Mae Truett Drennon, Maude Truett Rogers, Pauline Truett Sullivan, and Mary Joe Truett; brothers, William Robert Truett, Howard Felton Truett Jr., Arther Lee Truett, John Hendry Truett, Claude Arnold Truett, Edgar Truett, Howard Walton Truett, Vernon Truett and Doyle Eugene Truett.

He is survived by his daughters, Debra Cox of Raiford, Terri Truett of Lake Butler, Kayla Truett of Gainesville, and Shannon Truett of Starke; sons, Kevin Truett of Brooker, Chris Truett of Lake Butler; brother, Louis Prescott of Land O'Lakes; sisters, Francis Prescott of Duette, Betty Hunter of Spring Hill, Inez Prescott of Wesley Chapel, Nellie Delong of Land O'Lakes, and Catherine Manning of Fairbanks; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and a ton of nieces and nephews.

Services to honor him will be held at Archer-Milton Funeral Home, with a visitation on Thursday, Feb. 6, from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. The funeral service will be held Friday, Feb. 7, at 3 p.m. He will be laid to rest at Dedan Cemetery in Brooker.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home. 386-496-0808

PAID OBITUARY

If you have an In Memory or Card of Thanks you'd like to publish, please email to socials@bctelegraph.com or call 904-964-6305.

Curtis A. "Lex" Sanders Attorney at Law



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

(904) 964-4111
407 W. Georgia St. • Starke

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.

OVER 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE!



"Dedicated to Excellent Customer Service"

FREE QUOTES!

Home
Automobile
Mobile Home
Renters
ATV
Boat

Travel Trailer
Motorcycle
Fire
Life
Dwelling
Commercial

IDC
Dawn Corbett
INSURANCE AGENCY
116 N. Walnut St. • Starke, FL
"My job is to protect you!"
904-364-0123

EARNING YOUR TRUST, NOT
JUST YOUR TRANSACTION

WE ARE PROUD TO BE THE ONLY SMALL INDEPENDENT
FUNERAL HOME IN THE UNION/BRADFORD COMMUNITIES.

Lake Butler, FL

ARCHER-MILTON

FUNERAL HOME

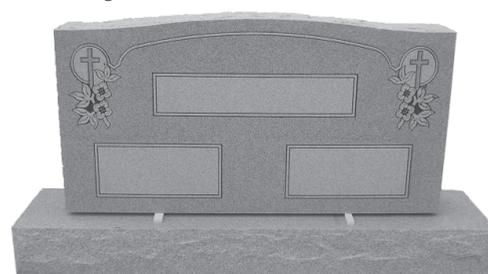
386.496.2008



Cameron Wilson - AnnaDayle Milton - Garrett Milton
Owner and LFD

Charles Custom Memorials

Serving Families in North Florida since 1973



The area's largest supplier of Colored Granite
When Quality Counts, You Can Count On Us

STARKE OFFICE OPEN 8:30 to 5:00 MON-FRI
Hwy 301 North, Starke • 904-964-2010
(Next to Best Western)

Primary Location in Lake City at 561 NW Hilton Ave.

CharlesMonuments.com

Member of Better Business Bureau
Monument Builders of North America
Florida Monument Builders

FL Lic. # F037700

BHS girls look to end 3-game skid in district tournament

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School will attempt to put a stop to a three-game losing streak when it hosts a District 3-3A girls basketball tournament semifinal game against third seed Palatka on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 6 p.m.

The Tornadoes (13-7), who are the second seed in the tournament, ended the regular season with a 52-23 loss to visiting Williston on Jan. 28.

Williston is second in the Florida High School Athletic Association/MaxPreps Rural Class power rankings.

If Bradford, which is the 20th-ranked team in Class 3A, wins its District 3 semifinal against Palatka, it'll play for the championship on Saturday, Feb. 8. If the Tornadoes' opponent in that game is top seed Newberry, the game will be played at Newberry. Otherwise, Bradford would host the championship.

The championship tip-off time is to be determined.

UCHS girls end regular season with 2 victories

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Union County High School ended the regular season with two straight wins, including a 42-41 victory over visiting Hamilton County on Jan. 31.

Heaven Scott poured in 25 points, while also adding six rebounds and seven steals.

The Tigers got nine points from Iamorieah Williams, five points from Ivy Wilson, two points from Faith Sirmones and one point from Brianna Taylor.

Williams led the team in rebounds with nine, while Gabrielle Moore had eight. Williams also had four steals and two blocked shots.

Sirmones blocked two shots as well.

The Tigers entered the game off a 45-40 win over visiting St. Francis on Jan. 30 that snapped a three-game losing streak.

Scott and Sirmones scored 18 and 10 points, respectively. The Tigers also got five points from Taylor, four from Brooke Hunt, three from Moore, two each from Williams and Melinda Mabrey and one from Aundria Phipps.

Union (9-15) earned the fifth seed in the District 6-Rural tournament, which is being hosted by Trenton High School. The Tigers played a quarterfinal game against fourth seed Bell this past Tuesday. If the Tigers won, they'll play top seed Fort White in a semifinal game on Thursday, Feb. 6, at a time to be determined.

The championship game will be played on Saturday, Feb. 8, at a time to be determined.

Indians end boys hoops season with loss to Palatka

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School saw its boys basketball season come to an end with a 69-60 loss to host Palatka in the quarterfinals of the District 3-3A tournament on Feb. 3.

The Indians (3-18) were led

in scoring by Michael Petty, who had 19 points, Zane Leger, who had 15 points, and Dereon Tochterman, who had 13 points.

Cooper Barry grabbed a team-high 13 rebounds, while Tochterman led the team in steals with three.

Jamari Turner was the assists leader with four.

Wester has double-double in 45-37 KHHS win over Hope

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School got 10 points and 11 rebounds from Brayden Wester in defeating visiting Hope Christian Academy 45-37 in a boys basketball game on Jan. 31.

The Indians, who snapped a 16-game losing streak, got 11 points from Dereon Tochterman, while Zane Leger had nine points. Michael Petty and Cooper Barry added seven and five points, respectively, while Brody Stevens had three.

Leger and Petty each finished with seven rebounds, while Barry and Ty Mitzel each had five. Leger, Petty and Tochterman each had four steals, with Leger also recording four assists.

Hope, which lost its fourth straight game, was led by Walker Munroe's 18 points and Aiden Wilson's 10 points. The Lions

also got three points from Gunner Lofton and two each from Caden Hartzog, Mason Masciocchi and Griffin McCloud.

Masciocchi and McCloud had six and five rebounds, respectively, with Masciocchi adding four steals and McCloud adding three assists.

It was one of three games played that week by the Indians. On Jan. 28, Keystone hosted Middleburg, losing 68-48.

Petty recorded a double-double with 16 points and 12 rebounds, while Tochterman scored 13 points. Leger and Stevens each had seven points, while Barry and Colton Hollingsworth added three and two, respectively.

Barry added seven rebounds to his totals, while Tochterman had three assists.

The Indians hosted Ridgeview on Jan. 30, losing 60-37. Leger had 12 points, while Keystone also got nine points from Tochterman, seven from Barry, four from Petty, three from Mitzel and one each from Stevens and Jamari Turner.

Barry grabbed 17 rebounds, while Leger and Luke Bacorn had six and five, respectively.

Keystone got three steals each from Barry and Tochterman.

Hope entered the Keystone game off a 63-42 loss to visiting First Assembly Christian on Jan. 28 and a 58-57 loss at Open Bible on Jan. 30.

Masciocchi and Wilson scored 15 and 14 points, respectively, in the game against First Assembly, while Munroe had 12 points. The Lions also got one point from Hartzog.

The Lions got seven rebounds from Masciocchi and five rebounds and four steals from McCloud. Wilson and Munroe had five and three steals, respectively.

In the loss to Open Bible, Hope got 15 points from Munroe and 13 points from Lofton. Wilson and Masciocchi just middle double digits with nine and eight points, respectively.

Hartzog and Munroe each had five rebounds, while Lofton had three assists.

KHHS girls defeat Hope in basketball

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School capped the regular season in girls basketball with a 43-12 win over visiting Hope Christian Academy on Jan. 31.

Stats weren't available for the Indians (5-16).

Hope (2-11) was led by Addyson Wilson's 11 points. Allyssa Wilson added one point.

Keystone played fourth seed Baldwin in a District 3-3A tournament quarterfinal game this past Tuesday. If the fifth seed Indians won, they'll travel to play top seed Newberry in a semifinal game on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m.

The championship game will be Saturday, Feb. 8, with the higher-seeded team hosting at a time to be determined.



Spot On

To participate, swing by any of our branches for your free DLP Bank magnet for a chance to win \$100!*

** conditions may apply*

DLPbank Member FDIC



VIDEO ARCADE THEATER

Be Ours!

ADULT THEATER

SALE FEB. 7-14TH FOR HIM & HER

Your

ADULT SUPER CENTER
(352) 468-2746

6810 N.E. Hwy. 301 Orange Heights, FL 32640 • (15 mins. E. of Gainesville)



Valentine's Day Specials

at **SPIRES DELI**

For more information call **386-496-3361**

Roses from singles all the way to dozen!

Chocolate Covered Strawberries

Flower Bouquets

Balloons

Strawberries- \$20.00 /dozen

Prices on roses will vary.

610 SW 1st St, Lake Butler, FL 32054



Ease the Burden of Holiday Bills

with FCU's Home Equity Line of Credit

Intro rate for the first 6 months

5.99% APR¹

AFTERWARDS RATES AS LOW AS

7.50% APR¹

\$10,000 minimum

Plus, NO closing costs for loans of \$10,000 or more!²

Florida Credit Union

904-964-1427
flcu.org

1. APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Your rate may be higher based on your creditworthiness and property valuation. Minimum loan amount \$10,000. Rate quoted is as of 12/19/2024, based on a HELOC with a 10-year draw period, 20-year repayment period, and a Loan-to-Value (LTV) up to 80%. The HELOC rate is a variable rate and is based on Wall Street Journal Prime. Minimum APR 7.500% - Maximum APR 11.250%. For example, a \$25,000 10-year Home Equity Line of Credit with a 7.500% rate and an 80% Loan-to-Value (LTV) will have an APR of 7.500%, 120 payments of \$296.75; total finance charges of \$10,610.53 for a total payment of \$35,610.53. Rates will be no less than Florida Credit Union's minimum interest rate. This discount promotion cannot be combined with other Florida Credit Union promotions. Limited time offer and subject to change without notice. 2. No closing costs with \$10,000 minimum loan amount. Title insurance for loans \$250,000 and greater paid by member. Insured by NCUA. FCUMKNP0572-0125

Starke Branch - 2460 Commercial Dr.



Village Doctors

**WITH FOUR LOCATIONS,
OUR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS
ARE COMMITTED TO YOU.**



Angel Cooksey, APRN



Marcia Williams, APRN

STARKE
345 W. Madison St.
Starke, FL 32091
904-964-5455



Ana Fishbein, APRN

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS
175 N. Lawrence Blvd.
Keystone Heights, FL 32656
352-473-3199

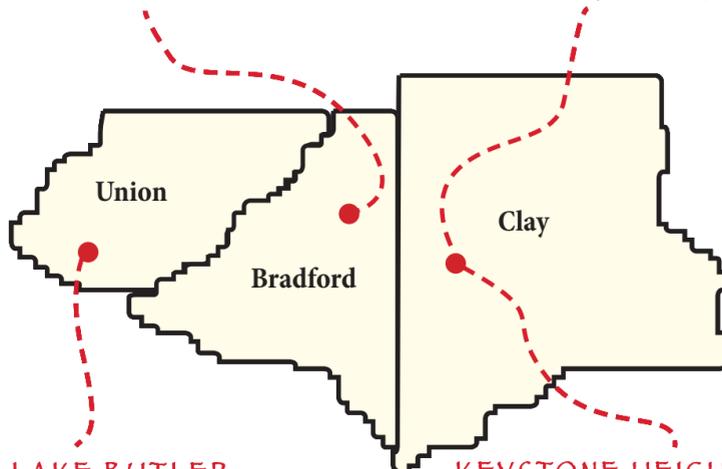


Jenny Gregory, APRN



Gloria Niquette, APRN

LAKE BUTLER
155 S.E. 6th Place
Lake Butler, FL 32054
386-496-1236



KEYSTONE HEIGHTS
100 S. Lawrence Blvd.
Keystone Heights, FL 32656
352-473-9373



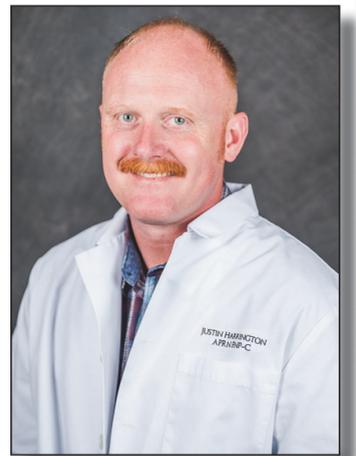
Cary Howard, APRN



Janna Caines, APRN



Stephania Dejno, APRN



**Justin Harrington
APRN-FNP-C**

**Serving Clay, Bradford and Union Counties
and Surrounding Areas for more than 20 years.**

Call Us Today • www.VillageDrs.com