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# Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, March 10, 2022

142nd year, 30th Issue — \$1

## Tornadoes defeat Paxton to win state title

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Lakeland.

It's where the Bradford High School boys basketball team wanted to be at the end of the season, but the goal went beyond simply getting there and playing in the Final Four at the RP Funding Center. The Tornadoes wanted to bring the Class 1A championship trophy back to Bradford County.

They did just that, defeating Paxton 64-44 in the March 4 final, becoming the first BHS boys basketball team to win a state title.

"It feels amazing," said Shayne Davis, who led all scorers with 17 points. "I can't even describe the feeling."

Dae'Jon Shanks said, "The first in history? This is crazy. You cannot remove that. We're the first. No one else can do that. It's crazy. It's an amazing feeling."

"It just feels amazing, really," Jontez Williams said. "We were the first in history to do it. It's so surreal. We've been talking about this since the start of the season."

See CHAMPS, page 8



A boys basketball state-championship trophy will finally make its home in Bradford County as the Tornadoes defeated Paxton 64-44 to win the Class 1A final on March 4 in Lakeland. Pictured are: (front, l-r) Dae'Jon Shanks, Amari Jones, Chaili Cummings, Bernard Nichols, Robbie Simmons-Godwin (in front of Nichols), (back, l-r) assistant coaches Michael McMillian, James McBride and Tarrin Jackson, Jontez Williams, Shayne Davis, Head Coach Sampson Jackson, Hunter Crawford, Torin Brazell, Assistant Coach Justin McBride, Jametrius Pringle and Journie Sampson. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

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## WORTH NOTING

### BHS to hold parade March 11 for state champions

In celebration of its state-champion boys basketball and girls weightlifting teams, Bradford High School will hold a Parade of Champions on Friday, March 11, at 9 a.m.

The parade will begin at the Rainbow Center, proceeding east on Washington Street and then traveling south on U.S. 301. The parade will turn onto Pratt Street, traveling west to Broadway Street, where it will then proceed north to the BHS gymnasium.

A pep rally, held in the gym at the parade's conclusion, will consist of interviews with athletes and coaches as well as autograph sessions. Photos and T-shirts will be available for purchase.

### Upcoming food distribution

A community-wide food distribution hosted by Feeding Northeast Florida and True Vine Ministry will take place Tuesday March 15, at the Bradford County Fairgrounds in Starke.

Food boxes often include fresh produce, deli and bakery items, dairy and some meats. The inventory is subject to change based on availability. Tell a friend or a neighbor. The distribution is free and open to the public. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## Electric franchise fees may be on the election ballot

### Possible tax cut coming

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — What some described as a resounding "no" from the public to franchise fees may have come across as a whimper.

The input at a special meeting Feb. 24 was not considered representative of most electric customers. Commissioners will continue to consider implementing a franchise fee, possibly seeking public input through the ballot box.

While a referendum would not be binding, the commission has used voter turnout to decide controversial proposals like special assessments in the past.

County attorney Will Sexton, seeking direction from the board on how to move forward, pointed out

there are more than 5,500 Clay Electric customers in Bradford County. The cooperative said it wanted feedback from its members before negotiating a franchise fee with Bradford County. Approximately 80 people attended the special meeting last month, Sexton said, and less than a dozen spoke. There was not a large response to the cooperative's survey either, he added.

Commissioner Carolyn Spooner said the board should proceed with negotiations. She said it should be taken into consideration that municipal communities in the county are already paying electric franchise fees that go to city governments. And while the opinions of those who spoke last month are important, she said it was not a statistically significant number.

"That's not a good representation of what the majority of the people feel," Spooner said.

Commissioner Kenny Thompson asked about putting the issue on the ballot.

They acknowledged this would be a survey of everyone who votes, not just Clay Electric members. County Clerk Denny Thompson said that would also give Florida Power and Light customers a chance to weigh in, although that utility has already expressed a willingness to negotiate with the county.

"Put it on the ballot. Let the citizens vote," Commissioner Thompson said. "They're the ones that put us up here, so we've got to survey them. I don't want to shove nothing down nobody's throat that don't want it."

Commissioner Diane Andrews said they are just starting the budgeting process for next year, and she didn't want to consider any new taxes or fees until they look at how the budget can be cut.

"There may not be a need for a franchise fee," she said.

Commissioner Danny Riddick said if they are going to drop the idea of any new taxes or fees, then — like Commissioner Chris Dougherty addressed in his letter at the special meeting — he wanted to prioritize fire rescue and law enforcement to receive existing funds.

"That way we're not ever having any more arguments or discussion about fire. Fire rescue and police will be funded," Riddick said.

That means cuts would come from other services.

Riddick went further and said when budget workshops begin, he doesn't want to start at the 10-mill property tax cap approved this year. He wants to see the commission start at the prior tax rate, which was closer to 9 mills.

See FEES, page 3

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# Starke setting city election dates, districts

County candidates announcing runs

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Starke's city election will coincide with the county election this year, pending final reading of an ordinance this month aligning those dates.

The first reading of the ordinance took place in February. The move will allow Bradford County Supervisor of Elections Amanda Seyfang to oversee the election of the city alongside the general election.

The Starke election would take place Tuesday, Aug. 23, at the

same time as the state and county primary election. In the event of a runoff, Starke's runoff election would be on state and county Election Day, Nov. 8.

Qualifying week for state, county and city offices would be June 13-17. Early voting dates would be Aug. 8-21 for the primary and Oct. 24-Nov. 6 for Election Day. Voter registration books close on July 25 for the primary and Oct. 11 for the general election.

Up for election in Starke are commission seats 1, 3 and 5, currently held by commissioners Danny Nugent, Shannon Smith and Wilbur Waters. There may also be some charter language amendments on the ballot,

although they have not been discussed in great specificity at this time.

The county election includes county commission Seats 2 and 4, held by commissioners Kenny Thompson and Danny Riddick, and school board seats 1, 2 and 5, held by school board members Sheila Cummings, Gayle Nicula and Erica Reddish.

County Judge Tatum Davis' bench is also up for election.

## Who is running?

Judge Davis and other incumbents have already turned in paperwork to run for reelection, including school board members Nicula and Reddish.

Reddish has competition in the nonpartisan race from challenger Lynn Melvin, who has announced her run in District 5.

Only challengers have announced so far in the county commission election. Mark Williams of Starke is running for the commission seat in District 2 as a Republican, while District 4 currently has a three-way Republican race between Tom Germano and Christiann Hudson of Keystone Heights, and Michael Monaghan of Hampton.

## Redistricting

The commission intends to complete redistricting to better balance the district populations

prior to the election. This first redistricting since the 1980s will also preserve District 2 as a minority majority district. A legal description is being drafted to reflect the map changes. Following the commission's upcoming vote on that, the map must be court approved before the commission finalizes the new district lines.

The county commission has postponed final action on redistricting until 2024, although work will continue in the meantime on redrawing the district lines that apply to county and school board elections.

## Elections handbook released

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

STARKE — The Bradford County Supervisor of Elections Office has released its 2022 Candidate Handbook.

Supervisor of Elections Amanda Seyfang said the handbook covers most of the questions candidates ask like what forms must be filed to become a candidate and how to qualify by the petition method.

"Election laws are always changing," Seyfang said in a telephone interview. "I would not fault a candidate for being behind on the current laws."

Seyfang added that one ordinance unique to Bradford County has to do with campaign signs. The county prohibits the posting of campaign signs on public right-of-way sooner than 60 days before each election. That date for the 2022 primary is June 24.

The supervisor said the most common mistakes candidates make are filing treasurer's reports late and making errors on or omitting the required disclaimer on advertisements.

She added that public office seekers should also be aware of the rules surrounding political contributions and expenditures, and the prohibition on solicitation during early voting.

Seyfang said her office's website includes a section for candidate information which features instructions on how to become a candidate.

She also said the best way to learn about the rules and the processes of local elections is to make an appointment with her office by calling 904-966-6266.

# Union JROTC to compete in national championship in DC

Lake Butler — Through all the obstacles students have faced over the last two years, Army JROTC cadets have risen to the challenge through their participation in the 2021-2022 JROTC Leadership & Academic Bowl. The cadets from Union County High School have proven their ability to overcome and succeed despite those obstacles.

After advancing through two intense phases of online competition, the Union County High School's JROTC

Leadership Team will compete in a championship event in Washington, D.C. The 2022 U.S. Army JROTC Leadership Bowl Championship will be held on the campus of The Catholic University of America, June 19-23. This event is sponsored by the U.S. Army Cadet Command and is conducted by the College Options Foundation.

Union County High School's JROTC team earned top scores out of the 1,371 Army JROTC leadership teams that competed



(L-R) Cadet Command Sergeant Major Adam Ali, Cadet Captain Emma Fulton, Cadet First Sergeant Talya Trent, Cadet Major Adrianna Gonzalez, Cadet Sergeant First Class Layla Piggott and Cadet First Lieutenant Alexis Cox.

from around the world. The team

is one of only 40 Army JROTC Leadership Bowl teams in the nation to advance to the final competition, which includes an all-expense paid trip to the Championship event in D.C.

During the two fast-paced preliminary rounds, cadets were tested on their knowledge of current events, leadership values, leadership skills and financial literacy. Financial literacy videos are sponsored by the USAA Educational Foundation and provided to all cadets. Questions from the videos were included in Levels I and II of the online competition.

The JROTC Leadership & Academic Bowl is a nationally recognized competition created exclusively for JROTC students. By participating, cadets learn the

values of citizenship, academic competition and college opportunity. The competition creates tremendous opportunities for JROTC cadets by allowing them to demonstrate leadership and academic abilities.

College Options Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the academic development of high school students and assisting them in their preparation for higher education. Using academic competitions, college exam study guides, college admissions tutorials and personalized counseling, College Options Foundation has assisted the nation's JROTC cadets worldwide for nearly two decades.

## FEES

Continued from page 1

Dougherty said as they look at the budgets, even for law enforcement and fire rescue, they need to examine those budgets to eliminate excess and provide no more than the citizens are asking for.

Cuts could mean losing some of the things citizens ask for, he said, such as ditch cleanouts, mowing and trash pickup.

"People will have to decide at that time if that's what they want to pay for to continue to get the services provided in this county," he said. "Until we find other revenue streams to come in, we're going to be strapped, and we'll continue to try to make

cuts the best way we can."

The commission did set four budget workshop dates: 5:30 p.m. on March 17, 8:30 a.m. on March 24, and 6 p.m. on April 6 and April 12.

## March sobriety checkpoints announced

During the month of March, the Bradford County Sheriff's Office will be conducting sobriety checkpoints in one or more of the following locations: U.S. Highway 301 and Market Road, S.R. 100 West, S.R. 100 East and Southeast 109th Street, Southeast S.R. 21, S.R. 16 and Southwest S.R. 231.

## KH charter group holds first meeting

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — The Keystone Heights Charter Review Committee held its first meeting on March 3.

The committee recommends changes to the city's governing document. All changes must be approved by voters during an April 11, 2023, election. Panel members include airport board member Bruce Harvin, former city council member Larry Peoples and former Schools superintendent Charlie Van Zant. Members elected Peoples as chair and Harvin as vice-chair.

City Attorney Rich Komando briefed the group on its purpose and Sunshine Law requirements. He added that the committee must forward its work to the city council by October. The committee's next meeting will be at 5 p.m. on April 14.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, city council member Tony Brown proposed that the committee recommend changing the mayor's office from an elected position to one appointed by the other council members.

During a February council meeting, Brown asked current Mayor Karen Lake to resign over what he described as harassing texts from Lake to City Manager Lynn Rutkowski. The texts related to city business.

## Garden Club talks wild food and wildflowers

The Alligator Creek Garden Club will be meeting at the Bradford County Senior Center on Thursday, March 17, at 2 p.m. Join them for an interesting and tasty presentation by Pat Caren titled "Eating on the Wild Side." Pat will be sharing her experiences with preparing and eating wild plants. Samples will be available.

The club will also be discussing how it can turn county roads into wildflower attractions by simply not mowing beyond the ditches on county roads. Contact Paul Still at 904 368-029 or email stillpe@aol.com for more information.

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# Clay students give high grades to teachers, low marks to classmates

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

FLEMING ISLAND—During the March 3 Clay County School Board meeting, Superintendent David Broskie shared the results of a student climate and culture survey.

He said 61% of the district's students participated in the survey, which is a 10% improvement over last year.

Broskie said a positive outcome of the survey was that a high percentage of students agreed with the following two statements: "There is an adult at my school who will help me if I need it," and "I think school is important."

He added that one area that needs improvement is reflected in the low number of students

who agreed with this statement: "Students treat each other with kindness and respect at my school."

In other news from the March 3 school board meeting:

## Bullock wants more mental health counselors

School Board Member Tina Bullock told her colleagues that the district should consider increasing allocations for mental health counselors.

The former Keystone Heights High School principal represents the Lake Region on the school board.

Bullock said she gave a copy of a memo to Superintendent

David Broskie that outlined the issues the students in one Florida third-grade class are facing, like parents who are divorcing, separating, arrested or are caught having an affair. The third graders also listed homelessness, custody changes and not knowing where they will sleep the next night as factors adding to the stress in their lives.

The memo, from Bay County Schools Superintendent Bill Husfelt to parents and community members said, "These students should be thinking about winning a game at recess, or mastering a new spelling list, not where they will sleep at night or who they will be living with the next week!"

## Melvin seeks school board seat

The following is a paid announcement of intent to seek public office submitted by the candidate. Announcements may be submitted to editor@bctelegraph.com. The deadline for all submissions is June 27 at 5 p.m.

To the voters and residents of District 5 in Bradford County, it is an honor to announce my candidacy to represent you as your School Board Member in the upcoming election on Aug. 23.

My name is Lynn Melvin, a lifelong resident and educator in Bradford County. I am an alumna of Bradford County schools, graduating from Bradford High in 1977. I am a graduate of Santa Fe College, University of Florida and Nova University, where I received a master's degree in reading, and a specialist degree in educational leadership. I am also a Professional Certified School Principal at all levels.

I am happily married to Gene Melvin (BHS Class of '69) for 40 years and have two sons: Brian, wife Cassie Melvin (Brilee and Brayden); and Brad, wife Jaren Melvin (Paislee and Moxlee).

I have devoted my entire educational career to educating students in Bradford County as a teacher and principal at Starke Elementary and Brooker Elementary. I retired after 35 years of dedicated service to Bradford County Schools and feel that now is the right time for me to step back into our school system. Having served as a classroom teacher, a school leader, a mentor and a parent of children who have attended Bradford County Schools, I feel as though I bring a unique perspective and a great deal of educational experience to the Board.

Serving as your School Board Member would provide me with the opportunity to share my knowledge and educational experience to benefit the students, teachers, parents and citizens of Bradford County. I have always had a personal interest in preserving and improving the quality of our school system. Utilizing the skills I have acquired throughout my career, I could bring an insight from an educator's standpoint on the effects and outcomes of policies and procedures, programs, and other decisions made by the board.

"Students First" is a motto I have always lived by as an educator and will continue to do so as a School Board Member.

## Spring Fling Gospel Sing

New River N.C.M. Church will have its annual Spring Fling Chicken Sing on Saturday, March 12. Dinner will be served at 5 p.m. Local singers will begin performing at 6 p.m. followed by the group Pure Heart at 7 p.m. It's all free and all are welcome.

# Comcast expands to Lake Butler

Comcast is expanding its network to Lake Butler, which brings the company's full line-up of high-speed Xfinity Internet services to local customers for the first time. This project is a part of Comcast's work to bridge the digital divide by bringing broadband Internet service to new and underserved areas.

Comcast Xfinity Internet services will now be available in Lake Butler with speeds ranging from 50 Mbps all the way up to 3 Gbps for residential customers and speeds up to 1 Gbps for businesses. Local customers will have access to Xfinity's unique features that give them complete control over their in-home WiFi networks, including:

WiFi Controls – Xfinity xFi's digital dashboard gives customers total control over their in-home wireless networks with the ability to monitor what devices are connected, set parental controls, pause WiFi access and more.

Advanced Cybersecurity Protection – Customers can use xFi Advanced Security to protect devices connected to their gateway from malware and other threats.

xFi Pods – xFi Pods are WiFi extenders that can ensure WiFi coverage is available all across the home, eliminating dead zones.

Streaming – Xfinity Internet customers can use Xfinity Flex, a 4K streaming device, to stream movies, videos and more from the Xfinity Stream app, Peacock

Premium and other popular streaming services like Hulu and Netflix.

Internet Essentials, Comcast's signature digital equity initiative, will be offered locally as well. Internet Essentials provides in-home internet access for \$9.95 for qualified households, plus multiple options to access online digital literacy and skills training. Qualified households may be eligible to have the cost of their monthly home Internet service paid for through the Federal Communication Commission's Affordability Connectivity Program. For more information on Internet Essentials and the ACP, visit [www.internetessentials.com](http://www.internetessentials.com) or call 1-855-8-INTERNET (1-855-846-8376).

"Comcast's network expansion is wonderful news for the city of Lake Butler," said Mayor Jack Schenck. "The availability of additional choices for high-speed internet service will have a positive impact on the city's potential for future economic growth, not to mention that Comcast's other services like cable television and mobile phone service will give our community additional options for entertainment and to stay connected with family and friends."

"As magnified by the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent shift to online learning and work, Internet access is a necessity in today's increasingly digital world. You

need to get online to search for employment and apply for jobs, to read critical news and information or even access telehealth applications," said Javier Garcia, Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Comcast in Florida. "Comcast is committed to helping bridge the digital divide and connecting more communities to the Internet and its vast resources."

In addition, the network expansion is bringing Comcast's line-up of other services, including mobile phone and cable television, to the area. Xfinity's newest service, Xfinity Mobile, will be available in Lake Butler for customers who subscribe to Xfinity Internet service. When Xfinity Mobile customers use their phones at home or in range of a Xfinity WiFi hotspot, they don't have to use cellular data. When WiFi is not available, they'll be automatically connected to the fastest, most reliable network with 5G included at no extra cost. They have a variety of options to purchase data, starting with one gig per month all the way up to unlimited data.

Local customers will also have the option to subscribe to Comcast's Xfinity X1 service. X1 allows users to curate their own unique entertainment experiences. They can enjoy live television, DVR and On Demand content and streaming apps all in one place and quickly find what they want to watch using the X1 Voice Remote.

## Christ Lutheran Easter schedule

Christ Lutheran Church, located at 3760 SE S.R. 21 in Keystone Heights, is holding midweek Lenten services at 7 p.m. each Wednesday.

The Holy Week schedule includes the Palm Sunday service on April 10, the Maundy

Thursday Service on April 14 and the Good Friday service on April 15, all at 7 p.m. Easter Sunday service will be at 10 a.m. with brunch to follow at 11 a.m.

## Homecoming at Johnstown

Johnstown Baptist Church invites everyone to its annual homecoming services with special singing and preaching at 11 a.m. on Sunday, March 13, with lunch following the

morning service. A 2 p.m. service will follow lunch.

## Church cookout on March 19

Starke Church of God by Faith on Old Lawtey Road will hold a cookout on Saturday, March 19, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with free food, music, games and prizes. Bring your lawn chairs and picnic baskets.



Lynn Melvin

Our students should be provided with a safe and supportive learning environment. It's vital that all decisions that are made, must be made in the best interest of the students. This is what and who our education system is all about.

Our students and teachers deserve to have the best curriculum available to them. I have a great understanding and experience with varying curriculums and would help ensure that appropriate curriculum is in place for all students to reach their highest achievement and full potential; and for teachers to have access to the best curriculum needed for student success.

As taxpayers and voters of Bradford County, you demand the most efficient use of your tax dollars. With my experience in creating and following school budgets, I will influence effective decisions on use of funding and expenditures with transparency

and accountability. As we face trying times in our education system, it's imperative to have leaders with the knowledge and experience necessary to implement solutions, develop programs, and promote excellence in learning. As your District 5 School Board Member, I will be that leader. I will be actively involved with regular visits to all schools and cost centers; listening and talking to teachers, employees, and students; providing support and promoting the positive successes that are taking place within our schools.

My roles in education have shown me how important communication is. As your Board Member, I will always be available to listen and support my district. Serving in this capacity would allow me to be a bridge between community, parents, teachers, district staff, and local legislature to maximize and achieve success in our schools.

I am looking forward to meeting and talking with each of you in the next five months. I know that together we can make a difference, as we strive to bring unity and strength to our School District, making it one in which all stakeholders (community, parents, educators and students) have a vested interest in and can be increasingly proud.

Humbly, I ask the residents and voters of District 5 for your vote on Aug. 23. "Because experience matters."

**Paid political advertisement approved and paid for by Lynn Melvin for Bradford County School Board District 5.**

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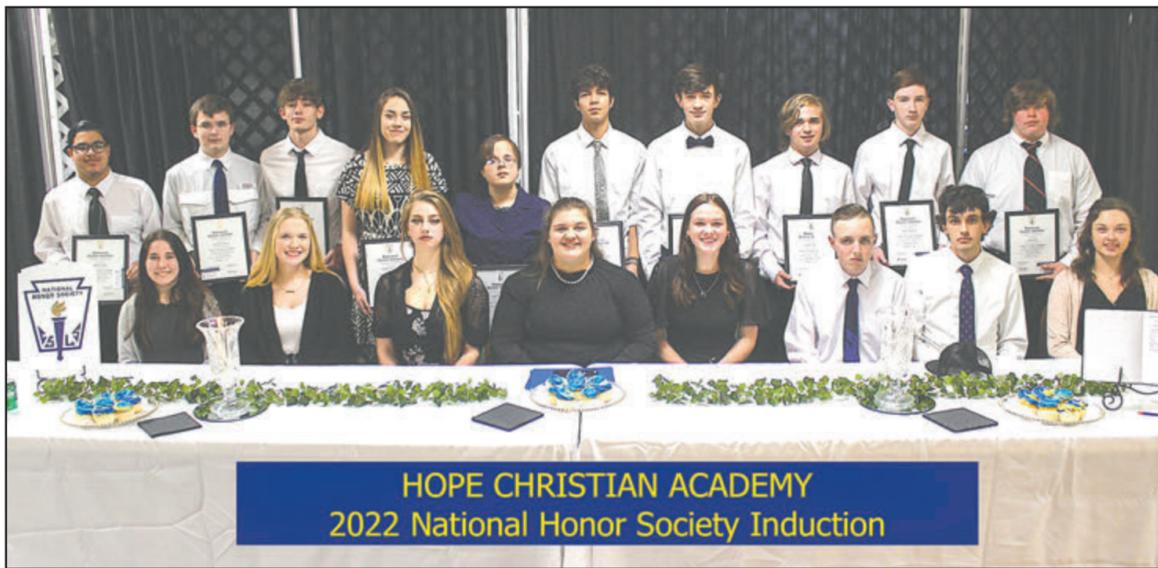
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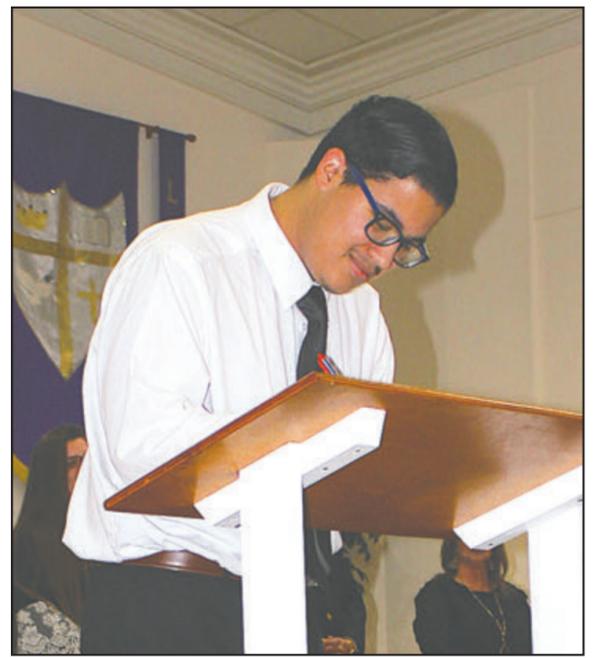
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Hope Christian Academy inducted new members into the Lions' Chapter of the National Honor Society. A reception was hosted following the ceremony. Officiating the event were NHS student officers; also participating were Head of School Terry Denmark, Director of Education Rachel Morgan, Student Dean Joe Perry and NHS Advisor Mandy Cornelius. Pictured are (seated l-r) Vice President Brooke McCloud, Treasurer Emma Snyder, President Dakota Cedar, Parliamentarian Lydia Morgan, Chaplain Jadie Clark, AJ Brown, Secretary Simon Hanson, Haley Sheppard, and (standing) newly inductees Mector Diaz, Brenden Musser, Jonathan Anderson, Alaina McKinney, Angelica Barnett, Tavian Frazier, Jude Hanson, Zachary Hansen, Wyatt Gauthier and Logan Ellis. Photos by Kelly Donn.



Mector Diaz signs Hope Christian Academy's official NHS book during the formal induction ceremony.

## Keystone student wins Clay spelling bee

LAKE ASBURY— Rena Reddish, a Keystone Heights Junior High School seventh-grader, won the county's spelling bee competition on Tuesday, Feb. 22.

Thirty-three school champions competed at Lake Asbury Junior High for the title. The competition lasted 13 rounds before Reddish successfully spelled "trivia" to win the event.

Runner-up Riya Patel and Reddish went seven rounds before Patel faltered.



Rena Reddish, Clay County Spelling Bee winner. Photo: Keystone Heights Junior-Senior High School.



Lake Region students placing at the 2022 Clay County Science Fair (r-l) Gabe Stanley, Iolanthe Cushman, James Thomas, Madison Brinson and Audry Cisco. Photo: Clay County District Schools.

## Faith & Family Ag Festival

Promised Land Family Ministries in Lake Butler invites everyone to its Faith and Family Ag Festival on Saturday, April 2, from 8:45 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The festival is designed for K-12 youth and their families to enjoy agricultural activities, games, prizes and food. It is free for all.

Preregistration is strongly encouraged at [www.PromisedLandFM.org](http://www.PromisedLandFM.org) or on Facebook @PromisedLandFM. In person registration begins

at 8:45 a.m. the day of the event. The welcome begins at 9:15, followed by activities, lunch and prizes.

Promised Land Family Ministries is located at 6886 SW 74th Way in Lake Butler.

## Book festival welcomes authors, readers

The Sunshine State Book Festival, sponsored by the Writers Alliance of Gainesville, will take place on April 9 and

10 to bring readers and writers together with exciting literary activities and events for young and old.

A book festival will take place at the Oaks Mall on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. featuring established and emerging local authors. Meet and talk with the writers, and win signed books during the hourly drawings.

On Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Matheson History Museum, there will be four presentations and discussions with authors Carol Richardson, Robert Knight, Paul Ortiz, and Robert and Patience Mason.

All events are free to attend.

## Students place at county science fair

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Audry Cisco of Keystone Heights High School and Iolanthe Cushman of Keystone Heights Elementary led Lake Region students in the Clay County Science Fair held at the

county fairgrounds in Green Cove Springs.

Cisco finished first in Junior, Biomedical and Health Sciences, and had it set up. Then she arranged some "adoptions".

Other winners were Chemistry, Junior B third place: Arriana Denmark of Keystone Heights Elementary;

Engineering Senior, second place: Gabe Stanley of Keystone Heights High School;

Environmental Engineering, Junior, second place: Madison Brinson of Keystone Heights High School and

Physics and Astronomy, Junior C, third place: James Thomas of Keystone Heights High School.

# Letters

## Voting is everyone's right

Dear Editor:

The 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified in 1868 and provided citizenship to all those who were born or nationalized in the United States. This amendment provided citizenship to slaves and equal protection of the law. Similar to the Gentiles who became heirs of the promise through Jesus Christ, slaves received all the rights and privileges of citizenship; including the right to vote.

Since the enactment of the amendment, African American voting rights have been violated, resulting in civil protest and legal action. We are in the midst of a resurgence of attempts by states to prevent free access to voting by black, brown and women voters. Believers are encouraged to be active in ensuring our

communities continue to have access to voting rights privileges. Please vote! May God Bless You!

*Ester Holmes*

## Vote in the mid-terms

Dear Editor:

For those of us who lived during the '70s we remember the long gas lines, financial instability, Iran hostages, and saying that there would never be a president as bad as Jimmy Carter. We were all wrong because we now have one who makes Jimmy Carter look like George Washington.

Whether you are a Democrat, Republican or Independent, you could never have realized one administration could have done so much damage in so short a time. It is clear that someone else is calling the shots. When Trump left, Biden did away with all that he had done to make us a very

prosperous and secure nation. We were energy independent with prices around \$2 per gallon, but now we are not, and gas prices are around \$4 and rising. Our borders were secure, and now illegals are pouring over the border in record numbers with no supervision. Criminals knew if they did wrong they would be punished, but now people commit crimes, knowing they will not be punished. Basically every left-wing, nutty policy is promoted.

We know what we have to do, and it comes with the mid-terms. Vote all these leaders out who support all these leftist ideas. We must realize that most of these leaders are not truthful in what they tell us before the elections. In the case of Democrats, they almost always vote 100% the way the party leader wants them to vote, no matter how much it damages its constituents. Thank God for Joe Manchin and Krysten Sienna, who have so far saved us from even further

Biden decisions that could have damaged us even further. Let's be smart with our vote; and Joe has definitely decided my vote for me as well as my decision of who is the worst president in our history. Let's vote them all out.

*Wayne Blankenship*

## County top cop no tenderfoot, but tender hearted.

Dear Editor:

Sheriff Gordon Smith has taken a personal interest in helping find forever homes for dozens of cats.

Recently, I heard about a "cat shelter" a little more than a mile from my home-as the crow flies. I didn't even know it existed until a person who teaches with me in Gainesville asked, since I live in Bradford County, could I help place 50+ cats!

This teacher's neighbor is a nonprofit coordinator. She has paperwork filed with the state. The caring woman bought land, put in a well, septic, and power. She bought a utility building with windows and air conditioning, and had it set up. Then she fenced the building, inside a good portion of the property, with an 8-foot chain-link fence. The owner found abandoned cats and took in unwanted pets. She fed and watered them and paid all their medical bills. She had hoped to start adoptions this year, but a cancer diagnosis stopped all that. She is now in hospice care.

Upon learning all this from my co-worker, I headed off to find this place. About 40 cats greeted me at the locked gate. I said to my cousin, "I'm going to text or call Gordon before this appears on the Jacksonville news as so many of these situations have since COVID."

In half an hour, he was there personally and found his animal control people already on site.

They had been contacted by the woman's son and the people living across the road. Deputy Byrd has since removed more than 70 cats and placed them in area shelters. She loves her job.

Our sheriff has personally arranged some "adoptions". My youngest grandson, Garrison Wiggins, will be getting a cat at his home in Virginia. I don't know when I will be driving there, or his parents will drive down here. The chosen cat will need temporary housing. Gordon said, "I'll work it out."

This place sounds terrible: dozens of cats behind 8-foot-high chain-link fencing; however, like most situations in life, there's more to the story than we can see. This story is about a woman's compassion, cats, cancer, and our sheriff helping these animals find forever homes and their owner find peace. Thanks, Gordon! God bless you and your animal control people.

*Peg Stanwix-Hay  
Hampton Lake Community*

**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  
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Subscription Rate in Trade Area  
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  
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Subscription Rate in Trade Area  
Area \$52.00 per year:  
\$26.00 six months  
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\$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: Tracy Lee Tate  
Advertising: John R. Tillman  
Typesetting: Mary Goodge  
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The Keystone Heights High School Band enters the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena prior to the Jacksonville Icemen's game with the Norfolk Admirals on Feb. 26. Photo: Keystone Heights High School Band Boosters.

## Keystone band plays for Icemen

**BY DAN HILDEBRAN**  
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — The Keystone Heights High School Band Boosters reported in

a social media post that the band played during the Jacksonville Icemen hockey game on Saturday, Feb. 26 at the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena. On their way to Jacksonville,

the band also performed at Spring Park in Green Cove Springs. The estimated attendance for the game was 9,000. The Icemen lost to the Norfolk Admirals 5-2.



(L-R) Cadet Capt. Ethan Brown, Cadet Maj. Owen Hunter, Cadet Lt. Col. Elizabeth Anderson, Cadet Pfc. Sara Donahue, Cadet Pfc. Madison Bettet, Cadet First Sgt. Sheppard Wingate and Cadet Capt. Austin Laws. Photo Keystone Heights Junior-Senior high school.

## JROTC presents colors at Daytona

**BY DAN HILDEBRAN**  
Monitor Editor

DAYTONA BEACH — The Keystone Heights JROTC color guard presented the colors prior to the NEXTERA Energy 250 on Friday, Feb. 18 and made a second appearance at the superspeedway the following day prior to Saturday's Beef. It's What's for Dinner 300.

The group's instructor, Lt. Col. Richard Hall said the trip was made possible by the JROTC Boosters, American Legion Post 202, AMVETS Post 86 the Daughters of the American Revolution and Lake Region Kiwanis. Hall added that several parents made the trip to Daytona. The color guard participated in

last year's Daytona Supercross. Hall said that this year's events were much bigger than the 2021 race and his group garnered coverage on the facility's jumbotron as well as on Fox Sports. He added that a Jacksonville television station is coming to the campus today to interview the guard.

## 4-H contest encourages public speaking

**BY SAMARA PURVIS**  
4-H Extension Agent

This year Bradford County 4-H, in sponsorship with Florida Power and Light, is kicking off its first Public Speaking Contest for fourth and fifth grade. This is a fantastic opportunity for youth to share a voice on topics that are of interest to them.

At first sight, public speaking can be a scary thought. Some may fear speaking in front of a crowd or fear all the attention being centered on them. I want to take a moment to debunk fears and replace them with comforting facts.

Did you know that all of us take part in public speaking every day in some way large or small? For instance, have you sat with a group of friends and shared a conversation on last night's episode of your favorite show? Have you recently applied for a job and sat with a manager answering the age-old request, "Tell me about yourself"? As you can see public speaking takes place in many ways.

4-H youth speak to judges about topics based on knowledge gained from their projects. The public speaking contest offers youth a chance to start laying the foundation to become a good speaker, so that in any situation, it is done with ease.

Generally, there are four main types of public speaking. Speaking to inform is when the speaker is giving information

on a particular topic or issue. Speaking to persuade is when the speaker is trying to change the way the audience is thinking on a view. Think about a salesperson who walks up to you at the mall to sway you to try their product. Guess what? They are engaging in a form of public speaking!

Speaking of how to actuate aims to motivate people to act, this is powerful. A good example of this is when people speak about going to the polls to vote. The last type of public speaking entertains. Have you attended a birthday party or graduation party at some point and someone stood up to speak to the person being recognized and shared a funny story? This is an example of speaking to entertain.

Public speaking is a skill

that, through practice, can be mastered with ease. The public speaking contest gives students an opportunity to learn how to be more effective in something they do every day.

The 4-H Public Speaking Contest takes place March 21 to 25 for classrooms that choose to participate. The county contest will take place March 26 at 6 p.m. at the extension office for overall county winners. Prices and awards are given for each classroom and county winners.

To learn more about the 4-H FLP sponsored public speaking contest contact the Bradford County Extension Office at 904-966-6224.



Bradford High School is submitting reviews written by the members of its Book Club. The latest was written by junior Emma Burns.

### "Pendragon: The Merchant of Death" by D.J. MacHale

On Tuesday, Feb. 22, Bradford High School's Book Club had a meeting to discuss the book "Pendragon: The Merchant of Death." At this meeting, we had a virtual meeting with the author D.J. MacHale.

The book is the first in a 10-book series about a 14-year-old boy, Bobby Pendragon, who gets thrust into an alternate dimension where he must stop a revolution and save the territory known as Denduron, a territory seemingly set in the Middle Ages.

MacHale was able to answer questions and shed light on his journey to writing this book. It felt very professional but humble to get to sit and listen to him talk about his experience as an author and his story. He also shared other well-known things he has

worked on including the TV shows "Tower of Terror," "Are You Afraid of the Dark?" and HBO's "Encyclopedia Brown: Boy Detective."

To relate to the book and its perceived time period, the students were served beef stew along with cheese, bread, fruits and juices. It was so wonderful to get to meet D.J. MacHale, and I would definitely recommend this book, especially if you love adventure.

Submitted by Emma Burns, a junior at Bradford High School.



Members of the Bradford High School Book Club with author D.J. MacHale.

## Old-Fashioned Farm Festival

The town of Penney Farms will hold an Old-Fashioned Farm Festival on Saturday, March 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will be located on Clark Avenue and in Kohler Park.

There is still space for those wishing to exhibit old farm equipment or tools, demonstrators of old-time crafts, and for vendors interested in having booth space for selling items. If interested call Cathie at the Town of Penney Farms for more information and/or a sign-up form at 904-529-9078. It will be a fun day for both participants and for visitors.

on Tuesday, March 15, at 9 a.m. at the Bradford County Extension Office.

The board will discuss impacts of mining on Bradford County's soil and water resources. The discussion will include both the DuPont/Chemours mining operations in eastern Bradford County and the proposed HPS

II mining operation in western Bradford County. There will also be reports on the status of BSWCD projects and activities.

These meetings are open to the public. Contact Paul Still at 904-368-0291 or stillpe@aol.com for more information.

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## Soil and water group meeting

The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District will meet

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# Crime

## Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

Feb. 26 through March 4

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

Sara Raven Armstrong, 26, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Feb. 26 for DUI.

Alton James Boles, 71, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Feb. 26 for aggravated battery.

Daniel William Bresee, 34, of Hampton was arrested by Bradford deputies on Feb. 28 for battery, resisting an officer and possession of drugs.

The victim and witnesses told deputies that Bresee entered the back door of a Hampton residence, located the victim and threatened the woman before pushing the woman and slapping her in the face.

Brittany Joann Butler, 25, of Gainesville was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 4 for aggravated battery, larceny and robbery.

According to court papers, on Feb. 4 the defendant robbed the victim of \$200 by striking him on the head with a pipe or tire iron.

Jonathan Eugene Cain, 50, of Tampa was arrested by Lawtey police on March 2 for an out-of-county warrant and driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Marquez Cornelius Carter, 23, of Gainesville was arrested by Starke police on March 2 for battery.

According to an arrest report, two women told police the defendant shoved them both during a domestic argument.

Brooks Anthony Collins, 52, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 2 for disturbing the peace.

A deputy wrote in an arrest report that the defendant was shouting, cursing and waving his arms in the parking lot of Starke's Sonic Drive-In for no apparent reason.

Kaleb Blayne Crawford, 20, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Feb. 27 for a probation violation.

Wayne Douglas Crawford, 45, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on Feb. 28 for resisting an officer, possession of cocaine, possession of drugs and possession of drug equipment.

Jimmie Lee Davis, 48, of St. Petersburg was arrested by Bradford deputies on Feb. 28 for a probation violation.

Kenneth Warren Davis, 56, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Feb. 28 for a probation violation.

Erika Jordan Garcia, 33, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 2 for possession of drugs, an out-of-county warrant and possession of drug equipment.

Nicole Catlin Hall, 30, of Trenton was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 1 for a probation violation.

Kenneth Levon Hinson, 53, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 4 for a probation violation.

Daniel Arlon Holder, 34, of Middleburg was arrested by Bradford deputies on Feb. 28 for driving with a suspended or revoked license, possession of drugs, possession of drug equipment, larceny and illegal use of credit cards.

According to court papers, the victim said she allowed the defendant and a woman to temporarily stay at her home. She was notified by her bank's fraud department of suspicious activity on her debit card.

Deputies found four fraudulent purchases on the card: two at a Middleburg Circle K and one each at a Keystone Heights Family Dollar and Starke Walmart. Video surveillance showed the defendant and his companion making purchases at the Circle K and Family Dollar using the victim's card.

Anna Marie Johnson, 37, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on Feb. 26 for a probation violation.

Sholeke Lomeke Merriwhether, 33, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 4 for failure to appear.

Benjamin Eugene Padgett, 25, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 1 for a probation violation.

Dwanda Lavon Payne, 33, of Tampa was arrested by Bradford deputies on Feb. 28 for a probation violation.

Clem David Prescott, 68, of Brooker was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 4 for a probation violation and an out-of-county warrant.

Daryl Shermeil Risby, 48, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 1 for domestic battery and resisting an officer.

According to an arrest report, the defendant struck a family member in the face during a verbal dispute.

Ivan Tyrese Sargeant, 23, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on March 2 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

James Albert Thomas, 34, of Palatka was arrested by Starke police on March 4 for being an out-of-state fugitive.

John Kenneth Turknett, 48, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 1 for driving with a suspended or revoked license and attaching a tag not assigned to a vehicle.

Mycah Ian Tyler, 20, of Jacksonville was arrested by Lawtey police on March 1 for an out-of-county warrant.

Tymonzo Demon Ward, 24, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 1 for a probation violation.

Teresa Marie Williams, 37, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on Feb. 26 for an out-of-county warrant and driving with a revoked or suspended license.

### Union

Tyler Mackenzie Boyle, 28, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on March 1 for child neglect.

According to a sworn complaint, on Nov. 21, 2021, a witness told deputies that the defendant and his partner left a one-year-old child in a camper unsupervised while the couple went to a Lake Butler convenience store.

Shawn Mather Eiserman, 33, was arrested by Union deputies on Feb. 28 for resisting an officer and an out-of-county warrant.

According to an arrest report,

a deputy made contact with the defendant regarding a trespassing violation and a Bradford County warrant.

The defendant tried to outrun the deputy's patrol car on his bicycle, crashed into a ditch and ran into nearby woods.

A Florida Department of Corrections Reception and Medical Center search dog located the defendant lying down in a thick, wooded area.

Scott James Floyd, 25, of Bell was arrested by Union deputies on Feb. 28 for aggravated assault, battery, vehicle theft and robbery.

According to a sworn complaint, on Sept. 15, 2020, the defendant used a knife to carjack a friend's vehicle, while the victim was driving both.

Floyd then attempted to run over the victim with the car.

Jenny Kay Hernandez, 31, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on March 6 for disorderly intoxication.

George Darnell Mack, 52, of Alachua was arrested by Union deputies on Feb. 28 for domestic battery, resisting an officer and obstructing justice.

Sarah Noel McGuire, 37, was arrested by Union deputies for possession of drugs.

Talon Glenn Neal, 26, of Interlachen was arrested by Union deputies on March 4 for possession of drugs and destroying evidence.

Jeremiah Newsome, 36, was arrested by Union deputies on Feb. 28 for smuggling contraband into a prison.

Nicholas Francis Phillips, 31, of Gainesville was arrested by Union deputies on March 2 for a probation violation.

Mildred Elizabeth Simmons, 32, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on March 2 for vehicle theft and a probation violation.

### Clay

Jason Travis Cross, 40, was arrested by Clay deputies in Keystone Heights on March 1 for battery.

Kady Leigh Freeman, 29, was arrested by Clay deputies in Keystone Heights on March 1 for misuse of the 911 system.

Deputies wrote in an arrest affidavit that the defendant called 911 from Keystone's Family Dollar and told them she believed her mother and children had been killed because her mother did not answer her phone calls.

Officers added that between October 2021 and February 2022, the defendant has made similar claims after calling 911 sixteen times. Deputies also wrote the defendant has an ongoing drug addiction.

Anthony Ray Madron, 36, was arrested by Clay deputies in Keystone Heights on March 3 for failure to appear.

Shaleena Arren Marks, 21, was arrested by Clay deputies in Keystone Heights on Feb. 28 for domestic battery.

John Junior Williams, 50, was arrested by Clay deputies on Feb. 28 for burglary with assault or battery.

Jerry Wayne Ward, 51, was arrested by Clay deputies in Keystone Heights on Feb. 27 for domestic battery.

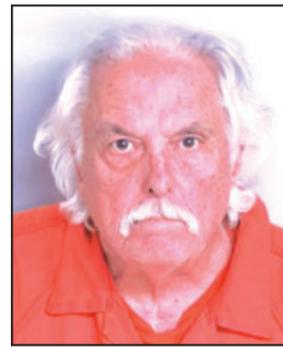
## Man attacks neighbor with ax

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

STARKE— Bradford deputies arrested a 71-year-old Starke man after they said he struck his neighbor in the head, neck and back with an ax.

Alton James Boles was arrested on Friday, Feb. 25 for aggravated battery with a deadly weapon.

The victim, a resident of Northwest State Road 16 near County Road 229A, told deputies that while he was gardening, Boles walked onto his property



Boles

holding an ax.

After the victim demanded that Boles get off his land, the defendant struck the victim with the ax on the head, neck and back.

The victim told deputies that he and Boles often engage in disputes about the location of the property line between their two parcels.

The victim said he wrestled the weapon away from Boles. Fire rescue transported the victim to UF Shands in Gainesville under a trauma alert.

## Three years for having sex with teen

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

STARKE — A Florahome woman was sentenced to three years in prison for having sex with a Hampton teenager.

Rosalita Maria Greaner, 41, of Florahome pleaded no contest to lewd assault on a child between 12 and 16 years of age.

According to an arrest report, the defendant was caught having sex with the minor on May 28, 2021, in a home on County Road 18 in Hampton.

Greaner was employed by the victim's family as a Certified



Greaner

Nursing Assistant to care for a disabled member of the family.

Greaner first admitted to deputies she had sex with the teen several times, then claimed the victim first raped her and then beat her daily.

The victim said the six occasions of intercourse between the two were all consensual.

A witness told deputies the victim's family members asked the pair on several occasions if they were involved intimately, due to the way they acted around each other, but the couple denied any romantic relationship.

## 66 days for not returning car after test drive

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

STARKE— A judge sentenced a Starke man to 66 days in jail for failing to return a Ford Mustang to Duval Chevrolet after taking a test drive.

Doyle John Havard, 36, pleaded no contest to the Dec. 27, 2021, offense of vehicle theft, possession of drugs and driving with a suspended or revoked license.

According to an arrest report, Havard asked to see a white Mustang at Duval Chevrolet just before noon and then asked to take the car for a test drive. A worker handed over the keys to the car and asked Havard for his driver's license. The defendant replied that he left his license in his vehicle, then got into the Mustang and left.

Arresting officer Hunter Redding wrote in the report that just before 2 p.m., he spotted the Ford moving southbound on Temple Avenue.

Redding and another officer stopped the vehicle. While



Starke police photo: Havard

searching Havard, the officers found a cigarette box in one of his pockets containing methamphetamine.

Redding added that Havard has five previous convictions of driving with a suspended or revoked license.

## Cooper pleads to remaining charges

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

STARKE— One week after his acquittal on grand theft charges, former Bradford County Commissioner John Cooper settled the last case against him.

Cooper pleaded no contest

to grand theft, while the state dropped a second charge of fraud. Under a plea agreement, Cooper will serve 10 years' probation and pay \$21,884 in restitution.

The charges stemmed from an estate which Cooper collected mortgage payments for, and a

judge ruled he overbilled the estate by over \$24,000. Cooper is currently serving a 21-month sentence for an unrelated charge of grand theft from a person 65 years or older and is scheduled to be released from the Department of Corrections on Sept. 29, 2022.

## Melrose structure fire displaces family

MELROSE — The Melrose Volunteer Fire Department said in a social media post that a March 5 fire forced a Lake Region family out of its home.

The blaze occurred in the 700 block of North SR 21. Units from

Melrose, Interlachen, Hollister and Putnam County Fire Rescue responded.

The structure received extensive smoke and water damage.

Occupants evacuated the home

before firefighters arrived and there were no reported injuries. The Red Cross is assisting the family and the State Fire Marshal is investigating.



The blaze occurred in the 700 block of North SR 21. Photo: Melrose Volunteer Fire Department.



**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

## Garden Club celebrates Florida Arbor Day

The Garden Club of the Lakes planted a Louisiana University purple fig tree on the grounds of Faith Presbyterian Church in Melrose to commemorate Florida Arbor Day. After the tree was planted, members shoveled soil around the tree. A poem by Joyce Kilmore was read by Sandy Rodgers.

Trees serve many purposes on this earth. They provide homes for many animals, shade from the sun, fruits and nuts, and erosion control to name a few. Sterling Morton established the first Arbor Day in Nebraska. Florida Arbor Day is the third Friday in January since 1886. National Arbor Day was established in 1870 by President Nixon, with the annual event commemorated on the last Friday of April.

Morton loved trees and planted many trees on his property, which is currently designated as Arbor Day Lodge State Historical Park in Nebraska.

"Each generation takes the earth as trustees," Morton said. "We ought to bequeath to posterity as many forests and orchards as we have exhausted and consumed."

His son, Joy, founded the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois, preserving 734 acres



Jay Schroll and Sandy Rodgers

of trees by his passing in 1934. Their legacy of tree protection is continued in your own tree planting and care in celebration of Arbor Day.

Florida celebrates Arbor Day in January because many trees are dormant (not actively growing) and lose less water through transpiration (evaporation of water from the leaves) this time of year. This makes it easier to transplant without putting them through too much stress, according to the University of Florida.

Ginny Stibolt, of the Native Plant Society, says, "Before you plant, know what your plant needs for soil type, space for canopy, and room for the roots. Plan ahead for the mature size

so pruning can be minimalized. Plant compatible understory trees and shrubs to form a pleasant grove that may mimic what might have grown there before the invasion of the most invasive species — us."

The Garden Club of the Lakes meets every second Thursday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon at Faith Presbyterian Church at 2738 State Road 21 in Melrose. Meetings are open to the public. Facial masks are optional at this time.

The presentation for March is "Edible Weeds." April's presentation is "Pruning." In May they will make seed balls and seed tapes.

## UCHS honors Worthington as 2021 TOY

BY LARRY DUPEE  
Special to the Times

She started out strictly because she had small children of her own in school. Elise Worthington aligned her daily schedule to provide her with time to work at the school, where she found many students who, she said, did not have strong support at home. Worthington said she had found a place where she could help others find their strengths and improve their weaknesses as they developed into future leaders.

Worthington graduated from St. Leo University in 1999 with a Bachelor of Elementary Education. She is also certified in exceptional student education (ESE) K-12, English as a second language and has earned a reading endorsement.

Worthington has been with the school district for 22 years. The first three were as an ESE resource and teaching seventh and eighth grade reading. The next 17 years, Worthington taught ESE for all the grades at LBES. Her most recent position has been teaching fourth grade at LBES for ten years.



UCHS Teacher of the Year, Elise Worthington.

Coming to UCHS last year, she currently is teaching intensive reading ESE to eleventh and twelfth grades. She also works with students who have not achieved the level of performance required for graduation. To graduate, students must pass one of three state exams — the ACT, the SAT or the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA). Worthington is a "go-to teacher." She will work with students who need help with their studies, whether they are in the hospital or are homebound for physical or behavioral issues. She will go to them to help.

When she started teaching, she said that her sister remarked that "she genuinely wants to help others be successful and has the biggest heart for kids, treating them like they were her own."

Worthington's dedication to teaching extends to afterschool hours as well, when she teaches for the Florida Crown program.

When she was told she had been chosen as the Teacher of the Year (T.O.Y.) for UCHS she said she was "surprised and honored." She said, "it makes you think about the relationships with the people that you work with and how they are valued." Over the past 22 years, Worthington has pursued her passion for teaching. This is the first time she has been selected as a T.O.Y. She said, "I feel honored and appreciate that I am being allowed to represent UCHS as Teacher of the Year 2021."

When asked what her future plans might be, she stated firmly that she was planning to keep on teaching for the rest of her working life.

# Legal Notices

### 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 February 1, 2022:

William Sexton, of Bradford County, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091 has submitted an environmental resource permit (ERP) application number ERP-007-241959-1. The project is located in Bradford County, Sections 20 and 29, Township 7 South, Range 22 East, and includes 5.33-acres.

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.

3/10 1tchg-BCT

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
Bradford County School District will hold a Public Hearing on March 14, 2022, at 6:00 P.M. for Public Input on the Recommended Instructional Materials.

3/10 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:**  
Christopher L. Smith  
Last known address of:  
7292 NW 203rd Way  
Starke FL 32091-8101  
You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system. Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph  
Amanda Seyfang  
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections  
P. O. Box 58  
945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C  
Starke, FL 32091  
Date: March 7, 2022

3/10 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:**  
Jesse J. Zsizsek  
Last known address of:  
14805 SE 25TH Ln  
Starke FL 32091  
You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.  
Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph  
Amanda Seyfang  
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections  
P.O. Box 58  
945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C  
Starke, FL 32091  
Date: March 10, 2022

3/10 1tchg-BCT

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida will hold a meeting on March 17, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the Bradford County Courthouse, located at 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida. The public is encouraged to visit [www.bradfordcountytfl.gov/meetings](http://www.bradfordcountytfl.gov/meetings) or to call the Office of the County

Manager at (904) 966-6327 to obtain a copy of the agenda for this meeting.  
3/10 1tchg-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROBATE DIVISION  
File No. 04-2022-CP-010  
Division Probate

IN RE: ESTATE OF RICHARD EDWARD TAYLOR, Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the estate of Richard Edward Taylor, deceased, whose date of death was November 6, 2021, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.  
The date of first publication of this notice is March 10, 2022.  
Attorneys for Personal Representative:  
DUNWODY WHITE & LANDON, P.A.  
Daniel K. Capes, Esq.  
Florida Bar Number: 0106429  
4001 Tamiami Trail North, Suite 200  
Naples, FL 34103  
Telephone: (239) 263-5885  
Fax: (239) 262-1442  
Personal Representative:  
Lynn E. Flores  
1423 S. Larkwood Square  
Fort Myers, FL 33919

3/10 2tchg 3/17-BCT

**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT**

To: Ivan T. Sargeant  
Case No.: CD202200666/D 1708101  
An Administrative Complaint to revoke your license and eligibility for licensure has been filed against you. You have the right to request a hearing pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, by mailing a request for same to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Licensing, Post Office Box 5708 Tallahassee, Florida 32314-5708. If a request for hearing is not received by 21 days from the date of the last publication, the right to hearing in this matter will be waived and the Department will dispose of this cause in accordance with law.

3/10 4tchg 3/31-BCT

### Union

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO. 21000045CAAXMX  
CITIMORTGAGE, INC.,  
Plaintiff,  
VS.

UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, SURVIVING SPOUSE, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEE, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY THROUGH UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF HENRY W. FILER, DECEASED;  
et al.,

3/3 4tchg 3/24-UCT

Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
TO: Unknown Heirs, Beneficiaries, Devisees, Surviving Spouse, Grantees, Assignee, Lienors, Creditors, Trustees, and all other parties claiming an interest by through under or against the estate of Henry W. Filer, deceased  
Last Known Residence: Unknown  
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Union County, Florida:  
A PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINING A TOTAL AREA OF 1.2 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LYING, BEING AND SITUATE IN THE NORTH 1/2 OF GOVERNMENT LOT 1, SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 20 EAST, CITY OF LAKE BUTLER, UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID NORTH 1/2 OF GOVERNMENT LOT 1, SECTION 31, AND RUN NORTH 01 DEGREE 45 MINUTES 29 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION 31, A DISTANCE OF 63.55 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE CENTERLINE OF STATE ROAD NUMBER 121; THENCE CONTINUE RUNNING NORTH 01 DEGREE 45 MINUTES 29 SECONDS WEST, CONTINUING ALONG SAID EAST LINE OF SECTION 31, A DISTANCE OF 143.19 FEET TO A POINT, SAID POINT BEING A DISTANCE OF 1174.66 FEET SOUTHERLY OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 31; THENCE RUN SOUTH 85 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 34 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 19.27 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SOUTHEAST 5TH AVENUE (ALSO KNOWN AS EPPERSON STREET) AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED PARCEL OF LAND;

THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 12 SECONDS EAST, ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SOUTHEAST 5TH AVENUE, A DISTANCE OF 88.35 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 42 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 48 SECONDS WEST, CONTINUING ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 21.94 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SAID STATE ROAD NUMBER 121; THENCE RUN SOUTH 85 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 48 SECONDS WEST, ALONG SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD NUMBER 121, A DISTANCE OF 69.06 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 01 DEGREE 45 MINUTES 29 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 103.74 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 85 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 34 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 315.00 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 01 DEGREE 45 MINUTES 29 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 105.00 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 85 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 34 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 402.45 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SOUTHEAST 5TH AVENUE; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 12 SECONDS EAST, ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SOUTHEAST 5TH AVENUE, A DISTANCE OF 105.10 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING!

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on ALDRIDGE I PITE, LLP, Plaintiffs attorney, at 1615 South Congress Avenue, Suite 200, Delray Beach, FL 33445, on or before March 31, 2022, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.  
Dated on February 24, 2022  
Kellie Hendricks Rhoads  
As Clerk of the Court  
By: Crystal Norman  
Deputy Clerk

3/3 4tchg 3/10-UCT

**STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**  
The Union County Board of County Commissioners is soliciting Statements of Qualifications from professional firms, registered in the State of Florida, pursuant to Section 287.055, Florida Statutes, known as the Consultant Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA), to provide Engineering Services for Union County.

The Scope of Services is intended to provide Engineering/Surveying Services for Widening and Resurfacing of CR 238N from from NE 111th Way to CR 229 N, as further described in Exhibit A, Project Description and Responsibilities. Funding being provided by Union County and the State of Florida Department of Transportation. Services under this contract may include any or all of the items listed under the "Consultant Scope of Services for Engineering Services". Please contact the Union County Board of County Commissioners Office 386-496-4241 for any additional information needed.  
An original and seven (7) copies of the complete proposal plus one (1) electronic copy of the complete proposal shall be sealed and clearly marked on the outside: "Request for Qualifications - For Engineering/Design Services CR 238N, Project ID 44319-1-54-01-1-54-01. Deadline is April 5, 2022, 2:00 p.m."

3/3 4tchg 3/24-UCT

**STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**  
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The Scope of Services is intended to provide Engineering/Surveying Services for Widening and Resurfacing of CR 18 from Columbia County Line to SR 121 in Union County, as further described in Exhibit A, Project Description and Responsibilities. Funding being provided by Union County and the State of Florida Department of Transportation. Services under this contract may include any or all of the items listed under the "Consultant Scope of Services". Please contact the Union County Board Office 386-496-4241 for any additional information needed.  
An original and seven (7) copies of the complete proposal plus one (1) electronic copy of the complete proposal shall be sealed and clearly marked on the outside: "Request for Qualifications - For Engineering/Design Services CR 18, Project ID 441325-1-34-01. Deadline is April 5, 2022 2:00 p.m."

IN RE: ESTATE OF RICHARD DYLAN DREW Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the estate of RICHARD DYLAN DREW, deceased, whose date of death was October 25, 2021, is pending in the Circuit Court for UNION County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida 32054. The names and addresses of the personal representatives and the personal representatives' attorney are set forth below.

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

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.  
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.  
The date of first publication of this notice is March 3, 2022.

Attorney for Personal Representatives:  
THOMAS M. DONAHOO, JR.  
Florida Bar Number: 078530  
MICHELLE MEDINA  
Florida Bar Number: 772623  
Attorneys

DONAHOO & MCMENAMY, P.A.  
245 Riverside Avenue, Suite 150  
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32202  
Telephone: (904) 354-8080  
Fax: (904) 791-9563  
E-Mail: [eservice@dmjxlaw.com](mailto:eservice@dmjxlaw.com)  
Personal Representatives:  
THOMAS DREW  
20217 SE 88th Trail  
Lake Butler, Florida 32054  
JACLYN DREW  
20217 SE 88th Trail  
Lake Butler, Florida 32054

3/3 2tchg 3/10-UCT

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3/3 4tchg 3/24-UCT

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An original and seven (7) copies of the complete proposal plus one (1) electronic copy of the complete proposal shall be sealed and clearly marked on the outside: "Request for Qualifications - For Engineering/Design Services CR 18, Project ID 441325-1-34-01. Deadline is April 5, 2022 2:00 p.m."

3/3 4tchg 3/24-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA.  
CASE No. 21000056CAAXMX  
REVERSE MORTGAGE FUNDING LLC,  
Plaintiff  
vs.  
UNKNOWN SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITOR, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ROBERT C. BAKER A/K/A ROBERT CHARLES BAKER, DECEASED, et al.,  
Defendants

3/10 1tchg-UCT

**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
TO: UNKNOWN SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITOR, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ROBERT C. BAKER A/K/A ROBERT CHARLES BAKER, DECEASED, et al.,  
Defendants

has been filed against you, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to this action, on Greenspoon Marder, LLP, Default Department, Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is Trade Centre South, Suite 700, 100 West Cypress Creek Road, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309, and file the original with the Clerk within 30 days after the first publication of this notice in THE UNION COUNTY TIMES, on or before March 10, 2022; otherwise a default and a judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT on this 2nd day of February,  
By: Kellie Hendricks-Rhoades  
As Clerk of said Court  
By: Crystal Norman  
As Deputy Clerk  
Prepared by: Greenspoon Marder, LLP  
(954) 491-1120; [gmforeclosure@grmlaw.com](mailto:gmforeclosure@grmlaw.com)  
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a reasonable accommodation to participate in this proceeding should, no later than seven (7) days prior, contact the Clerk of the Court's disability coordinator at ADA Coordinator, (352) 337-6237. If hearing or voice impaired, contact TDD (800) 955-8771 via Florida Relay System.

3/3 2tchg 3/10-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA.  
Case No.: 63-2022-DR-006

IN RE: Maegan S. Kelly, I  
Petitioner,  
and  
Jesse R. Kelly,  
Respondent.

**NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE**  
TO: Jesse R. Kelly  
8391 SW 155' Road  
Lake Butler, FL 32054 (last known address)  
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for dissolution of marriage and an urgent motion for temporary relief have been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Katherine E. Macdonald, attorney for Maegan S. Kelly, Petitioner, whose address is 2233 N.W. 41<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 300-D, Gainesville, FL 32606, on or before April 28, 2022, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court, Union County Courthouse, 55 West Main Street, Room 103, Lake Butler, FL 32054, before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition and motion. Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the addresses on record at the clerk's office.

3/10 4tchg 3/31-UCT

**WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.**  
Dated March 8, 2022  
Kellie Hendricks Rhoades  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
Crystal Norman  
(Deputy Clerk)

Town of Worthington Springs  
**NOTICE OF FAIR HOUSING**  
This notice will serve to advise all residents of the Town of Worthington Springs that the following actions, if based on race, color, sex, national origin, religion, familial status (families with children), or handicap (disability) are prohibited by Title VIII of the Civil

3/10 4tchg 3/31-UCT

Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Act):

Refusing to sell or rent to, deal, or negotiate with any person.  
Discriminating on terms or conditions for buying or renting housing.  
Discriminating by advertising that housing is available only to persons of a certain race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, handicap (disability), age, ancestry or with no animals.

Denying that housing is available for inspection, sale or rent when it really is available.  
Denying or making different terms or conditions for home loans by financial institutions.  
Denying to anyone the use of or participation in any real estate services, multiple listing services or other facilities related to the selling and renting of housing.

Blockbusting and "steering" are two discriminatory practices that are also prohibited by the Act. Blockbusting includes engaging in conduct which conveys the impression that a neighborhood is about to undergo certain changes and, thus, panic owners into selling their properties. Steering involves guiding an individual seeking housing toward or away from particular property for discriminatory reasons.  
If you would like to obtain more information about fair housing, or file a fair housing complaint, please contact the Fair Housing Coordinator listed below:

Pat Harrell, Town Clerk and Fair Housing Coordinator, Worthington Springs, PO Box 150 (11933 SW 36th Drive) Worthington Springs, Florida 32697-0150; Phone: (386) 496-1006

3/10 1tchg-UCT



Shayne Davis gets a hug from his father, Sean.

## CHAMPS

Continued from page 1

Head Coach Sampson Jackson said, "We knew we had the team to do it. We knew we had the talent to do it. We just had to put together a season and get it done."

The Tornadoes (16-10) certainly got it done in the postseason. Bradford won two regional playoff games and its two Final Four games by an average margin of 19 points. The Tornadoes never trailed in the entire postseason. Bradford's only deficit in its 53-35 state semifinal win over Hawthorne was 2-0, while the Tornadoes' trailed in only one of their regional playoff games, and that was only early in the first quarter against Madison County in the Region 3 championship game. (A three-pointer by Shanks that made the score 7-6 gave Bradford the lead for good.)

When the teams that made the Final Four were reseeded, Bradford was the fourth seed, but they went on to win their two games by a total margin of 38 points, which was the highest total point differential among the seven state-championship teams.

"When we got down here, (our goal) was to assert ourselves, let people know that we were a real team, not a fourth seed who just made it in, that we belonged here," Jackson said. "We were able to do that. It's exciting."

Paxton (24-5) turned the ball over on five of its first seven possessions. The result was an early 8-2 Bradford lead, with Williams and Chalil Cummings each scoring on a drive to the basket, while Torin Brazzell had a bucket off Amari Jones' penetration. Jones also made two free throws during the early run.

The Bobcats committed 11 turnovers in the first quarter and finished the game with 24.

Cummings, who had five steals for the game, said he and his teammates enjoy steals and taking charges more than they do

scoring points.

"We work mostly on defense in practice," Cummings said. "If you don't have a defense, you

don't have anything."

Jackson said, "That's us. It's more than an identity. It's a mindset. The game of basketball is entertaining on offense, but it's really good on defense. All year, and in our postseason, we really hung our hat on defense."

Paxton's Latrell Sanders scored off his own steal to make the score 9-6, but that's as close as the Bobcats would get the rest of the way. Bradford responded with a 10-0 run to close out the first quarter. Davis scored on a drive to the basket, while his backcourt steal led to a layup by Williams, who was fouled on the shot. He made the free throw to make the score 14-6.

Shanks made a three-pointer with approximately 20 seconds on the clock, while Robbie Simmons-Godwin scored off an offensive rebound before time expired to send the Tornadoes into the second quarter leading

19-6.

Bradford eventually built a 31-8 lead. Cummings scored off two offensive rebounds, while he, Davis, Shanks and Williams all had steals in helping the Tornadoes go up by 24. A Davis basket off Williams' steal made the score 29-7. Davis then grabbed a rebound on the defensive end and made a long pass to Williams for a score in transition.

The Bobcats didn't get a field goal in the second quarter until 1:59 remained until halftime. That basket was the start of a 10-2 run, which included two jump shots by Sanders and a three-pointer by Kage Wibbing with 37.5 seconds on the clock, making the score 33-18.

Paxton scored the first four points of the third quarter, with Sanders knocking down a jump

See STATE, page 9



ABOVE: Chalil Cummings, Bernard Nichols and Head Coach Sampson Jackson (l-r) run toward the section of BHS fans as the celebration ensues. RIGHT: Head Coach Sampson Jackson (center) and players Shayne Davis (second from left) and Jontez Williams (far right) accept the championship trophy.



LEFT: Amari Jones (left) pulls up for a jump shot against Paxton's Collin Stewart. BELOW: Jontez Williams (left) gets up for a layup attempt against Paxton's Kenyon Simmons.



Torin Brazzell, Dae'Jon Shanks and Hunter Crawford (l-r) soak in the happy moment.



Shayne Davis (right) looks for a shot opportunity against Paxton's Kenyon Simmons.



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**Amanda Seyfang**  
 Supervisor of Elections  
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 Gordon Smith  
 Sheriff  
 from  
**SHERIFF GORDON SMITH & The Bradford County Sheriff's Office**

# STATE

Continued from page 8

shot and Kenyon Simmons scoring off his own steal. The Tornadoes' lead had been trimmed to 33-22.

Jackson said his emphasis to his players during a time out was to smile and go back to having fun.

"We were up double digits most of the game," he said. "We were upset with ourselves because there were things we were doing that we don't do. That got into our body language, and we started talking back a little bit to each other in a way that we don't do. The time out that I burned was just (to tell them), 'Have fun. We're in good shape. We're going to win. I want you to be able to enjoy this championship, so smile and have

fun.'" When asked about Paxton's run, Williams said, "We didn't really worry about it too much because we knew we would come back and put (the lead) back up to where it was supposed to be at."

Shanks said, "We were just like, 'Play our game. The rest will handle itself.' We did play our game."

"We just had to stay focused throughout the game," Cummings said. "Coaches kept telling us, 'Stay focused. Run your plays right. If you execute, you'll win the ball game.'"

Bradford outscored Paxton 10-5 the rest of the quarter, with two baskets coming off offensive rebounds by Brazell and Cummings. Though the Tornadoes struggled at the foul line (9 of 28), Jones had a 2-for-2 trip that helped send his team



Robbie Simmons-Godwin (right) works down low against Hawthorne's Clayton Glosson.

into the fourth quarter leading 43-27.

Davis scored 10 points in the fourth quarter, including Bradford's first six points. The Tornadoes closed the game with a 10-2 run, which included two baskets by Williams, who finished with 13 points.

Cummings and Jones finished with 10 and nine points, respectively, while the Tornadoes also got five points from Shanks, four each from Brazell and Hunter Crawford and two from Simmons-Godwin.

Davis and Jones each grabbed seven rebounds, while Davis also recording five assists. Cummings had five rebounds.

It was the eighth straight win for the Tornadoes, who had gone

through a stretch during the regular season where they lost six of nine. It wasn't surprising to Davis that he and his teammates eventually righted the ship.

"We always knew that we could get to this point," he said. "We just had to finally click. Like I've been saying, we clicked at the right time. We just kept rolling after that."

In the midst of the postgame celebration, players rushed to the sections of the stands that were filled with Bradford fans.

"It's so crazy how they just follow us everywhere," Shanks said, adding, "I appreciate them, for sure."

Davis said, "It just feels good. We feel such love from the community."



ABOVE: Shayne Davis (right) puts up a second-half shot in the semifinal against Hawthorne. LEFT: Chalil Cummings (foreground, left) is pictured in the 53-35 win over Hawthorne.



Dae'Jone Shanks sets up for a shot beyond the arc in the semifinal against Hawthorne.

## BHS defeats Hornets 53-35 in semifinals

Bradford led by as many as 10 points in the first half and outscored Hawthorne 14-5 in the third quarter en route to a 53-35 win in the March 2 semifinals.

Leading up to the game, the Tornadoes worked on being the better rebounding team. It paid off, as Bradford held a 43-25 advantage over Hawthorne.

"We put an emphasis on that all week, since Monday," Jackson said. "We just stuck to what we wanted to do. We came out and executed what we worked on."

The Hornets' Allen Ruth scored the first points on a dunk. It was the only time Bradford trailed.

It was a 4-4 game when the Tornadoes went on a 10-0 run.



Torin Brazell prepares to shoot, while Hawthorne's Allen Ruth (background) tries to distract him.

Jones drove to the basket and dished the ball off to Brazell for a score before Davis knocked down a three-pointer. After Simmons-Godwin scored off an offensive rebound, Shanks made a three-pointer.

Hawthorne (11-5) got consecutive baskets from D.J. Slater during a 6-0 run that made the score 17-14 in the second quarter. Bradford scored eight of the next nine points. Crawford knocked down a jumper at the foul line, followed by three-pointers from Jones and Cummings.

Cummings later rebounded a missed three-pointer by Jones and scored to make the score 27-20. Jones then put the ball through the net on a pull-up jumper with 19 seconds left to send the Tornadoes into halftime leading by nine.

Bradford had a fast start when play resumed. A Williams basket was the first of three consecutive scores for the Tornadoes.

Simmons-Godwin scored off Jones' penetration, while Davis hit a three-pointer following a Hawthorne turnover. Davis was later fouled on a drive to the basket, making 1 of 2 free throws to make the score 37-20.

A Shanks three-pointer helped Bradford build a 40-25 lead going into the fourth quarter, which began with Cummings scoring off his own steal. A pair of Jones free throws and a Davis basket made the score 47-25.

Cummings and Jones each finished with eight points, while Shanks had seven. Bradford also got five points from Simmons-Godwin, four points from Williams and two points each from Brazell and Crawford.

Shanks pulled down five defensive rebounds and led the team with eight overall. Davis had seven boards, while Cummings and Williams each had six.

Cummings and Jones each had three assists.



Hunter Crawford (right) works to keep Hawthorne's D.J. Slater from driving to the basket.

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# Obituaries

## Denis Blom

Denis Ingvar Blom, 76, passed away at North Florida Regional on Friday, Feb. 11, 2022. He was born in Marionette, Wisconsin on April 19, 1945 to the late Ingvar (Swede) Olaf Blom and Dorothy Elizabeth Forsberg. He served his country, starting with four years in the Air Force and continuing with the Florida National Guard for eight years; finishing as a First Lieutenant in the Infantry. In the next seven years, he would become a law enforcement officer in Washington and Union counties, and finally found a home in Gainesville. He was known as the "Dancing Cop" in Gainesville for breaking out into dances while directing traffic. He worked for the Gatornationals from 1987-1996. He retired in August of 1998 due to diabetic retinopathy. He devoted his life to the Lord, his family, and his friends. Never once did he lose sight of what was most important to him in his life. He took pride in taking care of his two granddaughters; supporting them as best as he could. He spent most of his time getting to know God and spreading His word to anyone who sought guidance. He was preceded in death by a sister, Beverly Joy Blom; brother, Terry Allen Blom; mother, Dorothy Elizabeth Forsberg; and his father, Ingvar (Swede) Olaf Blom.



He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Victoria Williams Blom of Lake Butler; his children, Shawna Joy Blom of Starke, Shayne Denis Blom of Lake Butler, Shanise Victoria Blom of Orlando; his granddaughters, Elizabeth Mary Avila and Izabella Grace Preston; sister, Bonita Blom Norwood of Brunswick, Georgia; brothers, Randall Wayne (Missy) Blom of Raiford, Kevin Lee (Dana) Blom of Orlando.

A Celebration of Life will be held on April 23 at 2 p.m. at the Townsend-Green building on Main Street of Lake Butler.

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

PAID OBITUARY

## Doris Buckley

MELROSE Doris June Buckley, 85, of Melrose, passed away Saturday, March 5, 2022, in Gainesville following a brief illness. She was born Oct. 14, 1936, in Macclenny to the late Ralph and Bertie (Crews) McDavid. Prior to graduating from high school, she was hired by the Federal Reserve to begin her career in banking. After several mergers she decided to move her career to Keystone State Bank, where she served many years as a banking officer before retiring. She was a charter member of Trinity Baptist Church and loved sewing; she made dresses for Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Outreach and assisted in making several of the Easter Pageant banners for the church. She was also a wonderful cook, but, most of all, she was a loving and dedicated wife, mother, and "Granny."



She is survived by her loving husband of nearly 66 years, Jim Buckley, of Melrose; their children, Diane Buckley (Stephen) DeGraff of Melrose, David (Patty) Buckley of Easley, South Carolina, and Danny (Tina) Buckley of Alachua. She was also lovingly called "Granny" by grandchildren, Rebecca (Chris) Nelson, Marina Buckley, Michael Buckley, Jessica (Marcus) McCoy and Garrett Buckley; along with great-grandchildren, Christopher Nelson, Kyleigh June Nelson, Brock Nelson, and Colton Daniel McCoy.

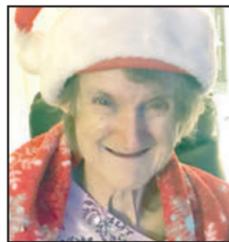
Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 9 at Trinity Baptist Church with Pastor Brandon Denmark and Pastor Scott Stanland officiating. Interment followed at Antioch Cemetery in Lacrosse. In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that memorial donations be given to the Quilts of Love at Trinity Baptist Church, P. O. Box 1099, Keystone Heights, 32656.

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

PAID OBITUARY

## Tammie Corbett

LAWTEY Tammie Corbett, 62, passed away peacefully at her home in Lawtey on Saturday, March 5, 2022. She was born in Jacksonville on Aug. 27, 1959, to the late Thomas "TJ" and Corine Bracewell Corbett. She was the type who never met a stranger; she loved talking and meeting people, and always had a smile on her face. Her outgoing personality made her a wonderful asset to her colleagues and friends at The Arc in Starke. She also enjoyed shopping, going out to eat, and listening to music. She was preceded in death by her parents.



She leaves behind her siblings, Gary (Erma) Corbett of Lawtey, Patricia (Jerry) Gibbs of Starke, Robin (Joe) Witt of Lawtey, Melissa Corbett of Lawtey, and Janice Zoughi of California; and a host of nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 10, at Dekle Cemetery. The service will be officiated by her brother-in-law, Jerry Gibbs. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to The Arc of Bradford County. <https://arcbradford.org/how-to-help/donate.html>

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

PAID OBITUARY

## Sam F. Evans

MELROSE Sam F. Evans, 91, of Melrose, passed away after a long illness on Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022. He was born June 24, 1930 in Enid, Oklahoma to the late Wilfred W. and Lillian Meheh Evans. He served in the US. Air Force and is a veteran of the Korean conflict. He attended the University of Oklahoma and graduated from the School of Business Administration. He then attended the University of Florida College of Architecture in Gainesville. He worked as an architect until a week before his death; working in Gainesville, Melrose, Winter Park, and Jacksonville. He held various positions with Evans, McVoy and Associates, Architects; Reynolds, Smith & Hills, Architects; and T. C. Skinner and Associates, Architects. He also worked as an architect for the Duval County School Board, and Offshore Power Systems Facilities, as well as having his own firm of Sam F. Evans, Architect, LLC. He was a faithful believer in Jesus Christ and was a member of Community Church of Keystone Heights.



He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Sandra Lyons of Melrose; sons, Ryan and wife, Anette Lyons-Evans of Boca Raton, David (Cricket) Evans of Longwood, Mark (Joanne) Evans of Weeki Wachee, John (Sheila) Evans of Gibsonton; daughters, Lynn Evans (Geoff) Gray of St. Augustine and Rebecca Lyons-Evans of Melrose; grandchildren, Lauren (John) Nidositko, Danielle (Monty) Neuhaus, Elizabeth (Gregory Scott) Gray, Jennifer Evans, Sienna and Elliot Lyons-Evans, and Donald Joseph Evans; five great-grandchildren, six great-great-grandchildren; and a sister, Sally Baker of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

A Celebration of Life will be held at his Swan Lake home on Sunday, March 27, at 2 p.m. with a meal to follow at Lake Swan Camp. Guests are advised to bring a lawn chair or blanket. Contact Community Church of Keystone Heights for the details. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to: World Harvest Missions Outreach, Inc., P. O. Box 6462, Lake Worth, 33466; Community Church of Keystone Heights, Missions Fund, P.O. Box 722, Keystone Heights, 32656; or Lake Swan Camp, 647 State Road 26, Melrose, 32666.

PAID OBITUARY

## Ralph Holder Sr.

GAINESVILLE Ralph Hampton Holder Sr., 88, of Gainesville, died on Friday, March 4, 2022, at his residence with his loving family by his side.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, March 12, at 11 a.m. at Archie Tanner Memorial. Interment will follow at Hague Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Friday, March 11, from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

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

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

## Isaiah Leonard

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Isaiah Rayne Leonard, 5, of Keystone Heights passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2022. He was born May 19, 2016, in Gainesville and was a kindergarten student at Keystone Heights Elementary School. He loved watching "PAW Patrol", being outside, riding his scooter, playing on the swing set, and jumping on the trampoline. He also liked playing baseball; but his all-time favorite was "Bottle Flipping" and playing with his dog, Star.



He leaves behind his parents, Chris Leonard and Tiffany Anderson of Keystone Heights; siblings, Jon (Kaitlin) Leonard of Tampa, David (Kathleen) Leonard of Gainesville, Shawn Leonard of West Palm, Jarrett Caulk, Tessa Caulk, and Trinity Hall, all of Hampton, and Jonah Leonard, of Keystone Heights. Also left behind is his maternal grandfather, Phil Anderson of Lawtey; paternal grandmothers, Susan Turner, of Keystone Heights, and Linda Leonard of Starke.

Private graveside services were held at Eliam Cemetery. Arrangements were by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 340 E. Walker Drive, Keystone Heights, 32656. 352-473-3176. www.jonesgallagherfh.com

PAID OBITUARY

## Lillie Mosley

STARKE Lillie Pearl Mosley, 90, of Starke, passed away at her home on Sunday, March 6, 2022. She was born in Tifton, Georgia on Nov. 22, 1931 to the late Alford and Annie Baker. She was a faithful member of the River of Life Church of God in Starke. She enjoyed sewing, cooking, and flower gardening. She also worked in the health care industry for more than 40 years. She was preceded in death by her husband, Loyd Mosley; daughter, Nelda Sims; siblings, Ralph Baker, Edward Baker, Virgil Baker, Zelma Blair, and Lavonne McGushion.



Survivors include daughters, Rhonda Odom, Lorissa (Harvey) Rhoden; sons, Larry (Annette) Mosley, Richard (Linda) Mosley, and Mark (Annie) Mosley; sister, Louise (Bo) Herndon; 19 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren, and six great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, March 10, at the River of Life Church of God with Bishop Jamie J. Wyatt and Bishop Terry Clark officiating. A visitation will precede the service beginning at 10 a.m. Burial will take place at Hope Baptist Church Cemetery.

Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 620 E. Nona St., Starke, 32091. www.jonesgallagherfh.com

PAID OBITUARY

## Hal Mott

MSG (Retired) Hal F. Mott, 80, of Clarksville, Tennessee passed away Thursday, March 3, 2022 at his home. He entered this life on May 29, 1941, in Brooker, to the late Howard and Jeannette Kelley Mott. He retired from the US Army, and was a Vietnam Veteran. He enjoyed fishing and collecting movies. In addition to his parents; he was preceded in death by his wife, Cleo Ellen Rader Mott; and brothers, Milton, and Kenneth Mott.



Survivors include his children, Hal Mott Jr., Frank Daniluk, April Smith, and Johnnie Moore; siblings, Anneta Andrews, J. E. Mott, and Janice Jackson. He also leaves behind many grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16, at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West with full US. Army honors. Rev. John Denim will be officiating.

Online condolences may be made at [www.NaveFuneralHomes.com](http://www.NaveFuneralHomes.com)

PAID OBITUARY

## Pat Norman

HIGHLAND Pat Norman, 80, of Highland, passed away on Saturday, March 5, 2022 at St. Vincent's Hospital. She was born on April 6, 1941 in Vidalia, Georgia to the late James Alton Owens and Rubye Johnson. She met the love of her life, James Malcolm Norman, through mutual friends and they were happily married on Sept. 5, 1958. She was a devoted wife, loving Mom, and GaGa/Granny, to her grandchildren. She enjoyed her career as manager of the Beall's Outlet in Starke. More than anything, she was passionate about her family; and she especially loved spending time with her grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her loving husband of 62 years, James Malcolm Norman of Highland; parents; James Owens and Rubye Johnson; sister, Peggy Tillman; and brothers; Gene Edgar Owens, James Oscar Owens, Johnny Lee Owens, Jessie Alvin Owens, and Louie Daniel Owens.



She is survived by her children, James "Allen" Norman of Highland, Renita "Nita" Jean (Sid) Cogdill of Middleburg, and Lisa Ann (Morry) Cravey of Keystone Heights; sister, Judy Durrance, nine grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Thursday, March 10, at 11 a.m. at Highland First Baptist Church with Pastor Donnie Durrance officiating. Interment will follow at Highland First Baptist Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Thursday, March 10, an hour prior to the service at the church.

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

PAID OBITUARY

## Truman Strong

LAWTEY Truman C. Strong, 75, of Lawtey, passed on Thursday, March 3, 2022 at North Florida Regional Hospital in Gainesville. Born in Albany, Georgia, he was a member of St. John's Missionary Baptist Church of Lawtey. He served in the United States Army and was a graduate of Bradford High School. He retired after 32 years from E.I Dupont as head operator. He was a member of the American Legion, and the Voters Registration Organization. He was also a coach for the Lawtey Cubs; and a true giver to the community by serving with impeccable love and the gift of giving.

He is survived by his sons, Truman C. Strong, Terence Berry, Henry Berry, and John Berry; daughters, Bernadine Aldridge, Sherrie Slocum, Antionett Berry, Charlotte Williams, Monica Cobbert, and Valarie Williams; brother, Benjamin Strong; sisters, Edith Thomas, Mary Mosley and Pricilla McQueen; and a host of grandchildren; great-grandchildren; god-children; nieces; nephews; aunts; uncles; cousins; many sorrowing friends; and his Dupont family.

Funeral services will be held 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 12, in the Gov. Charley E. Johns Conference Center in Starke, with Pastor James E. Rackley, conducting the services and serving as eulogist. Visitation will be held on Friday, March 11, at St John's Missionary Baptist Church in Lawtey from 3

p.m. until 6 p.m., and one hour prior to the service on Saturday at the Gov. Charley Johns Conference Center on March 12. The Cortege will form at Mr. Strong's residence, 22516 NE Second St., Lawtey, at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 12. Interment will be at Peestville Cemetery in Lawtey under the direction of Haile Funeral Home, Inc., 802 N. Oak St., Starke, 32091 904-964-7905. All attendees are asked to please wear a face mask and practice social distancing protocols.

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## UCHS softball team gets win on a bases-loaded walk

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Hailey Rivera drew a bases-loaded walk in the bottom of the seventh to give the Union County High School softball team a 13-12 win over visiting Trenton on March 4.

The Tigers (5-0) fell behind 12-10 when Trenton hit a three-run homer in the top of the seventh. In the bottom of the inning, Campbell Webb drew a one-out walk. With two outs, Hannah Rivera and Angela Tucker each singled, with Webb scoring on Tucker's single. Tania Young walked to load the bases, followed by Leah Clark drawing a walk to force the tying run in. Hailey Rivera then walked to end the game.

An RBI triple by Clark helped Union tie the score at 4-4 in the second. The Tigers went up 6-4 in the third, with Tucker hitting an RBI single and Young drawing a bases-loaded walk.

Trenton went up 9-6, but Union retook the lead with four runs in the fifth. The Tigers began that inning with five consecutive singles hit by Tucker, Young, Clark, Hailey Rivera and Nyasia Williams, with one run scoring on Rivera's hit and two scoring on Williams' hit. Webb drove in another run on a ground out.

Hailey Rivera finished with four RBI, while Tucker went 4 for 4 with two RBI. Clark went 3 for 5 with two RBI, while Young was 2 for 3 with one RBI. Williams and Webb had two and one RBI, respectively, while Hannah Rivera went 2 for 4.

It was the Tigers' third game of the week, which began with a 12-0 win over visiting Buchholz in 4.5 innings on March 1.

Hailey Rivera, who went 2 for 3 with two RBI, gave Union the only run it needed with a solo homer in the first.

The Tigers pushed five across in the second, with Young hitting a two-run double and Tucker, Hailey Rivera and Maggie Thomas each hitting an RBI single.

Tucker would go on to hit two more run-scoring singles to finish 3 for 3 with three RBI.

Thomas and Young each finished with two RBI, with Thomas going 2 for 3. Hannah Rivera had one RBI.

Pitcher Megan Sullivan went the distance, giving up three hits and two walks, while striking out seven.

Williams and Hailey Rivera each drove in three runs in the Tigers' 10-0, six-inning win at Bell on March 3.

It was a scoreless game until the third, when Union scored three runs. Young and Hailey Rivera each drove in one with a single before Williams pushed two across with a double.

The Tigers added three runs in the fourth on two errors, while Hailey Rivera hit a two-run double as part of a three-run sixth, which also included a run scored on Williams' sacrifice fly. Tucker and Young each went 3 for 3, while Hailey Rivera went 2 for 4.

Lily Neal and Sullivan combined to throw a no-hitter, with Neal getting the start and throwing 3.2 innings. Each pitcher recorded three strikeouts.

The Tigers played Santa Fe this past Tuesday and will host Hawthorne on Thursday, March 10, at 6:30 p.m. Union travels to play Gainesville on Friday, March 11, at 7 p.m. before traveling to play Newberry on

Monday, March 14, at 6 p.m.

## McFarland hit gives BHS 1-run win over Suwannee

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Hannah McFarland hit an RBI triple in the top of the eighth as the Bradford High School softball team defeated host Suwannee 6-5 on March 4.

The Tornados' Riley Blankenship, who went 3 for 4, hit a one-out single into center field before McFarland, who was 2 for 4, hit what would prove to be the game winner.

Suwannee went three up and three down in the bottom of the eighth against relief pitcher Taylor Reddish, who gave up no runs on one hit and no walks in two innings.

Bradford (5-1) trailed 2-0 before scoring three runs in the fourth inning. Cassidy Spratlin's two-run double gave the Tornados a 3-2 lead.

Reddish and Allie Funderburk, who went 3 for 5 and 2 for 3, respectively, each drove in a run as part of a two-run fifth, but the Bulldogs would tie the score with a two-out, three-run homer in the sixth.

The Tornados outthrew Suwannee 14-9. Takeirra Bakken had two hits in five at-bats.

Bakken had a big game the previous night, hitting two home runs in Bradford's 17-5, six-inning win at Interlachen on March 3.

Bradford went up 3-1, with Bakken hitting a two-run homer in the first and a solo shot in the third. The Tornados scored four runs in the top of the fourth to go up 7-1. Reddish and Funderburk each drove in a run before Macey Padgett, who had a total of four RBI, plated two with a triple.

Interlachen answered with four runs of its own in the bottom of the inning, but Bradford scored seven in the fifth and three in the sixth.

The fifth inning included RBI singles by McFarland, Reddish and Padgett, while Padgett drove in her fourth run of the night with a double in the sixth.

Padgett finished 5 for 5, while Bakken, who was walked twice after her second home run, went 2 for 2 with three RBI.

Reddish and Blankenship went 3 for 5 and 2 for 4, respectively, with Reddish finishing with two RBI. Funderburk went 2 for 3 with an RBI.

Bradford also got one RBI each from Spratlin, Makayla Moore and Amber Wynn.

In the circle, Blankenship, Spratlin and Kiersten Hodges combined to give up six hits, with Spratlin pitching a shutout over the final 2.1 innings.

The Tornados return to action on Monday, March 14, when they host Columbia at 7 p.m. Bradford then travels to play Williston on Tuesday, March 15, at 7 p.m.

## Indians fall just short in 3-2 softball loss to Fleming Island

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School's softball team couldn't overtake visiting Fleming Island, which scored three runs in the first inning and defeated the Indians 3-2 on March 7.

After giving up two hits and

one earned run in the first inning, Keystone starting pitcher Caitlin Frampton gave up one total hit in the second, third and fourth innings. She had a total of seven strikeouts.

Madi Mitzel threw the final three innings, giving up one hit and no walks, while striking out three.

Kadance Massey drove in the Indians' first run on a ground out in the fourth inning, while Jaiden Robinson hit an RBI single in the fifth.

Robinson's hit was just one of three hits for the team.

Keystone (2-5) was coming off a week in which it went 1-2, beginning with an 11-10 loss at Nease on March 1.

Kiley Channell, who went 4 for 4 with seven RBI, put the first two runs on the board with a double in the top of the third, but the host Panthers answered with three in the bottom half of the inning.

Delia Johnson, who went 2 for 3 with three RBI, hit a two-run homer to put the Indians in front 4-3.

Channell hit a three-run homer in the fifth, which also included an RBI double by Johnson. Keystone went up 8-3.

Nease tied it in the bottom of the fifth, taking advantage of a single, a double, a triple and two walks.

Robinson and Emma Rogel hit back-to-back singles to lead off the top of the sixth. Both scored on a Channell single to put Keystone ahead 10-8.

The Panthers put two on in the bottom of the sixth on a walk and a single. Both runners scored on an error. Nease then scored what would be the winning run on a fly ball error.

Channell, Robinson and Rogel, who was 4 for 4, accounted for all but two of the Indians' hits.

On March 2, Kinley Carlton and Abbie Roach each drove in three runs as the Indians defeated visiting Toco Creek 11-1 in five innings.

Three of Keystone's first five runs were scored on errors as Toco Creek committed a total of 10.

Roach and Ashley Nugent each hit an RBI single as part of a three-run third, while a three-run fifth saw Roach hit another run-scoring single and Carlton drive in two more runs on another single.

Rogel went 3 for 4 with a double, while Carlton and Nugent each went 2 for 3. Channell and Roach each went 2 for 4, with Channell hitting a double.

Mitzel, who drove in a run at the plate, earned the win in the circle, giving up three hits and no walks, while striking out six in a complete-game effort.

The Indians hosted Eustis on March 4, losing 6-1.

Eustis scored all of its runs in the third inning, taking advantage of three singles, two doubles and an error.

Roach drove in Keystone's only run with a double in the bottom of the sixth.

In 4.2 innings of relief, Frampton gave up three hits and one walk, while striking out four.

Keystone played P.K. Yonge this past Tuesday and will host West Nassau on Thursday, March 10, at 7 p.m.

## Tiger teams place 1st at Chiefland track and field meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Both Union County High School boys and girls teams placed first at a March 1 track and

field meet, hosted by Chiefland High School.

The boys team scored 160.5 points to top five other schools, while the girls, also competing against five schools, had the top score of 122.

Union won five events on the girls side, including the 4x800m relay, which saw Holly Halfacre, Emma Jeffers, Mackenzie Ring and Kaitlyn Pafford team up to run 12:10.

Jefferson won the 800m with a time of 3:03, while Pafford won the 1600m with a time of 6:42. The Tigers also got wins from Rachel Harris in the 3200m (15:19) and Jaiiah Hatcher in the shot put (25-7.5).

Pafford was the runner-up in the 800m (3:04), while Halfacre was the runner-up in the long jump (13-2).

On the boys side, Malcolm Odum and Martin Odum took first and second, respectively, in the 200m with times of 22.76 and 23.12, while the roles were reversed in the 400m, with Martin winning with a time of 51.29 and Malcolm placing second with a time of 51.32.

Thomas Williams also earned a win in the long jump (19-7), while placing second in both the 110m hurdles (20.62) and the 300m hurdles (50.76). Robert Thomas earned a second-place finish in the high jump (5-2).

Three of the boys relay teams placed second: the 4x100m team of Malcolm Odum, Martin Odum, Tahj Merriex and Daylyn Diston (46.02), the 4x400m team of Malcolm Odum, Martin Odum, Bryce Boney and Williams (3:50) and the 4x800m team of Thomas, Konner Rossiter, Adrien Chandler and Joseph Harris (10:12).

The boys team had four third-place finishers: Diston in the 100m (12.05), Boney in the 800m (2:32) and Demarius Williams in the high jump (5-0) and triple jump (32-9.75). Union also had the following fourth-place finishers: Thomas in the 400m (59.10), Jay Parks in the 800m (2:32) and Boney in the triple jump (30-7.5).

Three individuals earned third-place finishes for the girls team: Amia Bethea in the 100m (13.90), Halfacre in the 800m (3:06) and Taleyah Smith in the shot put (24-9.25). The 4x400m team of Ny'asia Jones, Raynie Winters, Jeanette Allen and Celeste Thomas ran a third-place time of 5:23.

The girls team had the following fourth-place finishes: Taliyah Harper in the 100m hurdles (21.31) and Jailyn Simmons in the long jump (12-8).

Thomas placed fifth for the girls in the 400m (1:14), while

# Obituaries

## Sharon Sweat



STARKE Ethel 'Sharon' Sweat, 84, of Starke passed away Saturday, March 5, 2022 at her residence surrounded by her loving family. She was born on Sept. 2, 1937 in Starke to the late Willie and Mathel (Morell) Green and was a lifelong area resident. Prior to retirement she worked as a clerk at a local meat market. She was a lifelong member of Grace Baptist Church, where she proudly played piano for many years. She was a true Christian, who loved her kids, and adored her grandchildren and great grandchildren. In her spare time, she enjoyed scrap booking, flower arranging, and cooking. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her daughter, Lisa Dampier; sister, Martha Futch; and brother, Edward Green.

Survivors are her husband, Riley Sweat of Starke, son, Johnny (Vickie) Sweat of Starke; and son-in-law, Steve Dampier of Gainesville. Also left are her grandchildren, Andy, Megan, Rachel, Buddy, Heather, and Stevie along with 13 great grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, March 11, at 11 a.m. at Grace Baptist Church with Reverend Russ Hale officiating.

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

PAID OBITUARY

## Reginald Underhill

STARKE Reginald "Reggie" L. Underhill, 85, of Starke, passed away at his home Saturday, March 5, 2022. He was born May 12, 1936, in Bradford County to Paul and Marie (Alvarez) Underhill. He served with the National Guard for 25 years before retiring. He also retired as a mechanic from Chemours Company, formerly known as E. I. DuPont. He was the longest living member of Kingsley Lake Baptist Church. He also loved fishing, gardening, and especially, spending time with his family. In addition to his parents; he was preceded in death by his daughter, Linda Lazenby; and daughter-in-law, Eoline Green Underhill.

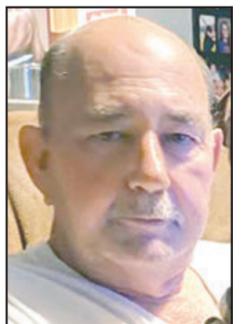
His survivors are his wife of 65 years, Marian (Simmons) Underhill of Starke; their son, Gary Underhill of Hampton Lake; siblings, Vernon (Emma) Underhill of Tennessee, and Glenda (Kent) Petelle of Starke. Also left behind are his grandchildren, Phillip (Amanda) Lazenby and Leslie Lazenby; along with great grandsons, Kogan Lazenby and Brylen Godsen.

A Celebration of Life will be held Thursday, March 10, at 11 a.m. at Kingsley Lake Baptist Church with Pastor Jonathan Rodriguez officiating. The family will receive friends beginning at 10:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to: Kingsley Lake Baptist Church, 6289 Mary Dot Lane, Starke, 32091.

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

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## Frank Vierling



LAKE BUTLER Frank (Ricky) Norman Vierling, 66, of Lake Butler, passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022, at North Florida Regional Hospital in Gainesville. He was born Sept. 23, 1955, in Miami, to the late James and Marlene Campbell Vierling. He worked for the Florida Department of Corrections for over 30 years as a corrections officer. He enjoyed going fishing and spending time with his family. He especially loved time with his grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Marlene Vierling; and his sister, Pam Trybala of Port St. Lucie.

He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Carol Vierling; daughters, Shelly (Phillip) Joyner, Dana (Darrin) Linzy; son, Ricky Vierling; grandchildren, Michaela Joyner, Taylor Joyner, and Phillip Joyner III, Zoe Eddins, Cameron Gall, Conner Vierling and Kendall Gall; and great-grandchildren, Phillip IV, Preslee, and Palmer.

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

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See TRACK, page 12



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BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH • LAKE REGION MONITOR • UNION COUNTY TIMES

## Tornadoes lose 1-0 despite a stellar outing by Pilcher

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Cason Pilcher went the distance on the mound, giving up just four hits, but the Bradford High School baseball team remained winless, losing 1-0 to host P.K. Yonge on March 4.

Pilcher struck out five and gave up just one walk. The Blue Wave's only run was scored by Gage Riley, who reached on a fly ball error in the bottom of the fifth. Pilcher struck out the next two batters, but Riley scored on Kyrin Griffith's line drive into center field.

The Tornadoes (0-5) were held to one hit by P.K. Yonge pitcher Andrew Dawson.

Bradford was scheduled to play Branford this past Tuesday and will host Interlachen on Thursday, March 10, at 7 p.m. The Tornadoes travel to play Union County on Tuesday, March 15, at 7 p.m.

## UCHS baseball team falls by 2 to Columbia

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Host Columbia used a pair of extra-base hits to score all of its runs and defeat the Union County High School baseball team 4-2 on March 7.

The Tigers (3-3) fell behind 2-0 when Columbia took advantage of a single, a walk and a two-run triple in the bottom of the first.

Union cut into the lead in the top of the second. Jeff Cook, a courtesy runner for Blake Agner, who reached on a single, stole second and advanced to third on a passed ball before scoring on a passed ball. Columbia, though, answered with two runs in the bottom of the inning when two batters who singled scored on a double.

Jake O'Steen scored the Tigers' second run in the third. He was hit by a pitch and stole second and third before scoring on Tre'von Lee's single.

Union had just four hits, one of which was a double by Ayden

Elixson.

The Tigers were coming off a week in which they went 2-1. It began with a 6-3 win over host Baker County on March 1, despite the fact Union had just four hits.

Lee hit an RBI double as part of a two-run first, while Union added runs in later innings on sacrifice fly balls hit by Agner and Quinten Rawls and a pair of ground outs by Elixson and Lee.

Starting pitcher Luke Johns went five innings, giving up one run on five hits.

Eli Rimes threw the final two innings.

On March 3, Jay Cohen drove in two runs in a four-run first inning as the Tigers defeated host Fort White 6-2.

Cohen's first-inning single scored Rawls, who was hit by a pitch, and O'Steen, who singled. Cohen scored on a Lee triple, while Lee eventually scored on an Elixson single.

Rawls and Lee finished 2 for 2 and 2 for 4 at the plate.

The Tigers had two extra-base hits. Besides Lee's triple, they also got a double from Agner.

Lee pitched the first three innings, giving up two runs on two hits.

Rawls, in four innings of relief, gave up one hit, while striking out five.

Union hosted Valdosta on March 5, losing 6-5 despite two-RBI outings by Lee and Rimes.

The Tigers took a 3-2 lead in the third, with Lee and Rimes hitting one-run and two-run singles, respectively.

Union trailed 5-3 before tying it up in the fourth, which began with back-to-back singles by Trevor Holtzendorf and Jake Walker. After two fly ball outs, Holtzendorf scored on a wild pitch, while Walker scored on a Lee single.

Valdosta scored the winning run in the fifth when its leadoff batter, who walked, crossed home plate on an error.

Lee went 3 for 4 with two RBI, while Rimes, who had two RBI, and Holtzendorf each went 2 for 3.

The Tigers played Oakleaf this past Tuesday and will host Columbia on Thursday, March 10, at 7 p.m. Union travels to play Valdosta on Saturday, March 12, at 1 p.m. before returning home for games against University Christian on Monday, March 14, at 6 p.m. and Bradford on Tuesday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m.

## KH Sports Association opens spring season

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—The Keystone Heights Sports Association spring baseball season kicked off on Saturday, March 5.

The league has 17 teams with over 200 players. The season runs through May 8.

KHSA Secretary Karrie Burton said the association dedicated this year's season to educators.

She read the poem "Teachers" by William Huff and introduced to the crowd Lake Region Teachers of the Year.

Retired Keystone Heights High School baseball coach Alan Mattox threw out the first pitch.



Former Keystone Heights High School baseball coach Alan Mattox throws out the first pitch.



KHSA Secretary Karrie Burton said the association dedicated this year's season to educators. Photos by Dan Hildebran.

## Keystone baseball team defeats BHS 15-2 for 1st win

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Ty Glenn and Ryan Jones each drove in four runs for the Keystone Heights High School baseball team, which defeated visiting Bradford 15-2 in 4.5 innings on March 3.

The Indians (1-3) got a stellar outing from starting pitcher Gage Smith, who threw a four-inning shutout. He gave up two hits and no walks, while striking out 10.

Jones hit an RBI single as part of a three-run first inning, in which Keystone also scored runs on a balk and an error.

Keystone scored six runs in the second, with the first two runs occurring when Jeremy Miller and Dalton Hollingsworth drawing bases-loaded walks. Jones and Glenn then hit back-to-back two-run singles to put the Indians ahead 9-0.

The Tornadoes were shaky defensively, committing five errors for the game, but they did turn a 6-4-3 double play to get out of the second, with shortstop Cason Pilcher fielding a ground ball and throwing to second baseman Luke Stucky for one out. Stucky then fired the ball to first baseman Kevin Crawford for the final out of the inning.

Bradford followed that up with its best inning in the game as the Indians failed to get a baserunner on in the third. Starting pitcher Jonathan Brugh got Keystone batters to fly out, ground out and strike out.

Smith, meanwhile, was in control on the mound for Keystone. He struck out seven of the first nine batters he faced. He didn't allow a baserunner until giving up a fly-ball single to Bradford's Pilcher to lead off the top of the fourth. Smith struck out the next batter he faced, but Pilcher, who stole second, would come around to score when Brugh hit a line-drive single to left, making the score 9-1. Smith struck out the final two batters in what would be his final inning.

The Indians scored six runs in the bottom of the inning. Leadoff batter Miller was hit by a pitch and later scored on Connor Guy's single. After Hollingsworth reached on an error, Jones and Glenn hit back-to-back singles to score a total of three runs. Alex Addington later hit a ground ball that scored a run, while an error on the play allowed another run to score.

After being held to two hits, Bradford hit three consecutive singles to start the fifth inning. Hayden Hughes ground into a

double play that included first baseman Ashton Roach throwing to catcher Noah Branch to put out the Tornadoes' Carson Knight at home. Hughes did get credit for an RBI as Stucky scored on the play.

Ben Goforth, who pitched the final inning for Keystone, ended the game with a strikeout.

Jones and Glenn went 3 for 3 and 2 for 3, respectively, while Addington went 2 for 4.

The Indians entered the game off a 4-0 loss at Middleburg on March 1.

Middleburg pitcher Clayton Hendry went the distance, striking out 16, while giving up one hit and one walk.

Glenn threw three scoreless innings of relief for the Indians.

Keystone hosts Fort White on Tuesday, March 8, at 6 p.m. and travels to play Bishop Snyder on Wednesday, March 9, at 6 p.m. The Indians then host Orange Park on Friday, March 11, at 7 p.m.

Bradford travels to play P.K. Yonge tonight at 7 p.m. and then travels to play Branford on Tuesday, March 8, at 7 p.m. The Tornadoes return home to play Interlachen on Thursday, March 10, at 7 p.m. before traveling to play Union County on Tuesday, March 15, at 7 p.m.

## KHHS earns 12 1st-, 2nd-place finishes at BHS track meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Caleb Moncrief and Kiersten Shaw won multiple events for the Keystone Heights High School boys and girls track and field teams, which combined to place first or second in 12 events at March 1 meet at Bradford High School.

Shaw took first in three events on the girls side, running the 100m hurdles in 18.79 seconds, clearing 4-9.75 in the high jump and recording a distance of 13-11 in the long jump.

The girls team also had a first-place finisher in Kendall Gagnon, who threw the discus for a distance of 89-6.

On the boys side, Moncrief won the shot put and discus with distances of 40-6 and 145-9, respectively.

Tyler Griffin and Shepherd Rozier won events for the boys team as well, with Griffin running the 800m in 2:12 and Rozier jumping 16-7 in the long jump.

Griffin and Rozier also had second-place finishes, with Griffin running the 1600m in 4:59 and Rozier running the 400m in 55.23.

The girls team got second-place finishes from Ella Hutchins in the 400m (1:11) and the 4x400m relay team of Shaw, Brianna Hogan, Dallas Decrosta and Hutchins (5:10).

Gagnon placed fifth in the shot put (19-11), while the girls team had two sixth-place finishes: Elizabeth Hogan in the 400m (1:16) and Taylor Goodin in the 1600m (7:19). Earning eighth-place finishes were Brianna Hogan in the 100m (15.04) and Emily Weiner in the discus (43-2).

The boys team had two fourth-place finishes from Josiah Durrenberger in the 400m (59.98) and Jaden Park in the 1600m (5:31). 200m (26.31). In the 200m, Park was fifth (26.31), while Rozier was sixth (26.32).

Tyler Duncan and Jackson Herman placed seventh and eighth, respectively, in the shot put with distances of 28-2.25 and 28-0.75, while Herman was eighth in the discus (69-10).

The boys team also had the following results: 100m — Garrett Roberson 14.85, Tristan Dukes 15.16; 200m — Durrenberger 28.15, Roberson 31.03; 800m — Jacob Stahman 2:38; 1600m — Ayden Graff 5:41, Adam Sapp 5:46; and discus — Duncan 66-2.

Keystone had the following additional girls results: 100m — Shantiriya Golden 15.93, Rebecca Lasca 16.30, Elizabeth Hogan 16.31; 200m — Weiner 34.75, Golden 35.21, Lasca 36.04; 400m — Shaylyn Williams 1:22; 800m — Goodin 3:42; and discus — Williams 43-0.

## Booker earns win for BHS at home meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Kaelyn Booker won an even for the Bradford High School girls track and field team, which also earned two second-place finishes at a March 1 home meet.

Booker took first in the 400m with a time of 1:05, while also teaming up with Alyssa Hunt, Diamond Ferguson and Holly Holt for a second-place time of 57.78 in the 4x100m relay.

Ferguson earned a second-place finish as an individual in the 200m (30.83), while Hunt was third in the 400m (1:14).

The boys team was runner-up in the 4x100m relay, with Jarrin Alexander, Cassius Carn, Chason Clark and Ne-O Addison teaming up to run 46.82. The 4x400m relay team of Jeremiah McKenzie, Trejan Tyson, Brian Clifflin and Clark placed third (4:09).

Addison earned another third-place finish for the boys team in the 200m (25.91). Clifflin was fourth in that race (25.94), while Alexander took fourth in the 100m (11.67).

Bradford had two fourth-place finishes in the girls competition, with Natalie Thomas running the 1600m in seven minutes and the 4x400m team of Booker, Holt, Jillian Lee and Hunt running a time of 5:19.

The girls 800m saw Lindsey McCoy and Layne Loper place fifth and seventh, respectively, with times of 3:05 and 3:21, while Alissa Reddish and Loper were fifth and seventh, respectively, in the 1600m with times of 7:04 and 7:42.

Lee also competed in the 800m, finishing with a time of 3:45.

Bradford earned a pair of seventh-place finishes on the boys side: Michael Oliver in the 100m (12.48) and Jamarian Cummings in the 200m (25.56).

The boys team also had the following results: 200m — Carn 28.01; 400m — Jamarian Hood 1:08; 800m — Silas Markwich 2:35; and 1600m — Jordan Barton 5:48.

## BHS competes in Raiders' freshman, sophomore event

The Tornadoes competed in the Santa Fe Raider Freshman/Sophomore Invitational on March 2, with Booker placing third in the 400m with a time of 1:08.

Holt, Reddish, Thomas and McCoy teamed up for a fourth-place time of 14:21 in the 4x800m relay, while the 4x400m team of Booker, Hunt, Lee and Holt was fifth (5:17).

Reddish and Thomas were seventh and eighth, respectively, in the 3200m with times of 17:33.36 and 17:33.37.

The boys 4x400m team of Addison, Carn, Clark and Hood was fourth (4:23), while the 4x100m team of Clark, Oliver, McKenzie and Hood was sixth (47.89).

Bradford also recorded the following boys results: 100m — McKenzie 12.52, Clifflin 12.90; 200m — McKenzie 25.27, Devon McBride 26.30, Oliver 26.82, Carn 28.99; 400m — Tyson 1:02, Hood 1:04; 1600m — Barton 5:46, Markwich 5:54; and 3200m — Barton 14:37.

The girls team had the following additional results: 100m — Ferguson 14.59; 200m — Ferguson 31.03, Lee 37.32; 400m — Hunt 1:14; 800m — McCoy 3:04; 1600m — Thomas 7:01, Reddish 7:01; and 4x100m — Booker, Hunt, Lee, Ferguson 59.80.

put — Tucker Baynard 33-7.5, Bresee 33-3.25, Carson Rogers 25-6.75; and discus — Rogers 62-4.

Union had the following additional girls results: 100m — Woodall 14.57, Hunter 14.81, Odum 14.83, Ring 15.69; 200m — Simmons 31.63, Woodall 32.22; 400m — Winters 1:19, Daina Smith 1:26; 1600m — Ring 8:40; long jump — Thomas 10-8; and shot put — Terriana Holton 19-7, Sierra Mohl 16-0.5.

The boys team also had the following results: 800m — Conner Atwater 2:54; 1600m — Rossiter 6:50, Holden Webb 6:54, Colt Thomas 7:44; 3200m — Davien Pressley 14:50, Atwater 14:56; long jump — Merriex 16-1, Demarius Williams 15-5; shot

## TRACK

Continued from page 11

Deashia Gainer was fifth in the shot put (22-4.5). Melinda Mabrey was sixth in the shot put (21-6.25), while Mia Odum and Ta'riah Hunter were sixth and seventh, respectively, in the 200m with times of 31.19 and 31.35. The girls 4x100m team of Odum, Aliyah Smith, Harper and Smith placed sixth (58.76).

Eighth-place finishes were earned by Jeffers in the 1600m (7:25), Pafford in the 400m (1:16) and Jahlivah Woodall in the long jump (12-3).

The boys team had the following fifth-place finishes: Joseph Harris in the 1600m (5:56), Daquan Diston in the high jump (4-10) and Williams in the triple jump (30-6.5).

Earning sixth-place finishes were Rossiter in the 800m (2:37), Chandler in the 1600m (6:01)

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# Fender, Crosby earn top awards at goat show

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Hunter Fender and Delaney Crosby were awarded overall grand champion and overall reserve grand champion at this year's Bradford-Union Goat Show, which was held March 5 at the Bradford Agricultural Fairgrounds.

Fender took the top award for a Boer named Melissa that was the grand champion in the Meat Division. Crosby's reserve grand champ was an Alpine named Sweet Caroline that was the top goat in the Dairy Division.

The overall grand champion prize was \$100 (sponsored by Gene Rauch with Papa Jones LLC), while the overall reserve grand champion prize was \$75 (sponsored by Tavia Frye).

Division grand champions won \$50 prizes, while division reserve grand champions won \$25 prizes. The division grand champion prizes were sponsored by Kim Adams (Meat), Mike Adams (Dairy), Glyn Williams (Dwarf) and Garth Brewster (Wether), while Union County Farm Bureau sponsored all the division reserve grand champion prizes.

The Dairy Division consisted

of six goats competing in three classes. Besides earning the grand championship in the division with her goat that received overall reserve grand champion, Crosby also exhibited the division's reserve grand champion, which earned first place in Class 3.

Crosby exhibited the only goat in Class 1, which earned her another first-place award.

Halen McKinney placed second in Class 2, while Hunter Brewster and Ralen McKinney placed second and third, respectively, in Class 3.

Six competed in two classes in the Meat Division. Harley Smith exhibited the reserve grand champion with a goat that placed first in Class 4. Hailey Griffis and Cassie Acevedo placed second and third, respectively, in Class 4.

In the Meat Division's Class 5, Emma Griffis and Wyatt Acevedo placed second and third, respectively, behind Fender, who had the division's grand champ.

The Pygmy Division consisted of one class, with Regan Adams earning the grand championship and Hailey Griffis earning the reserve grand championship. Adams exhibited another goat that placed third.

Eight goats were exhibited in the Wether Division's three classes, with Smith's top goat in Class 8 receiving the grand championship prize. Raylen McKinney's first-place goat in Class 9 was the reserve grand champion.

Dempsey Bradley placed first in the Wether Division's Class 7, while Halen McKinney and Adams placing second and third, respectively.

Emma Griffis placed second behind Smith in Class 8, while Hunter Brewster exhibited the second- and third-place goats behind Raylen McKinney's winner in Class 9.

## Showmanship, Record Book and Skill-a-Thon

Crosby placed first in Senior showmanship, followed by Cassie Acevedo and Smith. The \$75 first-place prize was sponsored by C.M. Enterprises, while the \$50 and \$25 second- and third-place prizes were sponsored by Bradford County Farm Bureau and Bradford Soil and Water Conservation, respectively.

Adams placed first in

Intermediate showmanship, followed by Hailey Griffis, Raylen McKinney, Hunter Brewster and Wyatt Acevedo. In Junior showmanship, it was Halen McKinney taking first place, followed by Emma Griffis, Bradley and Fender.

The first-place Intermediate and Junior prizes were sponsored by C.M. Enterprises, while the second- and third-place prizes were sponsored by Carlton Contracting and Bradford Soil and Water Conservation, respectively. Patrick Hartley Welding and Fabrication sponsored the fourth-place prizes.

Bradford County Farm Bureau sponsored the record-book contest's \$75 first-place prizes, which went to Crosby (Senior Division), Hunter Brewster (Intermediate) and Fender (Junior). The \$50 second-place prizes, which were also sponsored by Bradford County Farm Bureau, went to Smith (Senior), Adams (Intermediate) and Bradley (Junior).

Southern Grace Manor sponsored the record-book \$25 third-place prizes, which went to Makaila Hedrick (Senior), Hailey Griffis (Intermediate) and Emma Griffis (Junior).

Fourth-place record-book finishers were Cassie Acevedo (Senior), Wyatt Acevedo (Intermediate) and Halen McKinney (Junior). The \$15 prizes were sponsored by Dusty Acres Farm.

Leroy and Renee Griffis sponsored the \$75 skill-a-thon first-place prizes, which went to Hedrick (Senior), Adams (Intermediate) and Halen McKinney (Junior). The \$50 second-place prizes, sponsored by Bradford Soil and Water Conservation, went to Crosby (Senior), Hailey Griffis (Intermediate) and Emma Griffis (Junior).

Third-place skill-a-thon prizes went to Smith (Senior), Wyatt Acevedo (Intermediate) and Fender (Junior). The prizes were sponsored by J&G Heating and Air.

Dusty Acres Farm sponsored the \$15 and \$10 fourth- and fifth-place skill-a-thon awards. Placing fourth were Cassie Acevedo (Senior) and Raylen McKinney (Intermediate). Hunter Brewster (Intermediate)



Hunter Fender exhibited the grand champion in the Meat Division and was later awarded the overall grand championship. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

earned a fifth-place prize.

Hartley, Wayne Hartley, Dalton Hedrick, Dawson Hedrick, Johnson and Pittman.

## Little Kids exhibition

The goat show allows children ages 5-7 (4-H Cloverbuds) to gain experience. They all receive ribbons for exhibiting goats as well as receiving helpful information from the judge.

Exhibitors this year were Jackson Brewster, Kessler Bradley, Beau Davis, Easton Griffis, Lane Hartley, Wayne Hartley, Annabel Hughes, Lily Kate Hughes, Remington Jeffrey, Braxton Johnson and Tripp Pittman.

Clover Buds may also compete in Record Books and Skill-a-Thon, with all receiving small cash awards.

Participating in Record Books were Bradley, Brewster, Davis, Griffis, Lane Hartley, Wayne Hartley, Dalton Hedrick, Dawson Hedrick, Annabel Hughes, Lily Kate Hughes, Jeffrey, Johnson and Pittman.

The Skill-a-Thon consisted of Brewster, Davis, Griffis, Lane



Hunter Fender was shocked to hear that his goat earned the overall grand championship.



Delaney Crosby's grand champion in the Dairy Division was awarded the overall reserve grand championship. Crosby exhibited two division grand champions overall and one division reserve grand champion.

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Bradford County Lake Region UNION COUNTY  
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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 Scriptsures
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	

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FGUST20-004

# Thames, McElhenny, Tew receive rosettes in 4-H Table-Setting Contest

Natalie Thames earned a best-overall rosette in the Intermediate division for the second straight year, while Allyson McElhenny and Sadie Tew also earned rosettes in their respective age divisions in the 4-H Table Setting-Contest, which was held March 4 at the Bradford Agricultural Fairgrounds.

Thames presented a "Green Gables Luncheon," based on the L.M. Montgomery book "Anne of Green Gables." Thames created a menu that included spring salad, roasted wild turkey, creamed Prince Edward Island potatoes, roasted carrots, non-alcohol raspberry cordial and, for dessert, a choice of plum pudding with sauce or pink-and-yellow drop cookies.

Hailey Griffis also competed in the Intermediate division, earning a red ribbon.

McElhenny earned her rosette in the Senior division for a setting based on Dr. Seuss' "Oh, The Places I Will Go" in celebration of her senior year in 4-H and her upcoming graduation from Bradford High School. She created a menu of family recipes that had been passed down from her grandmother: Caesar salad, grilled chicken, sauteed green beans, garlic-butter white

rice, sweet tea or homemade lemonade, and, for dessert, strawberry trifle.

The Senior division's other participant, Kyndall Key, earned a red ribbon.

In the Junior division, Tew earned the rosette for her setting based on "A Secret-Garden Brunch." Her menu consisted of tossed garden salad with strawberry vinaigrette, chicken salad served on a warm croissant, mixed fruit served on a skewer, strawberry lemonade or water, and, for dessert, miniature chocolate tart topped with strawberries.

The Junior division also consisted of Emma Griffis, who earned a blue ribbon, and Madelyn Ballard and McKynzie Stopka, who earned red ribbons.

The contest, which is held annually the Friday before the official start of the Bradford Agricultural Fair, teaches youth etiquette skills, menu planning and nutrition as well as helping them develop presentation skills (they discuss their setting and theme in front of judges, who ask them questions).

All of the table-setting displays can be viewed during the fair in Building 2 in the 4-H area.



Natalie Thames earned a best-overall rosette in the Intermediate division for the second straight year at the 4-H Table-Setting Contest. Photos by Tamara Dinkins.



Sadie Tew earned the rosette in the Junior division.



Allyson McElhenny earned the rosette in the Senior division.

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