

Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, March 14, 2024

145th year, 35th Issue — \$1

3 women killed in Lawtey-area domestic dispute

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

Bradford County Sheriff Gordon Smith said three women in a single-wide south of Lawtey Correctional Institution are dead after an apparent domestic dispute.

Johnnie Bernard Brown, 46, was booked into the Alachua County jail on three counts of second-degree murder Tuesday morning.

Smith said the three victims were 25-year-old Wynshay Roddy, Danesha Sims, 27, and Quinque Robinson, 49. Smith said Robinson was the mother of the other two victims, and the suspect was Robinson's boyfriend.

The sheriff said the county received a 911 hang-up call at 2:03 a.m. Deputy



Johnnie Bernard Brown

Lakeisha Lewis responded to the call and discovered Brown in the front yard, bleeding from an injury.

As Sergeant Logan Hough arrived on the scene to assist, an 11-year-old girl came out of the mobile home and told Lewis that three family members were in the home deceased.

Hough then went inside the trailer and discovered the three victims in a back room of the structure. All three died from gunshot wounds. Smith said the door of the room appeared to have been breached, and one of the victims had a knife in her hand.

"It looks like maybe they tried to run and hide for cover," he said.

The sheriff said that neighbors told deputies that residents of the home on Northeast 17th Avenue had

been arguing all day Monday, which apparently triggered the Tuesday morning tragedy.

Brown was initially transported to UF Health Shands in Gainesville and, after release, was arrested by Alachua deputies and transported to the Gainesville lockup.

Smith said the child, who may have suffered a wound from a bullet grazing her, was treated for the injury and released. She was then interviewed by the University of Florida's Child Protection team.

Smith said additional charges are pending and that State Attorney Brian Kramer is advising the sheriff's office during the investigation.

Girl to 911 operator: 'Come now. Just come.'

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
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In a recording of a 911 call an 11-year-old girl made and subsequent callbacks from the operator to the caller, the girl refused to describe what was happening in the home and simply asked deputies to come to the Lawtey home as soon as possible.

When deputies arrived at the Northeast 17th Avenue address, they discovered three deceased victims who died of gunshot wounds: Wynshay Roddy, 25, Danesha Sims, 27, and Quinque Robinson, 49.

Johnnie Bernard Brown, 46, was booked into the Alachua County Jail on three counts of second-degree murder Tuesday morning.

According to an incident report, Brown told a Bradford sheriff's detective that he and Robinson were in an argument that escalated into a physical altercation.

"Brown stated that Roddy and Sims joined the altercation and came at him with knives," wrote a detective. "Brown stated that he retrieved the firearm and began firing toward Roddy, Robinson, and Sims. Brown stated that the three began running, and he 'went mad' and continued to fire."

The defendant also said the injuries on his arm were caused by the women attempting to cut him with knives.

The detective reported that Sims was found with a knife in her hand and

that two other knives were found on the floor near the victims.

The report also said the child said that Grandpa, identified as Brown, was hurting Grandma (Robinson) and her two aunts, and Grandpa said they should have stayed out of it.

The report also said that the child had a small mark on her shoulder and a slight hole in her shirt.

"Several metallic fragments were taken out of (her) shoulder," deputies wrote.

In the first 911 call, the child says some inaudible words to the operator. The child then screams, and Brown can be heard in the background shouting, "Ya'll jumped on me in the house."

A woman can be heard saying, "Don't hurt me."

The first call is then terminated, the operator calls back, and the 11-year-old answers.

Operator: "This is Jennifer from the Bradford County Sheriff's Office. We received a 911 call from this phone number. Is everything okay?"

Child: "No. Come now."

Operator: "What's going on?"

Child: "Come now. Just come."

The second call is terminated, and the operator calls back twice, once receiving a voice mail greeting. On the second call, the child answers again, and the operator asks for a street address. While the girl is responding, the audio ends.

Starke clerk resigns amid confusion over election

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
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Jimmy Crosby has resigned from his position as Starke city clerk.

Crosby was elected unopposed to the office in 2021, but submitted a brief letter explaining he didn't want to continue and become a distraction.

"Dear Mayor Roberts,
"A question has been raised on the issue of whether I properly qualified for the office of city clerk. I have always strived to serve our city with the utmost professionalism and without unnecessary distraction.

"To avoid distraction from the good work our office has done and will continue to do, I resign effective immediately."

On the morning of Feb. 27, investigators from Florida Department

of Law Enforcement's Public Integrity Division closed city hall for several hours. It is still not clear what triggered the search warrant, but FDLE left with multiple documents related to the 2021 election.

Crosby served time in federal prison after pleading guilty to accepting kickbacks from a vendor while serving as secretary for the Department of Corrections. His sentencing was in 2007, and by 2021, Crosby was confident the path had been cleared for him to hold public office again in the city of Starke. Florida voters approved a constitutional amendment a few years before simplifying the restoration of voting rights for many former felons, and Gov. Ron DeSantis affirmed the right to hold office could also be restored.

It appears issues with official paperwork led to questions about



Jimmy Crosby

whether Crosby had "properly qualified" to hold the position of city clerk. Crosby acknowledged his qualification had been challenged on a "technicality," but he did not expound, saying he did not want to make an issue out of it.

"I just didn't feel like, at the end of the day, that it was worth my trying to fight on that issue," Crosby said.

Mayor Scott Roberts appointed City Manager Drew Mullins as acting city clerk, and the commission voted to back that appointment Tuesday night.

The idea has been floated that Crosby could come back to work for the city in some capacity. Mullins said working with Crosby has been "phenomenal."

See CROSBY, page 7

Report resulting in forensic audit of Starke PD

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

Starke City Manager Drew Mullins delivered a report March 12 that contradicted prior statements about a smooth transition of law enforcement responsibility from the city police department to the county sheriff's office.

In addition to unveiling Police Chief Jeff Johnson's alleged lack of cooperation and his struggle for authority, the report raises questions about the maintenance of public records and criminal evidence, expenditure of public funds, the whereabouts of city property, the conduct of police department employees and more.

Moreover, the police station was "ransacked" and left in disarray. Mullins responded by having the locks changed so only he and Sheriff Gordon Smith would have access in the aftermath of the transition.

"It looked like the entire building was just cleaned out with very little records that were still there," Mullins

told the commission. "I mean, I've got great concern over what was destroyed what was not," he said of records found in trashcans and a document shredder.

One commissioner, Andy Redding, said the report was filled with examples of malfeasance, unethical behavior and dereliction of duty.

In response to the report, most commissioners supported Mullins' recommendation that the city request a forensic audit to answer questions that the manager and the sheriff were unable to answer on their own.

The commission also voted to have the city attorney draft an ordinance defining the role of police chief as a ceremonial position as well as language for a referendum asking voters to remove the police chief as an elected official in the charter.

One of the final points in the report concerned a letter from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement saying that Johnson no longer had law enforcement authority following the disbandment of the police department.

According to FDLE, Johnson's certification will be inactive in their system. According to the city charter, anyone holding the office of police chief must meet the state's minimum qualifications for police officers, and that means certification.

Mullins' report begins with the reality check about the police chief's cooperation.

"Sheriff Smith and I have worked well together and kept in almost daily communication. The same cannot be said for the Department's cooperation. Several times during this process, I have had to get others involved to have the Chief cooperate as he stated multiple times, he did not have to listen to me or do what I asked," Mullins wrote.

He goes on to detail what he and the sheriff found when they met at the police department on Feb. 22.

—two bottles of oxycontin unsecured that later testing found to be a placebo, but there were no records how it was used.

—an open evidence logbook in a

back room open to the last entry on Feb. 10 that simply read "Drugs."

—shredded documents.

—a large television missing from the conference room.

—bags of sealed evidence that were not in the evidence room.

—boxes of purchase orders in the generator room.

—personnel records in trash bags with tobacco spit and other garbage.

—other records in trash cans with tobacco spit on them.

—receipt books showing cash receipts but no cash bag on site.

—checks not turned into city hall.

—no accountability of equipment or uniforms.

—gun boxes with no weapons in them.

—uniforms thrown into a room.

—bags of bullets sitting in an office and bullets found in the back of a vehicle.

—no record of contracts entered with or without the commission's approval.

See AUDIT, page 3



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WORTH NOTING

Food distribution at fairgrounds

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Feeding Northeast Florida and True Vine Ministry will take place Tuesday, March 19, at 9 a.m. at the Bradford County Fairgrounds in Starke.

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

Food distribution at True Vine

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Farm Share and True Vine Ministry will take Tuesday, March 26, at 10 a.m. at True Vine Outreach Ministry in Starke.

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

Early voting continues

Early voting for the Republican Presidential Primary in Bradford continues through Sunday, March 17, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily in the commission meeting room in the north wing of the county courthouse. Polling locations will be open on the day of the primary, Tuesday, March 19, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

In Union County, early voting is open through Saturday, March 16, at 175 W. Main St. in Lake Butler. Hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Polling precincts on primary day will be open on March 19 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

In Clay County, Keystone Heights City Hall will be open for early voting through Saturday, March 16, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Polling precincts on primary day will be open on March 19 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Harvesters Quartet gospel sing

LifeLine Ministries is hosting the Harvesters Quartet of Sanford, North Carolina, on Saturday, March 16, at 6:30 p.m. All are invited. There is no cost to attend. An offering will be received for the group.

Students, staff invited to Melrose reunion

Melrose school alumni, staff and their families are invited to a reunion that will take place Saturday, March 16, at Lake Swan Camp, 647 State Road 26. The camp is 2.5 miles east of the Melrose red light.



Foraging with the Garden Club

Eating fresh food at home is a great way to improve your health, and you don't even have

to garden to get there! We see the same fruits and vegetables in the stores all the time. Today there are more choices than ever, but edible plants in the produce section are still only a fraction of what's available to add to your plate.

Wild edibles are a great way to add variety! By learning to recognize a few key plants, you can help you broaden your plate while saving on that ever-growing cost of food. Come join Alligator Creek Garden Club to learn more on "Foraging for

Edible Weeds" from member Pat Caren, Master Gardener and National Garden Club environmental and landscape design consultant.

Wild edible plants are widely available and an underused food source that's worth hearing about

and trying out. Even if you don't have a space for weeds, there are plenty of opportunities to help a friend or volunteer and pull a few edible weeds

Kickstart your wild culinary adventures and make new friends. Attend the next meeting

for more info and select sampling. The garden club meets at 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 21, at the Bradford County Senior Center, 1805 N. Temple Ave. in Starke.



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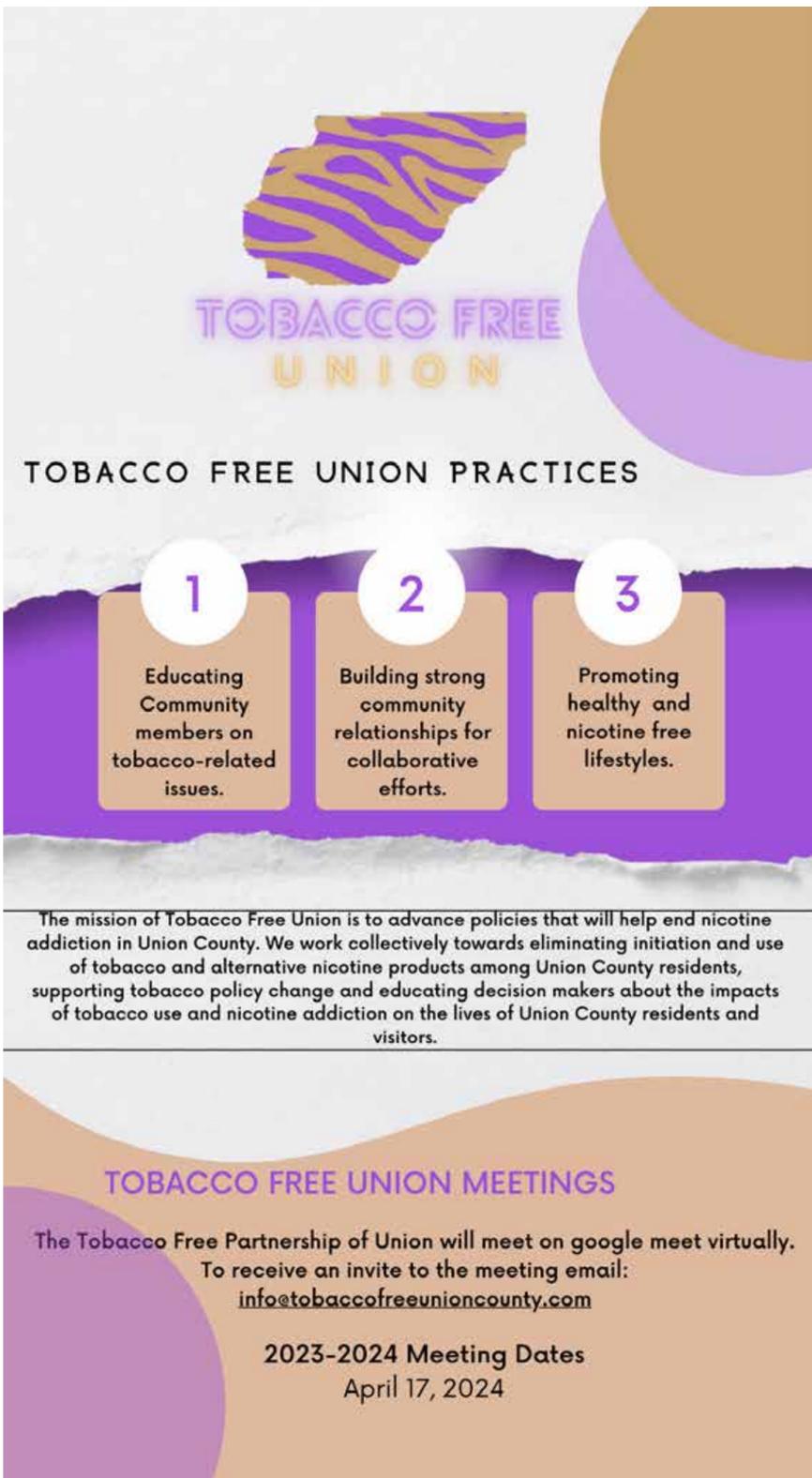
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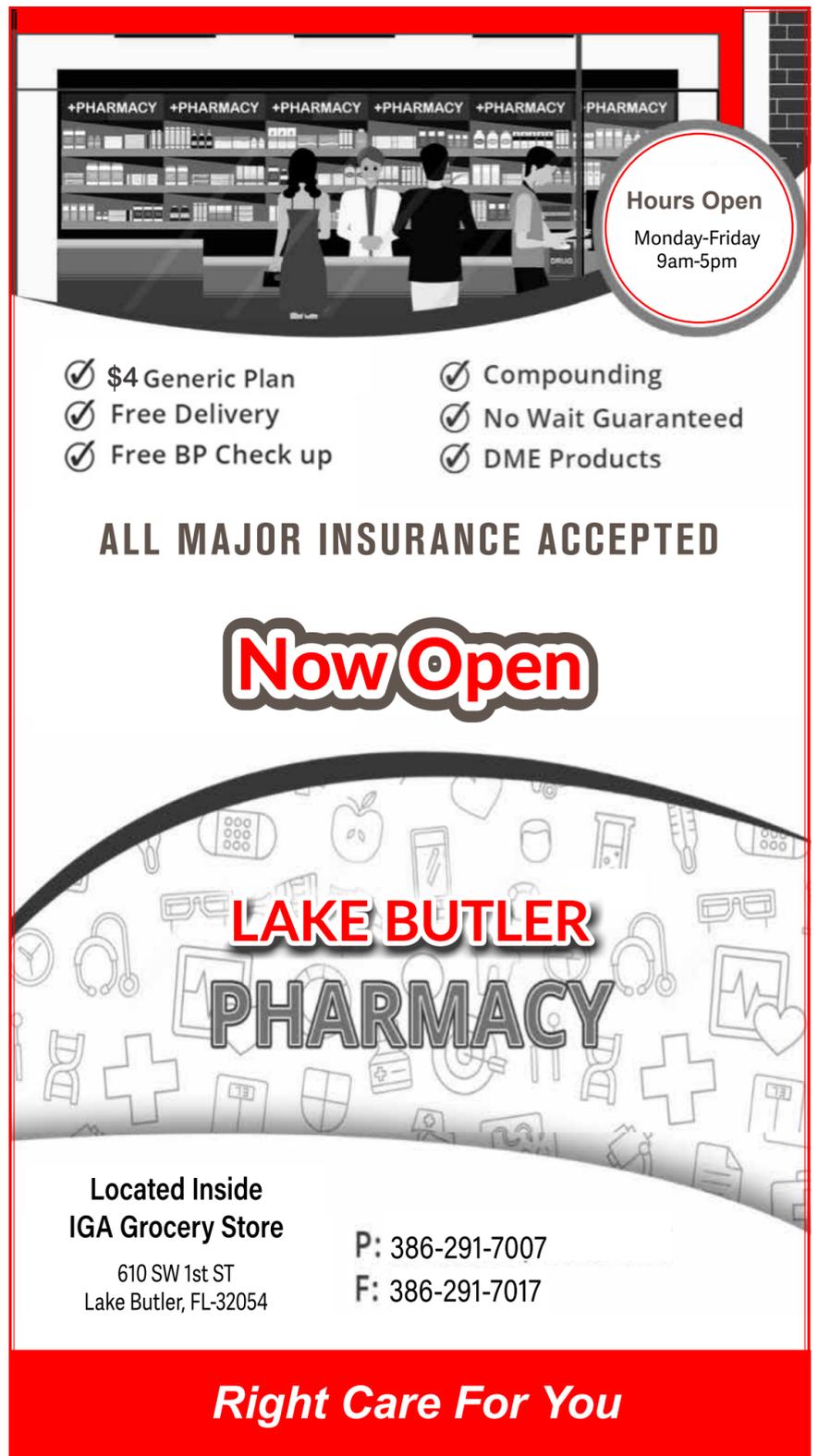
TOBACCO FREE UNION PRACTICES

- 1 Educating Community members on tobacco-related issues.
- 2 Building strong community relationships for collaborative efforts.
- 3 Promoting healthy and nicotine free lifestyles.

The mission of Tobacco Free Union is to advance policies that will help end nicotine addiction in Union County. We work collectively towards eliminating initiation and use of tobacco and alternative nicotine products among Union County residents, supporting tobacco policy change and educating decision makers about the impacts of tobacco use and nicotine addiction on the lives of Union County residents and visitors.

TOBACCO FREE UNION MEETINGS
The Tobacco Free Partnership of Union will meet on google meet virtually. To receive an invite to the meeting email: info@tobaccofreeunioncounty.com

2023-2024 Meeting Dates
April 17, 2024



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Right Care For You

AUDIT

Continued from page 1

"I have no way of knowing what is and is not accounted for. Chief Johnson provided several letters stating what was transferred; however, I do not know if this is everything. I recommend a forensic audit to properly account for all purchases, inventory, transfer, contracts, cash transactions, etc.," Mullins wrote.

The city manager and sheriff also met with Johnson that day, and Mullins included a partial transcript of their conversation in the report during which Johnson claims not to have had time to turn everything over since the date of the transition was moved up. Mullins pointed out the chief had since Jan. 16 to put together an inventory.

"Well, I don't have a list of what everyone has. I have no idea," Johnson reportedly said.

"You don't know who has what or what's been assigned?" Mullins asked. "What about the cars?"

"I guess they're all here. I don't know. One could be in California for all I know," Johnson responded.

"Well, the commission said everything was supposed to be turned in yesterday," Mullins said, to which Johnson replied, "I'm done. I'm not listening to you anymore. I'm elected, and I don't have to listen to you."

Sheriff Smith urged cooperation, and Johnson agreed to turn over the information and inventory he did have. Officers parked their vehicles at city hall later that day.

Mullins had to reach out to Johnson again the next day for the petty cash and related records. Johnson brought a cash bag and note he said were given to him. Mullins said he couldn't account for the location of the cash prior to receiving it from Johnson. By that time, the police department had already been locked down.

Mullins also reported on things happening prior to the transition, including the location of a Ford F-150 used by Col. Barry Warren prior to his retirement. After being approached by a commissioner about it, Mullins contacted Johnson who said he continued to let Warren use the truck through the end of December 2023 because he was coordinating the Shop with a Cop event. The truck did not show up until mid-January when it was found parked at Camp Blanding. Mullins contacted Johnson, who was noncommittal on when the truck would be returned.

According to Mullins, Johnson said, "Tell Andy and them to call me and talk about it because technically you can't tell me what to do." At the end of the call, he allegedly told the manager "things are going to get ugly." Mullins asked the sheriff to contact Warren, and the truck was returned the next day.

Mullins spoke to two former officers and found "no accountability" over important functions. One officer said he was assigned to oversee the evidence room but received no training. He had no idea who had access to the room, and there was no procedure for checking in or out of the room.

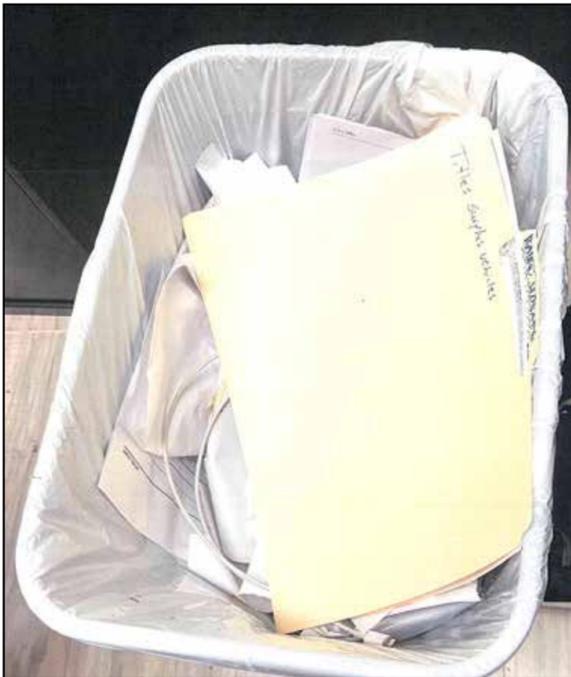
The other officer reported procedures for confidential witnesses were not followed. If drugs were found during a traffic stop, the department would have that person purchase drugs from someone else in exchange for not being charged.

Both officers cited a lack of leadership and said they rarely saw Johnson or Warren when they worked there.

Mullins also writes about a



City Manager Drew Mullins supplemented his report with photographs from the police station showing prior to locking it down.



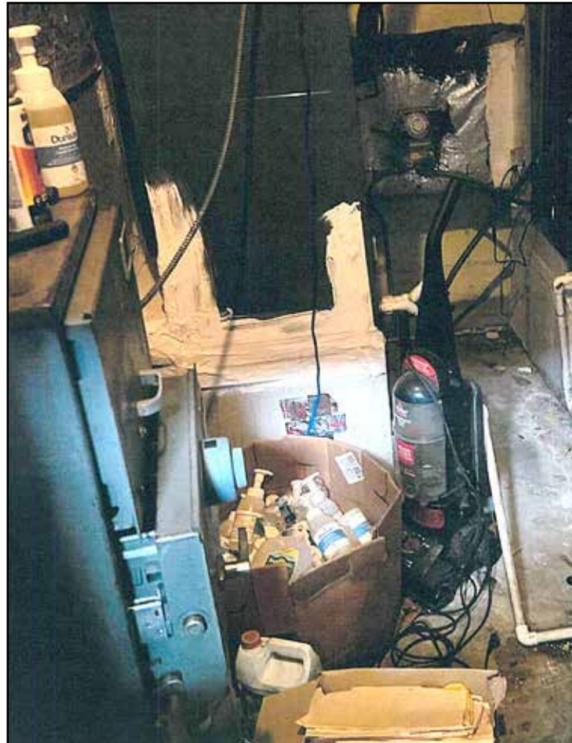
police officer telling the sheriff negative items were being removed from personnel files and employees were being allowed to copy their own files as they applied for jobs at other agencies.

Mullins goes on to list multiple lawsuits including officer traffic accidents that have cost hundreds of thousands of dollars in insurance indemnity and expense to the city. The city recently had to settle a lawsuit where a citizen had claimed excessive force, false arrest and falsifying documents. There is a pending lawsuit involving an officer rear-ending a driver.

Mullins also mentioned a

recent false arrest of someone who had been hospitalized at the time of the alleged crime and rehased a subsequent meeting during which the commission decided to contract with the sheriff for law enforcement. Following the decision, audience members, including officers, shouted angrily at the commission and used profanity. "Law enforcement (the sheriff's office) had to be called and unfortunately our law enforcement was the one causing this," Mullins said.

Johnson stormed out of that meeting as well, getting involved in an altercation with a citizen on the way out. Mullins said that



citizen filed a complaint with the sheriff's office that was turned over to the state attorney.

Mullins went on to the never resolved issue of officers having driven police vehicles outside the city limits, pointing out by the end, only one person on the police payroll — Johnson — lived in the city. The others lived outside of the county. He included mentions of police vehicles spotted in Lake City with officers in uniform and no explanation of why they would have been there as well as an off-duty officer traveling from Lake Butler to Lake City. Images were included.

Among the many photos included in the report — along with inventory lists, police reports and other records — are photos of showing the disarray of the police station as well as boxes and boxes of ammunition. A detective who met with

Mullins and Smith there said it would take a "significant amount of time to use that much ammunition."

They tried to inventory the weapons prior to the shutdown, but no one could produce a key to the armory.

"Guns were just open in the conference room," Mullins

wrote. They could not find an inventory list or documents on who was assigned equipment and when it was returned.

What they did have was a request from the chief to keep five guns, five laptops, five radios and ammunition for five "night watchmen." The charter calls for a night watchman to work along with the police chief, but there was no need with police officers on duty. Those officers have now been replaced by deputies.

The report is 104 pages long, and when asked by Mayor Scott Roberts, Sheriff Smith said he backed it up.

Commissioner Janice Mortimer said Mullins, Smith and the sheriff's office had done a "stellar job" documenting the situation.

"I think at this point in the game, we have no choice but to request a full forensic audit of the police department and see what else comes to the top," Commissioner Redding said based on the report, which included issues of "misfeasance, malfeasance, misconduct, unethical behavior and dereliction of duty."

"I think we owe it to the citizens of Starke to make sure that we have a full accounting," Redding said.

The commission voted 3-1 with Commissioner Shannon Smith absent and Commissioner Danny Nugent continuing to stand by the police department and request that the sheriff and police chief work on answering the many questions raised.

The vote was the same on Mortimer's motion to define the role of police chief as a ceremonial position and draft language for a referendum asking voters to remove the police chief as an elected official in the charter.

Johnson, who was present at the meeting, said little in response to the report, remarking at one point he knew nothing about it. He did ask what Mortimer meant by a ceremonial position.

Roberts explained the police department is no longer in existence.

"I'm just asking. We're in uncharted waters, bro," Johnson said.

Even if voters approve the referendum to remove the chief's position from the charter, Johnson's term lasts until the city's election next fall. What his responsibilities are without a police department remains unclear.

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Bradford High Class of 1964

Get-together at Cedar River Restaurant on Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 5PM.

It's been ten years since our 50 year reunion and we're looking forward to seeing our classmates again.

If any questions contact Jerome Kelley at 352.538.0741 or Eugenia Whitehead at 352.745.1828

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Bradford County Strawberry Festival returning for a sweet celebration

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

The Bradford County Strawberry Festival is back, and it's time to mark your calendars for a weekend filled with fun, flavor, and festivities.

Scheduled to take place March 23 and 24, this beloved annual event promises a delightful experience for all ages, celebrating the deliciousness of Bradford berries. Saturday hours are from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hosted in Starke at the Bradford County Fairgrounds, the Strawberry Festival is a cherished tradition that brings together locals and visitors alike to revel in the joys of community, agriculture and, of course, strawberries.

This year's festival is expected to be bigger and better than ever before, with a lineup of activities and attractions designed to delight attendees of every taste and interest. There is no fee to enter, and the Sheriff's Explorers will assist with parking for a suggested donation to support

their summer training camp.

From live music performances featuring local talent to rides and activities for the kids, there will be no shortage of entertainment options to keep the whole family entertained throughout the weekend.

Some new attractions include acrobatic performances by Cirque Adventure who have been brought in for three show each day. The festival has also announced Blacksmith demonstrations and the return of the Saturday car show.

Food enthusiasts will be in for a treat as they sample an array of strawberry-inspired culinary delights, including freshly picked strawberries, strawberry shortcakes and more. But there will also be a variety of different food vendors to try, so festival organizers suggest you come hungry and ready to eat.

In addition to the delectable treats and entertainment, the Bradford County Strawberry Festival will also feature an arts and crafts market showcasing the talents of new and returning vendors. Attendees will have

the opportunity to browse a diverse selection of handmade goods, including unique jewelry, artwork, clothing and home décor items, making it the perfect place to find one-of-a-kind treasures to take home.

Each year, the Strawberry Festival is both an opportunity to come together as a community as well as show off the best of what Bradford County has to offer. The festival is made possible thanks to the generous support of sponsors and volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure its success year after year. Their dedication to preserving this beloved tradition contribute to making the festival a highlight of the community calendar.

Don't miss out on the fun — mark your calendars for the Bradford County Strawberry Festival and enjoy a weekend filled with sweetness, smiles and memories that will last a lifetime.

For more information and updates, follow the festival at www.facebook.com/bradfordcountystrawberryfestival.



Fun at the fair

Winners of this year's Miss Bradford Fest titles had fun during their fair appearances this year. Pictured above (l-r) are Miss Bradford Fest Kiersten Dinkins, Little Miss Bradford Fest Hollyn Crews, Junior Miss Bradford Fest Kamryn Dyal, Petite Miss Bradford Fest Ailyn Musgrove and Teen Miss Bradford Fest Bailey Varnes.



Look for these Strawberry Pageant winners at this year's Strawberry Festival: (l-r) Strawberry Queen Kadence Adams, Strawberry Shortcake Avery Works and Strawberry Princess Aubrey Dees.



Boy Scouts clean up Hampton Cemetery

At the city of Hampton's Jan. 27 council meeting, Scoutmaster David Lee from Boy Scouts of America Troop 70 presented Scout Logan Jackson's proposal for cleaning up Hampton's cemetery. Eagle Scout candidates are required to plan and perform a beneficial community service. Jackson's proposal was to clean the gravestones, pick up limbs and replace the sign. The council voted unanimously to support their effort and thanked them in advance. They did an amazing job cleaning an estimated hundred graves during this all-day effort that took place on Feb. 10. Pictured are (from front, l-r) Al Dixon, Logan Jackson, Asher Jackson, Rylan Cogan, Hunter Ruble, Enoch Durban, Matthew Ruble, Nicholas Salazar and Robert Munsell.



Bradford County Clerk of Court Announces Its Annual Event to Help Customers Save on Fees to Reinstate Driver Licenses

- WHAT:** Operation Green Light Event. An event held to reinstate drivers licenses.
- WHEN:** Monday, April 8, 2024 from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM AND Friday, April 12, 2024 from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.
- WHERE:** Bradford County Courthouse - Clerk of Court's Office 945 N. Temple Ave., Starke, FL 32091
- WHO:** Individuals looking to save on fees and have their driver license reinstated.
- CONTACT:** For further information, please contact the Bradford County Clerk of Court's Office at 904.966.6280.

This upcoming event is an opportunity for Bradford County customers with suspended driver licenses to pay overdue court obligations, including traffic tickets, while saving money in additional fees.

Rules needed for Lawtey meetings

BCFR awards outstanding performance

BY MELISSA PYLE
Special to the Telegraph

Lawtey City Council began the March meeting with a welcome to the new city attorney, Dan Sikes.

Sikes has served as the city's attorney in the past and has more than 30 years' experience in governmental law. Sikes kept the meeting on task with advice on procedures, public comment time allotment and board member voting.

Councilwoman Debra Norman addressed the board regarding her absence at the February meeting and her request to have a citizen speak on her behalf. Sikes interjected and said that department reports can be given on behalf of a member who is unable to attend, but the report should be given in advance to the council. No one can vote by proxy for a council member.

Norman responded that she had sent a list of items to the city clerk via text prior to the February meeting. For future reference, council members were advised to write an official report and submit it to the city clerk prior to meetings.

Scott explains

Before addressing the city's financials, Mayor Jimmie Scott asked Sikes if he should address public comments regarding his actions at the February meeting. Sikes said that was at his discretion, but the mayor needed to be careful to not allow personal conflicts to distract from the city's time to handle business.

Scott stated he wanted to respond to the concerns raised. He went on to say that raising his voice and pounding the desk at the previous meeting were in response to Councilwoman Emily Hoffman interrupting the time of another council member.

Scott moved on to approve previous bills. Finances for the month of January, included a year-to-date deficit of \$26,569 in the general fund.

Streets and sanitation

Councilwoman Amy Blom presented the council with the cost to purchase cold patch materials from Jackson Building Supply in the amount of \$1,161.56. The motion to purchase was approved. Blom also made a motion to change the monthly meeting time to 6 p.m. Norman questioned the change. Blom said there are citizens who have told her they would like to attend, but the meetings often last until after 9 p.m. Upon advice from the attorney, Blom decided to table the issue until all board members are present.

Water and sewer

Councilwoman Virginia Warner requested advertising for continuing engineering services. Warner requested to have a meeting to review all bids on March 26. All bids are due by March 21.

Police and fire

Maj. Nathan Blom asked Sikes about the timeline he and the city clerk have to respond to public records requests. Sikes said the timeline to respond to those requests must be done in a reasonable amount of time and that can be up to a couple of weeks. Responding to records requests does not supersede the responsibilities of the department. There is also a reasonable cost associated with the reports.

Bradford County Fire Rescue Division Chief Dylan Rodgers presented the council with the long awaited interlocal agreement from the county. Sikes said he needed to review it for legal compliance before the council could vote to approve it.

Rodgers also said the county had received new funding that will help create a community resource paramedic program. The program will be paid for with opioid lawsuit settlement funding.

Rodgers also thanked the council for replacing the lights in the bays and said February had been a busy month for the station with 210 calls.

Recreation

Norman said the recreation department will be hosting a quarterly Coffee Talk on March 12 from 9-11 a.m. at the Recreation Building and the Health and Wellness Resource Hub on March 14 from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Norman said the department was getting quotes for fencing to complete the repairs around the park. The best estimate was from Home Depot in the amount of \$2,600. Norman suggested using ARPA funding for the project because the fencing is considered a health and safety issue.

She requested the playground equipment be cleaned monthly and said there is a need for new mulch around play equipment. The department also needs to appoint new board members, but Norman wants to meet with the city attorney to be clear on department procedures before appointing new members.

The recreation department will have its next meeting on March 25 at 6 p.m. at Lawtey City Hall.

Meeting policies

The meeting came to close after Sikes addressed the policies and procedures of council meetings. Sikes said the city needed to formalize the procedures so no member of the council or the citizens could take control of a meeting and distract from the issues at hand.

He said there needs to be more "formal decorum." Without these rules of decorum, people have used the meetings to hurl insults and have debates that are of a personal nature. The purpose of council meetings is to address formal issues of government business, he said.

The next council meeting will be April 1 at 7 p.m.



Annually, Bradford County Fire Rescue recognizes outstanding performance within the agency and recently did so again with Division Chief Dylan Rodgers receiving the Chief's Exemplary Service Award from Chief Ben Carter. Rodgers (center) is pictured above with (l-r) Capt. Chris Cooksey, Carter, Captain Jeremy Loomis and Capt. Kevin Mobley.



EMT of the Year Abhi Bastiany



Officer of the Year Lt. Alexandra Bush



Dr. Gianas Medical Excellence Award Amanda Reeder



Workhorse of the Year Brian Dean



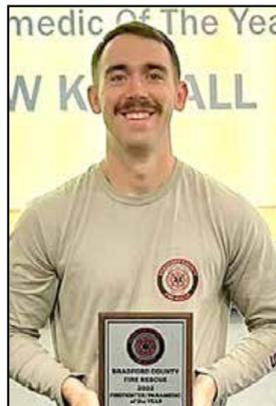
Rookie of the Year David Jackson



FF/EMT of the Year Dylan Thornton



Paramedic of the Year Heather Case



FF/PMD of the Year Matt Kimball

Brooker School Board evaluates midyear progress and future plans

BY CAROL MOSLEY
Special to the Telegraph

Brooker Community Charter School Principal Felecia Moss presented the Brooker Community School Board with numerous pages of graphs and charts of student progress data. She explained the parameters used to evaluate how the students are progressing in various areas and where there are weaknesses to address.

The data gave a general overview but was limited by the short term of evaluation and small numbers to provide averages. Over time, the data will offer better data to assess. Some data collected was more specific and offered a picture of which students may require special attention in certain areas. Overall, the progress is positive in most areas. Plans of action discussed included individual tutoring. A third-grade summer reading camp is in the works. Goals were set to increase achievement percentages at the next evaluation.

Financial stability is always a challenge for a new school, especially for one that relied on community support to get off the ground. The school is anticipating award of a Department of Education Charter Schools Program grant given to qualifying new schools. When

awarded, it will be a substantial sum of money. In the proposed budget for the grant were large items, such as a badly needed new and used bus.

Although the funds are reimbursable, the board is naturally reluctant to make any major outlay until funds are in hand. Chairperson Suzanne McRee never fails to remind everyone that great care needs to be taken to assure funds are used wisely. McRee pointed out that it is only because of the generosity of the community getting the school up and running that these new funding opportunities may be available at all.

The Alumni Reunion at Belle Oaks Barn in February was a huge success. There was sold out dinner seating for 250 people. Between attendance and the auctions the school raised about \$27,000. But, the reunion was about more than raising funds; it was about honoring the deep roots of the small town and of the school over the ages.

Looking forward, the board is planning to add sixth grade next school year, and the school will participate in the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten program for 4-year-olds. It has a maximum capacity of 20 students, with an adult to student ratio of 1/11 required. This could make funding difficult if salaries for

two adults are required for 3-4 hours per day, but per student funding covers only 12 students.

Another downfall of the program is the need for commitment from the parents that the registered students will consistently show up. The school is not paid if the student doesn't attend, even though the staff is on site and must be paid. Also, materials are not provided so that will also be up to the school to provide.

Recruiting in general for the next school year is in full swing. The application has been revised, and there are new sign-ups coming in. Nine kindergartners signed up from Love'n & Learning Day Care. Commitment from existing students is good. Advertising is being done through local media and social media, as well as in person visits to local area churches. There is an announcement at the local theater and in the county fair booklet.

Brooker Community School is a public charter school. Enrollment for the next school year is open to anyone in the K-6th grade level, and some transportation is available. If you are interested in enrolling a student, call 352-485-1545 or visit the website at www.brookercommunityschool.com.



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- **HEALTH:** What is happening locally in our communities, hospitals, schools, health departments; school closures.
- **GOVERNMENT:** Taxes, fees, local & regional boards, commissions, officials, decisions, spending, budgetary oversight, local emergencies.
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Lake Region

Keystone Heights Council approves purchase of corner lot

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights council members approved the purchase contract for the southeastern corner of Walker Drive and Lawrence Boulevard during their March 4 meeting.

The 0.165-acre parcel, with a street address of 125 East Walker Drive, was the site of a former Kentucky Fried Chicken beginning in the 1970s and, most recently, China Chef.

Earlier this year, a consultant commissioned by the North Florida Transportation Planning Council recommended that the triangular parcel be converted into parking and open space.

Phil Shad, with the engineering firm AtkinsRealis, also suggested the city use the open space as a marquee gateway to downtown, with a sign and other assets giving visitors a positive first impression of the city.

During the council's February 5 meeting, the parcel's owner, Chetam Patel, and the owner's listing agent, Tom Germano of C.B. Issac Realty, appeared before the panel. Patel told the council he wanted to recover his \$240,000 investment in the land.

The purchase agreement that the council approved during its March 4 meeting matched Patel's asking price. Officials plan to finance the buy with money from the city's Community Redevelopment Agency.

In other news from the March 4 meeting of the Keystone Heights City Council:

Airport board charter amendment and appointments

City Attorney Rich Komando asked the council to amend its

earlier resolution, which placed a charter amendment on the April 4 ballot.

The amendment changes the seat on the airport board designated for a Camp Blanding representative from a voting seat to an advisory one. It also increases by one the number of voting seats allocated for Keystone Heights residents.

Komando said the title for the original resolution exceeded the 15-word maximum required by Florida Statutes.

Council members said in earlier meetings that the Florida National Guard requested the charter amendment because it did not want its members voting on city matters.

In a separate matter, City Manager Charlie Van Zant asked the council to table appointments to the airport board until the council's April meeting.

He said the advertisement about the openings erroneously stated both seats were for three-year terms ending in May 2027.

"That is true for Seat 3," he said. "It is not true for Seat 1. Out of an abundance of caution...I would like to advertise it correctly, put the correct terms on it, and bring it back to you in April."

Strategic Plan

Council member Dan Lewandowski proposed that the city develop a strategic plan.

He told his colleagues that many grants require the document and that the plan would outline the municipality's short-term and long-term goals, help the council prioritize projects, and include a wish list that could become useful when funding sources suddenly become available.

The council member added that Keystone Heights already

had written plans for its parks, the Walker Drive-Lawrence Boulevard intersection, and its Smart Cities proposal. He said additional sections the city may want to consider include plans for a new city hall, a museum, and the municipality's infrastructure.

Lewandowski recommended that a citizen advisory board draft the document after holding a series of public meetings.

"My intent is the first two or three meetings are going to be an education process, and I will lead that education," he said. "This is what a strategic plan is; this is what a comprehensive plan is, and then I will suggest parts of the plan that we need to get done. And then I will look at who is available, who has attended, who is interested, who has the requisite skill sets, and ask them to step forward and help me out."

Van Zant recommended the council talk to Dr. Joe Saviak, whom Van Zant said has authored several strategic plans for local governments and who is an expert in the field.

The council agreed to discuss the matter at a future workshop.

Parks and vandalism plans tabled

Mayor Nina Rodenroth said that after listening to public comments made during a February 28 workshop, she is postponing discussions of her plan to reduce vandalism at city parks and of the city's parks plan.

Christmas market

Lewandowski repeated his idea for a Christmas market, a concept he first explained in the February 28 workshop.

The council member added

that since the workshop, he has found funding for the idea.

"The basic concept or idea is to create a festive Christmas market gathering place," he said, adding that the kiosks used for the Christmas celebration could also be used for Our Country Day, the MotoSurf competition, and other city events.

"The stalls are such that you can lock them up," he said, "and so vendors can leave their goods inside the stalls."

"I first saw these when I lived in Europe," the councilman added, "and they had them in big cities, and they had them in small towns, and it was a really beautiful community gathering place."

Airport projects

Airport board chair David Kirkland told the council that the Florida Department of Transportation's project list over the next five years for the facility includes 17 projects with a total budget of nearly \$18 million.

He added that the airport plans to purchase a bush hog-type trimmer attachment for its tractor, will soon improve its security camera system, and embark on a \$950,000 fuel facility upgrade.

Kirkland added that he and Van Zant will meet with Florida State Guard officials to discuss the guard's establishment of a permanent presence at the airport.

"They have received a green light to purchase their aviation assets," Kirkland said, "and so we've had a couple of other meetings previously. I look forward to meeting with them Wednesday to delve a little more deeply into what their needs will be as far as acreage, location, etc."

The chairman also said the

Snowbird Aerobic Competition will return to the facility for the second consecutive year from March 19 through the 22.

Heritage Commission projects

Heritage Commission Chair Christine Arnold told the council that the commission's next project is an elementary student field trip, which will be the second such event the commission has hosted for students.

Arnold added that the commission is seeking a historical designation for the large oak tree between city hall and the public library.

"We hired an arborist who came by, and he designated it over a hundred years old," Arnold told council members, "but he can't be exact without boring into the tree, and that could risk harming the tree, so we're not going to do that." The commission chair said the arborist's external evaluation is enough to designate the oak as historical, and the paperwork is underway to secure a plaque.

Complaints about RV park

Council member Tony Brown said he had received several complaints about traffic tie-ups caused by Keystone Heights RV Resort residents. He added, however, that the facility's economic benefits to Lake Region businesses outweigh any traffic inconveniences it may cause.

"It might be in Bradford County," he said of the RV park, "but where are those people going? They're coming to our town to eat, to shop, and to do

stuff. It does take us a little longer to get out on Highway 100, but it is what it is. That's a good addition to our community."

Brown added that the new Bradford County fire station under construction in Speedville will also benefit Keystone Heights residents because of mutual aid agreements between Clay and Bradford counties.

Dems sponsoring community yard sale

The Bradford County Democrats are sponsoring a community yard sale on Saturday, March 23, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will take place in the parking lot of the former Jay's Mini Mart, 15043 U.S. 301 South in Starke. If you would like to join in to sell your own extra items or crafts, call or text 904-612-3942. Space is \$20. You will need your own table.

Democratic Women's wine and cheese party

The Democratic Women's Club of the Lakes Area hosts its annual wine and cheese party on Saturday, March 23, at 4 p.m. Interested Democrats are invited to join members at Melrose Center, 309 S.R. 26 in the heart of Melrose, for conversation and refreshments. For more information, email info@dwcla.org.

UNION COUNTY

Union Presidential Primary now underway

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Special to the Times

It's election season in Union County, as well as in the rest of the country, and Supervisor of Elections Deborah Osborne and her staff are ready for a busy time between now and early November, with registrations, candidate qualifying, early voting, vote by mail, and a total of four election events.

Early voting for the first of these events, the Presidential Preference Primary, has already begun (on Mar. 9, 2024) and will run through Mar. 16, 2024. The deadline for requesting a vote by mail ballot has passed (on Mar. 7, 2024), but ballots can still be

picked up at the Union County Elections office. Vote by mail ballots must be delivered to the office no later than 7 p.m. on the day of the PPP election, Tuesday, Mar. 19, 2024. There is no longer an outside drop box for these ballots, and they must be brought inside and placed in a secure ballot intake station.

The PPP election is open only to those voters registered as Republicans, as there are no candidates running against the incumbent in the Democratic Party. The ballot is printed when certified by the State. In Florida, if a candidate withdraws, he or she must do so officially by Dec. 11, which most, if not all the candidates did not do. So, there

will be seven names to select from on the ballot, but the only votes that will be counted are for those who remained in the race after that date. Canvassing of the ballots will occur with Osborne, the Honorable Judge Mitchell Bishop and the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, Channing Dobbs.

The location of the polling places for the PPP, the Primary Election (Aug. 20) and the General Election (Nov. 5) are the same. The Lake Butler City Election has only a single polling place (see below).

Precincts 1A, 1B, 5A, and 5C will vote at the Lake Butler Community Center. Precincts 2A and 2B will vote at the Raiford



UC Sheriff Brad Whitehead swears in deputies for the PPP election on March 19th. (L-R) Kevin Box, Mickey Foster, Ralph Parrish, Kriss Simmons, and Chick Dewees.

Community Center. Precincts 3A and 3B will vote at the Worthington Springs Community Center. Precincts 3C, 4A and 4C will vote at the SREC Building on 6th Ave. in Lake Butler. Precinct 4B will vote at the Providence Community Center and Precinct 5B will vote at the Palestine Fire Station.

All voters should remember to bring a photo/signature ID with them to the polling place.

City election

The next election event in the county will be the Lake Butler City Election on June 25, 2024. There will only be a single polling place for this election, the Lake Butler Community Center at the lake. City Commission Seats 1 and 2 are up for election, with incumbents David Stegall (Seat 1) and Rondoll Huggins (Seat 2) facing whoever chooses to run against them. Qualifying for the city election begins at noon on April 15 and ends at noon on April 19.

August Primary

The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 20, and will be a larger ballot. The ballot will include candidates for three of the five seats on the Union County Commission, all of the county constitutional officers,

two school board seats, U.S. Congress Dist. 3, the State House and Senate, the State Attorney, and the Circuit 8 judicial race. Also on the ballot will be the renewal of the Union County Public Library referendum.

Seats up for election/re-election on the Union County Board of Commissioner are Seat 1 (currently held by Donna Jackson), Seat 3 (currently held by Jimmy Tallman who has stated that he will not run again) and Seat 5 (currently held by Willie Croft). So far, interest has been shown in only one of these seats, Seat 3, with three candidates having already filed. They are: Chad Ali, Ed Rainey and Shelton Arnold. Constitutional offices up for election include the sheriff, the tax collector, the property appraiser, the clerk of court, the superintendent of schools, and the supervisor of elections. Union County School Board races are for Seat 2 (currently held by Russell Gordon and Seat 4 (currently held by Becky Raulerson).

General Election

The last election event of the year will be the General Election on Nov. 5, 2024. It will include the presidential race as well as any run-offs resulting from the primary and also any proposed amendments to the state

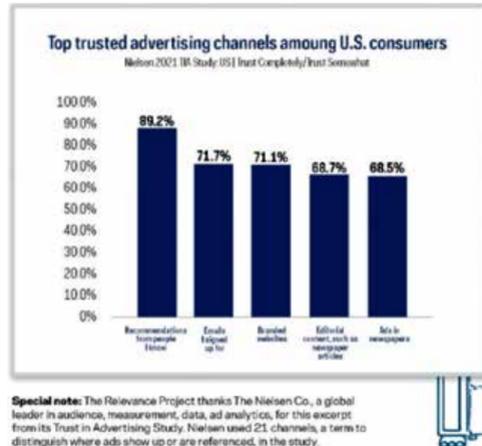
constitution. While not finalized yet, the amendments as it stands now will be for the adult personal use of marijuana, the limiting of government interference with abortion, establishing a requirement that future school board elections be conducted as partisan elections and the right to fish and hunt. The Times will provide more details on these proposed amendments as the information becomes available.

It should prove to be a busy election year for everyone, with many decisions to make. The Union County Supervisor of Elections said she hopes all eligible voters in the county will come out and cast their ballots, exercising their most fundamental constitutional right.

"My poll workers, office workers and canvassing board are all ready to meet the needs of Union County voters. We want you to come and see us on the election dates. I have seen local elections come down to as few as a single vote, so believe me when I say that your vote really counts."

For questions or to pick up a vote by mail ballot, you can reach the UCSOE office at (386)496-2236 or drop by at 175 West Main St. in Lake Butler. Information is also available at the website www.unionvotes.com.

CONSUMERS TRUST NEWSPAPERS



Here's further proof that advertisers and marketers seeking a trusted media should hire newspapers. Newspapers show up as two of the Top 5 "trusted advertising channels" rated by U.S. Consumers in Nielsen's 2021 Trust in Advertising Study. Seven out of 10 consumers said they either trust completely or trust somewhat four of the channels that included newspapers or products they offer advertisers. The top channel applies also to newspapers because their readers are informed consumers.

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Mayor wants tougher reaction to social media, vandalism

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights Mayor Nina Rodenroth said the city should respond rigorously to misinformation on social media and to vandalism and misbehavior at Keystone Beach Park. The mayor commented during a February 28 workshop in which she, her colleagues, and the public discussed communications, strategic planning, security, improving city hall, the municipality's parks plan, and other topics.

Communications

Rodenroth said she wanted to improve city communications by upgrading the municipality's website and social media presence.

The mayor said the city's website is not user-friendly and added that she wanted a third grader to be able to navigate the site easily.

Rodenroth said she wanted the city to respond to false information on social media. She added that she has no problem with anyone expressing their opinions about city issues on platforms like Facebook. However, she objects to people misrepresenting facts.

"In the future, I want us to be able to address those things that we feel are appropriate to address," she said. "We do not want false information out there."

Rodenroth said she hoped City Manager Charlie Van Zant would have a city staff member join the Florida Municipal Communications Association, a professional network of individuals who provide communications, leadership, and support in Florida cities, towns, and villages.

"They offer communications professionals opportunities to learn, share, and develop innovative solutions for the

municipalities they serve," she said. "And the nice thing is it is open to any person employed by a Florida municipal government who performs communications functions in the regular course of his or her official duties, including public information messaging, public relations, public affairs, community relations, social media, print and digital media, and multimedia communications."

The mayor said the membership cost is \$100 annually, and she is already a member. She also encouraged other council members to join the association.

Rodenroth said that, in her view, Clay County Sheriff Michelle Cook does the best job in responding to social media misinformation.

"She will clarify if something is put out there that is not correct," the mayor said.

Vandalism and beyond

Rodenroth said minors cause disruptions at the Keystone Beach Park almost daily.

"They're either destroying things, (or) they are being disruptive," she said. "I had a meeting that I was presenting there, and they had skateboards and bicycles right behind the pavilion building on the decking and making all kinds of racket. I had to go out there and tell them they had to leave. I couldn't even hear myself talk. They knew somebody was in the building, and they were trying to disrupt."

The mayor added that some parents were forced to leave the park with their children after older youth or young adults were shouting profanities.

"I just had something happen this past weekend," she said. "(The family) is sitting there, and these kids or whoever it is, they're sitting there. They're using terrible language in front of

the children. They're being loud, like they're doing something to make you want to leave, (and) this particular citizen left with his daughter. He said it was ridiculous."

The mayor said the park's bathrooms have been destroyed twice.

"All the paper towels are being pulled out and thrown everywhere so nobody can use them," she added, "so we may go to a hand dryer situation."

The mayor added that vandalism is a nationwide problem, even in elementary schools.

Rodenroth said one solution might be encouraging park patrons to report disruptive behavior on an app, like the Clay County Sheriff's Office Safer Watch app.

The mayor said Cook has already offered to supply the city with signage instructing people how to download the app and report incidents.

She added that the Safer Watch app will allow citizens to send photos and videos to deputies. She said the signage and app could deter crime.

"It's a psychological thing," she said. "So, these folks that are causing disruptions, they know that a person sitting there could see them, and they can download, and they can report it right then, and the police will come, and they'll find them," she said.

Rodenroth added that the city might consider hiring unarmed security for its parks.

"They're just there as a deterrent, eyes and ears, and they could then call the sheriff," she surmised. "Now, if they're deputized, they could have arrest powers. I think we need to ratchet it up one step. All these other things are nice. Signs are great, but frankly, my view is they're not going to do any good, and they know there are cameras, and they still act up. So, I think we need to be a little tougher."

Crime

Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

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

Bradford

Connie Ellene Adams, 32, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 3 for vehicle theft.

Eliazar Saul Alvarez, 30, of Belleview, was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 4 for DUI.

Joseph Edward Baker, 39, of Lake Butler was arrested by Bradford deputies on May 5 for an out-of-county warrant.

Amanda Diane Ross, 42, of Seffner was arrested on March 8 by Bradford deputies for a probation violation.

Na'kyia Adreana Calhoun, 21, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 5 for possession of drugs.

Andrea Dare Crawford, 47, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 8 for possession of obscene material and unlawful use of a two-way communications device. The Telegraph attempted to obtain additional information on this arrest, but the sheriff's office said the arrest was handled by FDLE and the local agency did not have the arrest documents. The Bradford County Clerk's Office refused to release documents associated with the case, citing Florida Statutes.

Kaleb Blayne Crawford, 22, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 5 for probation violations.

William Kent Dail, 61, of Starke was arrested by Bradford

deputies on March 5 for a parole violation.

Shelton Lorendy Dell, 46, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 2 for failure to appear.

Shatamra Lee Autrey Gillyard, 26, of Lawtey was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 5 for a probation violation.

Chase Allen Godwin, 23, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 2 for DUI and driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Michael Leonard Hankerson, 42, of Lake City was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 5 for a probation violation.

Delbert Chad Lofton, 36, of Hawthorne was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 6 for a probation violation.

Jordan Everett Matchett, 22, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 2 for failure to appear.

Joseph Daniel Morrison, 37, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 8 for possession of drugs and resisting an officer.

James Michael Qualls, 33, of Lake Butler was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 3 for hit-and-run, larceny, criminal mischief with property damage, and aggravated assault.

Tamara Contesha Rowe, 46, of Gainesville was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 5 for fleeing and alluding, driving with a suspended or revoked license and larceny.

Gabriel Alexis Self, 25, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 4 for out-of-county warrants.

William Lee Smith, 29, of Brooker was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 5 for an out-of-county warrant.

Emmanuel Donald Starling, 33, of Gainesville was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 2 for out-of-county warrants.

Douglas Sylvester Thompson,

39, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 5 for possession of drugs, possession of drug equipment, driving with a suspended or revoked license, and possession of cocaine.

Brian Keith Williams, 34, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 3 for failure to appear.

Union

Richard Edward Casper, 62, of Lake City was arrested by Union deputies on March 5 for failure of a sex offender to report a name or residence change.

Deondre Shykur Clayton, 29, of Gainesville was arrested by Union deputies on March 5 for a probation violation.

Sunday Valeria Hunter, 25, of Gainesville was arrested by Union deputies on March 5 for larceny.

Robert Thomas Kingsbury, 17, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on March 6 for vehicle theft and fraud-impersonation.

Joshua Oneal Perry, 28, was arrested by Union deputies on March 5 for disorderly conduct and resisting an Officer.

Adrian Terrell Robinson, 27, was arrested by Union deputies on March 11 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Clay

John William Cardenas, 60, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on March 4 for domestic battery and possession of drug equipment.

Roger Dale Fender, 26, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on March 8 for resisting an officer with violence.

Ryan Wadell Gilstrap, 40, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on March 2 for a probation violation.

Priscilla Lynn Manning, 56, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on March 4 for trespassing.

County sells former Pizza Hut

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

Bradford County is selling the former Pizza Hut location for \$150,000.

County commissioners lowered the asking price after attempting to auction the property on GovDeals for \$250,000 and receiving no bids.

County Manager Scott Kornegay recommended lowering the reserve after telling the board that an interested party had approached to inquire about the property in person.

"I have no idea where that's going to go, but there is considerable interest on this business owner's part to acquire the property," Kornegay.

Commissioners debated the best price for the property, which was appraised at \$171,000 according to county records. The county acquired it in 1993 for \$355,000. Pizza Hut leased the restaurant before moving into the Deerfoot Shopping Center.

During cleanup following the move, county staff found repairs that need to be made to the building, which coupled with the lack of interest, helped convince commissioners to lower the price. Commissioner Chris Dougherty suggested \$150,000.



The county leased the building to Pizza Hut before the restaurant moved. Some anticipation of a new restaurant was discussed as the commission contemplated lowering their price

"We've seen a lot of things pop up in the city of Starke," he said. "We shouldn't lose out on an opportunity if there is one."

Kornegay supported Dougherty's number, saying the economic benefit of having a "popular restaurant" would make up for any loss in lowering the auction reserve, adding that the purchaser would also have to renovate the building.

Dougherty said the faster the

property sold, the faster it will be back on the property tax rolls, charging sales tax and creating jobs.

The buyer was Joe Wiggins of Wiggins Construction Company of North Florida in Green Cove Springs.

The county still has a small commercial building in Brooker listed for auction on GovDeals as well as several surplus vehicles.

CROSBY

Continued from page 1

"Jimmy and I are extremely close and really, really good friends," Mullins said. "He has taught me so much, he really has, so I still want to call him for advice."

With the history of conflict between Starke clerks and managers, Mullins said he and Crosby strived to cooperate for the city's benefit. The loss of his role working for the city here and in Tallahassee and Washington to push so many projects forward will come as a blow, Mullins said.

Commissioner Janice

Mortimer didn't just sing Crosby's praises. She went back over financial and operational audits the city has received, both from CPAs and state auditors. Under one clerk, she said, there were more than 30 significant findings, and by the end of the next clerk's term there were still 14 findings that needed to be addressed after multiple terms in office. Crosby inherited those, but he, with the help of his staff in finance, have reduced that to 3 minor findings in two and a half years, she said.

"I think that speaks volumes for the work that Mr. Crosby was doing for the city," she said. "I want to give credit to the man for the job that he did and getting the ship right."

The situation is unfortunate, she added, but the city needs to move forward and continue in the direction Crosby helped chart.

Crosby could be the last clerk to be sworn into the office. The commission also voted Tuesday night to have the city attorney bring back language to consider placing a referendum on the ballot asking voters if the position of city clerk should be removed from the charter as an elected official.

If the referendum moves forward and voters change the charter, the city clerk would become an employee of the city commission.

Community yard sale at Kingsley Lake

Buyers won't want to miss the opportunity to check out the multiple sale sites that will run down streets beginning with Scott Avenue (off S.R. 230) down to and including Kingsley Lake Drive and homes in The Cove, where the gate will be open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 23.

The sale runs from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and is sponsored by Kingsley Lake Property Owners Association. Some sellers may start as early as Friday morning. There will be a wide variety of items for sale including toys, clothes (ranging from baby to adult plus sizes and everything in between), yard and power tools, kitchen appliances and cookware, books, CDs, DVDs, costume jewelry, handbags, and new and slightly used gift items. Many sellers will offer 50% off everything starting at 11:30.

Gospel sing at New River

New River NCM Church will hold its annual Spring Fling Chicken Sing featuring Pure Heart on Saturday, March 16. Dinner begins at 5 p.m. with local singers at 6 p.m. and Pure Heart at 7 p.m. Everything is free, and everyone is welcome. The church is located on C.R. 125 and C.R. 199 between Lawtey and Raiford.

Soil and water conservation board meets

The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District will meet at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19, at the Bradford County Extension Office. There will be a discussion of the Chemours Pollution Notices for the Trail Ridge South Mine that were related to radium levels (2023) and discharges onto the North Florida Land Trust Property to the north of the mine (2024).

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

New Covenant Baptist anniversary

New Covenant Baptist Ministries, 863 E. Brownlee St., Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., in Starke, will be celebrating its 22nd church anniversary on Sunday, March 24, at 11 a.m. Bishop W.R. Adkins, founder of Global Network Media Ministries Inc., will be the speaker. The public is invited. Dinner will be served.

Easter egg hunt and more in Melrose

Mossman Hall will present and "Easter Eggstravaganza," including an egg hunt with 1,000 eggs, on Saturday, March 30, from noon to 2 p.m. There will also be family games, children's arts and crafts and Joanie's hot dogs.

It all takes place at Mossman Hall, 301 S.R. 26 in Melrose.

Russ WADE

Attorney at Law

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Hamilton, Wainwright, Ward show grand champs in steer, heifer shows

Jordan Hamilton exhibited the grand champion in the March 6 Bradford-Union Youth Cattle steer show at the Bradford Agricultural Fair, while Kate Wainwright exhibited the grand champion commercial heifer in the March 7 breed show.

Wainwright's animal also earned the supreme championship.

The March 7 show also consisted of American Influence Brahmans, with Ansley Ward earning the grand championship.

Hamilton's 1,289-pound animal sold for \$11 per pound at the March 8 auction. Buyers were Williams Jewelry, DLP Bank, Pipeline Constructors, Teal Tile and Carpet, A&D Recovery, Hamilton Environmental, Phillip McDonald Plumbing, Ward Timber, Hamilton Custom Services, Pritchett Trucking Inc., Sheffield Pest Control, Anderson Columbia, Nextran, Collins Lawn Care, Suburban Carpet Cleaners, Roberts Companies and Sunshine 2 Energy.

The reserve grand champion at the steer show was awarded to Bailey Varnes. Her 1,337-pound animal, which was the homegrown grand champion,

sold for \$10 per pound to Pritchett Trucking, Nextran, Ho-Bo Tractor, Teal Tile and Carpet, Hamilton Custom Services, Hamilton Environmental and Roberts Companies.

Berkley Reddish exhibited the homegrown reserve grand-champion steer, which placed fifth overall. The 1,092-pound animal sold for \$9 per pound to Steve Carter, Beard Equipment, M&S Fertilizer and Farm Inc., Carlton Contracting, Revelation Church of Lawtey, Falstreux Heating and Air, Thomas Farm and Lumber, Crystal Tractor of Starke, Durrance Pump and Well Drilling, Pipeline Constructors, Pritchett Trucking, M&R Construction, Jackson Building Supply, West Fraser, Michael Moore Construction, Hamilton Custom Services, Bradford County Telegraph, ETM Inc., Eric Reddish Mosquito Free Yard and Justin and Jessica McElhenny.

The third-overall placer at the steer show was exhibited by Huck Alvarez, while Reese Wainwright's steer earned fourth overall.

In the senior division of the steer showmanship contest,



Jordan Hamilton exhibited the grand-champion steer. It sold for \$11 per pound at the March 8 auction. Buyers were Williams Jewelry, DLP Bank, Pipeline Constructors, Teal Tile and Carpet, A&D Recovery, Hamilton Environmental, Phillip McDonald Plumbing, Ward Timber, Hamilton Custom Services, Pritchett Trucking Inc., Sheffield Pest Control, Anderson Columbia, Nextran, Collins Lawn Care, Suburban Carpet Cleaners, Roberts Companies and Sunshine 2 Energy.

Reese Wainwright placed first, followed by Shayna Durrance and Jordan Hamilton.

Ansley Ward took first in intermediate showmanship, while Maddison Lee and Chayten

Elixson were second and third, respectively.

Luke Alvarez and Huck Alvarez were first and second, respectively, in junior showmanship. Garrett Lee placed third.

Note: Sales prices don't include add-ons.

Commercial heifers

The reserve grand-champion commercial heifer that placed behind Kate Wainwright was exhibited by Regan Broome. The animal also earned her the homegrown grand championship.

Jordan Hamilton had the third-place overall heifer, which was the homegrown reserve grand champion.

Koy Hartley and Reese Wainwright had the fourth and fifth overall heifers, respectively.

The heifer showmanship competition saw Kate



Jordan Hamilton showed the homegrown reserve grand-champion commercial heifer.

Wainwright earn first place in the senior division. She finished ahead of Hamilton and Sydney Box, who were second and third, respectively. Ansley Ward and Adaleigh

See SHOW, page 9



ABOVE: Kate Wainwright exhibited the grand champion/supreme champion commercial heifer. It's her second straight year earning the grand championship. LEFT: Regan Broome exhibited the reserve grand champion/homegrown grand champ.



ABOVE: Ansley Ward exhibited the grand champion in the American Influence show. She had an animal earn third place last year. LEFT: Adaleigh Wainwright exhibited the reserve grand champion in the American Influence show.

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Ryder Thompson exhibited the grand champion in the March 5 swine show. The animal also earned the homegrown grand championship and sold for \$28.50 per pound at the March 8 auction. Photo provided courtesy of Traci Waters Photography.

Thompson, Hewett show top 2 pigs

Ryder Thompson exhibited the grand champion in the Bradford-Union Swine Association's show at the Bradford Agricultural Fair. Thompson's 247-pound pig was also awarded the homegrown grand championship at the March 5 show. It sold for \$28.50 per pound at the March 8 auction to Williams Show Pigs, DLP Bank, M&R Construction, Thompson Mobile Home, Thompson Show Pigs, Crawford Show Pigs, Outlaw Cattle, Brad Thomas, Michael Hardee Timber, Anderson Columbia, Dusty and Laura

Griffis, Diesel Powerhouse, Fenix Parts, Murray Ford, Strickland's Scoop, Keystone RV Resort, Ray's Metal Works, Precision Crank Shaft, American Transmission, Lawtey Shell, Teal Tile and Carpet, Hamilton Custom Services, C&S Site Prep and Pipeline Constructors. Aubrey Hewett exhibited the reserve grand champion. The 272-pound animal sold for \$26 per pound to Cragg's Glass Company Inc., Quality Plumbing, Ben Carter, Williams Jewelry, Candace Osteen, IAFF

Local 4315, Murray Ford and Courtney Witt.

The homegrown reserve champion was exhibited by Brody Bell. His 270-pound pig sold for \$18 per pound to Attorney Steven A. Bagen and Associates, Steve and Amanda Dyal, Suburban Carpet Cleaners, Collins Lawn Care, MEI, Pipeline Constructors, Williams Jewelry, Sheffield Pest Control, ALLFAST Fastener and Tool Supply, West Fraser, Hamilton Environmental, Holden Bell, Billy Bell and Phillip McDonald Plumbing.

Kiersten Clemons and Piper Denmark exhibited the fourth- and fifth-place overall pigs, respectively.

In senior showmanship, Thompson earned first place, while Codi Huntley and Seth Clemons placed second and third, respectively.

Avery Gardener and Ella Hewett were first and second, respectively, in intermediate showmanship. Bell placed third.

Aubrey Hewett topped the junior division in showmanship, while Jett Crawford and Denmark were second and third, respectively.



ABOVE LEFT: Ella Hewett exhibited the reserve grand-champion pig. It sold for \$26 per pound.

LEFT: Brody Bell exhibited the homegrown reserve grand champion, which sold for \$18 per pound.

SHOW Continued from page 8

Wainwright were first and second, respectively, in the intermediate division. Nicholas Ward placed third.

Luke Alvarez was awarded first place in junior showmanship, while Shawn Ward was second.

American Influence

Adaleigh Wainwright earned the reserve grand championship

in the American Influence show, finishing behind Ansley Ward.

Ward exhibited multiple American Influence animals, with two taking the third- and fourth-place overall awards.

Kelsey Reddish had an animal that earned fifth overall.

Steer, swine sales total \$400K-plus

The combined steer and swine sale on March 8 at the Bradford Agricultural Fair consisted of 113 animals, which collectively sold for \$436,536.90.

Exhibitors

Steer sale exhibitors, their 4-H or FFA affiliation and weight of their animal were as follows: Jordan Hamilton (grand champion), Bradford FFA, 247; Bailey Varnes (reserve grand champion, homegrown grand champion), Union FFA, 1,337; Berkley Reddish (homegrown reserve grand champion, fifth place overall), Bradford FFA, 1,092; Huck Alvarez (third place overall), Union 4-H, 1,269; Reese Wainwright (fourth place overall), Bradford FFA, 1,279; Shayna Durrance, Bradford 4-H, 1,212;

Anna Conner, Bradford 4-H, 1,531; Chayten Elixson, Bradford 4-H, 1,137; Garrison Ritch, Bradford FFA, 1,203; Karlie Hardee, Bradford FFA, 1,284; Ansley Ward, Bradford 4-H, 1,332; Bradford FFA chapter steer (shown by Brianna Brooks), 1,493; Madison Jackson, Union 4-H, 1,115; Tenly Hardee, Union FFA, 1,236; Regan Broome, Bradford 4-H, 1,254; Cason Pilcher, Bradford 4-H, 1,306;

Koen Reddish, Bradford FFA, 1,324; Koy Hartley, Bradford FFA, 1,205; Maddison Lee, Bradford FFA, 1,277;

Garrett Lee, Bradford 4-H, 1,283; Shyann Clemons, Bradford 4-H, 1,402; Riggs Davis, Union FFA, 1,229; Tripp Connell, Union FFA, 1,266; Luke Alvarez, Union 4-H, 1,282; Clayton Cason, Union FFA, 1,401; Landon Cason, Union FFA, 1,246; Allie Cason, Union 4-H, 1,292; and Case Clemons, Bradford 4-H, 1,311.

Swine sale exhibitors, their 4-H or FFA affiliation and weight of their animal were as follows: Ryder Thompson (grand champion, homegrown grand champion), Bradford FFA, 247; Aubrey Hewett (reserve grand champion), Bradford 4-H, 272; Brody Bell (homegrown reserve grand champion), Bradford 4-H, 270; Kiersten Clemons (fourth place overall), Union FFA, 258; Piper Denmark (fifth place overall), Bradford 4-H, 265; Hayden Robinson, Union FFA, 276;

Braylon Herndon, Bradford FFA, 267; Codi Huntley, Union FFA, 264; Ella Hewett, Bradford FFA, 258; Lily Kate Hughes, Bradford 4-H, 249; Avery Gardner, Bradford 4-H, 275; Kate Wainwright, Bradford FFA,

273; Teagan Bradley, Bradford 4-H, 270; Kristen Balkin-Gainey, Union 4-H, 268; Lenden Waters, Bradford FFA, 265; Koleson Tetstone, Union 4-H, 264; Annabel Hughes, Bradford 4-H, 261; Lakelyn Sheppard, Bradford FFA, 256;

Riley Pfeiffer, Union 4-H, 248; Tatum Burkhalter, Bradford FFA, 240; Colby Griffis, Bradford 4-H, 274; Kayleigh Dyal, Bradford 4-H, 272; Kamryn Dyal, Bradford 4-H, 269; Laky Jackson, Union FFA, 268; Kaleb Dyal, Bradford 4-H, 265; Bradford FFA chapter swine (shown by Sandra Schaeffer), 264; Julian Rhoden, Bradford FFA, 259; Blake Wynn, Bradford FFA, 254; Jett Crawford, Bradford 4-H, 251; Kolton Owen, Bradford FFA, 240; Lucas Grider, Bradford 4-H, 277;

Weston Thompson, Bradford 4-H, 273; Calli Morrow, Bradford 4-H, 271; Cason Douglass, Bradford FFA, 268; Klayton Knipp, Bradford 4-H, 265; Gage Fischer, Bradford 4-H, 262; Ava Lynn Thomas, Union 4-H, 262; Conner Rowe, Bradford FFA, 255; Dempsey Bradley, Bradford 4-H, 248; Amber Wynn, Bradford FFA, 244; Summer Sutton, Bradford

See SALE, page 11



Bailey Varnes exhibited the reserve grand-champion steer, which was also the homegrown grand champion. It sold for \$10 per pound to Pritchett Trucking, Nexttran, Ho-Bo Tractor, Teal Tile and Carpet, Hamilton Custom Services, Hamilton Environmental and Roberts Companies.

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Legal Notices

Legals for the week of March 14, 2024

BRADFORD

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that MID-FLORIDA DEVELOPEMENT LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 812
Year of Issuance: 2020
Parcel Number: 03345-0-00000
Case Number: 04-2024-TD-0001
Description of Property: 28 6S 22 BLK 26 IN LT & COS S/D, EX E1/2 OF LOT 1 & EX S 25' OF E1/2 OF LOT 2 OF BLK 26, AS DESC IN OR BK 47 PG 108 of the Public Records of Bradford County, State of Florida.

Name in Which Assessed: ARTHUR RANDOLPH
Name on last tax roll, if different:

All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 04/24/2024, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY: KANETRA JENKINS,
Deputy Clerk

Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.

DATED: February 15, 2024
DATE OF PUBLICATION: February 22, 2024; February 29, 2024; March 7, 2024; March 14, 2024

2/22 4tchg 3/14-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that LEWIS CHAFF the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 713
Year of Issuance: 2017
Parcel Number: 02517-0-00000
Case Number: 2024-TD-0003
Description of Property: LOTS 2 AND 3 OF BLOCK 17, NORTH RENO, AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOX 2 AT PAGE 39 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA

Name in Which Assessed: VIVIAN FARNSWORTH & BRIAN FARNSWORTH
Name on last tax roll, if different:

All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 04/24/2024, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

Denny Thompson,
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Bradford County, Florida
BY KANETRA JENKINS
Deputy Clerk

Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.

DATED: February 19, 2024
DATE OF PUBLICATION: FEBRUARY 22, 2024; FEBRUARY 29, 2024; MARCH 7, 2024; MARCH 14, 2024

2/22 4tchg 3/14-BCT

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

CASE NO.: 04-2023-CA-271
MATTHEW S. BRYANT LLC, a

Florida limited liability company,
Plaintiff,
Vv.

JAVY ABSHER and MELISSA ABSHER,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO F. S. CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated February 23, 2024, in the above-styled action, the clerk of court, Denny Thompson, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Bradford County Courthouse located at 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, Bradford County, Florida 32091, in the hallway directly past the security checkpoint, at 11:00 a.m., on March 28, 2024, the following described property in Bradford County, Florida:

A parcel of land containing 0.55 of an acre and lying in Lot 46 of Woodlawn, Section 15, Township 5 South, Range

22 East, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 17 of the public records of Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at the Southwest Corner of said Lot 46 for point of beginning and run North 0 degrees 04 minutes and 24 seconds West, along the Westerly boundary thereof, 143.0 feet; thence South 89 degrees 46 minutes and 41 seconds East, parallel with the Southerly boundary of said Lot 46 a distance of 169.34 feet; thence South 0 degrees 20 minutes and 19 seconds West 143.0 feet to said Southerly boundary; thence North 89 degrees, 46 minutes and 41 seconds West, along said Southerly boundary, 168.31 feet to the Point of Beginning.

TOGETHER WILL ALL IMPROVEMENTS, SUBJECT TO COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS, EASEMENTS OF RECORD AND TAXES FOR THE CURRENT YEAR. Parcel ID No.: 01219-0-00204.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. DATED this 26th day of February, 2024.

TAYLOR ARRUBLA HARDWICK P.A.
By/s/Katelyn T. Hardwick
Katelyn T. Hardwick
Florida Bar No. 118454
420 S. Lawrence Blvd.
Keystone Heights, Florida 32656
Primary Email: katie@tah-law.com
Secondary Email:
kim@tah-law.com
(352) 473-8088 (telephone)
(352) 473-8161 (facsimile)
Attorneys for Plaintiff

3/7 2tchg 3/14-BCT

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

CASE NO.: 2023-CA-000236
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC,

Plaintiff,

v. STEVEN JOSEPH NORSWORTHY, et al.

Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE is hereby given that Denny Thompson, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Bradford County, Florida, will on April 25, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. ET, at the front Lobby of the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091 in accordance with Chapter 45, F.S., offer for sale and sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property situated in Bradford County, Florida, to wit:

Lots 2 and 3, Block 1, THE WOODS, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 3, Page(s) 44, of the Public Records of Bradford County, Florida.

Property Address: 15461 NE 15th Avenue, Starke, FL 32091 pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in a case pending in said Court, the style and case number of which is set forth above.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a proceeding, you are entitled to be provided with certain assistance at no cost to you. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 East University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601 (352-337-6237) at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice-impaired, call 1-800-955-8770 via

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: 301 LEGACY AUTO, LLC gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 04/02/2024 05:00 AM at 13168 US Hwy 301, Starke, FL 32091 pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. 301 LEGACY AUTO, LLC reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

WBAHN83597DT76027 2007 BMW 750
3/14 1tchg-BCT Florida Relay Service. SUBMITTED on this 6th day of March, 2024.

TIFFANY & BOSCO, P.A.
/s/ Kathryn I. Kasper, Esq.
Anthony R. Smith, Esq.
FL Bar #157147
Kathryn I. Kasper, Esq.
FL Bar #621188
Attorneys for Plaintiff
OF COUNSEL:
Tiffany & Bosco, P.A.
1201 S. Orlando Ave., Suite 430
Winter Park, FL 32789
Telephone: (205) 930-5200

Facsimile: (407) 712-9201
3/14 2tchg 3/21-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: MIRACLE AUTOMOTIVE & TRUCK SERVICE CENTER INC. gives notice that on 03/29/2024 at 12:00 PM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 620 N THOMPSON ST, STARKE, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78.

3C4FY58B14T256470 2004 CHRY This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 03/14/2024.

3/14 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME

Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given that the undersigned: AMY E. BOURLAND, 9976 NW 219th St., Starke, FL 32091, sole owner, doing business under the firm name of: CLASSY CLEMENTINE MERCANTILE, 9976 NW 219th St., Starke, FL 32091 intends to register fictitious name under the aforesaid statute. Dated this 8th day of March A.D., 2024, in Bradford County.

3/14 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

301 LEGACY AUTO, LLC gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 04/01/2024 10:00 PM at 13168 US Hwy 301, Starke, FL 32091 pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. 301 LEGACY AUTO, LLC reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

1YVFP82D045N73889 2004 MAZDA MAZDA6S

3/14 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

301 LEGACY AUTO, LLC gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 04/02/2024 05:00 AM at 13168 US Hwy 301, Starke, FL 32091 pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. 301 LEGACY AUTO, LLC reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

4T1BE30K13U227946 2003 TOYOTA CAMRY LE/XLE/SE

3/14 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

301 LEGACY AUTO, LLC gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 04/04/2024 05:00 AM at 13168 US Hwy 301, Starke, FL 32091 pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. 301 LEGACY AUTO, LLC reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

4A3AA46G32E057017 2002 MITSUBISHI GALANT ES/LS

3/14 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

301 LEGACY AUTO, LLC gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 04/05/2024 06:00 AM at 13168 US Hwy 301, Starke, FL 32091 pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. 301 LEGACY AUTO, LLC reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

1HGCM66386A067682 2006 HONDA ACCORD LX

3/14 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

301 LEGACY AUTO, LLC gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 04/02/2024 05:00 AM at 13168 US Hwy 301, Starke, FL 32091 pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. 301 LEGACY AUTO, LLC reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

WBAHN83597DT76027 2007 BMW 750

3/14 1tchg-BCT

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

CASE NO. 22000023CAAXMX
SELENE FINANCE LP

Plaintiff,

v. SHARON R FOURTE; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SHARON DENISE ROBINSON-FOURTE A/K/A SHARON DENISE ROBINSON

FOURTE A/K/A SHARON D. ROBINSON FOURTE A/K/A SHARON R. FOURTE A/K/A SHARON FOURTE; RESHARD ROBINSON; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF RESHARD ROBINSON; UNKNOWN TENANT 2; UNKNOWN TENANT 1; TAYLOR, BEAN & WHITAKER MORTGAGE CORP.; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on July 22, 2022, and Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale entered on February 22, 2024, in this cause, in the Circuit Court of Bradford

County, Florida, the clerk shall sell the property situated in Bradford County, Florida, described as: COMMENCE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 7 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST, BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA; RUN THENCE SOUTH 52.00 FEET TO THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF A COUNTY GRADED ROAD; RUN THENCE WESTERLY ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY 800.00 FEET FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM POINT OF BEGINNING RUN THENCE SOUTH 435.60 FEET; RUN THENCE WEST 100.00 FEET; RUN THENCE NORTH 435.60 FEET; RUN THENCE EAST 100.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 2007 SCOTBILT MANUFACTURED HOME, SERIAL NO(S): SBHGA1300702809A/B, a/k/a 5502 SE 86TH ST, HAMPTON, FL 32044-4530

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at the east front door of the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091, on April 18, 2024 beginning at 11:00 AM. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.

Dated this 7th day of March, 2024. eXL Legal, Pllc Designated Email Address: Efilng@Exllegal.Com 12425 28th St North, Ste. 200 St. Petersburg, Fl 33716-1826 Telephone No (727-536-4911 Attorney for the Plaintiff Isabel López Rivera FL Bar: 1015906

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a proceeding, you are entitled to be provided with certain assistance at no cost to you. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 East University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601 (352-337-6237) at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice-impaired, call 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service. If you are deaf or hard of hearing and require an ASL interpreter or an assisted listening device to participate in a proceeding, please contact Court Interpreting at interpreter@circuit8.org. File # 1000007242

3/14 2tchg 3/21-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2023-CP-000107

Division Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF CHANNING LEIGH-ANNE O'HALLORAN

Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Channing Leigh-Anne O'Halloran, deceased, whose date of death was March 21, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is P.O. Drawer B, Starke, FL 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court 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 14, 2024.

Attorney for Personal Representative: R. Nadine David, Esq. Florida Bar Number: 89004 Florida Probate Law Group P.O. Box 141135 Gainesville, Florida 32614 Telephone: (352) 354-2654 Fax: (866) 740-0630 E-Mail: ndavid@floridaprobatelawgroup.com Secondary E-Mail: service@floridaprobatelawgroup.com Personal Representative Lanna Smith 5511 NW County Road 225 Lawley, Florida 32058

3/14 2tchg 3/21-BCT

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

CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO.

042020CA000310CAAXMX

US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST,

Plaintiff,

vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS, ASSIGNEES, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH A. WATSON A/K/A JOSEPH WATSON, DECEASED; POLLY J. SWINDULL; GENEVA SPRINGS CONDOMINIUMS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.; TERESA GAIL SAYERS A/K/A TERESA G. SAYERS; ASHLEY DANIELLE WELLS F/K/A ASHLEY DANIELLE EDGAR; LINDSAY BROOK WALTON; MICHAEL SEAN WATSON; DEBORAH LOIS WATSON; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 1; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 2; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED,

Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated February 23, 2024, and entered in Case No. 042020CA000310CAAXMX of the Circuit Court in and for Bradford County, Florida, wherein US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST IS Plaintiff and UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH A. WATSON A/K/A JOSEPH WATSON, DECEASED; POLLY J. SWINDULL; GENEVA SPRINGS CONDOMINIUMS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.; TERESA GAIL SAYERS A/K/A TERESA G. SAYERS; ASHLEY DANIELLE WELLS F/K/A ASHLEY DANIELLE EDGAR; LINDSAY BROOK WALTON; MICHAEL SEAN WATSON; DEBORAH LOIS WATSON; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 1; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 2; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED, are Defendants,

DENNY THOMPSON, Clerk of the Circuit Court, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in the Lobby of the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091, 11:00 a.m., on May 16, 2024, the following described property as set forth in said Order or Final Judgment, to-wit:

UNIT NO. 3 OF GENEVA SPRINGS 1, A CONDOMINIUM, ACCORDING TO THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM THEREOF AS RECORDED IN O.R. BOOK 184, PAGE 338, ET SEQ OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, TOGETHER WITH THE UNDIVIDED INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS OF SAID CONDOMINIUM.

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM BEFORE THE CLERK REPORTS THE SURPLUS AS UNCLAIMED. THE COURT, IN ITS DISCRETION, MAY ENLARGE THE TIME OF THE SALE. NOTICE OF THE CHANGED TIME OF SALE SHALL BE PUBLISHED AS PROVIDED HEREIN.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Clerk of the Court not later than five business days prior to the proceeding at the Bradford County Courthouse. Telephone 904-964-6280 or 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service.

DATED 3/12/2024
By: /s/ Sheena M. Diaz

Sheena M. Diaz
Florida Bar No.: 97907
Roy Diaz, Attorney of Record
Florida Bar No. 767700
Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
499 NW 70th Ave., Suite 309
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33317
Telephone: (954) 564-0071
Facsimile: (954) 564-9252
Service E-mail: answers@dallegal.com

3/14 2tchg 3/21-BCT

COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Bradford County Board of County Commissioners will have a board meeting on March 21, 2024, at 6:30 PM inside the county commission meeting room, located in the north wing section of the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, FL. A copy of the meeting agenda may be obtained from the Bradford County website: www.bradfordcountyfl.gov. Said meeting location is secured – no firearms or weapons are permitted.

3/14 1tchg-BCT

UNION

CIS Deployment.

Public notification that a Contraband Interdiction System will be deployed at Union Correctional Institution. Those in the surrounding community should be aware there is potential for service interruptions during deployment.

3/14 1tchg UCT

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

CASE NUMBER: 63-2024-CA-0008
J.R. DAVIS, as Trustee of the J.R. DAVIS TRUST,
Plaintiff,

vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST LOUISE FIELDS a/k/a LOUISE FIELDS GLOVER, deceased,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION TO ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED of the filing of a Complaint against you to quiet title to the following property in Union County, Florida:

TOGETHER WITH:

A parcel of land containing a total area of 0.50 acres, more or less, lying, being and situate in 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 the North 1/2 of Government Lot 1, said Section 31, and run North 01 degree 46 minutes 19 seconds West, along the East line of said Section 31, a distance of 103.48 feet to the intersection with the North right of way line of State Road Number 121 (Southeast 8th Street); thence run South 85 degrees 12 minutes 21 seconds West, along said North right of way line, a distance of 210.66 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING of the hereinafter described parcel of land: Thence continue running South 85 degrees 12 minutes 21 seconds West, continuing along said North right of way line, a distance of 210.24 feet; thence run North 01 degree 43 minutes 32 seconds West a distance of 105.17 feet; thence run North 85 degrees 30 minutes 03 seconds East a distance of 210.19 feet; thence run South 01 degree 43 minutes 32 seconds East a distance of 104.08 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

SUBJECT TO all existing easements, rights of way, restrictions, reservations, covenants and jurisdictional areas, whether of record or not of record.

Union County Parcel Identification Number: 31-05-20-00-000-0040-0 You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on M. Aaron Dukes, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 328, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, on or before the 11th day of April 2024, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either immediately before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. DATED this 5th day of March, 2024.

KELLIE H. RHOADES
Deputy Clerk
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Published in: Union County Times

3/14 4tchg 4/4-UCT

LAKE REGION

Notice of Public Auction Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Monday, April

BHS' Harris to play volleyball at North Carolina Wesleyan

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School senior Reagan Harris is looking forward to experiencing life after graduation, which will include going to college and playing volleyball for North Carolina Wesleyan University in Rocky Mount.

"I'm very excited," said Harris, who participated in a signing ceremony on March 6 at Beef O'Brady's in Starke. "I think it's going to be a really good opportunity — a new opportunity. I'm kind of excited to take my own path with it. It'll be away from home and away

from some of the coaches I know. It'll be new girls, new team, new everything."

Harris, who played three years at BHS and for six years for various club programs (including, most recently, 904 Elite), said her coaches convinced her that she had the talent to play at the next level, but Ashley Monfort, her former Jacksonville Juniors Volleyball Association coach, said, "I've got to give her all the credit."

Even after she moved on from playing for JJVA, Harris continued to work with Monfort. He said Harris put in the time to improve in all facets of the game,

adding that she didn't back down from any challenge. That's why he's excited to see her get an opportunity to play at North Carolina Wesleyan.

"I know how much work she put in," Monfort said.

Harris said she was also considering Tennessee Wesleyan University, which offered her a scholarship. However, she enjoyed the overall atmosphere much more at North Carolina Wesleyan.

"When we were doing a tour, everyone looked like they wanted to be there," Harris said.

See HARRIS, page 13



Reagan Harris (seated, second from left) signs her letter of intent to play volleyball at North Carolina Wesleyan University. She is seated between her parents, Rodney and Christina. Her sister, Rylie, is seated at the far right. Also pictured (back, l-r) are grandparents Mickey and Tuyet Bath, aunt Patricia Bath and cousins Gavin Cook, Kendall Cook and Gabe Cook.



Berkley Reddish exhibited the homegrown reserve grand-champion steer. It sold for \$9 per pound to Steve Carter, Beard Equipment, M&S Fertilizer and Farm Inc., Carlton Contracting, Revelation Church of Lawtey, Falstreux Heating and Air, Thomas Farm and Lumber, Crystal Tractor of Starke, Durrance Pump and Well Drilling, Pipeline Constructors, Pritchett Trucking, M&R Construction, Jackson Building Supply, West Fraser, Michael Moore Construction, Hamilton Custom Services, Bradford County Telegraph, ETM Inc., Eric Reddish Mosquito Free Yard and Justin and Jessica McElhenny.

SALE Continued from page 9

FFA, 276; Matthew Stafford, Bradford FFA, 273; Kiran Crawford, Bradford 4-H, 268; Grace Turknett, Union FFA, 267; Avery Crawford, Bradford 4-H, 264, Raelynn Moore, Bradford FFA, 264; Kyndall Dyal, Bradford 4-H, 260; Beau Davis, Bradford 4-H, 255; Madalynn Turknett, Union FFA, 248; Gracelyn Fischer, Union FFA, 242; Preston Fischer, Union 4-H, 275; Seth Clemons, Bradford FFA, 272; Cannon Sapp, Bradford FFA, 272; Branton Clements, Bradford 4-H, 265; Lillian Conner, Bradford 4-H, 264; Trever Clements, Bradford FFA, 262;

Kylee Wright, Bradford 4-H, 261; Mason Scoggins, Bradford FFA, 258; Cooper Cox, Bradford 4-H, 250; Mallory Frazier, Bradford FFA, 246; Lyndee Griffis, Union FFA, 274; Ridge Bradley, Bradford 4-H, 273; Mckynzie Stopka, Bradford FFA, 270; Gabriel Rhoden, Bradford

FFA, 266; Ryleigh Rhoden, Bradford 4-H, 265; Brylee Gay, Union FFA, 263; Travis Hunter, Bradford 4-H, 261; Carsyn Dukes, Union FFA, 257; Caleb Griffis, Bradford 4-H, 252; Cayden Carter, Bradford FFA, 240; Jack Jackson, Bradford 4-H, 276; William Connor, Bradford 4-H, 272; Clyde Kelly, Bradford FFA, 270; Reece Scoggins, Bradford FFA, 268;

Jensie Baldree, Bradford 4-H, 264; Gracelyn McGee, Union FFA, 263; Mason Stone, Bradford FFA, 261; Paxton Noegel, Bradford 4-H, 255; Bradford Middle School FFA chapter swine (shown by Christin Schaffer), 248; Hunter Thomassen, Union FFA, 240; Cody Spratlin, Bradford FFA, 262; Steven Tate Demers, Bradford FFA, 260; Ruby Hunter, Bradford 4-H, 256; Koleson Knipp, Bradford 4-H, 247; and Levi Jeffery, Bradford 4-H, 240.

Buyers

Those who bought animals at this year's auction were:

A&D Recovery, AAA Hay, ALLFAST Fastener and Tool Supply, Action Construction, All Florida Electric, Allen and Carolyn Parrish, Allen and Vanessa Thompson, Alta, Alvarez Plumbing, American Transmission, Anderson Columbia, Attorney Steven A. Bagen and Associates, BCL Construction Services, Barbara Bryant, Barbara and David Kirkland, Beard Equipment, Bellamy Cattle Buying and Sales;

Ben Carter, Bennett Cattle Company, Billy Bell, Billy Honsberger, Bob and Jane Dyal, Boone Construction, Brad Thomas, Bradford County Telegraph, Brandon and Stephanie Herndon, Brandon Demers, Built Contracting, C&S Site Prep, C. Spencer Farms, CDM Contracting, CGB Construction Group, Candace Osteen, Capital City Bank, Capital Insurance Agency/Terrasa Wood, Capps Land Management, Carlton Contracting, Carter Logging; Carter Trucking Inc., Chad Ward Enterprises, Charlie and

Lisa Gardner, Chase Rowe, Chris and Christy McFarland, Chris Fogleman, Chris Page, Chuck Phillips, Circle H Ranch, Civil Concrete, Clemons Field Services, Collins Lawn Care, Courtney Witt, Covenant Roofing, Cracker Land and Cattle, Cragg's Glass Company Inc., Craig Falstreux Heating and Air, Crawford Custom Woodworks, Crawford Show Pigs, Creative Industrial Solutions, Crossfire Electric, Crown Construction, Crystal Tractor of Starke, Cypress Creek Farms;

Cypress R Farms, DLP Bank, D.M. Stratton, D.R. Baker Construction, Dependable Waste Services, Diane Goetzman, Diesel Powerhouse, Durrance Pump and Well Drilling, Dusty and Laura Griffis, ETM Inc., North Central Title/Elise Johns, Eric Reddish Mosquito Free Yard, Ernest and Carolyn Grider, Exact Spray Foam Solutions, FRM Air Conditioning, Farm Bureau of Alachua, Fenix Parts, Fischer's Metal Works, Florida Lawn Medics, Godwin Pumps, Hamilton Custom Services, Hamilton Environmental;

Hickman Site Prep, Hillandale Quality Feeds, Ho-Bo Tractor, Hoilman Handyman, Holden Bell, Hometown Health and Wellness, Hunter Thomas, IAFF Local 4315, J.W. Medical Solutions, Jackson Building Supply, Realtor Jaycea Edwards, John Bennie Sapp, John F. Crawford Homes, Julie Morrow Premier Realty, Justin and Jessica McElhenny, Keystone Land Development, L.D. and Diane Andrews, Lake Harris Fencing, Laredo Mexican Restaurant, Lavender House, Law Offices of Ron Sholes, Lawtey Shell, Lil' Oak Whitetails, M&R Construction, M&S Fertilizer and Farm, MEI, Making the Cut; Matt and Nicole Stafford, Matt and Traci Waters, Matthew Carlton Contracting, Mayo Fertilizer, Merry Hess, Michael Hardee Timber, Michael Moore Construction, Midland, Mike and Rachel Conner, Miracle Automotive and Towing, Moon Cattle Company, Morrow Enterprises, Moulton Exteriors, Murray Ford, NCF Electric,

Nettle's Sausage, Nextran, North Florida Site Work Inc., North Florida Technical College, O'Steen Brothers Construction, Ocala Stockyard, Outlaw Cattle, P&R Construction, P&R Site Works;

Parker and Company Land Development, Patrick Welch and Associates, Paul Huntley, Peyton Thompson, Phillip Crawford, Phillip McDonald Plumbing, Pipeline Constructors, Precision Crank Shaft, Prestige Electric, Prevatt Family Farms, Price Right Enterprise, Pritchett Trucking Inc., Publix, Quality Plumbing, ROT Construction, Ray Dukes family, Ray's Metal Works, Reagan Robinson, Revelation Church of Lawtey, Rhoden Hay, Richardson Hay Farm, Ritch Farms, Road Service of Jax Inc., Robbie and Rhonda Barber and family, Robbie Hazouri, Robert and Jenna Hewett;

Robert Broome, Roberts Companies, Robinson Construction, Sanchez Sitework, Santa Fe Ford, Schurco, Scribe Associates, Set Right Mobile Homes/Rodney Crawford, Shadd

Trucking, Shane Parmenter, Sheffield Pest Control, Smith Trucking, Smokehouse Meat, Spain and Cooper, Spires IGA, Stable Foundations, Steve and Amanda Dyal, Steve Carter, Steve's Painting, Strickland's Scoop, Suburban Carpet Cleaners;

Sunshine 2 Energy, Swamp Cutters, Swine in the Pines, TMP Farms, Tatum Cattle Company, Taylor and Sons Groundbreaking, Teal Tile and Carpet, Terry McCarthy Tree Service, The Farm House, The Grind Coffee House, Thomas Farm and Lumber, Thompson Mobile Home, Thompson Show Pigs, Thompson's Garage and Auto Sales, U.S. Water Services Corporation, V.E. Whitehurst and Sons, Victor and Brenda Griffis, Vintage Electric, W.W. Gay, Wade Norman, Ward Timber, Wayne Frier Mobile Home of Macclenny, Welch's Automotive, West Fraser Inc., Wide Open Site Services, Williams Gas, Williams Jewelry, Williams Show Pigs and ZHL Services LLC.

Tri-County Classifieds
Bradford County Lake Region UNION COUNTY
Telegraph Monitor TIMES

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Class Ads 03/14/24

40 Notices

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY. All real estate advertising in this

newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 in which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial

status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate in which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777, the toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275. For further information call Florida Commission on Human Relations, Lisa Sutherland 850-488-7082 ext. #1005

47 Commercial Property (Rent, Lease, Sale)

OFFICE BUILDING on Call Street by Sonshine Title. Has office space, conference room, break room, etc. Call Coldwell Bankers for info.

GREAT LOCATION, Hwy Frontage SR 100 Keystone Heights, Two Buildings, multiple uses, former pawn shop & auto sales. Consider lease option to buy with owner financing. Short on cash? Trade your home or rental property... Call for more info 904-613-5715

50 For Rent

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

NEWLY RENOVATED 2BR/2BA

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

2BR/1BA Keystone Heights. Lakefront, \$1,350 lawn care included. No pets. Dscst for one person. Call 904-613-5715

53 A Yard Sales

YARD SALE; Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 8am-5pm. Large assortments of items, new stuff at yard sale prices. Come make offers. 20114 NW SR 16.

YARD SALE; Big tools, small tools. Fri. & Sat. 8am-? 17426 NE 21st

Lane.

65 Help Wanted

LAWN SERVICE TECHNICIAN position available. Full-time w/benefits. Must have clean driving & criminal record. Apply in person at Gainesville Pest Control. 430 NW 39th Ave. 352-338-1013.

Lake Butler Apartments 1, 2, 3 & 4
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1005 SW 6th St.
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TDD/TTY 711
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This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.
Equal Housing Opportunity

HERITAGE VILLAS
Accepting Applications for 1 & 2 BR Apts
607 Bradford Court
Starke, FL 32091
904-964-6216
TDD 771
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Obituaries

Carlos Armstrong

Carlos L. Armstrong, 68, of Starke passed away Tuesday, March 5, 2024. He was born June 9, 1955, in Starke to Hubert and Emma Mae (Smith) Armstrong, but he considered his stepfather, Wesley Garber, to be his father. He attended school in Bradford County and was a member of the Holiness Church. He was preceded in death by his mother and stepfather, Wesley and Emma Mae Garber; father, Hubert Armstrong; daughter, Chastity D. Armstrong; brothers, Sherman Armstrong and Curtis Armstrong; baby brother, Leon (in infancy); and a sister, Judy Garber.

Survivors are his wife of 45 years, Grace Armstrong; a brother, Dennis Garber of Starke; sister, Cynthia Holder of Dade City, and six additional sisters who live in Georgia; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be held by immediate family.



PAID OBITUARY

Donald Cooper Jr.

Donald Ray Cooper Jr. was a man known for his love of the open road, his jovial personality, and his unwavering dedication to his family. Born in Starke on Oct. 21, 1962, he lived a life filled with passion for truck driving and connecting with people along the way. After serving his country in the US Army, he pursued a career as a truck driver, where he found immense joy in exploring new places and meeting new faces. His outgoing nature and friendly demeanor made him a beloved figure among his colleagues and friends. After a brief illness, he passed away on Monday, Feb. 26, 2024, at UF Health Shands in Gainesville. He was preceded in death by his father, Donald Ray Cooper Sr.

He is survived by his mother, Mary Cooper of Hampton; his sons, Jamie Ray Cooper of Palatka and Brandon Cooper; as well as his brother, David Cooper.

A visitation was held at Hope Baptist Church Cemetery in Starke on March 1, followed by a graveside service.

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



PAID OBITUARY

Doyle Crews

Doyle Dewitt Crews, 95, of Starke passed away Saturday, March 2, 2024. He was born on Aug. 26, 1928, in Starke to Kirby and Carrie (Wainwright) Crews. He graduated from Bradford High School and joined the United States Air Force. He served in both the Korean and Vietnam wars and was a retired veteran after his 20 years of service. After his military service, he worked for the Department of Corrections for over 25 years. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Zella Jacqueline (Jackie) Rouse Crews; infant son, Daniel Terrance; son, Doyle D. Crews Jr.; his brothers, J.G. Crews and Harold A. Crews; and his sister, Madeline Dukes.

Survivors are his daughter, Zella Diane (Carlos) Castany of Miami; Timothy D. Crews of Crestview and Michael D. Crews of Zephyrhills; grandchildren, Jaclin R. Castany of Nevada, Zara E. Castany of New York, and Matthew D. (Kelli) Crews of Gainesville; and two great-grandchildren, Eliora and Elijah Crews.

Private graveside services will be at Conner Cemetery.

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

PAID OBITUARY

Doyle Crews Jr.

Doyle D. Crews Jr., 71, of Sylacauga, Alabama passed away on Friday, Dec. 1, 2023. He was born in Gainesville, and his parents were Doyle D. Crews Sr. and Zella Jacqueline (Jackie) Rouse Crews. He graduated from Bradford High School and also obtained two college degrees, one from the University of Florida and another from the University of Alabama. He worked for Southern Company-Nuclear in Birmingham, Alabama as an emergency management coordinator. He was preceded in death by a twin brother, Daniel Terrance, in infancy.

Survivors are his brothers, Timothy D. Crews of Crestview and Michael D. Crews of Zephyrhills; his sister, Zella Diane (Carlos) Castany of Miami; nieces, Jaclin R. Castany of Nevada and Zara E. Castany of New York; nephew, Matthew D. (Kelli) Crews of Gainesville; and grand-niece, Eliora Crews and grand-nephew, Elijah Crews of Gainesville.

PAID OBITUARY

Lola Hunter-Head

Mrs. Lola Mae Hunter-Head, 92, of Starke passed away Sunday, March 10, 2024, at Parkside Assisted Living Facility. She was born July 15, 1931, to Hardy H. and Mary (Hogan) Hunter in Genoa, a rural area of Hamilton County when, at the time, there was no electricity or running water, and all meals were cooked on a cast-iron wood-burning stove. Her early years were spent living in Hamilton and Suwanee counties until her move to Starke in 1958, where she retired as a clerk working for the Tax Collector's Office and Clay Electric. She was a dedicated longtime member of her local church and loved to travel in the RV along with shopping with her dearest friend, Mrs. Esther Hall. Her most cherished moments were spending time with her family. In addition to her parents; she was preceded in death by three husbands, Charles Zipperer, Thomas C. Roundtree, and Donnie P. Head; and sister, Barbara Nicoletti.

She is survived by her "Pride and Joy," Randall (Denise) Zipperer of Starke; and a brother, John Edward (Jerry) Bryan of Vero Beach. She was lovingly called "Grandma" by Randy (Joanie) Zipperer Jr., Michael (Anna) Zipperer, Crystal (Scott) Hilton, and Sara (John) Taylor; along with 13 great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends on Sunday, March 17, from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. at the DeWitt C. Jones Chapel. A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. with Pastor Scott Stanland officiating. Interment will be at Evergreen Cemetery in Jasper.

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



PAID OBITUARY

Floyd Kemp

Sgt. Maj. Floyd Brown Kemp died on Wednesday, March 6, 2024. He was born on Oct. 23, 1929, in Jacksonville to William P. Kemp and Molly C. (Kate) Dees Kemp. They moved to Lawtey when he was at an early age. He grew up on a farm near Lawtey and attended the local schools. He served in the Korean War and Vietnam War and later retired from the US Army after completing 27 years of service. After retiring from the Army, he worked as a Correctional Officer Sergeant at Lawtey Correctional Institution for 15 years. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Starke, American Legion Post #56, and Disabled American Veterans. He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Patricia A. Hagan; son, Floyd P. Kemp; brother, Perry J. Kemp; and his sister, Della L. Kitchens.

He is survived by his son, John W. Kemp of Ranger, Georgia; three daughters, Barbara J. Kemp of Canton, Georgia, Nell E. Kemp Robinson of Commerce, Georgia, and Robin M. Cochran of Ocala; his sister, Gladys M. Plant of Lacombe, New Hampshire; nine grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren.

The visitation and funeral services will be held at First Baptist Church in Starke on Friday, March 15. Visitation will be from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. and funeral services will start at 11:30 a.m. with Brother Harry Hatcher officiating. Burial will be at Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, Georgia on Monday, March 18, at 2 p.m. Military honors will be held at the gravesite. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to First Baptist Church of Starke, P.O. Box 1258, Starke, 32091.

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



PAID OBITUARY

Jasper Miles III

Jasper Jefferson (Jeff) Miles III passed away peacefully surrounded by his loved ones on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024. He was born July 17, 1945, in Miami to J. J. Miles Jr. and Ella (Brooks) Miles. Jeff served in the United States Air Force. He worked for NAPA Auto Parts in Starke and then in Keystone Heights, retiring in 1999. Jeff was a member of Eagle Aries #3822 and Loyal Order of Moose #184. He liked the "Noles and 'Go Dawgs."

Jeff is survived by his wife of 47 years, Susan; daughters, Michele (Troy) McGee of Keystone Heights and Andrea Gooderham of eastern Tennessee; six grandchildren; three great-grandsons; and a sister-in-law, Vicki Kuhl.

No services are scheduled at this time, instead hug your loved ones, start a garden and go fishing!



PAID OBITUARY

Marlene Murwin

Marlene Reddish Murwin, 92, of Starke passed away Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024, at her residence with her loving family by her side. She was born in Raiford on Oct. 17, 1931, to the late Rodman Reddish and Thelma Alvarez Reddish. She graduated from Bradford County High School in 1949 and shortly after graduation she met the love of her life, Roland "Buzzy" Murwin Jr., while he was enlisted in the United States Navy. The two married on Dec. 28, 1951. They moved around to various states during the course of his military services. While living in California, Marlene was an accountant/banker with one of the local branches. She was very proud of her banking career and often reminisced about them during her last days. Marlene, "Buzzy" and their children moved back to Florida in 1969 and the family lived in Jacksonville for several years, where she attended and was employed as a secretary for St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Following their relocation to Starke, where they made their forever home, she became a faithful member of Madsion Street Baptist Church, where she loved worshipping her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In her spare time, she enjoyed playing cards, taking camping trips with her family, sitting in her beautiful rose garden, and sewing. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who will be truly missed. She was preceded in death by her parents; her loving husband of 57 years, Roland "Buzzy" Murwin Jr.; and brother, Marshman Reddish.

She is survived by her children, Roland (Beth) Murwin III of Jacksonville and Melinda Becky "Taz" Kirk of Starke; sisters, Alice Kenney of Starke; Gail Gonzalez of Miami; JoeAnn Johnson of Starke; grandchildren, Travis Brendle, Andrew Moore, Roland W. Murwin and Mathew Murwin; seven great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Thursday, March 14, at 11 a.m. at Madison Street Baptist Church with Pastor Charles Warren officiating. The family will receive friends an hour prior at the church. Interment to follow at Bushnell National Cemetery, Bushnell. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to freights and missions to both Global Missions, 17701 N.W. 57th Ave., Miami, 33035 and Madison Baptist Church, 900 W. Madison St., Starke, 32091.

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

PAID OBITUARY



Lang Pons Sr.

Lang Ray Pons Sr., 76, of Gainesville passed away Saturday, March 9, 2024, at Haven Hospice E.T. York Care Center. He was born April 25, 1947, in Waldo to Lang and Evelyn (Dowling) Pons. He served two tours in Vietnam while serving his country in the United States Army. He lived most of his adult life in Gainesville before being moved into the veteran's nursing home in Lake City and then to Riverwood in Starke. Prior to his retirement, he was also a television repairman for several years. He loved fishing, woodworking, and putting together leather kits while at the VA nursing home. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Wanda Pons; and brothers, David Pons and Donald Pons.

Left behind to cherish his memory are his brothers Albert (Addie) Pons of Melrose and Michael (Donna) Pons of Alabama; sister-in-law, Doris Pons of Hinesville, Georgia; along with several nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held Tuesday, March 12, with Pastor Jim Dubois officiating. Interment will be at Providence United Church Cemetery Church. Please omit flowers and donate to the Paralyzed Veterans Association.

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

PAID OBITUARY

Kirby Smith Jr.

Kirby "Shi" Smith Jr., 82, of Melrose passed away Sunday, March 3, 2024, at Putnam Medical Center in Palatka. He was born March 24, 1941, in Hawthorne to Kirby Shi and Eula Mae (Dyal) Smith Sr. He had owned and operated his own electrical company prior to becoming employed with Georgia Pacific and then retiring from All Florida Electric. He enjoyed being outdoors hunting, fishing, gardening, and hosting yearly crawfish boils, but mostly he cherished the time he spent with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by siblings, Robert Holden Smith and Barbara Faye Blackshear.

Left behind to cherish his memory is his wife, Katherine "Kitty" Janice Smith; children, Michelle Smith and Kirby (Susie) Smith, Debbie (Bill) Burnard, Jimmy Cole, and Cindy (Sam) Sibley. Also left behind is his sister, Linda Smith Hildebran; and sister-in-law, Becki Smith. He was lovingly called "Papa Shi" by April N. (Johnnie) Braxton, Ashley M. Parker (Gary) Stone, Denise J. (Rodney) Brin, Michael J. (Lacey) Byrne Jr., Lacey G. (Jonathan) Adkins, Matthew (Jennifer) Pauley, Tiffany (Runar) Einarsson, Tabitha (Tiffany) Burnard-Travis, Chandler Burnard, Jessica (Robbie) Hunter, Jimmy Cole III, Samantha Sibley, and Laney Sibley; along with 21 great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends.

The family will receive friends beginning at 10 a.m., Saturday, March 30, at Sampson City Church of God. A memorial service will follow at 11 a.m. with Mr. Johnny Frampton officiating.

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

PAID OBITUARY

Wayne Sponholtz Sr.

Wayne Dwight Sponholtz Sr. passed away on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, after a courageous fight against lung cancer. He was born Nov. 16, 1943, in Palatka to the late Lester and Leola (Norman) Sponholtz. He moved from Lakeland to Keystone Heights in 1981 and for 24 years worked as a systems analyst/project leader for Alachua County School Board. He was an avid RVer, loved to fish and spent countless hours reading books for the blind.

He is survived by his wife, Anne Hay Sponholtz; and children, Leanne Gillingham, Corbin (Becky) Sponholtz, Tami (Chip) Dixon and Dwight Sponholtz; along with brother, Glenn (Marsha) Sponholtz, PhD; and sister, Marsha (Will) Reeves. He leaves behind the joys of his life, grandchildren, Brandon, Bradley and Bryce Gillingham, Landon and Chandlee Sponholtz, Reagan Dixon, Trey (Christianne) Dixon and Kyle (Amber) Dixon; along with nine great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, March 16, at 11 a.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church, Gainesville with Pastor Kolby Gollither officiating, followed by a reception in the fellowship hall. Interment will be at Keystone Heights Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family appreciates your consideration of a donation to the Foundation Fighting Blindness at: https://donate.fightingblindness.org/give.

PAID OBITUARY



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Celebration of Life

Darla Jean Christopher
(1959 - 2023)

Darla Jean Christopher, 64, of MacClenny, received her heavenly reward on May 30, 2023. She was born and raised in Starke to Donald and Darlene Christopher. Darla was a very accomplished attorney who graduated with honors from Harvard College and returned to Starke to serve the community with her talent, character, and generosity.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and sister, Dona (Christopher) Gorham; and a host of family and friends, too many to mention. She will be deeply missed but never forgotten as her life touched many hearts along her journey.

The Celebration of Darla's Life will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at a grave-side service located at Crosby Lake Cemetery in Starke, beginning at 1 p.m. Family and friends who have known Darla during her life are welcome to attend.

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Starke Kiwanis poker tourney is March 22

The next Kiwanis Club of Starke Patsy Welch Memorial Poker Tournament will be held Friday, March 22, at The Downtown Grill in Starke. Registration begins at 6 p.m., followed by play at 6:30 p.m.

Buy-in is \$60, which includes high hand and refreshments. Cash prizes are awarded for first, second and third places.

Bradford CIS will host bingo on March 25

Communities in Schools of Bradford County will host Bingo Family Night on Monday, March 25, from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. at The Downtown Grill in Starke.

The cost is \$20 for 10 games. A \$100 prize will be awarded for a last-game blackout.

All proceeds will go toward students benefitting from CIS. Twenty-five percent of food and beverage sales at The Downtown Grill during the event will go to CIS.

The event is sponsored by Smith Brothers Body Shop.

Indians defeat Palatka for 6th straight win

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Ty Mitzel drove in three runs to help the Keystone Heights High School baseball team defeat host Palatka 9-3 on March 8.

It was a 2-2 game before the Indians scored two in the top of the fourth. Alex Addington singled with two outs and scored on a Connor Guy double. Guy then scored on an Austin Musgrove double.

Keystone (6-1) extended its lead with a four-run fifth. Mitzel, who went 2 for 4, drove in two runs on a ground ball and later scored on a passed ball. Addington drove in a run as well.

Addington, Guy, Musgrove and Austin Smith each finished with one RBI.

Starting pitcher Gage Barry gave up two runs (both unearned)

and two hits in four innings. He had five strikeouts.

Mitel threw two innings, allowing one run, two hits and no walks.

Guy finished it off, giving up no hits in the final inning.

The Indians, who haven't lost since their season opener against Clay, began the week with an 8-0 win over host Williston on March 5.

Starting pitcher Mitzel gave up no hits and one walk through three innings, striking out five.

Brady Kerlin and Aiden Screen each pitched one inning, with Kerlin allowing two hits and Screen allowing one. Each had two strikeouts.

Musgrove had an RBI triple that was one of just five hits for Keystone. The Indians, though, had a big second inning in which five runs were scored on a wild pitch, a passed ball and an error.

The Indians hosted Baker County on March 7, with Musgrove striking out 12 in a 2-0 win.

Musgrove, who pitched a complete game, gave up two hits and no walks. He threw 84 pitches, with 64 being strikes.

Keystone scored both of its runs in the third. Guy, who went 2 for 2 with a double, drew a two-out walk and scored on a Musgrove triple. Smith then hit a run-scoring single.

The Indians will return to action on Tuesday, March 19, when they host Bradford at 7 p.m. Keystone travels to play Ridgeview on Wednesday, March 20, at 7 p.m. and then travels to play Yulee on Thursday, March 21, at 6:30 p.m.

Keystone returns home to play Williston on Tuesday, March 26, at 7 p.m.

Bethea wins twice, boys team has 2 top-4 finishes for UCHS in track

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Girls team member Amia Bethea won the 100m and 200m races, while Deonte Jones factored in two top-4 finishes for the boys team as Union County High School competed at the Ancient City Invitational on March 8 at St. Augustine High

School.

Bethea took first in the sprints with times of 12.55 and 26.25 seconds, placing ahead of St. Augustine's Hannah Johnson in both races. Johnson's times were 12.6 and 26.67.

Jones ran a fourth-place time of 51.95 in the 400m. He teamed up with Brycen Boney, Bo Thomas and Blake McCoy in the 4x400m relay, with the Tigers finishing fourth with a time of 3:38.

McCoy took sixth in the long jump with a distance of 18-1.25, while the 4x800m relay team of Gavin Smith, Michael Hill, Gavin Sparkman and Dane Johnson had a seventh-place time of 9:52.

Thomas also added to the Tigers' team score, placing eighth in the 400m with a time of 53.57.

Just missing out on scoring were Dayquan Diston with a ninth-place time of 11.68 in the 100m and C.J. Ivey with a ninth-place distance of 82-0.25 in the discus.

KHHS sets 2 school records at Clay County track meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School competed in the March 7 Clay County Championships in Orange Park, with the boys 4x800m relay team breaking the school record it had set just five days earlier and Kaylee Park establishing another school-best performance in the 100m hurdles.

The team of Hunter Sheppard, Ryder Thomas, Ryeland Wahl and Tyler Griffin ran a time of 9:16.93 to earn a third-place finish. The team ran a time of 9:22.67 at its previous meet.

Park's school record was a time of 17.19. It was her first time competing in the 100m hurdles at the varsity level (she last competed in the event at the Florida Youth Running Association Middle School State Championship in May 2023).

The Keystone boys team earned points for top-eight finishes in six other events. Griffin placed fourth in the 800m with a time of 2:11, while Thomas was sixth in the 1600m with a time of 4:55. The Indians

also got sixth-place finishes in the 4x100m relay (48.59) and the 4x400m relay (3:45) and from Jamari Turner in the 400m hurdles (1:08) Luke Lewis in the javelin (99-2).

Turner was one spot shy of scoring in the 100m hurdles with a ninth-place time of 20.03.

The Keystone girls team, which placed seventh, got a sixth-place finish from Cali Chamberlain, who ran the 400m hurdles in 1:20. The Indians earned seventh-place finishes in the 4x100m and 4x400m relays with times of 57.77 and 4:50.

Cali Chamberlain, Christine Djavaheri, Kaylee Park and Olivia Griffin

Park just missed scoring in the 200m with a ninth-place time of 28.54.

BHS' Kellum has win, 2nd-place finish at track meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School's Elijah Kellum competed at the March 9 Santa Fe Raiders Invitational, winning the long jump and finishing as runner-up in the triple jump.

Kellum's long-jump distance was 22-5, which put him ahead of Columbia's Kaden McKire (21-5.75). His 43-8.5 in the triple jump left him trailing only Ta Joun Waldon of Eastside, who jumped 45-8.

In the 100m, Kellum ran a time of 11.65.

UCHS scores 20 runs in baseball win

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Preston Bonsall, Trenton Klein and Kacen Thomassen each drove in three runs in the Union County High School baseball team's 20-6 win over visiting Nease on March 11.

The Tigers (3-5) scored all

the runs they'd need in the first inning. Foster Smith drove in a run with a double, while Thomassen drove in one with a single. Union then scored six more runs with two outs. Klein and Ayden Androlevich drove in two runs each on a single and a double, respectively. Androlevich would score on a wild pitch, while Bonsall drew a bases-loaded walk.

Union had a 10-run second inning to go up 18-2. The first run of the inning scored when Devin Diggs drew a bases-loaded walk. The rest of the scoring took place with two outs, with Bonsall, Thomassen and Erick Lasseter each hitting a two-run single.

Jake Walker hit an RBI double, while Klein had an RBI single. An error on a ground ball hit by Riggs Davis scored another run.

Klein and Thomassen each went 3 for 3.

Androlevich and Lasseter each finished with two RBI, while the Tigers got one RBI each from Davis, Diggs, Smith, Walker and Jesse Chaiken.

Starting pitcher Diggs threw two innings, giving up two runs (one earned) and one hit, while striking out four.

Bo Wilson pitched the final 2.2 innings, giving up no runs, one hit and no walks.

The Tigers entered the game off two straight losses.

On March 5, host Baldwin hit a two-out, two-run homer in the bottom of the seventh to hand Union a 3-2 defeat.

Union was held to four hits, one of which was an RBI double by Bonsall.

Diggs started on the mound, giving up one run and two hits through five innings. He had five strikeouts.

The Tigers had only two hits in a 7-2 loss at University Christian on March 7.

Lasseter hit an RBI single as part of a two-run third inning.

Androlevich entered the game at pitcher in the second inning, with the Tigers trailing 4-0. He pitched the rest of the way, allowing three runs on four hits and no walks.

Union played Suwannee this past Tuesday and will travel to play Trenton on Thursday, March 14, at 7:30 p.m.

BHS baseball team drops 9-4 game against Baker County

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School's baseball team fell behind 7-0 after the first two innings in a 9-4 loss at Baker County on March 8.

All of the Tornadoes' runs occurred in the sixth. Denver Hudson drove in one on a ground out, while Mattox Burgin drew a bases-loaded walk. A passed ball and an error allowed two runs to score.

Jerry Baxter entered the game in the second and pitched four innings, giving up two runs (one earned) on two hits and one walk.

Hudson gave up no hits in pitching the final inning.

Bradford (3-2) entered the game off a 13-3, five-inning win over visiting Fort White on March 7.

Hudson and Ryder Thompson each hit a double to drive in a combined three runs in a four-run first.

Luke Stucky, who had an RBI single in the first, was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded to force in a run as part of a three-run second.

Burgin and Thompson each drove in a run in the second as well.

Thompson finished 3 for 4 with five RBI, while Stucky was 2 for 3 with three RBI.

Ryland Rike hit a double and drove in two runs, while Burgin and Hudson finished with one RBI each.

Cason Pilcher got the start on the mound, giving up no runs and two hits through three innings. He struck out five.

The Tornadoes played Middleburg this past Tuesday and were scheduled to host Interlachen on Wednesday, March 13, at 7 p.m. Bradford travels to play Keystone Heights on Tuesday, March 19, at 7 p.m. before returning home to play P.K. Yonge on Wednesday, March 20, at 7 p.m.

HARRIS

Continued from page 11

She enjoyed meeting the players, who were eager to show off their school and its facilities.

"They gave me like older-sister vibes," Harris said. "You could just know that you would be OK going there."

Harris also likes the passion that Head Coach Vicky Gentile has for her program.

"The coach is also very friendly," she said. "She talks a lot about her program and her girls. You can tell she likes to work there and be with her team."

In assessing her game, Harris said she feels the biggest strides she's made have come in communicating with coaches and teammates. Monfort can agree with that, saying, "I remember

when I first started with Regan. She was a little shy."

"When I started, I wouldn't talk to hardly any of the girls or coaches, but now, when we're on the sidelines, I'm engaging with my teammates. We're all talking."

Harris said when it comes to transitioning to the game at the collegiate level, she'll have to work on improving her vertical as well as her speed-reaction time. She believes she's good at seeing the ball, but is still a step slow at times moving to it.

Monfort said the game gets faster and tougher as a player gets older and plays at higher levels. Harris will have to continue with the work ethic she's already shown and not forget about fundamentals and technique.

"In the long run, technique leads to good results," Monfort said, adding, "No matter how

good or bad things are, we stick with doing the right technique."

Monfort said it's always a thrill to see players he's coached get to play in college. He added that they're also people his younger players can look up to. With that in mind, he hopes Harris will return and speak to his younger players about the experiences she'll have at the next level.

"She is a person who's a good example to follow," Monfort said.

Harris said she's not sure what it's going to feel like the first time she steps onto the court as a North Carolina Wesleyan Battling Bishop. What she does know is that she'll simply continue playing a sport that she loves.

"I'll probably be nervous and excited, but it's just the same game I've been playing for six years," Harris said.

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