

Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, April 14, 2022

142nd year, 35th Issue — \$1

Drug death leads to child neglect arrest

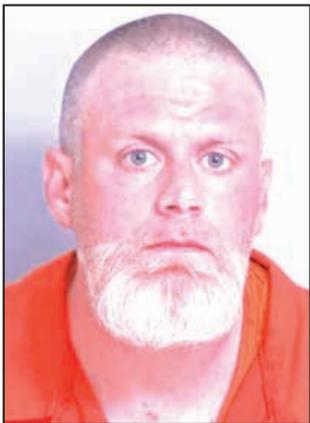
BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

STARKE — A 37-year-old Brooker man was arrested after his girlfriend died from an apparent drug overdose.

Dempsey Robert Sapp III was arrested on two counts of child neglect.

According to an arrest report, Sapp told deputies he arrived home from a night out around 2 a.m. on Monday, April 4 to discover 25-year-old Tanna Young unresponsive lying on a bed.

“Dempsey stated that he immediately identified the signs as being from a drug overdose and picked Tanna up, dragging her into the kitchen where he administered Narcan—used to aid with the recitation of opioid overdoses,” wrote arresting officer Cody Wells. “Dempsey then claimed that he dragged Tanna back into the



Sapp

master bedroom where she was still unresponsive.”

Wells added that Sapp called 911 at 4:01 stating that Young was unresponsive and that he could not find a pulse.

“Dempsey then stated that he didn’t need medical attention and that he was going to see if things improved since he had just administered the Narcan,” wrote Wells.

The deputy wrote that later, Sapp called 911 a second time, telling a dispatcher that Young’s condition had worsened, that her lips were white, she appeared not to be breathing, he could not locate a pulse and that she was stiff and cold to the touch.

When Bradford Fire Rescue arrived at the home, they pronounced the woman dead.

Wells wrote that during an interview

at the sheriff’s office, Sapp initially claimed he and Young had not taken any illegal narcotics recently.

“Later in the interview, Dempsey stated that the couple ‘may’ have done a little crystal methamphetamine and stated that the last time they did was on a Friday night while both of the couple’s children were present at the residence,” wrote Wells. “Further questioning revealed that Dempsey and a friend had used Fentanyl on Sunday night-Monday morning and that there was a possibility that Tanna got a hold of some due to (the friend) having left the Fentanyl in Dempsey’s vehicle.”

Wells added that since the couple took illegal narcotics while the children were present Friday night, he had probable cause to arrest Sapp for child neglect.

Lake Brooklyn up 1.5 feet in March

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — The St. Johns River Water Management District said that rainfall in March, which was more than double the month’s average, pushed water levels on Lake Brooklyn to 101.5 feet, a gain of 1.5 feet during the month.

The district said in a news release that although rain throughout the district averaged 7.03 inches, Alachua County recorded 11.7 inches of precipitation.



“Districtwide, the cumulative rainfall total for the past 12 months is 54.22 inches, which is 3.21 inches above the long-term average,” the district said.

The district also reported that river flows in the St. Johns and St. Mary’s rivers, along with their tributaries, were in the average or high ranges.

However, flows in the district’s springs dropped, including flows in Silver Springs, Rock Springs and Wekiwa Springs.

New Starke districts pass first reading

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Starke city commissioners advanced a redistricting ordinance to second reading last week.

The proposed changes will also be sent to the United States District Court for judicial approval.

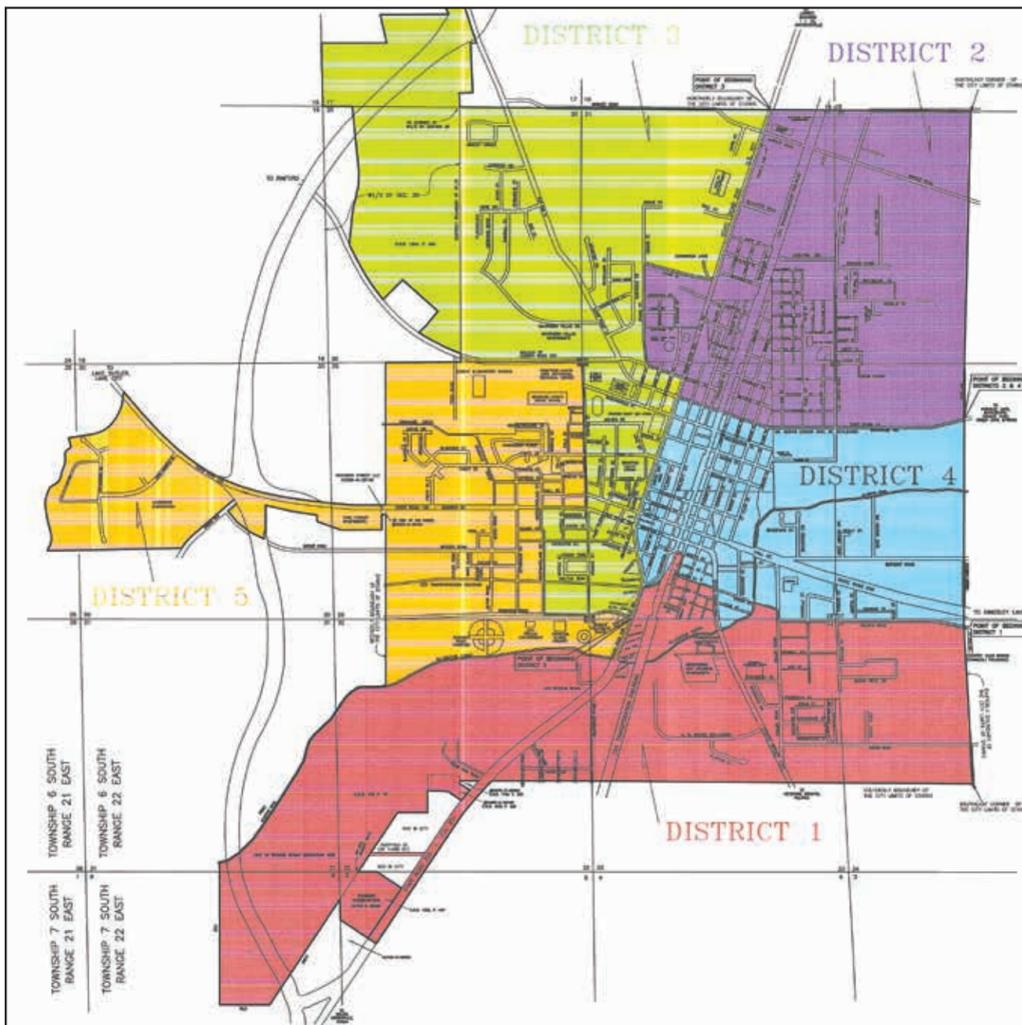
This will be the first time the district lines will be redrawn since they were first established in the late 1980s. Since then, population changes left the districts unbalanced.

The proposed update lowers the population deviations between districts to less than 1.5%.

It also preserves a majority minority district as required by the court following litigation. City attorney Clay Martin said the court will be asked to reopen the 1989 ruling and replace the previously approved maps with the new maps. Because both sides, plaintiffs and defendant, are working together, they don’t anticipated this to be a drawn out process.

The primary changes are with Districts 1 and 3, with the former shrinking to grow the population in the latter.

District 1 is the city’s southernmost district, represented by Danny Nugent. It’s northern boundaries are primarily Laura Street and Wilson Road east of



District 1 is in red, 2 is in purple, 3 is in green, 4 is in blue, and 5 is in orange.

See MAP, page 2

COMMUNITY STATE BANK
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WORTH NOTING

Easter event at RJE ballfield

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County and local churches will sponsor “Easter Straight Talk” on Saturday, April 16, at the RJE ballfield on Old Lawley Road in Starke. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., there will be an Easter egg hunt, plus free food and prizes.

Easter egg hunt in Lake Butler

The Auxiliary of VFW Post 10082 is having its Community Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, April 16, at 11 a.m. at the VFW Post off of Highway 231. Lunch will be served and there will be an egg hunt. Contact President Barbara Fischer at 904-263-0647 with any questions. In addition the VFW still has bingo every Thursday at 7 p.m. at the post.

Upcoming food distribution

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Farm Share and True Vine Ministry will take place Tuesday, April 26, at 9 a.m. at True Vine Outreach Ministry in Starke.

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

Basketball and tutoring

The Concerned Citizens of Bradford County’s 2022 Jr. NBA Spring Basketball League

will play every Tuesday and Thursday through April 28, 6–9 p.m. This developmental basketball league will also include free tutoring for all kids K–8th grade from 5–7 p.m. Parents please bring your kids to not only develop basketball skills but also develop and improve their academic skills.

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Fire Rescue reveals budget request down \$500k

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Bradford County's second budget workshop covered the singular topic of Bradford County Fire Rescue and gave commissioners a lot to think about.

Director Allen Parrish laid out the proposed operational plan for 2022-23 and what it will cost to carry out that plan.

Parrish has cut \$562,000 from the budget by not filling six positions due to a hiring freeze. As previously reported, this triggered the loss of one ambulance, which Parrish said would also result in a 20% reduction in ambulance response to the public and increased response times. In the first week without the ambulance, he said they had already experienced delays.

In addition to not filling those positions, personnel training hours will be cut, as will the number of on-call contingency personnel and personal leave coverage hours.

With a 9% cut from the current budget, the request for next year is \$5.8 million. Projected revenue from fees for service and interfacility transfers is \$3.26 million, a conservative number, according to Parrish. That means the board will need to find an additional \$2.56 million to fund the fire rescue budget as

proposed.

Personnel wages, salaries and benefits account for 80% of the budget. Around \$310,000 is requested for executive salaries, which includes the director, two division chiefs, a training captain and the fire marshal/inspector. Wages and salaries for the 50 full-time fire rescue employees and 15 part-timers total \$2.6 million. Benefits, including taxes, retirement, insurance and worker's compensation adds another \$1.7 million. All compensation is set by the commission. Union-bargained pay increases resulting from class changes as well as department departures will impact the final numbers.

The remaining budget request includes \$1.03 million for operations, a \$75,000 grant match for a new ambulance and/or remount, and \$70,000 in contingency funds.

The operations plan provides for four advance life support ambulances — one each in Starke, Sampson City, Lawley and Theressa. It provides for an Advance life support fire engine with a paramedic/fighter and a EMT/firefighter at Sampson City. A basic life support engine with two EMT/firefighters will be stationed in Lawley and Theressa. The paramedic lieutenant will be stationed at fire rescue headquarters and the fire

lieutenant will be stationed at the courthouse annex.

Missing from the budget request is \$789,000 the sheriff received to refurbish the station in Heilbronn Springs prior to Parrish becoming responsible for fire services. Parrish said if the board decides to proceed with that project, the money will need to be put back into his budget.

Parrish said this is a first draft of his budget which will undoubtedly change as budget workshops continue. The next was scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, at 6 p.m.

Billing and collections

Because Bradford County Fire Rescue has been in the spotlight as commissioners consider how to cover public safety costs, Parrish also tried to clear up misconceptions about how the department operates. One criticism has been billing for services and the thousands of dollars in uncollected debt written off each month.

Both billing and debt collection services are outsourced, with Alachua County Fire Rescue currently contracted for billing. More than \$4 million was collected in 2020-21, for which Bradford paid Alachua nearly \$169,000. That was 4% of net revenue, which is normal for the industry, Parrish said. National Recovery Agency handles unpaid debt, keeping 15% of whatever it collects.

Bradford County Fire Rescue has a single administrative assistant, and when Parrish was hired in 2008, that individual was taking work home on weeknights and weekends to try to stay caught up. There was still a three- to four-month backlog and \$3 million in uncollected debt — none of which was being reported to credit bureaus. That's why shortly after joining, Parrish recommended outsourcing billing.

Around 5,000 accounts were

turned over to the first billing vendor, and within months they were caught up — evidenced by the citizens who would line up at the EMS office to complain they were being billed for past services rendered.

Parrish said bringing billing in house would require three full-time employees (the number Alachua has assigned to Bradford billing) making a \$15 an hour minimum wage plus benefits, several thousand dollars in software, plus the unknown cost of ongoing employee certification.

While the perception might be that the county would do a better job billing for its own services, it would come at a cost and some additional problems, like employee turnover and retention.

Not that outsourcing has been without problems. Whenever Parrish sensed a vendor was underperforming, he would quickly find another. The service changed hands many times.

"I was told at that point in time by the then county manager that we were going to make one more move to a billing company and that was going to be it, and that I was going to have to live with whatever we got. ... Each time you transition the billing company, it takes a long time to do that because they have all the records and it's very confusing," he said.

Parrish said creating a billing department might pay off for Bradford County in the long run, but the decision needs to be based on information, not perception.

"I mean, we're hurting for revenue, and for us to spend that money that we're not going to get a return on for many years down the road, I think we need to look at that," he said.

Outsourcing debt collection allowed credit bureaus to be notified with patients did not pay. Prior to that, EMS could only seek a county judgment, which Parrish said never recouped any money. There was no uniform policy. The policy in place now is auditor recommended and

commission approved.

Now when fire rescue requests and the commission approves monthly write-offs, those are the bills that get referred to the collections agency after 180 days of nonpayment. This is not debt that is being forgiven, as some seem to believe, Parrish said.

"There's been a lot said about write-offs, a lot of conversation about EMS writing off accounts, throwing away money, not collecting enough money. I've heard it all over the last couple of months," he said.

Even the threat of ruined credit doesn't ensure fire rescue will be paid for its services. Unlike a business that could refuse service for nonpayment, fire rescue must respond, Parrish said, even when patients are uninsured and have no other means of payment.

"Out of all the collection agencies that we've been with since I've been here, NRA has been the most productive, and with saying that, they still aren't very productive. One way we look at that is if the collection agency is not able to collect a lot of money, it must mean that our billing company is doing a fairly good job. ... The other way to look at that is simply, industrywide, people just don't pay their medical bills," he said.

Parrish also talked about how they are hurt by Medicaid and Medicare, which adjusts medical bills by hundreds of dollars — money which the county is never paid. He showed examples, including a \$945 charge reduced to \$190 after the Medicaid adjustment.

Parrish hasn't given up on increasing revenue through billing. He would like to negotiate a performance-based contract with Alachua County Fire Rescue to incentivize their work for Bradford by allowing Alachua to keep a percentage of what it collects instead of a flat fee.

A flat fee is how they have been paid since 2015, with an annual 2% increase.

Other misconceptions

Parrish addressed what some have said about the ambulance service being too big or the number of calls being inflated. He showed how the number of calls for service has increased since 2020. He also made a case for something else they have been criticized for, and that is transporting emergency room patients to the hospital. He said giving up that contract would be "foolish" considering it netted more than \$1 million in 2020-21. Unlike some patients, the hospital pays its bills.

Parrish said it is not true that he kept a private ambulance service from operating in the county. In fact, in 2017 he issued a certificate to operate in Bradford to a company who was assisting with interfacility transfers at his request. The next year, Bradford EMS ceased most transfers, focusing instead on emergency response. He and the medical director even helped the company find a local facility from which to operate.

Then the hospital in Starke was purchased by HCA and turned into a standalone emergency room. According to Parrish, HCA preferred working with the county instead of the private vendor, so fire rescue — with the board's approval — began making those transfers and profiting from the arrangement. The private company's certificate to operate was not renewed.

"The reason we went with the transfers to start with is we knew we had to add another truck to take care of the 911 calls. But, we knew we couldn't afford it. That's why we went and got the transfers. It's sitting there for us. It's a million dollars. The county's starving for revenue, and we were willing to go work for it. So, anybody that says we shouldn't be doing transfers is not looking at it economically," he said.

Penny surtax could lower taxes

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — The idea of a new sales tax surcharge was floated during the April 6 Bradford County Commission budget workshop.

According to County Clerk Denny Thompson, the county could place a 1-cent sales tax referendum on the ballot for the upcoming election, which if approved by voters, could raise more than \$2 million in revenue.

Thompson said the Emergency Fire Rescue Services and Facilities Sales Surtax would not be new revenue, however, as levying the tax requires the commission to rollback property tax revenue by the same amount.

Essentially it would be a wash.

What makes the sales tax attractive to some, however, is that it spreads the cost of government services out to a larger group of people. Like the gas tax, it would be paid by anyone who makes taxable purchases in Bradford County.

Currently, the property tax rate is maxed at 10 mills. Only property owners pay that tax.

There could be complications that prohibit the county from moving forward. To date, only a single county — Liberty — has levied the surtax for EMS and fire services and facilities. Implementation and annual requirements have proved so tedious that Liberty may abandon

the tax.

Still, Bradford County commissioners seem interested in finding a way to fund fire rescue, with new special assessments being the last resort. They have also expressed interest in rolling back the property tax rate.

The board can't act on the surtax without public approval, however, and it remains to be seen whether voters would understand they would be swapping a penny more at the cash register in order to lower annual tax bills.

The clerk's office and county attorney are continuing to research the surtax option, and met with commissioners April 12 to discuss this and other potential revenue sources.

MAP

Continued from page 1

U.S. 301. West of the highway, District 1 covers the city south of Alligator Creek down to Walmart and the city spray field.

District 2, represented by Janice Mortimer, is the city's majority minority district (63% Black, 8% Hispanic). It is the northeast section of Starke, north of S.R. 16 and east of 301. It will change very little, taking a small bite out of District 3 between Davis and Weldon streets west of 301.

District 3 is the northwestern section of Starke, west of U.S. 301 and north of Weldon Street. It is represented by Shannon Smith. It is losing a section south of Weldon and north of Pratt to District 5. However, it is also growing through the center of Starke to absorb much of the area lost by District 1. This section extends through Starke to Edwards Road.

District 4, represented by Scott Roberts, extends from U.S. 301 in central Starke to the eastern city limits. Its northern boundary is S.R. 16, and its southern boundaries include Laura Street and Wilson Road.

Across the map on the western side of Starke is District 5, represented by Wilbur Waters. It will absorb the area of Starke Elementary and the middle school from District 3. It's western borders are largely Orange and Westmoreland streets, while Alligator Creek lies to the south. The district extends westward down S.R. 100 to include Pinewood Apartments and Lakewood Subdivision.

Districts 1, 3 and 5, are up for election this year. The election will line up with the county's primary on Aug. 23. In the event of a runoff election, the date will be Nov. 8.

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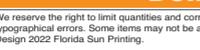
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Wednesday
April 13

Midweek Service
with Foot Washing
6:30 P.M.

Sunday, April 10

PALM SUNDAY
WORSHIP
10:30 A.M.

Saturday, April 16

Community Easter Egg Hunt
9:30 A.M. until Noon
1907 Ralford Road Starke, FL
games, hayrides, food, horses, train rides,
music, bounce house and egg hunt

Thursday
April 14

"Love Feast"
Communion Service
6:30 P.M.

Friday
April 15

GOOD FRIDAY
COMMUNITY SERVICE
10:00 A.M.

Sunday
April 17

EASTER SUNDAY
WORSHIP SERVICE
10:30 A.M.

Church News



90th birthday celebrated

William Shanley celebrated his 90th birthday surrounded by family and friends. Around 30 guests attended the Florida Gator-themed party at Fun Point in Starke over the weekend. His daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren showed up to visit.



Holy Week at FUMC

First United Methodist Church of Starke invites you to celebrate Holy Week. The Love Feast communion service is Thursday, April 14, at 6:30 p.m. There will be a community service for Good Friday on April 15 at 10 a.m.

The community is also invited to the Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 16, from 9:30 a.m. to noon at 1307 Raiford Road in Starke. There will be games, horses, hayrides, train rides, music, bounce houses and food.

The Easter Sunday worship service will be at 10:30 a.m. April 17. The church is located at 200 N. Walnut St. in Starke.

with the Revs. Alvin Greene and Dwayne McBride. The location is 746 Pine St. in Starke. Please bring your lawn chairs.

monumental occasion.

Easter service and egg hunt

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church, 12745 NE 227th Lane in Raiford, invites you to join them on Sunday, April 17, at 11 a.m. for the annual Easter Resurrection Service and egg hunt.

Join Hope for Easter breakfast

Hope Baptist Church will host breakfast on Easter Sunday at 9:30 a.m. prior to church services. Special music and reenactments will follow during the 11 a.m. main service. The church is located at 3900 SE State Road 100 near the Keystone Airport.

Sunrise service at Lake Butler

First Christian Church of Lake Butler will be holding an Easter Sunrise Service for the community at the lake on Sunday, April 17, at 7 a.m. Breakfast will be served at the church immediately after the service - All are welcome and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Resurrection service at True Vine

True Vine Ministry's Resurrection Service will take place Sunday, April 17, at 10 a.m. at True Vine Ministry. There will be free food, drinks and giveaways distributed. The public is invited to attend this

Easter services at First Presbyterian

The First Presbyterian Church of Starke will have its Maundy Thursday service with communion at 5 p.m. April 14. Easter Sunday service will be at 10 a.m. on the grounds (weather permitting). All are welcome to join on this special day of Christian life.

Preschool Storytime on Wednesdays

During Preschool Storytime at Bradford County Public Library, children 5 years old or younger can engage in a variety of entertaining activities designed for developing minds. This fun-packed early literacy program begins at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays throughout the month of April. To sign your child up, call 904-368-3911 and ask for the children's department.



Making a flower appear was one of many impressive tricks performed at a magical Preschool Storytime at Bradford County Public Library. Photos courtesy of the library.

Hunt glowing eggs

Believer's Worship Center, 8736 S.R. 21 in Melrose, will have a Glow in the Dark Easter Egg Hunt on Friday, April 15, at 7:30 p.m. There will be refreshments and door prizes and, of course, candy for all! Bring your friends and family. This is a free event.

Spring revival at Greater Allen

Greater Allen Chapel will have an open air spring revival on Thursday and Friday, April 14 and 15, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

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Letters

Elect better leadership

Dear Editor:
It is obvious from reading recent editions of the Bradford Telegraph, and keeping up with other news items, that we are in desperate need of better people in government, locally as well as nationally.

It seems from the most recent information that the Keystone Heights City Council meetings have become personal donnybrooks. They appear to be a bigger comic scene than the Keystone Kops could ever achieve, with their name calling and bickering back and forth about social media posts that sensible politicians would sensibly avoid.

In Bradford County the county commission cannot decide whether or not to search for a truly qualified and efficient county manager. The present situation of having the county attorney serve the dual role of attorney/county manager is simply rife with conflict of interest. A county manager is expected to propose good ideas to help the county function well, manage day-

to-day operations based on policies adopted by the county commission, and see to real budgeting. The county attorney is supposed to know state law and regulations and ensure that the commission and county manager follow those laws and regulations. How can this be done by one person filling both roles? It simply cannot be done properly.

Also, we elect county commissioners to represent us as they learn and deal with county issues and needs, and make intelligent, comprehensive decisions to fulfill those needs. There has been much discussion of funding for a county fire department, but rather than make a decision regarding this, the commissioners have punted to "let's have a referendum" on this issue. Nothing will ever get done until we have commissioners willing to make a decision and vote on what needs to be done. I watched the video of their "town hall" meeting for the public to express themselves on a fire assessment. It was a loud, unseemly joke! Precious little was said regarding a fire assessment while people talked about taxes in general, complaining as usual. Taxes are going to be with us,

complaints or not. As a city of Starke taxpayer, I resent people in the county taking it for granted that our city fire department should be available to respond to everything in the county while getting nothing in return.

And nationally, our government is in a period of pure catastrophe and disgrace with a weak-kneed president who has engendered extremely high inflation, exorbitant fuel costs that

could easily be prevented by going back to our own energy production, and appointment of incompetents to every cabinet seat or military post. I say all of this to simply state we need to make much better choices when we go to the polls to vote on local, state or national offices.

James D. Powell
Starke

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When?

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11am - Hot Lunch
11am-12pm - Registration and Safety Speech
12pm - Shooting Begins.

Where?

Bradford Sportsman Farm
11394 SW 106th Ave,
Graham, FL 32042

Price

Registration Fee - \$100.00/Shooter (Includes Hot lunch)

Lake Region

KH council approves road barriers for Pecan Street

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — The city council approved an interlocal agreement with the Clay County School District which will allow the district to close a portion of Southwest Pecan Street during parts of school days.

The 3-2 vote during the council's April 4 meeting passed with the proposal's major opponent absent.

Tony Brown argued against the project when it was first proposed in October.

Council Member Bobby Brown voted against the agreement during the April 4 meeting.

In October, Keystone Heights Elementary School Principal Beth Turbeville told council

members that the section of Pecan Street between Southwest Highland Avenue and Orchid Avenue has been reserved for bus pick up and drop off. However, people in cars continue to use the road.

"From the beginning of the year, we've had cones, we've had barriers set up and cars will literally blow right past," Turbeville said. "We've had near accidents that have been very scary, especially since we have students crossing that street even though we are there with them."

Tony Brown led the criticism of the proposal, saying he preferred to try improved signage and intensified law enforcement before closing the road to the public during school hours.

Residents living near the school have argued against the barriers, telling council members

the proposal would impede access to their homes and increase traffic and unauthorized street parking on Breezeway Drive and Southwest Cardinal Drive.

Prior to the April 4 vote, Bruce Harvin, representing the school district said signs restricting traffic on the road have not stopped drivers from using the street during bus drop-off and pickup times.

"If somebody intentionally were to go down there, the sign's not going to stop them," Harvin said. "That swing arm gate will, and I hope it does damage to their car."

Under the agreement, the school district will bear the construction and maintenance costs for the barriers.

Mayor Karen Lake said she has supported the barriers since



A rendering of the gate blocking traffic from entering Southwest Pecan Street from Orchid Avenue.

the idea was first proposed last year.

"I think, you know, for 20 minutes twice a day, for the interruption of what that means to residents, I feel like that safety and security is needed," Lake said.

Vice Mayor Steve Hart said that the agreement has a bailout

provision that allows the city to cancel the agreement at any time.

"Secondly," he added, "if it saves the life of one kid, I think it's worth at least trying."

Bobby Brown said the swing gate itself could be a safety hazard.

"If it gets hit by a vehicle it would have enough strength to

kill somebody as it was swinging around," he said.

Brown added that instead of the road barriers, he favored more stringent law enforcement in the area during bus times.

CPA featured during Lake Region business meeting

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — An accountant offered money-saving tips to business owners during the March meeting of the Lake Region Prosperity Council.

Patrick Fields of DuVal Fields CPA Group said his firm was originally based in Orange Park but moved to Green Cove Springs in 2000.

"In January of 2019, we purchased a business right in downtown Keystone on Nightingale Street," he said, "so we also have a satellite office there that's open a few days a week."

Fields added that with 15 staff members, his firm can handle a wide range of accounting, business and tax issues.

"We try to be a one-stop shop," he said. "We try to have the relationships with everybody so when you come to me, and you want to start your business I can send you to a banker, I can send you to the chamber to get involved, I can send you everywhere."

Fields added that the core of his practice consists of construction contractors and real estate developers.

The CPA said it is essential for new businesses to select the right legal form and to set up an accounting system before they begin operations. He added that the failure to put forethought into those activities often results in problems emerging later down the timeline.

"Everybody starts with an LLC," he said of choosing the legal form of a business.

Fields added the do-it-



Patrick Fields spoke to the Lake Region Prosperity Council in March

yourselfers often neglect considering other legal forms like an S corporation, partnership, or C corporation.

"People can really cost themselves a lot of money by choosing that wrong designation," he said.

Fields added that an accurate and efficient accounting and reporting system pays off when business owners are seeking a loan or later when they sell their businesses.

He also said clean records will help in the event of an IRS audit.

Fields also addressed what he said is a common misconception in the tax preparation field: the belief that taxpayers who file extensions are more likely to get audited by the IRS.

"That's absolutely the opposite of the fact," he said. "In 2019, 4% of tax returns were audited out of all tax returns."

He added that returns extended to October have about one-half the chance of being audited than those not extended.

KH Methodist pastor resigns

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — Jeff Tate told the congregation of Keystone Heights's First United Methodist Church, during the congregation's Wednesday services that he has accepted the position of pastor at a church in northern Alabama.

Tate wrote in a social media post that the move to the North Alabama Methodist Conference comes after a decade of seeking God's will in prayer.

"It is an appointment that will also allow us to be closer to family," Tate wrote.

The Auburn University and



Jeff Tate

Asbury Theological Seminary graduate will be leading the First United Methodist Church of Fort Payne. He has served in Keystone Heights for six years. Tate led congregations in Lake City and Appalachia before coming to the Lake Region.

"Six years is just long enough to fall deeply in love with people and a place, such as we never want to leave," he wrote. "And though we are deeply sad to leave Keystone Heights, we are so grateful for all of you who have reached out to us, loved on us, prayed for us, supported us, cried for us. And been excited for us. We need all of you."



Director Michael Raffice leads the Kiwanis Community Band during its 2017 fall concert at Keystone Beach. Photo: LaDonna Hart for the Kiwanis Community Band.

Revival, concert, historic walk coming

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — During its April 4 meeting the city council approved two events for the beach pavilion and park and another on South Lawrence Street.

Keith Hatch of Center Cross Ministries told the council that the ministry's tent revival near Hatch Realty Services from May 16 through May 19 will be a repeat of last year's event in which 13 people were baptized.

He added that parking will be at Community Church

and the event will provide a golfcart shuttle between parking and the event.

Nina Rodenroth, chair of the city's Heritage Commission said her group is hosting a walking tour of 20 Keystone Heights historic homes the Saturday before Mother's Day. The tour will begin at the beach pavilion and the first 50 mothers in attendance will receive a rose and a dessert.

Participants will be given a flyer which will guide them on the self-directed tour. Each home will also have a sign that matches entries on the

flyer. The event begins at 10 a.m.

Rodenroth added that the owners of two properties have recently applied for a historic plaque: a Southwest Jasmine Avenue home owned by Eddie Arnold and the Hatch Realty Services building on South Lawrence Boulevard.

Vice Mayor Steve Hart said that the community band's return to the beach will be the first time in two years the group has performed there.

The one-hour, Lake Region Kiwanis-sponsored concert will be on June 4 around noon.

Water conservation month declared

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — The city council approved a proclamation designating April as water conservation month.

Mayor Karen Lake said April is a typically dry month, when water demands are most acute.

"The City of Keystone Heights has always encouraged and supported water conservation," she said, "through various education

programs and special events."

Doug Conkey, intergovernmental coordinator for the St. Johns River Water Management District said conservation is not a month-long endeavor but an everyday endeavor.

"As we recognize growth is coming to Florida in great numbers," he said, "conservation plays a much (greater role) in our everyday lives."

Conkey said that one example of the district's

efforts to conserve water was last year's decision to waive fees to plug unused or abandoned artesian wells.

He said the action resulted in 62 artesian wells plugged in the last six months.

"Which is more than any full fiscal year in the previous 50 years of the water management district's history," he said. "Most importantly though is that 10.4 million gallons of water a day are saved because of that."

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Sheriff brings Hammer and Hope to Lake Region

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — Sheriff Michelle Cook brought her Hammer and Hope program to the Lake Region on Monday, March 21 in the parking lot of Keystone's First Baptist Church.

The initiative combines a crackdown on drug activity with an event that makes residents aware of substance abuse, mental health, and housing support services.

"We cannot arrest our way out of our drug problem," Cook said during the event. "We have 25 service providers here. You can get anything from health screenings to Narcan."

Cook added that later in the day, she was accompanying deputies on executing arrest and search warrants in the Lake Region.

"The hammer is putting people in jail," she said, "but as a community we also have to have hope, and the hope pathway is for people and families who want and need help."

Cook's first Hammer and Hope event was last year in Clay



The sheriff's office released these photos of its first Hammer and Hope warrant in High Ridge Estates, which it said resulted in the seizure of cocaine, crystal methamphetamine and three firearms.

Hill in which her agency hosted in rural northwest Clay County. community service providers and also made 52 drug-related arrests



Hammer and Hope combines a crackdown on drug activity with an event that makes residents aware of substance abuse, mental health, and housing support services.



Billy Jackson and Tanya Dennis of Lake Area Ministries. Dennis said many people don't realize that in addition to giving away food, the ministry also distributes pet food and personal hygiene products. She also said the organization serves residents of Bradford County who live east or south of Hope Baptist Church and residents of Putnam County, in addition to Keystone Heights-area residents.



Jolynn Carter and Brandi Tubbs of Mercy Support Services. The nonprofit has a rapid rehousing program and a self-sufficiency program that helps prevent homelessness. The group is also building Mercy Village on College Drive near Orange Park which will consist of 65 housing units.



Stephanie Isom of Changing Homelessness, which helps veterans find housing.



Carey Morford, Pastor of Mission of the Dirt Road said her church recently restarted community classes. The church also launched a youth development program in January which rewards participants with a trip if the participants meet predetermined goals. The program also matches each student with a mentor.

"We Are Debtors"

One day on a hill my Savior died,
He paid the sin debt for you and I.
So alone was he that wonderful day,
On a hill — so far away.
His great agony was my gain,
My safety was His pain.
For God so loved the world that He
sent His Son to die for you and me.

by Henry Hodges
Lawtey, FL

Folk Fest in Melrose

Ten of the finest singer-songwriters from the North Florida Folk Network will be our featured artists for a one day only concert at the NFFN Spring Folk Fest! The show will be between 3-9 p.m. on Saturday, April 23, at Junction 21, located at 322 SR 26, Melrose, FL 32666.

This fun and family friendly outdoor event is free and open to the public. You will hear the full spectrum of acoustic folk music genres, from old to new, blues to country, traditional to alternative and more, which offers a little something for all acoustic music enthusiasts.

Bring your lawn chair (service animals are welcome) and enjoy an evening with from some of the best acoustic acts from all over Northeast Florida from John French, Chuck Hardwicke, Bill "Gator" Greene, Lee Hunter and Joey Kerr, Pete Garfinkel, Sweet William Ennis, Skip Flatt, Chris Kastle, Under Dawg, and Ryan Lane.

Artists will have their cd's and merchandise for sale on site. Food truck, parking and cold beverages available at Chiapini's!

For more information please contact Cindy Bear at (904) 626-2829, or nffnpresident@gmail.com.

This concert is sponsored by the North Florida Folk Network.

Christ has risen

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Sunday April 17th

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- Breakfast at 8
- Reach groups at 8:45
- Easter service at 10

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UNION COUNTY

Boat races bring excitement, money to Lake Butler

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Editor

LAKE BUTLER — For the third time, on April 9, drag racing boats took to the water in Lake Butler, with all drivers expressing their favor of the lake and their disfavor with the wind.

Seventy-nine brightly colored boats, competing in nine classes (Formula 1, Formula 2, River Racer, Unlimited, Pro-Mod 1250, 1400 Carb, Bass and Ski, V-6 Pro and Pro-Mod 1400) were ordered into pairs to race down the marked course. Speeds varied, with some classes reaching for the 100 mph mark. Drivers of all levels competed, each in their class, with the races run as double eliminations — meaning that each driver had to lose two races to be eliminated from the event. The boats ranged from stock (like anyone would take out fishing on a weekend) to several different modified types based on weight, engine displacement, hull configuration and fuel system/type.

The wind was brisk for most of the race, with nearby vendors tents trying, and sometimes partially succeeding, to take flight. A number of food vendors and trucks provided a variety of treats and meals for the spectators and competitors. The Union County Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services were on hand in case of a problem.

A problem did in fact occur, on the Friday before race day, when a boat's performance was effected by the wind, injuring the driver, Charlie Hunt, and took him out of competition. Race organizers asked all present to take the time to offer good wishes and prayers for Hunt's speedy recovery and return to competition.

The spectators were a varied lot, with single people, couples and families all enjoying the lake and sunny weather. Most seemed to be from out-of-town, however, coming from as far away and Sebring and points south to



Andrea McDonald was selling some delicious lemonade at the races. The day was warm, so her sales area was popular. And...the blueberry lemonade was incredible.

watch the races.

City Commissioner David Stegall was on hand for the races and said the out-of-town attendance was something the city had been hoping for. He said that the city hoped local residents would choose to come out and enjoy the show, but also hoped that people from the surrounding area and other locales would come for the race and see the recreational possibilities of the lake and plan to return, pumping money into the local economy by patronizing the stores and restaurants.

About 350 people came and

went throughout the afternoon, watching the races, patronizing the food vendors and shopping with local artists, food providers and other vendors arranged around the perimeter of Lakeside Park.

The races are now part of the Southern Outlaw Dragboat Association (SODA) and are a part of their regular schedule. Organizers said they were very impressed with the lake and the city as a venue for their sport and found the local people friendly and welcoming.



Olivia Hilliard and her son Darries were just driving around Lake Butler looking for a fun way to spend a sunny day. She saw the signs for the boat races and she went to the lake to watch.



Carol Smith, from Gainesville, came to meet her friend of 25 years and spend the day at the boat races. She said it was her first boat race but she loved the water and was enjoying the beauty of the lake.



Richard and Kasey Kelley were making handpopped Kettle corn with their Kettle Creations sales tent.



Local artist Erin Beighley was on hand at the races, selling some of her intricate hand wrapped jewelry, once she got her tent down before it blew away.



A brightly colored boat, in the Formula 1 Class, leaves a long wake but was amazingly quiet.



The Cain Family came from Alachua to watch the races. Father Matt said he was a "quasi-boater" and did not follow the races but decided to get his family out of the house and spend the day in Lake Butler. The family has been to the lake before jet skiing. Shown are (l-r) Skye, mom Chrissy, Bella, Matt and Eli.



Union County Fire Department volunteers Jim Rooney, Mickey Foster and Jack Eck were on hand to make sure all were safe. Foster also got the opportunity to see his friends, Anna and Scott Eason, from Waycross, race at the event.

Union County spelling champ wins regional competition

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

LAKE BUTLER — A St. Johns County home schooled eighth-grader who represented Union County in the First Coast Spelling Bee won the event and will now compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington this summer.

Soon after Sam Evans and his family moved from the South Florida community of Wellington to St. Johns County, he discovered that his new home had already crowned its spelling champion.

A Jacksonville television station, which is the sponsor of the First Coast Bee said it called other counties in the area that would allow Evans to compete, and Union County welcomed the new North Florida resident.

After 16 rounds of the First Coast event, only four of the original 14 competitors remained: Evans, Cindy Kim of Columbia County, Jeevan George from Alachua County and Rena Reddish, an eighth grader from Keystone Heights Junior High.

Reddish went out in Round 17 with "suppress." In Round 19, Kim misspelled "governante" and George was incorrect with "tankard." The two errors opened the door for Evans to win the contest with his correct spelling of "inhabitants."



Sam Evans

Evans has been competing in spelling bees since 2018, placing fifth at a regional competition in 2019 and reaching the finals of online spelling bees in 2020 and 2021.

He is a Scrabble devotee,

and participates in basketball, golf, online gaming and trivia contests.

Alexander Murnahan, a sixth-grade student at Bradford Middle School also competed in the First Coast Bee.

Elections coming up in Union County and around the state

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Editor

The year 2022 is an election year and although it is a bit early to print lists of candidates, it is time to let the citizens of Lake Butler and Union County know what races will be on the ballot.

Locally, the first election will be three seats on the Lake Butler City Commission. Qualifying for the election will take place from 12 noon on Monday, May 23 through 12 noon on Friday, May 27. Seats up for election and/or retention for the city will be: Seat 3, currently held by Annette Redman, Seat 4, currently held by Jimmy Beasley and Seat 5, currently held by Fred Sirmones. The election is being supervised by Deborah Osborne, Union County Supervisor of Elections and will be held on June 28.

Three seats are also to be decided on the Union County School Board this year. Qualifying for candidates will be held from 12 noon on Monday, June 13 until 12 noon on Friday, June 17. Qualifying by petition ends at 12 noon on Monday, May 16. Three seats are to be decided this year on the school board. These are: Seat 1, currently held by Allen Parrish, who has already announced that he will be retiring and as such will not run; Seat 3, currently held by Curtis Clyatt and Seat 5, currently held by Terra Johanson. The primary, should one be necessary, will take place on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, with the General Election to be held on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022.

Two seats are to be decided on the Union County Board of Commissioners in 2022. Qualifying information for the county seats is the same as outlined in above paragraph, as are the primary and election dates. Seats to be decided in 2022 are: Seat 2, currently held by freshman commissioner Channing Dobbs and Seat 4, currently held by Lacey Cannon, also just concluding his first term this year.

It should be noted that there is still time for anyone interested in running for a city or county office to get their necessary information from the office of the Union County Supervisor of Elections and qualify to participate and serve their community.

There are also a number of offices to be decided on the federal and state level this year. On the federal level there is one seat coming up for election or retention in the U.S. Senate and all the seats in the House of Representatives (Congress). Everyone who votes will make a selection for the above mentioned positions, regardless of what effect the current redistricting process may have on exactly who will be on the ballot come the primary.

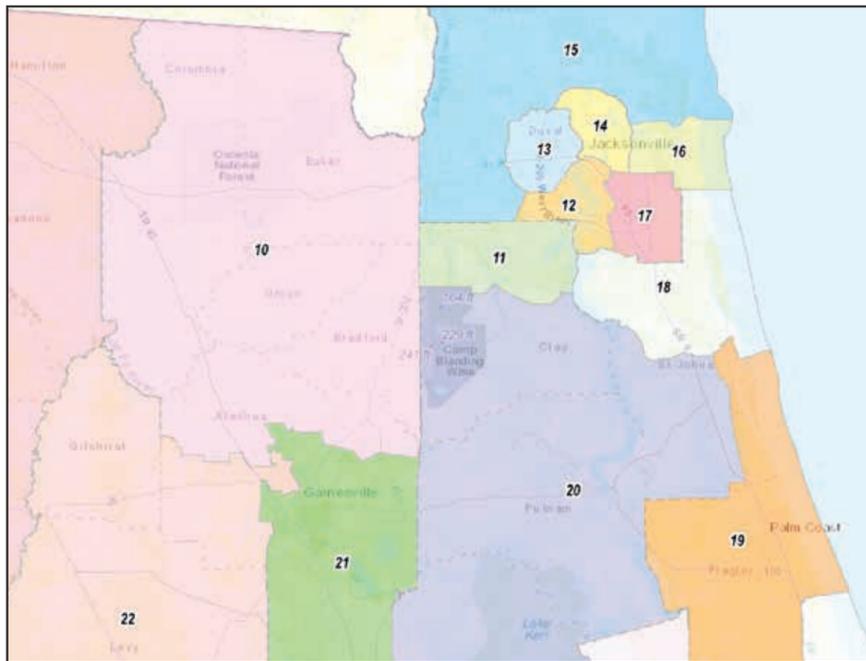
The ballot for the state races will be a full one, including both the positions of Governor and Lieutenant Governor. Also on the ballot will be: the Attorney General, the Chief Financial Officer, the Commissioner of Agriculture, State Senators (in all districts), State Representatives (in all districts), the State Attorney (6th and 12th Judicial

Circuits) and the Public Defender (for the 20th Judicial Circuit). Election dates for both the state and federal elections will be the same as above for most of the county races – Tuesday, Aug. 23 for the Primary Election and Tuesday, Nov. 8 for the General Election.

Supervisor of Elections for Union County, Deborah Osborne wants all the county voters to remember to be sure and check their registration and make sure it is still valid and the address listed is still correct. She asks that voters also consider whether or not their handwriting has changed in the past few years through injury, a name change or just plain old age and, if so, to come by the elections office to sign a new signature card so to be sure that their choices will be counted in the coming elections. Information about early voting is also available, as is that for Voting by Mail.

Polling places will be announced prior to the elections and, if your assigned location is a problem you can always come to the elections office in Lake Butler to cast your vote during early voting (dates to be announced).

To find out everything you need to know to participate in one of our nation's greatest privileges, just call or drop by the office of the Supervisor of Elections, located at 175 West Main St. in Lake Butler. The phone is (386) 496-2236. The office also hosts an information website: www.unionflvotes.com.



Future House District 10 and 20 maps with Bradford and Union joining Baker, Columbia and northern Alachua County. Southern Clay County and all of Putnam County are in District 20, along with southwestern St. Johns and northeastern Marion.

Union and Bradford lose Bobby Payne

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

LAKE BUTLER — Beginning next year, Bradford and Union counties will no longer be represented by Bobby Payne in the Florida House of Representatives.

Under a redistricting plan passed by the legislature earlier this year, the two counties will move from Payne's current District 19 to District 10, which also includes Baker and Columbia counties, plus northern Alachua County with the cities of Waldo, Alachua and High Springs in the district.

While gaining Bradford and Union counties, District 10 will lose Hamilton and Suwannee counties to House District 7, which covers the bottom three-fourths of the panhandle between the Suwannee and Apalachicola rivers.

What is now District 19, which includes southern Clay County and all of Putnam County will become District 20 and will also

include southwestern St. Johns County and northeast Marion County.

The incumbent for District 10 is Robert Charles "Chuck" Brannon III, a retired Baker County Sheriff's Office investigator and former Deputy U.S. Marshal. The Macclenny resident is also a cattleman and residential rental property owner.

While both Payne and Brannon face reelection this year, incumbent House members are rarely defeated by challengers. So far, no one has filed to challenge either House member.

For potential candidates, one impact of the redistricting is that Payne terms out in 2024, but Brannon terms out two years later.

House members are limited to eight consecutive years.

Potential House candidates usually wait until an incumbent terms out to run for a House seat to avoid running against an office holder.

That means that potential

candidates living in Bradford or Union counties will have to wait two additional years before running for the House, if they want to avoid running against an incumbent.

The new Florida Senate map keeps Union and Bradford in a district with Clay, Baker, Columbia and Gilchrist counties. Now designated District 6 instead of the current District 5, Senator Jennifer Bradley's district loses Suwannee, Lafayette, Dixie and Levy counties, in addition to a section of southwestern Marion County.

The district adds the northern half of Alachua County and does not include the City of Gainesville.

At press time, new districts for the U.S. House are still undecided with Gov. Ron DeSantis vetoing a map passed by the legislature.

Although the governor must sign off on U.S. House maps, his approval is not required for Florida Senate and House districts.



UCHS JROTC Armed Platoon finishes 2nd at state

The Union County High School JROTC Drill Team competed in the State Drill Meet Championships in Lakeland on April 1. The team performed very well with four top-10 finishes. The team's Armed Platoon placed second at state. Pictured are the members of the Armed Platoon: (front, l-r) Syann Malone, Alena Boyer, Adam Ali (platoon commander), Natalie Piggott, Makayla Nelson, (back) Isabella Manucy, Layla Piggott, Brooke Burgess, Talya Trent, Alexis Cox, Colton Bell, Matthew Ring and Emma Fulton.

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Starke approves water and sewer rate changes

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Starke commissioners have raised water and sewer rates for some in spite of public opposition.

Residential water rates are simplified under the new ordinance, changing the usage tiers, with the first tier now being 0-2,000 gallons of water for \$20.84 a month. This represents a small savings for those in this tier, according to City Manager Drew Mullins. Every 1,000 gallons of additional usage will add \$6 more to the bill.

Residential sewer rates have likewise been simplified. Customers will be charged 1.5 times their water bill for wastewater service.

Residents using 2,000 gallons a month or less will save money, encouraging conservation. Mullins said the combined water and sewer bill would be \$52.10 compared to the current charge of \$56.62.

Those using more will pay more. At 3,000 gallons the monthly combined charge increases from \$60.60 to \$67.10, and at 4,000 gallons the bill would increase from \$64.58 to \$82.10.

Commercial rates remain somewhat complicated since the size of the meter determines the monthly charge. This can range from \$21.71 a month for a 1-inch meter to \$454.69 for an 8-inch meter. Each tier represents an increase over the previous base charge. Then there is a variable consumption charge based on gallons used, and each of these tiers is also increasing. There is a separate consumption charge for wastewater service. Overall, Mullins said it represents a 25% rate increase.

Consulting with the city's engineers and accountant, Mullins found the city needs \$480,000 a year to cover debt from the sewer plant upgrade, \$300,000 for annual maintenance and infrastructure, \$250,000 a year to make up for revenue shortfall, and \$150,000 a year to transfer from water and sewer into the general fund to cover general government costs. According to the city manager, this would raise more than \$1.17 million in additional revenue.

Markleyann Johns Cash stood April 5 to oppose the rate increases.

"This is a very poor county, and the people cannot afford

that," she said. "The people here, they're living on Social Security. They can't afford this raise. We already pay electric rates. The electricity itself is not that bad, but when you tack on the fuel adjustment, it makes our electricity very high, and we do not need more put on to our bills."

Sissy Story agreed, saying her utility bill is "ridiculous."

"My bill last month was \$648. There's one person in that house — me," she said. "I even called an electrician to come out and check my unit. It's the fuel adjustment charge. My bill just came for this month. It's not much better."

On the most recent bill, the charge for fuel was almost as high as electricity.

"I live on disability Social Security. Something's got to be done. ... My utility bill last month was as bad as my mortgage payment," Story said.

These were the only comments from the public during either hearing. In spite of the input, the commission unanimously approved the ordinance.

The new rates will take effect with the next billing cycle.

Kindergarten registration in BC schools

Are you the parent of a child turning 5 on or before Sept. 1, 2022? Then it's time to get your child registered for an exciting adventure with the start of kindergarten ahead in August 2022.

Bradford County Schools are pleased to host in-person events for parents and future Class of 2035 Tornados who will begin kindergarten in August.

The sessions are at:

—Lawtey Elementary, 904-966-6795, on Wednesday, April 27, at 9 a.m.

—Southside Elementary, 904-966-6061, on Friday, April 29, at 8:15 a.m.

—Starke Elementary, 904-966-6045, on Friday, April 29, at 8:15 a.m.

Not sure which session to attend? The address of your primary residence will determine the zoning of your child. If you're unsure, call the BCSD Transportation Department at 904-966-6734. They will be glad to provide this information for you.

Each event will allow the opportunity to meet school administrators and have a chance to catch a glimpse of a kindergarten classroom including students and teachers in action. You'll leave with a special treat to excite your child even more about this important next step.

Don't worry about completing a paper application before you visit the school. The registration process is now completed online. You will need paper documents to support registration which include:

—birth certificate.
—a school entry health exam performed within 12 months



Alissan Pittman wrinkles her nose as she extracts pumpkin seeds during a counting activity in Ms. Delashmet's kindergarten classroom at Southside Elementary.

prior to the first day of school.
—a required immunization certification.

—proof of residency including rental agreement or mortgage documents, plus a utility statement.

—a photo ID or driver's license of the parent/guardian.

A voluntary collection of the child's Social Security card, which may be used for specific purposes including Medicaid eligibility and billing, scholarship

applications, state assessments, and driver's licenses, round out the required registration documents to go along with the registration packet.

A student is not considered enrolled until all documents have been received.

If you want to get a head start on the enrollment process, go to www.bradfordschools.org and choose "Student Registration."

more information.

Soil and water group meets Tuesday

The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District will meet on Tuesday, April 19, at 9 a.m. at the Bradford County Extension Office.

The FloodWise Communities Vulnerability Assessment and the industrial wastewater discharge permit for the new Chemours mine will be discussed. There will also be reports on the status of district projects and activities.

Contact Paul Still at stilpe@aol.com or call him at 904 368-0291 for more information. The public is welcome to attend the meeting.

Crime

Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

April 2 through April 8

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

Hanna Elizabeth Anderson, 23, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 6 for failure to appear.

Christopher Lee Collett, 39, of Lake Butler was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 7 for a probation violation.

Demetrius Deon Cureington, 21, of Tulsa, Oklahoma was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 7 for failure to appear.

Joshua Antonio Dell, 34, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 4 for selling cocaine, possession of cocaine and using a two-way communications device while committing a felony.

Kristopher Lane Edgy, 22, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 3 for DUI.

Hunter Wade Godwin, 22, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 3 for DUI and driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Quinton Dalton Goodson, 19, of Lawtey was arrested by Starke police on April 5 for possession of drugs, possession of marijuana and possession of drug equipment.

Eric Jason Gunter, 44, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 5 for possession of drugs, possession of drug equipment and resisting an officer.

Kelsie Morgan Halsband, 19, was arrested by Starke police on April 5 for possession of

marijuana and possession of drugs.

George Michael Hammontree, 61, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 7 for larceny.

Dustin Ziek Homer, 33, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Starke police on April 7 for criminal mischief with property damage, disturbing the peace and a probation violation.

Cody Michael Jones, 23, of Starke was arrested by Starke police on April 4 for aggravated assault.

Dena Lee Lockerman, 67, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 2 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Joseph Osarra Lombel, 31, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 2 for battery and criminal mischief with property damage.

Joshua Lane McClellan, 45, of Raiford was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 8 for a probation violation.

Daris Prenell McCutchen, 40, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 5 for an out-of-county warrant.

Zazhary Vernon Mitchell, 34, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 7 for a probation violation.

Brandy Nicole Montgomery, 39, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 4 for fraud and larceny.

Vimal Rameshbhai Patel, 30, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 8 for DUI, possession of drugs and possession of drug equipment.

Ivy June Rankin, 21, was arrested by Starke police on April 5 for selling, giving or serving an alcoholic beverage to an underaged person.

Dempsey Robert Sapp, 37, of Brooker was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 4 for child neglect.

Skyler Alexander Schmidt, 18, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 3 for possession of marijuana and possession of an alcoholic beverage by a person under age 21.

Leslie Marie Thornton, 38, of

Lawtey was arrested by Starke police on April 7 for resisting an officer.

Crystal Michelle Walker, 27, of Lake Butler was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 4 for probation violations.

Union

Nicholas Lee Anderson, 30, of Vancouver, Washington was arrested by Union deputies on April 2 for possession of drugs and possession of drug equipment.

Ronnie Allen Baker Jr., 40, of Brooker was arrested by Union deputies on April 4 for a probation violation.

Jesse Bryant Carter, 30, of Jacksonville was arrested by Union deputies on April 5 for a probation violation.

Brandon Michael Fleetwood, 26, of Altamonte Springs was arrested by Union deputies on April 6 for disorderly intoxication and resisting an officer.

Devin Shane Griffis, 31, of Interlachen was arrested by Union deputies on April 5 for probation violations.

Markus Stephen McClain, 57, was arrested by Union deputies on April 7 for trespassing.

Trenton Michael Tyrell Walton, 18, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on April 8 for disorderly conduct.

Clay

Anthony Perry Andiorio, 57, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on April 4 for aggravated battery.

Steven Patrick Choate, 56, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on April 5 for DUI.

George Michael Hammontree, 61, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on April 7 for felony petit theft.

Robert Gerard Rascicot, 58, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on April 4 for possession of marijuana and possession of drug equipment.

Samantha Ann Truman, 45, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on April 3 for failure to appear.

Man pulled gun in dispute over loud music

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

STARKE — Police arrested a 23-year-old man after they said he pulled a gun on a victim during an argument over loud music.

Cody Michael Jones was arrested after midnight on Monday, April 4 for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

According to an arrest report, the victim told police Jones was intoxicated in a vehicle on South Street with the volume on the vehicle at the maximum level.

"(The victim) stated he came out of his residence and told Cody to turn his music down," wrote arresting officer Moses C. Bellamy in the report. "Cody then became enraged and belligerent, yelling and acting out and throwing things at the residence."

The victim added that when he began to walk down the steps of his residence, Jones pulled out a black handgun.

Bellamy wrote in the report that he could not locate the weapon.

According to the complaint, the defendant applied for public assistance benefits on six occasions between November 2016 and May 2019. On each application she listed her name as Brandy Eaves and reported that her household consisted of her boyfriend and four children.

The investigator added that from October 2016 through November 2017, the defendant's boyfriend earned \$37,204 from a Hampton carport manufacturer.

He also earned \$45,957 from a Starke nonprofit organization from December 2017 through November 2019.

The investigator wrote that by failing to report the boyfriend's income, Montgomery's household received \$26,096 in supplemental nutrition assistance benefits for which the family was not entitled.

Accused arsonist judged incompetent

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

STARKE — A man whom Bradford deputies said cut the tires on family members' vehicles and then set fire to his parents' house during a family dispute was ruled incompetent to proceed in his criminal trial.

Jeffery Paul Gaudette, 38, faces a competency review in September to determine if he can then be tried for the Sept. 2, 2021, offenses of arson, battery on persons 65 or older, aggravated assault with intent to commit a felony and two counts of criminal mischief.

According to a sworn complaint, the defendant and his wife went next door to his parents' home shortly after midnight to calm Gaudette down after he became agitated during an argument.

The defendant's wife told deputies Gaudette demanded that

everyone place their phones on the floor because he thought they were using the devices to record him or call law enforcement.

"Jeffery continued to tell his mother and stepfather to hand over their phones to which they did not comply, and Jeffery became more angry," wrote Detective James Crews of the sheriff's office. "Jeffery then grabbed a knife from the kitchen and went into the front yard and slashed the tires on multiple cars."

The defendant then returned inside, grabbed his stepfather's phone and smashed it on the floor before attacking the 72-year-old. The two men wrestled on the floor.

"(The wife) was terrified Jeffery was going to seriously injure his stepfather," Crews wrote.

The defendant then went to the front porch, grabbed a can of gasoline and poured the fluid on the floor of the living room. After his wife and mother again refused to give up their phones Gaudette grabbed a lighter and ignited a fire.

After lighting the fire, the defendant panicked and tried to put out the blaze, running to his house and returning with a bucket of water. While he was attempting to extinguish the flames, law enforcement arrived.

Deputies first extinguished the 12-foot diameter fire and then began a search for Gaudette, who had fled.

Officers and tracking dogs searched for four hours but could not locate the defendant. Gaudette was found and arrested later the same day.

Based on a psychological review by a St. Augustine-based neuropsychologist, Circuit Judge James Colav ruled the defendant incompetent to proceed and involuntarily committed Gaudette to a Florida Department of Children and Families treatment facility. The defendant's competency will be reviewed in six months.

Meet the Garden Club

The Alligator Creek Garden Club will be holding a "Meet and Greet" at the Bradford County Senior Center on Thursday, April 21, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Drop in anytime to see displays of some of the things the club is doing. Contact Paul Still at 904 368-029 or email stilpe@aol.com for



Russ WADE

Attorney at Law

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

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Legal Notices

Bradford

PUBLIC AUCTION
Ron Denmark Mini Storage will hold a public auction on the following units at 10:00 am on Friday April 15th, 2022 at 2117 N Temple Ave., Starke, FL. On the following units containing personal items:
148- Belonging to J. Collins
66- Belonging to C. Lane
145- Belonging to K. Russell
62- Belonging to S. Nichols
179 - Belonging to H. Brazell
92 & 118 - Belonging to N. Harley
4/7 2tchg 4/14-BCT

Emergency Food and Shelter Program Advertisement UNION COUNTY
The Union County EFSP/FEMA Local Board has been awarded federal funds made available through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program.

The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA, National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA; The Jewish Federations of North America; The Salvation Army; and, United Way Worldwide. The Local Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the county. A Local Board made up of representatives of various community agencies will determine how the awards to Union County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area. The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds made available under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must:
1) be private voluntary non-profits or units of government,
2) be eligible to receive Federal funds,
3) have an accounting system,
4) practice nondiscrimination,
5) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and
6) if they are a private voluntary organization, have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply. Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact Mary Broadfoot at United Way of North Central Florida via email at mbroadfoot@unitedwayncfl.org for an application. The deadline for applications to be received is midnight Saturday, April 23, 2022.
4/7 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF SALE
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801 - 83.809); Santa Fe Storage of Starke will sell for cash to the highest bidder on storageauctions.net for location at 1630 North Temple Ave, Starke, County of Bradford, FL, at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, the 20th day of April, 2022 and continuing day to day thereafter until sold: the household goods and misc. contents of the following:
OG019 Shamicka Beckwith
OK004 Keith Thomas
4/7 2tchg 4/14-BCT

NOTICE OF SALE
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801 - 83.809); Santa Fe Storage of Waldo. Will sell for CASH to the highest bidder on Storageauctions.net
For location at 15540 NE HWY 301, Waldo, County of Alachua, Florida; ending at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, the 20th day of April, 2022, and continuing day to day thereafter until sold: the household goods and misc. contents of the following:
OOS05 Cecil A Litton
OB014 Kelsey Hood
OC037 Shardey Thomas
4/7 2tchg 4/14-BCT

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS AIRPORT AUTHORITY NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Sealed proposals, in duplicate, will be received by the Keystone Heights Airport Authority in the Conference Room at the Keystone Heights Airport Terminal Building, located at 7150 Airport Road, Starke, Florida 32091, until 2:00 PM EDT on May 19, 2022 at which time all proposals received will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bidders are invited to submit proposals for:
RECONSTRUCT EXISTING T-HANGAR TAXILANES AT KEYSTONE HEIGHTS AIRPORT
A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting and site inspection will be held at 1:00 PM on April 19, 2022 in the Conference Room at the Keystone Heights Airport Terminal Building. Bidders are strongly urged to attend. Bidders are invited to submit Proposals for this work on the Proposal Forms provided. Other proposal forms will not be accepted. The complete examination and understanding of the Contract Documents consisting of the Plans and Specifications, and all addenda or other revisions, and Site of the proposed work is necessary to properly submit a Proposal. Contract Documents consisting of the Plans and Specifications, and all addenda or other revisions will be available on or before Tuesday, April 12, 2022 for examination or may be obtained from the offices of the AECOM, 7650 West Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa, Florida 33607, Phone (813) 636-2139 (Diane Kline). There is no fee to obtain a set of the Contract Documents. Printed copies of documents will not be made available. Only PDF project plans and specification files, either on CD or sent via File Transfer will be made available. Contractor must obtain the Contract Documents from the Engineer of Record in order to be considered a responsive bidder. A Bid Bond in the form as bound in the Contract Documents or Certified Check in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount

bid must accompany each Bid. Successful Bidder shall be required to execute and to provide a Payment Bond and Performance Bond each in an Amount of not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the total value of the Contract awarded to him with a satisfactory surety or sureties for the full and faithful performance of the work.
No bid may be withdrawn after closing time for the receipt of Proposals for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days.

The Keystone Heights Airport Authority reserves the right to waive any informalities or irregularities in or reject any or all bids and to award or refrain from awarding the Contract for the Work.
For additional information, contact William R. Prange, P.E., AECOM, at (386) 898-2298 or bill.prange@aecom.com.
Dated: April 5, 2022
By: Keystone Heights Airport Authority
4/7 2tchg 4/14-BCT

BRADFORD COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council announces a business meeting to which all persons are invited.
DATE AND TIME: May 3, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter the public workshop
PLACE: Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room located in the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 North Temple Ave., Starke, Florida
DIAL IN NUMBER: Toll free 1.888.585.9008
CONFERENCE CODE: 864 183 272
GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: To conduct the regular business of the Bradford County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, to reduce the risk of becoming infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 and potentially spreading it to others, fully vaccinated people should wear a mask indoors in public if they are in an area of substantial or high transmission; if someone in their household is immunocompromised or at increased risk for severe disease; or if someone in their household is unvaccinated.
For additional information or to obtain a copy of the agenda interested persons may contact: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; godfrey@ncfrpc.org or 352.955.2200. The meeting agenda and supporting materials will be posted at https://www.ncfrpc.org/transportation-disadvantaged. Any person may submit written or other physical evidence which he or she intends to offer into evidence during the business meeting to Lynn Godfrey, Senior Planner, at North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; or godfrey@ncfrpc.org.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 2 business days before the meeting by contacting 352.955.2200. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800. 955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800. 955.8770 (Voice).
If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence from which the appeal is to be issued.
4/14 1tchg-BCT

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The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council announces a public workshop to which all persons are invited.
DATE AND TIME: May 3, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
PLACE: Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room located in the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 North Temple Ave., Starke, Florida
DIAL IN NUMBER: Toll free 1.888.585.9008
CONFERENCE CODE: 864 183 272
GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: To conduct a public workshop for the purpose of receiving public comment relating to the local transportation services provided under Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program in Bradford County. Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, to reduce the risk of becoming infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 and potentially spreading it to others, fully vaccinated people should wear a mask indoors in public if they are in an area of substantial or high transmission; if someone in their household is immunocompromised or at increased risk for severe disease; or if someone in their household is unvaccinated.
For additional information or to obtain a copy of the public workshop agenda interested persons may contact: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; godfrey@ncfrpc.org or 352.955.2200. The workshop agenda will be posted at https://www.ncfrpc.org/transportation-disadvantaged. Any person may submit written or other physical evidence which he or she intends to offer into evidence during the public workshop to Lynn Godfrey, Senior Planner, at North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; or godfrey@ncfrpc.org.

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NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE
Please take notice Lake Butler Mini Storage, located at 1015 SW 3rd St. Lake Butler, FL, 32054 intends to hold an auction of goods stored in the following units in default for non-payment of rent on Lockerfox.com. The sale will occur on 4-23-2022 at 11:45 am. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Ivan Green - Unit 14; Kaitlyn Prevapp - Unit 5; Megan Tucker - Unit 17; Cynthia Holland - Unit 39/66; Kristy Morton - Unit 68; George Green - Unit 71; Laura Douglas - Unit 32; Amy Mayer - Unit 38. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. See manager for details.
4/14 2tchg 4/21-BCT

THE PUBLIC MEETING IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida will hold a meeting on April 21, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the Bradford County Courthouse, located at 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida. The public is encouraged to visit www.bradfordcountyfl.gov/meetings or to call the Office of the County Manager at (904) 966-6327 to obtain a copy of the agenda for this meeting.
4/14 1tchg-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 2019-CA-000486 DIVISION: U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. MATTHEW THOMAS FRANKS A/K/A MATTHEW FRANKS A/K/A MATHEW FRANKS, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated May 10, 2022, and entered in Case No. 2019-CA-000486 of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Bradford County, Florida in which U.S. Bank National Association, is the Plaintiff and Matthew Thomas Franks a/k/a Matthew Franks a/k/a Mathew Franks, Kristin Nicole Franks a/k/a Kristin Franks, United States of America Acting through Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Cavalry Portfolio Services, LLC as Assignee of Cavalry SPV I, LLC as Assignee of Nissan, are defendants, the Bradford County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on front of the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091, Bradford County, Florida at 11:00 AM, E.S.T. on the 12th day of May, 2022, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure: A PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN LOTS 8 AND 9 OF WOODLAW, SECTION 18, 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 AN IRON ROD FOUND AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 18, AND RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 03 MINUTES 25 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE WESTERLY BOUNDARY THEREOF, 429.12 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTH 429.00 FEET OF SAID LOT 8; THENCE SOUTH 88 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 59 SECONDS EAST, PARALLEL WITH THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID SECTION 18, AND ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID NORTH 429.00 FEET OF SAID LOT 8, A DISTANCE OF 54.80 FEET TO AN IRON ROD SET ON THE EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF COUNTY ROAD 125 FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM POINT OF BEGINNING THUS DESCRIBED CONTINUE SOUTH 88 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 59 SECONDS EAST, PARALLEL WITH SAID NORTHERLY BOUNDARY AND ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY, 242.60 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 03 MINUTES 25 SECONDS WEST, 312.91 FEET; THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 59 SECONDS WEST, PARALLEL WITH SAID NORTHERLY BOUNDARY AND SAID SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY, 238.96 FEET TO AFORESAID EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF COUNTY ROAD 125; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 36 MINUTES 34 SECONDS WEST, ALONG SAID EASTERLY BOUNDARY 313.02 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME LOCATED THEREON AS A PERMANENT FIXTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO, DESCRIBED AS A 2006 FLEETWOOD DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE HOME BEARING TITLE NUMBERS 98537377 AND 98537463 AND VIN NUMBERS GAFL675A78229CD21 AND GAFL675B78229CD21. A/K/A 6565 NW CR 125 LAWTEY FL 32058
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 in Bradford County, Florida this 11th day of April, 2022. Clerk of the Circuit Court Bradford County, Florida By: Lisa Brannon Deputy Clerk Albertelli Law Attorney for Plaintiff P.O. Box 23028 Tampa, FL 33623 (813) 221-4743 CT - 19-019792
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Persons with a disability who need any accommodation in order to participate should call Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352)337-6237 within two (2) working days of receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired, please call 1-800-955-8771; if you are voice impaired, please call 1-800-955-8770.
4/14 2tchg 4/21-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
MIRACLE AUTOMOTIVE & TRUCK SERVICE CENTER INC. gives notice that on 04/29/2022 at 12:00 PM the following vehicles(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.
1N6HD16S6SC458548 1995 NISS
4/14 1tchg-BCT

Keystone Heights Airport Authority NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Bidders are invited to submit proposals for: Approx. 110 ACRES OF TIMBER THINNING AND CLEARING WORK PROJECT AT KEYSTONE HEIGHTS AIRPORT. A subsurface utilities locate and marking will be required before any site work is performed. Site map can be obtained from airport staff. Please submit bids no later than May 19th, 2022 at 10:00am at the Keystone Heights Airport office located at 7150 Airport Road, Starke, FL 32091. The Keystone Heights Airport Authority reserves the right to waive any informalities or irregularities in or reject any or all bids and to award or refrain from awarding the Contract for the Work. For additional information, contact Maria Searcy at 352-473-0031 or msearcy@keystoneairport.com.
4/14 1tchg-BCT

Notice is hereby given:
Walter W. Watts
Last known address of: 9480 SE State Road 100 Starke FL 32091
You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.
Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph Amanda Seyfang Bradford County Supervisor of Elections P. O. Box 58 945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C Starke, FL 320091
DATE: April 11, 2022
4/14 1tchg-BCT

Notice is hereby given:
Justin AD. Garrison
Last known address of: 7185 NW County Road 233 Starke FL 32091
You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.
Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph Amanda Seyfang Bradford County Supervisor of Elections P. O. Box 58 945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C Starke, FL 32091
Date: April 11, 2022
4/14 1tchg-BCT

Notice is hereby given:
Ericka R. Nelson
Last known address of: 17555 NW 47th Pl Starke FL 32091
You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.
Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph Amanda Seyfang Bradford County Supervisor of Elections P. O. Box 58 945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C Starke, FL 32091
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4/14 1tchg-BCT

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4/14 2tchg 4/21-BCT

Sealed Bids for the construction of the Wastewater Collection System Upgrades & Rehabilitation LEGAL NOTICE
Sealed Bids for the construction of the Wastewater Collection System Upgrades & Rehabilitation will be received by City of Starke, Florida (Owner) at the City of Starke Florida, City Manager's Office, City Hall, 209 North Thompson Street, Starke, FL 32091, Starke, FL 32091, until 3 p.m. local time on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. Bid security in the amount of 5 percent of the Bid must accompany the Bid. This Project generally consists of sewer repairs in the City of Starke with rehabilitation that includes cast-in-place pipe lining, rehabilitation of existing manholes, and open cut sewer repair, new force main route installation, and all material and equipment, and construction services inherent to the Work. The Work shall be substantially complete by January 31, 2023 to meet FDEP Consent Decree; Post Substantial Completion Punchlist (all Work except Warranty Inspection) shall be complete by March 2, 2023; and ready for final payment (Warranty Inspection complete) 14 calendar days prior to expiration of the Warranty Period (351 days from Substantial Completion). A pre-Bid conference will be held via web conference 11:00 a.m. local time on Thursday, April 28, 2022. Instructions for participating via web conference will be transmitted to registered parties in advance. Bidding Documents may be obtained electronically at no cost on or after 10 a.m. on April 18, 2022, by registering with the Issuing Office via email only at dandrews@woodardcurran.com (and a copy to shines@woodardcurran.com) with the subject line "Starke FL - Wastewater Collection System Upgrades & Rehabilitation" to obtain the Bidding Documents and other related public information. Printed

copies will not be made available. The Project being bid is subject to Section 255.20 Florida Statutes and other applicable Laws. The Owner expects to finance the resulting Agreement/Contract with assistance from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), which administers a State Revolving Fund loan program supported in part with funds directly made available by grants from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Applicable requirements include and compliance with following is required as a minimum: Florida Administrative Code Chapter 62-503 (Revolving Loan Program) and/or Chapter 62-552 as applicable; applicable female participation; affirmative action and equal employment opportunity provisions; the American Iron and Steel requirements of H.R. 3547 "Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014"; and the Davis Bacon Act and wages. The goals and timetables for minority and female participation, expressed in percentage terms for the Contractor's aggregate workforce in each trade on all construction work in Florida, are as follows:
Goal for female participation: 6.9 percent statewide
Goal for minority participation: 22.2 percent for Bradford County
4/14 2tchg 4/21-BCT

ESTATE NOTICE
ESTATE OF GERALD W. VICKERY JR.
Letters testamentary on the estate of GERALD W. VICKERY JR., late of Troy Borough, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, having been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Wills, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to pay the same at once, and all persons having claims against said estate are requested to present the same to the undersigned.
BRUCE VICKERY, EXECUTOR
99 Main Street
Wellsboro, PA 16901
4/14 3tchg 4/28-BCT

UNION COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD BUSINESS MEETING
The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council announces a business meeting to which all persons are invited.
DATE AND TIME: May 3, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter the public workshop
PLACE: Union County Transportation Facility located at 255 SW 9th Avenue, Lake Butler, Florida
DIAL IN NUMBER: Toll free 1.888.585.9008
CONFERENCE CODE: 864 183 272
GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: To conduct the regular business of the Union County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, to reduce the risk of becoming infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 and potentially spreading it to others, fully vaccinated people should wear a mask indoors in public if they are in an area of substantial or high transmission; if someone in their household is immunocompromised or at increased risk for severe disease; or if someone in their household is unvaccinated.
For additional information or to obtain a copy of the agenda interested persons may contact: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; godfrey@ncfrpc.org or 352.955.2200. The meeting agenda and supporting materials will be posted at https://www.ncfrpc.org/transportation-disadvantaged. Any person may submit written or other physical evidence which he or she intends to offer into evidence during the business meeting to Lynn Godfrey, Senior Planner, at North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; or godfrey@ncfrpc.org.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No.: 2021-DR-007618
Division: FM-F
IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF Diane Deering, Petitioner
NOTICE OF ACTION FOR PUBLICATION
TO: ANTHONY P. BURCH
9611 SW 40th Way
Lake Butler, Florida 32054
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Change of Name has been filed against you. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to this action on Anny Leon Esquire, Petitioner's attorney, whose address is 2301 Park Avenue, Suite 404, Orange Park, Florida 32073, on or before May 23, 2022, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court at Duval County Courthouse, 501 West Adams Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32202, either before service on Petitioner's attorney or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Change of Name.
Copies of all Court documents in this case, including Orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request.
You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designated of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the address(es) on record at the Clerk's office.
WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.
DATED this day of 8th day of April, 2022
JODY PHILLIPS
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: GIANETTA JAMES
Deputy Clerk GIANETTA JAMES
4/14 4tchg 5/5-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No.: 2021-CP-000664
Division: Probate
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF ROBERT ROFFE, Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the Estate of ROBERT ROFFE, deceased, whose date of death was August 30, 2021, File Number 2021-CP-000664 is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 825 North Orange, Avenue, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. 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 has been served must file their claims with this Court WITHIN 3 MONTHS 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 SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is March 24, 2022.
Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/Tosha D. Fernandez
Tosha D. Fernandez, Esquire
Florida Bar Number: 31350
Post Office Box 1631
Keystone Heights, FL, 32656
(352) 478-1376
tosha@fernandezlawfirm.net
Personal Representative: Evelyn Poag
4/7 2tchg 4/14-LRM

ESTATE NOTICE
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BRUCE VICKERY, EXECUTOR
99 Main Street
Wellsboro, PA 16901
4/14 3tchg 4/28-BCT

Union

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DATE AND TIME: May 3, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter the public workshop
PLACE: Union County Transportation Facility located at 255 SW 9th Avenue, Lake Butler, Florida
DIAL IN NUMBER: Toll free 1.888.585.9008
CONFERENCE CODE: 864 183 272
GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: To conduct the regular business of the Union County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, to reduce the risk of becoming infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 and potentially spreading it to others, fully vaccinated people should wear a mask indoors in public if they are in an area of substantial or high transmission; if someone in their household is immunocompromised or at increased risk for severe disease; or if someone in their household is unvaccinated.
For additional information or to obtain a copy of the agenda interested persons may contact: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; godfrey@ncfrpc.org or 352.955.2200. The meeting agenda will be posted at https://www.ncfrpc.org/transportation-disadvantaged. Any person may submit written or other physical evidence which he or she intends to offer into evidence during the business meeting to Lynn Godfrey, Senior Planner, at North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603; or godfrey@ncfrpc.org.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No.: 2021-CP-000664
Division: Probate
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The date of first publication of this notice is March 24, 2022.
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Tosha D. Fernandez, Esquire
Florida Bar Number: 31350
Post Office Box 1631
Keystone Heights, FL, 32656
(352) 478-1376
tosha@fernandezlawfirm.net
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4/7 2tchg 4/14-LRM

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Indians win both snatch and traditional Region 2-1A titles

Keystone has 8 individual champs and will send 21 to state to compete in the snatch and/or traditional events

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School had four automatic qualifiers for state in each of the snatch and traditional (bench press and clean and jerk) events en route to winning the team championship trophies in each

at today's Region 2-1A boys weightlifting finals at KHHS. "It's what we planned on," said Mason Dicks, who won the unlimited weight class in the traditional event with a 700-pound overall total. "It's what we worked for."

It was the third straight regional championship for Keystone in the traditional event, which was coming off its sixth straight district championship. snatch event was added this season, and the Indians now own district and regional championship trophies in it as well. "The kids do what they're supposed to do in the weight

room every day," said Keystone Head Coach Lantz Lowery, whose team is the defending Class 1A state champion. "That's why they're successful. There's not shortcut to success." Ulysses Freed (154-pound class), Bryar Schenck (183), Trey Jeffries (219) and Caleb Moncrief (238) won their weight classes in the snatch event. Keystone earned 81 points with a total of 18 earning top-six finishes. That earned the Indians the team championship trophy, with West Nassau earning the runner-up trophy with 23 points.

The Indians had 12 additional lifters earn at-large berths to state: Declan Shine (119), Wyatt Van Zant (129), Reid Begue (129), Davin Adams (139), Sam Ulsch (154), Nathan Tisdale (169), Ben Ulsch (169), Tyler Jenkins (183), Jayden Goodman (199), Jackson Herman (238), Dicks and Luke Snider (unlimited).

In the traditional event (bench press and clean and jerk), Keystone had four champions. Besides Dicks, they were Freed, Logan Williams (169) and Moncrief. The Indians had a total of 15 earn top-six finishes, giving the team 72 points and the team championship trophy. West Nassau received the runner-up trophy with 31 points.

An additional 11 lifters earned at-large berths to state in the traditional event: Shine, Van Zant, Begue, Landon Hovsepian

(154), Tisdale, Jenkins, Clayton Kicklighter (183), Bryson Wester (199), Jeffries, Tyler Anthony-Rozier (219) and Snider. The state finals will be held Saturday, April 23, at Port St. Joe High School.

Traditional results

Dicks battled it out with Bolles' Brendan Black in the traditional event. Black had the best bench-press total in the class at 375, while Dicks' 350 put him in third place going into the clean-and-jerk competition. Dicks cleaned and jerked 305 and 325 on his first two attempts, while Black did 300 and 310. Black then lifted 325 on his third attempt, meaning Dicks would have to do 350 to tie, which would give him the win due to the weigh-in tiebreaker (Dicks weighed in at 24 pounds less than Black). Dicks got the lift and the championship.

"I've gotten it before," Dicks said of the 350 clean and jerk. "I just had to do it again to seal the deal and make sure I was going to state."

Lowery said, "When it comes to the meet in clean and jerk, Mason's going to do whatever he has to do to win."

Dicks won the regional championship last year as well, as did Moncrief. Moncrief captured the 238-pound class championship with an overall total of 640 (315 bench press, 325 clean and jerk).



Wyatt Van Zant, a state runner-up last year, returns to state to try to help Keystone win its second straight state championship.



Ulysses won championships in both the snatch and traditional events. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

SUWANNEE RIVER
AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER
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Got married or had a baby



Changes in residence



For free assistance contact:



386-230-9400



navigator@srahec.org

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Christian Simmons won the Region 2-1A championships in both the snatch and traditional events. He's one of four Union County lifters who'll compete at state. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

Raulerson, Simmons win Region 2-1A titles for Tigers

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Union County High School's Quinn Raulerson and Christian Simmons won their weight classes in the traditional event (bench press and clean and jerk), while Simmons also won his class in the snatch event at today's Region 2-1A boys weightlifting finals at

Keystone Heights High School.

The champions in each weight class automatically qualified for the state finals, which will be held Saturday, April 23, at Port St. Joe High School.

Sixteen at-large qualifiers were selected in each weight class, comparing totals in all of Class 1A's regional finals. The Tigers' Tucker Baynard and Thomas Williams earned at-

large berths in the traditional event, while Raulerson earned an at-large berth in the snatch.

Raulerson is seeking to repeat as an individual state champ in the traditional event (snatch was added as an event this season). He had a bench press of 385 and a clean and jerk of 295 to finish with a 680 overall total, which was the second-highest total in the entire meet. He placed 90 pounds ahead of his class' runner-up, Tyler Jenkins of Keystone.

"It feels good," Raulerson said of his performances leading up to state. "It feels like I'm prepared

See UCHS, page 12

Hewitt leads Bradford at weightlifting regionals

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Marcus Hewitt earned an eighth-place finish for the Bradford High School boys weightlifting team, which concluded its season at the April 8 Region 2-1A finals at Keystone Heights High School.

Hewitt had a bench press of 190 and a clean and jerk of 145 to finish with a 335 overall total in the 129-pound class.

The Tornadoes also got an 11th-place finish from Easton Wynn and a 12th-place finish from Jacob Brugh. Wynn had a 490 total (285 bench press, 205 clean and jerk) in the 238 class, while Brugh had a 375 total (200, 175) in the 154 class.

Curtis A. "Lex" Sanders Attorney at Law



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NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the stockholders of
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for election of Directors, and the transaction of any other business that may come before the meeting, will be held at the bank

811 S. Walnut Street, Starke, FL 32091 on Thursday April 28, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Chadwell steps down as BHS head baseball coach

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

First-year Bradford High School Head Baseball Coach Chip Chadwell resigned on April 8, citing the need to spend some time focusing on his family — including his mother — during a time of need. Chadwell, whose wife and father both died because of COVID-19 within 10 days of each other last year, said he gave the matter a lot of thought throughout the week before

finally tendering his resignation. “I feel at this time, I cannot give the boys my best day in and day out as I require of them,” Chadwell said in his resignation statement. He also wrote, “I truly have enjoyed working with the players since we started in the fall, but at this time, my family has to be top priority.” Athletic Director Sampson Jackson said an area of focus among BHS athletics is to create stability in the baseball program. Chadwell was the third

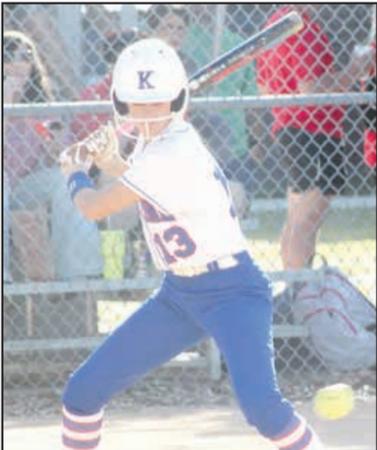
coach the Tornadoes have had since administrators decided to move in a different direction following Stewart Duncan’s ninth year as head coach in 2018. “We knew we had someone good there,” Jackson said. “Coach Chadwell’s work ethic is unmatched. He was at the field many mornings real early. “There were a lot of moving parts in his decision, I’ve come to find out. Nevertheless, we respect

the decision. Whatever we can do to support him, he knows that we’re going to support him.” Chadwell is still working at BHS in his role as Spanish teacher, which Jackson said is a plus for the school. “We want him here,” Jackson said. “We need a good Spanish teacher.” The assistant coaching staff, which includes James “Bat” McNeal, who’s filled in before

as head coach, will handle the coaching duties the rest of the season. Jackson said the focus is on finishing out the season and then naming a head coach in a timely manner that takes advantage of the things Chadwell established when he was hired. “We want to do some things that Coach Chadwell had set in place — fall ball and some other things,” Jackson said. “We don’t want to lose those.”



Chip Chadwell



Keystone’s Abbie Roach takes a ball in a first-inning at-bat. She, Delia Johnson and Alaina Kinsal each drove in three runs in the 15-0 win over Bradford. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

3 drive in 3 runs each in Indians’ 15-0 win over BHS

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Delia Johnson, Alaina Kinsal and Abbie Roach each drove in three runs, while pitcher Madi Mitzel held visiting Bradford to three hits in the Keystone Heights High School softball team’s 15-0, four-inning win on April 11. Bradford (9-5) threatened to score first when leadoff batter Rylie Blankenship reached on a single in the top of the first. Blankenship, who went 2 for 2, advanced to third on Allie Funderburk’s sacrifice bunt. She was left stranded there as Mitzel forced two straight ground outs. The Keystone batters were hot from the start, with the Indians (9-7) pushing four runs across in the first inning. With Emma Rogel and Roach on by a single and a walk, respectively, Kinsal hit a ground ball to second baseman Cassidy Spratlin that allowed Rogel to score. After a walk by

Kiley Channell, Mitzel hit a line-drive single into left field that scored Roach. One out later, Johnson hit a line drive into left that scored Channell and courtesy runner Amberlea Wagner. With the score later 6-0, the Tornadoes put two on with no outs in the top of the fourth. Takeirra Bakken drew a walk, followed by Masey Padgett hitting a single. Spratlin’s sacrifice put both runners in scoring position, but shortstop Channell recorded two straight outs on a pop-up and a ground ball. Keystone, which has now won five straight, scored nine runs in the bottom of the inning to enforce the mercy rule. Rogel and Roach reached on a single and a double, respectively, before Kinsal hit a fly ball and reached on an error, which scored Rogel. Roach later scored on a passed

See KHHS, page 16

Moncrief wins discus for KHHS at Clay County Championships

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Caleb Moncrief took first in the discus and was third in the shot put, while Kendall Gagnon and Kiersten Shaw combined for five top-five finishes for Keystone Heights High School at the April 7 Clay County Track and Field Championships at Orange Park High School. Moncrief’s best throw in the discus covered 149 feet, which put him 3.5 feet ahead of Middleburg’s Wyatt Underwood. In the shot put, Moncrief

had a distance of 44-9.5. Gagnon and Shaw each earned a third-place finish for the girls team: Gagnon in the javelin with a distance of 73-8 and Shaw in the high jump with a height of 4-11.75. Shaw also earned fifth-place finishes in the 100m hurdles (18.07) and long jump (15-5), while Gagnon took fifth in the discus (88-3). Ella Hutchins recorded a seventh-place finish for

See TRACK, page 12

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New Special Enrollment Eligibility Program Offering \$0 Premiums for LOW-INCOME FLORIDIANS Earning Less Than 150% of the Federal Poverty Level*

Tampa FL, March 23, 2022

Florida Covering Kids and Families Project Director Jodi Ray today shared the exciting news that The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has launched a new Special Enrollment Period specifically for Americans who earn less than 150% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL):

CMS will offer a time-limited, monthly Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for APTC-eligible consumers with a projected household income at or below 150% of the FPL. Ray stressed the importance of this dynamic new undertaking by the Federal Government, whereby *those with incomes less than 150% of the federal poverty level -- \$19,320 for an individual and \$39,750 for a family of four -- can now select insurance plans with ZERO premiums, with a few having to pay a few dollars. “Many Floridians are facing tremendous stresses right now, particularly our lower income earners, dealing with rising food and fuel costs, paralyzing rents and other related hits to their household budgets, and the timing is perfect for this opportunity to help them gain or maintain health coverage for their families. Very soon, we are expecting the end of the federal Public Health Emergency, which will likely result in the transitioning of many Floridians from the Medicaid rolls, and this new SEP will help to cushion that blow for our neighbors most at-risk in communities throughout Florida.”

This SEP will be available to Florida consumers and in other states that operate under the Health Insurance Marketplace® and use HealthCare.gov. Consumers are urged to contact Covering Florida Navigators, available at no charge, to assist them in using the SEP Screener tool at HealthCare.gov/screener for help determining if they are eligible for the 150% SEP.

The regular Special Enrollment Period also remains available through October 31, 2022, for individuals and families who qualify due to life change circumstances, including moving to a new county, losing insurance through a job change, having or adopting a child, marriage, divorce, and other personal circumstances. Covering Florida Navigators can also help consumers determine eligibility at no cost. The tenth Open Enrollment Period begins on November 1, 2022, likely running into January 2023. The OE10 period allows all consumers to shop, choose and/or renew their policies for coverage in 2023.

Florida Covering Kids & Families at the University of South Florida partners with organizations collectively referred to as the “COVERING FLORIDA” consortium, to provide Navigator services across the state of Florida. Covering Florida Navigators provide free of charge outreach and enrollment services to any Floridian looking to enroll for health care coverage in the Federal Health Insurance Marketplace. We assist consumers with telephone, in-person, and virtual online enrollment service and provide public education and outreach activities at locations throughout the state. Our Navigators are trained and able to help consumers as they look for health coverage options through the Marketplace, including completing eligibility and enrollment forms. Covering Florida Navigator services are

free to consumers in all 67 counties, with confidential one-on-one, unbiased customer service.

A Question & Answer sheet regarding the new SEP program details is included with this release.

Florida Covering Kids and Families and its partners have been providing free Navigator services throughout the state of Florida since the first Open Enrollment period in 2013. The following ten partners comprise the 2021-2022 Covering Florida statewide consortium and are collectively known as “Covering Florida”:

- Suwannee River Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) - Serving Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Lafayette, Levy, Marion, Putnam, Sumter, Suwannee, and Union counties.
- Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida – Serving Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, St. Johns, and Volusia counties.

The number of Floridians enrolled in the Marketplace each year has consistently exceeded expectations over the past couple of years. Florida year after year leads all Marketplace states in the United States in enrollments. Consumers who are unable to secure insurance through employment or other programs owe it to themselves and their families to #GetCovered and insure themselves against potentially lifechanging health related emergencies and developments. Contact Covering Florida at 877-813-9115 or www.CoveringFlorida.org

Florida Media Contact: Jody Young
cell: 561-704-3912 email: CoveringFLA@gmail.com

The project described was supported by Funding Opportunity Number NAV-CA210430-01-00 from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. The contents provided are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HHS or any of its agencies.

Questions & Answers

Q: When can consumers access this 150% SEP?

A: From March 18, 2022, through December 31, 2022, APTC-eligible consumers with expected household incomes at or below 150% of the FPL can get the 150% SEP by submitting a new application or updating an existing one themselves online at HealthCare.gov, the Marketplace Call Center or with free assistance from a CoveringFloridaNavigator. November 30, 2022 is the last day to confirm having an expected household income at or below 150% FPL and select a plan for plan year 2022 coverage that starts December 1, 2022.

Q: How long can consumers select a plan?

A: Unlike most other life event based SEPs, the 150% SEP doesn't have a deadline. In other words, consumers qualify as long as they're APTC-eligible and have an expected

household income that does not exceed 150% FPL. However, consumers must select a plan before the end of the calendar month they submit or update their application for their coverage to start on the first of the next month. For example, no matter if a consumer submits a new or updated application on April 1 or April 16, they'll have until April 30th to choose a plan for coverage that starts May 1st.

Q: How can consumers get this new 150% SEP?

A: In Marketplaces like Florida that use HealthCare.gov, APTC-eligible consumers with a household income at or below 150% FPL can submit a new application or update an existing application online themselves or with the help of an EDE partner, a DE partner that supports SEPs, or the Marketplace Call Center. CoveringFloridaNavigators are available to assist for no fees. The application automatically determines consumers' eligibility for the 150% SEP. Throughout plan year 2022, consumers eligible for this SEP are also generally eligible for free or low-cost plans with very low deductibles and out-of-pocket costs.

Q: Will consumers have to go through the SEP pre-enrollment verification process or submit additional documents to qualify for the 150% SEP?

A: No. Consumers who qualify for the 150% SEP don't need to submit documentation to confirm their SEP eligibility. CMS notes that consumers with open or new data matching issues (DMI) are still required to submit documentation to the Marketplace to keep their financial help. Finally, as eligibility for the 150% SEP requires that consumers be APTC-eligible with a projected household income at or below 150% of the FPL, CMS notes that it is important that consumers return to their application as soon as possible to report any changes in their household or income as it may impact their 150% SEP eligibility.

Q: Can a consumer change plans more than once under the 150%SEP?

A: Yes, once per month, as long as the consumer maintains APTC-eligibility and a projected household income at or below 150% FPL. While consumers may change plans monthly during this opportunity, they (and their household), may be subject to certain plan category limitations. Also, CMS notes that it may cost consumers more to change plans more than once during the current 2022 plan year because their annual deductible amounts, cost-sharing, or other out-of-pocket expenses may reset.

Q8: What will issuers and direct enrollment partners need to do to appropriately process the consumers through this new 150% SEP?

A: Issuers should be prepared to support the processing of enrollment transactions, known as “834” transactions, for this SEP. These enrollment transactions contain the SEP reason code of “FC.” Direct enrollment partners (both EDE and DE Classic Partners) may also have additional preparation activities in place related to consumer screener questions and consumer plan display pages.

Obituaries

Durward Cadle

STARKE Durward Delmont "Mont" Cadle of Starke passed away Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at North Florida Regional Medical Center in Gainesville. He was born May 4, 1934, in Rhodell, West Virginia, the only child of the late Robert A. "Gus" and Garnet Wood Cadle. He learned his trade of automobile body work at an early age and went to work at Montgomery Motors the day after graduation. He retired from Smith Transfer/America Carrier when the shop closed. He and his wife, Laverna, retired to Florida in 1997. They have attended the Sampson City Church of God for many years.

He is survived by Laverna Grizzell Cadle, his wife of 67 years; his sons, Monte Dale Cadle of Phoenix, Arizona, and Robert Eugene (Jennifer) Cadle of Charleston, West Virginia; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Services were held at Archer-Milton Funeral Home on Saturday, April 9, with Pastor Gene Bass officiating. Burial followed at Crosby Lake Cemetery. Arrangements were under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

Song of Solomon 5:16: "This is my beloved, this is my friend."

PAID OBITUARY



Deborah Hanlon

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Deborah (Debby) Wilkes Hanlon, 74 of Keystone Heights passed away Thursday, April 7, 2022 in Starke while fiercely battling many medical challenges. She was born in Memphis, Tennessee on Feb. 15, 1948 and grew up in Miami in the house behind her future husband, Reg. She went to Southern College in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and to Columbia Union College in Maryland; later becoming a teacher, wife, mother, friend and an Eshet Chayil, which is a Woman of Valor, a Proverbs 31 woman. "Darlin," as she was known by many, was one of a kind; to be loved by her was to be truly blessed. We will cherish our many memories, and we, thankfully, are left with the remembrance of her smile and her love. She was preceded in death by her father, Elmo Wilkes; mother, Julia Wilkes; brothers, Joseph Wilkes and Herbert Wilkes; sister, Ann Schwab; son, Reginald Hanlon IV; granddaughter, Savannah Santos; and mother-in-law, Frances Hanlon, who she thought of as her second mother.

She is survived by her childhood friend and husband of 52 years, Reginald Hanlon III; son, Todd (Kristie) Hanlon; daughter, Elizabeth (Mike) Masters; and grandkids, and loved ones, Hope Masters, Collin Masters, Sam Hanlon, Cohen Hanlon, McKenzie Santos, Rod Hanlon, Alicia Hanlon, Matthew Hanlon, Jennifer Hanlon, Lonnie (Bev) Carney, and Bill Alvarez. Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

PAID OBITUARY



Kelly Mullen

Kelly Jo Mullen, 67, went to her Heavenly home on Friday, March 25, 2022. She was born on Dec. 15, 1954, to the late Richard and Elaine Mullen in Antigo, Wisconsin. Her parents owned a motel there and she would work helping her mother in the motel. At an early age, she had a love of horses; and she had several horses during her lifetime that she dearly loved and cared for. She was in competitions with her horses and won trophies and ribbons. She attended school in Wisconsin and later moved to Melbourne where she graduated high school. She went to college at Barry University and graduated in 1988 with a bachelor's degree in professional studies. She had several jobs throughout her life from driving a truck, engineering, and a quality analyst in medical software. She moved to Union County in 2000 and designed, supervised, and assisted with building a barn, pole barns, large carport, and installing fencing around her property. She bred, trained, and raised Arabian horses. She designed and supervised the building of her home. Before her health declined, she was out mending fences, riding her horses, and driving the tractor. She wanted her two horses, Kaltronna and Tron, to be well taken care of upon her death and arranged for trusted friends to care for them. She had many friends that she thought of as her family. She was an avid Green Bay Packers and Florida Gators fan.

Services were held on April 13, at Morningstar Baptist Church, Lake Butler with Pastor Michael Divine officiating. Burial was at Fort Call Cemetery under the direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home 386-496-2008 <http://www.archerfuneralhome.com>. In lieu of flowers, you can donate to Horses Without Humans Rescue, 6191 US 129, Bell, 32619. www.horseswithouthuman.org

PAID OBITUARY



Betty Dortch

LAKE CITY Betty Marie Dortch, 85, of Lake City, passed away on Monday, April 4, 2022.

A celebration of life gathering will be held at Ms. Dortch's home at 2855 SE C.R. 252, Lake City, 32025, on Saturday, April 16, at 2 p.m. All friends and family are welcome to attend.

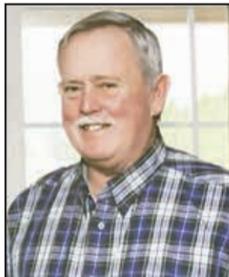


Charles Howard

LAKE BUTLER Charles Howard, 68, of Lake Butler, passed away on Thursday, April 7, 2022, at his home. He was born May 8, 1953, in Lake City, to Canova and Shirley (O'Steen) Howard. He was a lifelong resident of Union County. He was a true outdoorsman who loved to hunt, fish, and anything on the farm. He loved life and his family. He was a unique man. He had a heart of gold on the inside and tough as lighter knot on the outside. He'd give you the shirt off his back and maybe a middle finger or two. He had a way to make you smile and want to be around him all day; and a way to make you madder than a hornet and slam the phone down or stomp off fighting mad. Probably his favorite pastime was to tell you how you messed it up, and how you ought to have done it. He was never scared of a good scrap and didn't know how to back down from a challenge. He was who he was. He didn't sugar coat himself or anything he said and you always knew where you stood with him. God surely broke the mold when he made him, which is good because the world never could have handled two, but it is sad because he was a one of kind and will be dearly missed by his family and those who truly knew him. He was preceded in death by his son, Chuck Howard.

He is survived by his son Zeb (Georgie) Howard of Lake Butler; grandchildren, Tatum, Gage, and Peyton Howard all of Lake Butler; his parents, Canova and Shirley Howard of Lake Butler; and brothers, Andy (Gigi) Howard, John (Melanie) Howard, and David (Ruth Ann) Howard. A graveside service was held on Sunday, April 10, at Elzey Chapel Cemetery. Arrangements were under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler 386-496-2008. www.ArcherFuneralHome.com

PAID OBITUARY



Ray Paddock Sr.

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Ray Elliot Paddock Sr., 75, of Keystone Heights passed away on Monday, April 4, 2022 at UF Shands in Gainesville. He was born in Libertyville, Illinois to the late Robert Stuckney and Hellen Marie Neumann. He was raised in Libertyville and graduated from Lake Forest high school. Shortly after high school he joined the United States Air Force. On May 24, 1969

he married the love of his life, Mary Klein Paddock. Together they spent almost 53 wonderful years in many different locations around the United States. They settled in Keystone Heights in 1980 to make it their forever home. He enjoyed spending time outdoors, tinkering with different projects. He could fix anything he put his hands on. He treated everyone as a friend and truly had a heart for putting others needs before his own. More than anything, he loved his family and spent his life making sure they knew they were loved and protected. He was preceded in death by his parents; his daughter, Helen Marie Paddock; and son Ray Paddock Jr.

He is survived by his loving wife, Mary K. Paddock of Keystone Heights; children, Kathy Paddock of Keystone Heights; Diane (David) Rowland of Orange Park; daughter-in-law, Denai Paddock; brothers, Billy (Patty) Paddock, Donny (Lorrie) Paddock, Robert Paddock, Jimmy (Gay) Paddock, Richard (Carolyn) Paddock; sister, Sharron (George) Stang; and grandchildren, Taylor, Michael, Aiden, Colton, Ray III, Jencie, and Brett.

A graveside Celebration of Life was held on Friday, April 8, at Keystone Heights Cemetery with Rev. Michael Moore officiating. Arrangements were 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.

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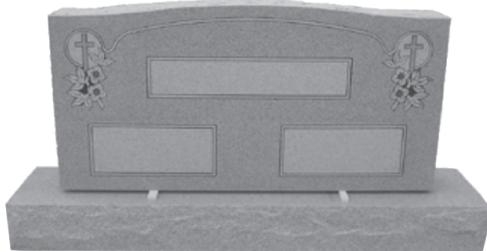
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STARKE US-301S 964-6078 *Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6* LAKE BUTLER 145 SW 6th Ave. 496-3079

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UCHS

Continued from page 10

for it more than ever. I'm going to perform to the best of my capabilities these next two weeks to really prep for it, and I'm going to break some records."

Simmons improved upon his third-place performance at last year's regionals, winning the 119 class with a 405 total (220 bench press, 185 clean and jerk). He finished 35 pounds ahead of runner-up Nathaniel Vroman of Hilliard.

After the meet, Simmons said hard work got him to this point, but he added that the main credit goes to God.

"I wouldn't be anything in this world but a blade of grass if it wasn't for the good Lord above me," Simmons said. "I say my prayers. I work every single day — two times a day."

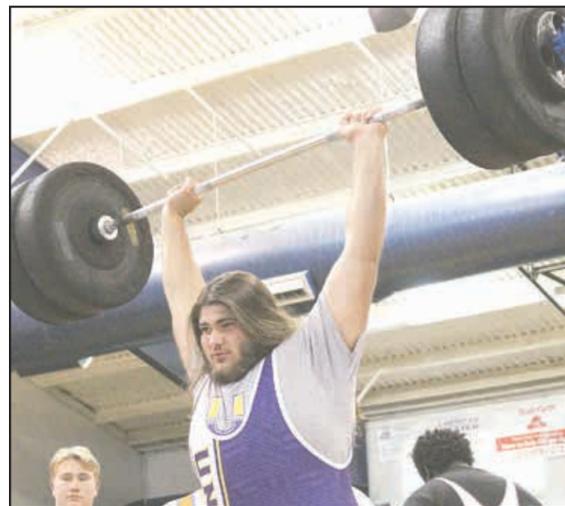
Raulerson expects Simmons to improve upon his fifth-place showing at state last year.

"I think he'll definitely win state this year," Raulerson said. "We all give it to God."

Baynard and Williams each placed fifth in the traditional event. Williams had a 505 total (280, 225) in the 183 class, while Baynard had a 620 total (365, 255) in the unlimited class.

Maddox Wheeler placed 12th in the 238 class with a 460 total (250, 210), while Trenton Klein was 17th in the 169 class with a 330 total (155, 175).

In the snatch, Simmons won his class with a 130 total. Raulerson finished in a three-way tie in his class with Keystone's Bryar Schenck and Tyler Jenkins. Each had a 185 total, but Schenck was awarded the championship due to the weigh-in tiebreaker, which put Raulerson in second place.



Tucker Baynard was one of two Union weightlifters to earn an at-large bid to state. He and Thomas Williams both earned fifth-place finishes for the Tigers at the Region 2-1A finals.

TRACK

Continued from page 11

the girls team, running the 400m in 1:09, while Dallas

Decrosta ran an eighth-place time of 2:53 in the 800m.

The girls team also had the following results: 200m — Hutchins 13th 29.87, Brianna Hogan 17th 31.83, Candace

Jackson 18th 31.84, Elizabeth Hogan 21st 35.18; 400m — Elizabeth Hogan 13th 1:20, Charlotte Natirboff 15th 1:23; 800m — Rebecca Lasca 13th 3:09, Shaylyn Williams 15th 3:31; shot put — Kinslee Burnaw 24th 19-9.75; and discus — Burnaw 21st 44-3.

Shepherd Rozier earned an eighth-place finish for the boys team with a time of 56.26 in the 400m. He was also 10th in the 200m (24.69).

Ayden Graff placed ninth in the 3200m (12:15), while Tyler Griffin was 10th in the 800m (2:15).

Other boys results were: 200m — Jaden Park 17th 26.23, Tristan Dukes 19th 31.55; 400m — Josiah Durrenberger 14th 1:00, Dukes 18th 1:12; 800m — Garrett Roberson 18th 2:37; 1600m — Park 16th 5:42.35, Roberson 17th 5:42.67, Jacob Stahman 19th 6:03; long jump — Rozier 12th 17-7.5, Park 13th 17-2.75; shot put — Tyler Duncan 28th 28-0.25, Jackson Herman 29th 26-2.25; and discus — Duncan 13th 82-10, Herman 25th 62-3.

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Obituaries

John Rimes Jr.

WORTHINGTON SPRINGS
On Friday, April 8, 2022, Captain John D. Rimes Jr., of Worthington Springs, took his final flight at the age of 85, leaving behind his crew: loving wife of 63 years, Lessie Rimes; daughter, Tammy Rimes of Colorado; sons, John (Betty) Rimes and Jeff (Keri) Rimes all of Worthington Springs; honorary son, Tiger "Ron" Rodrigue of Santa Rosa Beach; nine grandchildren, Saum, Shireen, Sierra, Caroline (Colby), Madison, Jonathan (Cassandra), Elliot, Miles (Anna), and Taylor; five great-grandchildren, Itsy, Chanel, Olivia, Alynna, Hunter; sister, Mary Lou (Tom) Carter of Orange Park; and a host of extended family.



Infamously credited with inventing copper wire because of his ability to stretch a penny, humble beginnings instilled a fiscal conservative nature in him. Born on Sept. 25, 1936, in Worthington Springs, to J.D. and Mary Rimes, he grew up in Worthington Springs and was a 1954 graduate of Union County High School. Desiring to further his education, he had to work to pay his way at the University of Florida. While at UF, majoring in agriculture economics, he joined the ROTC program. After graduating, he enlisted in the United States Navy and began flight training at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola. During his service, he was stationed in Patuxent River, Maryland; Argentia, Newfoundland; and Jacksonville. He completed missions such as flying the Lockheed Constellation North Barriers between Iceland and Russia during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He returned to Jacksonville where he served as a Navy flight instructor. After he was Honorably Discharged from the Navy, his love for flying carried over into the civilian life where he was a captain for commercial airlines, National Airlines and Pan Am Airlines. He flew 727's and DC-10's both internationally and domestically for 23 years. He was a member of the Worthington Springs United Methodist Church and this is where he met the love of his life, Lessie Munn. In 1959, the couple married in that little church with \$10 to their names. Hardships and financial struggles drove him to become an entrepreneur. He enjoyed developing, cultivating, and building various businesses that ranged from restaurants like The Iron Horse, apartment complexes, mobile home parks, air parks, garages, and ranching. His "what we need to do" mentality allowed him to be successful and provide for his family. When he wasn't working, he enjoyed gardening, ballroom dancing, telling jokes, and, of course, bargain hunting.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, April 15, at 11 a.m. at that same little church, Worthington Springs Community Church (formerly United Methodist Church). The family will receive friends for a visitation beginning at 10 a.m. at the church. Services will be officiated by Brother Art Peterson. In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to be made, in his honor, to the Worthington Springs Community Church or St. Jude's Children Hospital. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler. 386-496-2008. www.ArcherFuneralHome.com

PAID OBITUARY

Celia Spillman

Celia Katherine (Doverspike) Spillman was born on November 29, 1938 in Armstrong County, Redbank Township, PA and passed on to her Heavenly Father's eternal Kingdom on Tuesday, March 29, 2022 in Palatka, Putnam County, FL. She was the daughter of Melvin Eugene Doverspike & Mable Marie (Miller) Doverspike. She was preceded in death by her eldest son, Michael R. Spillman, her father and mother and six siblings: Martha, Gerald, Truman, Savinna, Everett and, Roy Cedric. She leaves behind her husband, Larry E. Spillman, of 62 years marriage. She also leaves four children: (James) Cheryl Craig of Grayson, KY; Gayle May of Middleburg, FL; Katherine Spillman of Keystone Heights, FL; Stephen (Angelika) Spillman of Middleburg, FL. Surviving grandchildren include, Robert Michael Adkins (Ashland, KY), James Michael Spillman (Lake Butler, FL), Soner (Stephanie) Acar (Jacksonville, FL), Hakim Acar (Germany); Zachary (Tiffany) Craig (Grayson, KY); Caleb (Alexis) Craig (Grayson, KY); C Sean May (Keystone Heights, FL); Craig Spillman (Keystone Heights, FL), James Spillman (Macclenny, FL), Benjamin (Zavannah) Ackman (Colorado Springs, CO), Sarah Ackman (Lawtey, FL), Hannah Ackman (Middleburg, FL). Great-Grandchildren include: Caroline Craig, Everly Craig, Laney Craig, Adalyn Craig, Riley Craig, Lucas Xavier Barfield, Anastasia Raye Spillman, Brantley Permenter and Zandria Ackman. She also leaves three younger siblings: Harold (Joy) Doverspike, Ken (Judy) Doverspike and, Lyle (Barbara) Doverspike, all of Franklin, PA. Celia was raised in the Nazarene faith and often sang in church services with her dad and siblings. She attended Franklin High School, Franklin, PA (Class of 1957) and participated in FFA, Girls' Glee Club, the Literary Club, the Driving Club, was the FHA President and, was on the Jr. Prom Committee and the Candy Committee. She joyfully attended her 50th High School reunion and kept up with several of her high school classmates throughout her entire life. She met PFC Larry Spillman (US Army) in Washington, DC while she was employed as a file clerk for the CAA (now the FAA). They were married on June 9th, 1958 at the Nazarene Church in Franklin, PA. She faithfully and lovingly raised five children: Michael R (Sabine) Spillman, (James) Cheryl Craig (Grayson, KY), Gayle May (Middleburg, FL), Katherine D. Spillman (Keystone Heights, FL) and, Stephen (Angelika) Spillman (Middleburg, FL). She attended First Baptist Church, Keystone Heights, prior to becoming home bound. While an active member, she enjoyed Sunday School, singing in the choir and participating in Women on Mission (formerly WMU). She also enjoyed caring for the infants and toddlers at First Baptist Day Care. Her hobbies included stamp collecting, drawing, painting, sewing and quilting, cooking and canning, gardening and, decorating for Christmas. She will be sorely missed by all who loved and knew her. Arrangements will be made at a later date and time. You may donate to St. Jude's Children's Hospital in memoriam.



PAID OBITUARY

Gayle Todor

HOLLY HILL Gayle Moore Todor, 82, of Holly Hill, formerly of Starke, passed away in Edgewater on Saturday, March 26, 2022. She was born in Gainesville on Oct. 31, 1939 to the late Fred and Mary "Boyer" Moore. She was an active member of the Volusia County Gator Club. She was a long-time Florida Gator Football ticket holder, collected every type of UF memorabilia she could find, and even used the email handle "gatorgayle."



She is survived by her children, Jeff (Sherry) Torode of Pompano Beach, Scott (Cecilia) Todor of St. Augustine, and Brad (Renee) Todor of Holly Hill; siblings, Chuck (Celia) Moore of Cooper City, Reeney Housman of Jacksonville, Mickey (Denise) Moore of Lawtey, and Jimmy Moore of White Springs; grandchildren, Jordan Torode, Harper Torode, Steven Todor, Stephanie Todor and Crystal Pickus; and one great-grandchild, Sage Megowan.

A celebration of life will be held at 10 a.m. on August 13 at Kingsley Lake Civic Center, 6109 Kingsley Lake Drive, Starke. Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 620 E. Nona Street, Starke. www.jonesgallagherfh.com

PAID OBITUARY

Christy Wilkerson

LAKE BUTLER Christy Hilda Wilkerson, 61, of Lake Butler, died Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at Haven Hospice in Lake City. She was born on April 13, 1960, to Abbie and Hilda (Fair) Pickett. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Nicki Crews; mother; sister, Abbie Pickett; and the father of her children, Billy Wilkerson.

She is survived by her son, Billy (Moon) Wilkerson of Lake Butler; five grandchildren; and a host of extended family. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler. 386-496-2008. www.ArcherFuneralHome.com

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REGION

Continued from page 10

This year, Williams set school records for the 169 class with a 325 bench press and an overall total of 600. That put him 20 pounds ahead of teammate Nathan Tisdale.

Freed won the 154 class with a 535 total (280, 255), giving him a 10-pound advantage over Hovsepian.

It was kind of a bittersweet moment. Freed gets to compete at state this year, but two of his teammates will be unable to because they, like Freed last year, were unable to compete in the postseason due to injuries. Zach Glover, who won last year's state championship in the 139 class last year, suffered an injury just before the District 7 meet. Kade Sanders, who won last year's state championship in the 169 class, suffered an injury during football season that prevented him from lifting at all this season.

"I know how it feels to not lift at state," Freed said. "I want to win for them."

Tisdale had a bench press of 300 and a clean and jerk of 280 in finishing behind Williams in the 169 class. That total put him 75 pounds ahead of third-place finisher Adaris Medina of Palatka.

In the 154 class, Hovsepian had a bench press of 280 and a clean and jerk of 255, putting him 5 pounds ahead of third-place finisher Seth Moore of Hilliard.

Three other lifters earned second-place finishes. Van Zant, who was fourth at last year's regionals, had a 415 total (200, 215) in the 129 class, while Jenkins, who was also fourth at last year's regionals, had a 590 total (315, 275) in the 183 class. Jeffries had a 650 total (335, 315) in the 219 class.

Kicklighter and Anthony-Rozier earned third-place finishes — Kicklighter with a 520 total (290, 230) in the 183 class and Anthony-Rozier with a 625 total (350, 275) in the 219 class.

Three placed fourth in their respective classes: Begue with a 400 total (215, 185) in the 129 class, Wester with a 525 total (285, 240) in the 199 class and Snider with a 625 total (325, 300) in the unlimited class.

Shine also added to Keystone's point total with a fifth-place finish in the 119 class. He had a 170 bench press and a 145 clean

and jerk for a 315 overall total.

Also competing for Keystone were Jed Tisdale, who had an eighth-place total of 275 (140, 135) in the 119 class, Adams, who had a 10th-place total of 325 (150, 175) in the 139 class, Goodman, who had a seventh-place total of 515 (250, 265) in the 199 class, and Brayden Wester, who had a ninth-place total of 495 (260, 235) in the 238 class.

Snatch results

Keystone's individual champions in the snatch event had the following totals: Freed 170, Schenck 185, Jeffries 205 and Moncrief 195.

Sam Ulsch was the runner-up to Freed with a 150 total, while Herman was the runner-up to Moncrief with a 170 total.

Three other lifters earned second-place finishes: Van Zant with a 145 total, Nathan

Tisdale with a 205 total and Dicks with a 205 total.

Placing third for Keystone were Begue with a 135 total, Ben Ulsch with a 185 total in the 169 class, Jenkins with a 185 total and Goodman with a 165 total.

Shine and Jed Tisdale placed fourth and fifth, respectively, with totals of 95 and 85, while Snider had a fourth-place total of 185. Adams and Anthony-Rozier had fifth-place totals of 120 and 150.

Jacob Andrews was 12th in the 199 class with a 135 total.

Lowery said when the state announced it was adding snatch as a voluntary event, he met with the lifters who competed at the 2021 state finals and told them, "Either everybody's going to compete in snatch, or we're not going to compete in snatch."

"They voted on it," Lowery said. "To a man, they all voted to compete in snatch." Dicks said, "We always

challenge ourselves and try to push to do something different, so why not?"

Now, the Indians could possibly come away from the state finals with two team championship trophies.

"That's what we're hoping for," Lowery said.

Freed likes his team's chances.

"With the people we have and the amount of work we put into weightlifter every day, I think we have a really good chance of winning state this year," he said.

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Brown has big game for BHS in 19-6 win over KHHS

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Quarterback Nichelle Brown accounted for three touchdowns and also made two interceptions

on defense in the Bradford High School girls flag football team's 19-6 win over host Keystone Heights on April 6. Bradford, which found the end

zone just once in 2021, improved to 3-2. After opening this season with a 38-12 loss to Suwannee, the Tornados defeated Englewood 28-7 and Madison County 20-14.

Prior to the Keystone game, Bradford lost 14-6 to Ridgeview. Brown had two runs that resulted in first downs on the first series of the game against Keystone (2-7). The Indians, though, stopped the drive when Judy Null intercepted a tipped pass.

Keystone's offense picked up a first down on a run by Ella Hutchins, but Bradford's Dariah Gilmore came up with an interception to put the Tornados' offense back on the field.

Two straight runs by Brown resulted in a first down. A 9-yard pass from Brown to Aniyah Carroll later gave the Tornados a fourth-and-goal play at the 1-yard line. Brown scored on a run from there to make the score 6-0. The Keystone defense kept Brown out of the end zone on the two-point conversion attempt.

Hutchins got her team's next offensive series off to a good start, picking up a first down on a run on the first play. Bradford's Jadyn Lee made a tackle for a loss on the next play. The Indians eventually punted early in the second quarter.

Bradford went for it on a fourth-and-short play on the ensuing series, but Brown's pass was picked off by the Indians' Kendall Gagnon.

One play later, the Tornados had the ball back, with Brown intercepting a pass.

Keystone's Amberley Carlton had a big defensive series following the change of possession. She tackled Brown twice behind the line of scrimmage and made another tackle that limited Carroll to a minimal gain as the Tornados, after gaining one first down on a run by Brown, were forced to punt.

The Indians' offense took to the field with approximately two minutes remaining in the first half. They got first-down runs

Keystone's Ella Hutchins (foreground) makes her way down the sideline, with teammate Kendall Gagnon getting in the way of Bradford's Jakayla Evans.



Bradford's Nichelle Brown (right) eludes Keystone's Ashley McCarthy. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

UCHS QB Club to host alumni football game on April 23

The Union County High School Quarterback Club is hosting an alumni football game on Saturday, April 23, at 6 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Former players are still needed. The cost to play is \$25, which covers equipment and liability. If interested, please email Head Football Coach Andrew Thomas at thomasan@union.k12.fl.us. Include your graduation year and a playing-days photo, if possible.

Practices will take place at 6 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, April 18-19, and Thursday, April 21.

BHS baseball team gets 1st win, defeats Branford 8-0

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Luke Stucky drove in four runs, while Cason Pilcher pitched a five-hit shutout for the Bradford High School baseball team, which earned its first win this season, defeating visiting Branford 8-0 on April 8.

The Tornados (1-10-1) got the only run they'd need when Kevin Crawford hit a solo homer in the second inning.

It was a 2-0 game when Bradford scored two in the fourth. Kacen Thomassen walked, while Elijah Noonan hit a double. Noonan and courtesy runner Austin Corbin scored on a Stucky single.

Bradford pushed three across in the fifth. The Tornados loaded the bases on singles by Crawford and Mattox Burgin and walk given up to Thomassen. Crawford scored on a passed ball before Stucky came through with another two-run single.

Stucky and Crawford each finished 2 for 4.

In going the distance on the mound, Pilcher struck out 12 and gave up just two walks.

Bradford entered the game off a 10-7 loss at Interlachen on April 7.

The Tornados took a 7-5 lead with a six-run fifth. They loaded the bases on singles by Burgin and Stucky and a walk given up to Thomassen. Carson Knight was hit by a pitch to force a run in. Courtesy runner Hayden Hughes scored on a Jonathan Brugh ground out. With two outs, Pilcher drove in two runs on a single. An error on the play allowed Pilcher to score as well. Brayden Smyth was then hit by a pitch. He scored when Interlachen committed an error in the outfield on a Foster Smith single.

Interlachen hit two home runs in the bottom of the inning to take an 8-7 lead. Burgin Crawford and Pilcher each went 2 for 3, with Pilcher driving in two runs and Crawford hitting a double. Stucky went 2 for 4, while Brugh and Knight each had one RBI.

The Tornados played Dixie County and Ridgeview this past Monday and Wednesday and will host Keystone Heights on Thursday, April 14, at 7 p.m. Bradford hosts Chiefland on Monday, April 18, at 6:30 p.m. and then hosts Toco Creek on Wednesday, April 20, at 6:30 p.m.

Cumbus, Mitzel give up 2 runs in KHHS win over Williston

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Pitchers Cole Cumbus and Ty Mitzel combined to allow four hits in the Keystone Heights High School baseball team's 9-2 win over visiting Williston on April 11. Keystone (8-8) led 9-0 before Williston finally scored in the top of the sixth.

The Indians had a five-run fourth inning to go up 6-0. Chase Packham hit a leadoff single, while Conner Guy walked. After two straight strikeouts, Ty Glenn walked to load the bases.

Packham and Guy scored on the same wild pitch. Keystone then loaded the bases again when Gage Smith drew a walk and Noah Branch was hit by a pitch. Ashton Roach hit a single to score Glenn, while an error on the play allowed Smith and Branch to score.

Ryan Jones hit an RBI double as part of a three-run fifth that capped the scoring for the Indians. Glenn, Jones, Roach and Jeremy Miller each had one RBI, while Packham went 2 for 3 with a double.

Cumbus gave up one run on three hits in six innings, walking one and striking out six. Mitzel threw the final inning, giving up one run on one hit and no walks, striking out two.

It was Keystone's second win over Williston in less than a week. On April 5, the Indians scored two runs in the top of the sixth that proved to be the difference in a 6-4 win in Williston.

Keystone trailed 2-1 before scoring two runs in the fourth. Jones walked and scored on a Smith ground out. Miller singled and scored on a Packham ground ball to put the Indians ahead 3-2.

It was 4-2 when the Indians scored another two runs in the sixth. Packham walked, advanced on a Branch sacrifice bunt and a Glenn single, and scored on a steal of home. An error allowed Glenn to score.

Packham, Smith and Dalton Hollingsworth each had one RBI, with Hollingsworth going 2 for 3.

Ben Goforth earned the win, giving up four runs (two earned) on five hits through 5.1 innings. He gave up two walks and struck out seven.

Jesse Stanley finished it off on the mound, giving up no hits and no walks.

On April 6, Roach gave up two hits in a complete-game pitching effort, while Hollingsworth drove in three runs in the Indians' 10-1 win over visiting Orange Park on April 6.

Keystone scored seven runs in the first inning. Alex Addington was hit by a pitch and advanced to third on an error before scoring on a Hollingsworth single. Jones drove Hollingsworth in with a single. The Indians then scored

five runs with two outs. After a Smith walk, Packham hit a run-scoring single. Branch drove in two with another single. Bryce Hart reached on catcher's interference, while Addington reached on an error, loading the bases for Hollingsworth, who drove in two runs with a single.

Hollingsworth finished 3 for 4 with a triple. Branch, Cumbus, Guy, Jones and Packham each had one RBI. Roach struck out five in earning the win.

The Indians were looking to make it five wins in a row when they traveled to play Fort White on April 7, but the host team scored three runs in the sixth inning to hand Keystone a 5-3 loss.

Keystone trailed 2-0 before Jones hit an RBI single in the fourth. The Indians then tied the game in the fifth when Roach, who hit a leadoff double, scored on a wild pitch with two outs.

Keystone took the lead in the top of the sixth when Guy, who singled, scored on a Miller single.

Fort White took advantage of two singles and an error in the bottom of the inning. Starting pitcher Smith gave up two runs on seven hits through four innings.

The Indians played Union County this past Tuesday and will travel to play Bradford on Thursday, April 14, at 7 p.m. Keystone hosts Fernandina Beach on Friday, April 15, at 6:30 p.m. and hosts Oakleaf on Monday, April 18, at 7 p.m.

On Tuesday, April 19, the Indians travel to play Orange Park at 7 p.m.

Tornados get softball win over Buchholz

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Taylor Reddish hit an RBI double in the bottom of the fourth that proved to be the eventual difference in the Bradford High School softball team's 10-7 win over visiting Buchholz on April 8.

It was a 1-1 game until Bradford scored six runs in the

third. Madison Highland drew a leadoff walk. Two outs later, she scored on an Allie Funderburk single. After Reddish singled and Makayla Moore was hit by a pitch, Masey Padgett hit a two-run single. Takeira Bakken was hit by a pitch, with Moore later scoring on a passed ball. Spratlin walked to load the bases.

Highland and Kiersten Hodges each drew a walk to force a run in. In the fourth inning, Funderburk walked and scored on Reddish's double to make the score 8-1. Reddish later scored on an error to give the Tornados an eight-run cushion. Funderburk and Reddish went 2 for 2 and 2 for 3, respectively. Reddish had two RBI, while Funderburk had one. Padgett finished with two RBI, while Highland and Hodges each had one.

Starting pitcher Cassidy Spratlin gave up two runs on eight hits through five innings. Reddish gave up three hits in two innings of relief. Bradford entered the game off a 5-4 win over visiting Suwannee on April 7 in which Funderburk scored the winning run on a passed ball in the bottom of the seventh.

The Tornados scored two runs with two outs in the bottom of the first. Reddish reached on a double. Then, Hannah McFarland, after falling behind 1-2 in the count, took two straight balls before hitting a home run over the fence in center to put Bradford ahead 2-1.

It was a 3-3 game when Suwannee scored a run in the top of the seventh. In the bottom of the seventh, Rylie Blankenship and Funderburk reached on a walk and a single, respectively. McFarland hit a single to score Blankenship and even the score at 4-4. Funderburk advanced to third on a wild pitch before scoring the game winner on a passed ball.

McFarland went 3 for 4 with three RBI, while Bakken and Hodges each went 2 for 3. All three batters hit doubles.

Reddish, who went 2 for 4, earned the win in the circle, giving up seven hits in a complete-game effort.

Union was held to one hit by Fletcher pitchers Kyson Witherspoon and Dylan Lee. The Tigers (8-7) entered the game off an 11-0, five-inning win over host Dixie County on April 7, with Ayden Elixson, Trevor Holtzendorf and Eli Rimes each driving in two runs.

Quinten Rawls pitched all five innings, giving up five hits and one walk, while striking out six.

Union scored four runs in each of the first two innings. With Jay Cohen and Lee on with two outs in the first, Elixson walked. Rimes then hit a 1-2 pitch into center field for a double, scoring Cohen and Lee. Elixson scored on a Holtzendorf single, while Rimes scored on a wild pitch.

Rawls was hit by a pitch to lead off the top of the second. Following a Jake O'Steen walk, Cohen hit a single to score Rawls. One out later, Elixson hit a double to score O'Steen and Cohen. Holtzendorf hit a two-out single to score Elixson and put Union ahead 8-0.

Holtzendorf and Rawls each went 2 for 2 and were the Tigers' only multi-hit batters. Cohen and Lee each had one RBI. Union played Keystone Heights this past Tuesday and will travel to play Oak Hall on Monday, April 18, at 4:15 p.m.

Tigers drop 1-0 baseball game to Fletcher

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Pitchers Tre'von Lee and Ethan Moody combined to give up just three hits, but it wasn't enough for the Union County High School baseball team, which lost 1-0 to host Fletcher on April 8.

The game's only run occurred in the bottom of the fourth. Fletcher loaded the bases on a single, a double and a walk. A run then scored on a wild pitch.

Lee, who started, gave up the one run along with three hits and one walk through 3.2 innings. Moody allowed no hits in the final 2.1 innings. Each pitcher had three strikeouts.

Union was held to one hit by Fletcher pitchers Kyson Witherspoon and Dylan Lee.

The Tigers (8-7) entered the game off an 11-0, five-inning win over host Dixie County on April 7, with Ayden Elixson, Trevor Holtzendorf and Eli Rimes each driving in two runs.

Quinten Rawls pitched all five innings, giving up five hits and one walk, while striking out six.

Union scored four runs in each of the first two innings.

With Jay Cohen and Lee on with two outs in the first, Elixson walked. Rimes then hit a 1-2 pitch into center field for a double, scoring Cohen and Lee. Elixson scored on a Holtzendorf single, while Rimes scored on a wild pitch.

Rawls was hit by a pitch to lead off the top of the second. Following a Jake O'Steen walk, Cohen hit a single to score Rawls. One out later, Elixson hit a double to score O'Steen and Cohen. Holtzendorf hit a two-out single to score Elixson and put Union ahead 8-0.

Holtzendorf and Rawls each went 2 for 2 and were the Tigers' only multi-hit batters.

Cohen and Lee each had one RBI. Union played Keystone Heights this past Tuesday and will travel to play Oak Hall on Monday, April 18, at 4:15 p.m.

See FLAG, page 16

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Clark has 5 RBI in UCHS' 17-0 softball victory

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Leah Clark finished with five RBI, while pitcher Lily Neal threw a two-hit, four-inning shutout in the Union County High School softball team's 17-0 win at Hawthorne on April 11.

The Tigers (12-2) scored all the runs they'd need in a six-run first inning, which featured a bases-loaded triple by Clark that scored all three runners. Angela Tucker and Campbell Webb hit an RBI single and an RBI double, respectively, while Tucker scored on a steal of home.

Hailey Rivera hit a two-run triple as part of a seven-run second inning, that also featured Clark driving in a run on a sacrifice fly. Hayley Burke and Hannah Rivera each hit a ground ball and reached on an error, driving in a run apiece. An error on a ball hit into the outfield by Webb scored two runs as well.

Clark and Makenzie Radford each drew a bases-

loaded walk as part of a four-run fourth. Hailey Rivera hit an RBI single, while Tamia Young scored on a passed ball.

Webb and Hailey Rivera each went 2 for 3, with Rivera driving in three runs and Webb driving in one. Burke, Radford, Tucker and Hannah Rivera each had one RBI.

Neal struck out 10 and gave up no walks.

On April 5, Nyasia Williams drove in two runs in Union's 3-1 win over visiting Dixie County — a matchup of the top two-ranked teams in Class 1A.

Williams hit a double and scored on Webb's sacrifice fly to put the number-one Tigers ahead 1-0 in the second. Williams later made the score 3-0 when she hit a two-run homer in the fourth, scoring Hailey Rivera, who walked.

Webb and Williams went 2 for 2 and 2 for 3, respectively. The Bears' only run was scored on an error in the fifth inning. Tigers pitcher Megan Sullivan gave up three hits and two walks in a complete game. She struck out seven.

Union dropped its second game of the season on April 8, managing just two hits against pitcher Addison Allaire in an 11-

1, five-inning loss to host Trenton. Trenton took a 3-0 lead in the first, taking advantage of three walks, two errors, a hit batter with the bases loaded and a sacrifice fly.

Union made it 3-1 in the second. The Tigers loaded the bases with two outs as Mackenzie Orton was hit by a pitch, followed by singles by Hannah Rivera and Tucker. Trenton committed an error on a ground ball hit by Young, allowing Orton to score. A strikeout ended the inning.

In all, the Tigers struck out nine time against Allaire. The Tigers played Hawthorne this past Wednesday and will travel to play Columbia on Thursday, April 14, at 7 p.m. Union travel to play Dixie County on Tuesday, April 19, at 7 p.m.

Desue and Lawrence earn wins for BMS at invitational

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Isariya Desue and Elijah Lawrence each won an event for

Bradford Middle School, which earned a total of six first- and second-place finishes at the April 4 Providence Stallion Track and Field Invitational in Jacksonville.

Desue had a win and a runner-up finish for the girls team. Her time of 13.94 topped the 100m field, while her time of 29.45 was good for second in the 200m.

The 4x100m relay also featured Desue, who teamed up with Alecee Carroll, Raevin Jamison and Jordyn Littles to run a second-place time of 56.54.

Bradford's girls team also had fourth- and fifth-place finishes in the 100m, with Kendall Shanks running 14.44 and Littles running 14.56.

Autumn Hunt was fourth in the 400m (1:19), while Anna Adkins was fourth in the 1600m (7:21).

Littles' day also consisted of an eighth-place finish in the 200m (31.65).

Gabrielle Hinds earned an eighth-place finish the 100m hurdles (22.77) and a ninth-place finish in the 400m (1:24).

Adkins had a ninth-place finish in the 800m (3:28).

The girls team also had the following results: 100m — Jamison 16.57, Carroll 17.12; 200m — Jamison 35.16, Hunt 36.89, Carroll 37.50; and 800m — Hinds 3:32.

For the boys team, Lawrence won the 200m with a time of 27.25. He teamed up with Aldan Sanchez, Gino Addison and Bryson Hill to win the 4x100m relay with a time of 51.83.

Addison took second in the 100m (13.56), while Axel Markwich was third in the 1600m (5:31).

Sanchez and Iyen Addison placed fourth and fifth, respectively, in the 100m with times of 13.67 and 14.13, while Gino Addison and Hill were fifth and sixth, respectively, in the 200m with times of 29.06 and 29.20.

Iyen Addison was eighth in the 200m (29.26), while Sanchez was ninth in the 400m (1:07).

Other boys team results were: 100m — Hill 14.94, Caiden Carn 16.10; 200m — Carn 32.14; 400m — Tucker

Griffis 1:15, John Rosson 1:41; 800m — Andrew Warren 3:30; and 1600m — Warren 7:40.

BHS girls earn 3 top-6 finishes

In the high school portion of the Providence Invitational, Bradford was runner-up in the girls distance medley relay with a time of 18:14. The team consisted of Alissa Reddish, Layne Loper, Lindsey McCoy and Jillian Lee.

The girls 4x100m relay team of Diamond Ferguson, Alyssa Hunt, Holly Holt and Kaelyn Booker placed sixth with a time of 58.10. Natalie Thomas earned an individual sixth-place finish, running the 1600m in 6:46.

Ferguson also competed in the 100m, finishing with a time of 14.36.

Jamarian Cummings earned an eighth-place finish for the boys team, running the 400m in 55.29.

Ne-O Addison ran the 100m in 12.82, while Jordan Barton and Silas Markwich had times of 6:00 and 6:22, respectively, in the 1600m.

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INDEX		
40 Notice	51 Lost/Found	63 Love Lines
41 Vehicles Accessories	52 Animals & Pets	64 Business Opportunity
42 Motor Vehicles	53 Yard Sales	65 Help Wanted
43 RV's & Campers	54 Keystone Yard Sales	66 Investment Opportunity
44 Boats	55 Wanted	67 Hunting Land For Rent
45 Land for Sale	56 Trade or Swap	68 Rent to Own
46 Real Estate Out of Area	57 For Sale	69 Food Supplements
47 Commercial Property	58 Building Materials	70 Money to Lend
48 Homes for Sale	59 Personal Services	72 Sporting Goods
49 Mobile Homes for Sale	60 Secretarial Services	73 Farm Equipment
50 For Rent	61 Scriptures	74 Computers & Computer Accessories
62 Vacation/Travel		

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FLAG

Continued from page 14

Keystone to eventually punt. Bradford was finally able to put another score on the board before the third quarter ended. After carrying the ball on the first two plays of the drive (with one run resulting in a first down), Brown threw a pass to Santee Blye for a 20-yard touchdown. Brown's pass on the two-point conversion was incomplete, but the Tornadoses now led 12-0.

Keystone's next drive began with a long run by Hutchins for a first down. Three plays later, Hutchins again ran for a first down. The drive stalled, with Bradford's Ajjiah Jackson recording a sack and Carroll breaking up a pass. Brown eluded several tacklers on a 40-yard touchdown run with less than five minutes to play. Brown's run on the one-point conversion was good, putting the Tornadoses ahead 19-0.

The Indians avoided the shutout when Jakayleia Bauer hauled in a deep pass from Bright, setting up Bright's touchdown pass of less than 5 yards to Gagnon. Keystone went for three after the score, with Jackson sacking Bright.

Bradford played Baker County this past Tuesday and Wednesday and will host games against Middleburg on Tuesday, April 19,

at 6 p.m. and against Columbia on Thursday, April 21, at 6 p.m. Keystone played Lake Weir this past Tuesday and will travel to play Palatka on Thursday, April 14, at 6 p.m.



Bradford's Nichelle Brown (left) intercepts a pass intended for Keystone's Jakayleia Bauer.

The Indians travel to play Crescent City on Tuesday, April 19, at 6 p.m. before returning home to play Orange Park on Thursday, April 21, at 6 p.m.



Keystone third baseman Kinley Carlton prepares to make a throw to first base in the win against Bradford.

KHHS

Continued from page 11

ball, while Kinsal scored on a double by Channell. Mitzel followed with an RBI single. Kinley Carlton reached on an error before Johnson and Saige Dennis each hit an RBI single. Two outs later, Roach hit a two-run double, while Kinsal ended the game with run-scoring single.

Johnson and Roach each went 3 for 3, with Roach hitting two doubles. Rogel went 2 for 2, while Mitzel and Kinsal went 2 for 3 and 2 for 4, respectively. Mitzel had two RBI, Channell and Dennis each had one RBI.

Mitzel pitched all four innings, giving up just one

walk, while striking out two.

The Indians played Ridgeview this past Tuesday night and will travel to play Creekside on Thursday, April 14, at 7 p.m. Keystone returns home to play Interlachen on Tuesday, April 19, at 6:30 p.m.

Bradford played Lake Weir this past Tuesday and will host Orange Park on Thursday, April 14, at 6 p.m. The Tornadoses host St. Johns Country Day on Monday, April 18, at 7 p.m. before traveling to play Columbia on Tuesday, April 19, at 6:30 p.m.

Keystone entered the Bradford game off a 2-0 week that saw the Indians defeat visiting Oakleaf 11-1 on April 5 and host Middleburg 3-0 on April 7.

Against Oakleaf, Roach drove in a run on a sacrifice fly as part of a two-run third inning, which put the Indians ahead 3-1.

That's how the score stood before Keystone pushed seven runs across in the fifth. A walk by Dennis and singles by Robinson and Rogel loaded the bases. Roach ground into a fielder's choice to score Dennis, while an error allowed Robinson to score and Roach to reach safely. Kinsal followed with a two-run double. Channell reached on an error before Carlton hit a three-run homer over the fence in left.

Carlton went 2 for 3 with four RBI overall, while Robinson and Rogel went 2 for 2 and 2 for 4, respectively. Kinsal and Roach each had two RBI, while Mitzel had one.

Caitlyn Frampton pitched a complete game, giving up four hits.

The game against Middleburg was a duel between pitchers Mitzel and Mallory Forrester.

Keystone had just three hits against Forrester, but Rogel drew three walks against her and scored twice.

Rogel drew a walk to lead off the game and after steals of second and third, scored on Kinsal's sacrifice fly. In the third inning, Rogel walked with two outs. She advanced on a Roach single and then stole third. She scored on a passed ball.

Kinsal, who went 2 for 2, hit a double, stole third and scored on a passed ball in the fourth.

In the circle, Mitzel gave up eight hits and just one walk, striking out six.



Bradford's Rylie Blankenship looks for an opportunity to score from third in the first inning against Keystone.



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