

Bradford County Telegraph

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146th year, 41st Issue — \$1

Sunrise service raises over \$3,600 for food bank

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
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Over 300 Lake Region Kiwanis Club's Easter Sunrise Service attendees donated \$3,651 to Lake Area Ministries.

At the conclusion of the service, Kiwanian Tina Bullock held up a handful of U.S. currency, demonstrating the crowd's generosity. "I thought we needed to see this," the retired educator said. "A picture is worth several thousand words."

Kiwanis known for parades and Terrific Kids

Toward the beginning of the ceremony, Kiwanis President Karen Lake told the crowd that the primary mission of her group, founded in 1989, is to serve children. She highlighted her club's production of the Independence Day and Christmas parades in Keystone Heights, and its ongoing sponsorship of Terrific Kids, a student recognition program in Lake Region elementary schools.

Lake said that last week, her organization received an \$8,375 grant from the Florida Children's Fund, which Lake Region Kiwanis will give to the Keystone Heights High School Band.



Trinity Baptist Church Senior Pastor Brandon Denmark preached the morning's message from Philippians 3:1-11.



"A picture is worth several thousand words," said Kiwanian Tiny Bullock, as she showed the crowd over \$3,600 collected for Lake Area Ministries.

never come to Lake Area Ministries before.

He added that in the first quarter of 2025, the organization had helped 1,852 families, 76 of whom had never sought help from Lake Area Ministries.

"So, you can do the math there and understand we are on track to serve the same amount or even a greater number of families in 2025," he said.

"You've been to the grocery store," the minister added, "and you know exactly how much groceries are, and these are families that are in crisis that need help. And so, we strive to give them as much as we can as they come, but we need you."

Standland asked audience members to pray for the ministry, offer to volunteer, and financially support the effort.

The nonprofit's leader said that, unlike past years, the food bank had not received any grant funding in 2025 and has relied solely on the generosity of cash and in-kind donations.

"(During) March and April, we've been collecting canned fruit," he said. "So, if you want to drop off some canned fruit, there are some boxes there at the facility on Commercial Circle, some brown boxes that are outside."

See SERVICE, page 4

Lake Area Ministries assisting families for 36 years

Scott Standland, president of the board of Lake Area Ministries, told the crowd the food bank has been assisting families in the Lake Region

for 36 years.

Standland, also Trinity Baptist Church's pastor of worship and administration, said that in 2024, Lake Area Ministries assisted 7,621 families.

"That's not individuals," he said. "That's families. Four hundred, twenty-four of those families had

Davis Express closing doors

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

The owner of Davis Express trucking announced in a social media post that after 44 years in business, the Bradford County enterprise is closing its doors.

"The last few years have been very challenging for refrigerated trucking as costs continue to rise while rates remain flat or have decreased," owner Jimmy Davis wrote. "We have been unprofitable since early 2023 and do not see any signs of improvement in 2025."

Davis also blamed plaintiff's attorneys for increasing costs and risks in the industry.

"Every trip a driver takes is Russian Roulette for everything I worked for my entire life," he said.

Davis added that he does not wish

to find a buyer for the company and that his children want to pursue their individual careers.

"We are not broke, bankrupt, nor do we have any cash flow problems," Davis wrote. "There are sufficient funds to pay out all employees, vendors, and creditors timely."

Davis wrote that Davis Express would continue to make deliveries through April 23 and that all trucks would be returned to the company's U.S. 301 South terminal by the end of April.

North Florida Regional Chamber of Commerce President Pam Whittle said other area trucking companies have called her and are looking to hire Davis Express employees.

"Even down to accountants who specialize in the trucking industry," Whittle said of the need for workers.

Starke plans election of next clerk, commissioners

Duties, salary decided

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

Starke is now in the planning stages for its next election, which will take place in August and potentially include a race for city clerk.

While most commissioners supported removing the city clerk as an elected position in the city's charter, they are respecting the outcome of the failed April 8 referendum, which means there will be a race on the Aug. 19 ballot if candidates decide to run.

Lisa Heeder, the administrative assistant who has worked in the clerk's office for a number of years, has confirmed she would campaign to become the next clerk.

The other offices open for election this year and Seats 2 and 4 on the city commission. Those are the seats currently held by Janice Mortimer and Scott Roberts.

The races, if any, will be set during qualifying week, which is June 9-13. To qualify, candidates pay a percentage of the salary for the office they are seeking (5%). The starting commission salary as set by 2022 ordinance is \$1,481 a month, or nearly \$17,800 a year.

The base salary for city clerk was increased to \$69,000 after Jimmy

Crosby was elected to the office. Crosby resigned and is now serving as chief administrative officer. That post covers most of the city's operations, including finance, which was once associated with the city clerk's office.

Commissioners discussed the duties of a city clerk at their April 15 meeting, during which they also rolled back the clerk's salary to its previous level — \$45,000. The duties amount to the following as outlined in the city charter:

- attend commission meetings and keep accurate minutes of the proceedings.

- be custodian of the city seal, all ordinances, records, papers and files of the city, to include certain financial records provided by the finance department.

- serve as the city's election supervisor.

- sign all bonds with the mayor.

- any additional duties assigned by the commission.

Commissioner Danny Nugent said he wanted to see all former duties returned to the clerk, including those that had been spread to other positions.

"I'm thinking we need to give responsibilities back to the clerk, because that's what citizens want," he said.

See CLERK, page 4



A substantial portion of the city's fencing around the park was destroyed.

Semi-truck overturns near Keystone Beach Park

State Road 21 closed, city property damaged

BY JENN SAMSEL
Special to the Monitor

A semi-truck overturned in Keystone Heights on South Lawrence Boulevard Saturday morning, causing significant damage to a city fence and spilling cases of bottled water. The incident resulted in several hours of road closures.

The April 19 traffic crash occurred at 5:45 a.m.

According to the Clay County

Sheriff's Office, the truck driver was speeding around a corner on the state highway when cases of water shifted, causing him to lose control of the semi, crash into a tree, and overturn.

A substantial portion of the city's fencing around the park was destroyed. Currently, there is no damage to the bathrooms at the beach park.

"I am very thankful that no one was injured in this accident," said Keystone Heights Mayor Nina Rodenroth. "We will have to review our options for securing the park until the fence is replaced."

No one was injured in the crash.



"I am very thankful that no one was injured in this accident," said Keystone Heights Mayor Nina Rodenroth. "We will have to review our options for securing the park until the fence is replaced."



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WORTH NOTING

Shop Library Market this Saturday

Friends of the Bradford County Public Library is having a Craft & Vendor Market on Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Items for sale will include fruit trees, potted plants, baked goods, handmade decor, accessories and more. Shoppers are encouraged to shop early for the best selection.

Bingo raises money for schools

Nicky's Beauty Bar is sponsoring the next Bingo Night at Starke's Downtown Grill. The Monday, April 28, games support Bradford Communities for Schools. Doors open at 5 p.m. and the games begin at 5:30. It's 10 games for \$20 (cash only), and the 10th is a blackout game with a chance to win \$100. Call ahead to reserve your seat — 904-964-9253.

Promised Land at Historical Society

The Union County Historical Society will have a regular meeting on Monday, April 28, at 6:30 p.m. in the Marjorie McGill Driggers Historical Museum, 410 W. Main St. in Lake Butler. The speaker for the meeting will be Mr. John Hall, founder of Promised Land Family Ministries. He will talk about choosing Union County for the ministry, its history and its future plans to benefit Union County.

Please plan to attend this informative meeting.

Bradford Democrats meet April 28

The Bradford County Democratic Party will meet on Monday, April 28, at 7 p.m. All registered Democrats are welcome and encouraged to attend. The meeting will be held at Capital City Bank, U.S. 301 North in Starke, in the conference room. For further information, please contact bradfordcodec@gmail.com.

Family histories sought for new book

The Union County Historical Society is hard at work on a second book about the county's history and the families that made it happen.

Members are actively collecting family histories and information on Union County history. To inquire about the project or to submit a family history item, interested parties can email the society at theucbook@gmail.com.



Cancer Walk Saturday

The second annual Cancer

Walk in support of Breast Cancer Awareness and Education will take place Saturday, April 26, at 9:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Shirley Ann Brown Livingstone

Scholarship Foundation and organized by director and breast cancer survivor Carolyn Brown Spooner, the walk will begin at Mr. Pisgah AME church located

at 102 SE 44th Ave. (Steel Mill Road) in Starke.

The 2.2-mile walk will take participants down C.R. 100A where they will turn around at the steel plant and return to the church. Water and Gatorade stations will be set up at Mt. Pisgah and Ebenezer Baptist

Church, and restrooms are available at Lincoln City Park, next to Ebenezer Baptist.

If anyone would like to donate, please make your donation to the Shirley Ann Brown Livingstone Scholarship Foundation. The scholarships aid local students pursuing their college education

in medical fields such as nursing, cancer research, pharmacy, physical therapy and other fields that aid cancer patients. Educational materials on breast cancer will be shared at the event. For further information, contact Carolyn Spooner at 904-364-6271.

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Officials discuss sports commission

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

Bradford County and City of Starke officials are trying to build support for a sports commission that would coordinate investments in government-owned sports facilities and work to bring sports tourism to the area.

Bradford County Commissioner Danny Riddick told members of the Tourist Development Council on April 17 that he had been in preliminary discussions with City of Starke Chief Administrative Officer Jimmy Crosby, Starke City Commissioner Scott Roberts, and County Manager Scott Kornegay about the idea.

Crosby told the county tourism panel that improving the city's Edwards Road Sports Complex is the only way to attract out-of-town teams to participate in tournaments at the park.

"We are lacking the quality compared to other communities," he said.

Crosby said that during a recent tournament at the complex, the sewer system was overwhelmed by the number of people using the restrooms. He added that Starke is installing a six-inch sewer line to expand the complex's wastewater capacity.

"Now, the city's spending about \$150,000 already on just maintenance to keep things up," he said of the park's sewer line and other improvements. Crosby said other urgent needs at the park include improvements or repairs to fencing and lighting.

The Starke official asked tourist development council members to reconsider their longstanding policy of only funding advertising for county events and to broaden the scope of the council's funding to include investments in sports infrastructure.

"So, I understand it's a paradigm shift, and I know you are not going to want to act on it today, but I think you need to assume the potential of what can



City of Starke Chief Administrative Officer Jimmy Crosby explains to Tourist Development Council members his vision of a sports partnership between the city, county, and TDC. Also pictured are Tourist Development Council members (l-r) Amber Shepherd, Marty Shaw and Gene Melvin.

happen," he said.

Not enough toilets

TDC Chair John Miller noted in a memo circulated to council members that Braxton Britt of Bradford Youth Athletics, Inc., brought in 12 teams from Georgia, Tampa, Lakeland, Clay, and Alachua counties for a youth baseball tournament in March. The tournament attracted 800 people and booked 24 hotel rooms.

The memo also reported that three tournaments in April were to attract 82 teams from the same areas.

In the memo, Britt said he had to rent two port-a-potties for \$300 to handle the restroom demand at one of his tournaments.

"Lots of ladies and just not enough seats for them all," Britt wrote. "Almost like waiting in line at a concert for the bathroom."

Britt also claimed that with additional improvements to the Edwards Road facility, he could book 24 events in 2026, resulting in an economic impact of \$300,000.

Crosby told the TDC that his vision for sports tourism in the county is too big for the tourist development council to handle alone and proposed a partnership with other entities like the county and municipalities.

"Once the conversation starts, we need to move on it pretty quick," he said, "or it'll fall apart."

County Manager Scott Kornegay added that another reason to move fast on the idea is that budget season is approaching for local governments.

"So, now's the time to get a line item in the budget to commit to this, if we have some assurance that we're all on the same page."

A great athletic program for the county and city combined

Riddick said he had discussed the idea of a county-wide sports organization with his fellow county commissioners, who instructed him to gather more information about the concept.

"We're trying to come up— and team up together to have one athletic program for Bradford County to do soccer, flag football, baseball, softball," he said. "We've got racquetball courts down there. You've got a skateboard park. You've got a pickleball court."

He added that he and Kornegay, Crosby, and Roberts plan to meet with eight community leaders on May 5th to advance the idea further.

"We're going to meet," he said, "put this together and see what is the best way to move forward to make this a great athletic program with the city and the county combined."



Transition in progress

Starke's wastewater treatment plant is nearing completion. The plant is in the final stages of testing and transition. During the transition from the old to the new plant, the city acknowledged there has been an increased odor, but that will subside as the new plant becomes operational in the coming weeks. Starke promises a more efficient plant that meets current and future needs of the city and its customers. (Photos from city of Starke.)



Celebrate May Day

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County is once again sponsoring a May Day celebration on Saturday, May 3, beginning at 11 a.m. Celebrate the spring alongside a Community Health and Wellness Resource Fair. Activities include softball games, a kids corner with bounce houses, a senior citizens corner with bingo, food trucks and vendors, and the plating of the maypole.

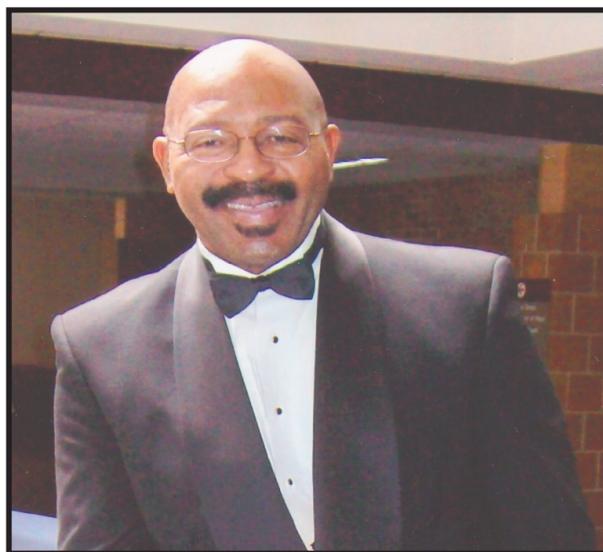
All this will take place at the RJE Complex ballfield, N. 1080 Pine St. in Starke. For more information or to sponsor, please call 904-966-1100 or email ccbe_inc@yahoo.com.

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Lake Butler VFW auxiliary hides eggs for kids

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10082 auxiliary in Lake Butler held its annual Easter Egg Hunt at the post on Saturday, April 19.

Around 25 children took part in the event, ranging in age from 3 months to 17 years.

Event organizer Barbara Fischer said she did not know the precise number of years the group had put on the event but estimated between 15 and 20 years.

She added that volunteers organized three egg hunt areas, one for preschool children, one for elementary-aged students, and a third for teens.

Most of the volunteers and attendees of the event had close ties to the post or auxiliary.

Aaron Frank and Emily Kirby hid eggs in the elementary-age section of the egg hunt. Neither are VFW or auxiliary members, but volunteer to support family members who are.

Frank is a paramedic and small business owner. He said he is saddened by the declining membership of veterans' organizations and attendance at events like the VFW Easter Egg Hunt.

"It would be nice if we could fill up this parking lot for Easter and Halloween," he said.

Megan Harlow brought her children, Madelyn, a third grader, and Dawson, 5, to the event.

The stay-at-home Mom said she also has a connection to the egg hunt volunteers.

"I usually come here with my best friend," she said. "Her in-laws run the event."



Volunteers (l-r) Joy Hardin, Margaret Reeves, Barbara Fischer, Annie Pittman, Coleen Carol, Eric Carol, Stephanie Kirby, and Pops Brandt.



Aaron Frank and Emily Kirby hide eggs in the elementary-age section of the egg hunt. Neither are VFW or auxiliary members, but volunteer to support family members who are. Frank is a paramedic and small business owner. He said he is saddened by the declining membership of veterans' organizations and attendance at events like the VFW Easter Egg Hunt. "It would be nice if we could fill up this parking lot for Easter and Halloween," he said.



Three-year-old Lake Butler resident Viola Provin spots her first egg in the preschool section of the egg hunt.



As Charli Foerman, 3, drops one egg in her basket, and immediately turns to look for another in the preschool section of the hunt.

SERVICE

Continued from page 1

Knowing Christ's righteousness, power, and sufferings

Trinity Baptist Church Senior Pastor Brandon Denmark preached the morning's message from Philippians 3:1-11.

Denmark said that from that passage, the Apostle Paul wrote about the necessity of knowing Jesus Christ and that understanding Christ involves experiencing his righteousness, his power, and his sufferings.

The pastor warned audience members about self-righteousness.

"The problem with our righteousness is it will never justify us," he said. "It will never satisfy the wrath of God that is upon us because of our sin. It will never sanctify us. It is insufficient to save us."

He also said that knowing the power of Christ is understanding

the power of creation and the power that raised Jesus from the dead.

"There is no power in our good-hearted commitments, no power in our great ambitions, no power in our religious pursuits, no power in our works of righteousness," he said. "But hear me this morning, there is power in a resurrected Jesus. There is power to redeem us, to forgive you of your sins, to block out your iniquities, to make of you a child of God, to redeem you, to save you, to justify you."

Denmark said the biblical theme of the sufferings of Christ and his followers is not the message of modern-day, popular Christianity.

"The Bible teaches that God seldom removes us from suffering," he said, "but that he is with us, enabling us, empowering us in the midst of our suffering."

He said that the popular message of many churches, which removes the cross from Christianity, removes justification and the strength and endurance necessary for surviving life's trials.

Also participating in the

service were Keystone Heights Methodist Church Pastor J.T. Taylor, who delivered the opening prayer, the Keystone Heights High School JROTC, which presented the colors, the Friendship Bible Church Worship Team, which led music, Tim Grubbs, who presented special music, and Kiwanis member Roy Chandler, who introduced Denmark.

Retired Pastor and Keystone Heights RV Park resident Jerry Curtis gave the benediction.

LB VFW hosts bingo

Lake Butler VFW Post 10082 has bingo on Thursdays at 7 p.m. The VFW is located off C.R. 231 just outside of Lake Butler. Look for the sign on the left (coming from town).

CLERK

Continued from page 1

"I would only respectfully say this, Danny: I don't know what they want. We only had 300 vote against it and 200 vote for it out of 3,600 ballots," Commissioner Bob Milner said. The referendum results were 328 for removing the clerk from the charter and 212 against, which would place voter turnout for 3,600 ballots at 15%. "In my opinion, that's not a commanding voice from the people. That's 3,000 people that didn't care enough to vote. But nonetheless, it failed," he said.

Drawing upon his experience as city manager, Milner said the commission and its legal counsel have spent several years streamlining the duties of the city clerk to conform with the language of a 100-plus-year-old charter.

"How does that relate to today's language? What does that mean? They don't issue warrants, for example. We have invoices and things like that. So, some of it is semantics, but the semantics matter because you can still allow the clerk to do the things

exactly as the charter says, such as the keeper of the minutes, OK, and the other five or six duties is outlined in there. But that, in my mind, does not require financial staff and other personnel. We've got those. We've got them in place," Milner said, adding they are qualified to do accounting work "We have qualified people doing our budget and giving us back every month, up-to-date, accurate information, which I can assure you did not happen in the past," he continued, adding some clerks used their status as an elected official to resist cooperation with the city commission.

"So, I think that we go along with the people's vote. We can have an elected clerk, and his or her duties will be narrowly and specifically tailored to those as outlined in the charter, perhaps requiring interpretation by all of us through the general counsel, what that means in today's language. But just to be clear, Mr. Mayor, I'm not in favor of adding any staff to what we have right now. So that means the clerk, he or she, will function in their role, and they will do what that charter says they'll do, and they'll do it by themselves," Milner said.

Commissioner Janice Mortimer agreed with Milner. That included the rollback of the base salary to \$45,000, commensurate with the duties, she said. Commissioner Scott Roberts also agreed.

"They voted they want us to do like the charter says, and that's what we'll do," he said. "It's a 100-year-old charter. Part of what we were trying to do is clean up the charter, and they voted to keep it."

Mayor Andy Redding called for a vote on the salary, and it was unanimous, although Nugent said he wanted more discussion on the scope of the clerk's duties in the future.

Supervisor of Elections Amanda Seyfang will create a contract to oversee the election, which the commission will vote on during an upcoming meeting.

The commission decided early voting will take place during the week prior to the election at the supervisor of elections office, extending the office hours to 6:30 p.m. for those who work during the day. Those who vote by mail will be able to request a ballot once the agreement with the supervisor of elections is finalized. (Per the elections office, all vote-by-mail ballot requests expired at the end of 2024. A new request will cover all elections through the 2026 general election.)

Polls at city hall will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day Aug. 19. If a runoff election is required, it will take place on Nov. 4.

In other business, the commission:

—approved a resolution accepting a proposal from Woodward and Curran to begin engineering work on the water and wastewater service to an approximately 175-acre mixed use development proposed at the bypass interchange on S.R. 16. The total cost was \$90,000.

—entered an agreement with Paul Stressing and Associates, which, in conjunction with KPI Engineering, will work on the planning and design of the Phase II modernization of the RJE Center. This phase includes restroom remodeling and ADA compatibility, HVAC installation, and electrical work. They will also explore adding a fire sprinkler system. Payment for the work, which includes construction administration, is \$75,000.

—agreed to meet with the Downtown Merchants and the Chamber of Commerce in a 4:30 p.m. workshop on Tuesday, May 20, to coordinate future events.

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Sons of Allen service

Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church of Lawtey and its Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Jacqueline Dupree, will host its Sons of Allen worship service at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 27.

The theme for this service is "Men Under Construction." Guest messenger for the occasion is the Rev. Michael Ward, pastor of Greater New Bethel A.M.E. Church in Live Oak. The public is invited to join this exciting worship service.

Lake Butler approves special exception for Wawa

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

The Lake Butler City Commission, acting as its own Board of Adjustment, approved a special exception that removes one barrier for the construction of a Wawa convenience store at the corner of State Roads 121 and 231.

Jarod Stubbs of Kimley-Horn answered commissioners' questions about the site plan, roads, the placement of fuel storage tanks, and stormwater drainage during an April 15 meeting.

Stubbs told commissioners that part of the project improves Southwest 7th Avenue, which runs west of the property, and Southwest 1st Way, which runs behind the property along the north side of the two parcels that comprise the project.

Mayor Melissa Hendrix noted that Southwest 1st Way is the only access point for the Community Revival Outreach Ministry Church of God by Faith.

Hendrix told Stubbs that the church is not a Sunday-only congregation but meets many times during the week, and any restrictions on access to the street would create hardships for church members.

Commissioners Rondoll Huggins and Annette Redman quipped the engineer about the project's underground stormwater storage tanks.

Stubbs said the underground tank is necessary because the two parcels do not contain enough land for a retention pond. He agreed with Redman that underground tanks are common in urban areas.



Lake Butler City Commissioner Rondoll Huggins asks Engineer Jarod Stubbs of Kimley-Horn a question about stormwater management at the proposed site of a Wawa in Lake Butler during an April 15 Board of Adjustment meeting.

The 6,374-square-foot store and gas station will have 16 fueling stations.

In a memo to the board of adjustment, the Land Development Regulation Administrator determined that the new store would require an additional 270 gallons of potable water, produce 414 gallons of sewer effluent, and create 36 pounds of solid waste per day, all of which fall within the city's capacity.

The administrator also forecasted an increase in p.m. peak hour trips from the store

from 1,962 to 2,285 per day, resulting in no change in the current traffic service level on the four road segments surrounding the store.

Stubbs told commissioners that the front of the store will face Circle K across State Road 231 from the proposed store. A drive-through will run along the south side of the building, near State Road 121.



Bradford 4-H Livestock Judging Team: (l-r) Jake Markham, Macie Wilson, Kelsey Reddish, Madison Stein and Coach Lizzie Whitehead.

Bradford 4-H Livestock Judging Team wins 2025 state title

Support team as it heads to national contest

BY LIZZIE WHITEHEAD
UF/IFAS Bradford County

The Bradford County 4-H Livestock Judging Team won the overall team championship at the state livestock judging competition in Gainesville on April 12. The team placed first in the following divisions: High Point Team Overall, High Point Team in Reasons, High Point Team in Sheep and Goats, and Reserve High Point Team in

Cattle.

Team member Madison Stein was the number one overall individual, placing first in the following divisions: Sheep and Goats, Reasons, and Swine. Another team member, Jake Markham, was the 7th High Point Overall individual, and 3rd High Point individual in the cattle division.

This team will represent the state of Florida and compete against 48 other state winning teams in November at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky.

Bradford County 4-H also

produced the winning state livestock judging team in 2023.

The team will continue to train for the national contest over the next six months. Trainings will include team practices, farm visits, and attending livestock judging camps at the University of Florida and the University of Tennessee during the summer.

Team members will also be seeking sponsorships and support from the local community. If anyone would like to support the team, please contact the UF/IFAS Bradford County Extension Office at 904-966-6224.

Fines increasing for false alarms in Starke

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

Starke approved an ordinance April 15 raising the penalty on false alarms to encourage property owners — mostly businesses — to repair their systems.

Raising the financial penalty for repeated false fire alarms to get the attention of property owners was one reason to update the city's rules. Fire Chief Jason Clemons said the other was to reassign enforcement powers away from the police department, which no longer exists. The ordinance assigns responsibility to Chief Administrative Officer Jimmy Crosby.

The ordinance grants four false alarms per calendar year without penalty. That's enough time for an alarm problem to be identified and corrected.

Each false alarm after the fourth will result in a fine. The fines start at \$250 per incident. After the ninth incident, the fine increases to \$500 for each false alarm.

During a prior discussion, Clemons gave examples for why this is necessary, saying there was one property Starke Fire Department responded to 18 times last year — each time a false alarm due to a faulty detector in their HVAC system.

"They know about it. They won't fix it. So, if we sting them a little bit, give them some motivation to maintain and repair their systems appropriately — you know, it's not that often that we respond to those type calls and then have a delayed response

to a real emergency, but it does happen," he said.

According to Clemons, a lot of the calls are from nursing facilities or apartment complexes that are required to have functional alarm systems for the safety of the residents. If something is not working, it needs to be repaired.

Clemons said false alarms at private homes are rare, however, the top five commercial offenders on his list were responsible for 49 false alarm responses from the fire department in 2024. He calculated the cost of those responses to be \$11,000.

Per the ordinance, Crosby or his designee will keep a record of every alarm response and whether it was valid. Property owners will be notified of each false alarm reported. This will serve as notice that after four false alarm responses, the property owner will be fined for every subsequent false alarm response.

The ordinance does include an appeals process through the chief administrative officer, who would examine the case and make the final decision.

Fees collected will be used for enforcement of the ordinance, with any remaining revenue going to the fire department.

Commissioners emphasized upon passing the ordinance that the intention was to encourage compliance, not enforce penalties.

The ordinance will be enacted after final approval following the second reading.

Sponsor a day camper

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County's Summer Day Camp returns this year from June 9 to July 3 for kids in kindergarten through eighth grade at the RJE Complex in Starke. The cost is \$200, which includes four weeks of camp — from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day — plus a special field trip.

In addition to free breakfast and lunch, there will be math and language labs, arts and crafts, healthy cooking and baking classes, athletics, and more.

Sign up or sponsor a child for \$200, which can be paid at once

or in installments through May 31. Please contact one of the listed CCBC member for more information: Sherry Williams at 352-278-3540, Alicia McMillian at 904-966-1100 or Glenda Ruise 904-769-1691.

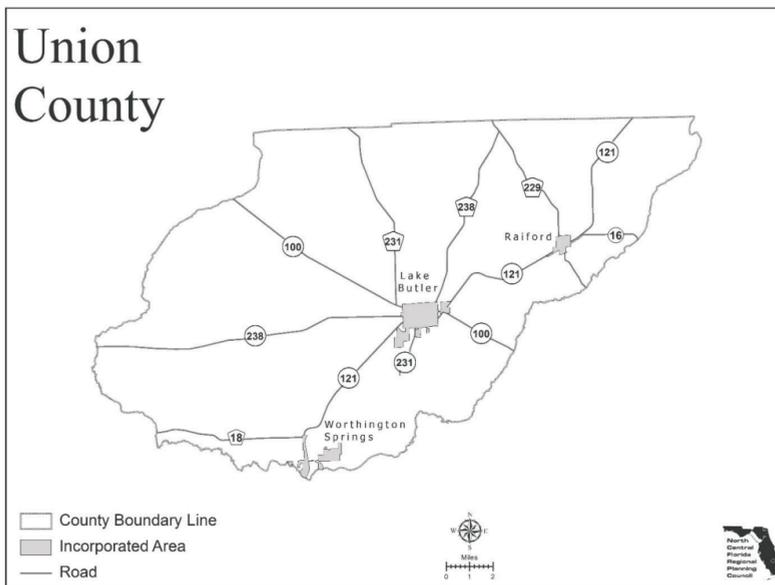
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NOTICE OF A TRAVEL TRAILER PARKS AND CAMPGROUNDS MORATORIUM

The Board of County Commissioners of Union County, Florida proposes to declare a moratorium, within the area shown on the map below by adopting Ordinance No. 2025-02.

Ordinance No. 2025-02, concerning Moratorium No. M 25-01, is an ordinance by the Board of County Commissioners, declaring a moratorium on the acceptance of applications and processing of special exception applications for travel trailer parks and campgrounds for a period of one year.



The first of two public hearings on the proposed moratorium Ordinance No. 2025-02, will be held on May 5, 2025 at 5:10 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, Union County Courthouse located at 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida. The title of said ordinance reads, as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-02

AN ORDINANCE OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, DECLARING A MORATORIUM ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS AND PROCESSING OF SPECIAL EXCEPTION APPLICATIONS FOR TRAVEL TRAILER PARKS AND CAMPGROUNDS FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING AN EXPIRATION DATE

At the aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the Ordinance No. 2025-02.

Copies of Ordinance No. 2025-02 are available for public inspection, at the Office of the Board of County Commissioners, located at 15 Northeast First Street, Lake Butler, Florida, during regular business hours.

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

Persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact Dianne Hannon, Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners at 386.496.4241 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 800.955.8770 (voice) or 800.955.8771 (TTY).

Blow your horn and wave for this Yard of the Month

BY GINNY GEIGER AND BARBARA ANDERSON
Garden Club of the Lakes

When we first arrived at the house on the corner of Fourth Street and State Road 100 in Lake Geneva, we were greeted by two somewhat large, beautiful pit bulls, Buster and Gussie, and their owner, Ben Cooper. As a side note, Barbara did not think they were as beautiful as Ginny did, especially when they tried to crawl up in her lap!

When you drive by this yard to look at it, you may not recognize it as the same yard from three years ago. Ben has been working tirelessly, designing a yard most deserving of the Yard of the Month award. One would have thought we had given him a bunch of money, the way he is so excited and proud of this award. As you ride by, you will see why Ben describes himself as having a creative mind with a good imagination.

Watched aunts and uncles plant large areas of Speedville

Using river rocks, pavers, and stones, Ben laid out the design. Then he planted impatiens, azaleas, peace lilies, succulents, mums, Gerbera daisies, petunias, aloe, boxwoods, and cordyline. Because Ben buys plants just because he likes them, he does not know the names of many of them. Ginny used her handy PictureThis app and found the names of most of them. It is quite

obvious that Ben loves plants and working with them.

His love of gardening started when he was very young, watching his aunts and uncles work in and enjoy planting large areas of land in Speedville. It appears that Ben inherited his family's work ethic and their love of the outdoors and gardening.

Because no one would do the work the way Ben wanted, he did all the work by himself and all by hand, and a lot of work he did and still does. The only part about his beautiful yard he does not like is its high maintenance, but it is well worth it to Ben because being in it gives him great peace.

As we were sitting, enjoying this beautiful yard and weather, people would drive by, blow their horns, and wave. We thought there for a minute that we were famous, until Ben said, "That's the way they do. I know a lot of people around here, and they always do that". So much for us being famous.

Ancestor built first state road

Yes, Ben does know a lot of people from all that he has done around this area. Even though we could not see Ben ever slowing down and "retiring," as hard and fast as he goes, he actually did retire from Clay Electric 20 years ago. They hired Ben when he was just 19, and he was a faithful employee for 11 years.

"Historian" is a word Ben correctly used to describe himself. We had a most fascinating time

hearing some of his many stories about the area we call "home", Melrose and Keystone Heights. Ben was asked to be on the Centennial Committee to share his knowledge, especially since he has been studying this area for 15 years.

Here are a few of the many things we learned from him. We encourage you to look them up. We did and found it all really fascinating.

How about the name of "Speedville"? We have always heard that the name referred to the speed at which people drove through there. Actually, the area was named after Ben's relatives, the Speeds, from that area.

One of his "great" grandfathers, John "Jack" Bellamy, through his hard work, determination, and money, had a considerable impact on this part of Florida, particularly in Clay, Duval, and

Jefferson counties. He founded Jacksonville with two other settlers and was commissioned to build the first state road, using slaves. It ran from Pensacola to St. Augustine. What was once called Bellamy Road is now State Road 26, which runs through downtown Melrose. John "Jack" Bellamy was quite a man. You may want to Google him, but we did.

Yes, Ben is an amazing historian who summarizes his life's passions as Love of God, people, history, and plants.

It must be clear by now that Ben has led a most interesting life of 65 years, and we didn't even cover the surface, living almost all of it here. If you have questions about this area and its history, don't just blow your horn and wave. Stop by his house or drop by his car detailing business in Melrose and ask him - we did.



Ben Cooper's love of gardening started when he was very young, watching his aunts and uncles work in and enjoy planting large areas of land in Speedville.



Because no one would do the work the way Ben wanted, he did all the work by himself and all by hand, and a lot of work he did and still does.



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BHS Class of 1975 reunion planned

The Bradford County High

School Class of 1975 will hold its 50th anniversary reunion on Saturday, June 21, 2025, at the Starke Woman's Club. Social will begin at 5 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. Price for the reunion is \$50 per person,

payable by check or money order only. Make payment to BHS Class of 1975 and mail to Donna Solze, BCREC, P.O. Box 213, Starke, FL 32091. Please include your full name and the name of any guests.

Deadline for payment is June 1, 2025. Organizers also need your help in locating classmates. So spread the word. For more information, please contact Joy Tetstone at 352-745-6672 or Randy Martin at 352-235-6410.

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L-R: Elizabeth Thompson, Christi Hudson, Wendy Russell, Elizabeth Sheppard, Marie Emery, Jamie Roberts, Kim Nichols, Melissa Marrero.

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Sarah Long Matt Barksdale

Anderson honored for 30 years with the city of Starke

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

When Starke's general manager pointed out he was only 33 years old, while Terry Anderson has already worked for the city for 30 years, there was laughter.

There was also a lot of appreciation expressed for all the work and the many hats Anderson has worn for the city in that time.

"You've done a lot for the city. You've done a lot for me over the past three and a half years. The commission, you've done a lot for them. And so, I just want to take this time and recognize you," Manager Drew Mullins said.

City hall was full of family, friends and supporters, there to honor Anderson April 15. Among them was business owner and former city commissioner Chrissy Allen Thompson.

"On behalf of Downtown Merchants, the Chamber of Commerce and all the things that Terry does to help everybody, we love you, and thank you so much for your service," Thompson said.

Former Commissioner Wilbur Waters said Anderson was a blessing to every commissioner she has served.

"How we put up with her now, I don't know," Waters joked, "but I do know we couldn't have done it without her, and I love you."

Another familiar face was in the crowd — Starke's first manager, Lee Vincent.

"Terry and I go back a long way. There are other people here that I remember, and I remember fondly, all of you. Terry, congratulations. I never thought



Terry Anderson, 30-plus year employee of the city of Starke.

you'd make it," he teased to more laughter.

"Miss Terry, we thank you for your dedicated service, all the different hats you've worn through the years," Mayor Andy Redding said. "In a lot of ways, you are not just an employee. You are a faithful servant to the citizens of Starke, and you are, at this point, I'm sure, a motherly

figure for a lot of these folks. And the experience that you have and what you bring to the table is invaluable."

Anderson was also grateful. "I just want to thank the Lord that I made it this far. My family, my friends, my coworkers, past and present, I appreciate y'all," she said.



Terry Anderson (center) is pictured with members of her family, including her two daughters, four grandsons, and her brother and sister-in-law. Picture are (l-r) Erica Mitchell, Shaye Anderson, Bentley Mitchell, William Jackson, Dana and Tim Wilkerson, Elijah Jackson and Braxton Mitchell.



Family, friends and colleagues showed up in force to celebrate Terry Anderson and her contributions to the city of Starke.

Contractor wins bid for new pavilion

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

Following the acceptance and evaluation of bids, Starke has selected the contractor for construction of the new entertainment pavilion at the Downtown Square — Scherer Construction.

According to Chief Administrative Officer Jimmy Crosby, modifications were necessary to lower the price of the project. He told commissioners the anticipation of the impending economy is already driving prices up 25%.

The city had pledged \$800,000 in grant funding to erect the new state in the northwest corner of the square, but that left another \$142,347 to cover. Crosby said \$100,000 set aside in the budget for matching funds could be used to cover the cost, with the remaining money coming from a set-aside for park improvements.

The second and only other bid was \$1.2 million. Scherer's bid included voluntary alternates that the city took advantage of to lower the price. A vegetation screen on the back of the pavilion was eliminated from the design for potential inclusion later, and a standing seam roof system was swapped for a single-ply system.

Architect Paul Stressing said initial interest from eight contractors dwindled to just two.

"Mr. Crosby is exactly right. There's a number of people right now that are terrified with the tariffs and locking in numbers and being accountable for those if things are going crazy," Stressing said, adding that Scherer committed to honor its offer for the duration of the project.

Stressing shared the details of the project with the commission again, including the site plan, saying the design is like the pavilion in the town of Tioga but 25% larger. It is larger, has a storage area behind the stage, support for theatrical lighting and a screen that can be lowered for movie projections.

The existing stage at the opposite end of the square was not an option for the kinds of improvements they wanted to make, according to Stressing, who said they could not find any engineering plans for when the bandshell was erected more than a decade ago.

"There isn't any existing engineering available and trying to get an engineer to add anything to that was extremely difficult to do," he said.

Commissioner Danny Nugent asked about the inclusion of public restrooms as had been proposed in a prior project. Stressing said they could be added for around \$60,000. Crosby agreed there was a need, but it would have to be addressed in a future phase of the work downtown.

Commissioner Bob Milner asked if the evaluation of the existing stage meant that it would be torn down, but that is not the case. Crosby shared ideas for the existing stage, including using it as a dedicated covered seating area for even sponsors or invited dignitaries.

Staff will prepare an agreement with the contractor, which will be brought back to the commission for approval.



Architects provided a color rendering of the amphitheater in the northwest corner of the Downtown Square.

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Crime

Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

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

Bradford

Tycorye Allen, 24, of Winston Salem, North Carolina, was arrested by Lawtey police on April 13 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

James Bennett, 39, of Jacksonville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 15 for larceny and resisting an officer.

Leslie Bennett, 36, of Jacksonville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 15 for larceny and resisting an officer.

Jack Brown, 35, of Lawtey, was arrested on April 17 by probation and parole for a probation violation.

Kierren David, 33, of Jacksonville, was arrested by Lawtey police on April 15 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Grace Collier, 66, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 14 for possession of drugs.

Archie Crook, 45, of Jacksonville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 15 for larceny and resisting an officer.

Jarvis Davis, 32, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 16 for fraudulent use of a credit card.

Colin Depew, 24, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 16 for lewd and

lascivious behavior and enticing a minor or disabled person from a parent or guardian.

Roderick Funston, 47, of Florahome, was arrested by Bradford deputies for a conditional release violation.

Amanda Fyffe, 45, of Ocala, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 12 for larceny.

Michael Garber, 31, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 16 for possession of obscene material, child cruelty, and unlawful use of a two-way communications device.

Cortney Kowalski, 38, of Jacksonville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 15 for larceny, possession of drug equipment, possession of marijuana, and possession of amphetamine.

Carl Laycock, 40, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 14 for an out-of-county warrant.

Charles Miller, 36, of Live Oak, was arrested by Lawtey police on April 18 for intimidation and resisting an officer.

Ransom Norman, 23, of Lawtey, was arrested by Lawtey police on April 17 for possession of marijuana and resisting an officer.

Thomas Osteen, 61, of Hampton, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 17 for battery.

Linda Rice, 44, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 18 for battery.

Jose Santos, 24, of Tampa, was arrested by Lawtey police on April 13 for an out-of-county warrant.

Ian Scott, 18, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 16 for possession of drug equipment.

Kareem Wanton, 48, of Melrose, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 15 for

trafficking in cocaine.

Walter Watts, 35, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 18 for DUI.

Emanuel Williams, 28, of Gainesville, was arrested by Bradford deputies for out-of-county warrants, simple assault, and resisting an officer.

Leston Young, 43, of Fort Thomas, Arizona, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 12 for interfering with the custody of a minor.

Union

Coney Robinson, 58, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on April 19 for driving with a revoked license.

Jose Gonzalez, 31, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on April 18 for possession of marijuana.

William Hedrick, 44, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on April 15 for possession of drug equipment, possession of drugs, and driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Iris Holmes, 42, of Gainesville, was arrested by Union deputies on April 15 for contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Anna Lewis, 21, of Melrose, was arrested by Union deputies on April 17 for disorderly intoxication.

Izeal Peterson, 29, a Department of Corrections inmate, was arrested by Union deputies on April 18 for destroying evidence.

Terry Smith, 36, a Department of Corrections inmate, was arrested by Union deputies on April 15 for aggravated battery and smuggling contraband into a correctional facility.

Clay

None reported

Kindergarten, here I come!

Bradford now enrolling Class of 2038

When you look down into the eyes of your 4-year-old, it's hard to imagine that in 13 years, you will be looking up into the eyes of your child on the threshold of stepping out on their own to college or career opportunities.

Bradford County School District Kindergarten Registration is underway. To enter kindergarten for the 2025-26 school year, a child must be 5 years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2025. There is no early admission provision for kindergarten enrollment.

The transition to kindergarten can be an exciting time for both parents and students. Each elementary school will host a Kindergarten Orientation event on Tuesday, May 13, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. This free event will give families the opportunity to visit a kindergarten classroom, meet staff from the school, ask questions and schedule an appointment to complete the kindergarten screener.

Documents required for

registration include: a birth certificate, a school entry health exam performed within 12 months prior to the first day of school, a required immunization certification and proof of residency, including a rental agreement or mortgage documents plus a utility statement. A photo ID or driver's license of the parent/guardian plus the voluntary collection of the child's Social Security number (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. More details are available at www.bradfordschools.org under "Enrollment." A student is not considered enrolled until all documents are submitted.

Not sure which school to enroll in? Visit www.bradfordschools.org for an interactive zoning map. Choose "Enrollment," "Interactive Zoning Map" and type in your home address to learn which zoned school your child will attend.

Superintendent Will Hartley is delighted to provide early enrolling kindergarteners with a Tornado sport bag and new book for their home library while supplies last. The books selected for this year are designed to

Kindergarten Orientation at Bradford, Lawtey and Starke elementary schools is Tuesday, May 13, at 5:30 p.m.

support your child's kindergarten entry. The district hopes parents will enjoy time being a reading role model for their child. After all, parents are the child's first teacher. Take the sport bag and new book home and read it all summer long.

Kindergarten enrollment is digital, but help is available at each site. At www.bradfordschools.org. Select "Enrollment" and then the category that applies to your child.

August 12 will be here before you know it! Learn more about your child's first day and the staggered start dates at your school. Help your child arrive on time every day through graduation 2038!

First through 12th grade registration documentation requirements parallel those for kindergarten enrollment. See the enrollment information at www.bradfordschools.org.

Officer pleads in inmate abuse case

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

A former correctional officer pleaded to tampering with evidence after being charged with beating an inmate.

According to a complaint by the Department of Corrections Inspector General's office, the agency found probable cause that Joseph "K.J." Carabetti, 31, struck an inmate in the face several times after the incarcerated man was taken to a clinic for a seizure.

On November 8, 2023, medical staff at Florida State Prison told an investigator that they stepped out of an exam room while treating the inmate. When they returned, he had sustained additional injuries to his face.

The victim, a 35-year-old male at the time of the incident, told the detective he experienced a seizure while exiting his cell for a shave and shower.

"(The victim) stated the B-dorm sergeant was holding him while he began to have the seizure," wrote the investigator in the complaint. "(The victim) woke up from the seizure while on the way to medical."

According to the medical staff. The only injury the inmate had suffered upon arrival at the clinic was a lacerated lip, which the investigator wrote was common during seizures.

The inmate told an investigator that after nurses left his room, a correctional officer, later identified as the defendant, entered the exam room and asked the inmate why he continued having seizures.

"(The inmate) explained that he has been having seizures since he was 12 years old," the detective wrote in the complaint. "(The victim) stated he was first hit in his chest, where his open-heart surgery scar is. The officer



Joseph "K.J." Carabetti (left) shakes hands with his lawyer, Louis Jean-Baptiste, after he pleaded to tampering with physical evidence and was sentenced to 18 months' probation.

then started punching him in the face."

The inmate added that after Carabetti struck him around six times, the officer cleaned up blood resulting from the attack using brown paper towels, then tossed them into a nearby trash can. He also said three other correctional officers were in the exam room at the time the defendant punched him.

A nurse told the investigator that she accompanied the inmate from B-dorm to the clinic, then left the room to get a physician. When she returned to the room, the inmate had a swollen face and additional injuries to what he had when he was first brought into the clinic.

She added that the victim told her about the attack and that she observed bloody, brown paper towels in the trash can.

She then left the exam room

for a second time to call the Inspector General's Office, and when she returned, the bloody paper towels had vanished from the trash receptacle.

The inmate told a detective that when the nurse left the exam room, Carabetti returned, got the paper towels out of the trash can, and stuffed them in his pocket.

The state initially charged Carabetti with battery on an inmate by a DOC employee and tampering with physical evidence.

During an April 16, 2025, hearing, prosecutors announced they were dropping the battery charge.

Judge James M. Colaw sentenced the 31-year-old to 18 months' probation and withheld adjudication, following the terms of a plea agreement between the defense and prosecutors.

Special exception requested for travel trailer park/campground

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

Owners of two parcels off S.R. 16 are seeking a special exception to place a travel trailer park or campground on the agriculturally zoned property.

Comprising nearly 7 acres, the parcels are owned by Donald and

Jaruwan Harrington. It is west of the bypass interchange on S.R. 16 as well as Northwest 177th Street. The land also shares a property line with a single-family home they own in the Conerly Estates Subdivision.

A public hearing will come before the Bradford County Commission, sitting as the Board

of Adjustment, on Tuesday, May 6, at 9 a.m.

At the same time, Union County is advertising and ordinance to renew a moratorium on special exception applications for travel trailer parks and campgrounds.

Tourist council approves second billboard

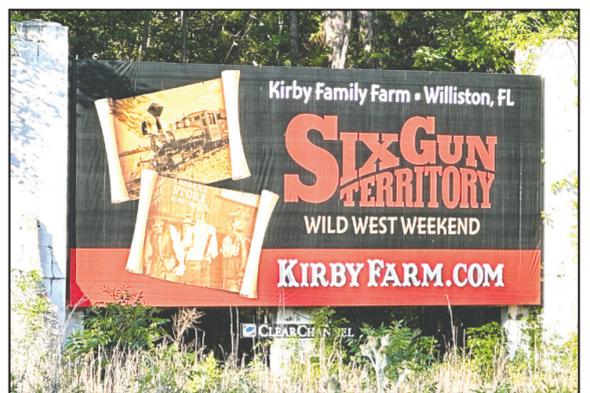
BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

The Bradford County Tourist Development Council approved leasing a second billboard along U.S. 301 to persuade motorists to bypass the bypass and instead take U.S. 301 through Starke and spend money while visiting the city.

The county already rents a billboard pointing to northbound traffic on the four-lane near Hampton Lake with the headline: Visit Starke, Southern Hospitality at Its Finest.

North Florida Regional Chamber of Commerce President Pam Whittle, who provides staff support to the tourist council, said the additional sign, just south of Lawtey, and pointing to southbound traffic, would convey a similar message.

At press time, the Lawtey billboard promoted the Kirby Family Farm's Six Gun Territory Wild West Weekend.



The billboard's owner, Clear Channel Outdoor, describes the sign as a brick wall with over 68,000 weekly impressions.

The billboard's owner, Clear Channel Outdoor, describes the sign as a brick wall with over 68,000 weekly impressions.

The tourist development council's approval results in

a recommendation to county commissioners, who have the final say over the approximate \$9,000 annual expenditure.



Russ WADE

Attorney at Law



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(Across from Subway Plaza)

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The county already rents a billboard pointing to northbound traffic on the four-lane near Hampton Lake with the headline: Visit Starke, Southern Hospitality at Its Finest.

Tornadoes shut out Raiders, win District 4-1A title

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Cherish Bing caught two touchdown passes from Ar'Nayshia Griffin, while the defense never allowed visiting Santa Fe to put itself into any goal-to-go opportunities in the Bradford High School football team's 14-0 win in the District 4-1A tournament championship game on April 17.

It was the third consecutive district championship for the Tornadoes (12-2).

Bradford, which was seeded

number one in the tournament, scored on the game's opening series against second seed Santa Fe (10-2). A 7-yard reception by Rhianna Davis resulted in a first down. It was the first of four straight completions for Griffin, who hooked up with Davis again for an 8-yard gain before completing an 11-yard pass to Bing for a first down at the Santa Fe 36. Another pass to Davis was good for a 6-yard gain.

A sack by the Raiders' Nat Williams and a penalty backed the Tornadoes up 10 yards.



Bradford celebrates winning the District 4-1A championship — its third title in a row. Pictured (l-r) are Principal Chris Coffey, Izarriya Desue, Kailyn Teal, Ar'Nayshia Griffin, Amaya Watts, Tatyanna Brown, Ny'Asia Lopey, Rhianna Davis, Cherish Bing, Nichelle Brown, Head Coach John Staples, Kaylee Devore and Athletic Trainer Brad Morgan.

LEFT: Nichelle Brown (left) makes a move and heads upfield during the first half of the District 4-1A title game. BELOW: Quarterback Ar'Nayshia Griffin (left) attempts to escape from pressure.



Davis, who finished with four receptions for 28 yards, caught a pass for a 10-yard gain, setting up a fourth-and-10 play. Bing caught a pass over the middle of the field and took it into the end zone to give Bradford a 6-0 lead. The conversion attempt failed.

Santa Fe's offense went three-and-out on its first drive, which consisted of two incomplete passes and one completed pass for only a 2-yard gain, thanks to a flag pull by Davis.

The Raiders failed to gain a

first down again after running three plays on their next series. This time, they elected to go for it on fourth down, with the result being an incomplete pass and a turnover on downs.

That set the Bradford offense up 3 yards past midfield. Griffin completed passes to Bing and Nichelle Brown to help set up fourth-and-7. The Tornadoes went for it, with Griffin picking up the first on a 7-yard run. The drive stalled, with Santa Fe's Williams bringing heavy pressure

against Griffin as Bradford had four straight incomplete passes.

The Tornadoes' defense again kept Santa Fe to minimal gains, with a Brown tackle limiting the Raiders to a 4-yard gain on a pass play and a Davis tackle holding them to 3 yards on a run play. After three plays, Santa Fe punted.

When the Raiders got the ball back toward the end of the first half, they again ran just three plays before punting.

Santa Fe gained just 14 yards

in the first half on 13 plays.

Bradford's offense started a drive at its own 39 with 22 seconds remaining in the second quarter. A 17-yard pass play from Griffin to Brown picked up a first down at the Suwannee 24. After Griffin was held to no gain on a run attempt, she completed a pass to Bing in the end zone for a touchdown with six seconds on the clock. The Tornadoes elected to go for two on the conversion

See FLAG, page 15

BHS, KHHS to play each other in region game

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School, which won the District 4-1A championship, earned the third seed in Region 1 and was scheduled to host sixth seed Keystone Heights in a quarterfinal game on Wednesday, April 23, at 6 p.m.

In the regular-season matchup between the two District 4 teams, the Tornadoes (11-2) defeated the Indians (9-8) 45-12.

Bradford has won three in a row and four of its last five.

Keystone had won two in a row before its 20-6 loss to Santa Fe in the District 4 tournament semifinals.

The game will feature the top two receivers in Class 1A in Bradford Nichelle Brown and Keystone's Riley Shuford. Brown has 2,096 yads, while Shuford has 1,281 yards.

Brown and Shuford are ranked first and third in the entire state,

regardless of classification, with Spruce Creek's Chloe Waldo second with 1,315 yards.

The Tornadoes' Brown also leads the state in all classifications in touchdowns (40) and scoring (242 points).

Bradford's Ar'Nayshia Griffin is second in Class 1A in passing yards with 3,000, which leaves her trailing Edison's Rakyia Louis, who has 3,401. They are the only two players in Class 1A with at least 3,000 yards.

Griffin is also second in Class 1A in interceptions with 20, a total that has her tied for third when combining all classifications.

The winner of the Bradford-Keystone Region 1-1A quarterfinal game will play a Region 1 semifinal game on Monday, April 28, against either second seed University Christian (9-0) or seventh seed Newberry (5-5). The higher seed will host, with the start time to be determined.



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Featured Listings From Your Local Realtors!



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Starke, FL 32091

COLDWELL BANKER
SMITH & SMITH REALTY



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Starke, FL 32091

For Sale! MLS #2082126



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

SouthLand REALTY & MANAGEMENT CO

justis@southland-realty.com

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Legals for the week of April 24, 2025

BRADFORD

NOTICE OF ACTION
 Bradford County, Florida
 BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING
 IN RE: The license to practice Nursing Assistance

Jessica L. Yates, C.N.A.
 4673 Southeast 8th Avenue,
 Melrose, Florida 32666
 CASE NO.: 2023-02313
 LICENSE NO.: CNA331464

The Department of Health has filed an Administrative Complaint against you, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting, Philip A. Crawford, Assistant General Counsel, Prosecution Services Unit, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C65, Tallahassee Florida 32399-3265, (850) 558-9829. If no contact has been made by you concerning the above by May 22, 2025, the matter of the Administrative Complaint will be presented at an ensuing meeting of the Board of Nursing in an informal proceeding.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending this notice not later than seven days prior to the proceeding at the address given on the notice. Telephone: (850) 245-4640, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (V), via Florida Relay Service.

4/10 4tchg 5/1-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO.: 04-2025-CA-53
 DIVISION:

SHERMAN BEAU CARNES and DORIS M. CARNES, Plaintiffs,
 v
 ESTATE OF MARION SAMS, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MARION SAMS, HARRIETT MOORE, ESTATE OF ANN L MEYERS A/K/A ANNIE LEE MYERS and HEIRS OF ANN L MEYERS A/K/A ANNIE LEE MYERS, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION
 TO: ESTATE OF MARION SAMS
 O JONES LANE 32058
 LAWTY, FL 32058
 UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MARION SAMS LANE 32058
 OF MARION SAMS LANE 32058
 LAWTY, FL 32058
 ESTATE OF ANN L MEYERS A/K/A ANNIE LEE MYERS
 C/O HARRIETT T. MOORE
 6318 LORENZO AVENUE
 ORLANDO, FL 32818
 HEIRS OF ANN L MEYERS A/K/A ANNIE LEE MYERS
 6318 LORENZO AVENUE
 ORLANDO, FL 32818

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to quiet title on the following property in Bradford County, Florida: THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LAND, SITUATE, LYING, AND BEING IN BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO WIT: THE EAST HALF OF THE SOUTH EAST QUARTER OF THE NORTH EAST QUARTER OF THE NORTH EAST QUARTER OF SECTION TWENTY SIX, TOWNSHIP FIVE SOUTH OF RANGE TWENTY TWO EAST AND CONTAINING FIVE ACRES MORE OR LESS. has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on The Law Office of C.W. Wickersham, Jr., P.A., Plaintiffs attorney, at 2720 Park Street, Suite 205, Jacksonville, Florida, 32205, Phone Number: (904) 389 6202, not less than 28 days of the first date of publication of this Notice, and me the original with the Clerk of this Court, at 945 N Temple Ave, Starke, Florida 32091 before service on Plaintiff or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a Default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. Dated this 26th day of March 2025
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: Kanetra Jenkins
 Deputy Clerk

4/10 4tchg 5/1-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 To satisfy the owner's storage lien, KO Storage LLC will sell at public lien sale on May 20, 2025. The personal property in the below-listed units, which may include but are not limited to: Household goods, boxes/totes/

4/24 1tchg-BCT

bags, clothing, bedding, tools and toys. The public sale of these items will begin at 10AM on May 13, 2025 and end at 10AM on May 20, 2025. The public sale will take place on www.storage-treasures.com.

KO Storage of Starke - S Walnut St, 1650 South Walnut Street, Starke FL 32091, (952)-491-6837
 Time: 10:00AM CST

A01, Wilkinson, Stacy, A14, Brown, Takeisheya, A21, Wilson, Kelley, A75, smith, joshua, B38, Wilkerson, Dillon, B74, Jackson, Theresa, B78, Albritton, Eugene

Public sale terms, rules, and regulations will be made available on www.storage-treasures.com. All sales are subject to cancellation. We reserve the right to refuse any bid. Payment must be by credit/debit card, we do not accept checks or cash. Buyers must secure the units with their own personal locks. To claim tax-exempt status, original RESALE certificates for each space purchased is required. By KO Storage LLC, 10301 Wayzata Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55305. (952)-491-6837.

4/17 2tchg 4/24-BCT

NOTICE OF ENACTMENT OF AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STARKE, FLORIDA

The City of Starke Florida will hold a City Commission Meeting on May 6, 2025 at 5:30 pm at City Hall, 209 North Thompson Street, Starke, Florida 32091 during which the second reading and a vote will occur for the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-03
 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STARKE UPDATING INVESTIGATION FEES FOR FALSE ALARM CALLS FROM ALARM SYSTEMS WITHIN THE CITY OF STARKE; PROVIDING FOR SUSPENSION OF ALARM SYSTEMS; PROHIBITING AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE DIALING SYSTEMS; PROVIDING FOR APPEALS; ALLOCATING REVENUES GENERATED BY INVESTIGATIVE FEES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERANCE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance is available for public inspection at City Hall, 209 North Thompson Street, Starke, Florida 32091. Interested parties may appear and have an opportunity to be heard at the meeting with respect to the proposed ordinance.

4/24 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A VARIANCE AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE

BRADFORD COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS BY THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the Bradford County Land Development Regulations, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Regulations, objections, recommendations and comments concerning a variance, as described below, will be heard by the Board of Adjustment of Bradford County, Florida, at a public hearing on May 6th, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the County Commission Meeting Room, North Wing, County Courthouse located at 945 N. Temple Avenue in Starke, Florida.

V 25-03 an application by Richard Hawthorne to request a Variance be granted as provided for in Section 4.7 "RE", Residential Estate, Section 4.7.7 Minimum Yard Requirements, Side Lot Line from a required 10 feet to a requested 3 feet along the East lot line of the property being described as follows;

Lot 6 and the Southeasterly 10 feet of Lot 5, Indian Beach, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2, page 26 of the public records of Bradford County, Fla. and being Bradford County Parcel Number 06121-0-00000.

The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing. Aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the appeal. Copies of the material are available for public inspection at the Office of the Director of Zoning, Planning, and Building, County Courthouse located at 945 North Temple Avenue, North Wing, Starke, Florida, during regular business hours.

All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Publish in the legal section of the Bradford County Telegraph for April 24th, 2025.

4/24 1tchg-BCT

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(Bradford County Museum)

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UFHealth.org/starke

PS159472-3/18/25

Legal Notices

Legals for the week of April 24, 2025

4/17 2tchg 4/24-BCT

BRADFORD

Request for Proposal: 2025-01
5k Jet-A Refueler Truck
The Keystone Heights Airport Authority (KHAA) hereby requests bids from responsible firms for the fabrication and delivery of a 5k Jet-A Refueler Truck. The KHAA shall select the lowest or most responsive and responsible bid. In addition to price, the KHAA shall also take into consideration anticipated delivery when awarding the bid. Bid packages must be submitted on or before the deadline. Questions shall be e-mailed to the contact listed below and, all questions will be answered in writing to all interested parties. Any materials submitted pursuant to this ITB shall become property of the KHAA. The KHAA supports Equal Opportunity Employment, Fair Housing and Providing Handicapped Access. The KHAA reserves the right to waive any irregularities submitted, reject any and/or all submittals, re-advertise, and accept any submittals deemed to be in the best interest of the City.

Advertisement Date: April 18th, 2025
Deadline for submissions: May 15th, 2025

Contact: Craig Coon—Airport Manager
7150 Airport Rd.
Starke, FL 32091
352.473.0031 or ccoon@keystoneairport.com

Respondents are required to submit one (1) original and one (1) copy. The bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope stating on the outside the proposer's name, address, telephone number and ITB title-number and delivered to: Keystone Heights Airport Attn: Craig Coon — Airport Manager 5k Jet Refueler RFP-2025-1 7150 Airport Rd Starke, FL 32091 Hand-carried and express mail proposals may be delivered to the above address ONLY between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., EST, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays observed by the KHAA.

Respondents are responsible for informing any commercial delivery service, if used, of all delivery requirements and for ensuring that the required address information appears on the outer wrapper or envelope used by such service.

Any proposal received after the deadline will not be considered and will be returned unopened. The KHAA reserves the right to reject any and all submittals received in response to this ITB as determined to be in the best interests of the KHAA. The KHAA may not award an agreement solely on the basis of this ITB. Proposals must be signed by an officer of the company who is authorized to enter into contractual agreements on behalf of the company. Proposals are to have, either, the company's corporate seal affixed to the proposal or the proposal notarized by a Notary Public (see attachment A). Non-acceptance of any proposal will not imply any criticism of the proposal or convey any implication that the proposal was deficient. Non-acceptance of any proposal will mean that another proposal was deemed to be more advantageous to the KHAA. All material submitted in response to the ITB becomes the property of the KHAA and will be returned only at the option of the KHAA.

Costs for developing proposals in response to this ITB are entirely the obligation of the respondent and shall not be chargeable in any manner to the KHAA. Explanations desired by the submitter(s) regarding the meaning or interpretation of this ITB must be obtained from the contact person, in writing via email, as is further described below.

To ensure fair consideration and consistent and accurate dissemination of information for all proposers, the KHAA prohibits communication to or with any department, employee, or agent evaluating or considering the proposals during the submission process, except as authorized by the contact person. During the blackout period as defined herein, except as pursuant to an authorized appeal, no person may lobby, as defined herein, on behalf of a competing party in a particular procurement process. KHAA officials or employees. Violation of this provision shall result in disqualification of the party on whose behalf the lobbying occurred.

The blackout period means the period between the time the submittals to the invitation for bid are received by the KHAA and the time KHAA award the contract. Lobbying means when any natural person, for compensation, seeks to influence the governmental decision-making, to encourage the passage, defeat or modification of any proposal, recommendation or decision by the KHAA, except as authorized by procurement documents.

See Appendix "A" for a list of specifications, including requirements of items and options preferred for the refueler truck. The list is not all inclusive and is provided as a guide for the most part. All dealer fees are to be included in bid total. The Bidder must be licensed to do business in Florida or become licensed within 30 days after the bids are due.

FAIR ASSOCIATION
THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Bradford County Board of County Commissioners is accepting applications for volunteers who wish to serve on the Board of the Bradford County Fair Association. Applicants must provide a resume and letter of intent or recommendation to be considered. Please apply online at www.bradfordcountyfl.gov/fair or bring a resume and letter of intent/recommendation to the County Manager's Office, located in the north wing section of the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, FL. Deadline to apply is May 9, 2025, by 5:00 PM.

4/17 2tchg 4/24-BCT

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME
Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given that the undersigned: DIAMOND WILLIAMS, 5137 NW County Rd 233, Starke, FL 32091, SOLE owner, doing business under the firm name of: ABP SERVICES, 5137 NW County Rd 233, Starke, FL 32091 intends to register fictitious name under the aforesaid statute. Dated this 16 day of APRIL A.D., 2025, in BRADFORD County.

4/24 1tchg-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 29, 2025** at which time all proposals received will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bidders are invited to submit proposals for:

BULK AIRCRAFT STORAGE HANGAR
AT KEYSTONE HEIGHTS AIRPORT
A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting and site inspection will be held at 10:00 AM on May 1, 2025 in the Conference Room at the Keystone Heights Airport Terminal Building. Bidders are strongly urged to attend. The meeting will be held in person and/or as a Teams meeting for anyone who wishes to attend virtually. Contact Bill Prange prior to **April 30, 2025** to receive the Teams meeting invitation, bill.prange@aecom.com. The project work includes the construction of new 80' x 80' Pre-Engineered Metal Building aircraft hangar with a single piece hydraulic aircraft door. The project also includes site clearing, earthwork, drainage work, new asphalt pavement section to construct a Taxilane and an apron area, electrical and lighting work, and related work.

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 **Monday, April 28, 2025** 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 24, 2025**
By: **Keystone Heights Airport Authority**
Ad run April 24 and May 1

END OF NOTICE TO BIDDER
4/24 2tchg 5/1-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN

AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2025-CP-00010
DIVISION:

IN RE: The Estate of: MARIAN DARLENE HEATH
Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Marian Darlene Heath, deceased, whose date of death was July 16, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 945 N Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is: April 24, 2025.
Personal Representative Gabriel Giles
18564 NW 84th Ave.
Starke, FL 32091
Attorney Justin Cerrato, Esquire
BLUE OCEAN LAW
Florida Bar No.: 104938
4309 Pablo Oaks Court, 2nd Floor
Jacksonville, FL 32224
Telephone: (904) 239-3646
jcerrato@blueoceanl.com
4/24 2tchg 5/1-BCT

NOTICE OF ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT INTENDED DECISION(S)

The District intends to grant permit(s) for the consumptive use permit application(s) described below at the District's Governing Board meeting on May 13, 2025:

Clay County Utility Authority, 3176 Old Jennings Rd, Middleburg, FL 32068-3907 Consumptive Use Permit #416-52. The District proposes to authorize the use of 19.0 million gallons per day (mgd) of groundwater from the Upper and Lower Floridan aquifers for public supply use through 2030. If a special condition is met, the permit is extended through 2045 and the allocation increased to 22.7 mgd. The withdrawals used by this project will consist of Groundwater from FAS - Upper & Lower Floridan Aquifer via 1 proposed well and 3 active wells in Clay County, located in Sections 20, 21 and 38, Township 5 South, Range 25 East. This site is known as Lake Asbury-Mid-Clay. The withdrawals used by this project will consist of Groundwater from FAS - Upper & Lower Floridan Aquifer via 5 active wells in Clay County, located in Section 37, Township 4 South, Range 26 East; Section 29, Township 5 South, Range 26 East. This site is known as Pace/Fleming Grid. The withdrawals used by this project will consist of Groundwater from FAS - Upper & Lower Floridan Aquifer via 4 active wells; Groundwater from FAS - Upper & Lower Floridan Aquifer via 17 active wells and 1 proposed well in Clay County, located in Sections 42 and 6, Township 4 South, Range 26 East; Sections 14 and 23, Township 4 South, Range 25 East. This site is known as Orange Park. The withdrawals used by this project will consist of Groundwater from FAS - Upper & Lower Floridan Aquifer via 1 proposed well and 5 active wells in Clay County, located in Section 4, Township 4 South, Range 25 East. This site is known as Orange Park - Spencer's. The withdrawals used by this project will consist of Groundwater from FAS - Upper & Lower Floridan Aquifer via 2 active wells in Clay County, located in Sections 25 and 26, Township 5 South, Range 25 East. This site is known as Lake Asbury-Saratoga Springs. The withdrawals used by this project will consist of Groundwater from FAS - Upper Floridan Aquifer via 1 active well and 1 proposed well in Clay County, located in Section 14, Township 6 South, Range 25 East. This site is known as Pier Station. The withdrawals used by this project will consist of Groundwater from FAS - Upper & Lower Floridan Aquifer via 1 proposed well and 2 active wells in Clay County, located in Section 7, Township 6 South, Range 26 East. This site is known as Lake Asbury-Peter's Creek. The withdrawals used by this project will consist of Groundwater from FAS - Upper Floridan Aquifer via 1 active well; Groundwater from FAS - Upper & Lower Floridan Aquifer via

1 active well and 1 proposed well in Clay County, located in Section 13, Township 5 South, Range 24 East. This site is known as Ravines.

If you wish to receive a copy of a Technical Staff Report (TSR) that provides the St. Johns River Water Management District (District) staffs' analysis of the permit application, please submit your request to: Director, Office of Records and Regulatory Support, P.O. Box 1429, Palatka, FL 32178-1429. Once a TSR becomes available, you may also review it by going to the Permitting section of the District's website at www.sjrwmd.com/permitting/index.html. To obtain information on how to find and view a TSR, visit https://permitting.sjrwmd.com/epermitting/html/EP_FAQs.html, and then follow the directions provided under "How to find a Technical Staff Report (TSR) or other application file documents."

A person whose substantial interests are or may be affected has the right to request an administrative hearing by filing a written petition with the District. Pursuant to Chapter 28-106 and Rule 40C-1.1007, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), the petition must be filed (received) either by delivery at the office of the District Clerk at District Headquarters, P. O. Box 1429, Palatka Florida 32178-1429 (4049 Reid St., Palatka, FL 32177) or by e-mail with the District Clerk at Clerk@sjrwmd.com, within twenty-one (21) days of newspaper publication of the notice of intended District decision (for those persons to whom the District does not mail or email actual notice). A petition for an administrative hearing is deemed filed upon receipt of the complete petition by the District Clerk at the District Headquarters in Palatka, Florida during the District's regular business hours. The District's regular business hours are 8 a.m. — 5 p.m., excluding weekends and District holidays.

Petitions received by the District Clerk after the District's regular business hours shall be deemed filed as of 8 a.m. on the next regular District business day. A petition must comply with Sections 120.54(5)(b)4., 120.569(2)(c), Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Chapter 28-106, F.A.C. The District's acceptance of petitions filed by e-mail is subject to certain conditions set forth in the District's Statement of Agency Organization and Operation (issued pursuant to Rule 28-101.001, F.A.C.), which is available for viewing at www.sjrwmd.com. The District will not accept a petition sent by facsimile (fax). Mediation may be available if you meet the conditions stated in the full Notice of Rights (see last paragraph). The right to an administrative hearing and the relevant procedures to be followed are governed by Chapter 120, F.S., Chapter 28-106, F.A.C., and Rule 40C-1.1007, F.A.C. Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means the District's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this notice. Failure to file a petition for an administrative hearing within the requisite time frame shall constitute a waiver of the right to an administrative hearing. (Rule 28-106.111, F.A.C.).

If you wish to do so, please visit www.sjrwmd.com/nor_intdec to read the complete Notice of Rights to determine any legal rights you may have concerning the District's intended decision(s) on the individual Consumptive Use Permit Applications(s)/Environmental Resource Permit Application(s) described above. You can also request the Notice of Rights by contacting the Director, Office of Records and Regulatory Support P. O. Box 1429, Palatka, FL 32178, tele. no. (386)329-4268.

4/24 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A VARIANCE AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE BRADFORD COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS
BY THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the Bradford County Land Development Regulations, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Regulations, objections, recommendations and comments concerning a variance, as described below, will be heard by the Board of Adjustment of Bradford County, Florida, at a public hearing on **Mary 6th, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.** or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the County Commission Meeting Room, North Wing, County Courthouse located at 945 N. Temple Avenue in Starke, Florida.

V 25-04 an application by Joseph Howland a Variance be granted as provided for in Section 4.5 "A", Agricultural-2, Section 4.5.7 Minimum Yard Requirements, from a required 25 feet to a requested 10 feet along the South lot line of the property being described as follows; p/o the SE1/4 of Section 11, Township 5 South, Range 22 East, Bradford County, Fla. and being Bradford County Parcel Number 01138-0-00101. The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation

4/24 1tchg-BCT

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

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4/24 1tchg-BCT

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

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

All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Publish in the legal section of the Bradford County Telegraph for April 24th, 2025.

4/24 1tchg-BCT

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

BY THE BOARD ADJUSTMENT OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the Bradford County Land Development Regulations, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Regulations, objections, recommendations and comments concerning a special exception, as described below, will be heard by the Board of Adjustment of Bradford County, Florida, at a public hearing on **May 6th at 9:00 a.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the County Commission Meeting Room, North Wing, County Courthouse located at 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida. SE 25-01, a petition by Donald Harrington, to request a Special Exception be granted as provided for in Section 4.5.5 Ag-2 (Agricultural-2) # 20 of the Bradford County Land Development Regulations to allow for a Recreational activity (Travel trailer park or campground) to be located at the property being described as follows:

Two (2) parcels of land situated in the NE1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 17, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, Bradford County, Florida, and lying within Bradford County Parcel Numbers 02245-0-00300 and 02245-0-00302 and containing 6.96 acres, more or less.

The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing.

At the aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the appeal. Copies of the material are available for public inspection at the Office of the Director of Zoning, Planning, and Building, County Courthouse located at 945 North Temple Avenue, North Wing, Starke, Florida, during regular business hours.

All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Publish in the Bradford County Telegraph for the April 24th, 2025 edition.

4/24 1tchg-BCT

UNION

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SALE OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

The City of Lake Butler is accepting **SEALED BIDS** for the purchase of a 27.6-acre parcel with (1) partially completed steel building and one (1) fully enclosed storage building which are located on parcel #36-05-19-000-000-0190-0, address 9422 SW SR 121 Lake Butler, FL 32054. Improvements to the property will be sold in "as is" condition. The zoning of the property is COMMERCIAL GENERAL (CG) and future land use classification is COMMERCIAL. The City Commission has established a minimum bid of SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$700,000) which **MUST** be made in U.S. Dollars. The survey description,

utilities information, and photos of the exterior and interior may be viewed on the City's website at www.cityoflakebutler.com. The City will host a **SITE INSPECTION/TOUR** of the subject property on THURSDAY, MAY 1st, 2025 at 10:00AM at the address of the property 9422 SW SR 121 Lake Butler, FL 32054. Sealed bids will be received until 3:00pm on THURSDAY, MAY 15th, 2025, at which point the bids received will be opened publicly and read aloud. Only one bid per entity or person bidding will be accepted. Closing of the sale of the property shall occur within **SIXTY (60) DAYS** of bid award or bid will be disqualified automatically absent an extension granted by the City Commission. The City shall issue a warranty deed at its expense, with other costs to be paid by the successful bidder. Contract for sale and purchase **MUST** be executed within **SEVEN (7) DAYS** of bid award. The City has the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason.

4/17 2tchg 4/24-UCT

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE
Please take notice Lake Butler Mini Storage, located at 1015 SW 3rd St. Lake Butler, FL, 32054 intends to hold an auction of goods stored in the following units in default for non-payment of rent on Lockerfox.com. The sale will occur on May 2, 2025 at 12:01 pm on Lockerfox.com. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings.
Unit#76 Yolonda Webb \$327.04
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.
4/17 2tchg 4/24-UCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A MORATORIUM ON SPECIAL EXCEPTION APPLICATIONS FOR TRAVEL TRAILER PARKS AND CAMPGROUNDS

BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, SERVING AS THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND THE LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, an ordinance declaring a moratorium on the acceptance and processing of special exception applications for travel trailer parks and campgrounds, as described below, will be heard by the Board of County Commissioners of Union County, Florida, serving as the Planning and Zoning Board of Union County, Florida, and the Local Planning Agency of Union County, Florida, at a public hearing on **May 5, 2025 at 5:05 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, County Courthouse, located at 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida.

Ordinance No. 2025-02, concerning Ordinance No. 25-01, is an ordinance by the Board of County Commissioners, declaring a moratorium on the acceptance and processing of special exception applications for travel trailer parks and campgrounds for a period of one year.

At the aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the moratorium Ordinance No. 2025-02. A copy of the moratorium Ordinance No. 2025-02 is available for public inspection, at the Office of the Board of County Commissioners, located at 15 Northeast First Street, Lake Butler, Florida, during regular business hours.

All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact Dianne Hannon, Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners at 386.496.4241 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 800.955.8770 (voice) or 800.955.8771 (TTY).

4/24 1tchg-UCT

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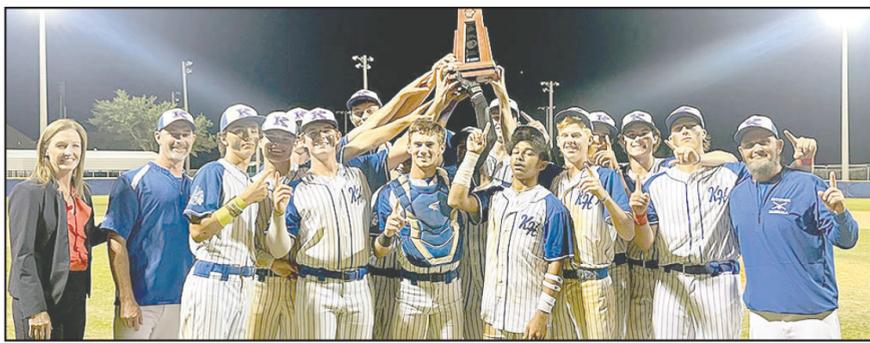
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Keystone players hold the District 4-2A championship trophy — their first such trophy since 2021.

Indians earn district title with 12-5 win over Trinity Catholic

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

After coming up short of winning a district championship in 2024, the goal heading into the 2025 season for the Keystone Heights High School baseball team was obvious: win the district.

The Indians did just that,



HCA Lions win baseball, softball games

Hope Christian Academy's baseball team recognized seniors Lance "Gunner" Loftan and Aiden Wilson and earned its first win of the season in defeating Open Bible 18-11 on April 15. It was also a successful day for the Lions' softball team, which defeated Open Bible 17-2. It was the team's second straight win after a 20-4 win over Brunswick Christian on April 11.

defeating visiting Trinity Catholic 12-5 to earn the District 4-2A trophy on April 17.

It was the first district title for Head Coach Chris Roach and the Indians' first since 2021.

"This is a good feeling," Roach said. "This is something they set out for."

Keystone, the tournament's top seed, fell behind 5-2 when second seed Trinity pushed five runs across in the top of the third. The Indians, though, answered with five runs of their own in the bottom of the inning, with a two-out, two-run single by Destin Harnage giving them the lead for good.

Harnage, who went 3 for 4, finished with three RBI, while

Austin Smith, who batted 3 for 3, led the team with four RBI.

Guage Barry earned the win, pitching five innings and giving up the five runs on eight hits. He had seven strikeouts.

Ty Mitzel threw a no-hitter over the final two innings, striking out three of the six batters he faced.

The Indians, who began Region 1 quarterfinal play on April 21 (see related story), put two runs on the board in the first inning. Harnage hit a lead-off single, while Andrew Wilson bunted and reached on an error. The runners advanced on a passed ball before Harnage

See DISTRICT, page 15

UCHS is 2nd seed in Region 3-Rural

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Union County High School's baseball team came up short of playing for the District 6-Rural championship when it was defeated 4-2 by Branford in the tournament's semifinal round, but the Tigers get another shot at Branford — this time with the right to play for the Region 3 championship on the line.

The Tigers (12-14) will host Branford (21-7) in the first two games of a best-of-three Region 3 semifinal series at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 28, and Tuesday, April 29. If a third game is necessary, it will be played at Branford on Thursday, May 1, at 7 p.m.

The Tigers earned the second seed in Region 3 behind top seed Lafayette. Branford, which lost

4-1 to Lafayette in the District 6 championship game, is the third seed.

If Union wins the series, it will play Lafayette (20-2) or fourth seed Aucilla Christian (15-8) for the Region 3 championships. The first two games of that series will be played at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 5, and Tuesday, May 6, with the higher seed hosting. If a third game is necessary, it will be hosted by the lower seed on Thursday, May 8, at 7 p.m.

This is the Tigers' ninth straight season making the regional playoffs. They are looking to advance to the regional finals for the third straight year and for the fourth time in five seasons.

Branford is making its first regional appearance since 2017 and is seeking its first regional win since 2007.

KHHS season ends against Bishop Snyder

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School hosted the first two games of its Region 1-2A quarterfinal baseball series against Bishop Snyder, but the Indians couldn't get a win against the second seed Cardinals and saw their season end with a 9-0 loss on April 22.

The seventh seed Indians (19-9) were held to one hit by pitcher Cole Dennis, who gave up only one walk, while striking out eight through six innings.

Bishop Snyder (22-6) got its first run in the second inning off an Evan Pieklo single with two outs and increased its lead to 2-0 by scoring on a wild pitch in the third inning.

The Cardinals scored three runs in the sixth, with Murray driving in two on a two-out double.

Bishop Snyder added its final four runs in the seventh, getting a run-scoring double from Tristan Silver and a three-run homer from Illias Mamea.

Keystone held a 3-1 lead over Bishop Snyder in the first game of the best-of-three series, but the Cardinals scored six runs in the fourth inning en route to defeating the Indians 8-3 on April 21.

Five of the Cardinals' runs in the fourth occurred on an error, two bases-loaded walks and two passed balls.

The Cardinals put the first run on the board in the top of the second. Cole Dennis hit a leadoff double, followed by Silver drawing a walk. Silver and courtesy runner William Pounds advanced on a Tanner Upton sacrifice bunt before Pounds scored on a ground ball hit by Mamea.

The Cardinals had a runner in scoring position in the third when Josh Murray hit a one-out double, but two consecutive ground outs left him stranded.

Keystone scored all of its runs in the bottom of the third. Tyler Brinson hit a leadoff single, while Ty Mitzel drew a walk. After pitcher Cody Boshell recorded a strikeout, the Indians' Andrew Wilson drew another walk, loading the bases. Austin Smith, who was down 1-2 in the count, hit a single into center field that scored Brinson and Mitzel and allowed Wilson to advance to third. Guage Barry hit another single into center, which

See REGION, page 15



Giovanni Cruz (center) is pictured with two of the boxers he trains. Rudolph Moulton (far left) just earned his first win in four fights, while Colton Crane remained undefeated with a recent win that improved his record to 5-0.

Boxers trained by Keystone's Cruz earn recent wins

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

They've been working and training together for approximately three years, so it felt good when boxers Colton Crane and Rudolph Moulton could both call themselves winners at the end of the day.

Crane and Moulton have been training for approximately three years with Giovanni Cruz, who has a gym at his Keystone Heights home that he makes available for free to those interested in boxing. A recent event saw Crane (135-pound class) improve his record to 5-0, but what gave Crane the most joy was seeing Moulton (155-pound class) win for the first time in four fights.

"He deserves it more than anybody with the way he works," Crane said. "He has no quit in him at all."

Cruz, too, spoke of Moulton's perseverance, saying, "He never gave up and kept his eyes on the prize. He pretty much gave me what I knew he had in him all this time."

Moulton said his emotions in the aftermath of his first-ever win had more to do with the strides he's made as a boxer than with the actual head-to-head result.

"I was happy about the win, but I was more happy about how much better I've gotten," Moulton said. "That was way more important to me."

For Cruz, the wins are just the icing on the cake.

"We say our prayer before our fight," Cruz said. "We want them to come home safe. That's the most important thing. We don't pray for the win. We just pray for their safety, but we definitely enjoy the blessing of the win."

The blessing turned out to be a unanimous decision for both boxers.

"They pretty much both dominated their fights," Cruz said.

Crane was sick the day before he fought at the recent event he participated in, but he said he felt better when he woke up the following morning.

"I had to pull it together and get it done," Crane said. "There was no way I was backing out after all the days I did in training."

After fighting his match, Crane was able to watch Moulton finally get his first win.

"I think the biggest thing for him was he was mentally prepared for this one," Crane said. "Mentally, he was not taking a loss."

Moulton admitted his mindset was the biggest difference in his recent match, but it had to do with not thinking of the match in terms of a possible win or another loss.

"It was just going in there and understanding that win, lose or draw, I was going to do my best," Moulton said.

Each boxer will tell you the other has helped him get better.

See BOXING, page 15

Classified Ads - 904-964-6305



Where one call does it all!



Class Ads 4/24/25

40 Notices

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY. All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 in which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes

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

Commercial Property (Rent, Lease, Sale)

LAKE BUTLER Main Street office building for lease. 1400 sq feet, 1400 a month, already set up and equipped for medical but can easily be adapted to administrative office. Contact 352-258-0088.

SPACE FOR LEASE—STARKE, FL— Close to Downtown 1800 +/- Sq. Ft. Professional, General Office, Insurance, Realtor, Attorney, etc. Two rest rooms, space flexible for small business Rent \$1,400.00 utilities not included Call - 904-964-7404

50 For Rent

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

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

53 A Yard Sales

Garage Sale Saturday April 26 @ 727 SE 71st. ST Starke, FL

hours are from 8.am. to 3p.m.

Yard Sale- Fri & Sat 8 AM - 2 PM 419 Center St. Household and misc. items, lots of puzzles, Tupperware, some toys, luggage, etc.

57 For Sale

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59 Personal Services

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Obituaries

Willie J. Carter Jr.

Willie James Carter Jr., 62, passed away on Saturday, April 19, 2025, at North Florida Regional Hospital, Gainesville. He was born in Cocoa on April 21, 1962. He was of the Baptist faith and self-employed.

Survivors are his wife, Yolanda Jones Carter; children, Precious Louise and Loundreika; sister, Wanda Carter; and brothers, Watson Jr., Andre Wanton Jr., Arthur Wanton, and Jametrius Pringle.

The viewing will be on Friday, April 25, at Haile Funeral Home Inc. Family hour will be from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. and public viewing from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. Services will be at 2:30 p.m. at Freewill Bethlehem Baptist Church, Starke. Interment will follow at Freewill Memorial Garden.

Haile Funeral Home Inc., 802 N. Oak St., Starke, 904-964-7905 is honored to provide their services to the family.

PAID OBITUARY

Mary Lhamon

Mary Lena Lhamon, 91, met her Lord and Savior face to face on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at UF Health Shands in Gainesville. Born on Aug. 26, 1933, in Lake Butler, she dedicated her life to spreading love and kindness to everyone around her. Her journey began in Albany, Georgia, where she met her future husband, Walter Lhamon, in late February of 1954. The couple sealed their bond on April 10, 1954, and together they spent an incredible 71 years of marriage, a testament to their unwavering love and devotion to one another.



She was not just a wife but a true partner, sharing life's joys and challenges with Walt by her side. Mary had a giving and nurturing spirit; her passion for cooking was her love language, as she often shared her culinary delights with family and friends. A faithful member of Old Providence Baptist Church, she loved the Lord deeply and dedicated herself to serving others, embodying the values she held dear. She was preceded in death by her parents, Silas and Annie Pearl NesSmith Crawford; and siblings, Leroy Crawford, Paul Crawford, Claudette Brannen, and OmiGene Lukatz.

She leaves behind a legacy of love through her family, including her devoted husband, Walter Lhamon; her sons, William Lhamon of Worth County, Georgia, and Phillip Lhamon of Lake Butler; and her daughter, Mariva Dawn Hammond; along with eight grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her siblings, Ret. Col. James Crawford of Starke, Bobby Crawford of Lake Butler; and her sister, Virginia Fowler of Minnesota.

Her life was a glorious tapestry woven with love and faith and to honor her life. A visitation was held Tuesday, April 22, leading into a heartfelt Celebration of Life at Old Providence Church in Lake Butler.

Archer-Milton Funeral Home is honored to serve the Lhamon family as we say good-bye to their precious wife, mother, and friend. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

PAID OBITUARY

Bonnie Lord

Bonnie Crawford Lord, 84, has gone to be with Jesus, her Lord and Savior, in Paradise. Born Jan. 1, 1941, in Miami to "Peach" Crawford and Leona Starling Crawford, Bonnie passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 10, 2025, in Lexington, North Carolina in her children's care. One of 12 children, she was a fraternal twin and grew up on a farm in Starke, surrounded by aunts, uncles, cousins and all manner of extended family on a long, sandy dirt road that bore the Crawford name.



Within this large family, the bonds of love were powerful and lasting, hard work was a way of life, and laughter was a love language. Shortly after graduating high school, she met William (Bill) Glenn Lord, who was stationed on a nearby naval base in Jacksonville. They married on Feb. 18, 1960, in St. Augustine and began building a life and family together. Their marriage thrived 45 years until Bill passed away in 2005. With a few moves to complete service in the Navy and to establish a career, they had five children early on, then settled in Oak Ridge, North Carolina in 1970. They soon had one more child, completing their close-knit family of eight. An extraordinary wife and mother, Bonnie carried on the legacy of love and hard work passed down by her family of origin. Possessing a strong mind, body, and spirit, she devoted herself wholly to her husband and her children, making home the center of the family's life, and pouring all her heart, energy, and efforts into whatever would foster their flourishing, not considering it a sacrifice to give her all for their sake. Love can only grow in that kind of soil. She and Bill were true partners in everything they did, from raising six stair-step children on a single income to gardening their three acres and raising pigs and chickens, and to building significant parts of their home place over many years with the help of their young brood. A "can-do" woman, Bonnie was an excellent manager of the home and stretched the paycheck so that the family never had to do without. She made holidays and birthday celebrations special for all and established memorable traditions for the family. No matter how hard or gritty the work at hand, she was never unkept, but maintained her natural beauty, aided only by bright lipstick. She used to blot her lips on an envelope, leaving a bright kiss print on the daily mail at the kitchen table among her well-organized lists. Once her children were gone from the home, her green thumb turned from gardening to provide food to cultivating beauty through landscaping around the home place. Resourceful, wise, beautiful, loving, independent, intelligent, organized, and strong, she remained so to the very end, handling her own affairs and giving wisdom to her children even when a years-long season with pain left her with diminished mobility. She loved to laugh, thoroughly enjoyed her husband and children's antics and humor, and, when pain was overwhelming, she still managed to chuckle when someone tickled her funny bone. Among her parting words to her children were how much she loved each of her children, and not only that, but she also loved and enjoyed the people they have become, which she said "is a step above."

Though no one came ahead of Bill, her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, Bonnie loved people and connected with others everywhere she went. As her pain crescendoed in the last weeks of her life, she was genuinely kind to nurses, doctors, caregivers, friends, family, or anyone with whom she spoke, offering a smile and making sure their needs were met even before her own, and still had the heart to "mother" her adult children. In her final days on this earth, some of her caregivers were moved to tears by the love she had fostered over a lifetime, which was manifest among her children tending to and loving her, as well as their closest childhood friends, who returned to give her their love as they said goodbye. She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; and her 11 siblings.

She is survived by her six children, son, Eddie (Robyn) Lord; daughter, Wendy (Kurt) Barlow; daughter, Suzan (Ben) Banks; son, Derek (Jen-i) Lord (wife, Jen-i); daughter, Kelly (Dave) Bishop; daughter, Felicia (Ryan Hoke) Lord; her 18 grandchildren, Craig (Maria) Ray, Andy (Dex) Ray, Eddie (Jennifer) Lord Jr., Brian Lord, Meredith (Stephen) Schwandt, Zack (Caroline) Barlow, Christian Barlow, Caitie Anne Banks, Charis Banks, Decker Banks, Lauren (Clay) Brock, Emily Lord (fiancé, Logan), Jessica Lord, Brett Lord, Ben Bishop, Peter Bishop, Anna Bishop, Jack Bishop, and her nine great-grandchildren; brother-in-law Tommy (Gwyn) Lord; brother-in-law, Dave (Lynn) Lord; sisters-in-law, Diane Gomez and Kay Lord; cousin, Helen Howard; as well as numerous, beloved nephews and nieces.

A service to honor Bonnie and glorify God was held on Monday, April 21, at Hayworth-Miller Kernersville Chapel, 3950 Macy Grove Road, Kernersville, North Carolina 27284 and was immediately followed by a graveside committal service at Mt. Gur Cemetery, 1050 Cemetery St., Kernersville, North Carolina, 27284. In lieu of flowers or trees, consider donating to AuthoraCare (hospice) at 914 Chapel Hill Road, Burlington, NC 27215 at this link: <https://www.authoracare.org/iv>

PAID OBITUARY

Ellen Lowe

In Loving Memory of Ellen Louise "Bootsie" Bailey Lowe, March 6, 1945, to April 17, 2025. Ellen Lowe, lovingly known as "Bootsie," passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 17, 2025, at the age of 80. Born in Miami, she was the cherished middle daughter of Jack and Ellen Bailey. She lived a life full of laughter, love, and adventure. A devoted mother, she shared an unbreakable bond with her daughter, Jackie, the light of her life. Known for her wit, warmth, and signature laugh, she brought joy to every room she entered. She embraced life with spirited curiosity, from working as a waitress and nail technician to proudly grading lumber at a sawmill. She was a lifelong waitress and loved feeding people, especially at the small BBQ restaurant she worked at in Fort Walton Beach, feeding our military men. Her style, humor, and generous heart made her unforgettable. She loved the beaches, sunsets, antiques, eating (especially pasta), and had a special place in her heart for all animals and taking care of children. Her fierce love, bold personality, and compassionate nature touched many. She is survived by her daughter, Jackie; sisters, Jackie (Gordon) Taylor and Carolyn Bailey Pierson; nieces, Joellen, Susy, Sheila, Jodi; nephew Jackson; as well as all her beloved great nieces and nephews, and many dear friends.



A celebration of life will be held in May or June 2025 (details TBA). No formal services will be held at this time. Bootsie will be deeply missed, lovingly remembered, and always celebrated.

Archer-Milton Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Ellen Lowe. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

PAID OBITUARY

William Thomas Jr.

William "Rowan" Thomas Jr., 80, of Keystone Heights passed away at his home Easter Sunday morning, April 20, 2025. He was born in Palatka on Sept. 30, 1944, to William R. and Martha (Glisson) Thomas Sr. He graduated in 1963 from Bradford High School and then joined the Army. Following his time in the military, he began his career at Clay Electric for a short time before moving on to Florida Power & Light for several years. His training and dedication led him to begin his final employment with Seminole Electrical and retired as a substation relay supervisor. Prior to joining Gadara Baptist Church, he was a member of Lake Hill Baptist Church, where he was the song leader and deacon. He loved reading his Bible and was very knowledgeable of its contents. He also loved gardening and was known to help others in the community when needed. He was an avid hunter and, most definitely, a family man. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Wesley Clay Thomas; sister, Barbara Jane Thomas; nephews, Jody Alan Briggie and Ronald Harper; as well as a brother-in-law, Bill Nettles.



Left behind to cherish his memory is his loving and devoted wife of 48 years, Diane (Thigpin) Thomas; children, Robyn Thomas, Scott Thomas and Heather Thomas; along with sisters, Diane Nettles and Jo Ann (Jim) Briggie. He was lovingly called "Pa" by his grandson, Hunter Clay Thomas. Also left behind are several nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family members and friends who will miss his great sense of humor.

A graveside service will be held Saturday, April 26, at 11 a.m. with Pastor Justin Brown officiating. Interment will be at Gadara Cemetery. A luncheon will immediately follow at Gadara Baptist Church.

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

PAID OBITUARY

Charleta B. White

Charleta Brigham White, 67, passed away Thursday, April 17, 2025, at Shands Hospital UF, Gainesville. She was born in North Carolina and was a member of Church of Christ in Lawtey.

She is survived by her husband, Minister Curtis White; daughters, Catrice White, Cynthia White and Lashawn White; son, Curtis L. White Jr.; three brothers; three sisters; and seven grandchildren.

The Repose will be Friday, April 25, from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. at Church of Christ, Lawtey. The funeral service will be at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church, 163 W. Jefferson St., Starke with Rev. Wesley T. Leonard officiating.

Haile Funeral Home, Inc. 802 N. Oak St., Starke 904-964-7905 is honored to provide their services to the family of Charleta Brigham White.

PAID OBITUARY

Sheryl Wilkinson

Sheryl Lynn Wilkinson, 54, peacefully passed away in her sleep in Starke, on Tuesday, April 15, 2025. She was born on March 14, 1971, in Starke. She lived 14 years in Raiford until relocating to Tampa, where she resided the remainder of her life. She enjoyed going to the beach, watching movies and shopping. She also enjoyed spending time with her nephews. Sheryl's three biggest loves were her mother, her dog "Bogie," and sour, gummy candies. She was preceded in death by her father, Wayne Clinton Wilkinson, and nephew, Darin Strickland.



She leaves behind her mother, Shirley Wilkinson; sisters, Stacy Wilkinson and Melissa Kingery; and nephew, Matthew Wilkinson.

Archer-Milton Funeral Home is honored to once again serve the Wilkinson family during the passing of their daughter, sister, and aunt. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

PAID OBITUARY

Calvin Wollitz

Frederick Calvin Wollitz (Calvin), 84, of Jacksonville went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Tuesday, March 11, 2025. He was born on Feb. 25, 1941, to Aubrea and Frederick Wollitz. He worked for and retired from the Federal Aviation Administration. He had a deep love for Jesus and his family. He would do anything for anyone and always had a kind word to say. Although he was not a man of many words, when he did speak, he had the best one liners. He loved spending time with his family, extended family and friends. He loved flying and working on remote-control (RC) model planes and built a business off of that love, where he was well known in that community and throughout the world for his electronic work. He also loved old cars and working on old cars, especially his 1955 Belvedere. He also enjoyed fishing, water skiing and good food. He was preceded in his death by his parents; and his sister, Pat Shoemake.



Calvin is survived by his wife of 62 years, Mary Jo Wollitz; his two children, Peggy (Richard) Beach, and Roger (Christine) Wollitz; grandchildren, Casey (Victoria) Beach, Austin (Allison) Wollitz, Tyler Beach and A.J. Wollitz; great-grandchildren, Jason Wollitz, Deacon Beach and Carson Beach; as well as extended family and friends.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2025, at 1 p.m. in Keystone Heights. The Rev. Tommy Capps will be officiating the service.

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

PAID OBITUARY

NCA softball team is 6-0

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Northside Christian Academy's softball team scored double-digit runs for the fourth time this season in defeating visiting Brunswick Christian Academy 16-1 on April 14 and remaining undefeated.

The Eagles (6-0), who are averaging 15 runs per game, opened the season with an 8-4 win at Riverside Christian on March 11. After a 13-4 win over visiting Corinth Christian on March 28, Northside earned its third victory by forfeit over First Christian.

On April 8, the Eagles defeated host Hope Christian 18-3. Northside then defeated visiting Open Bible 20-5 on April 10 before recording its latest win.

Northside played First Christian this past Tuesday and will travel to Valdosta, Georgia, to play Open Bible on Thursday, April 24, at 4 p.m. The Eagles host Hope Christian on Tuesday, April 29, at 4 p.m. before traveling to Georgia to play Brunswick Christian on Friday, May 2, at 3 p.m.

On Monday, May 5, Northside travels to Jasper to play Corinth Christian at 4 p.m.

Dicks' hit gives Tigers 5-4 win over Lafayette

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Leanne Dicks' RBI single in the top of the seventh gave the Union County High School softball team a 5-4 win over host Lafayette on April 21.

The Tigers (15-7) entered the final inning with the score tied at 4-4. Mia Kent hit a one-out single. Then, with two outs, Emma Handley and Dicks hit back-to-back singles, with Dicks' hit scoring courtesy runner Autumn Burnette.

Lafayette went up 3-0 in the second inning, taking advantage of three hits and two errors.

Union got on the board with a two-run fourth. Handley, who batted 2 for 3, singled, stole second and advanced to third on a Dicks ground out. Manning and Orton then hit back-to-back run-scoring doubles.

The Tigers trailed 4-2 before scoring two in the sixth. Handley walked and stole second before Manning (2 for 4) hit a one-out single. After Manning advanced to second on a passed ball, Orton, who finished 2 for 4 with three RBI, hit a two-run single to tie the score.

Shyla Crowe earned the win with a complete-game effort in the circle. She allowed two earned runs and nine hits.

It was the regular-season finale for Union, which will now play in the District 6-Rural tournament. Matchups and times weren't known by deadline.

Union went 1-1 in its previous two games, beginning with a 14-4, five-inning win at Bell on April 15.

The Tigers fell behind 4-1, but scored 11 runs in the second. After Manning drove in a run on a ground ball, Union scored 10 with two outs. Campbell Webb hit an RBI single, while Crowe hit a single that drove in two. An error allowed a run to score before Handley hit a two-run double. Manning hit a double as well, driving in three runs.

Handley and Manning each went 2 for 3, with Handley driving in two runs and Manning driving in four.

Crowe had two RBI, while Dicks, Webb, Jaydin Alvarez and Brooke Hunt each had one.

Hunt batted 2 for 2 with two doubles, while Dicks and Alvarez went 2 for 3 and 2 for 4, respectively.

Crowe pitched all five innings, allowing five hits.

On April 8, Union lost 7-5 to visiting Hilliard.

The Tigers fell behind 4-0 before Dicks hit a run-scoring single in the third.

Orton, who went 2 for 3, hit a solo home run to lead off the bottom of the fourth, leaving Union trailing 5-2.

Union trailed 7-2 entering the bottom of the sixth. Crowe, who batted 2 for 3, and Hunt each drove in a run to pull the Tigers to within three.

Handley reached on a one-out error in the seventh. After the inning's second out, Manning, who batted 3 for 4, hit an RBI single. Orton was intentionally walked, while Webb reached on an error to load the bases. Hilliard ended the game by picking off one of the base runners.

KHHS softball team falls 11-0 to 3A Eustis

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School's softball team was no match for the seventh-ranked team in Class 3A, losing 11-0 in five innings to Eustis on April 21 in Eustis.

The Class 2A Indians (7-14) had no hits off pitchers Brooke Mansfield and Carson Roden, who also combined to allow no walks.

Eustis, meanwhile, had 14 hits, including three home runs that accounted for five runs.

Keystone went 1-1 in its previous two games, beginning with a 9-4 loss to visiting Santa Fe on April 15.

The Indians trailed 3-0 before Kaleigh Maquart hit a two-out single in the second that scored Chloe Still, who reached on a one-out single.

Santa Fe scored six runs in the fourth and fifth innings to go up 9-1.

Taylor Buchanan hit an RBI single in the fifth that scored Maddi Glinski, who doubled, while the Indians scored two runs on errors in the sixth.

Amber Wagner, who went 2 for 4 with a double, was Keystone's only batter with multiple hits.

The Indians defeated the 17th-ranked team in Class 7A, with Wagner scoring the game's lone run on a steal of home in a 1-0 win over host Bartram Trail on April 17.

Wagner had one of the Indians' three hits with a single to lead off the top of the second. She advanced to second on a Bailey Amato sacrifice before Still drew a walk. Wagner then scored while Still was caught stealing second.

Buchanan had the rest of Keystone's hits, going 2 for 3.

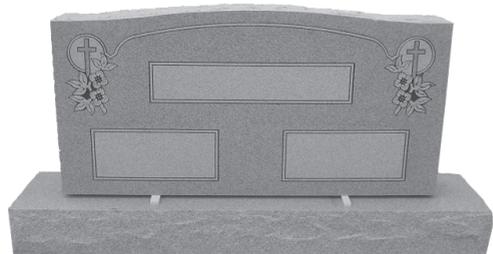
Kadence Massey pitched a complete game, allowing four hits and two walks, while striking out five.

The Indians played Bradford this past Tuesday and were scheduled to host Ridgeview on Wednesday, April 23, at 6 p.m.

Keystone will next play in the District 5-2A tournament. Matchups and times weren't known by deadline.

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BHS softball team defeats Buchholz 7-6

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Tayrn Flowers' RBI double in the top of the seventh proved to be the game winner as the Bradford High School softball team defeated host Buchholz 7-6 on April 21.

The Tornadoses (10-8) held a 6-5 lead going into the final inning, which began with an Addyson Hinds single. One out later, she scored when Flowers, on a full count, hit a ball into center field.

Flowers finished 2 for 3 with the one RBI.

Buchholz got a single and

scored a run on a ground out in the bottom of the inning. The Bobcats put a runner on with two outs on a dropped third strike, but a ground out to Bradford second baseman Kolee Lemire ended the game.

The Tornadoses scored the game's first three runs in the top of the first. Keegan Yowell was hit by a pitch, while Kallie Yowell drew a one-out walk. A Hinds single loaded the bases before Summer Sutton hit into a fielder's choice, which resulted in Keegan Yowell scoring and Kallie Yowell being put out at third. Flowers walked to load the bases again, setting the stage for a two-run single by Regan Adams.

Buchholz took advantage of three hits and three walks (one with the bases loaded) to score

four runs in the fifth and take a 5-3 lead.

Bradford got three runs in the sixth to go up 6-5. After a Flowers single and an Adams walk, Kellsie Cochran bunted and reached on an error, which allowed Flowers to score. Kingslee Phillips then had a ground-out RBI to tie the score at 5-5.

The inning continued with a Keegan Yowell single. Wynn, who went 2 for 3, then drove in a run on a ground out.

Keegan Yowell pitched the final three innings, giving up one run, three hits and no walks, while striking out two.

It was the third straight win for Bradford, which entered the game off defeats of Eastside and P.K. Yonge.

The Tornadoses had only four

hits against host Eastside on April 15, but still won big by a score of 14-2 in five innings.

An eight-run third inning saw Bradford score six consecutive runs when batters were hit by pitches with the bases loaded. The inning also included a bases-loaded walk drawn by Phillips and an RBI ground out by Cochran.

Adams, Cochran, Flowers, Hinds, Sutton, Phillips, Wynn, Kendall Mort, Gemma Rodriguez, Kallie Yowell and Keegan Yowell all had one RBI each.

Lemire started in the circle, allowing two runs and one hit through 4.1 innings. She had eight strikeouts.

Keegan Yowell faced the final two batters, striking out both.

On April 16, RBI singles

by Adams and Cochran gave the Tornadoses an 8-7 win over visiting P.K. Yonge.

Bradford trailed 7-6 entering the bottom of the sixth, which began with back-to-back singles by Kallie Yowell and Hinds. Sutton hit into a fielder's choice, which resulted in Yowell being put out at third. A Flowers sacrifice bunt put courtesy runner Mort at third and Sutton at second. Adams hit a single into left to score the tying run, while Cochran hit a single into center to put the Tornadoses ahead 8-7.

Keegan Yowell didn't allow a hit in the final inning. She pitched 4.2 innings of relief, giving up one run and three hits, while striking out three.

Cochran, who batted 2 for 4 with four RBI, hit a two-run double as part of a three-run second that gave the Tornadoses a

3-2 lead. The inning also included an RBI single by Keegan Yowell.

Bradford trailed 6-3 before Adams (3 for 4 with two RBI) hit a double in the third that scored Hinds, who reached on a leadoff single.

Hinds finished 2 for 4.

A two-run fifth allowed the Tornadoses to tie the score at 6-6. Sutton walked, while Fowers and Adams reached on an error and a single, respectively, to load the bases. A Cochran ground out scored one run, while the other was scored on a Phillips single.

The Tornadoses played Keystone Heights this past Tuesday and were scheduled to play at Newberry on Wednesday, April 23, at 6 p.m.

Bradford will then play in the District 3-3A tournament. Tournament matchups and dates weren't released by deadline.

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SHOP LOCAL ALL 2025



BOXING

Continued from page 12

That's because they go against each other as sparring partners, with each bringing something different to the ring.

"He's got the reach," Crane said of Moulton. "He's taller and longer, so he makes me really work for it. I can't get too close (to him)."

Moulton uses two words to describe Crane: "speed" and "counters."

"Whenever I get into the ring with him, I have to be smart," Moulton said. "I can't just swing wildly. He helps me work on my reaction time."

"I get into the ring with other guys, and I realize those guys are not as fast (as Crane), and they don't hit as hard as he does."

They may be partners in training and sparring, but the relationship between Crane and Moulton is so much more.

"They've become like brothers," Cruz said.

These boxing brothers are putting in the work to be the

best they can be in the sport, but their efforts are resulting in more than just a payoff inside ring. Crane and Moulton both say that through boxing, they've learned discipline, which helps them with all aspects of life.

Crane added that the training that goes into boxing is far harder than anything he'll ever face in life.

"If we can make it through training camp, we can make it through anything," Crane said.

Cruz is motivated to do what he does so that others experience success in whatever they do. He

said he's always used boxing "to teach them to not only fight inside the ring, but also outside the ring."

Life lessons, boxing techniques, work ethic, friendships — it all amounts to something Crane will remember fondly in future years.

"No matter what happens or where we go with this, these will be some of the best memories of my life — being in the gym and being around these people and just learning the sport of boxing in general."



Izarriya Desue (far left) deflects a Santa Fe pass.

REGION

Continued from page 12

allowed Wilson to score and put Keystone up 3-1.

Bishop Snyder was able to get out of the inning by turning a double play on a ground ball to short.

The lead didn't last long. The Cardinals' Dennis walked to

lead off the top of the fourth. Silver and Upton were both hit by pitches to load the bases. Dennis scored on a passed ball before Mamea hit into a fielder's choice, which resulted in Silver being put out at home. Pieklo and Jack Perry hit back-to-back bunt singles, with Pieklo's hit scoring Upton and tying the score at 3-3.

After a strikeout for the inning's second out, an error

on a ground ball hit by Boshell resulted in Mamea scoring. Tripp Hannah and Dennis drew back-to-back bases-loaded walks to force another two runs in. Boshell scored the inning's final run on a passed ball.

Keystone failed to get a hit in the final four innings off pitchers Jack Rauch and Cade Cooper, who combined to throw 4.2 innings of scoreless relief.

The Indians, who finished the game with only three hits, did put two on with one out in the fifth when Destin Harnage reached on an error and Wilson was hit by a pitch. A fly out and a ground out ended the inning.

Bishop Snyder's final run scored as the result of an error in the sixth inning, which began with the Cardinals getting a single and a walk.

DISTRICT

Continued from page 12

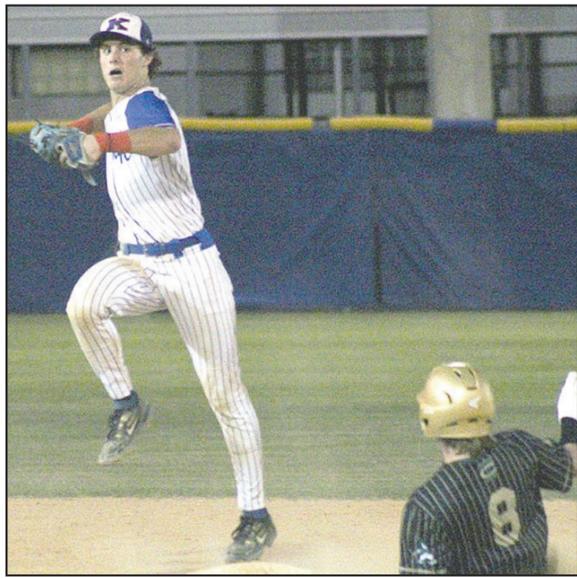
scored on Smith's sacrifice fly to center. Wilson later moved to third on a passed ball before scoring on another passed ball.

Trinity, the tournament's third seed, started its big third inning with a strikeout against Barry. Aidan Elgart then hit a double, while Nick Tanko walked. The Celtics then strung three hits together, beginning with Brian Rudman's RBI single into right. Matthew Wetherell followed with a run-scoring single of his own before Tommy Silva hit a two-run double to put Trinity up 4-2.

The Celtics added their final run on single by Cooper Wilson.

Keystone began the bottom of the third with Smith drawing a walk and Barry, who finished 3 for 5, hitting a double. Smith and courtesy runner Ryder Trull both scored on wild pitches to leave the Indians trailing 5-4.

The inning continued, with Ethan Franklin hitting a one-out single. Tyler Brinson then hit an RBI triple with two outs to make it a 5-4 game. Mitzel drew a walk before Harnage stepped to the plate and delivered his two-run single that put the Indians ahead



Shortstop Andrew Wilson records an out at second before then throwing to first to complete a double play.

7-5. Barry bounced back from giving up five hits in the third, giving up just two in the fourth and fifth innings. That helped the Indians fulfill their plan of going with their number-one pitcher for five innings before bringing their number-two pitcher in for the final two.

"It worked out for us," Roach said. Keystone added to its run total in the fifth. Harnage reached on a one-out error and scored when the Celtics committed an error on a ball hit into right field by Andrew Wilson. A Smith single allowed Wilson to score and make it a 9-5 game.

The final two runs occurred in the sixth. Brinson reached

said. Keystone added to its run total in the fifth. Harnage reached on a one-out error and scored when the Celtics committed an error on a ball hit into right field by Andrew Wilson. A Smith single allowed Wilson to score and make it a 9-5 game.

The final two runs occurred in the sixth. Brinson reached

on a one-out error. Mitzel and Harnage then hit back-to-back singles, with courtesy runner Anthony Peak scoring on Harnage's hit. With two outs, Smith hit a 1-2 pitch into center for a two-run single.

It was a 10-for-16 performance from the lineup's 1-4 batters: Harnage, Wilson, Smith and Barry. That foursome has produced all year, with three currently batting over .400: Barry (.440), Harnage (.424) and Smith (.416). Wilson is batting .317.

"Even when the pressure gets tough, they've still done what they've needed to do," Roach said.

This marks the fourth season for Roach as head coach and Anthony Guirate as his assistant. Roach said he and Guirate knew this year's team would be special.

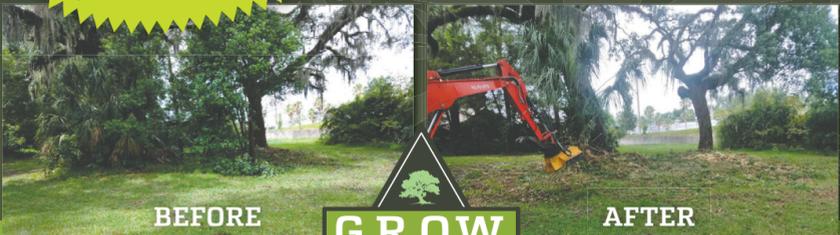
"This group was our freshman group when we started," Roach said. "They've grown with us. They have become really tough individuals and good, young men."

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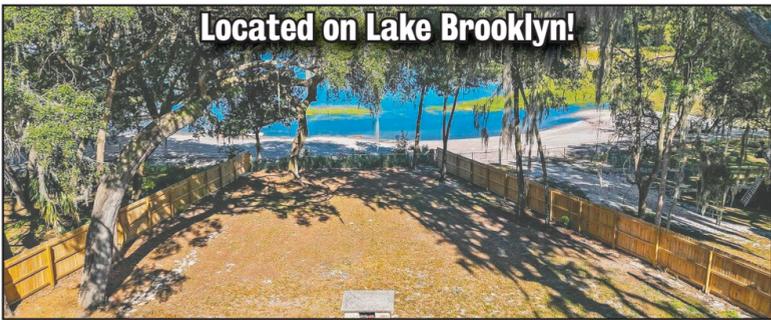


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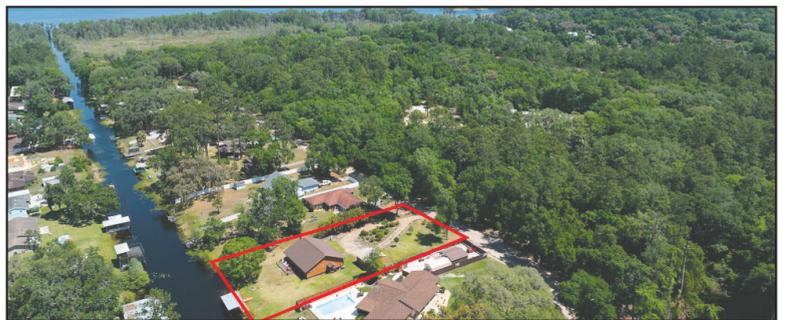


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