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*The Sweetest Strawberries this side of Heaven*

# Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, April 25, 2024

145th year, 41st Issue — \$1

## Sonic described as 'filthy' and 'disgusting'

2 arrested after search of restaurant

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
dan@bctelegraph.com

Bradford County Sheriff Gordon Smith said he was shocked at the condition inside Starke's Sonic after deputies executed a search warrant on the premises on Friday, April 19.

Two of the eatery's employees were arrested as a result of the search.

Madison Kathleen Loftis, 22, of Keystone Heights, was arrested for possession of drugs and possession of drug equipment after deputies found a pipe and a container with 124 grams of THC wax in her car.

Kaitlyn Nicole Watkins was arrested for child neglect and possession of drugs after deputies discovered the 28-year-old's small child sleeping in a red bench wagon inside the restaurant. Also in the wagon was a glass pipe with methamphetamine and fentanyl on the pipe.

"During a search of a pink purse that was located near the handwashing station," wrote Detective Andrew Johnson in an arrest report, "I discovered two, one-dollar bills with a white powdery residue. I conducted a field test on the white powdery residue, yielding a presumptive positive result for methamphetamine and fentanyl."

Johnson added that Watkins's ID was also in the handbag.

Smith said his deputies obtained a search warrant for the restaurant after a customer discovered a foreign substance in his purchased food. The foreign substance tested positive for marijuana and methamphetamine.

"So, the guy was upset," Smith said. "He had already fed his kids some of that food."

The sheriff said that even before



Loftis

Watkins

the complaint, his agency had been investigating the restaurant.

"We had already had some information," he said. "We did some staking out, took the probable cause, obtained a search warrant, hit the store, and it was the most deplorable thing."

Smith described filthy items lying next to food, adding, "The store was in such a disgusting shape."

"You open the freezer door, and stuff's just thrown all over and shuffled," Smith added. "No organization. I was shocked."

The sheriff said he contacted the franchisee in Mississippi, who said he was considering closing the Starke location in June, even before its latest problems.

"And I'm like, well, why? It stays busy," Smith recalled of the phone call. "He said, 'Well, we're not making any money.'"

Smith added that the City of Starke has cited the property for code violations.

"It's sad," he said. "I mean, I hate it because Sonic could be such a great place. I told the guy: 'What happened with a coat of paint? What happened to keeping the store clean?' We go to Sonic in Middleburg all the time because of this. There's no excuse for it."



With crime tape dangling from a fence surrounding a retention pond, Starke's Sonic remained closed after deputies searched the property and arrested two employees. The franchisee said he was thinking about closing the eatery even before the search and arrests.

## 2 killed in traffic pursuit

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
dan@bctelegraph.com

The Florida Highway Patrol said two people died after the car they were in crashed in Waldo during a high-speed pursuit in the early morning hours of Saturday, April 20.

FHP said the pursuit of the Honda CR-V began in Bradford County and ended in Waldo shortly after the stolen vehicle left U.S. 301 onto State Road 24 within the Alachua County town.

In a news release, the state agency said the trooper chasing the Honda observed that the four occupants were wearing ski masks, and that the trooper performed a precision immobilization technique, commonly known as a PIT maneuver.

After the trooper used his vehicle to strike the Honda, the CR-V rolled over and hit a cement pole. One occupant was ejected and died at the scene. A second occupant died later at a hospital.

Bradford County Sheriff Gordon

Smith said a license plate reader detected the stolen SUV within the county, and deputies initiated a pursuit.

"We have those license plate readers discreetly placed all over the county," he said, "and it runs your tag as you go past it. This car came back as a hit that it was stolen."

The sheriff added that once the stolen car entered Alachua County, his officers allowed FHP to take over the pursuit, with his deputies following at a distance in case their assistance was needed.

Smith said that as far as he could see, the trooper's actions were "textbook." He added, however, that the loss of life is regrettable.

"It's just sad for any young life," he said. "Everybody is loved, and you hate to see that kind of outcome, but apparently, they felt they had nothing to lose. They weren't stopping for anything. Thank goodness, at that time of night, there wasn't much traffic."

## KHHS lifts way to state runner-up



Keystone Heights High School was the Class 1A traditional runner-up at the boys weightlifting state finals on April 20 in Lakeland. The Indians also placed third in the Olympic event. Pictured are: (front, l-r) Declan Shine, Coach Doug Johnson (standing behind Shine), Kyle Perkins, Tyson Baxter, Jed Tisdale, Colton Hollingsworth, (back, l-r) Coach Steve Reynolds, Davin Adams, Tyler Duncan, Jackson Herman, Ben Ulsch, Bryson Wester, Brayden Hall, Brayden Wester, Jayden Goodman, Trey Jeffries, Coach Bo Boettcher, Coach Nick Verschaeve, Wyatt Van Zant and Head Coach Lantz Lowery. See inside for more.



Trey Jeffries won both Olympic and traditional championships in the 238-pound class. With the title he won in traditional last year, he is the first-ever KHHS boys weightlifter to win two championships.

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## WORTH NOTING

### Summer day camp

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County is offering a four-week summer day camp at the RJE Complex in Starke from June 3-28, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Campers will receive breakfast and lunch, math and reading labs, behavioral health classes, healthy cooking and baking classes, arts and crafts and athletics.

The cost is \$160 per child, not including the cost of a field trip, and the Concerned Citizens group is asking for sponsorships. Payments can be made in installments, but must be paid in full by May 10. To register or sponsor a child, please call Sherry Williams at 352-278-3540, Alica McMillian at 904-966-1100 or Glenda Ruise 904-769-1691.

### STEM is for heroes

This summer's hero-themed STEM camp is I am STEM: Activating the Hero Within. It will run from June 17 to July 26, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Faith Community Center, 721 Old Lawtey Road in Starke.

The camp is open to rising second-eighth graders. They will spend the summer learning to code, conducting experiments, building robots, engaging in social emotional learning and protecting the galaxy!

Registration is \$75 and the camp is \$100 per week for six weeks. Visit [www.iamstemcamps.com](http://www.iamstemcamps.com) to register. Contact 12gibt.12gip@gmail.com or 904-364-0868 for more information.

### Celebrate new playground on May Day

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County and the RJE Alumni Association will host a groundbreaking ceremony for a new playground on May 4. Beginning at 1 p.m. at the RJE ballfield, there will be plating of the maypole, music, kids activities with a bounce house, senior activities with bingo, food trucks and other vendors. There will also be a softball tournament and a free Community Resources Health Fair.



### Apply now for 12 Guys 12 Girls scholarship

Students who were members of 12 Guys in Bow Ties & 12

Girls in Pearls 2016 cohort have a \$500 scholarship opportunity, but must apply now. Founding members of the program are now seniors and can apply for own of four scholarships available.

The application deadline has been extended to Sunday, April 28. For information about the scholarships and application

process, please contact Edrick Hamilton at 904-364-0868 or 12gibt.12gip@gmail.com.

Requirements include being a member of the 2016, cohort, a typed essay, a 2.0 minimum GPA, high school transcript, educational plan details and proof of enrollment (in order to receive funds), participation in

at least two community service events with the current cohort.

Scholarship funds are sponsored by Cobb Community Foundation of Atlanta, Georgia, in partnership with RAM GIVES.

### Scholarship available for medical study

The Shirley Ann Brown Livingstone Scholarship is available for the 2024-25 school year. Students must apply by May 30, 2024, to be considered for the upcoming fall and spring semesters.

This scholarship is for students entering any field of study related to medicine, such as nursing, medical research, cancer research, etc. The scholarship is provided in memory of the late Shirley Ann Brown Livingstone, a registered nurse who died from

breast cancer.

Applications are available at the Santa Fe College Andrews Center, Bradford High School guidance office, North Florida Technical College and Starke City Hall. For further information, you may contact Carolyn Brown Spooner at 904-964-5807.

### Scholarship for Union County woman

The Lake Butler Woman's Club is offering a \$1,000 scholarship for a female resident of Union County to attend an accredited college or university in the state of Florida. Scholarship applications may be picked up at Union County High School in the guidance counselor's office from Amy Addison Stalaker. All applications should be

received by or on Friday, April 26, 2024. Late applications will not be accepted. For questions, contact Bobbie Morgan at 386-867-0781.

### Apply for King memorial scholarship

Esther King Memorial Scholarship applications are being accepted at this time. The application will be completed online. You will need to go to the Union County School District's website to access the application at www.union.k12.fl.us. Click on the tab for Schools, Union County High School and Guidance Office. The Esther King Scholarship link can be found under the heading for seniors.

Completed application and all documents requested must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2024. Questions can be emailed to maddoxe@union.k12.fl.us.

### UCHS Class of '74 reunion

Union County's Class of 1974 will celebrate 50 years on Saturday, June 22, 2024. Save the date. The reunion will take place at 5 p.m. at Lake Butler Community Center. Additional details are forthcoming.



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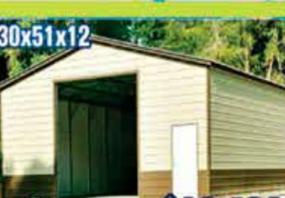
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# Report details county's progress with a glimpse of the future

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
mark@bctelegraph.com

Scott Kornegay's work as county manager continues to please commissioners.

Kornegay shared credit with the county's various department heads during an annual update for the commission last week.

From the beginning, Kornegay said a primary goal has been building a strong working relationship with commissioners. To that end, his office met regularly with commissioners to prioritize goals and understand expectations. This includes regular phone calls and meetings to discuss the county's agenda. It also includes attending community events and town halls together as well as training opportunities and professional conferences.

Related has been the goal to build trust with the public and have open communication. In house that includes meeting with constitutional officers and staff to understand priorities and needs. It also includes outreach such as attending meetings with civic groups, business groups and other community leaders.

"I had a little bit of an advantage when I started here, because I already had relationships with a number of the leaders in the community. But since then, we've developed other relationships that have been very valuable, and that's key and critical to any success that we might have as a county government," Kornegay said.

The county commission's meetings are now streamed live and archived on YouTube, and Kornegay maintains that his office is open and accessible to all. If someone isn't available in the office, messages are left offering an explanation and directing the public where to go for assistance.

There is an ongoing effort to amend board policies and procedures. Board operating policies were updated in February, with personnel and purchasing policy updates coming in May. A review of insurance policies and coverage did not provide a huge cost savings, but it did offer an opportunity for updates and efficiencies, Kornegay said.

The county reduced a \$1.2 million shortfall in funding for its solid waste operation by raising the special assessment, which for most property owners resulted in an annual increase from \$75 to \$125. The shortfall is now closer to half a million dollars, he said.

Deemed unachievable when Kornegay first came on board, the county was told it would lose its investment in work on a new access road at the Keystone Heights Airport and lose out on a \$2.3 million DEO grant opportunity. Working with DEO officials in Tallahassee, Kornegay and Public Works Director Jason Dodds modified the scope of the project and resumed work. They avoided losing the grant, and construction of the road was completed in June 2023. FDOT also agreed to allow the county to tie the road into S.R. 100.

Public works completed around \$500,000 in road construction with gas tax revenue, and FDOT-funded projects on Southeast 49th Avenue and Northeast 219th Street totaled more than \$300,000.

Other achievements by public works include replacement of the courthouse HVAC system using American Rescue Plan Act revenue, replacing hydraulic lifts at the fleet maintenance site and paving at the Bradford County Fairgrounds.

But the biggest project Kornegay highlighted was the conveyance of the state-owned Douglas Building on U.S. 301 to the county at the end of last year. A lease agreement with MHD Rockland will soon be finalized, he said. In addition to renovating and updating the 100,000 square-foot facility to serve as warehouse space, MHD Rockland may also build a two-story building to house a flight simulator and 3,000 square feet of new administrative space.

"When they do get in there and start doing business, we will have created an additional \$1.2 million in annual revenue as well

as brought 48 new high-wage jobs to the county," Kornegay said.

Bradford County Fire Rescue Chief Ben Carter joined the presentation to review annual data, which included 7,747 calls for service. Those calls encompassed 36 structure fires, 22 vehicle fires and 76 brush fires, calls to 586 traffic crashes and 59 cardiac arrests. The resuscitation rate for patients whose hearts had stopped was 36%, which was higher than the 24% state average. Bradford was also the first rural county to partner with UF in faster response for stroke patients.

Six BCFR employees graduated from fire academy and four became paramedics. The agency was awarded more than \$750,000 in grants and government appropriations, and it negotiated a 16% increase in its contract with HCA for interfacility transfers. A new fire engine will be purchased thanks to a \$450,000 legislative appropriation, and increased billing rates will provide more revenue.

The Station 10 expansion to include living quarters, paid for largely through private donors, should be completed by the end of June, Carter said. State funds will also build new living quarters at the stations in Sampson City and Theresa.

Finally, Carter reported they partnered with multiple agencies as part of the new Community Resource Paramedicine Program. Materials for the substance abuse program and a patient referral process have been established. In just over two weeks, six patients have already been enrolled, with one admitted to rehab, he said, giving credit Chief Dylan Rogers and Lt. David Weeks.

"These two here have really taken the ball and run with that program and are out there providing a great service to this community," Carter said.

The effort is funded with opioid lawsuit settlement funds from pharmaceutical manufacturers.

Other updates included: —The county has a one-year extension from Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to complete grant-funded construction of a new boat ramp at Cypress Run. CHW Professional Consulting is taking over as engineer of record for the project from DRMP.

—The SHIP office completed five of 10 housing rehabilitation projects and accepted two purchase assistance applications for down payment and closing costs.

—The library introduced new staff training and team building programs. They added two new children's programs as well as programs for students and citizens with disabilities. Staff conducted more than 100 programs for 2,100 participants and served more than 23,000 people. The library added notary and fax services to generate additional revenue.

—The county extension office expanded 4-H programs and participation. Volunteer Master Gardeners are reducing county

and UF labor costs. Programs include food preservation and food giveaways, crop and garden soil testing, and planning for an Ag to School project at Starke Elementary. Irrigation systems have been provided for school gardens.

—Planning and Zoning processed 30 zoning applications totaling \$35,000. The department is working with the Northeast Florida Economic Development Corporation to identify parcels with potential for commercial and industrial development. An interlocal agreement is being drafted to allow the floodplains administrator to work with Brooker, Hampton and Lawtey on flooding issues. They are also ensuring that the county comprehensive plan is consistent with the state management plan for the Palatka to Lake Butler Trail and working with FWC to avoid encroachment on the Florida Wildlife Corridor.

—The Building Department issued 589 permits, generating more than \$97,000 in revenue. Businesses being built, expanded or renovated include Zaxby's, RaceTrac, a concrete plant, the Thermacell laboratory, the RV resort, and others. Residential permits include an increase in reroofing permits.

—Selling surplus property, vehicles and equipment raised more than \$210,000 for the county, including the sale of the former Pizza Hut property, which is being renovated into a barbecue restaurant.

## What's next?

Kornegay wrapped up his presentation by offering a glimpse of the future.

—Currently under evaluation, they are looking at the feasibility of a county-owned water and wastewater facility to serve commercial and industrial development at the Keystone Heights Airport. Kornegay said a Jacksonville company is looking for grants to fund the study.

—They are on the lookout for funding to hire a consultant to conduct a countywide strategic plan.

—The county will undertake a comprehensive analysis of all its owned properties.

—They will continue working with Starke on the extension of utilities to the bypass on S.R. 16.

—Multiple requests for qualifications will be issued for continuing service contracts.

—More than 60 fire chiefs will attend the Northeast Regional Florida Fire Chiefs Association's annual conference at the county conference center.

—The launch of a new website is anticipated next month.

Before closing, however, Kornegay and his assistant, Amanda Brown, joined the commission in recognizing the contributions of the county's leadership team in every department.

Following positive comments, commissioners agreed to meet with Kornegay for individual evaluations and then consider a merit raise.



Pictured (l-r) are Maj. John Crews, Hagen Kadlec, Taylor Touchton, Lysa McKenzie, Tyler Shaffer, Madison Miller, Monique Burr and Melissa Harding. Not pictured: Andrew King, Matthew McDonough, Elizabeth Mullen, McKaylah Mullen, Noah Stoehr, Cameron Vaughn and Ezra Green.

# JROTC state winners on the way to nationals, support appreciated

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
mark@bctelegraph.com

It has been a busy year for Bradford High's JROTC, according to instructor Maj. John Crews. It has also been rewarding.

Principal Chris Coffey and Crews presented the latest winners to the school board April 8, freshly returned from state-level competition.

To make it to state, the Tornado Battalion Drill Team placed first at the area qualifier for unarmed regulation platoon, male and female armed exhibition solos,

and female armed exhibition dual. They placed second in female armed exhibition solo and third in male armed exhibition duals and female regulation color guard.

Among the cadets introduced was Lysa McKenzie who won first place in the state female drill dual armed exhibition. There was also Madison Miller who won first place in the state female drill dual armed exhibition and seventh place in the female exhibition armed solo.

Tyler Shaffer won sixth place state in the male drill dual armed exhibition, and champion Hagen

Kadlec was a state oratorical finalist after succeeding in the American Legion's local, district and area competitions.

Drill nationals will take place May 4 and 5 in Daytona. The Tornado Battalion will compete against JROTC drill teams from all military branches from around the world, according to Crews.

"As with anything the JROTC drill team is always in need of assistance to provide opportunities to our cadets, and donations to the program are always very much welcome," Crews said.

## School board member recognized for earning honorable distinction

Florida School Boards Association is proud to recognize Candace Osteen, Bradford County School Board member, as its newest Certified Board Member.

To earn the initial distinction of a CBM, members must complete 96 hours of training in three different content areas: leadership, advocacy and knowledge.

"I am proud to recognize Candace as a Certified Board Member," FSBA Leadership Services Director Tina Pinkoson stated. "Since her election in 2020 Candace has shown a willingness and desire to learn."

The Certified Board Member distinction is one of several professional development

programs offered by the Florida School Boards Association to ensure board members obtain well-rounded and thorough understanding of his or her policy-making job responsibilities. The Florida School Boards Association is

the professional association for school boards in Florida. The mission of FSBA is to increase student achievement through the development of effective school board leadership and advocacy for public education.

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~ By Henry Hodges

Honoring Ona Hardee, a true example of God's amazing grace. 105 years old and counting. **Wow!**

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# Lake Region



(L-R) Tammy Winkler, Principal, and Julia Higbe, Teacher, McRae Elementary School; Pastor Carey Morford, Mission of the Dirt Road; and Lee Sackett, Founder, CJ Acres Animal Rescue Farm.

## Mission of the Dirt Road awarded top honor

### McRae Elementary, CJ Acres Animal Rescue also honored

The Paul E. & Klare N. Reinhold Foundation, Inc., held its annual "Celebrate Clay" community service awards breakfast on April 23rd at the Thrasher-Horne Center, during which the Foundation distributed \$100,000 and 47 community service awards to nonprofit organizations that provide services to Clay County residents.

Mission of the Dirt Road, located in Keystone Heights, captured the top honor this year, earning the \$15,000 Paul E. Reinhold Community Service Award. Mission of the Dirt Road is a ministry located in a rural low-income neighborhood in Keystone Heights. The ministry exists to make disciples through community development and to transform the 1,070-acre High Ridge neighborhood into a thriving community. The church operates as a community center at the entrance of the neighborhood and offers a wide range of outreach activities, education, and multifaceted support programs. Mission of the Dirt Road also serves as the champion for the High Ridge Initiative, a community development initiative approved by the Clay County Board of County Commissioners.

Two other Keystone Heights-based charities earned the top second and third prizes at the 2024 "Celebrate Clay" awards ceremony. McRae Elementary School's Weekend Food Program and CJ Acres Animal Rescue Farm each earned \$7,000.

The Reinhold Foundation's "Celebrate Clay" awards program honors the legacy of Paul and Klare Reinhold, and recognizes, rewards, and encourages community service within Clay County. The Foundation has awarded more than \$1.26 million to Celebrate Clay award recipients in the past fifteen years.

A panel of five judges including three independent volunteers from the community and two Reinhold family representatives voted on the best projects of

2023 to determine the winners of the \$100,000 in cash awards. This year's judges were: Hon. Timothy R. Collins, (Ret.), Clay County Court Judge; Ms. Catrine Fredrikson, President & Founder, EZY Marketing; Mr. Jeff Taylor, Chief Executive Officer, HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital; and Mr. Peter Hutchen and Rev. Neely P. Towe, Reinhold Family Members.

Applications were open to all non-profit groups active in the First Coast Area that provided services to Clay County residents in 2023. The 47 award recipients included Clay County and regionally based nonprofits, churches, and school programs.

The other 2024 Celebrate Clay award recipients were: Jack Myers Executive Director Award (\$7,000); Nancy Keating, Challenge Enterprises of North Florida

Peggy Bryan Volunteer of the Year Award (\$7,000); Bonnie Bong, Penney Retirement Community

Judges' Choice Volunteer Awards (\$3,500 each): Cathy Haralson, Waste Not Want Not; Bert Fields, Seamark Ranch

Special Judges' Awards (\$2,000 each): The Clothes Closet & Food Pantry

Feeding Northeast Florida Food Bridge - Black Creek Methodist Church; The Island Theater Jacksonville Children's Chorus; James Boys - Orange Park United Methodist Church; Orange Park Jr. High Black History Club; Project REACH Kids - Clay County District Schools; Teen Court of Clay County; The Way Free Medical Clinic

Category Awards (\$1,000 each):

Arts & Culture Concert on the Green; Civic Programs; Clay County Archives; Historical Society of Orange Park; Community Programs; Clay County Habitat for Humanity

Food Pantry of Green Cove Springs

Hope4Veterans; Hunger Fight; Mercy Support Services; Saved 2 Serve; Vineyard Transitional Center; Education & Literacy; ACE Mentor Program of NE Florida

Children's Home Society of Florida; Clay County Education Foundation

Environment & Animal Advocacy; Clay County Soil & Water Conservation

Health & Human Services; American Red Cross of NE Florida

BASCA; Clay Behavioral Health Center; Community Hospice & Palliative Care

Hope Therapy; Quigley House; Vision is Priceless; Senior Citizens' Programs

PET FL - Penney Farms; Shepherd's Center of Orange Park; Church Service Programs

St. Catherine's Society of St. Vincent de Paul; Accomplishments by Youth

Clay County Sheriff's Explorers Post 987; Service to Youth & Families

AMI Kids Clay; Clay County 4-H Association; Pace Center for Girls Clay

Take Stock in Children Clay YMCA; Young Life Clay County

## Pond Management Workshops

Own a pond? Interested in what makes a water body healthy for fish? Need aquatic pesticide applicator CEUs? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you'll want to attend this University of Florida Pond Management Workshops.

The workshop will be on May 7 from 4:45 to 8 p.m. at the Lake Butler Community Center, 155 NW Third Street in Lake Butler.

Topics include aquatic plant ID, water quality and fish health and using copper sulphate or lime in a pond. Cassidy Dossin, Lizzie Whitehead, Jim DeValerio and Tim Wilson and Dr. Ruth Francis-Floyd, UF College of Veterinary Medicine, are presenting. Two Aquatic Pesticide Applicator CEUs available.

Join them for a hot dog dinner and good conversations on pond management and fish health.

Registration details: \$5 per attendee. For planning purposes, call the Union County Extension ASAP at 386-496-2321 to reserve a seat and to get a detailed program.

The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution. Submitted by Jim DeValerio UF/IFAS, Union County Extension.

## Heritage Commission hosts fourth graders

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
dan@bctelegraph.com

The Keystone Heights Heritage Commission hosted over 100 fourth graders from Keystone Heights Elementary

School to teach the students about the town's history.

During the April 19 field trip, students viewed artifacts from the Keystone Inn, watched reenactor John Zieser talk about Fort 11, a wooden structure built between

Lake Keystone and Lake Geneva during the Second Seminole War,

watched the city council reenact the purchase of an abandoned restaurant, and learned about the city's Moon Tree and the high school's early years.



John Zieser, dressed in historical attire, describes Fort 11: a little-known outpost just west of present-day City Hall that guarded the road between Fort Shannon in Palatka and Fort King near Ocala. Zieser explained one of the biggest problems for soldiers facing Native Americans in north Florida. He said a soldier's muzzleloader had an effective range of 50 yards and took 20 seconds to reload. He added that Seminole Warriors routinely waited for soldiers to fire their weapons and then rushed the soldiers while they were attempting to reload, forcing the soldiers into hand-to-hand combat.



Heritage Commission member Karen Nagle explains to students how the seeds of the city's Moon Tree orbited the moon and returned safely to Earth. She said the seed traveled within the personal patch of Astronaut Stuart Russo, who was in the forestry service before becoming an astronaut. Nagel added that the Sycamore seeds rode on the Apollo 14 mission in 1971.



Keystone Heights Council members (l-r) Elston Kussler, Christine Thompson, Nina Rodenroth, and Tony Brown reenact their vote to purchase the old China Chef restaurant at the corner of Lawrence Boulevard and Walker Drive. Mayor Rodenroth explained the process council members went through in reaching their decision and used the event as a case study of how city government works.



Heritage Commission member Deirdre Murphy reacts to a student's correct answer to the question of what is the nickname of Pennsylvania. Murphy then connected the name of the street South Lawrence Boulevard, Keystone Heights founder John Lawrence's home state of Pennsylvania, and the name of the city.

## NOTICE

### APPLICATIONS FOR BRADFORD COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council invites interested persons to apply for membership on the Bradford County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. The Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board is an advisory Board that oversees the provision of transportation services for older adults, persons with disabilities and persons with low income.

**These are volunteer positions. Applicants must be residents of Bradford County.**

Applications or additional information may be obtained by contacting: Lynn Franson, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653; phone 352.955.2200 x 110, email [godfrey@ncfrpc.org](mailto:godfrey@ncfrpc.org) or by visiting our website at [www.ncfrpc.org/TD/td.html](http://www.ncfrpc.org/TD/td.html)

**Applications must be received no later than June 1, 2024.**



**Cadet 2nd Lt. Joseph Gale and Cadet 1st Sgt. Jessica Bettey display their award certificates presented by retired Army Lt. Col. James Bullinger with the U.S. Army Special Forces Association. (Courtesy Photo SFA Chapter 88)**

## KH cadets recognized for excellence

Two Keystone Heights High School students were recognized for their excellence in the Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps during the program's annual awards banquet held April 19.

Representing Chapter 88 of the U.S. Army Special Forces Association, retired Lt. Col. James Bullinger announced Cadet 1st Sgt. Jessica Bettey is a recipient of the Chapter's Senior Cadet Scholarship, and Cadet 2nd Lt. Joseph Gale is awarded the Special Forces Association's Award of Excellence.

According to KHHS JROTC senior Army instructor retired Lt. Col. Richard Hall, both cadets

distinguished themselves during the past year and were nominated to the Special Forces Association for the respective awards.

Cadet Bettey, a senior, served in leadership as the company first sergeant. She was active with the color guards for football games and Christmas parades; and in the drama club and the Senior Girls' Club.

In these groups Bettey provided various services to the school and community. With the girls' club, she collected canned goods for donation to a local food bank. After graduation Bettey plans to attend St. Johns River State College and the School of Arts for Drama.

Cadet Gale, a sophomore, distinguished himself as the program's battalion S3 operations officer and for his participation in the Florida Senate page program in March 2024.

He was also active with the JROTC's Drill Team and with the Raiders — an elite cadet team that trains members to be physically stronger, better leaders and future officers. Gale's postgraduation plans are to serve in the Army's aviation branch.

SFA Chapter 88 provides support to 26 high schools with JROTC programs in the greater Jacksonville area.

## New farmers market launched in Starke

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
dan@bctelegraph.com

A Jackson's Building Supply employee has started a Saturday farmers market at his employer's empty lot.

Eric Noegel said he started selling some of his own eggs at the store and wanted to build more community in his hometown.

He added that he saw a shortage of opportunities for local farmers and craftsmen to sell their products.

"So, I'm like, well shoot, we got all that land out there we're doing nothing with," he said of the lumber yard, "and what would be nice for Starke is to have a little farmers market because there ain't one."

Noegel said he is restricting the market to locally produced goods, except for a clearance table with Jackson Building Supply aged inventory.

He added that he scouted out two other farmers markets while planning his own, the Alachua County market and one in Gainesville's Haile Plantation area.

"What we'd probably have here is more like Alachua County, the way they do theirs, which is right by the fire station on U.S.



**Peggy Crawford with her cupcakes, bread, chocolate chip cookies and other baked products.**

441," he said. "And what I'd like to do is just get some good, quality food and handmade stuff here that people can sell."

Noegel said what he wants to avoid is a garage-sale atmosphere.

"I think we can handle up to 15 vendors, but we want to do it the right way," he said. "We want to make sure we're not having just yard sales out here. It's not going to be that type of environment."

Noegel said Janis and Philip McDonald's River Branch Farm sells produce at his market. The

family also runs a plumbing company in Starke and has a vegetable stand in the New River area.

Noegel said that in addition to River Branch Farms, Townsend Honey, Peggy's Baked Goods, and Hometown Grounds Coffee set up shop in the lumber yard. Lamar Wynn sold eggs and mixed barnyard chicks.

The inaugural event was on April 6. The next day for the farmers market is May 4.



**Townsend Honey family members (left) LeeAnn Townsend and Carrie Townsend Caputo explain their honey products to customers.**

## Funding requests approved for Station 10, new ambulance

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
mark@bctelegraph.com

Construction of a living quarters for Bradford County Fire Rescue Station 10 in Speedville will have a cost for the county after all.

Vincent Esson from the expanding Keystone Heights RV Resort pledged funding to construct the living quarters so south Bradford County could have a fully staffed station.

Bradford County Fire Rescue Chief Ben Carter told county commissioners last week, the \$250,000 donation does not include work beyond five feet of the building's perimeter, including installation of a septic tank and utility hookups for water and electricity.

Carter said the agency received \$479,000 last year in managed care funds. He proposed no more than \$50,000 be used to complete the Station 10 project.

This funding, received through the Public Emergency Medical Transportation program, compensates unreimbursed costs for emergency medical transport providers serving Medicaid managed care patients. Counties that share the cost of the program receive a larger distribution.

Carter was asked about using the existing septic tank installed for the tax collector's satellite office, but he said multiple inspectors had ruled that out. He did say there were other donors supporting the project, including Gator Fire's Brian Green, who has donated the labor and equipment for the fire suppression sprinkler system, and Mike Crews, who has donated cabinetry and counter tops.

"We're getting a lot of that stuff donated that we can, but there are going to be some costs to finish off the project. And based on the conversations with the contractor, he believes \$50,000 should be sufficient to cover the costs," Carter said.

Carter also requested managed care funds be used to purchase a new ambulance, saying the agency only has one unit on the road with fewer than 250,000 miles.

"We average 64,000 to 65,000 miles annually per ambulance, so we've got to get caught up,"

he said. "We're in decent shape right now with the remounts that we've done, but we need to get caught up on purchasing a new ambulance."

Remounting is how BCFE had extended the life of its fleet without purchasing new units. There is only one unit left that hasn't been remounted and is not ready to be remounted, Carter said.

"We are at the point of remounting remounts, if that makes sense, so we need to need to put a new ambulance in the fleet," he said. Due to the lead time, an ambulance ordered now would not be received until next year.

Carter provided a rough estimate of \$300,000 to \$350,000 to purchase the unit.

Funding for the ambulance and Station 10 project were approved.

Last year, Carter persuaded the commission to reinvest \$300,000 of the managed care funds to support the PEMT program in exchange for receiving an even larger award this year. Last week, Carter said the managed care funds cannot be used to pay the county's cost share after all.

If the county contributes to the cost of the PEMT program to leverage a higher future distribution, that funding will come from reserves.

Because the managed care funds are considered unanticipated revenue, they are not included in the budget until they are spent. The funds for the ambulance will be included in the 2024-25 budget.

## Commercial rezonings include development near Hampton

The county commission approved multiple commercial rezonings on first reading last week.

One applicant asked to rezone the two parcels north of Red Dog Saloon for commercial intensive development. A third application for commercial rezoning at the corner of U.S. 301 and C.R. 18 west of Hampton as also

approved. It was this application that received the most discussion.

An engineer spoke on behalf of the city of Hampton about a proposed site plan for that intersection just north of the dollar store. A preliminary plan shows ingress and egress to the development from both U.S. 301 and C.R. 18. Engineer Jerry Dabkowski said Hampton does not oppose the rezoning but would like to be included when the county considers the traffic impact on C.R. 18.

Kevin McCraw from Hunt Real Estate Services was also present to speak about the amendments and answer concerns. He said the county would have input during the design phase of the project once the rezoning is complete. A full traffic study will be completed per Florida Department of Transportation requirements.

Hunt Real Estate is involved in acquiring property for multiple clients, including Walgreens, Family Dollar, RaceTrac, Wawa, Circle K, Starbucks and more.

These land use and zoning amendments will be finalized if approved following the second reading.

Starke has also advertised a multi-family residential rezoning on Jackson and Cherry streets.

The city of Starke and Kingsley Development have filed applications to rezone property downtown in preparation for the CityWalk townhome development.

## Democratic Women meet April 25

The Democratic Women's Club of the Lakes Area will hold its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, April 25. The speaker will be Sierra Club board member David Vaina. All Democrats are welcome. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with the speaker at 7. The club will meet at the new location, Melrose Center, 309 S.R. 26 in Melrose. For further information: 352-235-4161 or Info@dwc-la.org.

# The Matthews Museum (Bradford County Museum) Needs Volunteers!

- \* Show visitors around the museum.
- \* Share interesting facts about Bradford County.
- \* All of this in a climate controlled location.
- \* Students can earn Community Service Points.

To find out more

**Contact: Chuck Kramer**  
(904) 964-5001 or (904) 364-6977



# UNION COUNTY

## Wawa issues arise at Lake Butler City Council meeting

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Special to the Times

The Lake Butler City Commission voted to approve, on second reading, changes to a city ordinance restricting the sale of alcohol in specific locations.

At its April meeting, the board approved a revised version of the ordinance, last revised in 2011, omitting proximity to schools as a prohibition to the sale of alcohol. This revision will allow the construction of a Wawa Convenience Store on SR-121 near the Tiger's Den Daycare. The new revision of the ordinance still restricts such establishments from locating within a specified distance from churches, but the proposed store will not fall within these limitations. Motion was made by

Commissioner Melissa Hendrix and seconded by Commissioner Annette Redman to revise the ordinance, with the motion passing the board unanimously.

During the public comment period of the meeting Lake Butler resident Cindy North expressed her concern that the wells which supply the city's water are close to where the Wawa fuel pumps would be located and said that a fuel leak could be a disaster. Mayor David Stegall responded to her comments, saying that the Department of Environmental Protection was the body that made the determinations concerning the safety of the project.

In other business, the board discussed the need to raise the rental fees on city owned

buildings frequently leased out for wedding receptions and other family events. It was noted that the rates the city had been charging for the use of the Townsend-Green Building and the Hal Y. Maines Community Center at Lakeside Park were much lower than the going rate for such municipal rentals in the surrounding area.

The board voted to approve a new fee schedule, effective immediately, that would bring the lease charges more in line with the local market while still allowing lower rates to non-profits and schools. It was decided to enforce the one rental per year for city employees at a reduced rate and to continue the \$125 key deposit and cleaning surety, which is refundable upon

the return of the key and the building being left clean and ready for the next renter.

During the discussion it came to light that the city had already received paid reservations for the use of the building up into 2027. On advice of City Attorney John Maines it was agreed that these rentals would be allowed at the rates that were in effect when the reservation was made and the fee paid.

Also discussed and approved was an increase in commercial garbage rates in the city. The price increase is due to a rise in the rates to the city from the service provider of 40%. It was noted in the discussion that the commercial rates had not been changed in several years. Motion was made by Hendrix to approve

a 25% increase in the charges due to the city, with the possibility of a further increase when the next budget is prepared in October. Finance Director Dave Mecusker pointed out that the city kept a small portion of the charges to pay for the billing and collection of the bills.

The board also heard a request from the Lake Butler Rotary Club that the check be written for the \$5,000 that was budgeted for them to support the Annual Independence Day celebration. In discussion it was mentioned by Maines that the city needed to make sure that the city was listed as co-insured on the event insurance secured by Rotary. The funds had already been approved when the budget was approved, so Hendrix made motion to

disburse the funds to help pay for the event, Maines said it should be noted that the city had always been a co-sponsor of the event, providing city staff to assist and the used of the community center and that this contribution be recognized.

The commission received the news that the Splash Park was up and running, after the assistance of local business TruBlue Pools. Business representative helped city workers get everything running and that the proper chemicals for sanitation was added to the water. They have also agreed to assist with required weekly testing of the water.

## Election season heating up

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Special to the Times

The city of Lake Butler Election, originally scheduled to take place on June 25 has been canceled for lack of need. Two seats on the Lake Butler City Commission were coming open for election/retention and only one candidate registered and qualified for each seat. Incumbent Rondoll Huggins will retain Seat Two on the board, beginning his first full term in office (Huggins was elected in a special election, called to fill the seat mid-term due to the resignation of then-mayor Jack Schenck.) Joe Stephenson was the only candidate to qualify for Seat One and, as such, will automatically take the seat at the end of the term of incumbent Mayor David Stegall, who did not choose to run for re-election. Both will Huggins and Stephenson will be sworn in on June 26 Lake Butler City Hall at a time to be announced later.

The Nov. 5 General Election for county races may have a much smaller ballot than was originally expected. There are three seats on the Union County Commission available, as well as the county's constitutional officers. So far many are running unopposed and the ones with competition are running against members of their own party. The two school board seats, whose candidates run as nonpartisan with any party, have two seats open, with a single candidate each at this time.

Seats coming open for election/retention on the Union County Board of Commissioners are: Seat 1, currently held by Donna Jackson; Seat Three, open due to the retirement of long-time commissioner Jimmy Tallman and Seat Five, currently

held by incumbent Willie Croft. Jackson will be running for her first full term (she was appointed by Governor Ron Desantis earlier this year to finish the term after the resignation of Ryan Perez). Croft is a long-time commissioner. Both Jackson and Croft are running unopposed at this time.

The District Three seat on the Board of Commissioners has six candidates already filed. So far, all are running as Republicans, so the winner will be determined in the Primary. The candidates currently registered are: Chad Ali, Shelton Arnold, Melissa McNeal, Ed Rainey, Daniel Tomlinson and Martie Touchstone.

The same is true for the constitutional officers. At present, incumbent Clerk of Court and Comptroller Kellie Hendricks Rhoades is the only constitutional officer opposed in the upcoming election, by Ryan Perez. Both candidates are Republicans, so if nothing changes and no candidate(s) from another party or parties qualify to run, the winner of that race will be decided in the primary. Only if the additional candidates, if any, are from other parties, the resolution will have to wait until November. Other registered candidate for the county Constitutional Office (all incumbents): Property Appraiser Bruce Dukes, Sheriff Brad Whitehead, Superintendent of Schools Mike Ripplinger, Supervisor of Elections Deborah Osborne and Tax Collector Lisa Johnson.

Two seats on the Union County School Board are up for election/retention this year, currently with only the incumbents registered to run. If no opposition registers to run against them before the end of

qualifying they will keep their seats.

In all of the county races, registered candidates qualifying by the petition method must turn in their required signatures by 12 noon on May 13, 2024. Candidates qualifying to run by paying a percentage of the salary of the position they are seeking must file between noon on Monday, June 10 and noon on Friday, June 14, 2024. For those filing by petition the number required are: constitutional officers – 77; County Commission District 1 – 12; County Commission District 3 – 20; County Commission District 5 – 9. School Board District 2 – 12 and School Board District 4 – 24.

As things stand as of press time, it appears that the Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024 General Election could include only state and national races, including the one for president, but there is still a little more than a month before a candidate must qualify and Supervisor of Elections Debbie Osborne said that inquiries are still being made at the elections office about running for office.

"My staff and I are undated on election laws and regulations, fully trained and ready to assist county residents in exercising their constitution right to select their leaders," Osborne said. "Anyone with any questions about the election process in our county is more than welcome to call or come by the Elections Office for information."

The Union County Superintendent of Elections office is located at 175 W. Main St. in Lake Butler. The phone number is 386-496-2236. Online, up to date election information may be found at [www.unionflvotes.com](http://www.unionflvotes.com).

## Woman's Club takes on landscaping project

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Special to the Times

Lake Butler will soon be a prettier place when, through the joint efforts of the Lake Butler Woman's Club and the City of Lake Butler, the landscaping islands along Main St.

Monica Bayer spoke to the Lake Butler City Commission at its April 16, meeting to fill the board in on the project. She had already been in touch with City Manager Kimberly Hayes about the project, which was conceived by the Woman's Club last year. The islands were installed and planted as part of an FDOT project but due to factors such as lack of coordination in maintenance and care of the plants, as well as the plants chosen for the project, most plants died and the islands came to resemble a dried out pocket of wild land. The plants have since been removed by the city and nothing has been done with the islands.

Bayer told commissioners that the club had secured the services of Evergreen Landscape Design, working out of Greenhouse Nursery on Newberry Rd. in Gainesville. The crew did the

design, using drought resistant plants appropriate for this part of Florida. Bayer said that for the price of over \$3,000 to complete the project, but said that the club members thought it could be done for less. The Woman's Club pledged funds to pay for part of the project last year, but it did not get done. The funds are still there and the club plans to use them to buy the materials to do three of the four big islands. The Huggins family has pledged to finance a small island, as has Free State Realty. Sponsorship is still being sought for two large islands (cost: \$190) and one small island (cost: \$165). It is planned to place tasteful signs on each island recognizing the sponsor.

Bayer talked with Hayes, who was very enthusiastic about the project. Bayer outlined the cost saving members, including her husband, the Honorable (Ret.) Judge Bo Bayer, volunteering to drive to Gainesville to pick up the plants and club members helping to place and plant the plants. Hayes said the planting would have to wait until the first part of May, so the city's annual Beautification Month would

be over (as city workers are involved in some of the clean-up activities). It was agreed to start the first part of May. Bayer said that the city would have to handle the watering and Hayes said she would come up with a system to handle it, perhaps seeking help from the business owners near the islands. Hayes also said she would see about getting the city workers in on the project to assist the club. Commissioner Fred Sirmones said he would see to getting the signs made for the islands.

Bayer told the board that the islands would not be "flower beds with plants blooming all the time" but would rather be attractive landscaping that would improve the appearance of Main Street.

Families, individuals, organizations or businesses wishing to donate funds to sponsor an island can drop a check, made out to the City of Lake Butler, at city hall during business hours for the above mentioned amounts by May 1, 2024 so the appropriate number of plants and supplies can be ordered.

## Bids requested for Providence Fire Station

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Special to the Times

The Providence area may soon see the beginning of construction on its new fire station, but the project may have some problems.

The Union County Board of Commissioners recently put out a call for bids, advertising the project from March 21-28, with the pre-bid meeting set for the latter date. The deadline

for receiving bids will be April 23. However, the project would now cost between \$1.2 million and \$1.5 million to build. This means there is currently a shortfall between \$410,000 and \$710,000.

Plans call for a 6,000-square-foot building and associated fixtures and furnishings, as well as site development consisting of, but not limited to, grading, drainage, asphalt

pavement, concrete flat work, concrete curbing and sidewalks, underground utilities, a fire suppression well system, a potable well, stormwater retention, and final dressing and grassing.

Some of these items might be delayed, or the building could be smaller than originally planned, but some changes will have to be made.

Final fund shortage figures will not be known until the project's bids are received, so once again, it will be a wait-and-see scenario.



The National Technical Honor Society awarded (right) Brad Bishop and (left) Steven Djavaheri of Bradford County's NTHS chapter 5123 honorary memberships.

## College gets honor society chapter

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
[dan@bctelegraph.com](mailto:dan@bctelegraph.com)

The National Technical Honor Society awarded Brad Bishop and Steven Djavaheri of Bradford County's NTHS chapter 5123 honorary memberships.

The North Florida Technical College said in a news release that since 1984, over 1 million society members have been recognized for their efforts and aptitude in career and technical education.

"From celebrating the excellence shown in developing their skills to offering nearly \$300,000 in scholarships each year, the National Technical

Honor Society believes in empowering each NTHS member in their journey to develop the skills they will need to build a career they will love," the school said.

"North Florida Technical College is thrilled to join forces with the National Technical Honor Society to shine a spotlight on Career and Technical Education and celebrate the opportunity and triumphs embedded in career and technical courses," said Bishop, the college's director. "We know these types of programs have a profound impact on students and their future. We are excited to continue collaborating with local

and state leaders, businesses, and industry innovators. Together, we're sculpting a pathway for our students, equipping them with the latest technology and skills."

The school said career and technical courses allow students to gain skills and earn certifications in some of Florida's most critical and desirable industries.

"Unlike traditional higher education, CTE programs set individuals on a successful path in less time with less cost," the school said. "That means they can get into a career today without the worry of debt tomorrow."

### NOTICE

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The Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board is an advisory Board that oversees the provision of transportation services for older adults, persons with disabilities and persons with low income.

**These are volunteer positions. Applicants must be residents of Union County.**

Applications or additional information may be obtained by contacting: Lynn Franson, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653; phone 352.955.2200 x 110, email [godfrey@ncfrpc.org](mailto:godfrey@ncfrpc.org) or by visiting our website at [www.ncfrpc.org/TD/td.html](http://www.ncfrpc.org/TD/td.html)

**Applications must be received no later than June 1, 2024.**

### Union Historical Museum meeting

The special speaker for this month's meeting will be Jill Melcon of Preserving Precious Places. She is looking for the three oldest buildings in each Florida county. She will talk about how she goes about discovering these places and what the three oldest ones in Union County are.

Do you think you know which ones are the oldest? Come and discover which ones they are. The meeting is Tuesday, April 30, at 6:30 p.m. and will be held at the museum at 410 W. Main St. in Lake Butler.

# Crime

## Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

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

### Bradford

Ivan Dale Alexander, 20, of Brooker, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 14 for a probation violation.

Kimberly Buehler Baker, 60, of Hampton, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 15 for a probation violation.

Tyler Henry Beers, 32, of Hawthorne, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 18 for failure to appear.

Damien Dequen Butler, 47, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 15 for sexual assault.

Thomas Clifford Chambers, 58, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 17 for larceny and dealing in stolen property.

Lawrence Leon Cleesen, 28, of Maxville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 16 for failure to appear and withholding support.

Talissa Sharay Davis, 32, of Gainesville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 18 for burglary and larceny.

Nicholas Alexander Dibe, 32, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 13 for an out-of-county warrant.

Siddiquah Tene Flowers, 31, of Gainesville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 15 for probation violation.

Justin Connor Hofland, 31, of Hampton, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 14 for DUI.

David Thomas Ireland, 33, of Hampton, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 19 for battery.

Madison Kathleen Loftus, 22, of Lake Geneva, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 19 for possession of drugs and possession of drug equipment.

Litissa Christine Mason, 39, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 18 for an out-of-county warrant.

Dylan Seth Malachi Parker, 22, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 16 for a probation violation.

Kaitlyn Nicole Watkins, 28, of Gainesville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 19 for child neglect and possession of drugs.

Jamal James Williams, 23, of Jacksonville, was arrested by Lawtey police on April 13 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Derod Dewan Young, 33, of Tampa, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 19 for a probation violation.

### Union

Lauren Ashley Bradford, 34, of Lake City, was arrested by Union deputies on April 17 for a probation violation.

Jay Joseph Fournier, 23, of Wildwood, was arrested by Union deputies on April 16 for a probation violation.

Travis Aaron Green, 34, a Department of Corrections inmate, was arrested by Union deputies on April 21 for smuggling contraband into a prison.

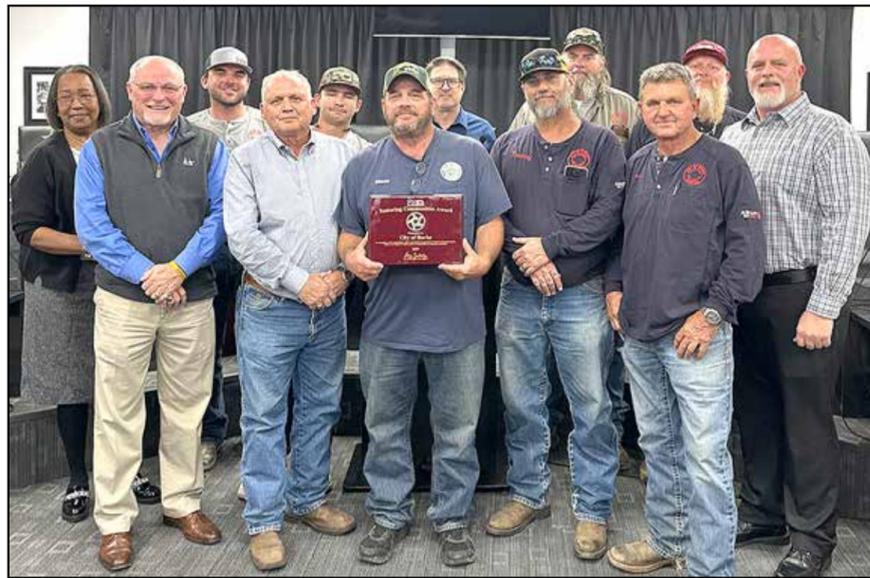
### Clay

Clinton Russell Helmer, 39, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on April 18 for fraudulent use of a credit card.

Travis Michael Hupp, 25, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on April 16 for contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Clarissa Ann Thomas, 30, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on April 18 for probation violations, possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana, and possession of a controlled substance without a prescription.

Gabrielle Evelyn Tomlinson, 23, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on April 18 for domestic battery by strangulation and simple domestic battery.



## Restoring Communities Award

Starke utility workers received recognition from the Florida Municipal Electric Association through the Restoring Communities Award for assisting outside electric utilities during the recovery from Hurricane Idalia last year. Pictured are (front, l-r) Mayor Scott Roberts, Commissioner Danny Nugent, Stevie Warren, Tommy Wheaton, Mike Howard, Commissioner Andy Redding, (back) Commissioner Janice Mortimer, Caden Brown, Drew Hildebran, Commissioner Shannon Smith, Bruce Sapp and Red Turner.

## Starke claims lower electric costs

The city of Starke ranks among the lowest utility rates in the state of Florida for 2023, per data provided by the Florida Municipal Electric Association. Starke Utilities, which is the oldest municipal utility in the state of Florida, remains comparatively lower than other utilities serving Bradford County. In a cost breakdown comparing residential electric rates in 2023, Starke was, on average, 18% lower than Florida Power and Light Company and 11% lower than Clay Electric Cooperative Inc.

A Starke residential customer in 2023 utilizing 1,000 kilowatt-hours saw an average electric bill, including the fuel adjustment, around \$115. Residential customers of FPL or Clay Electric using the same 1,000 kWh, would have received an electric bill totaling around \$140 or \$130, respectively. Additionally, among the 33 municipal utilities, Starke's rates were the fifth lowest electric rates in the state behind Quincy, Williston, Alachua and Winter Park.

"We know that's reassuring for Starke Utilities customers," said Starke City Manager Drew Mullins. "In 2023, when so many customers were facing inflation and rising costs in so many areas, they could count on their electric bill remaining not only competitive, but comparatively the lowest among their neighbors. This year, we anticipate the same stability thanks to action taken by Starke's wholesale power

supplier." Starke is a member of Florida Municipal Power Agency, a wholesale power agency owned by 33 municipalities across the state. Mullins serves on FMPA's Board of Directors and Executive Committee and takes an active role participating in agency meetings as a representative for Starke.

"Member cities, including Starke, benefit from FMPA's diverse power generation mix and the ability to weigh in on important matters facing the energy industry and Florida," said Mullins. "One of the key focuses for the agency and for the city of Starke is providing reliable and low-cost power to our customers. In comparing average rates across all of 2023, we can see that we are the most affordable option for power in Bradford County, even during the hottest summer months."

Keeping rates low for customers is accomplished through the purchase of wholesale power through FMPA, with generation sources including natural gas-fueled plants, coal, nuclear and solar.

"Starke has been a long-standing member of FMPA, with rates ranking consistently among the lowest of our members over the last 12 months," said Jacob Williams, general manager and CEO of FMPA. "Low-cost and reliable power is vital to the communities we serve, and as the oldest municipal utility in Florida, Starke has been providing an essential service

to its residents for decades. The success in Starke is a testament to our agency's mission to keep energy costs low and to pursue a realistic generation mix for present and future Floridians, even when facing tough market conditions or potential energy regulation."

Bradford County was selected as a site for two solar facilities in the Phase 3 expansion of FMPA's Florida Municipal Solar Project. The solar farms, expected to be operational in 2026, will contribute to the total 600 MW of power generated by the project for 20 participating municipalities, including Starke.

"We are a decision maker of an organization that provides power to 3 million people and beginning in 2025, all power for the Walt Disney World property. Through FMPA, the city can leverage the economy of scale for purchases of transformers, poles, and other equipment" said Mayor Scott Roberts.

With the approach of the summer months, customers can expect to use more energy cooling their homes, but Starke is not expected to raise rates. Tips for monitoring energy usage and paying utility bills can be found at [cityofstarke.org/utilities](http://cityofstarke.org/utilities).

*Editor's note: The information was drafted for the city of Starke by the Florida Municipal Power Agency. It does not include a comparison of commercial electric rates or a comparison of residential rates beyond 1,000 kilowatt-hours of usage.*

## No more warnings: Lawtey traffic cameras are live

BY MELISSA PYLE  
Special to the Telegraph

Cameras are now live and sending out warnings to anyone speeding in school zones in Lawtey.

On April 1, the city's RedSpeed USA traffic camera program began its trial phase. During this phase citations were sent out to anyone caught traveling more than 11 miles over the posted school zone speed limit.

Beginning May 1, the warning phase is over, and the program will be sending citations of \$100 to anyone violating the posted speeds during school zone hours.

Lawtey Police Department Maj. Nathan Blom stated there have been almost 3,700 violations so far for the month. Of those, only 1,112 were Florida residents, and they received a warning in the mail. Based on data received, Jacksonville and Lawtey residents are the top two offenders for speeding in the school zones.

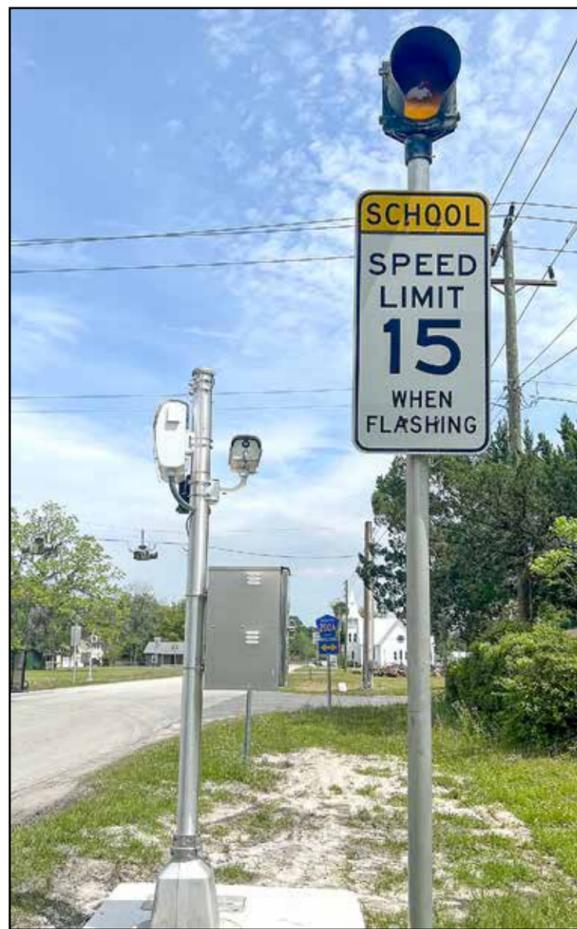
Blom said the cameras are only on during school hours and only being used to catch drivers during posted school zone times when they are expected to slow down. Drivers need to be aware of the flashing lights and signage to avoid speeding during these times.

The school zones are located on U.S. 301 and C.R. 225.

Lawtey receives 100% of the funds from the citations but must disburse the revenue as follows: 39% to Lawtey public safety, 23% to the state of Florida, 21% to RedSpeed USA, 12% to Bradford County School Board (for transportation, sidewalks and security), and 5% is to be used to hire school crossing guards.

According to RedSpeed USA, the Florida Legislature passed HB657 in 2023, which paved the way for local communities to introduce automated speed devices in school zones.

"Speed devices are unbiased and equal in their enforcement of traffic laws. They do not discriminate based on race, gender, or socioeconomic status — ensuring everyone is held



**Pay attention to flashing lights and posted speed limits or you may be having an unwanted photo op that comes with a \$100 price tag! A new camera has been installed nearby.**

accountable for their actions," the company stated in a press release.

"No student should feel that crossing the street is a life-threatening decision and RedSpeed USA is proud to partner with local governments to put safety measures in place that make our streets safer around schools," said Greg Parks, senior vice president with RedSpeed USA.

"Fast and reckless driving is an unacceptable, preventable risk to the safety of our school children,

and it is our responsibility to address the issue with reasonable solutions. This is why we partnered with RedSpeed USA and are live with the program around our local schools," said Lawtey Police Chief Jerry Feltner.

RedSpeed USA has won procurements in eight local jurisdictions in Florida, including Manatee and Miami-Dade counties, and the cities of Pinecrest, South Miami, Miami Gardens, Lawtey, High Springs and Palm Bay.

## More assessment information on the way

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
[mark@bctelegraph.com](mailto:mark@bctelegraph.com)

More information on potential new fees could be around the corner.

Bradford County reengaged a consultant last year to reexamine options for collecting special assessments to pay for Bradford County Fire Rescue's firefighting and emergency medical services.

According to County Manager Scott Kornegay, a recent meeting confirmed that the work was nearly complete. When it is, Kornegay said he would schedule the consultant to appear at the following county commission meeting.

A Feb. 15 resolution approved the method of collection on the county tax bills, but not the actual assessments. With a rate schedule prepared by the consultant, commissioners

will need to decide whether to continue moving forward and how much to collect.

Commissioners are turning to special assessments because even with a property tax rate of 10 mills, fire and EMS remain underfunded. If new assessments are approved, commissioners have a stated desire to reduce property taxes.

Bryant Miller Olive is the same firm that made the calculations in 2018-19. The assessment calculated to fund the fire department at the time was more than \$145 per residential dwelling unit. The consultant also looked at an assessment for emergency medical services, which came to more than \$160 per dwelling unit.

These were the maximum amounts the commission could have levied in 2019.

Commissioners could have adopted lower amounts as well, only partially closing the funding deficit.

The calculations were based on apportioning the cost of fire and EMS services by demand. Finding around 60% of the calls for service originating from residential addresses, 60% of the cost of funding the service was apportioned to those properties.

Commercial properties were not charged by building unit but by square foot — 23 cents per square foot for fire and 17 cents for EMS.

More information about the assessment rates is imminent, but nothing will be finalized until affected property owners are notified and a public hearing is held.



# RUSS WADE

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## Hinds hits walkoff homer in BHS win over UCHS

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Addyson Hinds hit a walkoff home run to give Bradford High School's softball team a 5-3 win over visiting Union County on April 18.

Hinds, who homered for the second straight game, had a full count with a runner on and one out when she drove a pitch over the fence in left field.

Rylie Blankenship pitched a complete game for the Tornadoes. She walked just one batter and allowed seven hits, with only two of those hits occurring in the final four innings.

The Tigers, who saw their six-game winning streak come to an end, took a 2-0 lead early.

Union had two outs and nobody on in the top of the first when Mackenzie Orton hit a single and advanced to second on an error. Shyla Crowe followed with another single, with Bradford again committing an error on the play. Orton scored to put the Tigers up 1-0.

Jaydin Alvarez hit a two-out double for the Tigers in the second, but the Tornadoes got out of the inning on a pop-up to shortstop Keegan Yowell.

Emma Handley led off Union's half of the third with a single. Orton later drew a one-out walk before Crowe hit a line drive that hit Blankenship. Handley scored on the play for a 2-0 Tigers lead. Crowe was put out trying to advance to second.

Blankenship was able to shake off the effects of getting hit and stay in the game. The next batter she faced hit a ground ball to Yowell for the inning's third out.

Bradford had had only one baserunner until the bottom of the third. Tinsley Higginbotham hit a leadoff single. Union pitcher Crowe struck out the next batter she faced, but Blankenship was then able to reach on a bunt single. The runners advanced on a passed ball before Amber Wynn brought both home with a single, tying it up at 2-2.

The Tornadoes were able to put one more runner on when Hinds walked, but a fly out to center fielder Alvarez got the Tigers out of the inning.

Bradford took the lead in the fourth. Kallie Yowell hit a leadoff double and moved to third on Madison Highland's sacrifice bunt. She then scored on a Higginbotham single.

Handley hit a double of her own to lead off the top of the fifth. She stole third and scored on Orton's sacrifice fly to make it a 3-3 game.

The only hit for either team after the top of the fifth was Hinds' homer.

Bradford began the bottom of the seventh with a fly out to Alvarez. Keegan Yowell, the second batter, worked the count full before taking ball four. Hinds then stepped to the plate. She fell behind in the count 1-2 but took two balls and fouled off two pitches before connecting on the game-winning hit.

Blankenship was the only Bradford batter with multiple hits, going 2 for 4.

Crowe and Handley went 2 for 3 and 2 for 4, respectively, for the Tigers.

The Tornadoes entered the game off a 16-11 win over host Interlachen on April 16.

Bradford trailed 3-1 before scoring six runs in the second. Kallie Yowell reached on an error, while Highland and Beggs singled and walked, respectively, to load the bases with one out.



Addyson Hinds is all smiles after hitting the game-winning home run in Bradford's 5-3 win over Union County.

Blankenship pitched a complete game for the Tornadoes. She walked just one batter and allowed seven hits, with only two of those hits occurring in the final four innings.

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with each batter driving in two runs.

Keegan Yowell finished with three RBI, while Beggs, Higginbotham and Sutton each had one.

## UCHS bounces back with win over Hornets

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Jaydin Alvarez and Shyla Crowe each drove in two runs, while pitcher Leanne Dicks struck out eight in the Union County High School softball team's 11-1, five-inning win over visiting Hawthorne on April 19.

Makenzie Radford hit a walkoff, run-scoring single to end the game early as the Tigers improved to 11-8.

Union scored all the runs it would need in a four-run first. With one on and two outs, Crowe hit an RBI single. After Campbell Webb was hit by a pitch, Brooke Hunt walked to load the bases. Mia Kent singled to drive in a run before Alvarez hit a double that scored two.

The Tigers led 7-1 before scoring four runs in the fifth. They had no one on with two outs when Jailyn Simmons singled. The Hornets committed two errors on the play, which allowed Simmons to circle the bases and score. Emma Handley then walked, followed by Dicks reaching on an error that scored Handley. Makenzie Orton hit an RBI single before Union loaded the bases, with Crowe walking and Webb hitting a single. Radford then delivered the run-scoring hit to enforce the mercy rule.

Handley and Dicks went 3 for 3 and 3 for 4, respectively, while Alvarez and Crowe each went 2 for 3.

Kent, Orton, Radford and Webb each finished with one RBI.

In the circle, Dicks allowed four hits and no walks.

Union played Chiefland this past Tuesday and will travel to play North Marion on Thursday, April 25, 6:30 p.m.

The Tigers will then play in the District 6-1A tournament. Matchups, dates and times weren't known by deadline.

## BHS falls 21-8 to 3A Baldwin

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School's softball team fell behind 13-0 in an eventual 21-8 loss to visiting Baldwin on April 22.

Baldwin (21-1), which is fourth in the Florida High School Athletic Association's Class 3A power poll, went up 2-0 in the first and then scored 11 runs in the second. Three runs came on three home runs, while the Indians also took advantage of four doubles, a single, a bases-loaded walk and an error.

Addyson Hinds hit a two-run single as part of a three-run third for the Tornadoes and finished with three RBI overall.

Keegan Yowell had two RBI, while Summer Sutton had one.

Rylie Blankenship went 2 for 3.

Bradford (7-14) played Suwannee this past Tuesday and will travel to play Branford on Thursday, April 25, at 7 p.m.

The Tornadoes then play in the District 3-3A tournament. Matchups, dates and times weren't known by deadline.



Rylie Blankenship (center) signs her letter of intent to play softball at Santa Fe College. Pictured to her right are stepfather and mother, Mark and Dana Bell, and to her right are her sister, Gracie, and father, Kevin Blankenship.

# BHS' Blankenship to play softball at Santa Fe

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School senior Rylie Blankenship signed a letter of intent to play softball at Santa Fe College during an April 19 ceremony in the BHS media center.

"I'm happy, obviously," Blankenship said. "I have been dreaming about this since I was a little girl. I've always wanted to do it. The relief of finding a college for me is amazing and getting to continue to play is really good."

She received an offer from Indian River State College and was also looking at schools such as Florida State College at Jacksonville and St. Johns River State College, but she fell in love with Santa Fe.

"I like the campus," Blankenship said. "I like how it's close to home. I can come home whenever I want to. It's not too far, but it's far enough so that I can live on my own."

"I know a lot of girls going there who are on my travel-ball teams. I already know my roommates."

"I just really love the coach, and the atmosphere's really good."

Through 21 games, Blankenship leads Bradford with a .521 batting average and a .580 on-base percentage. She also leads the team in runs scored (23) and walks (13).

As a freshman, she led the team with a .479 average, a .532 on-base percentage and 22 runs scored. She batted .456 as a sophomore, which was second on the team. She scored a team-high 29 runs and was second in

walks with 14.

Blankenship batted .462 as a junior, which was second on the team. She led the team with a .568 on-base percentage, 15 walks and 31 runs scored.

Bradford Head Coach Ashley Yowell would tell you those numbers are the result of giving 110-percent effort.

"Whether it's at practice, after practice, in travel ball — she just puts in so much work," Yowell said.

Several people at the signing ceremony talked of Blankenship's work ethic, including her volleyball coach, Chelsea LeMire.

"This girl has heart and drive and passion that all athletes should and need to have, but you don't find that everywhere now," LeMire said, adding, "She'll do whatever it takes to support her team and help lead them to victory."

BHS Assistant Softball Coach Kevin Blankenship, who is Rylie's father, said he came up with the acronym HEART four years ago, which stands for "hustle, effort, attitude, respect and teamwork." He said, "This is one thing that she has — HEART."

Rylie Blankenship has demonstrated HEART at multiple positions at BHS, playing in the outfield and infield. She also pitches.

Blankenship said Santa Fe recruited her to play left field, but she can see herself contributing at different positions.

"I might pitch. I don't know," she said, adding, "It doesn't matter. I just want to play."

When it comes to what she brings to a team as an outfielder,

Yowell said, "When a ball is hit to her, she's going to do whatever she has to do to stop it."

Yowell said Blankenship's success batting comes from being "very selective and very smart."

"She knows what she's looking for when she gets up there," Yowell said. "She has a purpose for her at-bats."

Blankenship said she'll have to continue to improve all facets of her batting — bunting, slapping and just putting the ball in play — as she prepares to play at the next level.

"Obviously, I'm going to face way better pitching at the collegiate level," she said.

Yowell, who played collegiately herself, knows Blankenship has adjustments and improvements to make, but she also said, "All in all, I think she's ready."

Blankenship said her goal is to play two years at a four-year school after two years at Santa Fe. Her high-school coach believes she'll get that chance.

"I think once teams see that drive, and they see that want to win and determination, no doubt somebody will try to get her," Yowell said.

Whatever happens, Blankenship will make her dream come true when she steps onto the field as a Santa Fe Saint. She admitted it'll be weird to put on something other than a BHS uniform, but she's ready for the opportunity.

"I think it's going to be good," Blankenship said. "It's going to be a change, but it's just somewhere I can play the game that I love."

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### Testimonial:

#### 1. Can you tell me why you love your job?

*I love my job as an Air Transportation Logistics Specialist in the Florida Air National Guard because it has afforded me the opportunity to learn many new skills, push myself mentally and physically, travel, meet many kinds of people who are now stationed around the world, and even allowed me to take on an instrumental role in instructing my fellow Airmen as a TCCC instructor for my unit. The comradery of the 202d RED HORSE is unparalleled; there is always someone helpful willing to lend a hand or give advice when needed. Our supervisors strive toward the goal of attaining every advancement available to their airmen. Leadership feels it important to ensure everyone gets not only the required training, but additional trainings the airmen desire as well.*

#### 2. Can you tell me what benefits from the Florida Air National Guard have helped you the most?

*The National Park Pass, as well as EDD, Education Dollars for Duty, are the programs I have utilized most since joining the Florida Air National Guard. The ability to employ EDD funds, which cover the full cost of tuition and fees for any public college in the state of Florida, gave me the opportunity to complete my Office Specialist Certificate as well as currently enroll in an AS Accounting program. Next fall semester I plan on transferring to a FL university complete a bachelor's degree, where EDD will continue to cover tuition and fees. While on TDY in Montana, we were allotted some time over the weekend and a group of us were able to visit Yellowstone National Park. It was breathtakingly beautiful, truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, which I would not have had if it weren't for joining the Florida Air National Guard.*

#### 3. Can you talk about some of the new skills you have learned in the Florida Air National Guard that have helped you in the civilian work force?

*Working in the Florida Air National Guard, I have developed numerous skills in the areas of inventory tracking, cargo palletization, C-17 load configurations, and even k-span construction. However, by far the most beneficial capability that has been of service to me in the civilian work force has to be the leadership skills I have gained. I would say I was somewhat effective as a leader before joining, but the Guard has given me a fresh perspective and my mentors in the unit have been remarkable in demonstrating better ways to lead my fellow Airmen.*



Respectfully,  
DAKOTA A. PULS, A1C  
Air Transportation Logistics Specialist  
202d RED HORSE | Camp Blanding, FL

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Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6

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## KHHS' Wiley is Sun's top soccer player

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School junior Aaron Wiley was named The Gainesville Sun's Boys Soccer Player of the Year.

Wiley, a forward, scored 37 goals, which ranked him first in Class 3A and second in all of Florida regardless of classification. He also ranked 22nd nationally.

He also recorded 12 assists and had 86 points, ranking him first in Class 3A, fourth in Florida and 31st nationally.

Wiley's teammate Jayden Park, a senior defender, was named to the Sun's All-Area first team.

Keystone junior Kiersten Shaw was a first-team pick on the Sun's All-Area Girls Soccer Team. She had 34 goals, which ranked her seventh in Class 3A and 22nd in Florida. She also had six assists and had 74 points on the season, ranking her ninth in 3A.

The Indians had one boys basketball player honored on the Sun's Big-School All-Area Team. Senior forward Garrison Teague averaged 8.5 points and 8.5 rebounds per game. He ranked 15th in Class 4A in rebounds and was 24th in double-doubles with six.

## 2 BHS girls hoops players honored by The Sun

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
cliff@bctelegraph.com

The Gainesville Sun released its Big-School All-Area Girls Basketball Team, with Bradford's Ar'Nayshia Griffin being a first-team selection.

Griffin, a sophomore forward, averaged 17.2 points per game, which ranked her sixth in Class 3A. She averaged 11.2 rebounds per game (fifth in 3A) and had 11 double-doubles (12th in 3A).

Bradford senior guard Jada Hankerson was named to the second team after averaging 13.8 points per game and 3.8 steals per game.

## Campbell hits grand slam in Indians' 12-3 win over Toros

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Tallon Campbell went 3 for 4 and hit an inside-the-park grand slam in the Keystone Heights

High School baseball team's 12-3 win over visiting Toco Creek on April 22.

Toco (17-5), which entered the game 10th in the Florida High School Athletic Association Class 6A power rankings and has since moved up to seventh, scored three runs in the top of the first and led 3-2 before Keystone (17-6) scored two runs in the fourth. Campbell, who had four RBI, hit a leadoff double, followed by a Ty Mitzel walk. Campbell would score on an error, while Mitzel scored on an Alex Addington sacrifice fly to put the Indians up 4-3.

Keystone, which is 19th in the Class 3A power poll, scored four runs in each of the next two innings.

A single and two errors loaded the bases in the fifth. Campbell stepped to the plate and fell behind 0-2 in the count. He then took two straight balls before hitting a line drive into center field that cleared the base paths and allowed him to come all the way around and score, too, making it an 8-3 game.

Austin Smith, Aiden Screen and Mitzel all walked to load the bases with two outs in the sixth. Andru Siemer and Addington both hit two-run singles to end the scoring.

Addington and Siemer each finished with three RBI, while Connor Guy went 2 for 2 with one RBI off a home run.

Starting pitcher Gage Barry allowed three runs (one earned), nine hits and two walks through 5.1 innings.

Mitzel pitched the remainder of the game, giving up no hits and no walks, while striking out three.

The Indians entered the game off a 2-1 win at Class 4A Santa Fe on April 18 in which Smith delivered what would be the game-winning hit.

Keystone went up 1-0 in the second when a Campbell ground out scored Smith, who reached when he was hit by a pitch.

Santa Fe took advantage of three hits to even the score in the fifth.

Guy hit a one-out single in the sixth. He advanced to second on a passed ball and to third on an Austin Musgrove ground out. A Smith single brought Guy home for the deciding run.

Smith's RBI single was just one of four hits the Indians had off Santa Fe's Caleb Kietzman.

Musgrove started on the mound for Keystone, giving up four hits and striking out six before Mitzel entered to face the final batter.

Keystone played Middleburg this past Tuesday and will host Clay on Thursday, April 25, at 7 p.m.

The Indians will then play in the District 4 tournament. Matchups, dates and times weren't known by deadline.

## BHS baseball team defeats Hamilton 8-4

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School's baseball team won its second straight game after a loss to Keystone on April 16, defeating visiting Hamilton County 8-4 on April 19.

The Tornadoes (9-11) trailed 3-2 before scoring four runs in the fifth. Mattox Burgin walked, followed by Denver Hudson hitting a single. Both scored on a Ryder Thompson single. After Blake Wynn walked, Jeffrey Brugh hit an RBI single with two outs. Ryland Rike walked to load the bases before Wynn scored on a passed ball.

Thompson, who had three RBI, drove in a run on a ground out in the sixth. A wild pitch allowed another run to score in the inning.

Brugh and Hudson each finished 2 for 4, with Brugh driving in one run.

Starting pitcher Cason Pilcher gave up three runs (two earned), three hits and no walks through five innings. He had 11 strikeouts.

Rike threw the final two innings, allowing one run, four hits and one walk, while striking out three.

The Tornadoes entered the game off a 6-0 win at P.K. Yonge on April 18.

Brugh pitched a complete game, giving up three hits.

Bradford scored four its runs in the third inning. Wynn singled, while Jaron Hale walked. Brugh hit a single, with an error on the play allowing a run to score.

After Luke Stucky walked to load the bases, Burgin hit a two-run single. Thompson drove in the final run with a two-out single.

Brugh, who went 2 for 4 with two RBI, hit a two-run double in the sixth.

Burgin finished with two RBI, while Thompson, who went 2 for 4, had one.

Wynn finished 2 for 3.

The Tornadoes played Union County this past Tuesday and will host Baldwin on Thursday, April 25, at 7 p.m.

Bradford will then play in the District 2-3A tournament. Matchups, dates and times weren't known by deadline.

## UCHS gives up 5 in 5th in 7-5 loss to Hornets

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Union County High School's baseball team held a 4-2 lead before giving up five runs in the fifth in a 7-5 loss at Lafayette on April 22.

The Tigers (11-12) went up 2-1 with a two-run second. Erick Lasseter drew a walk, while Ayden Androlevich was hit by

a pitch. Both scored on a Devin Diggs double, which was just one of three hits Union had for the game.

Lafayette (17-2), which entered the game third in the Florida High School Athletic Association's Class 1A power rankings and has since moved up to number two, evened the score in the fourth, but Union went back on top with a two-run fifth. Preston Bonsall and Kacen Thomassen both walked. Foster Smith hit an RBI single, while Jake Walker drove in another run on a sacrifice bunt.

The Hornets answered with five runs in the bottom of the fifth, scoring the first on a bases-loaded walk and then scoring the remaining runs on three consecutive singles.

Diggs led the Tigers with two RBI, while Smith, Walker and Trenton Klein each had one.

The Tigers, who are seventh in the 1A power rankings, entered the game off an 8-2 win over visiting Taylor County on April 16.

Union led 3-0 until scoring five runs in the fourth. A walk by Lasseter and singles from Riggs Davis and Androlevich loaded the bases. Diggs hit a two-run single, while Bonsall drove in a run on a ground out. Klein hit an RBI double and later scored on an error.

Diggs finished with two RBI, while Bonsall, Klein, Smith and Thomassen each had one.

Thomassen was the team's only batter with more than one hit, going 2 for 4.

Starting pitcher Androlevich allowed no runs, two hits and two walks, while striking out four through four innings.

Smith, Clayton Poppell and Diggs each pitched one inning with two strikeouts each.

The Tigers played Bradford this past Tuesday and will host Baker County on Thursday, April 25, at 7 p.m.

Union then plays in the District 6-1A tournament. Matchups, dates and times weren't known by deadline.

## Johnson has 7 RBI in 20-5 win for Indians

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Delia Johnson hit two home runs and drove in seven runs in the Keystone Heights High School softball team's 20-5, four-inning win over host Buchholz on April 19.

The Indians (11-9) trailed 3-2 after the first, but then scored six runs in each of the next three innings.

Ashley Nugent earned the win, giving up two runs, five hits and two walks in 3.1 innings. She had four strikeouts.

Johnson led off the top of the second with a double and tied the game at 3-3 when she scored on an error. Amber Wagner, with two on and one out, hit an RBI single to put Keystone up 4-3. Nugent

and Kadence Massey then hit back-to-back RBI singles to give the Indians a three-run lead.

Keystone wasn't done, though. After Buchholz recorded the second out in the second, Caitlin Frampton and Johnson hit consecutive run-scoring singles.

Riley Shuford led off the top of the third with a double and scored on a sacrifice fly by Wagner. That was the Indians' second out, but they still managed to push five more runs across. Keystone got four straight singles from Nugent, Massey, Abbie Roach and Nattalie Glinski, with Massey and Glinski each driving in one run. Johnson then hit a three-run homer to make it a 14-3 game.

The Indians had two on with one out in the top of the fourth when Nugent hit an RBI single. After Massey walked, Roach drove in a run on a ground out. Glinski reached on an error, which scored a run. Johnson then stepped to the plate and delivered her second three-run homer, putting the Indians ahead 20-3.

Johnson finished 4 for 4.

Massey, Nugent and Wagner each had two RBI, with Massey going 3 for 3 and Nugent going 3 for 4.

Frampton, Glinski and Roach each had one RBI.

The win capped a 2-1 week that began with a 3-1 loss to host Middleburg on April 16. Middleburg is first in the Florida High School Athletic Association Class 5A power rankings.

Keystone, ranked 19th in Class 3A, was held to four hits by Broncos pitcher Morgan Beckham, while Massey pitched a complete game for the Indians, allowing eight hits and one walk, while striking out nine.

The Indians scored first. Alaina Kinsall singled to lead off the top of the first and advanced to second on a Nugent ground out for the second out. Roach reached on an error, which allowed Kinsall to go to third. She scored on a Massey single.

Keystone would load the bases when Frampton walked, but a strikeout ended the inning.

Middleburg answered with two runs in the bottom of the first. Kerra Clarida singled and advanced on a passed ball and a sacrifice bunt. She scored on Alyssa Prather's sacrifice fly. The Broncos then got a single from Isabell Pifer and a double from Emma Ward, with Ward's hit scoring a run and putting the Broncos up 2-1.

The score remained unchanged until bottom of the sixth when Madisyn Strickland hit a solo homer.

Massey had two of her team's four hits in three at-bats.

On April 18, the Indians defeated host Pierson Taylor 4-1.

Keystone built a 2-0 lead on RBI singles from Nugent and Shuford.

After Taylor scored a run in the sixth, the Indians scored two in the seventh. Johnson hit a one-out triple and scored on a Lorelei Booth single. Wagner then hit a run-scoring double with two outs.

Nugent finished 2 for 4.

Frampton pitched a complete game, allowing four hits and two walks, while striking out nine.

The Indians played Baldwin this past Tuesday and hosted West Nassau on Wednesday, April 24, at 6:30 p.m. Keystone hosts University Christian on Thursday, April 25, at 6 p.m.

Keystone will play in the District 3-3A tournament next week. Matchups, dates and times weren't finalized by deadline.

## Bethea breaks her own UCHS record at Santa Fe track meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Union County High School's track and field teams established numerous personal records and season-best performances, including Amia Bethea breaking her own school record at an April 18 meet hosted by Santa Fe.

Bethea won the girls 100m with a time of 12.32, which bettered the school record she set earlier this season. She also ran a personal-record time of 25.55 to take second in the 200m.

Holly Halfacre placed third in the triple jump with a personal-record 31-7.25.

Two boys relay teams earned third-place finishes with season-best times. The 4x400m team of Blake McCoy, Brycen Boney, Bo Thomas and Deonte Jones had a time of 3:38, while the 4x800m team of McCoy, Thomas, Michael Hill and Gavin Smith had a time of 9:21.

The boys 4x100m relay team of McCoy, Dayquan Diston, Bobo Woodall and Thomas ran a seventh-place time of 47.79, which was also its best of the season.

Diston earned a ninth-place finish in the 200m with a time of 23.1.

Union had two 10th-place finishes in the boys events. Boney ran a PR of 54.41 in the 400m, while McCoy had a PR of 19-7.5 in the long jump.

Other boys results were: 100m — Jones 11.46 (PR), Woodall 11.58 (PR); 200m — Jones 23.46 (PR); 800m — Smith 2:24, Dane Johnson 2:30; 1600m — Smith 5:15 (PR); discus — C.J. Ivey 96-11.75 (PR), Matthew Rogers 89-9.5, Dillon Lane 77-6.25; and shot put — Jacob Jenkins 31-7.5, Lane 30-10.75 and Ivey 30-1.5.

The girls team also had the following results: 100m — Faith Sirmones 14.09 (PR), Halfacre 14.17 (PR); 200m — Sirmones 29.79 (PR), Daina Smith 34.53 (PR); 800m — Rachel Harris (of Lake Butler Middle School) 3:02; 1600m — Harris 6:39 (PR); long jump — Halfacre 13-11.25 (PR), Sirmones 11-11.25 (PR); discus — Briena Haight 57-9 (PR), Ja'Kari Hill 48-6 (PR); and shot put — Haight 24-10, Mari Williams 22-3 (PR).

# Classified Ads - 904-964-6305



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### Class Ads 4-25-24

### 40 Notices

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY. All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 in which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children

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

### 47 Commercial Property (Rent, Lease, Sale)

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

### 50 For Rent

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

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

ROOMS for rent. Apply in person at Magnolia Hotel, located on Walnut Street, Starke.

3BR/1BA-Starke. \$950/mo. \$950/security. Only 2 people 2BR/2BA 950/mo. 950/security. No pets in either. 904-263-9645.

### 53 A Yard Sales

MOVING SALE; Sat. 9am-? 22969 130th Terr. Raiford. Clothes, tools, kitchen items, toys.

### 54 Produce

YOU PICK BLUEBERRIES. \$4/ pound. We pick \$25 for 5lbs. 9-6 daily until gone. 1/4 mile east of Grandin on hwy 100 in west Putnam County. 386-336-0949 or 386-916-6173.

### 57 For Sale

SEARS Craftsman 3500 mower, 24hp. \$400. 850-322-2483.

### 65 Help Wanted

THE UNION County Board of County Commissioners is hiring for the position of Library Director. This position is Full-Time, 40 hours per week, and receives insurance, PTO, paid holidays, and State Retirement benefits through FRS. This position is responsible for the daily operations of the Union County Public Library. Must have minimum of 5 years experience

in the library field or related training. Must be able to work non-standard work week. Must be 18 years of age and have a minimum of a 2-year degree, bachelor's degree preferred. Must have a valid Florida Driver's License and be able to pass a pre-employment drug screen and background check. Please apply in-person at the Union County Library located at 250 SE 5th Ave, Lake Butler, FL 32054 between 9am-5pm, Mon-Fri. Union County is an equal opportunity and ADA compliant employer who gives Veterans Preference. Visit our website for the full job description at union-county-fl.gov/employment-opportunities/

### NOW HIRING

Experienced Bartender and experienced part-

time/fill in janitor. Apply in Person : Amvets Post 86 6685 Brooklyn Bay Rd, Keystone Heights, FL 32656

### NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS Southern Villas of Starke

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

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801 South Water Street Starke, FL 32091 904-964-4214 TDD/TTY 711 Accepting Applications! Rental Assistance! 1, 2, & 3 bedroom HC & Non-HC accessible apartments. \*This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.\* "Equal Housing Opportunity"

### Lake Butler Apartments 1, 2, 3 & 4

BEDROOM APARTMENTS HC & Non-HC accessible. 1005 SW 6th St. Lake Butler, FL 386-496-3141 TDD/TTY 711. Accepting Applications! Rental Assistance! \*This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.\* "Equal Housing Opportunity"

### HERITAGE VILLAS

Accepting Applications for 1 & 2 BR Apts 607 Bradford Court Starke, FL 32091 904-964-6216 TDD 771 This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider

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### Tri-County Classifieds

Bradford County **Telegraph** Lake Region **Monitor** UNION COUNTY **TIMES**

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# Legal Notices

Legals for the week of April 25, 2024

## BRADFORD

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that LEWIS CHAFF the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
Certificate Number: 708  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 02495-0-01100  
Case Number: 04-2024-TD-0004  
Description of Property:  
A parcel of land lying in the NE1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 21, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at an iron rod found at the Northeast corner of said NE1/4 of SE1/4 and run South 00 degrees 21 minutes 17 seconds West, along the Easterly boundary of said NE1/4 of SE1/4, a distance of 327.40 feet; thence North 89 degrees 18 minutes 36 seconds West, 782.97 feet to the Point of Beginning. From Point of Beginning thus described run South 01 degree 43 minutes 54 seconds West, 122.23 feet to an intersection with the Northerly boundary of the right of way of Harutha Drive; thence North 89 degrees 41 minutes 51 seconds West, along said Northerly boundary, 75.00 feet; thence North 01 degree 43 minutes 51 seconds East, 122.74 feet; thence South 89 degrees 18 minutes 36 seconds East, 74.99 feet to the Point of Beginning. Above described parcel also being known as Lot 11 of Harutha Heights, an unrecorded subdivision prepared by Joseph G. Knapp, P.S.M. Name in Which Assessed: [DELLA KING; ZIPPORAH KING  
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 07/10/2024, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida once  
BY: KANETRA JENKINS, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
DATED: April 1, 2024  
DATE OF PUBLICATION: APRIL 4, 2024; APRIL 11, 2024; APRIL 18, 2024; APRIL 25, 2024

4/4 4tchg 4/25-BCT

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that LEWIS CHAFF the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
Certificate Number: 751  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 02675-0-00000  
Case Number: 04-2024-TD-0005  
Description of Property: Commence at SW Corner of NW1/4 of SW1/4 run E 960 feet, North 430 feet for Pt. of Beginning; Thence East 100 feet, South 130 feet, West 100 feet, North 130 feet to Point of beginning, Section 22 Township 6 South, Range 22 East.  
Name in Which Assessed: LEROY THOMAS JR; LEON THOMAS  
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 07/10/2024, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: KANETRA JENKINS, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
DATED: April 1, 2024  
DATE OF PUBLICATION: APRIL 4, 2024; APRIL 11, 2024; APRIL 18, 2024; APRIL 25, 2024.

4/4 4tchg 4/25-BCT

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that LEWIS CHAFF the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
Certificate Number: 871  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 03304-0-00000  
Case Number: 04-2024-TD-0006  
Description of Property: Lot 4 of Block 8, Livingston Truby and Company Subdivision of Northwest Quarter of Northeast Quarter, Section 28,

Township 6 South, Range 22 East. Name in Which Assessed: VICKIE HOLMES CUMMINGS  
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 07/10/2024, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: KANETRA JENKINS, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
DATED: April 1, 2024  
DATE OF PUBLICATION: APRIL 4, 2024; APRIL 11, 2024; APRIL 18, 2024; APRIL 25, 2024

4/4 4tchg 4/25-BCT

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

CASE NO. 04-2023-CA-338  
CAPITAL CITY BANK,

v.  
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND/OR DEVEISEES OF DENNIS C. RHODEN, Deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND/OR DEVEISEES OF WAYNETTE S. RHODEN, Deceased; DENNIS C. RHODEN, JR. and LORI DENNETTE RHODEN, as surviving heirs of Dennis C. Rhoden, Deceased and Waynette S. Rhoden, Deceased; and JOHN DOE and JANE DOE (Unknown Tenants/Occupants), Defendants.

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Final Summary Judgment of foreclosure dated March 4, 2024, entered in Case No. 04-2023-CA-338 of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, in and for Bradford County, Florida, wherein Capital City Bank is the Plaintiff, and the Unknown Heirs and/or Devises of Dennis C. Rhoden, deceased; the Unknown Heirs and/or Devises of Waynette S. Rhoden, deceased; Dennis C. Rhoden, Jr., Lori Dennette Rhoden, Christopher Scott Rhoden and Corbett Brandon Rhoden, as surviving heirs of Dennis C. Rhoden, Deceased, and Waynette S. Rhoden, Deceased, are the Defendants. I will sell the property listed below to the highest and best bidder for cash at the **Bradford County Courthouse, 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091, at 11:00 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time) on the 25th day of April, 2024**, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

A parcel of land lying in Lots 55, 56, 57 and 58 of Woodlawn in Section 15, Township 5 South, Range 22 East, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 17 of the public records of Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being shown as Parcel 27 on a map prepared by Patrick B. Welch & Associates, Inc. and recorded in Misc. Map Book 1, Page 1 of the public records of said County, also being described as follows:  
Commence at an iron rod set at an intersection of the Southerly boundary of said Section 15 with the Southerly boundary of the right of way of County Road 125 (formerly State Road 125) and run North 89 degrees, 27 minutes and 23 seconds West, along the Southerly boundary of said Section 15, a distance of 458.01 feet to a set concrete monument; thence South 0 degrees, 32 minutes and 37 seconds West, 15.00 feet; thence North 86 degrees, 21 minutes and 33 seconds West, 492.32 feet to a set iron rod; thence North 89 degrees, 33 minutes and 20 seconds West, 803.02 feet to a set iron rod; thence North 00 degrees, 32 minutes and 37 seconds East, 341.58 feet to a set iron rod for the Point of Beginning. From Point of Beginning thus described run North 89 degrees, 27 minutes and 23 seconds West, parallel with last said Southerly boundary, 690.33 feet to the Westerly boundary of said Section 15 (also being the Easterly boundary of a parcel of land described in Deed Book 82, Page 119 of said public records); thence North 00 degrees, 47 minutes and 56 seconds East, along said Westerly boundary and along said Easterly boundary, 315.83 feet; thence South 89 degrees, 27 minutes and 23 seconds East, parallel with last said Southerly boundary, 688.92 feet to a set iron rod; thence South 00 degrees, 32 minutes and 37 seconds West, 315.82 feet to the Point of Beginning.  
Together With that certain Mobile Home situated thereon.  
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Amended Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.  
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Clerk's Office (904) 966-6280 within seven (7) working days of your receipt of this summons; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.  
DATED this 9th day of April, 2024.  
/s/ J. Marshall Conrad  
J. MARSHALL CONRAD  
(FBN 0015272)

mconrad@ausley.com; csullivan@ausley.com  
Ausley McMullen  
123 South Calhoun Street (32301)  
Post Office Box 391  
Tallahassee, Florida 32302  
Phone: 850-224-9115;  
Fax: 850-222-7560  
Attorneys for Plaintiff

4/18 2tchg 4/25-BCT

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

To satisfy the owner's storage lien, KO Storage LLC will sell at public lien sale on May 22, 2024. The personal property in the below-listed units, which may include but are not limited to: Household goods, boxes/totes/bags, clothing, bedding, tools and toys. The public sale of these items will begin at 10AM on May 15, 2024 and end at 2PM on May 22, 2024. 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) 314-7121  
Time: 02:00PM CST  
A16, Maddox, Carolyn, A34, Davis, Ronald, A54, Deavers, Joseph, A62, Brown, Johnnie, B31, Whiteley, Mylinda, B74, Jackson, Theresa  
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. For KO Storage LLC, 10301 Wayzata Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55305. (952)-314-7121.

4/18 2tchg 4/25-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROBATE DIVISION  
FILE NO.: 04-2024-CP-00053  
In re: THE ESTATE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON ROBERTS JR., also known as  
GEORGE W. ROBERTS JR., Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the estate of George Washington Roberts Jr., also known as George W. Roberts Jr., deceased, whose date of death was April 7, 2023, and whose Social Security Number is \*\*\*\*-\*\*-4220, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Bradford County Courthouse, 945 N Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091. The name and address of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE 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 SO FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE 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 the first publication of this Notice is April 18, 2024.  
Personal Representative:  
Charles Scott Roberts  
328 E. Mimosa Drive  
Starke, Florida 32091  
Attorneys for Personal Representative:  
TAYLOR ARRUBLA HARDWICK P. A.  
By /s/ Jennifer T. Arrubla  
James J. Taylor Jr.  
Florida Bar No. 334057  
Jennifer T. Arrubla  
Florida Bar No. 98804  
420 S. Lawrence Blvd.  
Keystone Heights, Florida 32656  
Primary Email: Jennifer@tah-law.com  
Secondary Email:  
Jim@tah-law.com  
Kim@tah-law.com  
352-473-8088 (telephone)  
352-473-8161 (facsimile)

4/18 2tchg 4/25-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROBATE DIVISION  
File No. 04-2024-CP-00040

IN RE: ESTATE OF RICHARD ALFRED LOVELESS Deceased.  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the estate of Richard Alfred Loveless, deceased, whose date of death was August 15, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is P.O. Drawer B, Starke, Florida 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal

4/18 2tchg 4/25-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROBATE DIVISION  
File No. 04-2024-CP-00040

IN RE: ESTATE OF RICHARD ALFRED LOVELESS Deceased.  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the estate of Richard Alfred Loveless, deceased, whose date of death was August 15, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is P.O. Drawer B, Starke, Florida 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal

4/18 4tchg 5/2-BCT

COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Bradford County Board of County Commissioners will have a board meeting on May 7, 2024, at 9:30

representative's attorney are set forth below.  
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.  
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.  
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.  
The date of first publication of this notice is April 18, 2024.  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
Rodolfo Suarez Jr. Esq., Attorney  
Florida Bar Number: 013201  
9100 South Dadeland Blvd, Suite 1620  
Miami, Florida 33156  
Telephone: 305-448-4244  
E-Mail: rudy@suarezlawyers.com  
Secondary E-Mail: eca@suarezlawyers.com  
Personal Representative:  
John Paul Lovelless  
86040 Clyde Street  
Yulee, Florida 32097

4/18 2tchg 4/25- BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NUMBER: 04-2024-CA-0122  
MILES NELSON CARTER, SR. AND CONNIE J. CARTER, Plaintiffs,  
VS.  
UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVEISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, AND ANY OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST CATHERINE JEFFERS COBB, deceased, and UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVEISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, AND ANY OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST ROBERT JEROME JEFFERS JR., deceased, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
TO ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED of the filing of a Complaint against you to quiet title to the following described property in Bradford County, Florida: Lot 43  
A parcel of land containing 1.00 acre, more or less, and lying in the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 12, Township 7 South, Range 21 East, Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows:  
The South 132.00 feet of the North 264.00 feet of the East 330.00 feet of the West 390.00 feet of said NW 1/4 of SW 1/4. Above described parcel being conveyed with a right of ingress, egress and utilities over the following described parcel.  
Commence at a concrete monument located at the Northwest corner of said NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 and run North 88 degrees, 16 minutes and 43 seconds East, along the Northerly boundary thereof, 30.0 feet to the centerline of an existing road for Point of Beginning  
(said road being 60 feet in width and lying 30.0 feet on each side of a centerline described as follows). From Point of Beginning thus described, run South 01 degree, 18 minutes and 18 seconds East, parallel with the Westerly boundary of said NW 1/4 of SW 1/4, a distance of 1297.29 feet; thence North 88 degrees, 36 minutes and 33 seconds East, parallel with the Southerly boundary of said NW 1/4 of SW 1/4, a distance of 317.82 feet; thence South 34 degrees, 03 minutes and 46 seconds East, 16.60 feet to the Northerly boundary of the right of way of County Road 227 (formerly State Road 227) and the end of said centerline.  
Bradford County Parcel Identification Number: 00880-0-00322  
You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on M. Aaron Dukes, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 328, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, on or before the 19th day of May, 2024, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either immediately before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.  
DATED this 8th day of April, 2024.  
DENNY THOMPSON  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk  
Published in: Bradford County Telegraph On (dates): April 11, 2024, April 18, 2024, April 25, 2024, May 2, 2024

4/18 4tchg 5/2-BCT

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 22-915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the addressee on record at the clerk's office.  
Instructions for Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a)(2). Notice of Action for Family Cases With Minor or Dependent Child(ren) (06/18)  
Warning: Rule 12.285, Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.  
DATED: April 2, 2024  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
KELLIE HENDRICKS RHOADES  
BY: C. Norman (Deputy Clerk)

4/11 4tchg 5/2-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE

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**UNION COUNTY TIMES**  
USPS 648-200  
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Lake Butler, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.  
**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: UNION COUNTY TIMES**  
131 W. Call Street • Starke, FL 32091  
uctimeseditor@gmail.com  
904-964-6305 • fax 904-964-8628

**John Miller, Publisher**

Subscription Rate in Trade Area  
\$52.00 per year.  
\$26.00 six months  
Outside Trade Area:  
\$52.00 per year.  
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Advertising: John R. Tillman  
Typesetting: Mary Goode  
Advertising & Newspaper Prod: C. Hurston  
Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts: Heather Wheeler  
Bookkeeping Asst: Mary Goode  
Front office Asst:

**Bradford County Telegraph**  
USPS 062-700  
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Starke, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.  
**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Bradford County Telegraph**  
131 West Call Street • Starke, Florida 32091  
Phone: 964-6305 • P.O. Drawer A • Starke, FL 32091

**John Miller, Publisher**

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

**Lake Region Monitor**  
USPS 114-170  
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Keystone Heights, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.  
**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Lake Region Monitor**  
P.O. Drawer A - Starke, FL 32091  
131 W. Call Street - Starke, FL 32091  
Phone: (904)964-6305 • Fax: (904)964-8628

**John Miller, Publisher**

Subscription Rate in Trade Area  
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Outside Trade Area:  
\$52.00 per year.  
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Sports Editor: Cliff Smelley  
Advertising: John R. Tillman  
Typesetting: Mary Goode  
Advertising & Newspaper Prod: C. Hurston  
Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts: Heather Wheeler  
Bookkeeping Asst: Mary Goode  
Front office Asst:

EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA  
GENERAL JURISDICTION  
DIVISION  
CASE NO. 23000059CAAXMX  
WINTRUST MORTGAGE, A DIVISION OF BARRINGTON BANK & TRUST COMPANY, N.A., Plaintiff,

vs.  
ANDREW GLEASON A/K/A ANDREW K. GLEASON AND KATHRYN GLEASON A/K/A KATHRYN C. GLEASON A/K/A KATHRYN COLLEEN GLEASON, et al.  
Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 12, 2024, and entered in 23000059CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the EIGHTH Judicial Circuit in and for Union County, Florida, wherein WINTRUST MORTGAGE, A DIVISION OF BARRINGTON BANK & TRUST COMPANY, N.A. is the Plaintiff and ANDREW GLEASON A/K/A ANDREW K. GLEASON; KATHRYN GLEASON A/K/A KATHRYN C. GLEASON A/K/A KATHRYN COLLEEN GLEASON are the Defendant(s). Kellie Hendricks Rhoades as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Front Lobby, Union County Courthouse 55 W. Main Street, Lake Butler, FL 32054, at 11:00 AM, on May 02, 2024, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: LOT 3, BLOCK B, PROVIDENCE VILLAGE PHASE 2, AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 17, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF UNION COUNTY, Florida.

Property Address: 4878 SOUTHWEST 84TH TERRACE, LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054  
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 45.031.  
Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.  
Kellie Hendricks Rhoades  
As Clerk of the Court  
By: Crystal Norman  
As Deputy Clerk  
IMPORTANT  
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a proceeding, you are entitled to be provided with certain assistance at no cost to you. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 East University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601 (352) 337-6237 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service.  
Publish In: THE UNION COUNTY TIMES via Bradford County Telegraph Submitted by: Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
6409 Congress Avenue, Suite 100, Boca Raton, FL 33487  
Telephone: 561-241-6901  
Fax: 561-997-6909

4/18 2tchg 4/25-UCT

Division:  
TIFFANY KERSEY, Petitioner and DENNIS KERSEY, Respondent

**NOTICE OF ACTION FOR TEMPORARY CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBER**  
TO: (name of Respondent) DENNIS KERSEY (Respondent's last known address) UNKNOWN (DUVAL COUNTY)  
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for (identify the type of case) TEMPORARY CUSTODY has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on (name of Petitioner) TIFFANY KERSEY, whose address is 16501 SE 71ST TRAIL, LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054, on or before (date) MAY 2, 2024 and file the original with the clerk of this Court at (clerk's address) UNION COUNTY CLERK OF COURT, 55 WEST MAIN STREET, ROOM 103, LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054 before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.  
If applicable, insert the legal description of real Property, a specific description of personal property, and the name of the county in Florida where the Property is located)

4/18 2tchg 4/25-UCT

COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING  
The Union County Board of County Commissioners will have a Special Meeting on Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM in the Board Meeting Room of the Union County Courthouse.

4/25 1tchg-UCT

PUBLIC NOTICE  
RULE NAME:

6.103\* Appointment or Employment Requirements  
PURPOSE AND EFFECT: To update Board Policies  
SUMMARY: To update Board Policies  
AUTHORITY: Florida Statutes  
LAW IMPLEMENTED:  
ECONOMIC IMPACT: None  
Policies can be viewed in the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, 55 SW Sixth Street, Lake Butler, Florida between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M.  
IF A HEARING IS REQUESTED WITHIN 28 DAYS OF THE POLICY POSTING LOCATED AT UNION. K12.FL.US THIS PUBLICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 120.54 FLORIDA STATUTES, IT WILL BE HELD ON MAY 28, 2024, IN THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING ROOM. A COMPLETE TEXT OF THIS PROPOSED RULE MAY BE VIEWED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, 55 S.W. 6th STREET, LAKE BUTLER, FLORIDA.

4/25 1tchg-UCT

# Obituaries

## Leo Bias

Leo "Buddy" Roy Bias, 86, passed away Friday, April 19, 2024, at Shands Hospital in Gainesville. He was born Dec. 22, 1937, in New Orleans, Louisiana to Donald Leo and Ruth (Phillips) Bias. He earned his degree in pipefitting from Delgado Community College in New Orleans, where he also retired as a pipefitter from the local shipyard. He was raised Catholic. He won numerous trophies from drag strip racing at Laplace Drag Strip in Laplace, Louisiana. He also enjoyed building and racing motorcycles and racecars. He lived and enjoyed his life traveling throughout Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Helen Denison and Eileen Barrios.

Survivors are two daughters, Yvonne Gonzalez and Tina Legendre. He was lovingly called "Grandpa Buddy" by grandchildren, Jeremy Antonio (Jaci Rae) Bias, Julian Ramon Martinez, Sotero Lazaro Gonzalez, Alina Camryn Gonzalez, Victoria Beasley, Monique Beasley, and Trinity Gervais; along with great-grandchildren, Adene Gonzalez, Alvin Banks James IV, Mila Martinez, Roena Martinez, Effie Bias, and Osee Bias; and six additional great-grandchildren.

There are no currently scheduled services.

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



PAID OBITUARY

## Vasco Godwin

Vasco "Shack" Godwin, 91, passed away on Sunday, April 21, 2024, at Haven Hospice in Lake City. He was born in Sanderson, on Jan. 24, 1933, to the late Wiley and Calley Brannen Godwin. He dedicated 35 years to Owens Illinois, later PCA, as a heavy equipment operator. He was known for his quiet personality and love for hunting and fishing. He loved the Lord, and on Easter of 1979 he joined the Lake Butler Church of God. He was later baptized on July 4 of that year in Dowling Lake. His commitment to his Savior, family, and work defined his legacy. He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Lori Ann Young; and eight siblings.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 71 years, Bertie Crews Godwin; sons, Stephen (Danell) Godwin and Fredrick Young; grandchildren, Allison Young, Phillip Young, Stephanie Godwin, Adam Young, and Marcus (Makayla) Godwin; a great-grandchild, Jaycee Young; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services to honor and celebrate his life were held at Archer-Milton Funeral Home in Lake Butler. A visitation took place on Tuesday, April 23. The funeral service was held on Wednesday, April 24. He was laid to rest immediately following the funeral service at Swift Creek/Mt. Zion Cemetery.

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



PAID OBITUARY

## Wanda Tyree

Wanda Tyree of Chiefland, born Aug. 16, 1939, in Brooker, sadly left us on Saturday, April 13, 2024. She enjoyed traveling, fishing, square dancing, and being with family and friends. She was a member of the Brooker Baptist Church. She touched the hearts of everyone she met and will be missed dearly. She was preceded in death by her husband, Artell (Pug) Tyree; daughter, Darlene (Kathy) Gordon; brothers, Lawerance and Donald; and sister, Margie.

She is survived by her daughters, Rhonda, Karen, and Cindy; son-in-law, Terry; sisters, Dee and Gladys; brother-in-law, Vernon; grandchildren, Kelly, Matt, Ryan, Michelle, Danielle, Tina, Sabrina, Taylor, and Tyler; and seven great-children.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Brooker Baptist Church on Saturday, May 11, at 11 a.m.



PAID OBITUARY

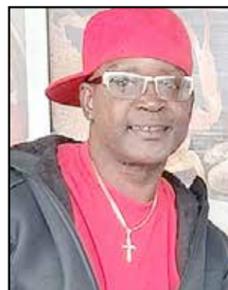
## Anthony Watson Sr.

Anthony M. Watson Sr., known to many as "Tony," passed away on Friday, April 12, 2024, at the Lake City Medical Center. He was born on Feb. 10, 1966, in Pompano. He was a beloved husband, father, son, and friend to many. In his professional life, he dedicated himself to his work as a supervisor for Lake City CARC. His commitment and hard work left a lasting impact on those around him. Outside of work, he was known for his outgoing and fun-loving personality, always ready to bring a smile to the faces of those he met. He had a wide range of interests and hobbies that brought him joy throughout his life. He thoroughly enjoyed fishing, indulged in his love for seafood, enjoyed the thrill of gambling with friends, and loved hustling within his community. Above all else, he valued time spent with his family. He was preceded in death by his father, Stonewall Watson; mother, Christine Love; son, Xavier Watson; and sister, Wanda Watson.

He leaves behind a legacy of love and laughter that will be carried on by his surviving family members. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer Overy Watson; children: Anthony Watson Jr., Latavia Watson, Cody (Sarah) Bias, Miranda Martin, Jataz Watson, and Davian Watson; as well as grandchildren, Alexis, Aubrey, Apryl, Julianna, Adrianna, and two more on the way. In addition to his immediate family members, he is also survived by siblings, Wallace "WOP" Miller, Michael Love, Brenda Watson, Cierra Dupree, Robert Dupree, Michelle, and Lisa; his in-laws, Ronald Overy, Marilyn and Billy Nettles; siblings-in-law, Patricia, Ronnie, and Katrina Overy; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins who will miss him dearly.

A visitation will be held on Friday, April 26, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home in Lake Butler from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. The funeral service will take place the following day, Saturday, April 27, at the funeral home at 11 a.m. He will be laid to rest immediately following the service at Dekle Cemetery.

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



PAID OBITUARY

## Isaac Cummings Sr.

Mr. Isaac Cummings Sr. peacefully answered the call of God and went to his heavenly home on Thursday, April 11, 2024. He was a man of Christian faith who you could often find in his favorite chair meditating, praying and reading his Bible for many hours. With a seventh-grade education, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he served his country. He was employed by The Haskell Construction Company, where he would retire as a Superintendent of Operations. Affectionately known as "Mr. Isaac," he was a hardworking and strong man whose deep faith in God bought him through 88 glorious years. He was often called upon by members of his community to fill many vacancies such as a master masonry, barber, farmer, washer/dryer and AC technician. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge where he was active for many years. Some of his hobbies included watching Westerns, riding motorcycles in his younger years. He was the family connoisseur of all homemade desserts. His son, Isaac Cummings Jr. preceded him in death.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Zephaniah Cummings; his children, Patricia (Robert) Moore, Cheryl (Donald) Sewell, Marian Hamilton, Dwayne (Sheila) Cummings, Beatrix Cummings, Christopher Cummings, Alexander (Rashaunda) Cummings, Timothy (Tanisha) Golden, and Cordell Strong; and grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

A celebration of life was held for on Saturday, April 20, at Pleasant Grove Community Church with Rev. Alvin Green as the eulogist.

With grateful hearts, we wish to express our deepest appreciation for your prayers, words of comfort, visits, phone calls, flowers, cards and all other expressions of kindness. The love and support you have shown helped to sustain us during this time of bereavement. We pray God's richest blessings upon each of you. ~The Cummings Family



PAID OBITUARY

## Janice Lott

Janice Lynn Lott, 69, of Greenville, South Carolina passed away Sunday, Oct. 22, 2023. She was born Nov. 11, 1953, in Flint, Michigan to Hank and Sammie (Henley) Lott. She graduated from Bradford High School in 1971 and retired from the Gainesville City Police Department. She enjoyed reading, gardening, stained glass and being around family and friends.

She is survived by her son, Wesley (Kelly) Wyckoff; brother, Donnie (Elaine) Lott; nephews and nieces; great-nephew and nieces; and many stepbrothers and stepsisters.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, May 4, at 11 a.m. at the Church of Hampton in Hampton with Pastor Kenny Marr officiating.

PAID OBITUARY



## William Shanley

William Edward "Bill" Shanley, 92, of Starke passed away Saturday, April 20, 2024, at HCA North Florida Hospital. He was born on April 2, 1932, in Gainesville to the late Edward Frank and Georgia (Allen) Shanley. Prior to retirement, he worked as a parts manager for National Airlines and Pan American. He was an Eagle Scout who enjoyed Gator football,



PAID OBITUARY

tubing the Ichetucknee River, talking to others and watching "Gunsmoke." He had an enormous love for his family and was a devout Christian. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his siblings, Jane Matthews and George Shanley.

Survivors are the "love of his life" and wife of 70 years, Glenda (Crosby) Shanley of Starke; children, Kathy Shanley of Starke, Marcia Sentmanat of Starke, Patricia Shanley of Palm Coast; grandchildren, Herb (Diana) Williams, Tony (Becky) DeLapaz, Tori (Wayne) Ivey, Amber (Jimbo) Blake, Christine Quigley, and Eric Elmadani. Also left are several nieces, nephews, and 19 great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, April 27, from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at the DeWitt C. Jones Chapel of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home. Funeral services will follow the fellowship time and begin at 2 p.m. Interment will follow in Crosby Lake Cemetery with Pastor Steve Conner officiating all services.

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

PAID OBITUARY

## Janice Young

Mrs. Janice Carolyn Young, 87, of Melrose passed away at her home Wednesday, April 17, 2024. She was born Sept. 3, 1936, in Gaffney, South Carolina to Teddy Roosevelt and Margaret (Huskey) Philbeck. She was a homemaker and enjoyed reading, and was a longtime member of Eliam Baptist Church where, when able, she would volunteer countless hours helping in the kitchen. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by husband of 50-plus years, Baxter Young Sr.; and their son, Baxter H. Young Jr.

Her survivors are three children, Lynn (David) Callaway of Knoxville, Tennessee, Sandra Florer of Starke, and Gary (Michelle) Young of Rockhill, South Carolina; along with a brother, Rev. Travis Norman Philbeck of Gaffney, South Carolina. She was lovingly called "Granny" by 12 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

The family received friends on Monday, April 22, at Eliam Baptist Church. Funeral services followed the visitation with Pastor Arthur Johnson officiating. Interment followed at Eliam Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Community Hospice in memory of Janice Young.

Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 340 E. Walker Drive, Keystone Heights, 32656. 352-473-3176. \_www.jonesgallagherfh.com.



PAID OBITUARY

## Dr. Benjamin Franklin Recognition Day Scholarship Fund Celebration



**Sunday  
April 28, 2024  
4 p.m.**

**Philadelphia Missionary  
Baptist Church**

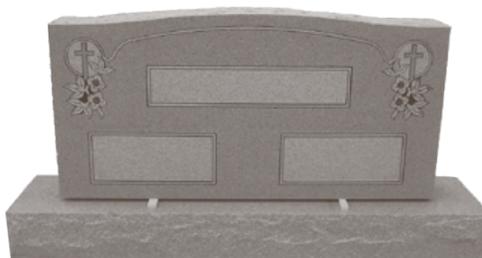
**1191 Middleburg Road  
Lawtey, Florida 32058**

**Rev. Charles Green, Pastor**

**Rev. James Houston  
Guest Speaker**

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## Card of Thanks

*I want to begin by giving praise to Jesus Christ for giving Clayton a longer life with his family and friends. Also a big thank you to the wonderful, caring and generous friends in this community and beyond for their prayers, donations and fund-raisers.*

*Thank you to all the donations and volunteers for a successful, delicious chicken and rice dinner. Words will never express the real feeling from such a tremendous amount of love that we have experienced.*

*Clayton is recovering, but it will be a struggle for some time. Please keep him in your prayers. I know in time that he will be Clayton again.*

*With Love,  
Sandra Norman*

# STATE

Continued from page 8

but Hill was officially awarded second place due to the weigh-in tiebreaker. Each lifter had a 605 total, finishing 35 pounds behind Bozeman's Evan Earnest.

In the Olympic event, Ulsch had a 505 total, finishing 40 pounds behind Hill, who was the

champion, and Earnest, who was the runner-up.

"I met the goals that I wanted to get," Ulsch said. He wanted to reach 500 pounds overall in Olympic and 600 overall in traditional.

Ulsch had a best snatch total of 205 and did 305 in the bench. He was 3 for 3 on his clean-and-jerk attempts with totals of 270, 285 and 300.

## Duncan, Goodman earn 4 total medals

Besides Jeffries, Ulsch and Van Zant, Duncan and Goodman also earned two medals each, with Duncan placing third in the unlimited class in the traditional event. Duncan's total of 505 left him trailing Blountstown's Artavious Jones by 35 pounds and Fort White's James Dimauro

by 5 pounds.

Duncan, who was fifth in the Olympic event with a 505 total, was 8 for 9 on the day, missing just one clean-and-jerk attempt. His best totals were 195 in the snatch, 310 in the clean and jerk and 350 in the bench.

Goodman earned two fifth-place finishes in the 219 class with a traditional total of 620 and an Olympic total of 520. He went 3 for 3 in the snatch with a best total of 225 and 3 for 3 in the bench with a best total of 325. He missed his first two clean-and-jerk attempts at 295 before successfully getting that total on his final attempt.

## Baxter makes most of 1st year

Last year, as a junior, Tyson Baxter was an exhibition lifter only. This year, he not only competed for points, but set a school record in the bench press and made his way to state, placing third in the 119 class in the traditional event.

Baxter had a 365 traditional total, which left him trailing Suwannee's Chris Gonzalez and Randy Garcia by 35 and 5 pounds, respectively. He had a 160 clean and jerk and a class-best 205 bench (tying his own school record). Baxter was unsuccessful on his final bench attempt of 210, which would have made him the runner-up if he had gotten it.

In Olympic, Baxter, who had a 155 snatch, finished with a ninth-place total of 275.

## 3 additional lifters earn medals

Keystone earned a total of nine medals in the traditional event. Joining Baxter, Duncan, Goodman, Jeffries, Ulsch and Van Zant with top-six finishes were Colton Hollingsworth, Jed Tisdale and Bryson Wester.

Hollingsworth and Tisdale placed fifth and sixth, respectively in the 129 class. Hollingsworth had a 425 total (200 clean and jerk, 225 bench), while Tisdale, who was 3 for 3 on his bench attempts, had a 415 total (205, 210).

Wester placed fourth in the 219 class with a 635 total (280,

355). He was 3 for 3 on his bench attempts.

Tisdale fell one spot shy of earning a medal in Olympic with a seventh-place total of 350. He went 3 for 3 on his snatch attempts with a best total of 145.

Wester had the 14th-best total in his class in the Olympic event. He had a 165 snatch to finish with a 445 overall total.

## Remaining totals

Davin Adams had a 405 total (175 snatch, 230 clean and jerk) to finished ninth in the 154 class in the Olympic event. He had a 235 bench to finish with a 12th-place total of 465 in the traditional event.

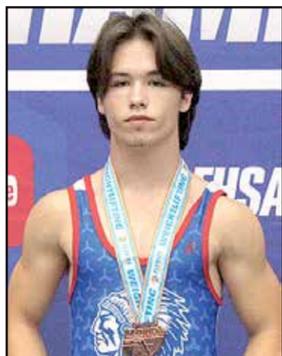
Declan Shine was ninth in the 139 class in the traditional even with a 440 total (205, 235). He also had a snatch of 145 for an Olympic total of 350 that placed him 12th.

Jackson Herman had a 10th-place total of 480 (215, 265) in the 238 class in the Olympic event.

Kyle Perkins was 12th in the 183 class in the Olympic event with a 415 total (175, 240).

Brayden Wester earned a pair of 14th-place finishes. He had a traditional total of 585 (260, 325) and, with a 175 snatch, an Olympic total of 435.

Brayden Hall was 17th in the 238 class in the traditional event with a 560 total (225, 335).



Tyson Baxter



Tyler Duncan



Jayden Goodman



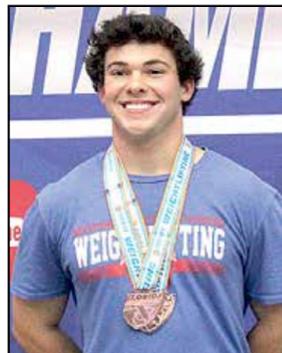
Colton Hollingsworth



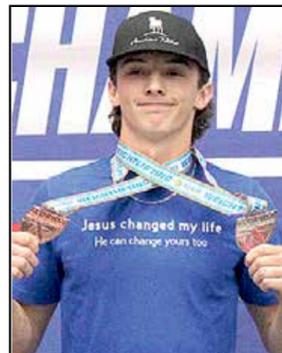
Trey Jeffries



Jed Tisdale



Ben Ulsch



Wyatt Van Zant



Bryson Wester

# NATIONAL DAY OF Prayer

**JOIN US**  
**Thursday, May 2, 2024**  
**11 AM - 1 PM**  
**& 5 - 7 PM**

THE TIME OF PRAYER WILL BE SELF-GUIDED WITH PRAYER PROMPTS FOR LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL LEVEL LEADERS AS WELL AS PRAYING FOR REVIVAL IN OUR COUNTRY.



DEACONS AND PASTORAL STAFF WILL BE ON-SITE TO PRAY FOR AND PROVIDE COUNSEL FOR ANYONE AS NEEDED.

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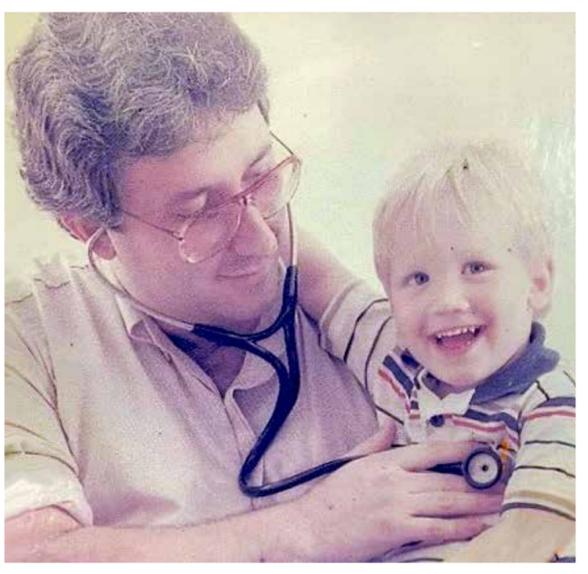


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