

Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, May 2, 2024

145th year, 42nd Issue — \$1

Love triangle reportedly sparked fatal stabbing

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
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Jealousy was at the root of a murder in Bradford County last week, according to arrest reports.

Emery Crews Jr., 41, was found in the HCA Florida's Starke Emergency around 4:51 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23, with a stab wound to the torso from which he later died.

Arrested for first-degree murder were the accused killer, Gary Alvin Weeks, 39, and the man who allegedly drove him to the murder scene, Thomas Borland, 41.

Joshua Ward, 34, Dianne Chamberlin, 68, and Stephanie Brunson, 41, were also arrested, and they were all charged with evidence tampering.

According to text messages deputies discovered on Borland's phone, Weeks told Borland he planned to kill both Crews and Brunson because Brunson and Weeks were romantically involved, and Weeks found out Crews was also in a sexual relationship with Brunson.



Weeks



Brunson



Borland

After Weeks informed Borland that he intended to kill his girlfriend and her new lover, Borland responded by texting: "Just don't tell them (we're)

coming." Chamberlin, Brunson, and Ward have been accused of cleaning the vehicle in which the victim was

stabbed and of discarding his bloody clothing.

Former Bradford County library director arrested

County manager to leave position open

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
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Bradford deputies arrested the former Director of the Bradford County Library for credit card fraud one day after the county manager fired him.

Robert Eugene Perone, 61, of Starke, was charged with grand theft and illegal use of a credit card. Detectives wrote in a sworn complaint that the former county employee stole over \$12,000 from a nonprofit organization that supports the library.

According to the complaint, members of the Friends of the Bradford Library Inc., a 501 (C)(3) nonprofit, reported that the organization's cash balances had dropped from \$17,000 in December 2022 to \$1,800 the following December. They added that Perone had the only ATM debit card issued by the nonprofit, and they suspected he had withdrawn the



Perone

money for unauthorized uses. "(A witness) had requested several times to obtain the bank statements of the Friends of the Library from

Perone, but he did not fulfill the request," wrote Detective Joseph Shiller in the complaint. "(The witness) was able to get copies of the statements and noticed several unauthorized ATM withdrawals from Capital City Bank between February 28, 2023, and March 3, 2024, of 48 transactions totaling \$10,630. There were also 4 unauthorized withdrawals from August 8, 2023, to August 27, 2023, for a total of \$1,315.96 from VyStar Credit Union."

Video surveillance from Capital City Bank showed the 61-year-old making a cash withdrawal using the ATM debit card owned by the nonprofit.

Detectives reported that County Manager Scott Kornegay allowed them to search the defendant's desk, where they found receipts from McHenry's Irish Pub and a cash withdrawal from Capital City, which matched transactions on the nonprofit's bank statements.

The officers wrote that they interviewed Perone about the

transactions, and he claimed he could not remember them. He admitted to accidentally paying a personal Comcast bill using a Friends of the Bradford Library Inc. ATM debit card.

Detectives concluded that the defendant stole \$12,843.12 from the nonprofit, which accepts tax-deductible contributions and uses the funds to support the library's mission.

Kornegay said he had no immediate plans to replace the former library director. Instead, Tricia Wylie, the director of the New River Public Library Cooperative, will take over Perone's duties in Starke while retaining her responsibilities with the co-op.

The co-op was created in 1996 by an interlocal agreement between Bradford, Baker, and Union counties to provide administrative support to its member libraries.

Kornegay said the county would save around \$80,000 a year, with Wylie assuming Perone's responsibilities.

Providence fire station is a budget buster for Union

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Special to the Times

Fears of a budget shortfall for the construction of the fire station in Providence became a reality at a special meeting of the Union County Board of Commissioners on April 29.

As reported in The Times a few weeks ago, at the pre-bid conference, the project engineer reported that, due to the rise in labor and materials costs, the county's appropriation for the project would likely be insufficient to cover the cost of construction. It was not until the bids were opened that this prediction became a reality.

There were six bids for the project. When the bids were opened last week, the lowest bid from Union Lasteel was \$1,547,500. This is about \$650,000 more than the money left from the appropriation after the engineering and design were completed (\$850,000 appropriation minus \$69,000 for engineering and design costs).

Phil Bishop, vice president and construction engineering director for North Florida Professional Services, the project engineers, told commissioners that the bids were "in line with other projects we have done recently as to labor and materials costs."

No Taj Mahal. No gingerbread.

Commissioner Donna Jackson asked about the project, saying she



was not on the board when the project was conceived or designed.

"Is this project a Taj Mahal or a plain functional building," she asked Bishop.

The VP replied that the project was "a functional building with no gingerbread."

Commissioner Jimmy Tallman said he could remember the county's last fire station project, the station at Lulu, cost only \$55,000 to build. Bishop and County Coordinator Jimmy Williams reminded him that this station was not simply a place to park trucks but was designed with three bays and living quarters to serve as a manned station.

It has been stated several times that the county is working toward manned stations that will allow quicker response times, helping to lower citizens' insurance rates.

Jackson said she was "shocked and

dismayed at the cost."

Williams told the board that the project needed to move forward and that it should do its due diligence and review the plans to see where cuts could be made or specific design features put on hold until a later phase of construction.

"We may need to do an addendum to the plans with the changes in place and then rebid the project," Williams said. He said the changes would not present a problem with the state's approval of the project, as the appropriation had been requested to meet minimum standards.

Possible cuts

Possible changes that could be made to the project to cut costs include reducing the amount of paved area. However, the entrance and exit areas of the property would require paving due to the requirements FDOT has for such access to roadways, reducing the size of the building (perhaps making it only two bays, with a third to be added later) and postponing the build-out of the living area until a later time (as the county is not yet ready to proceed with adding full-time paid firefighters to its staff).

Williams told the board that he was sure the money to complete the project as planned would be available, just not quickly enough to allow the entire project to proceed now.

In its reworking of the plans, he said

the board might consider setting up the project in phases and getting the station open and operational.

"We can get a number of small grants for specific things, like the generators," Williams said. I would like to see if we can come up with some in-kind work—having local businesses and individuals donate their time to help where they can. Bart Andrews has helped us in this way before. There are some things the county can do for itself through its staff. All this will cut costs, possibly a great deal."

We are going to make this work

Bishop said that the bidders should be notified that, at this time, all of the bids were rejected so they would not incur debts from the bonding necessary for their initial bidding requirements, and seemed sure that the bidders would bid on the revised project soon.

"We are going to make this work," Tallman said. "That is how we have always gotten things done in this county. We figure out what we need to do and then do it. The citizens of Providence have been waiting and needing this station for long enough. We need to make it work for them."



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WORTH NOTING

May Day ground breaking

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County and the RJE Alumni Association will host a groundbreaking ceremony for a new playground during a May Day Celebration on May 4. Beginning at 1 p.m. at the RJE ballfield, there will be plaiting 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.

Art Walk Friday

The Mossman Home Preservation Foundation presents the First Friday Art Walk on May 3, from 5-9 p.m. featuring The Florida Highwaymen, Black artists from the 1950s-1980s who traveled selling their paintings of Florida landscapes. The event welcomes original Florida Highwayman R.L. Lewis and two second generation artists, Dominique Tynes and Vernon Tynes Jr.

Mossman Hall is located at 301 S.R. 26 in Melrose. Complimentary wine and beer, plus music and food trucks. Donations gratefully accepted.

May Music Festival

Get excited for the Melrose May Faire and Music Festival this Saturday, May 4, from noon-8 p.m. The car show, kid's activities and petting zoo begin at noon and last until the May pole dancing at 4 p.m., Vendors and food trucks will be open from noon-8 p.m., while five bands take the stage at the Heritage Park gazebo! Face painting, cotton candy, tie-dyeing, Highland cow kissing, and so much more.

The events take place at Heritage Park and Mossman Hall, 301 S.R. 26 in Melrose.

Food distribution at True Vine

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Farm Share and True Vine Ministry will take Tuesday, May 14 and 28, at 10 a.m. at True Vine Outreach Ministry in Starke.

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

May sobriety checkpoints

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



BCSO progressing toward certification

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
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Bradford Sheriff Gordon Smith began his recent annual review for the county commission by announcing the sheriff's office has completed a level one review on the path toward certification by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation. Smith recognized Emergency Management Director Lt. Brad Witt and his staff for guiding the agency through the process. This was a first for the county, he said.

"Thanks to combined efforts of our sheriff's office Accreditation Committee, the Bradford County Sheriff's Office expects to receive our level one award at the next Florida Sheriffs Association Conference this summer," he said.

According to the Florida Sheriffs Association, "Accreditation encourages continual internal review to improve organization functions,

promote best practices, and increase community confidence in law enforcement. Achieving accredited status demonstrates that an agency has met established standards of high quality through an extensive self-study and external review."

"It's a big step we've worked on it for over a year at the direction of director Brad Witt has led this team ... making sure that our policies and procedures will meet the standards for this accreditation process," Smith said.

Full accreditation will involve additional work on physical standards as well as a full evaluation that all policies and procedures are in place and in practice.

The annual report put together by Zach Jones offers a look at last year's statistics, beginning with the \$8.1 million budget, which included \$6.56 million for personnel costs, \$1.35 million for

operating expenses and \$200,000 for capital outlay. The sheriff's office received nearly \$785,000 in grant funding and raised nearly \$539,000 by housing out-of-county inmates.

The report covers the office by division, noting more than 97,000 calls for service created by the communications division. This included creating nearly 36,000 computer-aided dispatch calls and entering tens of thousands of traffic stops and property checks.

Communications employees underwent additional professional training and certification renewals, and received in-service training on mental health awareness, communications etiquette and more. The center was audited with corrections made as required.

Calls for service to the patrol division were up by 8,000 compared to 2022, placing the total well above 42,000. Traffic stops were up to nearly 11,000, with 6,700 warnings given and 1,600 citations written. That was more than twice the citations written in 2022, although warnings and education still outnumber citations by a large margin. DUI arrests increased from 41 to 52, and vehicle crash reports rose from 377 to 581, a surprising number, according to Smith.

Patrol wrote nearly 1,800 offense or incident reports, including 115 theft reports, 107 burglary reports, 184 domestic battery reports and 91 fraud reports. Among those, theft was down, but burglary, domestic assault and fraud reports increased.

Criminal investigations totaled 404 cases in 2023. Drug investigations accounted for 139 cases, 78 were special victim investigations, 52 were property crimes and 32 involved financial crimes or fraud. The agency

arrested 133 suspects and had an 86.6% clearance rate.

The emergency management division's goals included increasing efficiency using technology, so they transitioned to an updated the special needs registry, implemented cloud-based damage assessment software and upgraded the emergency operations center software. Staff attended trainings and conferences, hosted a damage assessment drill for local and state partners and was involved in the planning an active assailant response exercise in coordination with the school district.

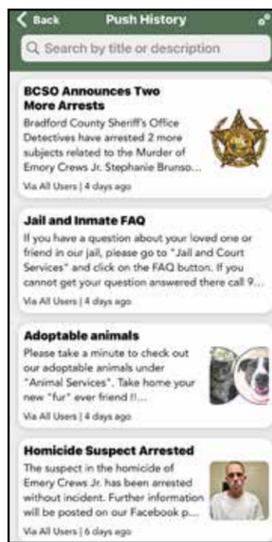
The jail housed an average of 177 inmates per day. The corrections division added a program coordinator position funded by the inmate welfare fund and other cost saving measures to assist inmates with supervised computer access to complete court classes, obtain a GED, take college level courses or access resources that will facilitate their reentry to the community. There are additional programs available for substance abuse or mental health, as well as program to assist probationers in satisfying requirements and avoiding violations that could get them sent back to jail.

Under a contract with a new vendor, inmate calls and video visits are up 37% at 18 cents and 20 cents per minute. The same company has provided tablets with free legal library and educational program access as well as low-cost entertainment and the ability for inmates to report if they feel threatened or violated.

The jail underwent two audits related to security standards, medical inspections and inmate safety, and it met or exceeded standards according to inspectors, with kudos for cleanliness and sanitation,



The home screen in the sheriff's office new app offers a variety of options for obtaining or submitting information.



Check the news tab or recent notifications to see the latest news from the sheriff's office in the new app.

attention to inmate needs, staff attitude and knowledge, and the implementation of technology.

For civil process, the office handled 438 records requests, 1,666 criminal background checks, 202 employment fingerprinting requests, and served nearly 2,800 court civil process papers. There were also 350 code enforcement investigations.

The report also highlights the work of the school protection unit, which includes school resource deputies as well as the volunteer school personnel who undergo training to serve as undercover guardians. It also details the Explorer youth program, the sheriff's volunteer posse, special divisions such as marine, SWAT and the aerial drone team, and requirements or opportunities for ongoing professional training and development.

In 2023, the sex offender unit launched a new operation to keep offenders away from activities where children are present such as sporting events and festivals. The judicial division implemented a security system to lock down the courthouse if there is an active assailant. Upgraded software allows security to pinpoint the location of a panic alarm activation in the courthouse and monitor the area via video feed while deputies respond.

Four inmate work crews labored more than 12,000 hours

while saving taxpayer dollars. Animal control implemented a citation program to enforce state law and promote responsible pet ownership. The division responded to more than 2,000 calls for service, took in more than 1,400 animals and worked 33 animal bite cases.

New app available now

New for 2024, Bradford County Sheriff's Office has released an application on mobile platforms to push emergency information to the public.

In addition to receiving notifications, the application allows users to easily locate or contact the sheriff's office, as well as submit tips via First Coast Crime Stoppers. You can learn more about the sheriff's office various divisions and explore a career in law enforcement. You can perform a search of current inmates and, via an interactive map, see photos, descriptions and addresses of registered sex offenders and predators who live near you. You can find out about animal services and search for a pet to adopt. You can commend a deputy or other agency employee for a job well done. There is even an in-app weather function that is adaptable to your current location.

To download the free application, search for Bradford County Sheriff's Office in your device's app store.

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Bradford graduate appointed to Disney oversight job

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
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The Central Florida Tourism Oversight District's board of supervisors appointed former Clay County Manager Stephanie Kopelousos as its administrator.

The Kingsley Lake native takes over the \$600,000-a-year job from Glenton Gilzean Jr., whom Gov. Ron DeSantis appointed as Orange County Supervisor of Elections after incumbent Bill Cowels retired.

Kopelousos's father, Gus, and her grandfather were proprietors of the Garden Restaurant, a Starke landmark for decades. Best known for the live pecan tree that grew within the building, that structure now houses Starke's Laredo Mexican Restaurant.



Former Clay County Manager Stephanie Kopelousos speaks to the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District board. The board appointed the 1988 Bradford High School graduate as the district's administrator, replacing Glenton Gilzean Jr., whom Gov. Ron DeSantis appointed as Orange County's Supervisor of Elections.

Congressional staffer, FDOT Secretary, Clay County Manager

After graduating from the University of Alabama in 1993, Kopelousos joined the staff of Congresswoman Tillie Fowler of Jacksonville.

The 1988 Bradford High

School graduate moved to state government in 2001, serving as Florida's Department of Transportation's primary

federal liaison in Washington. In December 2005, she was appointed the agency's chief of staff and served as interim

secretary from January 2007 until she was appointed secretary three months later.

Kopelousos served as Clay County manager from 2011 until 2018 when she became DeSantis's legislative liaison.

In June 2023, she moved from the governor's staff to his presidential campaign.

In her new job, the 54-year-old will oversee the district's 36-square-mile governmental operations, including law enforcement, fire rescue, road construction and maintenance, land use regulation, and environmental protection.

The oversight district's predecessor, the Reedy Creek Improvement District, was signed into law by Gov. Claude Kirk in 1968 to give Walt Disney World more autonomy over local governance. The district covers the theme park's land holdings and the cities of Lake Buena Vista and Bay Lake.

After the entertainment giant publicly opposed Florida's Parental Rights in Education Act in 2022, the Florida Legislature dissolved the Reedy Creek Improvement District and replaced it with the oversight board.

While the Walt Disney

Company appointed the board members of the Reedy Creek Improvement District, the oversight board is appointed by the governor.

Lawsuits settled

On the same day of Kopelousos' appointment, the Walt Disney Company and the oversight board announced a settlement of their state lawsuits.

During the last meeting of the Reedy Creek board, the panel enacted several development agreements that pre-empted the successor board from making certain changes in the district. The oversight board sued to annul the development agreements. Disney also sued the board in federal court, claiming that the legislature's action in dissolving Reedy Creek violated the corporation's constitutional right to free speech.

In the agreement, both parties dropped state litigation against one another, and Disney said it was pausing its federal lawsuit. Disney also agreed to void what the oversight board called a last-minute backroom deal, which kept policies enacted by Reedy Creek intact after the oversight board's takeover.

"We are pleased to put an end to all litigation pending in state court in Florida between Disney and the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District," Walt Disney World President Jeff Vahle said in a statement. "This agreement opens a new chapter of constructive engagement with the district's new leadership and serves the interests of all parties by enabling significant continued investment and the creation of thousands of direct and indirect jobs and economic opportunity in the State."

Bryan Griffin, the governor's communications director, said, "We are glad that Disney has dropped its lawsuits against the new Central Florida Tourism Oversight District and conceded that their last-minute development agreements are null, void, and unenforceable. No corporation should be its own government. Moving forward, we stand ready to work with Disney and the district to help promote economic growth, family-friendly tourism, and accountable government in Central Florida."

Planning underway for next water and sewer projects

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
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Progress is slow but steady on projects to improve Starke's water and sewer infrastructure.

The largest ongoing project is reconstruction at the city's wastewater plant. Justin deMello with Woodward and Curran recently told city commissioners the plant is 60% complete. The goal is completion by the end of the year, but a long lead time for ordering certain components may push completion into next year. Otherwise, things are going well.

"Everything is going swimmingly from an operational standpoint," deMello said. The engineer, contractor and city are working seamlessly together, he said, and staff project manager Chris Russell is handling all the moving parts of operations and construction.

Moving on to the wastewater collection system, phase one construction is underway. The contractor was slow to start, deMello said, so the project is slightly behind schedule. Financing the project also proved more challenging because

the construction bid was over budget. Multiple funding sources were required, so the project was split into multiple phases.

Next up for the project is the relocation of the Call Street lift station funded by a \$2 million grant.

The first phase of the collection system work should be complete by the middle of next year at the earliest, deMello said, but perhaps not until the end of the year.

The second phase of the collection system will repair lines in Saratoga Heights, the Andrews Street area and downtown. Currently in the design phase, deMello said they are looking for construction dollars so the work can begin this fall.

DeMello moved on to drinking water, saying Woodward and Curran is excited to be a part of the project to extend utility lines to serve future development at the Starke bypass as well as upgrade the city's water plants and storage. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has reviewed facility planning for these projects and approved. Engineers are now ready to move into design. As well as improved

water plants and new service lines, deMello said there will be a new water tower.

The commission will be hearing more about these projects in the coming months, he said.

Related to the replacement or rehabilitation of utility lines in the city, Commissioner Danny Nugent asked deMello if this could include the repair of historic Walnut and Cherry streets, which are constructed of brick but continue to deteriorate.

DeMello said they could look at acquiring dollars to repair aging infrastructure, with the understanding that the final project will have to be an improvement over the existing conditions.

This could be worked into a five-year community improvement plan that Woodward and Curran is currently drafting for the commission's consideration and approval. Once the plan is completed, the company's funding team will put together a fiscal solutions plan that could include grants and other funding opportunities.

"That way, you guys have a pathway towards achieving the goals. But the first step is, let's

get the problems on paper, and we'll work on funding," he said.

Commissioner Janice Mortimer asked about appealing for funds with plans to convert residents and businesses with access to new lines from septic to sewer. DeMello said that would be built into the third phase of the collection system project, potentially helping to cover the costs for connecting new customers to the system.

The community improvement plan covers five years, so many of the improvements will be years in the making. Just how long depends on how much the city takes on.

"We started with priorities with you guys, right? It was sewer plant, major components of your collection system," deMello said. "We're getting to that point on the sewer side where we've got so many trains rolling down the track from an emergency standpoint, now it's time to get to some of those nice-to-have projects. And that's the point we're getting to with this five-year planning, really starting to lay out those projects and when they're going to happen."

Red tape and regs strangle Hampton grant

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
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Hampton's City Clerk said the town is backing away from a state grant because of burdensome reporting requirements and excessive regulations.

Mary Lou Hildreth said she applied for and was eventually approved for a \$120,000 Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services energy conservation grant. The money was intended to install solar lighting at Bobby Sheppard Park and replace the air conditioning

and heating system, roof, and lighting at city hall.

The clerk complained that, throughout the application process, grant administrators were unresponsive to her questions and aggressive in disqualifying potential expenditures.

The clerk added that the grant was specifically targeted to fiscally challenged, smaller governments that do not have grant specialists to work through complex grant processes.

She said that grant administrators questioned or criticized Hampton's plans to meet the grant requirements at every turn. She added that she did not want the town to spend money on the upgrades and fail to receive reimbursement from the state.

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, Alicia 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 to register. Contact 12gibt.12gip@gmail.com or 904-364-0868 for more information.

Soil and water board meeting

The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District will meet at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday May, 7, at the Bradford County Extension Office. There will be a discussion of the Jan. 29, 2024, Google Earth images of the Chemours TRS Mine. Contact Paul Still at 904-368-0291 or email stillpe@aol.com for more information.

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 maddoxc@union.k12.fl.us.

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Lake Region

Keystone's next councilman says public safety is his top priority

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

Elston "Speedy" Kussler, scheduled to be sworn in as Keystone Heights's newest council member in May, said his top priority is keeping the public safe.

Kussler said he is particularly concerned about pedestrian crossings on South Lawrence Boulevard (State Road 21) with flashing lights.

"They've got the flashing lights on 21," he said. "People push the button, and it creates a false sense of security. You push the button, and cars still don't stop."

When asked about the city's proposed parks plan, part of which would move basketball courts from the city hall area to the municipality's western edge, the councilman-elect said the plan seems expensive and



Keystone Heights Council Member-Elect Elston "Speedy" Kussler participates in an April 19 Heritage Commission field trip to city hall for fourth-grade students.

that the city should focus on its waterfront.

Kussler added that he supports

the proposed fishing pier at Keystone Beach Park.

Road budget is up, but more is needed

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@BcTelegraph.com

Clay County Commissioner Betsy Condon said that even though the county's road improvement budget has increased by 55% since she took office, more funding is needed to keep county roads in their current condition.

Betsy Condon told a joint meeting of the Lake Region Sheriff's Net and the Chamber of Commerce's Lake Region Prosperity Partners at Keystone's First Baptist Church on April 25 that the county's road maintenance budget has increased from \$4.5 million to \$7 million. However, she added that an appropriation of \$11 million a year is needed to maintain county roads at their current levels.



Condon

The Crystal Lake resident added that 70% of the county's dirt roads lie within her western Clay County district, which covers Melrose, Keystone Heights, Clay Hill, Maxville, and Middleburg. Another 20% is in

Commissioner Kristen Burke's Lake Asbury-Green Cove Springs district.

Condon said the biggest obstacle to more funding for roads is political.

"It takes three votes to pass something (on the county commission)," Condon said. "Well, if we have 70% of the dirt roads, and almost all the rest of the dirt roads are in Commissioner Burke's district, we need a friend, right?" Because if we're going to improve anything on dirt roads, we need to find a third commissioner to come our way."

Condon pointed out that the remaining three commissioners represent suburban districts in Oakleaf, Orange Park, and Fleming Island, areas with few dirt roads.



Recycling Coordinator Jamie Wilkes (left) concludes his briefing to Clay County Commissioners on the state of recycling during the April 23 Board of County Commissioners meeting. Image from Board of County Commissioners video.

County: Pandemic killed recycling

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

The man in charge of recycling in Clay County said the jurisdiction's recycling volume dropped by one-half during the COVID-19 Pandemic and never recovered.

County Recycling Coordinator Jamie Wilkes told commissioners

during their April 23 meeting that the drop in volume, combined with a decline in value for recycled plastics, glass, and aluminum, leaves cardboard as the only economically viable material to be recycled.

Wilkes added that most recycled glass collected since the pandemic has been sent to landfills because it is not clean.

Currently, Waste Management collects cardboard, plastics, and metal cans at curbside once a week. However, on September 1, another provider will take over the county's solid waste contract. Commissioners have until then to decide on the county's recycling policy.

Crowd trained on stopping bleeding

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

An emergency preparedness manager at UF Health in Jacksonville trained a Lake Region group on how to stop bleeding for severely injured people.

Jennifer Silvey-Cason told a joint meeting of the Lake Region Sheriff's Net and the Chamber of Commerce's Lake Region Prosperity Partners at Keystone's First Baptist Church on April 25 that using a belt or a shoelace as a tourniquet to stop bleeding can do more harm than good.

Silvey-Cason recommended that residents purchase and keep with them a tourniquet in case of emergencies. She suggested the brand Cat Tourniquets.

"I don't get paid for advertisements," she told the crowd. "I have used tourniquets for years in real-world events, and I have a favorite that I like." The presenter added that the Velcro on the medical device distinguishes the brand from other tourniquets.

Silvey-Cason said that in the absence of a tourniquet, bystanders should use their hands to apply pressure to a bleeding area to allow the clotting process to begin.



Jennifer Silvey-Cason demonstrates the proper use of a tourniquet.

Homicides in Clay County this year? Zero

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

Clay County Sheriff Michelle Cook told a Keystone Heights meeting that the county has had no reported homicides for nearly the first four months of 2024. She told the same crowd that the number-one complaint her agency hears yearly is about traffic and speeding.

Cook told a joint meeting of the Lake Region Sheriff's Net and the Chamber of Commerce's Lake Region Prosperity Partners that they live in a safe community.

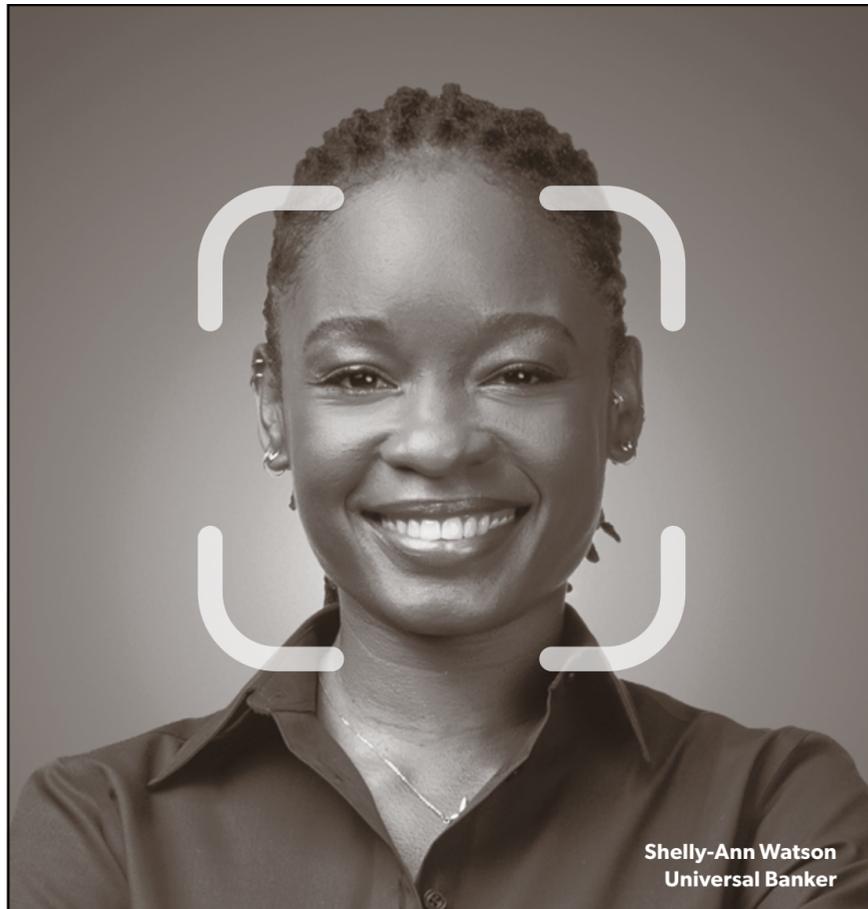
"If traffic is our number-one complaint and our crime is low, we really are a safe community," she said.

Cook also pointed out that one percent of her agency's arrests last year involved the use of force.

"If you think about 4,421 arrests, and one percent required the use of force," she said, "that tells us that our deputies have good communication skills, that they're good at de-escalating, and they're good at being patient and sort of talking their way through a call instead of quickly placing their hands on somebody."



(Left) Sheriff's Net Chair Debbie Beals and Clay County Sheriff Michelle Cook.



Shelly-Ann Watson
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Science Director Marvin Wilson welcomes kindergarten students.

Science Bus visits Brooker school

Brooker Community School had an “in-house” field trip when the Science Bus from Gainesville made a visit.

The Science Bus is a converted yellow school bus painted with a mural of Florida scenes. Inside, the seats have been replaced by cabinets running the length of the bus on each side. Demonstration items are placed on the counter-tops for the students to explore.

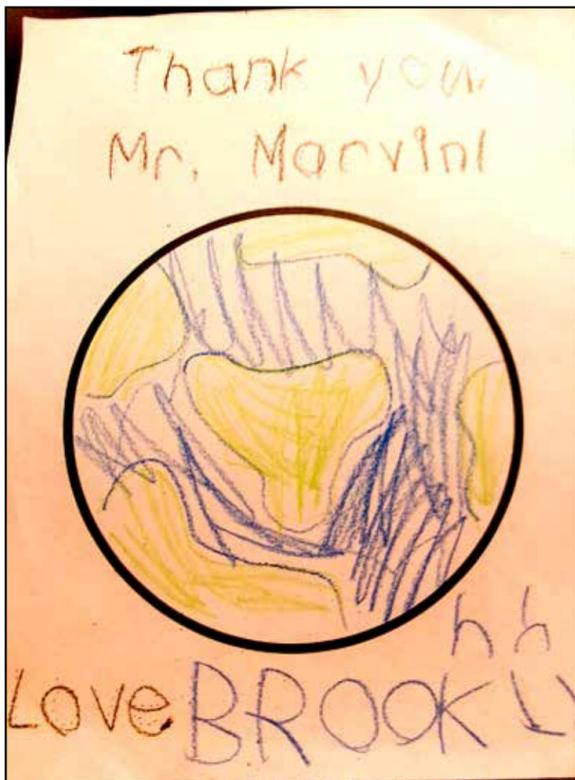
This is a hands-on experience, and students are encouraged to “touch everything.” With their reluctance set aside, the students readily explored the various exhibits. Science Director Marvin Wilson was impressed with the astute questions from the students. He even commented on how polite and engaged they were.

There is a dissecting microscope for a magnified view of scales on a butterfly wing. A pair of mirror glasses makes handwriting appear upside down. Other demonstration items made sounds or blew “smoke rings.” Coordinated by teacher Stephanie Nash, the students rotated through, grade by grade, to explore the various demonstration items until every student had visited the bus.

At the end of the tour, the students were each allowed to choose a book of interest for themselves. Some were books on various animals, rocks, trees or water. Some were human oriented, such as the book of different types of houses around the world. The NASA calendar was a favorite selection.

The Science Bus is a project of the Cultural Arts Coalition from Gainesville. The bus is part of their after-school science clubs and funded through city and county grants to visit local schools. Since this would be a cross county visit, it needed private funding. So, groups from both Bradford and Alachua counties contributed to the cost as an Earth Day gift.

The collaboration included local groups such as Bradford Environmental Forum and Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District. Regional groups included the Sierra



Student Brooklynn drew Earth on her thank you card.

Club and Our Santa Fe River. Individuals Carol Mosley and Michelle Marcotte each contributed their awards from submissions to the Writers Alliance of Gainesville.

Before heading back to the classroom, volunteer host for the day and plant pathologist Paul Still talked to the students about the health of the plants in their newly constructed garden. Teacher Ashley Shelton is organizing an after-school garden club on Wednesdays. Still is a member of Bradford’s Garden Club and the Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District and hopes to get other members involved to help the school’s garden club be successful.

As an after-visit reflection, the students wrote thank you letters to Wilson. Shaelyn put nine thank yous down the side of the folded card. Inside she says, “Thank you for showing

us cool stuff. You are so cool.” From Johanna, “Thank you Mr. Marven (sic) for... being kind and being here at the school and helping me.” Makenna writes, “My favorite part was ... Upside down goggles!” And she drew the upside-down goggles.

The older students were more detailed in their descriptions. Josie wrote, “I like how when you learn science you can learn a lot of new stuff like how electricity works or how to make stuff. So, science is really cool, and I love it.” Kevin especially liked the plasma ball and water tornado. He says, “You make me think that science is cooler than it sounds, and it really is.”

If the goal of the Science Bus was to pique an interest in the STEM subjects of science, technology, engineering and math, then mission accomplished. And it was a lot of fun.



Volunteer Paul Still talks about plant health in the new garden.

Kindergarten registration underway

Informational events planned

BY EVELYN CHASTAIN
Bradford County Schools

Now enrolling the Bradford Tornadoes Class of 2037! When you look down into the eyes of your four-year-old, it’s hard to picture that in thirteen quick years, you will be looking up into the eyes of your child on the threshold of stepping out on their own to college or career opportunities we cannot even imagine today.

Bradford County School District kindergarten registration is underway. To enter kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year a child must be 5 years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2024. There is no early admission provision for kindergarten enrollment.

Requirements for registration include a birth certificate; a school entry health exam performed within 12 months prior to the first day of school; a required immunization certification; and proof of residency, including rental agreement or mortgage documents plus a utility statement. A photo ID or driver’s license of the parent/guardian and the voluntary collection of the child’s Social Security card — which may be used for specific purposes including Medicaid eligibility and billing, scholarship applications, state assessments and driver’s licenses — round out the required

registration documents. More details are available at www.bradfordschools.org.

A student is not considered enrolled until all documents are submitted.

Not sure which school to enroll in? Visit www.bradfordschools.org for an interactive zoning map. Choose “Student Registration, Interactive Zoning Map” and type in your home address to learn which school.

Kindergarten events

Lawtey Elementary School, 904-966-6796, Tuesday, May 14, 5:30-7 p.m. Kindergarten Roundup will include a question-and-answer session with kindergarten teacher, curriculum resource teacher and administration, a classroom walkthrough and scheduling screener for new students. Kindergarten teachers will model a UFLI lesson for parents. Light casual food provided and located in the media center.

Starke Elementary School, 904-966-6049, Tuesday, May 14, 5:30-7 p.m. Kindergarten Roundup will include a question-and-answer session with kindergarten teacher, curriculum resource teacher and administration, a classroom walkthrough and scheduling screener for new students. Kindergarten teachers will model a UFLI lesson for parents. Light casual food provided and located in the media center.

Bradford Elementary School, 904-966-6063, Thursday, May 16, 5:30-7 p.m. Kindergarten Kickoff will include a question-and-answer session with kindergarten teacher, and a classroom walkthrough. Light casual food provided.

Free book and bag

Superintendent Will Hartley is delighted to provide early enrolling kindergarteners with a Tornado sport bag and new book for their home library. The books selected for this year are designed to support your child’s kindergarten entry. We hope parents will enjoy time being a reading role model for their child. After all, parents are the child’s first teacher. Take the sport bag and new book home and read it all summer long.

Kindergarten enrollment is digital, but help is available at each site. www.bradfordschools.org. Select “StudentRegistration” and then the category that applies to you. August 12 will be here before you know it. Learn more about your child’s first day and staggered start first days available at your school. Help your child arrive on time every day through graduation 2037!

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

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.

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

RV park moratorium extension passes second reading

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Special to the Times

At a special meeting of the Union County Board of County Commissioners on April 29, commissioners voted unanimously to approve, on second reading, an ordinance extending the moratorium on the acceptance and processing of applications for permits for travel trailer parks and campgrounds in the county for another year.

The subject of the moratorium has been a matter of much

discussion by the board for more than a year. Concerns are myriad, including the strain placed on county services (EMS, fire protection, and law enforcement), increased traffic in the adjacent areas, garbage and sanitation issues, the current lack of county code enforcement, and issues on the ad valorem taxes on the properties. The board has been exploring the matter and seeing how other counties handle the businesses. The main concern is reducing safety and quality of

life for county residents near the parks/campgrounds.

Grant contract, road improvements, landfill costs

In other actions and discussions at the special meeting:

The board approved a grant contract for Emergency Management that will provide

necessary maintenance and updates to the county's 911 system. The services are grant-funded and will incur no costs for the county.

County Coordinator Jimmy Williams told the board about improvements to CR-238N. Williams said he needed board approval to apply for the FDOT grant-funded project extension. He said the need and subsequent delays were caused by previously unknown problems that have made themselves apparent

during the construction process — leading to delays, design changes, and a budget shortfall caused by necessary (and often mandatory) design changes and amendments. The section involved runs from 111th Way to the connection with CR-229 and is sometimes known by its previous designation as G. Fred Andrews Rd. The board unanimously approved the request for a time extension for the project.

Commissioners also approved for the county to "piggyback"

on the New River Solid Waste Association's continued service agreement with Jones-Edmunds for the New River Landfill. County Attorney Russ Wade said such an arrangement was both legal and appropriate and was, in fact, a common practice in such situations. By "piggybacking" in NRSWA's agreement, the county will save money on its share of costs for the landfill.

Build a pond on your land

Union County Extension office teaches 25 about backyard lagoons

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Special to the Times

The Union County UF/IFAS extension office is about more than just 4-H and the fair. They offer programs for adults as well.

Last week, Union County Extension Agent Jim DeValerio brought in several agents from other counties and two University of Florida professors to offer the first of two workshops on the creation, care, and maintenance of ponds in our area.

The event was held at the Lake Butler Community Center. While people were coming in and getting settled, Tim Wilson, with the St. Johns County Extension Office, offered an opportunity for people to test their skills in identifying water plants. A hot dog dinner preceded the rest of the program, and then, approximately 25 attendees settled down to learn about ponds.

DeValerio started things out with some opening comments and the introduction of the other presenters: Cassidy Dossin Wilson of the Clay County Extension Office, Lizzie Whitehead of Bradford County IFAS, Dr. Stephen Enloe from UF's Agronomy Department and Dr. Ruth Francis-Floyd from the university's College of Veterinary Medicine.

The first topics to be presented were pond construction, fish stocking, and collecting water and plant samples by DeValerio, Dossin, and Whitehead.

Small, pie pans better than big, coffee cans

DeValerio pointed out that smaller ponds were better than larger ones. All three recommended ponds about the size of the average garden, with



Stephen F. Enloe, from the University of Florida Agronomy Dept. spoke about aquatic plants and their effects on the pond environment.



Union County UF/IFAS Agent Jim DeValerio opened the workshop with a talk about considerations in pond construction.

one-quarter to one acre being an ideal size range, being sure to leave access all around the perimeter.

They stressed that a pie-pan construction was preferable to a coffee-can construction, with a recommended depth of four to five feet during the wet season. The ratio of depth to surface area and being deep enough is key to ensuring the water carries enough oxygen. Vegetation around the perimeter is a barrier to excessive run-off, and the recommended slope for the sides is a one-inch drop every three feet.

Enloe then spoke about pond management, such as preventing nutrient run-off (e.g., fertilizer) from flowing into the pond, causes and solutions to fish kills, aquatic plant management, pond dyes, aerators, dealing with pond weeds, aquatic herbicides, algae control, and the variety of water plants that are considered undesirable.

Stocking your pond with fish

Dossin then talked about stocking ponds with fish. Why stock the pond? What kinds of fish? How many? How? Topics covered how to select fish, the type and number of those fish

you will need to stock, and what fish not to use to stock your pond. She stated that the easiest way was to stock a single species. Also provided in the packet given to all attendees was a list of local and regional sources for various fish types.

The last session in the program was a hands-on experience with live water plants led by Enloe. With samples of about 15 plants set in a tube of water on the back porch of the community center, attendees were invited to identify what plants they could and learn the names and growth habits of those they were not familiar with. Information was also provided to instruct pond owners on collecting water and plant samples for identification and testing.

The program was interesting and understandable, and the presenters worked hard to be helpful to current and future pond keepers. It was an informative evening for all.

If you missed the program, do not despair. Another one is planned for May 7, 2024, at the Lake Butler Community Center. Pre-registration is requested, and the \$5 fee may be paid at the door. To register, call the Union County Extension Office at (386) 496-2321, and you will be guaranteed a spot.

Union Road Dept. leader retires

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Special to the Times

On April 26, about 100 people gathered in the Agricultural Education Center's meeting room to celebrate the retirement of Shelton "Jr." Arnold, the superintendent of the Union County Road Department.

The event was held on the last day of Arnold's 34 years of service to the county. The entire road department staff (on their lunch breaks) was in attendance, as were four county commissioners, supervisors of most of the county's departments, former road department employees who had moved on or retired, and members of the community who wanted to give Arnold a big sendoff and wish him well.

First to speak, before giving the invocation, Union County Sheriff Brad Whitehead said he would miss Arnold's humor, patience, and dependability.

"Thanks for all the years you have supported the Sheriff's Office," Whitehead said. "It didn't matter if I called him at 3 a.m. with a problem, like a tree blocking a road; he always came out and took care of it."

Union County Supervisor of Elections Debbie Osborne and Tax Collector Lisa Johnson



Senior Union County Commissioner Jimmy Tallman presented Arnold with a plaque commemorating his 34 years of service to the county.

linked arms with Arnold and told everyone nearby that they had more than 100 years of combined service to the county.

Almost everyone there, especially the county commissioners, took a moment to make a personal comment to Arnold. The honoree was presented with a plaque commemorating his 34 years of service by Commissioner Jimmy Tallman and a custom-cut handsaw, with his initials and decorative artwork, by Christopher Griffis, the new department superintendent selected by the board.

Arnold was brief in his comments when presented with these tokens.

"I have enjoyed working here all these years," Arnold said. "I have had good people to work with and for. So many people have helped me over the years, and I want them to know I appreciate them. I am retiring because I feel as though it is the right time, and I plan to pursue other avenues to continue to serve the county and deal with some of the problems we have. But I will miss seeing people every day and helping them whenever I can."



The entire road department staff, as well as some past employees, showed up to help retiring Road Department Superintendent celebrate his retirement. Pictured are: (back, l-r) Benny Synder, Stephen Godwin, Catherine McRae, Alberto Bethea, Mike Jennings, Wayne Andrews, Charles Fodek, Jeffrey Foerman, Brian Griffis and Alexandra Sullivan; (front, l-r) Frederick Jackson, Christopher Griffis, Shelton Arnold and Fredrick Young.

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Crime

Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

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

Bradford

Brandon Scott Baylor, 25, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 24 for an out-of-county warrant.

Thomas Fred Borland, 42, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 25 for homicide and destroying evidence.

Stephanie Antoinette Brunson, 41, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 25 for a probation violation, destroying evidence, and resisting an officer.

James Kyle Carney, 32, of Gainesville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 21 for probation violations.

Dianne Sandra Chamberlin, 68, of Lawtey, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 24 for destroying evidence.

Leroy Jay Combs, 39, of Sanderson, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 23 for simply assault and trespassing.

Jaquez Lee Covington, 25, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 26 for possession of drug equipment, trespassing, resisting an officer,

and possession of cocaine.

Martin Gerard Croughin, 35, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 25 for aggravated battery.

Casey Lee Doss, 41, of Hampton, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 21 for battery.

Carl Lamor Foster, 59, of Macclenny, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 26 for withholding support.

Jeremy Pate Gasset, 51, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 26 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Seth Jordan Johnson, 23, of Starke, was arrested by FHP troopers on April 24 for DUI.

Keonda Michel'le Judson, 33, of Tallahassee, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 23 for perjury.

Richard Allen Lotzkar, 68, of Hawthorne, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 20 for indecent exposure.

Dennis Laroy Manning, 57, of Hampton, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 22 for loitering.

Colton James Martin, 27, of Granger, Iowa, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 24 for trespassing and resisting an officer.

Robert Eugene Perone, 62, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 26 for larceny, fraud-swindle, and illegal use of credit cards.

Matthew Tyler Russell, 31, of Macclenny, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 25 for

withholding support.

John Franklin Sanford, 56, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 25 for DUI.

Monica Denise Thomas, 37, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 24 for DUI and possession of drugs.

Joshua Allen Ward, 34, of Lawtey, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 24 for destroying evidence.

Gary Alvin Weeks, 39, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on April 24 for homicide and larceny.

Union

Jordan Ryan Ditullio, 18, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on April 25 for battery and criminal mischief with property damage.

Robert Thomas Kingsbury, 17, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on April 23 for fraud-impersonation and vehicle theft.

Russell Alvin Mason, 54, of Orlando, was arrested by Union deputies on April 24 for an out-of-county warrant.

Reginald Terrell Nelson, 45, of Raiford, was arrested by Union deputies on April 25 for a probation violation.

Dewayne Robert Stripping, 69, of Worthington Springs, was arrested by Union deputies on April 22 for battery on a person 65 years of age or older.

Clay

Li Chen, 32, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on April 24 for domestic battery.

Man apologizes after self-exposure

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com



Lotzkar

Bradford deputies arrested a 68-year-old Hawthorne man after he exposed himself to a server at a Starke barbecue restaurant, then apologized for what he claimed was an accident. Richard Alan Lotzkar was arrested for indecent exposure. According to an arrest report, a server at Blue Line Barbecue told deputies that she was working the counter when the defendant walked in, placed an order, and sat down at a table.

"Richard began taking pictures of (the server), making her feel uncomfortable," wrote reporting officer Paul King in the report. The officer added that, according to the victim, Lotzkar

stood up, revealing that his pants were down, exposing his sexual organs.

"(The server) stated that Richard stated, 'my bad,' and pulled his pants up," King wrote.

The deputy added that two witnesses in the restaurant corroborated the server's story, adding that when the defendant stood up, his pants fell to his ankles.

King wrote that the defendant claimed his pants accidentally fell from his waist because he had lost weight.

"During my contact with Richard, my pants never fell down," the lawman wrote. "While monitoring Richard on camera as I was completing the paperwork (while Lotzkar was in a jail holding cell), his pants never fell down."

Salvaged someone else's vehicle

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com



Thompson

A 43-year-old Starke man was sentenced to 18 months in prison after pleading to selling another person's car to a salvage yard.

Charles Clinton Thompson pleaded to dealing in stolen property. As part of a plea agreement, the state dropped an additional grand theft auto charge.

According to a complaint, after the victim's car broke down, the defendant had it towed to a salvage yard, signed a title cancellation request, and took \$417 as payment from the yard for the car.

Thompson told deputies the defendant gave the car to his grandfather, who then gifted the property to the defendant. Officers reported that Thompson produced a title to prove his ownership of the vehicle. However, the title did not have Thompson's name, and the document was not signed, signifying a title transfer.

The defendant's prior convictions include driving with a suspended or revoked license, burglary, grand theft, possession of burglary tools, sale of a controlled substance within 1,000 feet of a school or church, and possession of a controlled substance without a prescription.

Two more dead after police chase

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

A Gainesville television station reported that two more people have died from a Waldo crash resulting from a chase originating in Bradford County.

The Florida Highway Patrol said two people died after the car they were in crashed in the northern Alachua County town during a high-speed pursuit in the early morning hours of Saturday, April 20. The remaining two occupants were transported to an area hospital.

WCJB reported that according to City of Newberry officials, the remaining two occupants have died.

The station added that grief counselors were at Newberry High School last week and that all four of the boys in the vehicle were between the ages of 14 and 16.

Bradford County Sheriff Gordon Smith said a license plate reader detected the stolen Honda CR-V within the county, and deputies initiated a pursuit.

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.

FHP 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.

Arrested for stealing from former employer

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

Bradford deputies arrested a former worker for a Starke convenience store after the ex-employer said she stole cash from the store's safe and skimmed money from a bank deposit.

Talissa Sharay Davis, 31, of Starke, was arrested on April 19 for burglary and larceny. She pleaded not guilty to the charges.

According to a sworn complaint dated July 10, 2023, the store manager told deputies Davis resigned as a clerk on July 2. On that same day, her deposit from store sales was \$220 short.



Davis

According to the report, on July 9, a store surveillance video shows a person identified as Davis entering the store at 11:30 p.m., shortly after the business closed. The intruder attempted to disarm the store's alarm. However, Davis's access code had been deactivated when she quit. Starke Police Sgt. Frank Krol wrote that the ex-worker had refused to turn in her key to the business.

Krol reported that Davis is seen on the video taking a bank bag from under the cash register, removing \$230.82, and placing the bag into the safe before leaving.

Scammed by Dish Network imposter

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

A Starke woman said she fell for a scam that initially cost her \$199, and she wants to alert other residents of the ploy.

Rebecca Burkett said she and her husband received a call on their landline with a caller ID listing Dish Network as the caller. Her husband answered the phone, and the caller said that the provider needed to adjust their receiver because of satellite changes.

"Somebody took control of our TV set, and (my husband) started pushing buttons and doing what they told him," Burkett recalled. "And then he looked at me, and he said, 'They're going to charge me \$199 for what they just did.'" "It sounded legit," Burkett said. "It really did. And it said Dish Network on our telephone (caller ID). So, we did it. We gave them our credit card information."

Burkett said that the following day, Discover Card's fraud department called to confirm the transaction, and she told the company the charge was correct.

However, Burkett's husband later started having second thoughts, and Burkett called Dish Network about the call. The provider stated they did not call the family and added that if they charged her for additional services, they would have put the

charges on the next monthly bill instead of asking for credit card information.

Burkett said she then got back with Discover, which reversed the charge. She added that Dish Network is coming to her home to reverse any settings the caller may have put onto her receiver.

"If they fooled me," she said, "I think they could fool anyone. It sounded so legitimate."

Convicted on lesser charge of domestic battery

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

A Bradford County jury convicted a 33-year-old Starke man on two counts of domestic battery at the conclusion of an April 19 trial.

The state had been seeking a conviction on felony domestic battery by strangulation against David Thomas Ireland, in addition to a misdemeanor battery charge. However, the jury opted for the lesser and included misdemeanor of domestic battery instead of the felony.

According to a sworn complaint, the victim told Bradford deputies on September 2, 2023, that she and her estranged husband argued because he failed to pick up the couple's two children for the weekend. She added that during the argument, the defendant slapped her in the face, punched

her in the face, and choked her until she could not breathe and was rendered unconscious.

Judge James Colaw sentenced Ireland to one year in jail and one-year probation.



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Obituaries

Franklin D. Camp

Franklin Delano Camp, 89, passed away Monday, April 8, 2024, in Lawtey. He was born April 15, 1934, in Cottonwood, Alabama. He served 20 years in the United States Air Force, retiring on June 30, 1974. His assignments included, Larson AFB, Washington; Charleston, South Carolina; Itazuka, Japan; Brookley AFB, Alabama; McChord AFB, Washington; three years at Hickam AFB, Hawaii; and four years at JAG, Pentagon, Washington, D.C. He served in both Vietnam and Thailand, flying in and out of Vietnam, and taught English in school for one year to the children of Thailand. He was assigned to Auburn University as coordinator of the Pershing Rifle Team for four years. Later, he was assigned to Hamilton AFB, California before being reassigned to Havre AFB, where he retired and came to Florida. Later, he was hired at Union Correctional Institution as an assistant investigator before moving to Lawtey Correctional as an investigator. He also started a senior center in Starke, which was there for many years. He can be remembered for his love and caring for others. He helped so many in need. He loved his family dearly and was dearly loved by them also. He will be so missed, but he will still be with us always.

Survivors are his wife, Sonia; daughter, Deborah Luke (fiance, Billy Smith); son, Bryan (Dawn) Camp; grandchildren, Kindal Mobley, Christina Patrick (Eddie Cashmere), Keisha Hackney (Chris Taylor), and Shelby Brushingham; great-grandchildren, Corey Patrick, Austin Mobley, Dawson Hackney, Bryson Mobley, and Justin Cashmere; a niece, Linda Tatum, whom he was very close to; and many other loved nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, May 4, at 2:30 p.m. at Grace Methodist Church, 1822 Madison St. (State Road 225), Lawtey.

PAID OBITUARY



Emory Crews Jr.

Emory Lee "Buddy" Crews Jr., 41, of Orange Park, passed away on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at North Florida Regional Medical Center in Starke. He was born in Jacksonville on July 29, 1982, to his parents, Emory Lee Crews Sr. and Diana Lynn Gilkey. He was raised in Jacksonville, Middleburg, and Lawtey. After attending Bradford High School, he had a long career in welding and, more recently, has enjoyed his time as a cook. He liked cooking for others and especially loved grilling. He was an avid Florida Gator football fan and enjoyed fishing and being outdoors in the woods. More than anything, he loved his family and enjoyed playing outside with children and nephews. He was certainly a treasure and will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He was preceded in death by his stepmother, Katherine Crews.

He is survived by his parents, Emory Lee Crews Sr. and Diana Lynn Gilkey, both of West Virginia; children, Luke Feagin and Ashton Fowler, both of Lake City, Brittany Crews of South Carolina, and Brileigh Crews of Orange Park; sisters, Deanna (Derrick) Barnes of West Virginia, and Christina (Michael) Addis and Jessica (Chris Blair) Crews, both of Lake City; nephews, Kamran and Eli Jones, and Derrick Barnes Jr.; along with several extended family members and friends.

A Celebration of Life was held on Monday, April 29, at Ferreira Funeral Services Chapel. The family received friends at the funeral home prior to the service. A private interment was held at Macedonian Cemetery in Macclenny. Arrangements were under the care and direction of Ferreira Funeral Services, 458 S. Marion Ave., Lake City 32025, 386-752-1234. Visit www.ferreirafuneralservices.com and sign the family's guest book.

PAID OBITUARY



Hyta Campbell

Mrs. Hyta Gayle Campbell, 68, died Friday, April 26, 2024, at her home. She preceded in death by her parents; her daughter, Amy Michelle Thomas; and two siblings, Frank Johnson and Lama Johnson.

Survivors are her children, Clint Thomas and Tessa Thomas; six grandchildren; a brother, Vance "Seaboard" (Sharon) Johnson; and sister, Ruby Easterling.

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

Jannie Christmas

On the morning of Sunday, April 21, 2024, Jannie Sue Christmas passed away peacefully due to natural causes at Riverwood Nursing Home in Starke. She was 75 years old.

She is survived by her four sons, Stanley (LeeAnn) Hamilton, William Hamilton, Charles (Lynda) Hamilton, and Ronnie Crosby; a sister, Mary Parker; along with several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews and many friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, June 15. Details will be announced at a later date.

PAID OBITUARY



Idolia Edwards

Idolia June Edwards, 84, passed away on Friday, April 26, 2024, surrounded by her family at her home in Starke. Born on April 9, 1940, and a lifelong resident of Bradford County, her journey through life was marked by grace, kindness, and an unwavering dedication to caring for others. For over two decades, she immersed herself in the world of childcare, dedicating her time and energy to nurturing and shaping the young minds under her care. Her career in a daycare was not just a job; it was a testament to her boundless love and patience, traits that defined her not only professionally, but personally as well. Described as mellow, even-tempered, sweet, and kind, her gentle spirit left an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of knowing her. Beyond her work, she found joy in simple pleasures like cooking and preserving vegetables. She was also an active member of Grace United Methodist Church. She was preceded in death by her parents, Maxie and Lois Tanner; her husband, Tommy Edwards; son, Robert Edwards; brother, Randall Box; and grandson, Tim Edwards.

June's legacy extends to her surviving family members. Her children, Larry (Kathy) Edwards of Hawthorne, Lionel (Lynn) Edwards of Virginia Beach, Virginia, and Alicia (John) Padgett of Starke; grandchildren, Matt Edwards, Andrew Edwards, Curtis Edwards, Christopher Edwards, Joshua Edwards, Collie Padgett, Masey Padgett, Kelsey Padgett, and Zack Melton; 17 great-grandchildren; a daughter-in-law, Kim Edwards; and numerous nieces and nephews.

To honor June, a visitation was held Tuesday, April 30, and a funeral service on Wednesday, May 1. Both services were held at Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler. June was laid to rest immediately following the funeral service next to her husband at Long Branch Cemetery. Services were officiated by Pastor Don Thompson.

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

PAID OBITUARY



Wendell Davis

Wendell R Davis, 81, of Hampton, passed away on Monday, April 22, 2024, at HCA Florida North Florida Hospital in Gainesville. He was born in Sylvester, Georgia on March 28, 1943, to the late George Alvin Davis and Jeanette Davis. He was born in Worth County and raised in Gainesville. He met the love of his life and forever companion, Phyllis Davis, while working at a service station, which she lived across the street from. It was love at first sight, and 11 months later they were married on Dec. 15, 1963. Wendell worked as a mechanic for 22 years and then went to work at Sawyer Gas in Lake Butler for 25 years, where he retired as manager. The Lord saved him in 1991 at the First Baptist Church of Lawtey under the ministry of Brother Dean McNeese. From there, he faithfully served the Lord at Bible Baptist Church in Starke under Brother Roger Worten. He loved his pastor and church family. In his spare time he enjoyed being with his family, fishing, cooking, baking, watching Gator games, spending time outside, and serving with his church family. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He loved his family with all his heart and faithfully prayed for them. He was the kindest man and made an impact on many people. He was preceded in death by his parents; and twin brother, Glendall Davis.

He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Phyllis Davis of Hampton; children, Donald (Vella) Davis, Sherry (Larry) Turbyfield, Marty (Kim) Davis, and Melissa (Gary) McDonald; grandchildren, Katherine (Patrick) Martin, Kimberly (Caleb) Williams, Jessica Smiley, Justin (Lindsay) Davis, Elizabeth (Michael) Cabrera, Hannah McDonald, Grace McDonald, and Nehemiah McDonald; great-grandchildren, Brayden, Austin, Tyson, Branson, Cameron, Jackson, Justus, Jillian, Lucy, Weston, Elijah, and Levi; sisters, Jean (Gary) Mills and Janice Noegel; brothers, Bobby (Deloris) Davis and Jerry (Elaine) Davis; along with numerous nieces and nephews. We will all miss him greatly.

PAID OBITUARY



Bobbie Ellis

Bobbie Ellis, 69, passed away at North Florida Regional Hospital in Gainesville on Sunday, April 21, 2024, due to complications from surgery. She was born in Lake City on Nov. 25, 1954 to the late John T. and Montine Thomas. She attended and graduated from Union County High School (class of 1974). She was the owner and operator of The Grooming Boutique in Gainesville for 25 plus years until her retirement. She was known for her animated personality, had a cheerful attitude, was energetic and had an outgoing spirit. She was the family planner for scalloping trips at Steinhatchee and camping trips at state parks and springs. Her favorite hobbies were tending to her yard and plants, fishing, and taking trips. Bobbie always made friends wherever she went. She was kind and thoughtful to everyone and would help anyone in need. She loved hanging out with friends and being with her family.

She is survived by her daughter, Kerry (Jack) Rawn of Loxahatchee; two grandchildren, Grace Rawn and J.D. Rawn; three sisters, Peggy MacFarlane of Lake Butler, Doretha (Chris) Barry of Lacrosse and Marie Skinner of Lake City; one brother, Ronald (Sally) Thomas of Brooker, and former husband, Charles Van Ellis. She was the favorite aunt of numerous nieces and nephews. She will be missed by us and many others.

A service to honor her was held at Archer-Milton Funeral Home on Monday, April 29. The family received family and friends for a visitation prior to the service. She was laid to rest immediately following the service at Elzey Chapel Cemetery.

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

PAID OBITUARY



Joseph Henderson

Joseph L. Henderson, 42, of Lawtey, died Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at his residence. He attended the local schools of Bradford County. He was a member of True Gospel Missionary Church in Chiefland.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 4, at Mt. Zion AME Church in Lawtey. Interment will be held at Peetsville Cemetery under the direction of Haile Funeral Home Inc. Visitation will be held on Friday, May 3, at the Carl and Elaine D. Haile Memorial Chapel/Haile Funeral Home Inc., 802 N. Oak St., Starke, 32091 904-964-7905 for friends from 12 p.m. until 5 p.m.

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Celebration of Life

A
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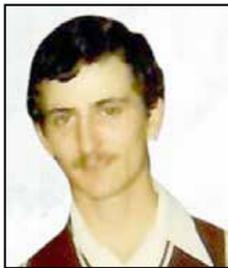
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Obituaries

Crane wins Jr. Olympic boxing title

Manuel Hilliard



Manuel "Michael" Hilliard, 65, of Jacksonville, passed away Friday, April 26, 2024, at HCA Florida Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville. He was born in Jacksonville on Dec. 21, 1958, to the late Manuel Hilliard and Faye Elizabeth Wilkes Hilliard. He was raised in Jacksonville and Starke. After attending Bradford High School, he joined the United States Army in 1978 and proudly served our country for two years. Following his honorable discharge from the military, he enjoyed a long, successful career as a butcher. He was a simple man who enjoyed the simple pleasures in life. He enjoyed sitting on the front porch, drinking a glass of sweet tea and a cup of hot coffee. He was known for his love of hunting and fishing, but more than anything, he loved his family. He was preceded in death by his parents; grandson, Little Danny Frampton; and brothers, Darin and Joseph "Jody" Hilliard.

He is survived by his children, Angela (Danny) Frampton of Keystone Heights and John Michael (Brittini) Hilliard of Noble, Oklahoma; sister, Keena (Ronnie) Underhill of Georgia; grandchildren, Andria (Stephen) Howell, Bryce (Jordyn) Frampton, Caitlin Frampton, Wesley Hilliard, and Landon Hilliard; along with several extended family members and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Thursday, May 2, at 2 p.m. at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel with Brother John Frampton officiating. Interment to follow at Evergreen Cemetery, Starke, where military honors will be rendered. The family will receive friends on Thursday, May 2, at 1 p.m. at the funeral home.

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

PAID OBITUARY

Nancy Luke



Nancy Elizabeth Moulton Luke passed away on Thursday, April 25, 2024, at UF Health Shands Hospital in Gainesville. She was a cherished mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend, who leaves behind a legacy of selflessness, compassion, and unwavering love for everyone she encountered. She was born on Aug. 4, 1953, in Miami. She graduated from Southwest Senior High School in 1971 and moved to Lake Butler in 1974, shortly after her marriage to Richard Luke. Her life was one of service and devotion; not only providing love, support, and guidance to her family and friends, but also in her work. She began her professional life as a teaching assistant for developmentally delayed children, then spent 20 years in community mental health. Next, she served as a care coordinator within the University of Florida's neurology department and finally retired from the Florida Department of Corrections after 20 years of service. She didn't just see these jobs as a paycheck, but instead as privileged opportunities to connect with people on a very personal level. After retirement, she found a loving church family at Victory Christian Center, and she continued to give her time, talent, and material treasures in an effort to make a real difference in the lives of those around her. Nancy was a proud "Galloneer" blood donor, participated in countless Relay for Life events, and facilitated smoking cessation programs, where she found great joy in seeing other people succeed. Her most treasured role, however, was being a mother to her twin daughters, Jacqueline Luke of Tallahassee and Danielle Luke (Drew Pirrit) of Perth, Western Australia, as well as being a grandmother to her only grandchild, Scarlett Luke-Johnson of Tallahassee. She loved spending time with "her girls" as much as possible; beach combing in St. Augustine, watching a sunset, admiring the moon and stars, and gazing over a bonfire. She always noticed and savored the beauty of God's creation around her. She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert Moulton and Dorothy Allen Moulton; a niece, Dorothy Loftice; and nephew, Anthony Bendjebar.

She is survived by her five siblings, Barbara Moulton (Alan Albee) of Oakland, California, Stephen (Wendy) Moulton of Thurmont, Maryland, Mary Moulton of Chanhassen, Minnesota, Janet Conner of Jacksonville and Catherine Moulton (Richard Rich) of Sacramento, California; as well as many special nieces and nephews, Emily Moulton, Sarah Moulton-Albright, Jessica Bendjebar, Vinh Conner, Cynthia Kirkland, Catherine Conner, Stephanie Moronta and Taylor Moulton.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, May 4, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home, 55 N. Lake Ave., Lake Butler, 32054. Visitation is scheduled for 11 a.m., followed by a service at noon.

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

PAID OBITUARY

Wildred Mayhair



Mrs. Wildred Mae Mayhair, 91, of Melrose passed away Thursday, April 25, 2024, at her home with her family at her side. She was born Aug. 31, 1932, in Chattahoochee to Willis and Rhonda (Crenshaw) Brown. In addition to her parents; she was preceded in death by her husband, J.C. Mayhair in 2006; and a grandson, Michael Hutchins in 2005.

She is survived by her brother, John Brown of Chipley; two sons, James Mayhair of Melrose, and Michael (Robyn) Mayhair of Bedford, Indiana; and a daughter, Debbie Mayhair (Kenneth) Hutchins. She was lovingly called "Meemaw" by eight grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-granddaughter.

The family will have graveside services at Crain Cemetery in Milton, Santa Rosa County on Thursday, May 2, at 2 p.m. with her son-in-law, Kenneth Hutchins, officiating.

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

Wanda Tyree



Wanda Tyree of Chieffland, 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, Lawrance 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; grandkids, Kelly and Matt, Ryan, Michelle, Danielle, Tina, Sabrina, Taylor, and Tyler; and seven great-grandkids. She also leaves behind her best friend and companion, Huey Crosby.

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

PAID OBITUARY

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

He wasn't the biggest. He wasn't the strongest.

Colton Crane and his coach, Giovanni Cruz, will both tell you that. However, what Crane proved at the April 20-21 Florida State Junior Olympics in Brooksville was that he was the best boxer in his bracket.

Crane, who lives in Keystone Heights, went 2-0 at the event to capture his first championship belt since he began training with Cruz, who operates a free gym at his Keystone home.

It has been a fast rise for Crane.

"Two years ago, my uncle introduced me to Coach," Crane said. "We just hit it off. I just kept coming back. Every day, I just kept coming back. Then, Coach said it was time to go compete. We just kept working, and here we are."

Including the Florida State Junior Olympics, Crane has fought two fights in each of the last two years. His record is 4-0.

"Some people pick it up faster than others," Cruz said. "In his case, he picked it up a lot faster than most other people would."

Based on what he's seen, Cruz fully expected Crane to win a

championship at the Florida State Junior Olympics, even though Crane would have been considered an underdog — not just because of his size and strength compared to others, but also because he's not attached to an official gym.

"I had no doubt in my mind he had this whole competition in the bag," Cruz said.

Crane admitted he was nervous prior to his first match of the event, chalking up to not knowing how things are going to turn out in the end. He and Cruz both said that his opponent in that first match is a "great fighter."

"I had a feeling it was going to be a war," Crane said. "I knew I was going to have to dig deep."

Crane won every round in being declared the unanimous winner.

"It was the best feeling in the world," he said.

Crane said he hurt his toe, which had to be wrapped prior to his second fight.

"I was still confident, but I knew I was really going to have to fight even harder to get the belt," Crane said.

Crane won the championship by a split decision.

Winning a championship is



Colton Crane (right) went 2-0 and claimed a championship belt at the Florida State Junior Olympics in Brooksville. He is pictured with his coach, Giovanni Cruz.

special, but so, too, is having a boxing great in your corner.

"My coach was former heavyweight champ Pinklon Thomas," Cruz said. "He also worked our corner with me. It was cool having that experience."

Crane said, "He's a great motivator. He gets you ready for a fight."

Thomas' biggest advice to

Crane was to keep pressuring his opponents.

"We got it done," Crane said.

Crane had been working out with Cruz for six or seven months before Cruz told him he was ready to box for real. Cruz said he saw a number of things

See CRANE, page 12

BHS' Beggs to play softball at Reid State

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

It's all about new starts for Bradford High School senior Carly Beggs.

Beggs, a former Hope Christian Academy student, transferred to BHS her senior year and became a starting outfielder (right and left) for the Tornadoes' softball team. Now, she'll take her talents to Evergreen, Alabama's Reid State Technical College, which is starting a softball program that will begin play for the first time next year.

"I think this is just part of her journey," BHS Head Coach Ashley Yowell said, adding, "Starting somewhere new — I think that's what she's good at."

Beggs, who has played softball since her freshman year, said, "I'm very happy for the opportunity and thankful. I don't know how to describe it, but it's a feeling of, 'I finally did it.' I just know that God is really taking my hand through this. It's Him who gave me the ability to do this. I'm just really grateful to have the opportunity."

Kent Gilliam, who coached Beggs in travel ball, said when he saw her for the first time, she had never played. She wasn't very good at that time, he said, but she worked to get better. Gilliam said every time he turned around, Beggs was asking him a question. "How do I do this? How do I do that? Why did this happen? Why did that happen?"

Yowell and BHS Assistant Coach Kevin Blankenship had the same experience.

"She's not afraid to come to you and ask, 'Hey, what can I do to get better? What did I do wrong? How can I fix it?' She always asks questions about the game and always wants to know more."

When Beggs arrived at BHS, her experience was mostly playing second base, but BHS needed her in the outfield, so she worked hard and asked questions to help her become better in that position as the season progressed.

"Carly's coachable," Blankenship said. "She always wants to listen. She always wants to work out at practice to see what she can do to get better."

Reid State Head Coach Weldon Steadman was able to tell Beggs that kind of player from talking to her on the phone for the first time.

"I heard a hunger in her voice that day," Steadman said. "In every conversation we had after that, I heard that same hunger — that hunger to want to be successful, to want to learn, to want to push forward."

"Ultimately, that is what led me to invite her up for a visit to Evergreen, Alabama."

Evergreen is a town Beggs said she can feel comfortable in.

"The main thing I like about it is how it's a small town, so it's just like home," she said.

She also likes Reid State because of its size, saying it's "not as big as a university."

Another appeal is that she gets



BHS senior Carly Beggs signed a letter of intent to play softball at Reid State Technical College. She is pictured seated between her parents, Jody Beggs and Tiffany Hagan.

to be part of a program that's just getting its start.

"It's actually very exciting because I feel like I'm kind of making a mark on history," Beggs said.

Beggs, who batted .231

See BEGGS, page 14

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Legal Notices

Legals for the week of May 2, 2024

BRADFORD

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, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, AND ANY OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST CATHERINE JEFFERS COBB, deceased, and UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, 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; then 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; then 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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO. 23000430CAAXMX
 JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,
 VS.
 RYAN RUSSELL RAMSEY; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF RYAN RUSSELL RAMSEY; UNKNOWN PERSON(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendant(s)

NOTICE OF ACTION

To the following Defendant: RYAN RUSSELL RAMSEY (LAST KNOWN ADDRESS) 8462 NW 210TH STREET STARKE, FLORIDA 32091
 To the following Defendant: UNKNOWN PERSON(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY
 8462 NW 210TH STREET STARKE, FLORIDA 32091
 who is evading service of process and the unknown defendants who may be spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, and all parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the defendant(s), who are not known to be dead or alive, and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the mortgage being foreclosed herein.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:
 SEE EXHIBIT A Exhibit "A"
 LOT 7

A parcel of land situated in the South One Half of the Northeast One Quarter of Section 34, Township 5 South, Range 21 East, Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows:
 COMMENCE at a concrete monument at the Southeast corner of said NE 1/4
 and run S 89 deg 39 min 07 sec W, along the South line of said NE 1/4 a distance of 1429.18 feet to an iron pipe; then run N 14 deg 18 min 20 sec E, 495.00 feet to the point of beginning; then continue N 14 deg 18 min 20 sec E, along the centerline of a 60 foot easement for Utilities and general road purposes, 140.00 feet; then run S 70 deg 11 min 40 sec E, 390 feet more or less to the center-line of Gum Creek; then run Southwesterly along said center-line to a point bearing S 75 deg 41 min 40 sec W, from the point of beginning; then run N 75 deg 41 min 40 sec W, 352 feet to the point of beginning.

SUBJECT TO an easement for Utilities and general road purposes across the Westerly 30 feet thereof. SUBJECT TO the easement right of way as recorded in Deed book 90, Page 377, of the public records of Bradford County, Florida.

LOT 8
 A parcel of land situated in the South One Half of the Northeast One Quarter of Section 34, Township 5 South, Range 21 East, Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows:
 COMMENCE at a concrete monument at the Southeast corner of said NE 1/4
 and run S 89 deg 39 min 07 sec W, along the South line of said NE 1/4 a distance of 1429.18 feet to an iron pipe; then run N 14 deg 18 min 20 sec E, 355 feet to the point of beginning; then continue N 14 deg 18 min 20 sec E, along the centerline of a 60 foot easement for Utilities and general road purposes 140.00 feet; then run S 75 deg 41 min 40 sec E, 352 feet more or less to the center-line of Gum Creek; then run Southwesterly along said center-line to a point bearing S 75 deg 41 min 40 sec E, from the point of beginning; then run N 75 deg 41 min 40 sec W, 335 feet to the point of beginning.

SUBJECT TO an easement for Utilities and general road Purposes across the Westerly 30 feet thereof. LOT 9
 A parcel of land situated in the South One Half of the Northeast One Quarter of Section 34, Township 5 South, Range 21 East, Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows:
 COMMENCE at a concrete monument at the Southeast corner of said NE 1/4
 and run S 89 deg 39 min 07 sec W, along the South line of said NE 1/4 a distance of 1429.18 feet to an iron pipe; then run N 14 deg 18 min 20 sec E, 215.00 feet to the point of beginning; then continue N 14 deg 18 min 20 sec E along the centerline of a 60 feet easement for Utilities and general road purposes, 140.00 feet; then run S 75 deg 41 min 40 sec E, 335 feet more or less to the center-line of Gum Creek; then run Southwesterly along said center-line

to a point bearing S 75 deg 41 min 40 sec E, from the point of beginning; then run N 75 deg 41 min 40 sec W, 300 feet to the point of beginning. SUBJECT TO an easement for Utilities and general road purposes across the Westerly 30 feet thereof. Together with 1989 PINE Doublewide Mobile Home with Title No's 47469171 and 47501543 located thereon and bearing VIN# HMLCP28151504104A and HMLCP28151504104B. a/k/a 8462 NW 210TH STREET, STARKE, FLORIDA 32091

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Kahane & Associates, P.A., Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 1619 NW 136th Avenue, Suite D-220, Sunrise, FLORIDA 33323 on or before _____, a date which is within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

This notice is provided pursuant to Administrative Order No.2.065. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, 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 provisions of certain assistance. Please contact the Court Administrator at 945 North Temple Avenue, Rm. 137, Starke, FL 32091, Phone No. (904)966-6280 within 2 working days of your receipt of this notice or pleading; if you are hearing impaired, call 1-800-955-8771 (TDD); if you are voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8770 (V) (Via Florida Relay Services).

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 16th day of April, 2024.
 DENNY THOMPSON
 As Clerk of the Court
 BY: Kanetra Jenkins
 As Deputy Clerk

Publish: (Please publish in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH)
 Submitted by:
 Kahane & Associates, P.A.
 1619 NW 136th Avenue, Suite D-220
 Sunrise, Florida 33323
 Telephone: (954) 382-3486
 Telefacsimile: (954) 382-5380
 Designated service email: notice@kahaneandassociates.com
 23-01303 IPC

5/2 2tchg 5/9-BCT

PLANNING & ZONING MEETING
 The City of Starke Planning & Zoning Board will not meet on May 20, 2024 but will meet on May 13, 2024 at 5:30 pm at 209 North Thompson Street.

5/2 2tchg 5/9-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF STARKE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
 BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD OF THE CITY OF STARKE, FLORIDA, SERVING ALSO AS THE LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY OF THE CITY OF STARKE, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the City of Starke Land Development Code, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Code, objections, recommendations and comments concerning amendment, as described below, will be heard by the Planning and Zoning Board of City of Starke, Florida, serving also as the Local Planning Agency of City of Starke, Florida, at a public hearing to be held on May 13, 2024 at 5:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard in the City Commission Meeting Room, City Hall located at 209 North Thompson Street, Starke, Florida.

S240417A, an application by Pro Source Water & Fire Restoration LLC, to amend the Future Land Use Plan Map of the Comprehensive Plan by changing the future land use classification from MEDIUM DENSITY, RESIDENTIAL (more than 2 and less than 8 units per acre) to HIGH DENSITY, RESIDENTIAL (more than 8 and less than 20 units per acre) on property described, as follows:
 A parcel of land lying in Section 28, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, Bradford County, Florida. Being

more particularly described, as follows: Commence at the Northeast corner of Jackson Street and Cherry Street; thence North 17°48'00" East 210.00 feet, along the East line of said Cherry Street to the Point of Beginning; thence continue North 17°48'00" East 105.00 feet, along the East line of said Cherry Street; thence South 72°20'00" East 108.64 feet; thence South 17°41'00" West 105.00 feet; thence North 72°20'00" West 108.56 feet to the East line of said Cherry Street and the Point of Beginning. Containing 0.23 acre, more or less. At the aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the amendment. Copies of the amendment are available for public inspection at the City Building and Zoning Department, located at 209 North Thompson Street, Starke, Florida, during regular business hours.

All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decisions made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that for such purpose they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact the Office of the City Clerk at 904.964.5027 or via the Florida Relay Service 800.955.8770 (voice) or 800.955.8771 (TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the date of the public hearing.
 5/2 2tchg-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 23000392CAAXMX
 MORTGAGE MANAGEMENT, LLC
 PLAINTIFF,
 VS.
 UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF CARRIE F. LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE FRANCES LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE BAUGHMAN, ET AL., DEFENDANTS.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE (Please publish in Bradford Telegraph)
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated the 25th day of April, 2024, and entered in Case No. 23000392CAAXMX, of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Bradford County, Florida, wherein Mortgage Assets Management, LLC is the Plaintiff and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; CAPITAL ONE, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A.; WALTER EUGENE LEWALLEN A/K/A WALTER EUGENE LEWALLEN JR. A/K/A EUGENE LEWALLEN; CARRIE L. WHITTLESEY A/K/A CARRIE WHITTLESEY A/K/A CARRIE FRANCES WHITTLESEY; KENNETH LAMAR LEWALLEN A/K/A KENNETH L. LEWALLEN A/K/A KENNETH LEWALLEN; TABATHA RENEE CLARK A/K/A TABATHA RENEE DICKERSON A/K/A TABATHA CLARK; UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF CARRIE F. LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE FRANCES LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE BAUGHMAN; EQUITY ONE, INC., FIA CARD SERVICES N.A. F/K/A BANK OF AMERICA CORPORATION F/K/A MBNA AMERICA BANK N.A.; DOVE INVESTMENT CORP are defendants. Denny Thompson as the Clerk of the Circuit Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the lobby of the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091 at 11:00 A.M. on the 20th day of June, 2024, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

PART OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST, BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
 COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 35; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 89 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST AND ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SOUTH 1/2 OF SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 35, A DISTANCE OF 662.91 FEET TO A POINT FOR A POINT OF BEGINNING; FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING THUS DESCRIBED, CONTINUE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 505.10 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 05 DEGREES

16 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 331.62 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE RUNNING NORTH 89 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 04 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 492.15 FEET TO A POINT; SAID POINT BEING IN A CURVE CONCAVE TO THE NORTHWEST AND HAVING A RADIUS OF 50 FEET; THENCE ALONG AND AROUND SAID CURVE, AN ARC DISTANCE OF 77.93 FEET; SAID ARC BEING SUBTENDED BY A CHORD BEARING NORTH 44 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST. A DISTANCE OF 70.28 FEET; THENCE NORTH 01 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 54 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 380 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

IF YOU ARE A PERSON CLAIMING A RIGHT TO FUNDS REMAINING AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK NO LATER THAN THE DATE THAT THE CLERK REPORTS THE FUNDS AS UNCLAIMED. IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS. AFTER THE FUNDS ARE REPORTED AS UNCLAIMED, ONLY THE OWNER OF RECORD AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MAY CLAIM THE SURPLUS.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Persons with a disability who need any accommodation in order to participate should call Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 within two (2) working days of your receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired call (800) 955-8771; if you are voice impaired, call (800) 955-8770.

Dated this 26th day of April, 2024.
 By: Liana R. Hall
 Bar No. 73813
 Submitted by:
 Miller, George & Suggs, PLLC
 ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF
 210 N. University Drive, Suite 900
 Coral Springs, FL 33071
 DESIGNATED PRIMARY E-MAIL FOR SERVICE
 PURSUANT TO FLA. R. JUD. ADMIN 2.516
 ESERVICE@MGS-LEGAL.COM

5/2 2tchg 5/9-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 23000392CAAXMX
 ASSETS MANAGEMENT, LLC
 PLAINTIFF,
 VS.
 UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF CARRIE F. LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE FRANCES LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE BAUGHMAN, ET AL., DEFENDANTS.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE (Please publish in Bradford Telegraph)
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated the 25th day of April, 2024, and entered in Case No. 23000392CAAXMX, of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Bradford County, Florida, wherein Mortgage Assets Management, LLC is the Plaintiff and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; CAPITAL ONE, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A.; WALTER EUGENE LEWALLEN A/K/A WALTER EUGENE LEWALLEN JR. A/K/A EUGENE LEWALLEN; CARRIE L. WHITTLESEY A/K/A CARRIE WHITTLESEY A/K/A CARRIE FRANCES WHITTLESEY; KENNETH LAMAR LEWALLEN A/K/A KENNETH L. LEWALLEN A/K/A KENNETH LEWALLEN; TABATHA RENEE CLARK A/K/A TABATHA RENEE DICKERSON A/K/A TABATHA CLARK; UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF CARRIE F. LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE FRANCES LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE LEWALLEN A/K/A CARRIE BAUGHMAN; EQUITY ONE, INC., FIA CARD SERVICES N.A. F/K/A BANK OF AMERICA CORPORATION F/K/A MBNA AMERICA BANK N.A.; DOVE INVESTMENT CORP are defendants. Denny Thompson as the Clerk of the Circuit Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the lobby of the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091 at 11:00 A.M. on the 20th day of June, 2024, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

PART OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST, BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
 COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 35; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 89 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST AND ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SOUTH 1/2 OF SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 35, A DISTANCE OF 662.91 FEET TO A POINT FOR A POINT OF BEGINNING; FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING THUS DESCRIBED, CONTINUE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 505.10 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 05 DEGREES

16 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 331.62 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE RUNNING NORTH 89 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 04 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 492.15 FEET TO A POINT; SAID POINT BEING IN A CURVE CONCAVE TO THE NORTHWEST AND HAVING A RADIUS OF 50 FEET; THENCE ALONG AND AROUND SAID CURVE, AN ARC DISTANCE OF 77.93 FEET; SAID ARC BEING SUBTENDED BY A CHORD BEARING NORTH 44 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST. A DISTANCE OF 70.28 FEET; THENCE NORTH 01 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 54 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 380 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

IF YOU ARE A PERSON CLAIMING A RIGHT TO FUNDS REMAINING AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK NO LATER THAN THE DATE THAT THE CLERK REPORTS THE FUNDS AS UNCLAIMED. IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS. AFTER THE FUNDS ARE REPORTED AS UNCLAIMED, ONLY THE OWNER OF RECORD AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MAY CLAIM THE SURPLUS.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Persons with a disability who need any accommodation in order to participate should call Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 within two (2) working days of your receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired call (800) 955-8771; if you are voice impaired, call (800) 955-8770.

Dated this 26th day of April, 2024.
 By: Liana R. Hall
 Bar No. 73813
 Submitted by:
 Miller, George & Suggs, PLLC
 ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF
 210 N. University Drive, Suite 900
 Coral Springs, FL 33071
 DESIGNATED PRIMARY E-MAIL FOR SERVICE
 PURSUANT TO FLA. R. JUD. ADMIN 2.516
 ESERVICE@MGS-LEGAL.COM

5/2 2tchg 5/9-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
 Case No: 63-2024-0047
 Division:

TIFFANY KERSEY, Petitioner and DENNIS KERSEY, Respondent
NOTICE OF ACTION FOR (Specify action) PETITION 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;

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 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 2023CA000075
 PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 DUSTIN TYLER MULKEY; SHELBY LYNN WISE; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 (Please publish in the UNION COUNTY TIMES)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Final Judgment entered in the above styled cause now pending in said court and as required by Florida Statute 45.031(2), KELLIE HENDRICKS CONNELL, CPA as the Clerk of the Circuit Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the, FRONT LOBBY OF THE UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 55 WEST MAIN STREET, LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054, 11:00 AM on the 1st day of August, 2024, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

A PARCEL OF LAND LYING, BEING AND SITUATE IN SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 20 EAST, UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF GOVERNMENT LOT 10, SAID SECTION 31 (ACCORDING TO SURVEY BY WILLIAM D. PARRISH, DATED: 3-16-76), AND RUN SOUTH 88 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 48 SECONDS WEST, (ACCORDING TO SURVEY BY WILLIAM D. PARRISH, DATED: 3-16-76), A DISTANCE OF 25.00 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE WEST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF A CITY MAINTAINED PAVED ROAD (SOUTHWEST 3RD AVENUE) (RIGHT OF WAY WIDTH IS 50 FEET); THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 17 MINUTES 44 SECONDS EAST, ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT OF WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 931.48 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 88 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 25 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 355.06; THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 17 MINUTES 44 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 144.36 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED PARCEL OF LAND; THENCE RUN SOUTH 88 DEGREES 40 MINUTES 08 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 307.02 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SOUTHWEST 4TH PLACE (40 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY); THENCE RUN NORTH 04 DEGREES 36 MINUTES 24 SECONDS WEST, ALONG SAID EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 139.84 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 88 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 40 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 317.53 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 17 MINUTES 44 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 139.40 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SUBJECT TO A 20 FOOT AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH EASEMENT, OVER, UNDER, ACROSS, AND THROUGH THE NORTHERLY PORTION THEREOF. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1290 SW 4TH PL, LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054

IF YOU ARE A PERSON CLAIMING A RIGHT TO FUNDS REMAINING AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK NO LATER THAN THE DATE THAT THE CLERK REPORTS THE FUNDS AS UNCLAIMED. IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS. AFTER THE FUNDS ARE REPORTED AS UNCLAIMED, ONLY THE OWNER OF RECORD AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MAY CLAIM THE SURPLUS.

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. Dated this 26th day of April, 2024.

KELLIE HENDRICKS CONNELL, CPA
 Clerk Of The Circuit Court
 By: Crystal Norman
 Deputy Clerk
 Submitted by:
 De Cubas & Lewis, P.A.
 PO Box 5026
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310
 Telephone: (954) 453-0365
 Facsimile: (954) 771-6052
 Toll Free: 1-800-441-2438
 DESIGNATED PRIMARY E-MAIL FOR SERVICE
 PURSUANT TO FLA. R. JUD. ADMIN 2.516
 eservice@decubaslewis.com

5/1 2tchg 5/9-BCT

NOTICE OF SALE
 T & M Towing gives notice of lien and intent to sell these vehicles on May 18th, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at T & M Storage yard located at 3687 Ambient Air Rd., Starke, FL 32091. T & M Towing reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.
 2016 VW
 Vin#3VWVD17AJ6GM333872
 2016 CHEVROLET
 Vin#1GCVKREC1GZ333028

5/1 2tchg 5/9-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
 Case No: 63-2024-0047
 Division:

TIFFANY KERSEY, Petitioner and DENNIS KERSEY, Respondent
NOTICE OF ACTION FOR (Specify action) PETITION 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;

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 this 26th day of April, 2024.
 By: Liana R. Hall
 Bar No. 73813
 Submitted

58 BHS seniors receive Golden B and/or Principal's Achievement

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School announced 19 Golden B recipients at the annual rewards program sponsored by the Bradford County Education, which was held April 25 in the BHS auditorium.

Golden B awards, which are presented to 10 percent of the graduating class, are determined by a points system based on weighted GPA, number of referrals, daily attendance percentage, dual-enrollment courses passed, industry certifications achieved, number of extracurricular activities and number of years enrolled at BHS as well as a teacher ranking system based on respect, responsibility and productivity.

Students must be nominated by at least two faculty or staff members.

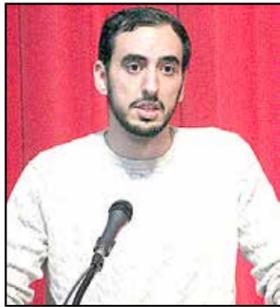
This year's recipients were Chloe Anderson, Teagan Bradley, Kinley Burkhalter, Abigail Casey, Ashley Dehoff, Camryn Ferguson, Cole Ferguson, Jack Hendrix, James Hudgens, Lindsey McCoy, Abbigale Moore, Emma Mueller, Brett Redding, Madison Sapp, Harley Smith, Luke Stucky, James Tillman, Nikolas Vargas and Arden Williams.

"The Bradford High School faculty bestows this recognition each year to the most-deserving senior students based on a carefully selected list of criteria, both objective and subjective," Principal Chris Coffey said. "As a faculty, we wish to recognize students who consistently set good examples for other students to follow."

Coffey said the values of the Golden B begin with the letters that spell out "Bradford." B — behavior that sets an example for others to follow. R — respectful of administration, faculty and staff. A — academic effort that is worthy of recognition. D — discipline, with maturity and good judgment. F — friendly and courteous to others. O — obey school rules without objection. R — responsible, having a strong work ethic. D — dignified, not desirous of self-recognition.

The Golden B recipients and 39 other seniors were Principal's Achievement Award winners. To receive the Principal's Achievement Award, seniors must have a minimum weighted GPA of at least 3.5 and be on track to graduate. Number of discipline referrals is also taken into account.

Joining the Golden B students as Principal's Achievement Award winners were Grace Arenz, Savannah Bason, Rebecca Blankenship, Rylie Blankenship, Lauren Bowen, Taylor Chalker, Chason Clark, Dalayisha Coleman, Landon Coleman,



Wisam Fares, a Golden B recipient and valedictorian of Bradford High School's Class of 2014, gave some words of advice to this year's Golden B/Principal's Achievement recipients.

Stephanie Crews, Jeremiah Hamilton, Jordan Hamilton, Reagan Harris, Rylee Holland, Caitlyn Jackson, Sarah Joyner, Hagen Kadlec, Elijah Kellum, Destiny Lauramore, Michael Lizell, Levi Lowe, Devon McBride, Alyssa Monnett, Jordyn Morgan, Mckaylah Mullen, Ella Murphy, Malakai Murphy, Adrian Cadle Olvera, Alexis Ortega, Sade Peterson, Cason Pilcher, Martin Reaves, Sunshine Santavicca, Ian Scott, Natalie Thomas, Mikayla Triplett, Kencie Wainwright, Kristine Williams and Elisabeth Wilsey.

Awards and a reception for students and families are provided every year by the Bradford County Education Foundation, a nonprofit organization that was established in 1990 by citizens to support the county's schools. BCEF President Cheryl Canova said 60 Florida counties have such an organization, but Bradford's is one of only six to be composed solely of volunteers.

"We simply care about students and their future as well as supporting teachers and staff," Canova said. "We work hard yearlong to support these efforts. This year alone, we have provided over \$668,000 in grants."

Canova said BCEF has also raised more than \$50,000 this year through various fundraisers.

BHS alumnus shares 3 lessons

Wisam Fares, the 2014 BHS valedictorian, was a guest speaker at the event. Fares graduated from the University of Florida in 2018, double majoring in biomedical engineering and mathematics. He served as a volunteer calculus teacher and tennis coach at BHS during a gap year and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in biomedical engineering at the University of Virginia, where he studies breast cancer.

"It's crazy to be back after 10 years, when I was sitting where

you guys are right now," Fares said, adding, "Ten years sounds like a lot of time, but I promise you, it goes by in a flash."

Fares said he wanted to share three lessons that would help students as they prepare for life after high school.

"The first lesson I want to leave with you is this: Empowered people empower people. Having someone who believes in you allows you to believe in others and share resources that you've gained."

Fares talked of how he was empowered by BHS math teacher Dennis Sgro. He took Pre-Calculus with Sgro as a sophomore and took his AP Calculus class as a junior.

"He would always find time to help me," Fares said. "I'm very grateful for that."

The help didn't stop there. After taking AP Calculus, Fares had gone as far as he could go in calculus at BHS, so he decided he wanted to take Calculus III at UF. He couldn't do that unless a dual-enrollment agreement existed between the two schools.

Fares said Sgro supported him as he participated in months of meetings with the Bradford County School Board. The agreement was eventually created, and Fares took Calculus III at UF while still at BHS.

"Having someone who supports you that way is so invaluable to your growth as a person," Fares said, adding, "(Sgro) helped me get into UF. He helped me pursue math and biomedical engineering."

Just as he was empowered by Sgro, Fares did his part to empower others, serving as a math tutor at UF before teaching calculus at BHS.

In preparing to share his second lesson with the current BHS students, Fares talked about how his first experience in scientific research didn't go as he had planned, but that didn't deter him from giving it another attempt.

Fares said that there was a time when all he knew about science was what he read in a book, but a UF biomedical engineering professor said, "Everything that's already known is in a book, which is boring, because you can't explore it outside of that. Research allows you to do that."

"I got invited to join his lab and see what research looks like," Fares said. "I was so excited to do some real experiments. Oh, my gosh. It was the most boring thing I had ever done."

He told himself that research wasn't for him. However, he talked to a friend of his who was in another lab researching pancreatic cancer. Based on what his friend told him, Fares said he had to visit the lab and see it in person. That led to the



Bradford High School Class of 2024 Golden B recipients are: (front, l-r) Brett Redding, James Tillman, Ashley Dehoff, James Hudgens, Abigail Casey, Harley Smith, Chloe Anderson, Abbigale Moore, (back, l-r) Lindsey McCoy, Cole Ferguson, Luke Stucky, Nikolas Vargas, Madison Sapp, Emma Mueller, Camryn Ferguson, Teagan Bradley, Kinley Burkhalter and Arden Williams.



Bradford High School presented Principal's Achievement awards to 58 seniors. Recipients are (alphabetical order): Chloe Anderson, Grace Arenz, Savannah Bason, Rebecca Blankenship, Rylie Blankenship, Lauren Bowen, Teagan Bradley, Kinley Burkhalter, Abigail Casey, Taylor Chalker, Chason Clark, Dalayisha Coleman, Landon Coleman, Stephanie Crews, Ashley Dehoff, Camryn Ferguson, Cole Ferguson, Jeremiah Hamilton, Jordan Hamilton, Reagan Harris, Jack Hendrix, Rylee Holland, James Hudgens, Caitlyn Jackson, Sarah Joyner, Hagen Kadlec, Elijah Kellum, Destiny Lauramore, Michael Lizell, Levi Lowe, Devon McBride, Lindsey McCoy, Alyssa Monnett, Abbigale Moore, Jordyn Morgan, Emma Mueller, Mckaylah Mullen, Ella Murphy, Malakai Murphy, Adrian Cadle Olvera, Alexis Ortega, Sade Peterson, Cason Pilcher, Martin Reaves, Brett Redding, Sunshine Santavicca, Madison Sapp, Ian Scott, Harley Smith, Luke Stucky, Natalie Thomas, James Tillman, Mikayla Triplett, Nikolas Vargas, Kencie Wainwright, Arden Williams, Kristine Williams and Elisabeth Wilsey.

invitation to join that lab, which he accepted.

"I learned so much through that experience," Fares said. "I knew through that experience I wanted to continue research and pursue a Ph.D."

"The next lesson is this: If I had let my first experience define me as a researcher, I wouldn't have been a researcher. I'd be a bad researcher, but because I allowed that opportunity to happen and stayed curious, it allowed me to persevere and redefine myself. I hope that you guys jump at those opportunities as well."

Fares said his last lesson was the most important: Turn to your family and friends for support.

When he graduated from BHS, Fares said he was excited to be gaining independence. That excitement lasted for a couple of months he said before realizing that it's OK to "fall back on family."

"I love my family so much," Fares said, adding, "I'm so certain my sisters have a notification on their phone that goes off when I have a bad day.

They will call me with the most chaotic stories with no context. They always make me laugh. It really reminds me to lighten up and to persevere."

"I hope that you guys can find that in your family and friends. They really do help you get stronger."

In closing, Fares said he's always willing to make himself available to anyone who needs any kind of help.

"I love mentoring," he said.

Words of advice

Superintendent of Schools Will Hartley took a few moments to speak, first saying that the success of public education is determined by a partnership of students, families and the school district.

"Today, it's not just celebrating the students, but also the parents and grandparents and families who have supported them for 13 years to get here," Hartley said. "For that, I would like to give the parents and families a round of applause."

Hartley admitted he doesn't remember some of the moments from his senior year at BHS, so he encouraged the students and their families to take the time to truly enjoy all the special moments the seniors will experience over the next month.

"My advice to you is take all the pictures," Hartley said. "Soak it up. The same for the families. Be there for every event. Really truly enjoy those moments with your kids because it's going to go by very, very fast."

Hartley told the assembled students he was proud of them, saying, "There's no doubt this group is going to go on to be very, very successful adults and, hopefully, one day, be leaders in our community."

Canova had words of advice for the students as well.

"As I always say to young adults, find something you love to do and are passionate about and figure out a way to make a living doing it," Canova said. "That will truly bring you happiness throughout your life."

Tigers earn 9 regional berths at District 3-2A track meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
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Amia Bethea won one event and finished as runner-up in another, giving Union County High School two of its nine boys and girls regional berths at the District 3-2A track and field meet, which was held April 29 at Bolles in Jacksonville.

The top four in each event earned the right to advance to the Region 1 meet, which will be held Tuesday, May 7, at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. The field events begin at 11 a.m., while the running events begin at noon.

Bethea won the 200m with a time of 25.14 and was second in the 100m with a time of 12.16. The 100m time broke Bethea's own school record.

Boys team member Deonte Jones was the runner-up in the 400m with a time of 51.95. Three boys relay teams earned third-place finishes. The 4x100m team of Jones, Blake McCoy, Bo Thomas and Brycen Boney had a time of 45.08, while the 4x400m team, composed of those same individuals, had a time of 3:43. Boney, McCoy, Thomas and Gavin Smith teamed up to run 9:16 in the 4x800m.

Halfacre placed fourth in two events, finishing with a distance of 13-10.25 in the long jump and with a distance of 30-6.25 in the triple jump.

Taleya Smith also earned a fourth-place finish for the girls team with a distance of 79-7 in the discus. She just missed qualifying in the shot put, placing fifth with a distance of 29-8.

Faith Sirmones earned a fifth-place finish as well with a distance of 12-4 in the long jump.

Briena Haight contributed to the girls team score with a seventh-place finish in the discus (65-1) and an eighth-place finish in the shot put (25-10.25).

Union, which was fourth out of seven girls teams with 44 points, also had the following results: 100m — Sirmones 14.06, Daina Smith 15.97; 200m — Halfacre 29.73, Smith 34.6; shot put — Mari Williams 23-0.5, Ja'Kari Hill 19-11.5; and discus — Williams 46-0, Hill 42-4.

C.J. Ivey just missed qualifying for the boys team in the discus, placing fifth with a distance of 99-7. He was also eighth in the shot put with a distance of 36-0.25.

Union had two seventh-place finishes from McCoy in the long jump (18-7.75) and Matthew Rogers in the discus (89-1).

Other Union boys results were: 100m — Jones 11.61, 800m — Michael Hill 2:28, Smith 2:32, Dane Johnson 2:36; 1600m — Smith 5:23, Ashton Bunkley 6:13; long jump — Hill 17-2.75, Johnson 14-10; shot put — Jacob

Jenkins 31-5.75, Dylan Lane 27-10; and discus — Lane 77-4.

Kellum wins 2 events for BHS at district track and field meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School's Elijah Kellum won two events and was runner-up in another at the District 3-2A track and field meet at Jacksonville's Bolles on April 29.

The top four in each event earned the right to advance to the Region 1 meet, which will be held Tuesday, May 7, at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. The field events begin at 11 a.m., while the running events begin at noon.

Kellum and fellow boys team member Jaleel Easley qualified in five events, with Bradford earning six regional berths in all on the boys side.

The girls team qualified in one event.

Kellum won the long jump with a distance of 21-11.75 and won the triple jump with a distance of 44-3.5. He was runner-up in the 100m with a time of 10.95.

Easley took third in the 400m with a time of 52.14 and was fourth in the 110m hurdles with a time of 20.27.

The boys 4x100m relay team of Branden Williams, Justin Hall, Trejan Tyson and Elijah Lawrence ran a second-place time of 44.77.

Bradford was third in the girls 4x100m relay, with Kaelyn Booker, Melissa Harding, Diamond Ferguson and Kendall Shanks teaming up to run a time of 52.91.

Booker just missed qualifying in the 200m and 100m hurdles, placing fifth in both. Her 200m time was 27.57, while her hurdles time was 19.4.

Lysa McKenzie was sixth in the long jump (12-1), while Ferguson and Shanks were seventh and eighth, respectively, in the 100m with times of 13.38 and 13.39.

Bradford was fourth out of seven in the boys team standings. Adding to their was Brayden Smyth, who was sixth in the long jump (18-8.5), Lawrence, who was eighth in the 200m (24.12), Williams, who was eighth in the 100m (11.45), and Jordan Barton, who was eighth in the 400m (55.76).

Other boys results were: 100m — Lawrence 11.5, Hall 12.07; 200m — Hall 24.31, Easley 24.79; 800m — Krystian Harris 2:30, Hayden Starling 2:48; and shot put — Parviele Lee 35-11.25.

Bradford also had the following girls results: 200m — Ferguson 28.6, Harding 31.34, Ja'Myrah Newsome 34.0; and 400m — Harding 1:12, Newsome 1:32.

KHHS earns 7 regional berths at District 3-2A track meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
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Jamari Turner was the champion in one event for Keystone Heights High School, which earned a total of seven boys and girls regional berths at the District 3-2A track and field meet, which was held April 29 at Bolles in Jacksonville.

The top four in each event earned the right to advance to the Region 1 meet, which will be held Tuesday, May 7, at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. The field events begin at 11 a.m., while the running events begin at noon.

Turner won the 400m hurdles with a time of 1:07, while the boys 4x800m relay team of Tyler Griffin, Ryder Thomas, Ryeland Wahl and Hunter Sheppard was runner-up with a school-record time of 9:04.

Cali Chamberlain was a runner-up for the girls team with a time of 1:20 in the 400m hurdles.

Jaden Park was third in the boys javelin with a distance of 125-10, which was a school record.

The boys 4x400m relay team of Griffin, Park, Wahl and Tyler Sapp ran a fourth-place time of 3:46.

Two girls relay teams earned fourth-place finishes. Kaylee Park, Laila Briseno, Christine

Djavaheri and Kenslee Phillips teamed up to run 57.04 in the 4x100m, while the 4x400m team of Chamberlain, Djavaheri, Phillips and Olivia Griffin had a time of 4:54.

Griffin just missed qualifying in the girls 800m with a fifth-place time of 2:38.

The girls team also got points from Park and Djavaheri, who were seventh and eighth, respectively, in the 200m with times of 28.55 and 28.56.

Luke Lewis contributed to the boys team scoring with a sixth-place distance of 93-7 in the javelin.

The boys team got seventh-place finishes from Griffin in the 800m (2:17) and Thomas in the 1600m (4:49). Wahl was eighth in the 800m (2:18), while Sheppard was eighth in the 1600m (5:06).

Thomas placed eighth in the 3200m with a time of 11:17.

Other boys results were: 100m — Park 11.89, Turner 12.06, Josiah Durrenberger 12.18, Carter Andrews 16.2; 200m — Park 24.72, Sapp 26.02, De'Shawn Williams 27.83, Andrews 36.01; 400m — Sapp 56.59, Durrenberger 57.55, Williams 1:06; 800m — Sheppard 2:20, Jason Parales 2:40; 1600m — Parales 5:45; long jump — Turner 16-4.5, Williams 15-6.75; and shot put — Ricardo Rosario 32-11.

Keystone also had the following girls results: 100m — Djavaheri 13.59 (school record), Briseno 14.56, Brook Gaudons 15.4, Jasmine Walls 16.26; 200m — Chamberlain 30.39, Briseno 31.54; and 400m — Phillips 1:14, Gaudons 1:18, Walls 1:20.

KHHS baseball team wins 12-0 in semis

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Austin Smith hit a walkoff, three-run homer as the Keystone Heights High School baseball team defeated third seed P.K. Yonge 12-0 in five innings in a District 4-3A tournament semifinal game on April 30 in Keystone.

The second seed Indians (20-7) got a complete game from pitcher Gage Barry, who allowed just one hit and two walks, while striking out six.

Keystone will travel to Ocala to play top seed Trinity Catholic (11-11) for the championship on Thursday, May 2, at 7 p.m.

The Indians scored six runs in the first two innings in defeating P.K. Yonge (17-8).

Alex Addington reached on an error to lead off the bottom of the first, followed by a Connor Guy double. Smith and Tallon Campbell each drove in a run on a ground out and a single, respectively.

Keystone had one on with two outs in the second when Addington singled. Guy then hit a two-run triple. Austin Musgrove and Smith both reached on errors that allowed runs to score.

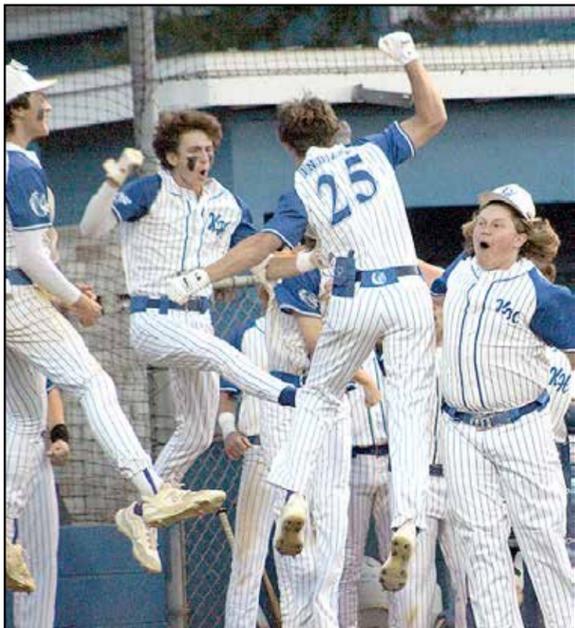
It was 8-0 going into the bottom of the fifth. Andru Siemer and Addington both singled. Guy hit an RBI single before Smith drove a 2-0 pitch over the fence in left to end the game.

Smith finished with four RBI, while Guy, who went 3 for 3, had three.

Campbell and Aiden Screen, who hit a solo homer in the fourth, each finished with one RBI.

Addington and Siemer each went 2 for 3.

The Indians advanced to the semifinals by defeating seventh seed Pierson Taylor 12-0 in five



Connor Guy (number 25) celebrates with teammates after hitting the Indians' third home run in the district tournament win.

innings on April 29 in Keystone.

Addington and Guy combined for five RBI and both pitched, limiting the Wildcats (9-15) to one hit. Guy got the start on the mound and pitched a no-hitter through three innings before giving way to Addington. Guy walked just one batter and struck out four. One of his strikeouts occurred when Taylor had a runner on third with two outs in the top of the first.

Addington gave up one hit and one walk in two innings.

Musgrove hit the first of Keystone's three home runs in the first inning — a solo shot to left field to put the Indians up 1-0.

The Indians scored six runs

in the second. Campbell drew a leadoff walk and scored on a Screen double. A one-out single by Ty Mitzel gave Keystone runners at the corners when Siemer hit a run-scoring single. Addington walked to load the bases, followed by Guy hitting a sacrifice fly to score a run and make it a 4-0 game.

Musgrove kept the inning going when he walked to load the bases. Smith hit an RBI single, while Campbell walked to force a run in. Musgrove scored the inning's final run on a passed ball.

Keystone had two on with one out in the third when Addington homered to left field to make the score 10-0. Guy, in the next

at-bat, drove the first pitch he saw over the fence in right for another homer.

The final run occurred in the fourth. Ben Goforth, a courtesy runner for Campbell, who singled, scored on a Mitzel ground out.

Prior to the tournament, the Indians went 1-1 in their final two regular-season games, defeating visiting Middleburg 9-8 on April 23 and losing 6-1 to visiting Clay on April 25.

The Indians trailed 8-2 against Middleburg entering the bottom of the sixth. Campbell walked, while Siemer singled. Guy and Musgrove each hit an RBI single with two outs to make the score 8-4.

Keystone scored five runs in the seventh to complete the rally. The Indians loaded the bases on a Brady Kerlin single and walks by Screen and Campbell. Mitzel hit a two-run single, while Siemer drove in a run on a sacrifice fly and reached on an error. Addington then hit a walkoff single that plated the tying and winning runs.

Kerlin and Mitzel each went 2 for 4 with two RBI. Addington finished with two RBI also.

Guy and Musgrove each went 2 for 4 with an RBI.

Siemer finished with one RBI as well.

Against Clay, Keystone trailed only 1-0 when it tied the score in the second. Campbell reached on a fielder's choice. Screen and Nick Binet both walked to load the bases. Mitzel then ground into a fielder's choice, with a run scoring.

Clay scored two runs in the third and its final three in the sixth.

The Indians were held to five hits. Guy had two of those in three at-bats.



Ashley Nugent had three RBI in the Indians' 7-1 District 3-3A semifinal win.

KHHS defeats Taylor in district softball semifinals

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Ashley Nugent drove in three runs, while pitcher Kadence Massey gave up four hits in the Keystone Heights High School softball team's 7-1 win over fourth seed Pierson Taylor in the District 3-3A tournament semifinals on April 30.

Top seed Keystone (12-11) will play second seed Palatka (11-15) for the championship on Thursday, May 2, at 6:30 p.m. in Palatka.

The Indians led 1-0 before a three-run second. Caitlin Frampton and Amber Wagner both singled and stole a base with one out before scoring on a Bella Cumbo single. Riley Shuford and Alaina Kinsall followed with singles as well, with Kinsall's hit driving in a run.

Keystone added another three runs in the fourth. With one out, Shuford singled, while Abbie Roach doubled. Nugent hit a two-run single with two outs, followed by Massey hitting a run-scoring single for a 7-1 lead.

Cumbo finished with two RBI, while Kinsall and Massey each

had one.

Shuford and Wagner each went 2 for 3, while Roach went 2 for 4 with two doubles.

In the circle, Massey gave up no walks and struck out six.

The win snapped a two-game losing streak.

On April 23, the Indians traveled to Baldwin, losing 15-0 in four innings. They had just one hit off pitcher Shaylen Byrd, while committing 11 errors defensive. Only three of Baldwin's runs were earned.

Keystone hosted West Nassau on April 24, losing 7-2.

The Indians trailed 3-0 before scoring two runs in the fourth. Nugent and Roach hit back-to-back singles. Massey was intentionally walked to load the bases with two outs, setting the stage for Nattalie Gliniski, who hit a two-run single.

Gliniski's hit was one of only five for the team. Kinsall had two of those hits in four at-bats.

West Nassau increased its lead to 5-2 in the fifth and scored a run each in the sixth and seventh innings.

CRANE

Continued from page 9

in Cruz that let him know he was ready.

"His reflexes are fast, and he's hard to hit," Cruz said.

"Everything he was being taught he was absorbing like a sponge. He went home and worked on it. It wasn't just here (in the gym)."

"Every time I saw him spar, I saw him put everything (he learned) on display."

For Crane, it wasn't a matter

of whether or not he thought he was ready.

"I trusted Coach," he said. "I knew if I trained hard, I'd be OK."

Crane said there's no one established boxer he tries to emulate. Instead, he'll watch

multiple fighters and see if anything they do might work for him.

"I honestly just try to take a little bit from everybody and put it into my own game," Crane said, adding, "I study it all. If I can use it, and it works well for me, I'll use it."

Cruz said Crane, based on his skills, is like a combination of Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini and Floyd Mayweather.

If it wasn't for his toe injury, Crane would've been preparing to fight in the National Junior Olympics in Kansas in June.

"My main thing is I don't want my fighter getting hurt," Cruz said.

Instead, eyes are toward competing in a Golden Gloves tournament next year.

"Then, we're going to shoot for Nationals," Cruz said. "After that, that's when I intend to turn him pro."

Until that next event, Crane will remain busy in the gym.

"I can't stay away," Crane said. "I like to be in shape and constantly getting better. I'm always coming to the gym, trying to improve and just be the best boxer I can be."

Crane makes the most of his days. When he's not in the gym, he's working in his and his father's lawn care business.

"I'm outside every day in the heat," he said. "Then, I come (to the gym) and train. If I'm not doing that, I'm fishing."

Crane now owns a championship belt, but the belt really belongs to a lot of people. First, there are his family and friends, such as Ricky Crane, Jenifer Crane, Christy Winkler, Eddie Winkler, Hanna Crane, Corey Castell and Sydney Stephenson.

"They support me in anything and everything I do," Crane said.

Then, there are the people in town who've expressed their belief in him and have encouraged him.

"I see people everywhere I go, and they tell me good luck and to keep going. It's just amazing," Crane said, adding, "It most definitely takes a village."

Crane, of course, can't say enough about Cruz.

"I couldn't have done it without Coach," he said. "He's definitely made me the fighter I am today. He's spent endless amounts of hours with me. Late nights, Saturday mornings — you name it, he's there."

Cruz may have helped, but he said Crane has the right approach to be successful in the ring.

"His mindset is clicked onto the gym and is clicked onto his training," Cruz said.

When looking at what he's accomplished in just two years, Crane said, "Hard work and dedication most definitely will pay off in anything you do."

Keystone is SMAC softball runner-up

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights Junior High School's softball team finished as the Suwannee Middle Athletic Conference runner-up after losing 11-1 to second seed Fort White in the April 25 tournament championship game in Lake Butler.

Bailey Amato had the only hits for the fourth seed Indians (4-8), going 2 for 3. One of her hits was a double that led off the top of the fourth. She would advance to third on a ground out by Grace Keaton and score the team's lone run on an error.

Fort White finished the season with a 14-1-1 record.

Keystone beats Lake Butler 12-11 in semifinals

Keystone qualified for the championship game by defeating top seed Lake Butler 12-11 in an April 23 semifinal game in which London Williams hit a bases-loaded triple as part of a seven-run third inning and later drove in what would prove to be the winning run.

The Indians took a 4-0 lead in the top of the first, which began with three consecutive singles from Cadie Bowles, Williams and Rebecca Binet. Bowles scored on Binet's hit. Amato drove in a run on a ground out, followed by Keaton driving in one on a single. Kierstyn Brinson singled, with Keaton being put out at third. Bryley Lee and Kalyn Huffingham were both hit by pitches to load the bases. Kadeance Pace then drew a walk to force a run in.

Lake Butler (8-7) cut the lead in half with a two-run second. Courtney Manning singled, followed by Emily Hunt drawing a walk. Manning scored on a passed ball before Ashlyn Ferris hit an RBI single, making it a 4-2 game.

Keystone scored seven runs in the third to go up 11-2. Keaton singled and scored on a Brinson double. One out later, the Indians loaded the bases with Huffingham and Pace both walked. Bowles drew another walk to force a run in before Williams cleared the bases with



Bailey Amato is pictured at second after hitting a double to lead off the top of the fourth. Amato had Keystone's only hits in the SMAC title game, going 2 for 3.

her triple. Williams scored on a wild pitch to put Keystone up 10-2.

The inning continued with Keystone loading the bases on walks by Binet and Keaton and a single from Brinson. Lee walked to force a run in.

Lake Butler answered with eight runs in the bottom of the inning. Raelynn Alvarez hit a one-out single and advanced on an illegal pitch and a passed ball. Makayla Orton and Kailynn Gulbrand hit a single and a double, respectively, each driving in a run. Gulbrand scored on a passed ball before Manning walked. Hunt hit an RBI double to pull the Tigers to within 11-6.

The Tigers weren't done. After Ferris walked, Jessa Dekle drove in a run on a bunt. Layla Crowe walked before Delaney Rhoden hit a two-run triple. Rhoden scored Lake Butler's 10th run on a passed ball.

Pace led off the top of the fourth with a single and scored on a Williams double for a 12-10 Keystone lead.

Gulbrand doubled to lead off the Tigers' half of the fourth. She scored on a Manning single. Hunt then hit a single, with the Indians putting Manning out at second. After the second out, Dekle walked to put runners on the corners. Keystone pitcher Amato then recorded a strikeout.

Williams and Brinson finished 4 for 4 and 3 for 3, respectively. Keaton went 2 for 2.

Hunt and Manning each went 2 for 2 for the Tigers, while Gulbrand was 2 for 3.

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LBMS defeats BMS for SMAC baseball championship

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Lake Butler Middle School's baseball team built a 7-0 lead after two innings and defeated Bradford 11-4 to win the Suwannee Middle Athletic Conference championship on April 25 in Lake Butler.

It was the third championship in four years for the Tigers, who were making their ninth straight appearance in the title game.

"We expect it," Head Coach Aaron Tetstone said. "We tell them every year that we expect to be here."

The players did their part as the Tigers wrapped up a 15-2-2 season.

"A great group of kids," Tetstone said. "Easy to coach. The desire to play and to get better — they brought that every single day. They just played the game the right way."

Lake Butler got two RBI each from Westyn Miller, Ridge Robinson, Fisher Thomassen and Weston Thompson, while pitchers Miller and Thomassen combined to allow just two hits.

The Tigers, who were the tournament's number-one seed, got off to a fast start. Tristan George and Kiptyn Shuler led off the bottom of the first with walks. Miller and Thomassen then hit back-to-back doubles, with two runs scoring on Miller's hit, while Miller scored on Thomassen's hit. Thompson hit a sacrifice fly to drive in the fourth run.

Lake Butler loaded the bases when Huebner singled, Brody Stephens reached on a dropped third strike and Emery Muse

walked. George came up to bat again, drawing a walk to force a run in for a 5-0 lead.

The Tigers added to their lead in the second. Miller was hit by a pitch and advanced to second on a balk. He scored when the Tornados committed an error on a ground ball hit by Thomassen. Thompson then singled, stole second and advanced to third on a wild pitch. He would score on another wild pitch at Lake Butler went up 7-0.

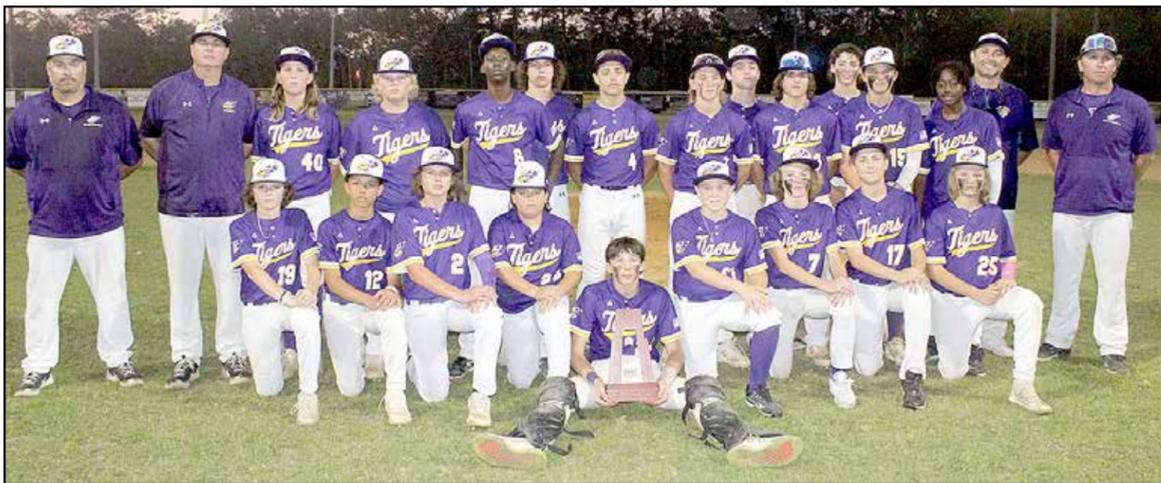
Second seed Bradford (4-7-1) cut the Tigers' lead to three in the third. Julian Rhoden hit a leadoff single, followed by Braxton Mitchell drawing a walk. Kyler Hall was hit by a pitch to load the bases. Rhoden scored on a balk before Damarion "Bug" Dodd hit an RBI single. Gabe Rhoden was hit by a pitch to load the bases again. With two outs, Hall and Dodd both scored on an error.

Lake Butler responded with two runs each in the fifth and sixth innings, while Thomassen pitched a no-hit shutout over the final four innings, walking none and striking out four.

"We always tell them, 'Be mentally tough.' They showed that tonight," Tetstone said of his players.

Miller led off the bottom of the fourth with a single. He stole second and advanced to third on a wild pitch before Thompson walked. Huebner also walked to load the bases and set the stage for Robinson's two-run single to put the Tigers up 9-4.

With two outs and no one on in the fifth, Miller, who went 3 for 3, singled and scored on a



Lake Butler is this year's SMAC baseball champion after defeating Bradford 11-4. It was the third title in the last four years for the Tigers, who finished the season 15-2-2. Pictured are: (front, l-r) Owen Parrish, Dalen Paige, Aden Ranard, Eastyn Miller, Ridge Robinson, Hayden Snyder, Evan Rogers, Bryce Nichols, Shane Huebner, (back, l-r) coaches Lester Miller and Aaron Tetstone, Spencer Legg, Braxton Griffis, Tristan George, Jackson Andersen-Davis, Emery Muse, Weston Thompson, Fisher Thomassen, Westyn Miller, Brody Stephenson, Kiptyn Shuler, Cadenz Merriex and coaches Jordan Robinson and Josh Nichols.

Thomassen double. Thompson then hit an RBI single to end the scoring.

Thomassen and Thompson went 2 for 3 and 2 for 4, respectively.

Miller, who pitched the first three innings, allowed four runs (two earned), two hits and one walk, while striking out three.

Bradford pitchers Hall, Kaedan Parks and Gabe Rhoden combined to strike out 12 batters, with Rhoden fanning two of the three batters he faced in his one inning of work in the sixth.

Semifinal results

Lake Butler reached the championship game by defeating fourth seed Keystone Heights

11-1 in four innings in an April 23 semifinal game.

Complex in Lake Butler.

Pitchers Spencer Legg and Aden Ranard kept Keystone in check. Legg started, giving up one run and four hits through 2.1 innings. Ranard then finished it off, allowing one hit and striking out two.

The Tigers built an 8-0 lead after two innings.

George led off the bottom of the first with a walk, followed by consecutive singles from Shuler and Miller, with George scoring on Miller's hit. Thomassen and Huebner each drove in a run on a ground out to make the score 3-0.

Lake Butler began the second inning the exact same way, with George walking and then scoring after back-to-back singles from Shuler and Miller. After Shuler scored on a wild pitch, Thomassen walked. Thompson then drove in a run on a single, while an error on the play allowed another run to score. Huebner drove in the fifth run of the inning on a ground out.

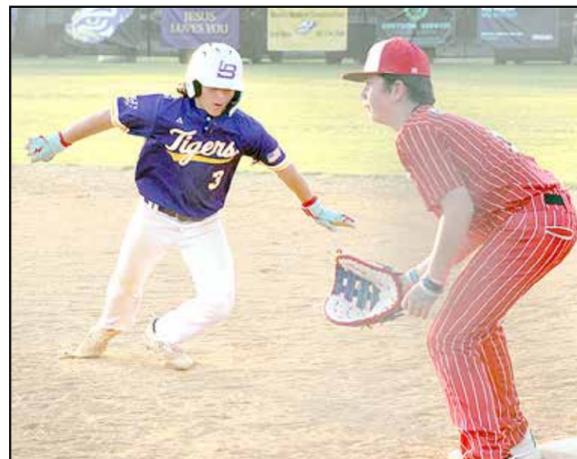
George drew a one-out walk in the third before Shuler hit a home run to make the score 10-1. Miller walked and advanced two bases on an error before scoring on Thomassen's ground out.

Shuler finished 3 for 3, while Miller was 2 for 2.

Thompson went 2 for 3 with an RBI.

Bradford earned its championship-game spot by defeating third seed Fort White 8-4 in the April 23 semifinal round.

The Tornados scored the game's first runs in the second



Lake Butler's Westyn Miller (left) dives back to first, which is covered by Bradford's Braxton Mitchell.

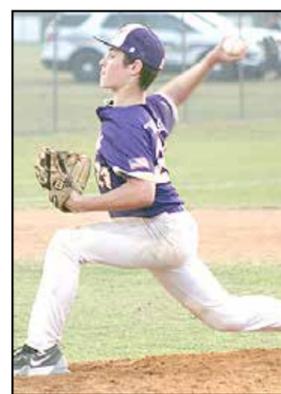
inning. Lucas White walked and scored on a Bryce Cadle double. Charlie Morgan and Julian Rhoden walked before Cadle scored on a passed ball to make it 2-0.

It was 3-1 in favor of the Tornados when they scored two runs in the fourth. Mitchell and Hall both singled and then scored on a Parks double.

The Tornados led 5-4 before scoring their final three runs in the bottom of the sixth. Hall singled and stole second and third. He scored on a single from Dodd. Dodd stole second and third before scoring on Park's fourth double of the game. Gabriel Rhoden followed with his own run-scoring double.

Parks finished 4 for 4 with three RBI, while Cadle and Hall went 2 for 3 and 2 for 4, respectively.

Cadle, Dodd and Gabriel Rhoden each finished with one



Fisher Thomassen threw a no-hitter for the Tigers over the final four innings. He gave up no walks and struck out four.

RBI. Starting pitcher Morgan gave up one run and three hits, while striking out three in four innings.



Lake Butler's Fisher Thomassen (right) prepares to slide safely into home as Bradford catcher Tyler Hall awaits a throw.

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BHS softball team falls 11-6 in District 3-3A semifinal game

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School's softball team scored the first three runs, but eventually lost 11-6 to second seed Palatka in the District 3-3A tournament semifinals on April 30 in Palatka.

The third seed Tornadoes (8-17) got on the board in the first inning when Rylie Blankenship singled and stole second and third before scoring on an Amber Wynn single.

Bradford went up 3-0 in the second. Kallie Yowell walked and advanced on a Tinsley Higginbotham bunt. Yowell moved to third on a passed ball with two outs and scored on a Blankenship single. Blankenship stole second before scoring on a Wynn single.

Palatka (11-15) scored seven runs in the fourth inning to go up by four.

It was 9-3 when Bradford scored its final three runs in the sixth. Blankenship walked, while Wynn singled. Addyson Hinds ground into a double play, but Blankenship was able to score. Keegan Yowell reached on an error before Madison Highland hit a home run to center field.

Wynn finished 3 for 4, while Kallie Yowell went 2 for 3.

Blankenship and Keegan Yowell each went 2 for 4.

The Tornadoes reached the semifinals by defeating sixth seed Crescent City 16-0 in three innings on April 29.

Bradford scored 12 runs in the first inning. Blankenship singled and scored on a Wynn double. Hinds and Keegan Yowell were hit by pitches to load the bases for Highland, who hit the first of her two-run singles. After Summer Sutton was hit by a pitch, Kallie

Yowell and Higginbotham hit back-to-back RBI singles for a 5-0 lead.

The inning continued with Carly Beggs and Blankenship drawing consecutive bases-loaded walks to score two runs. Hinds drove in a run on a sacrifice fly before Keegan Yowell walked to load the bases. Highland stepped to the plate and delivered again with a single that plated two runs. Sutton followed with her own two-run single to complete the scoring in the first.

Higginbotham and Highland, who had four RBI, each went 2 for 2, while Sutton had two RBI.

Beggs, Blankenship, Higginbotham, Hinds, Wynn and Kallie Yowell all finished with one RBI each.

Keegan Yowell earned the win in the circle, giving up two hits.

Prior to the tournament, the Tornadoes went 0-2 in their final two regular-season games.

On April 23, Bradford lost 14-0 in five innings to visiting Suwannee. Sutton went 2 for 2, but the rest of the team was 2 for 17.

The Tornadoes traveled to Branford on April 25, losing 4-1.

It was a 4-0 game before Bradford scored its lone run in the fourth on a Beggs single with two outs.

Beggs, Blankenship and Wynn each went 2 for 3, while Keegan Yowell was 2 for 4.

Pitcher Bailey Smith gave up two earned runs in a complete-game effort.

UCHS loses in softball semis

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Shyla Crowe and Brooke Hunt each hit a double, but those were the only hits for the Union County High School softball team, which lost 14-1 to top seed Fort White in the District 6-1A tournament semifinals on April

30.

The fifth seed Tigers (14-9) trailed 11-0 when Leanne Dicks bunted and reached on an error with one out in the top of the fourth. Dicks advanced to second on a wild pitch before scoring on Crowe's hit with two outs.

Union batters struck out 14 times as Fort White improved to 12-4.

The Tigers advanced to the semifinals off a 10-6 win over fourth seed Bell in the tournament's April 29 quarterfinal game.

Jaydin Alvarez hit a three-run homer to help the Tigers build a 10-2 lead and finished with four RBI overall.

Union scored the game's first runs in the third inning. The Tigers loaded the bases with singles from Mia Kent and Jaielyn Simmons and a walk by Alvarez. Emma Handley drove in a run and reached on an error. Dicks hit an RBI single before Simmons scored on a passed ball. Crowe made it 4-0 when she drove in a run on a sacrifice fly.

After Bell (12-13) answered with two runs in the bottom of the third, Union scored three runs in each of the next two innings.

Hunt and Kent both singled to start the fourth. Alvarez then homered to left field to put the Tigers up 7-2.

Mackenzie Orton reached on an error to start the fifth. After a Crowe single, Campbell Webb hit an RBI double. Hunt and Alvarez hit back-to-back run-scoring singles to make it a 10-2 game.

Alvarez finished 2 for 2, while Hunt, Kent and Webb each went 2 for 4.

Crowe, Dicks, Handley, Hunt and Webb each had one RBI.

The Tigers entered the tournament off a 12-6 win over visiting Chiefland on April 23 and a 13-3 win at North Marion on April 25.

Union scored all but two of its runs against Chiefland in the first two innings.

Handley led off what was a five-run first with a triple. Dicks and Orton walked to load the bases before Handley scored on a passed ball. Crowe drove in a run on a sacrifice fly. Webb was hit by a pitch, while Hunt walked to load the bases again. Kent walked to force a run in, while an Alvarez ground out scored another. The first run scored when Hunt crossed home plate on a passed ball.

The Tigers scored five runs in the second. Dicks reached on a fielder's choice, while Orton walked. Crowe reached on an error, which scored both runners. A Webb single and a Hunt walk loaded the bases. Alvarez walked to force a run in before Simmons hit a two-run single.

Crowe finished with three RBI, while Alvarez and Simmons each had two. Kent had one RBI.

Hunt and Handley went 2 for 2 and 2 for 3, respectively, while Webb went 2 for 4.

Skyler Moates pitched a complete game, giving up one earned run and seven hits.

Crowe pitched a complete game in the win over North Marion, giving up one earned run, three hits and one walk, while striking out three.

The Tigers led 8-2 after two innings.

A five-run first began with a Handley single. Orton and Crowe then hit back-to-back RBI doubles. Webb singled before Hunt drove in two runs on another single. Kent ended the inning's scoring with an RBI double.

Handley led off the second with a double and scored on a Dicks single. Orton reached on an error, which scored a run. Crowe then drove in a run on a sacrifice fly.

Kent finished with three RBI, going 2 for 3. Crowe, Dicks and Hunt each had two RBI, with Dicks going 2 for 4.

Handley and Webb went 2 for 2 and 2 for 3, respectively.

Tigers reach district baseball title game

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Kacen Thomassen pitched a one-hitter as the Union County High School baseball team advanced to the District 6-1A tournament championship game with an 11-1 semifinal win over sixth seed Hamilton County on April 30.

The second seed Tigers (14-12) were scheduled to play top seed Lafayette (20-2) in the championship on Wednesday, May 1, at 7 p.m. in Hilliard.

Union scored all but two of its runs in the third inning. With one out, Preston Bonsall singled, stole second and advanced to third on a wild pitch. Trenton Klein reached on a fielder's choice, with Bonsall scoring on the play. After Thomassen was hit by a pitch, Jake Walker hit a two-run single, making it a 4-0 game.

The Tigers scored six more runs in the inning with two outs. Devin Diggs was hit by a pitch before Walker scored on a wild pitch. Riggs Davis hit a single to score Diggs. After Ayden Androlevich was hit by a pitch, Davis stole third and scored on a wild pitch. Dallen Cox walked, followed by a Bonsall two-run double. Klein drove in the ninth run of the inning on a single.

Bonsall, who went 2 for 3, was one of four players with two RBI each, joining Davis, Klein and Walker.

Thomassen didn't give up a hit until the fourth inning. He pitched four innings, allowing just one walk and striking out five.

Davis threw the final inning, giving up no hits.

Union entered the tournament off a 2-1 win over visiting Baker County in their regular-season



Jake Walker was one of two players to drive in two runs as part of a nine-run third inning in Union's 11-1 District 6-1A semifinal win.

finale on April 25.

The Tigers got the win despite getting only two hits.

It was 1-0 in favor of Baker when the Tigers tied it in the fourth. Klein reached on an error, while Thomassen was hit by a pitch. After a sacrifice bunt by Walker, Klein scored on a wild pitch with two outs.

The game-winning run occurred in the fifth. Landen Miller reached on a dropped third strike, while Cox and Bonsall both walked to load the bases. Miller was picked off at third, but Klein was hit by a pitch to load the bases again. Thomassen then drew a walk to force a run in.

Starting pitcher Erick Lasseter threw six innings, allowing one run, four hits and no walks, while striking out three.

Diggs threw the final inning, giving up no runs and one walk. He had one strikeout.

Tigers defeat Tornadoes in extra innings

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Trenton Klein scored the winning run on a passed ball as the Union County High School baseball team defeated visiting Bradford 3-2 in nine innings on April 23.

Klein was hit by a pitch to lead off the bottom of the ninth. Kacen Thomassen then walked. After both runners stole a base, Klein took advantage of the opportunity to score without his team needing to put the ball in play.

Union starting pitcher Clayton Poppell threw 6.2 innings, allowing five hits and two walks, while striking out three.

Preston Bonsall finished it off for the Tigers (12-12), giving up no hits and no walks, while striking out five.

Bradford (9-12) scored the game's first run when Jeffrey Brugh hit a two-out double and scored on an error in the third inning.

The Tornadoes took a 2-0 lead in the fourth. Mattox Burgin and Ryder Thompson both singled before Burgin scored on Patrick Pendarvis' two-out single.

Devin Diggs tied the score in the fifth, hitting a first-pitch home run to left that also scored Erick Lasseter, who reached on a single.

The homer was just one of two hits given up by Bradford

starting pitcher Cason Pilcher, who walked two and struck out 12 in eight innings.

BHS baseball team falls 9-1 in District 2-3A quarterfinals

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Bradford High School's baseball team was held to five hits in a 9-1 loss to fourth seed West Nassau in an April 29 District 2-3A tournament quarterfinal game in Callahan.

The fifth seed Tornadoes (9-14) took the early lead with a run in the top of the first. Ryland Rike, who reached on a fielder's choice, stole second and advanced to third on a Ryder Thompson ground out. He scored when the Warriors committed an error on a Mattox Burgin fly ball.

West Nassau (13-12) scored five runs in the bottom of the first.

Jeffrey Brugh went 2 for 4 for Bradford, which also got a double from Patrick Pendarvis.

Bradford entered the tournament off an 8-2 loss to visiting Baldwin in the regular-season finale on April 25.

The Tornadoes trailed 5-0 before scoring both of their runs in the third. Brugh and Rike singled, with Brugh scoring on a Thompson sacrifice fly. Rike later scored on a wild pitch.

Brugh finished 3 for 4.

BEGGS

Continued from page 9

during the regular season (23 games) with four doubles, seven RBI and 13 runs scored, said when it comes to successfully transitioning to the college game, she wants to improve her throwing from the outfield. She also wants to work on not letting her mind affect her play.

"I get really in my head sometimes during games," Beggs said.

Yowell said Beggs already possesses the attribute that'll help her make the improvements she needs to make. It's that hunger and desire to get better that Yowell, Blankenship, Gilliam and Steadman all talked about.

"I would say the biggest thing that's going to help her is her want-to and her not being afraid to ask (questions)," Yowell said.

The BHS coach also said that what she likes about Beggs is that she's always rooting for her teammates, even if her game's not going the way she wants it to.

"She wants what's best for her team," Yowell said. "She wants to see her teammates succeed. She's always uplifting. Even if she's down, she's always uplifting, always encouraging."

So, what will it feel like when she takes to the field for the first time with her Reid State teammates?

"I'm definitely going to be nervous," Beggs said, "but there will be a lot of excitement, I think."

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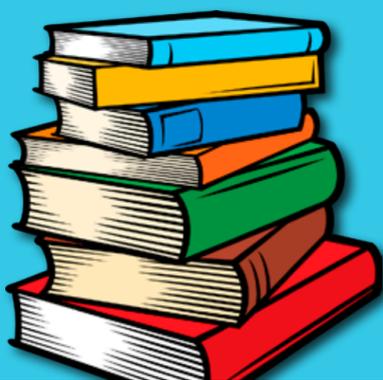
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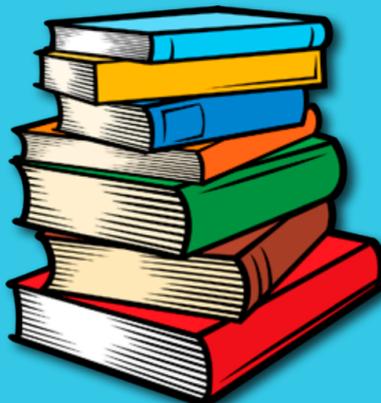


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