

# Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, July 14, 2022

142nd year, 47th Issue — \$1

## Union JROTC cadets earn national finalist honors

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Times Editor

(Editor's Note: Thanks go to Tiger Battalion Communications Officer Alexis Cox for compiling most of the information used in this article.)

Union County High School's JROTC Leadership Team recently competed as finalists at the 2022 U.S. Army JROTC Leadership Bowl Championship, held June 19-23 on the campus of The Catholic University of America in Washington DC. The event was sponsored by the U.S. Army Cadet Command and conducted by the College Options Foundation.

The UCHS Team earned national finalist status, earning top scores out of 1,371 Army JROTC teams from around the world and was one of only 40 teams in the nation to advance to the final competition. They were one of only three teams from Florida to advance to the finals.

The first two phases of the competition were conducted online, testing the cadet's knowledge of current events, leadership values and skills and financial literacy. The team's scores on this portion of the competition earned them finalist status, which came with an all-expense paid trip to the championship event.

After the competition was finished, UCHS JROTC placed in the Top 20 and all of the cadets received two prestigious awards for qualifying as national finalists — the General George C. Marshall Award and the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership



The cadets on their arrival at the competition. Pictured are (l-r): Senior Army Instructor LTC (Ret) Kevin Steverson, Alexis Cox, Adrianna Gonzalez, Emma Fulton, Adam Ali and Chaperone Jaelyn Steverson.

Award.

Needless to say, the cadets were well pleased with both the honor of competing in the finals and their performance in the competition. They also enjoyed experiencing the nation's capital, where, in addition to competing, they visited many of the national monuments and seats of government.

"I was just excited for them to get this opportunity because it does not

come around often," said Sr. Army Instructor Lt. (Ret.) Col. Kevin Steverson. "It is neat to come from a rural community and experience something like this. It was very exciting."

"Getting to go on this trip was one of the most rewarding things I've done," said Cadet Emma Fulton. "Being from a small town we don't get to see or even experience the things we did on this trip very often.

This was my first time ever being on a plane and going to Washington, DC. We also got to go on the Metro and walk around a lot of the city. We got to see so many incredible things, including the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument. It's and experience I'll never forget. It solidified my idea of wanting to go into the military and it made me all the more sure," said Cadet Emma Fulton.

See JROTC, page 7

## Mother wins \$650,000 from landlord in mold claim

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

STARKE — A Bradford County jury awarded Deangela Hill, acting on behalf of her 7-year-old son, \$650,000 in damages for the boy's medical conditions resulting from mold in their rental home.

During a two-day trial that ended on Wednesday, July 6, defendant and landlord Charles Jackson told jurors that Hill brought the mold into the Starke home with contaminated furniture and clothing. He added that the fungus grew within the residence because the plaintiff put cardboard in the windows to keep sunlight out of the house and lower her power bill.

Jackson also claimed that many of Hill's witnesses, who testified about

the condition of the residence, were her friends and therefore biased.

Hill wept in the witness box as she described to jurors the confusion and helplessness she felt as her son's health worsened and the mold within the house appeared to worsen.

"It was to the point that I was bagging my stuff up in bags," she said. "I didn't know what was going on. I was just trying to save all my stuff. It was bad. I lost everything. I was trying to understand what was going on. I didn't know. I was a single woman, living there by myself. It was in my icebox. I was storing food in my room because I didn't know what was going on."

Hill described the day she decided to leave the residence, which was also her birthday.

"I went into my son's room, and I pulled his dresser back," she recalled. "I didn't know how bad it was. I pulled his dresser back, and it was covered in mold, and he was living and sleeping in there the whole time. I didn't realize it was so bad."

Hill said that when she saw the conditions in her son's room, she called the boy's grandparents, who took her son into their home.

### Thrown out of the courtroom

Jackson acted as his own lawyer. Circuit Judge Gloria Walker instructed the defendant throughout the proceedings to not talk over witnesses. She also instructed him

to ask witnesses questions rather than make his own assertions during testimony, to watch his tone while questioning witnesses, and to only show jurors photos that had been entered into evidence.

At one point, Walker threw Jackson out of the courtroom for chewing gum. When cross-examining Hill, Jackson accused her of being an opportunist and trying to use the court system to take advantage of him.

"What I was trying to do was protect my children," Hill shot back. "You don't even know what you did to us. I'm their mother. I had to think for them. I didn't want to take it this far with you, but you showed no concern about us. You lied, and you are still lying, and my child is involved."

## From A's to D's, school grades are in

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

Clay County is an A school district once again, while Union received a B, and Bradford remains a C.

This is the third year in a row Clay County earned an A, nonconsecutively because grades were not issued in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic, and 2021 grades were optional and assigned only by request. Union received its fifth B in a row, and Bradford received its seventh C in a row.

Grades are based on student performance on standardized tests and, in higher grades, accelerated work

and graduation rates. Points are assigned for each achievement level, including learning gains achieved in English and mathematics, and improvement in the lowest quartile of students. The percentage received of the total possible points determines the district and individual school grades.

Receiving an A



requires earning 62% or more of the total possible points.

That's what Clay County did overall, earning 63%. The elementary schools at Keystone Heights and McRae received B grades after receiving A's in 2019. (KHES also received an A in 2021.) McRae was only one percentage point away from an A this year.

Keystone Heights Junior-Senior High

School maintained a B for the third time in a row, but it was just one percentage point above a C.

All Union County schools opted into a school grade for 2021 and they maintained those grades this year: Lake Butler Elementary School received an A, Lake Butler Middle School received a C and Union County High received a B. It was the third A in a row for the elementary school and sixth B in a row for the high school.

With 62% of the possible points, Lake Butler Elementary had just enough to earn that A. Two more percentage points would have given

See GRADES, page 7



COMMUNITY  
STATE BANK  
WHERE TODAY MEETS TOMORROW

Proud to Sponsor

# WORTH NOTING

### Drive-thru backpack giveaway

Partnership for Strong Families will be conducting a Back-to-School Giveaway at the Bradford High School bus loop on Saturday, July 23, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The drive-thru giveaway will provide free backpacks, school supplies and important resource information from community agencies.

Participating agencies include UF MIECHV, Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, One More Child, Bradford Community Coalition, Bradford County Health Department, Alachua WIC, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, Hanley Foundation, and Florida Department of Children and Families.

### Back-to-School Splash: Free school supplies

Looking for something to do with your family this summer? Have children going to school this fall? Come enjoy a day full of fun and games at Faith Presbyterian Church of Melrose's 4th annual Back-to-School Splash event Saturday, July 30, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event will be fun for the whole family as children play games to win school supplies, create imaginative crafts, run through sprinklers and slide down a 20-foot water slide. Breakfast bites and lunch will be available for purchase, as well as a variety of different items from the weekly farmers' market. Faith Presbyterian Church is located at 2738 Southeast County Road 21 in Melrose.

### Vote Lawtey

There will be a voter registration drive with refreshments provided on Friday, July 22, at 6 p.m. at Macedonia Freewill Baptist Church in Lawtey.

Bring someone who needs to register, or needs encouragement to vote. This is a nonpartisan event to encourage voting, and all are welcome to attend.

July 25 is the last day to register to vote in the August primaries. For further information, please call 352-283-5536.

Your LOCAL  
**CHEVY One-Stop  
Shopping Center**

# DUVAL

CHEVROLET

**CHEVROLET**

**New 22 Models!**

**Free \$50 gift card with every test drive.**

*No purchase necessary while supplies last.*

10% OFF Service with this ad. Starke location only.

Vehicles in ad photos may not be available on lot at this dealership.

1018 N. Temple Avenue • Starke, FL 32091  
(904) 964-7500 | [www.DuvalChevy.com](http://www.DuvalChevy.com)

Weekly deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. • Phone 904-964-6305 • Fax 904-964-8628



# Lawtey fires maintenance supervisor

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

LAWTEY — The city of Lawtey terminated Maintenance Supervisor Dale Herring during its July 5 meeting after the Department of Corrections revoked Herring's certification to supervise inmates.

Council member Tim Mulkey made the motion to fire Herring, saying that if he could not supervise inmates, he could not fulfill his job duties.

Mulkey and Lawtey police said several residents complained about Herring being negligent while supervising inmates. They

also cited complaints about maintenance work not being completed.

The measure passed 3-2, with Emily Hoffman and Debra Norman voting against it.

Norman said Herring's employment issues should have been handled earlier and more professionally.

"I believe that everybody, no matter what, if we make a mistake, everybody should be given that option of a second chance," Norman said. "If he needed to be retrained, if he was not doing something right when complaints started coming in, that's when it should have been

addressed, maybe several months ago instead of letting things just slide and escalate."

Hoffman asserted that Mulkey exceeded his authority as a council member when he told Herring to turn in his keys.

"I was kind of shocked and all and surprised that you did call him," Hoffman told Mulkey. "I feel you undermined me as a council person and the whole council by contacting him because you didn't have the authority."

Hoffman noted that as maintenance supervisor, Herring reported both to Hoffman because Hoffman oversees the

city's water and sewer system, and Mulkey, who is responsible for Lawtey's streets and sanitation.

She added that upon learning that Herring could no longer supervise inmates, the council should have held an emergency meeting.

Hoffman also complained that Herring's city personnel file had no negative comments about his job performance.

She added that she recently learned that Lawtey City Clerk Lisa Harley's husband was the person who complained to Lawtey Correctional Institution management about Herring's



Lawtey City Council Member Emily Hoffman (center) listens to City Clerk Lisa Harley while Mayor Jimmie Scott looks on.

supervision of inmates. Hoffman said those complaints led to FDC revoking Herring's authorization to supervise them.

"That was never brought up," Hoffman said. "I don't control my husband," Harley replied.

<p><b>TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY &amp; THURSDAY:</b>  <b>THOR: LOVE AND THUNDER</b> PG-13 7:00 (DOWNSTAIRS)  <b>MINIONS: THE RISE OF GRU</b> PG 7:15 (UPSTAIRS)  <b>WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING</b> PG-13 7:00 (DOWNSTAIRS)  <b>THOR: LOVE AND THUNDER</b> PG-13 7:15 (UPSTAIRS)</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY:</b>  <b>WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING</b> 4:00 &amp; 7:00 (DOWNSTAIRS) PG-13  <b>THOR: LOVE AND THUNDER</b> 4:30 &amp; 7:30 (UPSTAIRS) PG-13  <b>WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING</b> 4:00 &amp; 7:00 (DOWNSTAIRS) PG-13  <b>THOR: LOVE AND THUNDER</b> 4:30 &amp; 7:30 (UPSTAIRS) PG-13</p>
<p><b>Weds. KIDS MOVIE: SPIRIT: UNTAMED 10 am &amp; 1 pm</b>  <b>\$5 ea includes small popcorn &amp; drink for kids!</b>  <small>(BOTH SCREENS)</small></p>	

## Grants focus on sewer, water improvements

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

Starke has applied for state funds to continue upgrading sewer lines in the city.

This latest application for Community Development Block Grant funds requests \$700,000 to replace watermains and install fire hydrants in the northeast Starke. The city will contribute \$50,000 of American Recovery Plan Act as a match to the project. The amount covers the cost of construction, engineering, grant administration, etc.

Proposed improvements

include the construction of 2,525 linear feet of water main to replace the existing water main that is located on Brownlee Street between Oak Street and Old Lawtey Road and along Old Lawtey Road between Brownlee Street and North Street. Five fire hydrants would also be installed in the area.

Grant writer Andy Easton participated in two public hearings on the CDBG grant application.

Starke's most recent CDBG grant was used to reconstruct a lift station, and the city continues to reconstruct its wastewater

system piece by piece as funding becomes available. As Easton pointed out, \$700,000 doesn't go very far.

The city is under multiple consent orders from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection requiring that the city address problems, including the infiltration of stormwater which causes sewage spills and poses a threat to environmental and public safety.

Starke's Citizen Advisory Task Force met to recommend the city commission move forward with the application.

The city will be competing

with hundreds of other cities around the state. Its application received additional points for proposing improvements in a lower income area.

Commissioner Danny Nugent also wants to seek grant funding for additional fire hydrants and

Hampton is seeking a \$600,000 CDBG grant of its own. The city is proposing improvements to its water plant, including drilling a new well, replacing the well casing, pump, electric system and piping. The local match is \$25,000.

# 904-964-3737

- ★ Liftstation Maintenance & Repair
- ★ Sewer Line Camera & Jetting
- ★ Septic Pumping & Inspections
- ★ Septic & Drain Field Installations
- ★ Commercial/ Residential Plumbing
- ★ Sump Pump Replacement

## 24/7 SERVICES

# 2.00% APY\*

65 month CD | \$10,000 min. balance

# 1.85% APY\*

26 month JUMBO CD | \$100,000 min. balance  
or 1.75% APY\* | \$5,000 min. balance

# 1.55% APY\*

18 month JUMBO CD | \$100,000 min. balance  
or 1.50% APY\* | \$5,000 min. balance

# 1.30% APY\*

13 month JUMBO CD | \$100,000 min. balance  
or 1.25% APY\* | \$5,000 min. balance

A Certificate of Deposit (CD) from Florida Credit Union grows your money without the worry of market uncertainties.

IRA CD SPECIALS ALSO AVAILABLE

fclu.org/cd  
386-755-4141

Insured by NCUA FCLUMNFP0395-0722

\*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 07/01/22. Terms, restrictions and conditions apply. See share certificate agreement for current rates, terms and requirements. Must be funded with money currently not on deposit at Florida Credit Union. Minimum balance to open share certificate varies per certificate with a maximum of \$5,000,000. After maturity, if you choose to roll over your CD, you will earn dividends according to the CD agreement or at the then current APY as stated on www.fclu.org at that time. Limited time offer subject to change at any time without notice. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawals which may reduce earnings. Fees may reduce earnings. Visit www.fclu.org for membership eligibility requirements. Florida Credit Union - P.O. Box 5549, Gainesville, FL 32627.

# BACK TO SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY

**28TH JULY 6-8:30PM**

\$20 GIFT CARD TO THE FIRST 50 SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS ACCOMPANIED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN

GIVEAWAYS

LAKE BUTLER FAMILY & PEDIATRIC CLINIC

MEET THE PROVIDERS, REFRESHMENTS, SNOW CONES, COTTON CANDY, POPCORN, EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

CALL TODAY TO PRE-REGISTER FOR FREE SPORTS PHYSICALS

LAKE BUTLER FAMILY & PEDIATRIC CLINIC  
575 SE 3RD AVENUE, LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054  
386-496-1922

# Church News



## Food distribution next Thursday

There will be a food distribution at Starke Church of God by Faith, 730 Old Lawtey Road, on Thursday, July 21, from 10 a.m. to noon. Distribution may begin earlier, depending on the arrival time of the FarmShare delivery truck.

## Homecoming at New River Baptist

New River Baptist Church, located at 16703 SW 144th Ave. in Brooker, will have its 189th homecoming service on Sunday, July 17, at 10:30 a.m.

Founded in 1833, New River Baptist Church is the second oldest existing Baptist church in the state of Florida. Please be our guest for services on that exciting day.

Sunday school begins at 9:15 a.m. followed by the morning worship service at 10:30. Following the morning service will be a covered dish lunch in the fellowship hall. Come see what God has been doing and bring a dish to share at the fellowship.

For more information, please call 352-485-1246 or 904-796-2359.

## Women's conference at New Bethel

Women of Bradford County and surrounding areas: You are invited to come together for the first Community Women's Conference at New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 901 Keller St. in Starke, on Friday and Saturday, July 22-23, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please register no later than July 10 with a donation of \$10 by contacting: Glory Jackson, 942 Oak St.; Linda Nichols, 1104 Dell St.; or Mary Underwood, 1190 Old Lawtey Road.

## VBS at Sardis Baptist

There will be classes for all ages, including adult Bible study, during Sardis Baptist Church's vacation Bible school. The fun begins at 6 p.m. July 10-14; classes are from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. nightly. For more information, please call 386-496-3685.

## VBS at St. William

Parachute with the Angels at St. William Catholic Church's vacation Bible school for grades K-6. From July 11 to 15, activities will take place from 9 to 11 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday,

Thursday and Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday. Please call the office for more info at 352-473-4136. The church is located at 210 SW Peach St. in Keystone Heights.

**VBS at Raiford First Baptist**  
Vacation Bible school at First Baptist Church of Raiford is "All about Jesus!" Along with the message there will be singing, crafts and water fun. Lunch will be served.

Kids ages 5 to 12 are welcome. The date is Saturday, July 16, from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The church is located at 13175 N. CR 229 in Raiford. Call 904-782-7050 if you need a ride.

**Senior Food Program**  
Fellowship Baptist Church off S.R. 121 in Raiford has a new food program for seniors 60 and above taking place on the second Saturday of each month. Stop by the church to fill out a form, or get a copy by emailing Fbcchildrendirector@gmail.com.

# Kindergarten, new student registration underway

Free pre-K also available

BY EVELYN CHASTAIN  
Bradford County Schools

Summer days are counting down to Aug. 10, the first day for Bradford County School District students.

New students to the district and first time kindergarten students are encouraged to complete registration as early as possible. Many enrollment steps can be completed online at [www.bradfordschools.org](http://www.bradfordschools.org).

On the website, choose "Student Registration." Scroll down to "New to District: Create FOCUS Account and Enroll PK - 12 student". If parents already have a FOCUS account, choose "Existing FOCUS Account with District: Enroll Additional PK-12 student."

Don't be overwhelmed. Help is available at all school sites Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for questions and guidance.

Currently, 178 kindergarteners have completed the registration process including summer VPK students. VPK prepares 4-year-old early learners for success in kindergarten and beyond. VPK helps build a strong foundation for school using educational material corresponding to various stages in a child's development. VPK provides opportunities for social skill development and getting along with others. Students who turn 4 before Sept. 1 can enroll in free VPK by calling 904-966-6896.

**Kindergarten** (Child is age 5 by Sept. 1, 2022)

Students who turn 5 before Sept. 1 will become the Class of 2035 as they start kindergarten in August. School offices are open Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through July 28.



Allison Harper is all smiles during summer VPK. Each enrolling kindergartener receives a sport sack and book.

Florida law specifies that children who have attained the age of 5 years on or before Sept. 1 of the school year are eligible for admission to public kindergarten during that school year based on rules prescribed by the school board. Students are eligible for kindergarten attendance provided they meet the age requirement.

The following information is required to enroll a student in a Florida school:

—Proof of age. A certified birth certificate for US citizens may be requested online at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/howto/w2w/w2welcom.htm>. If a birth certificate is not available refer to 1003.21, FS, for other acceptable documentation.

—A Florida Certificate of Immunization, Form 680 (blue card), completed by a Florida physician or by a Florida county health department. Parents should obtain a copy of their child's complete immunization history before leaving their current residence, as this form is not available to the general public. Information on Florida school immunization requirements is available at [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Family/school/parent/parent\\_info.html](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Family/school/parent/parent_info.html).

—Evidence of a medical exam completed no less than 12 months prior to the child's school entry date. As long as the medical exam meets this 12-month requirement, parents may submit this information on the School-Entry Health Exam Form (DH 3040) or provide a copy of the exam obtained from their current physician before moving to Florida. This form and the accompanying guide are available online at <https://bit.ly/3o09Gfq>.

—Official documentation that the parent(s) or guardian(s) is a legal resident(s) of the school district attendance area.

## Bradford County adds to road priority list

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Three roads have been recently added to the priority list in Bradford County: Northwest 38th Avenue, Southwest 106th Avenue and Northwest 84th Avenue.

Roads on this priority list are being reworked or paved with local gas tax revenue.

Next up on the list is Southeast 48th Avenue in Deerwood Subdivision where a new urgent care center is also being constructed. The estimated cost to repave is \$150,000 for the 0.33-mile street. Following that, the road department will repave 0.3 miles on Southeast Second Avenue for an estimated cost of \$35,000.

The list continues with milled

roads that need to be reworked and fogsealed: Northwest 177th Street, Northwest 62nd Street, Northeast 171st Street, and Southwest 104th Avenue.

Public Works Director Jason Dodds notes on the list that two milled roads need to be paved at some point in the future because the fogseal has failed. They are Northwest 219th Street and Northeast 204th Street.

Likewise he is recommending that the newly added Southwest 106th Avenue, which was previously milled, be paved.

The other new priorities — Southwest 85th and Northwest 84th — will be reworked and fogsealed.

## Reviewing FDOT priorities

Florida Department of Transportation budgeted nearly \$2.3 million to resurface County Road 225 between U.S. 301 and State Road 16 this year. The next fiscal year, \$3.7 million was added to resurface County Road 235 between State Road 100 and County Road 231.

Southwest County Road 237 has been programmed into FDOT's budget for 2024.

Other FDOT projects include:

**2023**  
—Construct Palatka to Lake Butler Trail from S.R. 100 to Southeast 36th Avenue, \$258,000.

See ROADS, page 7

## VOTE: TOM GERMANO FOR BRADFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 4!



Hello...my name is **Tom Germano**.

Many of you will remember me from my run for County Commissioner for District 4 in 2018. While I did not win that election, I felt a strong responsibility to stay deeply involved with the community, county, and state, that I love. I have attended and participated in countless County Commission meetings, workshops, and budget meetings, as well as many other community workshops and events.



For the past 5 years, I have served with several community organizations and boards. A few examples include representing Bradford County as State Committeeman for the Republican Party of Florida, Chairman of the Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District, Chair of Staff Parrish Relations at Keystone United Methodist Church, Board Member of the Melrose Volunteer Fire Department, Member of the FDOT (Bradford) Community Traffic Safety Team, Board Member of the Santa Fe Lake Dwellers Association and the Past-President of the Melrose Business and Community Association.

I have worked towards keeping our county safe; our waters clean and protecting us all from a potential Phosphate Mine that will have far-reaching effects on our beautiful landscape and aquifer. These are not things I plan or promise to do, these are things I have done!

I could tell you that all we need to do is fix our budget and our county would be ok. Unfortunately, that is not true. Yes, our budget needs work but there is so much more that can be done with the right leadership. We need to stop wasteful spending. A good example is a Fire Station that cost close to \$1 million dollars, 3

times what was initially budgeted, and has sat empty for almost 3 years because it failed its state inspection. The designation had to be changed to a "warehouse."

Finally, just a couple of months before election time, Fire Trucks appeared in the warehouse during the day. Unfortunately, since there is no sleeping quarters, they must return to Theresa at 5:30 p.m. Those of us who live in the area were told that we would save money on our insurance. That has never happened; instead, we are faced with throwing more money, in the form of our taxes, at the warehouse to make it usable as a fire station.

We also need revenue for the county! Revenue that does not burden our citizens with additional taxes in the form of assessments and surcharges! We must have new and creative ways to support our Fire/EMS, Sheriff's office, and Road Department, 3 of the most critical departments in our county.

I am not related to anyone in the county, I have never been paid to work for the county, I will only collect one salary from the county and most importantly, I am not beholden to any individual, department, or business in the county. I will work for all Bradford residents. I have been a part-time resident of Bradford County since I was 5 years old, I purchased a home here in 2004, and my wife and I moved here full-time as soon as we were able. I chose to live here!

I encourage you to allow me to keep my work moving forward in the county. Early voting is from August 8th to August 21st, and this is an open election, all parties may vote! Election day is August 23rd. There is no General Election for the Commissioner races in Bradford. Please remember... your vote counts!

Please contact me at [tom@tomgermano.com](mailto:tom@tomgermano.com), should you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. I would like to hear from you!

POLITICAL CAMPAIGN AD PAID FOR BY TOM GERMANO, REPUBLICAN FOR BRADFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 4.



## DUKES LEGAL, P.A.

M. AARON DUKES, ESQ  
Post Office Box 328  
Lake Butler, Florida 32054  
386-269-2394  
Dukeslegal.com



Asset Protection | Bankruptcy | Debt Defense  
Business Formation | Estate Planning | Probate | Litigation | Real Estate | Property

## Come Together Day

The Lawtey-Peetsville Community Come Together Day on Saturday, July 30, will be a fun day of activities for the entire family. There will be games, music, vendors, a car show, food trucks and free food for children. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Lawtey Recreational Department on Middleburg Road.

## JBS Jackson Building Supply

*"Serving Our Community For Over 60 Years"*

• LUMBER & BUILDING MATERIALS	• HAND & POWER TOOLS
• PAINT, LADDERS & SUPPLIES	• HOME & FARM HARDWARE
• ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING SUPPLIES	• BATHROOM VANITIES
• METAL ROOFING & SHINGLES	• HOT WATER HEATERS
• DOORS & WINDOWS	• LAWN & GARDEN

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

THE ORIGINAL BRADFORD • UNION • CLAY COUNTIES

## REGIONAL CHURCH DIRECTORY

Supported by Nearby Local Businesses, Services & Merchants who encourage you to

*Worship in the house of the Lord... Somewhere this week!*

<b>JBS JACKSON BUILDING SUPPLY</b> <i>"I am the way, the truth &amp; the life. No one comes to the Father but through me" John 14:6</i> Starke 904-964-6078 Lake Butler 386-496-3079	<b>R ROBERTS INSURANCE</b> EXPERIENCE, SERVICE & GREAT RATES Starke Keystone Heights Middleburg Lake Butler 904.964.7826 352.473.7209 904.282.7055 356.496.3411 <a href="http://www.georgerobertsins.com">www.georgerobertsins.com</a>	<b>Bryan's ACE Hardware</b> Starke 904-964-4642 Melrose 352-475-2400 Keystone Hts 352-473-4006
<b>Southland Surveying &amp; Mapping, Inc.</b> Professional land surveying and mapping services since 1975 <a href="http://www.SouthlandSurvey.com">www.SouthlandSurvey.com</a> 386-496-3107 Licensed AL, FL, GA	<b>COMMUNITY STATE BANK</b> WHERE TODAY MEETS TOMORROW <a href="http://www.communitystatebank-fl.com">www.communitystatebank-fl.com</a> Starke • Lake Butler • Interlachen	<b>First United Methodist Church</b> 200 N. Walnut St. • Starke (904) 964-6864 <b>FirstUMC.cc</b>
<b>JONES-GALLAGHER FUNERAL HOME</b> Distinguished Caring Service for Over 50 Years Joe Gallagher - Owner Starke 904-964-6200 Keystone Heights 352-473-3176	<b>After Church on Sunday Come to Powell's Dairy Freeze</b> "Home of the Foot Long Steak" Stop by for Ice Cream on Wednesday Night! US 301 NORTH • STARKE, FL	First Presbyterian Church Reverend Diane Wilson Pastor 821 East Call Street • Starke, FL 904.964.7937 facebook/fpcstarke Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Service 11 a.m.
<b>Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.</b> Competitive Rates, non-profit, right here in your community A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative Keystone District Office 352-473-4917 • clayelectric.com	<b>Morgan Road Baptist Church</b> 3784 NW CR 233 Starke Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Evening Worship 6pm 964-4422 Wednesday Evening 7pm	Come Worship with us <b>STARKE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH</b> Church • Saturday 11:00 a.m. School • Saturday 10:00 a.m. 1649 W. Madison St • Starke, FL
<b>G-N-S AUTO INC.</b> "Your One Stop Shop" 7907 SR 100 PAINT & BODY SHOP • ALL INSURANCE COLLISION REPAIRS • A/C K&H, FL 32856 • BRAKES • TIRES • RESTORATION • ALIGNMENT • 4x4 & DRIVELINE 352.473.517 • LIFTS & LEVELING KITS • ENGINE & DIESEL REPAIR fax 352.473.5719 Scott Callahan • Owner/Operator	<b>Suburban Carpet Cleaners</b> Call Us For All Your Professional Cleaning Services <b>MONTHLY SPECIALS</b> 904-964-1800	<b>Thompson's Mobile Home Supply &amp; Hardware</b> 17797 US HWY 301 N Starke, FL 32091US 904-964-3700
REACH TENS OF THOUSANDS of LOCAL CUSTOMERS in OUR TRI-COUNTY REGION EVERY WEEK • COST EFFECTIVE 904-964-6305	<b>DOUGLAS BATTERY OF STARKE</b> We rebuild starters, alternators, generators. Auto • Marine • Cycle Batteries 407 N. Temple • 964-7911	<b>Norton Telecom/A+ Alarms</b> 904-964-4580 804 N Temple Ave   Starke State Lic # EG13000304 PLEASE DRIVE BY TO SEE THE NEW HOME OF HIS CROSS

# Lake Region

## 15-year-old bicyclist struck by SUV Crash kills woman near Kingsley

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS— The Florida Highway Patrol said a Lake Region teen was taken to a hospital after being hit by an SUV south of Green Cove Springs.

The state agency said the 15-year-old was riding on County Road 209 at Ravenwood Drive, near the Bayard Conservation Area.

The boy was riding north in the southbound lane of the county road when he was struck by a Chevrolet Acadia around 2:10 p.m. on Saturday, July 9.

FHP said the cyclist received



Approximate location of crash.

serious injuries, while the driver of the SUV, a 35-year-old Clay County woman, was unhurt.

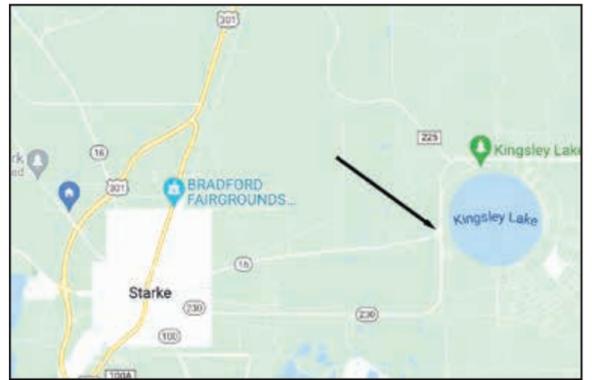
BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

STARKE— The Florida Highway Patrol said a 31-year-old Jacksonville woman died when she crashed into trees Saturday night, July 9.

The agency said the crash occurred around 9:44 p.m. at the intersection of State Roads 16 and 230.

According to an FHP report, the driver was traveling eastbound on 16 when she veered off the pavement and overcorrected. She then crossed 16 and ran into a stand of pines.

FHP added that the woman was wearing a seatbelt.



The agency said the crash occurred around 9:44 p.m. at the intersection of State Roads 16 and 230.

## Black Creek project will go forward Rescue opens pet pantry

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

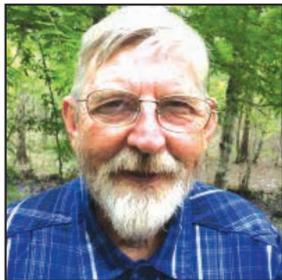
KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — A Black Creek Water Resource Development Project critic said he is out of options for stopping the project and acknowledges that the 17-mile pipeline will go forward.

When complete, the pipeline will pump up to 10 million gallons of water a day from Black Creek to a recharge area in southern Camp Blanding.

The goal of the plan is to restore water levels in Keystone Heights-area lakes and recharge the Upper Floridan Aquifer.

The St. Johns River Water Management District has set a groundbreaking target of Aug. 22 for the project and expects construction to be complete in two years.

Paul Still, a Bradford County Soil and Water Conservation District member and president of the Bradford Environmental Forum, has filed several objections to the project since it



Still

was first approved.

His latest attempt to persuade policymakers to reevaluate the project was to request a public hearing from the Army Corps of Engineers about a required permit for the project, which the corps issues.

The corps denied his request in May and Still said he plans no further objections to the project.

Still said his primary objection to the proposal has always been its costs, and he thinks the water management district's costs

forecast for the enterprise is too low.

"I think that when construction starts, they're going to find out that the actual costs are way beyond their projections," he said.

Still added that he has always supported the plan's goal: recharging the Upper Floridan Aquifer through the Keystone Heights-area lakes. However, he has consistently pushed for an alternative to the Black Creek plan, one that redirects runoff from Chemours mining operations to the Keystone Heights area.

Still added that the Suwannee River Water Management District has always opposed his idea, desiring to keep the Chemours runoff within its jurisdiction.

"The logic of that argument doesn't hold up because any water recharge into the Upper Floridan Aquifer would help both water management districts," he said.

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — The founder of a Lake Region animal rescue said her organization entered a new phase recently with the opening of a pet pantry.

Jesse Shekels launched Twisted Oaks Rescue during the COVID-19 Pandemic to provide animal owners with free pet food.

"I started delivering with my son, who was eight at the time," she recalled of the nonprofit's early days. "I just wanted to do something nice."

Shekels said the organization surpassed 30 tons of food deliveries to Lake Region pet owners in June.

Shekels recalled that as her outreach developed over time, she began to see the underlying causes of pet hunger and abandonment and changed the focus of her organization to address those issues.



Jesse Shekels, founder of Twisted Oaks Rescue, along with her dog Loki.

See PANTRY, page 5

### Meet your merchant: Spotlight on new Lake Region Business



The Santa Fe Title Company logo features a blue wave connecting the "A" in Santa to the "F" in Fe. That wave not only represents the company's connection to Santa Fe Lake but also represents serenity and peace of mind like the calm one feels when looking out over the water.

### Little known profession protects some of life's most important transactions

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS— Few people outside the real estate industry understand the importance of a title agent.

However, these professionals preside over life's most significant transactions, closing on homes and other real estate.

A mistake could cost buyers or sellers thousands or months in court.

And even when a closing is executed correctly, a title agent with poor communications skills can make the journey from contract to closing an ordeal.

Amber Castelvechi, the owner of Santa Fe Title Company between Keystone Heights and Melrose, knows the importance of attention to detail and communicating with all parties to make the journey from contract to closing a pleasure.

#### A palm tree and a small town

Amber grew up on a farm in Kansas, raising cows, wheat and corn with her family.

She met her husband in Colorado Springs, and the couple spent the first few years of their marriage at the foot of the Rockies.

"Then my husband decided he wanted to move closer to the home-town he grew up in: Jacksonville," recalled Amber. "So, I told him I would move under two conditions. Number 1: If we're moving to the south, I want a palm tree in my yard, and Number 2: You have to move me to a town with 10,000 or fewer people."

Amber's husband fulfilled both of those conditions with a home in the Lake Region.

Amber had always done office work, and after staying home to raise a family and working at a Lake Region nonprofit, she started as a paralegal in a local law firm. Part of her job was to handle real estate closings.

After earning her real estate license, Amber realized that although she enjoyed the behind-the-scenes paperwork required in the industry, her personality didn't fit other aspects of the brokerage business.

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Keystone Heights attorney Paul Newell called Amber and asked if she could help him with closings. The Kansas native had left her previous job and agreed to help Newell part-time.

"It ended up being full-time," Amber said. "Then Paul unexpectedly got sick and passed away."

An out-of-town law firm purchased Newell's practice. Amber found herself in the Keystone Heights office with an assistant, doing all the closing work except signing the title policy because she needed a state license to sign the documents.

"So, I thought: well, if all that I'm not allowed to do is sign the title policy, then I'm going to go to school and get my license so I can do everything because I'm pretty much-doing everything anyway," Amber said. "So that's what I did."

Amber's ties to the Newell family remain strong, so much so that the late attorney's widow gave Amber Paul's conference table, which she uses today.

### Title defects and escrow accounts

Ownership of land is documented with a title. According to the American Land Title Association, up to one-third of all real estate transactions involve title defects: problems with a claim of ownership that could hinder a land sale. Examples are liens, errors in public records, judgments against owners, boundary disputes and easements.

A title agent ensures that the seller's title is free from defects.

The title agent also reviews loan documents from the buyer's lender and drafts the deed, which conveys the property from seller to buyer, and satisfaction of mortgages which documents the settlement of the seller's loan.

When a buyer and a seller sign a real estate purchase contract, the earnest money or down payment for the transaction typically goes into an escrow account. Then all the funds necessary to close the deal run through the escrow account, including funds to pay off the seller's mortgage, incoming funds from the buyer's mortgage, and outgoing funds to real estate agents. Other costs associated with the transaction are often also settled at closing, like expenses for surveyors, pest control companies, home inspectors, credit reporting companies, appraisers and insurance companies.

A title agent acts as an independent third party and controls the escrow account to ensure everyone gets paid.

A typical home purchase can involve six to ten entities that either pay or receive money from the escrow account.

Most of the time, the seller chooses which title agent to use. However, most sellers select an agent based on the recommendation of their real estate agent.

### Contract-to-closing: smooth and stress-free

Because the title agent is in contact with all the parties in a real estate transaction, she is the person people contact to find out what is happening with a deal. That makes it essential that the title agent returns phone calls and is a good communicator.

The Santa Fe Title Company logo features a blue wave connecting the "A" in Santa to the "F" in Fe.



Amber Castelvechi, owner of Santa Fe Title Company, at the conference table once used by her former boss: Paul Newell.

That wave not only represents the company's connection to Santa Fe Lake but also represents serenity and peace of mind like the calm one feels when looking out over the water.

Amber said that she strives to deliver accurate and on-time services to her clients and make the contract-to-closing process a stress-free and smooth journey, just like the calming waves on the lake.

### Open house

Amber is holding an open house from 4 to 7 p.m. today, Thursday, July 14 at her office. Santa Fe Title Company is located at 2550 State Road 21, between Keystone Heights and Melrose, next to C.B. Isaac Realty. Drinks and Hors d'oeuvres will be provided by Hangry Hawg Barbecue.

Go with the flow.  
Santa Fe.

## SANTA FE TITLE COMPANY

**Residential, Commercial, and Vacant Land  
Purchase and Refinance Closings**

**Title Insurance • Escrow Services • Notary Services**

**Amber Castelvechi**  
Title Agent / Owner

**352-478-8267**

www.santafetc.com  
amber@santafetc.com

2550 SE State Road 21 • Melrose • Fax: 352-478-8233

## Clerk awarded best practices certificate

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Clay County Clerk of Court and Comptroller Tara Green received the Best Practices Excellence Program Award during the Florida Court Clerks and Comptrollers' annual conference.

Among the 68 Clerks and Comptrollers in the state, 55 offices participated in the program, and 30 clerks and comptrollers received recognition of excellence certificates in every category that applied to their designated offices.

Green is a past president of the organization and currently serves on its board of directors.



Clay County Clerk of Court and Comptroller Tara Green receives the Best Practices Excellence Program Award during the Florida Court Clerks and Comptrollers' annual conference.

## Heritage commission plaques two houses

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — The city's Heritage Commission recently awarded historical plaques to owners of two Keystone Heights houses.

Commission member Kerry Collins and Chair Nina Rodenroth presented the commission's historic home plaque to George "Eddie" Arnould at 155 S.W. Jasmine Ave. Arnould purchased the home in September 2014.

The large, two-story frame vernacular home was built in 1930 by Inez C. Bryant.

"Eddie's lovely home sits in the middle of an acre-corner property, amongst beautiful oak trees and landscape in our downtown area," Rodenroth said. "Our history resources suggest that C.A. Pangborn, originally from Meadville, Pennsylvania, lived in the home for some time. Mr. Pangborn owned the Keystone Lumber Company that was used to build many historic homes in our town."

Another residence built by Pangborn was honored by commission members when they awarded a plaque to Keith and Patricia Hatch.

Rodenroth said Pangborn built the American Foursquare home in 1926 at 350 South Lawrence Blvd. for his son Donald Edwin Pangborn. Donald was married to Ruth Rogers and also owned the local lumber business.

The Pangborns sold the home in 1947. Since then, there have been six owners, including the Williams family (1947-50), Peters family (1950-64), the Zikes (1964-1977), the Van Dykes (1977-79), the Dixons (1995-2020), and Keith and Patricia Hatch in 2020.

In addition to a residence, the structure has hosted a florist business, hair salon, restaurant and several professional businesses. It is now the home of Hatch Realty Services and also serves as Santa's headquarters during the Christmas season.



Heritage Commission member (left) Kerry Collins and Chair (right) Nina Rodenroth present a historic plaque to Eddie Arnould. Photo: Keystone Heights Heritage Commission.

## Rotarian recognized for giving

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — Outgoing Rotary Club of Keystone Heights President Scott Kornegay was awarded his fifth Paul Harris Fellow pin during the club's officer installation meeting on Saturday, June 25.

Rotary International awards the Paul Harris Fellow to individuals giving \$1,000 to the organization's foundation.

Kornegay is a former Keystone Heights City Manager and current Lake Region Development Corporation president.



Rotary District 6970 Area Governor Paul Fessenden (left) awards Scott Kornegay his fifth Paul Harris Fellow pin.



Nina Rodenroth (center) with Keith and Patricia Hatch of Hatch Realty Services. Photo: Keystone Heights Heritage Commission.



## Grant awarded for Garden Club projects

The Garden Club of the Lakes, FFGC, Inc. recently received a grant from the National Garden Clubs and the Ames Tool Company for \$180 worth of gardening tools including shovels, rakes, hand tools and hoses. Garden Club members had fun opening the boxes and assembling the tools at a recent planning meeting. Pictured (l-r) are Sandy Rogers, Debbie Laferriere, Cheryl Owen, Gail Klein, Brenda Frysinger and Cyndi Duncan. The tools will be used at the various Garden Club projects around town including the two native plant gardens behind and across from Keystone Heights City Hall and at the Faith Presbyterian Church. The Garden Club meets at the church on the second Thursday of the month, Sept. through May, at 10 a.m. For additional information, contact Jackie Host, jhost48@gmail.com. Guests are welcome. Picture by Ginny Geiger.

## PANTRY

Continued from page 4

"We do a nice thing," she said. "We hand out pet food, but that's a band-aid to the problem."

"Overpopulation in the home was the number one reason people were seeking me to feed their pets," she said.

She added that too many animals under one roof could result from people with big hearts who thought they were doing the right thing by picking up every stray they came across on the street.

"(They didn't) realize that full-circle care doesn't end with just bringing an animal into your home," she said. "You need to provide it medical care and feed it correctly."

Another cause of pet overpopulation is too many animals not spayed and neutered. Shekels said the result of these two conditions is heartbroken pet owners overwhelmed with trying to feed and care for animals.

"We're talking about 88-year-old people standing in line crying because they can't feed their cats," she said. "I mean, we saw

a lot of emotional moments." Shekels said she started a spay-and-neuter program that she believed would address the real source of animal hunger.

Since partnering with Sheltering Hands in Ocala and other nonprofits, Shekels said her organization has spayed or neutered over 1,000 animals in the Lake Region over the last two years.

Shekels added that one female cat could produce 67,000 cats over two-and-a-half years with her offspring.

"It always seems to be our elderly population that ends up feeding the cats," she said. "And so we've come up with programs to get in there and help trap some of the cats and get them spayed and neutered."

Shekels added that she has also tried to make pet owners aware of the options and resources available to them.

"People make better choices when they have options," she said. "When they don't have options, they often do stupid things like putting their pet in a crate and leave it at the gas station with a sign on the crate that says: 'Take me.'"

Shekels said that the latest development for Twisted Oaks Rescue is the opening of Loki's Lunchbox, which she describes as a pet pantry.

The new facility provides a centralized location where pet owners can get the food they need for their animals.

But Shekels said free food is only the first step in helping families at Loki's Lunchbox.

"We work with families one-on-one," she said, "talking to them about responsible pet ownership and the importance of spaying and neutering their animals."

"The great thing about our new building: Loki's Lunchbox, is how we designed it. Now our spay and neuter bus pulls right into our rescue on Saturdays," she said. "We can take 12 to 15 pets per Saturday and spay-neuter them."

Shekels said the bus is a state-of-the-art facility run by two University of Florida professors.

She said over 180 animals have been fed through Loki's Lunchbox since the facility opened on May 18.

### Home Equity Line of Credit from Capital City Bank



Goodbye,  
STAYCATION.  
Hello,  
VACATION.

### Say Hello to opportunity when you unlock the equity in your home.

With a Home Equity Line of Credit from Capital City Bank, say hello to a better way to fund your dream vacations, home improvements, education expenses and more.

Apply for a credit line just like a loan, and once you're approved you can access this cash – up to your full available credit limit – whenever you'd like, for whatever you'd like. Go online or stop by today to apply.\*

No Closing Costs  
On Lines Up to \$250,000

APR/6 MONTH  
INTRODUCTORY RATE

2.99%\*

APR/CURRENT VARIABLE  
RATE AS LOW AS

5.25%\*

Apply now at:  
ccbg.com/equity



Member FDIC. \*All loans subject to credit and property approval. The introductory rate will be in effect for the first six (6) months after account is opened. Annual Percentage Rate (APR) that can range from Prime + 0.5% (currently 5.25% APR) to Prime + 6.5% (currently 11.25% APR), using the JP Morgan Chase Prime (PMCP) rate, not to exceed 18% at any time. Information accurate as of 06/16/2022. After the promotional period, the variable standard APR will be based on the borrower's line amount, combined loan-to-value ratio, and credit rating. Hazard insurance required and flood insurance, if applicable. An annual fee of \$50 is charged on the first year anniversary after closing and each year thereafter. A prepayment penalty of 2% of the original credit line amount, not to exceed \$1,500, will be assessed if the credit line is closed within three (3) years of the origination date. The borrower may pay the credit line down to zero without closing the line of credit or without incurring a prepayment penalty. Consult a tax advisor about possible tax benefits. Minimum line of \$10,000 required. Exclusions, limitations and funding requirements apply. Additional Limitations and conditions apply for existing HELOC clients. Refer to product disclosure or ask a banker for complete details. Offer available for limited time.

# UNION COUNTY

## Union County awarded a grant to benefit community and economy

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Times Editor

LAKE BUTLER — Union County has been awarded a federal Brownfield Grant, administered through the United States Environmental Protection Agency, that will fund the assessment of properties that may be harboring hidden hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants. Most of these sites are former industrial or commercial land where future use may be limited or prevented without proper clean-up.

According to the EPA, such properties are designated as Brownfields and can complicate expansion, development, redevelopment and reuse of them. The first step in dealing with these Brownfields is to identify them as such and assess the nature of the problem that needs to be dealt with. Brownfield properties can occur anywhere, but many are located in metro

areas with connections to local infrastructure. Once these properties are identified there are grant and loan programs through the EPA to allow property owners to have the affected areas cleaned up. Once clean, the land becomes more valuable and easier to sell, as it is a surety that it is “clean” of problems, and this can stimulate economic development through buyers knowledge of the fact that they are not buying a problem along with the land.

Cleaning up Brownfield sites can improve water quality, since those which feature impervious (paved) surface can spread contamination through the action of storm water runoff. So far, the program has shown an increase in the value of residential properties within 1.29 miles of the sites ranging from 5-15.2%, creating more tax revenue for the local government. Assessment funds may be used not only to find and classify Brownfield sites but will also fund efforts to promote

area-wide planning around the identified sites. This can lead to job growth, better utilization of existing infrastructure and both improves and protects the environment. So far, the program has generated 183,817 jobs nationwide, with economic expansion stimulated by the fact that buyers can purchase the land and create businesses and jobs knowing that they will not be buying a current or future (and costly) problem that will adversely affect their investment.

Union County has been awarded a grant of \$430,500 to fund the identification and assessment of Brownfields sites. The funds can pay for the assessment of county owned property and any privately owned property in the county with the landowner's permission. Former industrial sites are the primary target for assessment, but other sites may be considered. There is also an allowance of the use of some of the funds to create

a community outreach to let residents know what is being done and why, hopefully getting their support and encouraging them to suggest potential assessment sites.

“This grant opens the doorway for funding for the property owner to clean up any environmental problems on their land,” County Coordinator Jimmy Williams said. “There are several sources of fund for actual clean-up, some in the form of grants and other being low-interest loans, and the county will assist property owners in applying for these funds if a need is shown by the assessment.”

There is also a Federal incentive to businesses who move to a cleaned-up Brownfield property. This, along with the assurance that the property has a clean bill of health environmentally, will encourage new business to locate on Brownfield properties, thus having a positive effect on economic development.

The county is now in the process of selecting properties it feels to be in need of assessment. These can include old industrial sites, garages, unauthorized trash dumping areas and former junkyards.

The EPA was well pleased with the county's application, calling it “outstanding” in its execution.

The areas to be considered for assessment will be in the City of Lake Butler, the other municipalities in the county as well and lands outside these areas in the outlying areas of the county. At this time sites already identified as priority areas in need of assessment include the site of a former gas station (2.77 acres), a former county dumpsite (54 acres) and a current location of an automotive repair shop (0.5 acres). Properties can and will include county (or municipality) owned, resident owned and non-profit owned sites.

County and city officials are hoping that the assessments

and subsequent clean-up of Brownfield sites will make the properties in the county more attractive for the location of new business, creating tax revenue and jobs. In a side benefit, the creation of local employment will decrease greenhouse emissions from vehicles as local employment will reduce the number of people (and vehicles) having to go outside the county for employment.

The environmental assessments will begin soon and continue until as many Brownfield sites have been identified within the limits of the funds provided. Residents are encouraged to suggest sites for assessment, their own or properties with problems from previous use. The end result will be an environmentally cleaner and healthier county that can offer employment and economic growth to its residents.

## New Lake Butler city commissioner takes seat on board

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Times Editor

LAKE BUTLER — The Lake Butler City Commission welcomed a new member at its regular June 21, 2022 meeting – taking Seat 4 on the board, replacing retiring Commissioner Jimmy Beasley.

Melissa Hendrix is a political newcomer, taking the seat without weathering an election by virtue of the fact that she was the only one to run for it. She is a Lake Butler native and well known in the community, but she said she is still going to “hit the pavement” and meet the people she is representing since she did not have the opportunity to do so as she would have if she had needed to campaign to gain the



New Lake Butler Seat Four Commissioner Melissa Hendrix

seat.

When she first decided to run for the seat, she said she heard all sorts of rumors about who

her competition would be – but none of them went through the qualifying process necessary to be a candidate. When asked why she decided to pursue the seat, she said “I am passionate about people and helping others. I am a big supporter of growth and small business in our community and I want to see what I can do to help people and be their voice.”

Hendrix grew up in Lake Butler and outside the city limits in the county. Her family moved to Starke when she was a junior in high school, so she graduated from Bradford High School in 1987 rather than Union County High School, but said she is a big Tiger fan and supportive of the schools. She met her husband when she was a senior at BHS, although they married later.

During and after high school she worked a variety of jobs, including McDonalds and for local optometrist Len Schlofman. She attended Santa Fe College after graduation, although she did not finish her associates degree in business administration until 2018 because she married her high school sweetheart and had her children.

In 1989, Hendrix went to work for AvMed Health Plans in Gainesville. She is still there, although, over the years, she has worked in many positions. She started out in the claims department doing data entry, then filled positions in several areas, ending up as a Compliance Analyst in the medical department where she still works now.

Husband Dean works for GRU, moving up to his current position as a lead maintenance facilities technician, so the couple lived in Gainesville for several years, then moved to Lake Butler in 2016. They have been married for 32 years and

have two daughters – Brittany (a police officer in Tampa) and Sara (a dental assistant). Both Melissa and Dean enjoy traveling – Dean was a Navy brat who lived in a number of countries while growing up – but so far, the couple has not ventured out of the country in their travels.

The main focus for Hendrix is family and community. She said that “giving back and helping those in need is a passion I have.” This concern for the needs of others is the driving force behind what she hopes to do as a commissioner – getting to know people and what they want and need.

“I want to be a voice for the people of Lake Butler and it's hard to do that when you don't know them,” Hendrix said. “So, I plan to go door-to-door and meet them.”

Hendrix said she is blessed with a large and diverse family in and around Lake Butler, several generations of family in fact. She enjoys spending time with all the many branches of her

family tree – both on holidays and throughout the year.

When not busy helping clients solve their insurance questions and working to make sure she can be as effective as possible in her new position, Hendrix said she is a TV person, sometime binge watching crime drama, documentaries and family oriented programming. Both she and Dean enjoy cooking and eating what they cook – they routinely prepare family holiday dinners with Dean smoking or grilling the meat and Melissa handling the sides.

Hendrix was sworn in by City Attorney John Maines at the June meeting, as were returning Commissioners Annette Redman and Fred Sirmones. She said she was looking forward to working with the more experienced commissioners, as well as City Manager Dale Walker, and said she sincerely hopes that she can serve the people and the city well.

SUWANNEE RIVER  
AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER  
COVERING FLORIDA  
(877) 813-9115 WWW.COVERINGFLORIDA.ORG

### Do you still need health insurance?

You may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period (SEP)

What qualifies me for a SEP?



Loss of employer health coverage



Got married or had a baby



Changes in residence

For free assistance contact:



386-230-9400



navigator@srahec.org

## Lake Butler receives 2021 audit

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Times Editor

LAKE BUTLER — For another year the City of Lake Butler has received a clean audit, with few comments or findings.

Richard Powell CPA, from the firm Powell & Jones in Lake City, presented the annual audit report to the Lake Butler City Commission at its June 21, 2022 regular meeting. He said that he had found no material weaknesses in the city's finances and/or financial recordkeeping, although his report did note that the city was sometimes a bit lax in its monthly bank reconciliations – a matter which City Manager Dale Walker addressed prior to the meeting.

Noted on the balance sheet for the year audited, Powell said he found remaining unassigned fund balances of about 1/2 a million dollars and reserves sufficient to cover city operations for six months. These reserves are necessary should the city face a loss of income and/or a major event (such as a serious hurricane

or other storm) that would limit it's income and cause emergency expenditures of a high level.

The city Enterprise fund, fueled by the water and sewer departments, is at an acceptable level, with about half of its net position in capital assets and restricted funds. Powell told the board that the goal was to operate off user charges and that the fund needed more incoming funds other than those provided by grants – noting that most of the grant funds were spent on capital assets (such as equipment).

On the subject of capital assets, the audit noted that about 92% of the allowable depreciation of these items (vehicles, equipment, etc.) was used up, with the city's capital assets in other areas having already used up about 72% of their depreciation value. Powell noted that these figures were greater than that found in most cities of comparable size but said that the fund balances for available capital and reserves were good.

Powell said that the audit

showed that the city was not overburdened with debt, noting the decrease in the Enterprise Fund liabilities from \$1.6 million in the last audit to \$1.3 million in one year.

Some of the figures from the audit report show that the city had revenues of \$1,037,400, derived from a number of sources including ad valorem taxes, Enterprise Fund income and grants received by the city for various projects.

Noted was a negative balance in the Downtown Redevelopment fund in the amount of \$33,537, but a note said the deficit was planned to be paid out of the coming year's tax income.

The city as several long-term liabilities, including one outstanding water and sewer bond balance, from a bond issued in 1998, that is set to be paid out of sewer and water revenues, with an outstanding balance of \$745,000 to be paid in full in 2037. A previous water and sewer revenue bond was fully paid in the 2020-21 fiscal year.

The city also has several loans including one for a truck purchase in 2019 (that will be paid off in 2024), two loans from the State Revolving Fund (both at interest rates lower than one percent, connected with the planned water treatment facility) and one from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for clean water projects, also a very low interest loan. These long term liabilities require about \$66,000 per year to keep current.

Over all, the auditor said he found no major problems, with the one most cited being the aforementioned late reconciliations of the city's bank statements. He said that, as usual, the city hall staff were helpful, courteous and responsive to requests for information. He said that the financial statements and physical control over assets was adequate, it was in financial compliance with all loan agreements and internal controls were good.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE TO UNION COUNTY CITIZENS & VOTERS

Voter Registration Books Close Monday, July 25, 2022, for the August 23, 2022 Primary Election. All party changes and new registrations must be in by 5:00 pm on July 25<sup>th</sup> to the Union County Supervisor of Elections office.

Deborah K. Osborne  
Supervisor of Elections  
Union County  
Unionflvotes.com  
386-496-2236

# Library Funding Referendum on August ballot for renewal

BY MARY BROWN  
Union County Public Library

LAKE BUTLER — The humble beginnings of the Union County Public Library date back to 1988 when the voters of Union County, Florida passed a referendum for a 1/2 mil ad valorem tax for a special dependent taxing district for the purpose of creating a new library. Since then, the library referendum is placed on the ballot every 2 years for continued funding.

Other financial support for the library comes from State Aid to Libraries Grant monies and individual donations.

The public library officially opened its doors on March 1, 1990. UCPL began operation in a 1400 sq ft building, expanded to 3300 sq ft in 1997, and now operates in a 9000 sq ft facility



that was completed in 2009. The library currently houses over 40,000 books and materials and offers access to thousands more e-book, e-audio and e-magazine titles. Additionally, the library offers a wide variety of online databases for research needs.

There are several computers available for public use at UCPL,

as well as free WIFI access. The library hosts a wide array of programming, including weekly preschool story time, after school programs, summer events for children of all ages, teen & adult programs and programs for senior citizens. There's something for everyone at the Union County Public Library!

## JROTC Continued from page 1

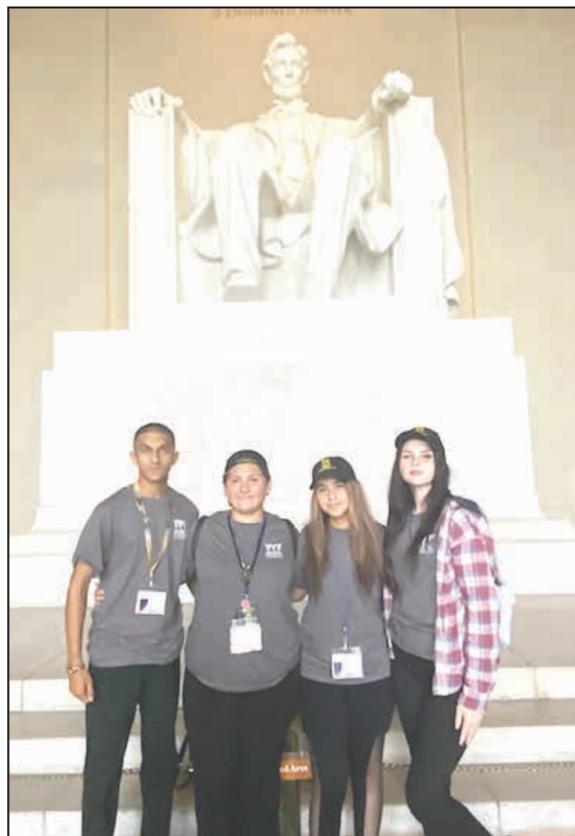
The team visited the Washington National Cathedral where each lit a candle to honor the memory of our nation's POW's and MIA's.

"It felt really honoring," said Cadet Alexis Cox. "Being able to go into the cathedral at all was very honoring and being able to light a candle — It lights a candle inside of you."

The cadets had the support of the Union County School District and the community.

"Everything around our community centers around the school system," said Union County Superintendent of Schools Mike Ripplinger. "Our community has an extreme level of support for all activities, so they take great pride in seeing our cadets get to this level."

The members of the Leadership Team at the Lincoln Memorial - one of their stops while visiting Washington, DC. historic sites.



## GRADES Continued from page 1

the high school an A.

Overall, Bradford has only ever received a C or a D (twice) districtwide. This year the district had one B school, Starke Elementary, the first B the school has received since 2012.

Bradford's other two elementary schools, Lawtey and Southside were both D schools this year. Each earned only 40% of the total possible points available, one percentage point shy of a C. While Lawtey had higher achievement in English and math, improvement demonstrated for bottom quartile students was low.

After two prior B's, Bradford High School received a C this year. It received 36 points for English achievement and 28 points for math. The school received higher points for learning gains, however.

Bradford Middle School has been given an incomplete score, at least for now. Schools must test 95% of their students, and those tests must be scoreable (answers filled in properly). The district is investigating and may have a chance to appeal, according to Superintendent Will Hartley.

All testing scores have now been released. In reviewing how local schools performed in English and math exams, remember scoring Level 3 or above out of five is considered passing. Scoring Level 1 is the lowest possible performance.

**Starke Elementary School:** 46% of third-graders, 43% of fourth-graders and 59% of fifth-graders scored Level 3 or above on English.

41% of third-graders, 49% of fourth-graders and 62% of fifth-graders scored Level 3 or above on math.

**Southside Elementary School:** 38% of third-graders, and 34% of fourth and fifth-

graders scored Level 3 or above on English.

35% of third-graders, 49% of fourth-graders and 29% of fifth-graders scored at Level 3 or above in math.

45% of third-graders and 42% of fifth-graders scored at Level 1 in math.

**Lawtey Elementary School:** 62% of third-graders, 47% of fourth-graders and 50% of fifth-graders scored Level 3 or above on English. 7

3% of third-graders, 65% of fourth-graders and 27% of fifth-graders scored Level 3 or above in math.

31% of fifth-graders scored at Level 1 in math.

**Keystone Heights Elementary School:** 59% of third-graders, 46% of fourth-graders, 53% of fifth-graders and 56% of sixth-graders scored Level 3 or above on English.

63% of third-graders, 71% of fourth-graders, 60% of fifth-graders and 79% of sixth-graders scored Level 3 or above in math.

**McRae Elementary School:** 63% of third-graders, 59% of fourth-graders, 71% of fifth-graders and 63% of sixth-graders scored Level 3 or above on English.

51% of third-graders, 73% of fourth-graders, 76% of fifth-graders and 71% of sixth-graders scored Level 3 or above in math.

**Lake Butler Elementary School:** 56% of third-graders and 58% of fourth-graders scored Level 3 or above on English.

67% of third-graders and 63% of fourth-graders scored Level 3 or above in math.

**Lake Butler Middle School:** 52% of fifth-graders, 44% of sixth-graders, 43% of seventh-graders and 54% of eighth-graders scored Level 3 or above on English.

45% of fifth-graders, 36% of sixth-graders, 56% of seventh-graders and 52% of eighth-graders scored Level 3 or above in math.

In sixth grade, 29% of students scored Level 1 in math.

For students taking Algebra I, 71% passed at Level 3 or above.

**Bradford Middle School:** 47% of sixth-graders, 34% of seventh-graders and 25% of eighth-graders scored at Level 3 or above on English.

In eighth grade, 55% of students scored at Level 1 on English.

56% of sixth-graders, 49% of seventh-graders and 14% of eighth-graders scored Level 3 or above in math.

In seventh and eighth grades, 33% and 65% of students scored at Level 1 in math.

For students taking Algebra I, 58% scored at Level 3 or above.

**Keystone Heights Junior-Senior High School:** 43% of seventh-graders, 39% of eighth-graders, 54% of ninth-graders and 47% of 10th-graders scored Level 3 or above on English.

34% of seventh-graders and 65% of eighth-graders scored Level 3 or above in math.

33% of seventh-graders scored at Level 1 in math.

For students taking Algebra I, 51% scored at Level 3 or above, and 31% scored at Level 1.

For students taking geometry, 63% scored Level 3 or above.

**Bradford High School:** 38% of ninth-graders and 30% of 10th-graders scored Level 3 or above on English, while 42% of ninth-graders and 41% of 10th-graders scored at Level 1.

For students taking Algebra I, 21% scored at Level 3 or above and 64% scored at Level 1.

For students taking geometry 37% scored Level 3 or above, and 41% scored at Level 1.

**Union County High School:** 49% of ninth-graders and 42% of 10th-graders scored Level 3 or above on English.

For students taking Algebra I, 49% scored Level 3 or above, and 33% scored at Level 1.

For students taking geometry, 55% scored at Level 1.



The UCHS JROTC Leadership Team members at the ceremony where they received their awards.

## Letters

### Clear the slate

Dear Editor;

It's time to stop digging the hole deeper! For six years, Bradford and Union counties have been living under the prospect of a 10,000 acre phosphate mining project that would straddle the New River, our joint boundary between the two counties.

In 2016, Union county enacted a moratorium and updated their land development regulations (LDRs) to disallow mining in wetlands. HPS sued for nearly 300 million dollars. Bradford county did not enact ANY moratorium to give time to review our own LDRs, and HPS promptly submitted an application, effectively blocking any LDR changes that would affect their plans. But, after six years, HPS has failed to produce a viable mining plan for Bradford's county commission to review. For three of those years, HPS has failed to respond to some "unwritten" Request for Additional Information (RAI), according to our county attorney.

This month, HPS dismissed their lawsuit against Union county. Now, they should withdraw their premature application from Bradford county. Our county commission should ask them to do so. What have they got to lose for asking?

The Bradford county application was problematic from the start, and the ensuing process has only gotten messier over time. This is the perfect time to stop digging the hole deeper and climb the ladder out.

If HPS withdraws their application, all the past bad behaviors and procedural "sins" will be washed away. There would be no need for an explanation of waiting three years for HPS to respond to an unwritten RAI, nor why our county's consultants have not provided a report after all this time. The official documents that are missing legally required language and the legal timelines never met would become moot points. And, the commissioners would be released from quasi-judicial mode that keeps them in fear of discussing the issue with their own constituents.

The bottom line for HPS is that they have failed to show proof of concept with their new idea through their testing, according to FIPR (Florida Institute for Research on Phosphate). Furthermore, and even more importantly, HPS has failed to convince the hydro-geologist, who reviewed ALL of their submitted documents, that the plan can be done without potential harm, especially to the rivers and/or the aquifer. There are no winners in this drawn out process, except the lawyers and consultants who make money no matter what the outcome. But, there can be relief to all if HPS withdraws their application from Bradford county.

As a county, we have many wonderful activities to offer, and even more that we can imagine. In Bradford County we need to focus our energy on addressing our economic weaknesses, such as lack of good internet access, and enhancing our creative opportunities, such as small scale eco-tourism. As a region, we can offer visitors and new residents everything from boating and biking to higher education.

We may have a lot to be desired in good jobs, but we also have a lot that is desirable in our lands, if we are wise enough to protect sensitive areas and promote non-destructive use. We don't need to be held hostage, under threat of enormous lawsuits, by extractive industries. Hopefully, after six years of dangling on a string controlled by HPS, our county commissioners have come to recognize that.

Sincerely,  
Carol Mosley

### Wonderful event

Dear Editor:

I wanted to take the time to express my sincere gratitude to everyone involved in the set-up for the Starke Splash Bash. The event was wonderfully planned and executed and such a great outlet for our children and community. It was incredible to experience such a family centered event within our city and to see the joy experienced by our children. The whole event was organized and orchestrated in such a way that was fun and safe. My sons enjoyed all the activities; from the water slides, to the Foamtastic bubble station, to the Funtastic fire brigade's ladder truck spraying water, to the concert, and the fireworks display! We hope that this event will continue for years to come! Thank you everyone who made this event possible! We loved it!

Sincerely,  
The Ziegler Family

### Health fair planned

Dear Editor:

Thank you for allowing me the awesome privilege of sharing my gratitude on how the local and state government and faith leaders of Starke work hand in hand for the betterment of the people. These agencies and faith leaders are vital to the health and wellness of their communities.

Our world, as we knew it, suffered many casualties pre- and post-COVID-19; our lives changed overnight from meeting with families face to face to quarantining

in our homes and to socially connecting with loved ones via phone, zoom meetings and snail mail. Even that was a challenge. As our country dealt with the new norm, many communities lost their identity to function during the pandemic due to the loss of lives and job closures. Strict measures were made to preserve life as best we could. As we began to move towards recovery several years later, we had to re-educate our communities with vital information to jump start our economies and salvage what was left of our lives.

As we began to restructure our lives, state and local government agencies and our faith leaders were there to help us move forward. These agencies are the essential keys to promoting health and wellness, which in return would produce a thriving community. Many families were blessed to be able to receive food from local food banks and pantries. We can't forget the countless number of medical support staff doctors and nurses and police and fire departments across America who worked tirelessly to keep us all safe. Our first responders were the glue for us all; they united us together to accomplish a monumental task at hand. You ask me what makes for a thriving healthy community? It's these very agencies who serve and protect for the betterment of the people.

Our health and wellness fair is the venue we chose to continue to re-educate our communities with screenings, safety resources, pantry information, emergency preparedness, referrals, and networking. It is our goal to make this an annual event as we move forward in restoring the healthy balance in our lives. There are many state and local government agencies that are in place for the citizens of Starke. We've featured several for this year's health fair, along with fun, food, and resources to better lives.

I am reminded of how my mother once told me as a little girl, to much is given, much is required. When you know better, you must do better. These very words have been a driving force in my life as I also have chosen to do my part as a citizen to extend my hand with these very agencies in community service.

As I look back over the past several years it testifies of the greatness of God and that we as a nation, when faced with difficult odds that challenge our way of life, link hand in hand to preserve life and posterity for all. There is no mountain we can't climb.

Sincerely,  
H. Johnson

**The Community Health Fair is Sun., July 17 at the Charlie Johns Center starting at 2 pm. FREE, open to the public.**

## ROADS Continued from page 3

—Construct Palatka to Lake Butler Trail from County Road 235 to 18, \$70,639.

—Lighting at Starke Truck Route interchanges at S.R. 100 and S.R. 16, \$3.9 million.

—Starke Truck Route landscaping, \$4.3 million.

2024

—Resurface U.S. 301 from Alachua County line to Container Road in south Starke,

\$13.7 million.

2025

—Sidewalk construction from U.S. 301 to Lincoln City Park, \$1.07 million.

—Construct Hampton Trailhead at Bobby Sheppard Park, \$444,000.

—Resurface S.R. 16 from Union County line to U.S. 301, \$8.9 million.

—Urban core traffic signals, \$3.2 million.

2026

—Sidewalk construction on

Northwest 177th Avenue from C.R. 229 to S.R. 16, \$955,000.

—“Pedestrian Safety Improvement” on Park Street from Lake Street to Adams Street in Lawtey, \$481,000.

2027

—Starke Truck Route south end reconstruction, \$21.6 million.

The Starke railroad overpass on S.R. 100 is an ongoing FDOT project that is expected to be completed in spring 2023.

## Candidate forum Aug. 4

The Republican Party of Bradford County will conduct a candidate forum on Thursday, Aug. 4, from 6-7:30pm at the Bradford County Fairgrounds. All Starke City Commission, Bradford County Commission and School Board, statewide, and congressional candidates on the ballot are invited.

Come out and hear the candidates speak prior to the

start of early voting on Monday, Aug. 8, for the Tuesday, Aug. 23, primary elections.

## Happy Hour Bingo supports kids, schools

Play Happy Hour Bingo and support kids through the outstanding work of Communities in Schools of

Bradford County.

CIS is holding the fundraiser at the Downtown Grill in Starke on Tuesday, July 26, from 5 to 7 p.m. Play 10 games for \$20 which a chance to win a \$100 cash prize. Plus, 25% of all food and drink purchases will to CIS.

Communities in Schools provides mentoring and resources to students and families to help them through high school and beyond. For more information, visit [www.cisbradford.org](http://www.cisbradford.org) or call 904-966-6004.

# Crime

## Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

July 2 through July 8

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

### Bradford

Hollie Nicole Bumgardner, 38, of Bradenton was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 5 for a probation violation.

Justin Davis Corley, 34, of Beverly Hills was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 5 for trafficking in amphetamine and unlawful use of a two-way communications device.

### Woman escapes from handcuffs

Laura Brittany Cornwell, 36, of Macclenny was arrested by Lawtey police on July 4 for resisting an officer and escape.

According to an arrest report, the 14-year-old son of the defendant flagged down Officer Robert T. Jordan and told him his mother was driving under the influence of drugs. The boy said when his mother stopped, he jumped out of the car for his own safety.

Jordan found the defendant slumped over in her car at Lawtey Shell. When he asked her for identification, she responded "no." The officer then handcuffed the defendant and placed her in his vehicle. When a female deputy arrived to search Cornwell, the two officers discovered the defendant had slipped out of her handcuffs.

Gordon Chris Crawford, 64, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 5 for a probation violation.

### Chased nephew with ax

Ronnie Lee Frazier was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 6 for the April 17 offense of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

According to an arrest report, the victim asked family members to help him repair his vehicle. The victim's father responded by punching the victim several times.

The uncle then threatened to kill the victim and chased his nephew down a Lawtey street with an ax.

Charles Ray Ginn, 28, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 2 for DUI.

Regina Rachel Johnson, 52, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 5 for less than 20 grams of marijuana, possession of a controlled substance without a prescription and possession of drug equipment.

Corey Te Juan McKinnie, 42, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 8 for contempt of court.

Matthew Winford McSpadden, 26, of Lake Butler was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 8 for lewd and lascivious behavior

and sexual assault.

Riley Slade Miller, 20, of St. Augustine was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 3 for loitering and a probation violation.

Morgan R. Ritchie, 25 of Lake Butler was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 2 for possession of a controlled substance without a prescription and possession of drug equipment.

### Threatened neighborhood boys with guns

Louie Lee Starling, 60, of Lawtey was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 8 for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

According to a sworn complaint, the defendant was in his Lawtey home on Dec. 12, 2021, when his daughter heard a knock on a window.

Starling told deputies that he was on high alert and had recently purchased two guns because of previous incidents.

The defendant added that after the knock on the window, he grabbed one of the weapons and went outside to investigate. He saw three boys on the property and yelled at them, telling them that if they didn't stop, someone was going to get hurt.

"He also states that he did not tell anyone he was going to shoot them," wrote Lawtey Police Officer Jay Raulerson in the report.

The officer added that he then interviewed the three boys, who said they knocked on the window to get one of the occupant's attention.

"That's when Mr. Louie Starling came out with a long gun such as a rifle or shotgun and stated he was going to shoot them," wrote Raulerson of the boys' claims. "All three boys stated they ran back to the house."

Shane Michael Stidham, 51, of Ft. White was arrested by Starke police on July 8 for two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, three counts of battery, disturbing the peace and an out-of-county warrant.

Mark A. Thomas, 42, of Lake Butler was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 5 for possession of drugs, possession of drug equipment and contempt of court.

Kayla Renee Truett, 27, of Brooker was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 5 for possession of drug equipment, possession of drugs and possession of a weapon by a felon or delinquent.

Kyle Eugene Williams, 29, of Brooksville was arrested by Bradford deputies on July 5 for a probation violation.

### Union

Connor Lee Austin, 27, of Lawtey was arrested by Union deputies on July 8 for a probation violation.

Antonio A. Bennet, 33, of Malone was arrested by Union deputies on July 6 for smuggling contraband into a prison.

Ashley Noel Forbes, 37, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on July 5 for a probation violation.

Calvin William Lane Jr., 30, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on July 6 for battery.

Patrick Charles McClary, 35,

of Okeechobee was arrested by Union deputies on July 6 for smuggling contraband into a prison.

Cole Dewitt Seay, 23, of Starke was arrested by Union deputies on July 9 for possession of drugs.

Jody Bennett Snelgrove, 41, of Lake City was arrested by Union deputies on July 6 for failure to appear.

Shawn Devon Steward, 43, was arrested by Union deputies on July 5 for a probation violation.

Kenneth John Waters Jr., 37, of Green Cove Springs was arrested by Union deputies on July 6 for an out-of-county warrant.

Davario Tyshon Watkins, 30, of Madison was arrested by Union deputies on July 6 for a probation violation.

### Clay

Jesse Carlin Huff, 27, of Melrose was arrested by Clay deputies on July 6 for battery.

Dylan Craig Hurt, 23, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on July 4 for failure to appear, failure to register a motor vehicle and driving a motor vehicle without a valid license.

### Drags deputy across parking lot

Daniel Ray Tippett, 27, of Melrose was arrested by Clay deputies on July 2 for aggravated assault on a first responder, DUI and fleeing and eluding.

According to an arrest report, a citizen flagged down Deputy B. Ray at Keystone Beach and told the officer that a likely impaired driver was parked at the beach. When the officer approached the vehicle on foot, the defendant started the car and put it in gear. Ray attempted to take the vehicle out of gear while commanding the driver to stop. Tippett continued to leave, dragging the deputy across the parking lot.

Deputy Ryan M. Riley wrote in the arrest report that Ray disengaged from the defendant. "Deputy Ray then briefly pursued the defendant in his patrol vehicle as he drove into oncoming traffic into a residential area with several people attending local holiday festivities present and no regard for their safety," wrote Riley, adding that Ray stopped the fleeing defendant and detained him.

### Soil and water group meets

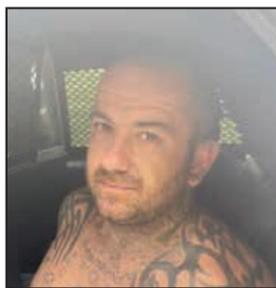
The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District will meet on Tuesday July 19, at 9 a.m. at the Bradford County Extension Office.

The permit status of the new Chemours mine will be discussed. There will also be reports on the status of district projects and activities.

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

### Film nights in Melrose

Melrose's Mossman Hall is hosting summer family movie nights on Saturdays July 16 and Aug. 20 at 8 p.m. Come see Indiana Jones in July and Back to the Future in August. The movies and popcorn are free



Corley. Photo: Bradford County Sheriff's Office

## Tip leads to find of 50 grams of meth

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

STARKE — The Bradford County Sheriff's Office said it received a tip from neighboring Union County that resulted in four arrests and the seizure of 50 grams of methamphetamine.

The target of the tip and subsequent search warrant: Justin Corley was arrested at a Crosby Lake-area residence for trafficking in methamphetamine and using a two-way communication device to facilitate a felony.

Also arrested were Mark Thomas for possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia; Regina Johnson for possession of a controlled substance without a prescription and possession of drug paraphernalia; and Kayla Truett for possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of a firearm and ammunition by a convicted felon.

## Accused drug dealer avoids prosecution

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

STARKE — A man who police say ran a stop sign on his way to sell drugs to a detective signed a pretrial intervention agreement that could result in charges against him being dropped.

Mason Andrew Kent, 20, of Starke was arrested on May 20 for possession or delivery of opium, possession of drugs, criminal conspiracy, and unlawful use of a two-way communications device.

According to an arrest report, Detective Christopher Keel had communicated with the defendant over Snapchat about Kent selling Keel Percocet and Xanax pills. But while the defendant was on his way to the Bradford County Fairgrounds to complete the transaction, he ran a stop sign at Clark Street and East Weldon Street, near Laredo's Mexican Restaurant. Starke Police Officer David Hall conducted a traffic stop on Kent's Acura.

Police found 25 Percocet pills and 50 Xanax tablets in the vehicle during the traffic stop, which matched the order the detective and Kent negotiated over Snapchat.

Under a pretrial intervention agreement Kent signed on July 7, the State Attorney's office said it would consider dropping the charges if the defendant meets certain conditions over three months, including monthly reporting to a probation officer, not violating any other laws and completing 50 hours of community service.

## Lake Butler man sentenced to 6 months for torturing bears

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

LAKE BUTLER—Dustin Reddish, 29, and Troy Travis Starling, 49, both of Lake Butler pleaded to charges related to their part in a four-year-old case of bear abuse in the Ocala National Forest and other areas.

Both men pleaded to conspiracy to commit a RICO Act violation. Reddish also pleaded to three counts of felony cruelty to animals, felony littering, unlawful use of a two-way communications device,

unlawful taking of a black bear and using an animal to fight or bait another animal.

Circuit Judge Anthony Tatti sentenced Reddish to 180 days in jail and five years' probation. Starling was sentenced to five years' probation.

During a Tuesday, July 5 hearing in Ocala, Tatti also ordered both men to pay \$22,847 to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission and \$4,688.43 to the Statewide Prosecutor's Office for investigative costs.

## 9 people prosecuted, 4 from Lake Butler

The pleadings represent the final two for the case in which a total of nine people were arrested.

William Edward Landrum of Millboro, Virginia pleaded guilty on March 25 to animal cruelty and will serve 5 years' probation.

In 2020 Haley Anders of Lake Butler pleaded guilty to similar charges and agreed to testify against eight co-defendants, including her ex-husband, Dustin Reddish.

Anders was sentenced to between 18 months and 4 years in prison. Also pleading guilty with promises to help prosecutors were Christopher Elliot Haun of Ormond Beach who was sentenced to 8 years' probation, Charles "Buddy" Luther Scarbrough III of Callahan who will be sentenced to between 5 years' probation and 5 years in prison and Hannah Scarbrough of Callahan who was sentenced to 5 years' probation. William Tyler Wood, 32, of Lake Butler was sentenced to one year in prison and 10 years' probation. Mark Christopher Lindsey, 29, of Moultrie, Georgia, was sentenced to 270 days in jail and eight years' probation.

## Lured bears with doughnuts, sent packs of dogs to attack

According to a news release by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the defendants lured black bears by placing drums of dog food, doughnuts, pastries and peanut butter in various areas throughout Baker, Flagler, Marion and Union counties. The defendants then used large packs of dogs to chase and maul the black bears.

"After some of the attacks, the defendants posted numerous videos of the acts on Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat," the agency said in the news release. "None of the individuals involved tried to call off the dogs or stop the attack on the bears. The Office of Statewide Prosecution obtained warrants for the social media accounts where the defendants posted videos of the attacks."

According to a probable cause affidavit obtained by an Orlando television station, FWC obtained information in January 2018 that black bears were being killed by dogs in North Florida after being baited.

Following the tip, FWC conducted an 11-month investigation which included examining the defendants' social media accounts and placing a GPS tracking device on Dustin Reddish's truck.

## 'This bear thought he could fly'

Investigators found videos posted on Haley Anders's Instagram account in November 2017 showing dogs fighting with bears.

News 6 also reported that in a Feb. 11, 2018, Instagram video posted on Anders's account, a bear is videoed clinging to the top of a tree while dogs barked below.

"Someone can be heard beating the tree with a stick, according to FWC, which causes the bear to jump off and land on the ground where it is attacked by a pack of dogs," the station reported.

"This bear thought he could fly," Anders wrote on her Instagram page under the video, as the desperate animal jumped from the tree.

News 6 also said investigators believe the group was training dogs to hunt bears in order to sell the dogs in states that allow bear hunting. Florida does not.

## 4 years for DUI

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

STARKE— Kathleen Olga Smith, 48, of Keystone Heights was sentenced to four years in prison and 14 years' probation after pleading to DUI with serious bodily injury and DUI with property damage.

According to a Florida Highway Patrol charging affidavit, Smith was involved in a three-car collision within Bradford County on State Road 21 between Keystone Heights and Melrose on April 14, 2021. One of the vehicles involved was a truck hauling a boat.

Trooper J.A. Mobley wrote in the affidavit that when he interviewed Smith about the crash at UF Health in Gainesville, she had a thick tongue and bloodshot and watery eyes. Smith also spoke with slurred speech. According to Mobley, the defendant's blood-alcohol level was .140.

The trooper added that at the time of his report, one of the victims of the crash told Mobley that surgeons placed metal rods in his leg due to a fractured femur, and he still walks with a limp.

## Man threatens credit union customers with knife

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

STARKE — Shane Michael Stidham, 51, of Ft. White was arrested by Starke police on July 8 for two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, three counts of battery, disturbing the peace and an out-of-county warrant.

According to an arrest report, Officer Taylor C. Sanders responded to a report of a disturbance at VyStar Credit Union on South Walnut Street around 11:19 a.m.

There, the first of six victims told him the defendant cut him off in the parking lot in a silver Toyota Camry and aggressively approached his vehicle. The victim said he exited his truck and the two men argued, with Stidham eventually spitting on the victim.

One of Victim 1's friends was in the parking lot and approached the two men to break up the argument. Victim 2 stated that as he walked Victim 1 back to his truck, Stidham ran up to the pair and pushed Victim 2 from behind.

"(Victim 1) stated that when (Victim 2) turned around, Stidham placed a fixed blade knife to (Victim 2's) throat," wrote Sanders.

Victim 3, who was inside the credit union, said she heard the disturbance and came outside to see what was happening.

The woman reported that Stidham pushed her, and when she told him not to put his hands on her, the defendant responded with a racial slur.

"Contact was made with (Victim 4) who advised that when she stepped outside while the altercation was occurring, Stidham was thrusting the knife toward people and her in which she stated created a state of well-founded fear in her," wrote Sanders.

Victim 5: an employee of the credit union told Sanders that she was inside when she heard the disturbance and went outside, where she saw Stidham threatening Victims 1 and 2 with a knife.

The employee added that when she attempted to break up the fight, Stidham retreated to his Toyota and spat on her and Victim 1 as he got into the Camry.

Victim 6: the credit union's manager told Sanders she wanted the defendant arrested for breach of the peace.

Stidham left the scene before police arrived. However, they soon located him at the nearby Walmart.

Sanders wrote that the defendant's knife was in plain view in the car at the time of his arrest.



**Russ WADE**  
Attorney at Law

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

386-496-9656

Probate • Family • Wills • Adoption • Litigation • Corporate

**Village Doctors**  
 COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITIES IN SICKNESS AND IN HEALTH  
 SERVING CLAY, BRADFORD AND UNION COUNTIES FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS  
 CALL US TODAY:  
 175 N. Lawrence Blvd. 100 S. Lawrence Blvd. 345 W. Madison St. 155 S.E., 6th Place  
 Keystone Hts, FL 32656 Keystone Hts, FL 32656 Starke, FL 32091 Lake Butler, FL 32054  
 352-473-3199 352-473-9373 904-964-5455 386-496-1236

**Donnette "Nikki" Beard**  
**Massage Therapy**  
 352.473.6053 7426 SR 21  
 5-STAR RATING! ★★★★★  
 Keystone Heights, FL 32656  
 LMT MA46238 MM21459

**North Florida Pharmacy of Keystone Heights**  
**352-478-2057**  
 Providing courteous customer service and quick prescription turn-around time from our friendly staff!  
**405 S. Lawrence Blvd • Keystone Heights**

**MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS REGIONAL DIRECTORY**

**BRADFORD COUNTY EYE CENTER**

*Because your vision and eye health matter!*

**Dr. Carolyn Deloache, APRN**  
**Family Practice**  
  
**LAKE BUTLER**  
 FAMILY & PEDIATRIC CLINIC  
 Hospital 386.496.2323  
 Clinic 386.496.1922



Dr. Michael Schlofman



Jenifer Presnick O.D.

**Bradford County Eye Center**  
 292 Lafayette Street  
 Starke, FL 32091  
 Phone: 904-964-8076  
 Fax: 904-964-8107  
 bradfordcountyeve@yahoo.com

**the Synergy Center**  
 Chiropractic Healing & Wellness  
 30 S. Lake Ave  
 Lake Butler, FL 32054  
 352.317.8273  
 theSynergyCenterChiropractic.com  
 KELLY CLARK, D.C.

**Hearing Aids Today**  
 Affordable Hearing Solutions  
  
**Amos Melvin, Jr.**  
 HAS, NBC-HIS  
 FL Lic. AS3546  
 GetHearingAidsToday.com  
 450 S. Lawrence Blvd.  
 Keystone Heights, FL 32656  
 (352) 877-4471  
 1120 Park Ave.  
 Orange Park, FL 32073  
 (904) 637-5550  
 7035 Phillips Hwy, Ste. #26  
 Jacksonville, FL 32216  
 (904) 549-9779

**Bradford County Eye Center Welcomes Optometrist Jennifer Presnick O.D.**

Bradford County Eye Center has been serving Bradford, Alachua, Union and Clay counties for more than thirty years. Dr. Len Schlofman founded the center after attending the University of Tennessee and Illinois College of Optometry and graduating in 1979, when he joined the Navy. After serving his country, he moved to Starke and began Bradford County Eye Center.

**Jenifer Presnick O.D.**  
 Dr. Jenifer Presnick grew up in Inverness, Florida and graduated from Citrus High School in 2015 with her Associate of Arts (AA) degree by dual enrollment at the College of Central Florida. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from the University of Florida in 2018. She left the beautiful state of Florida to complete her Doctor of Optometry degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry in 2022. Her plan was always to return to Florida to be close to family and friends again.

**CUSTOMER TESTIMONIAL:**  
 My morning started in the ER as I had a 5-day eye issue (discomfort, pain and redness) that was only getting worse. I only started with ER because I never dreamed I could get a "same-day" appointment with an eye specialist. It's unheard of where I come from! When ER didn't have a clue because they don't have the proper machinery for what I needed, they referred me to an ophthalmologist. I called Bradford County Eye Center. From the KIND voice on the other end welcoming me in for an emergency appointment, to the impeccably clean waiting room, to the friendly staff showing me into the exam room and all the way to Dr. Mike: well, forget 5 stars....it was 10 stars at least! It is one thing to have a painful issue resolved in our lives, but it is quite ANOTHER to have the kind, empathetic and expedient customer service I witnessed today. I almost wish (tongue in cheek) I had a need for eye glasses because I would undoubtedly be a regular client of Bradford County Eye Center. Run... don't walk....to make this your eye center. Thank you Bradford County Eye Center - for relieving my pain and restoring my hope in quality customer service and kindness in our world!

**ABOUT THE BRADFORD COUNTY EYE CENTER PROFESSIONALS**

**Dr. Michael Schlofman**  
 Dr. Michael Schlofman, (son of the founder), grew up in Starke, Fla. and is a 2000 graduate of Bradford County High School. He went to the University of Florida and Nova Southeastern University before completing his bachelor's degree in Vision Science in 2004. He continued his education at Nova Southeastern College of Optometry and graduated in 2008 with honors.

As a student, she completed her externships in a variety of clinical environments with a focus in disease, primary care, pediatrics, contact lens fittings and pre/post operative care. She spent 3 months serving veterans at the Montgomery VA Medical Center which has been one of the most rewarding parts of her optometric experience thus far. Although she enjoys every aspect of primary eye care, she especially enjoys fitting contact lenses and providing care for families and pediatric patients. She is excited to join Bradford County Eye Center to further her career and continue to learn every day.

Dr. Schlofman specializes in areas of ocular disease and contact lenses, with an emphasis on dry eye and glaucoma. Dr. Schlofman is a member of the American Optometric Association, Florida Optometric Association and Northeast Florida Optometric Society. He is also a member and past president (2019) of the Starke Rotary Club. Dr. Schlofman was married in May 2012 to Laura Schlofman, who is a teacher. They have 2 daughters, Kate, Emily and one son, Colin. In his spare time, Dr. Schlofman enjoys spending time with his family, reading, watching gators and jags football, golf and other outdoor activities.

Dr. Presnick is married to her high-school sweetheart, Kyle, and together they have a black lab, Charlie, who they love spending time and exploring with. She is the youngest of four children and has eight nieces and nephews that she loves to spoil. Outside of spending time with family and friends, she and her husband enjoy cheering on the Florida Gators and spending time outdoors.



**New office hours M-F • 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Madison Street Pharmacy**  
 "We're here to Serve You"  
 Your Local Hometown Pharmacy!  
 ALL MAJOR INSURANCES ACCEPTED!  
 Convenient Drive Thru Pharmacy  
 Hassle Free Prescription Transfer  
**904-964-7774**  
 www.MadisonStreetPharmacy.com  
 395 West Madison Street • Starke, FL.

**Florida Department of Health Union / Bradford**  
 in partnership with New River Health  
**Union County Health Department & New River Health**  
 495 E Main St • Lake Butler, FL 32054  
**386-496-3211**  
  
**Bradford County Health Department & New River Health**  
 1801 N. Temple Avenue • Starke, FL 32091  
**904-964-7732**  
 Clinical & Nutrition Services • Breast & Cervical Cancer Detection • Dental Health • Diabetes Prevention • Family Planning • Healthy Start • Immunizations • Prenatal Care • Primary Care • School Health • WIC • Child Health Services • Victim Advocacy • Environmental Health  
 floridahealth.gov

**WINDSOR HEALTH AND REHABILITATION CENTER**  
 A new generation of care  
**PLEASE CALL: 904-964-3383**  
 www.windsorhrc.com  
 Expertly Transitions from Hospital to Home, Close to Home!  
 Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy Daily  
 Skilled Nursing Care 24/7  
 Nurse Practitioner on site Monday - Friday  
 AHCA Silver Quality Award Recipient  
**602 East Laura Street, Starke, FL 32091**

**The Chiropractic & Injury Clinic of Starke**  
 Trusted Leaders in Spinal Care  
  
 • Auto Accident Care  
 • Chiropractic Care  
 • Physical Rehab  
 • Hydromassage Therapy  
 • DOT Physicals  
 • Trusted Leaders in Spinal Care  
 Starke Office  
 601 E. Call Street  
 Starke, FL 32091  
 (904) 964-8018  
 Jacksonville Office  
 8825 Perimeter Park Blvd., #102  
 Jacksonville, FL 32216  
 (904) 497-0823  
 Dr. Matthew Lowry, dc www.904Care.com

**BRADFORD COUNTY EYE CENTER**  
**Bradford County Eye Center**  
 292 Lafayette Street  
 Starke, FL 32091  
 New office hours M-F • 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
  
  
**904-964-8076**  
**904-964-8107**

**LAKE AREA PHYSICAL THERAPY & AQUATICS**  
  
 Family owned and operated for over 36 years  
 MELROSE: (352) 475-3113  
 KEYSTONE HEIGHTS: (352) 475-7560  
 STARKE: (904) 964-2208  
 www.LakeAreaPT.com

**TOWN & COUNTRY VETERINARY CLINIC**  
  
**Dr. Alicia Price Keener**  
 Veterinarian  
 Call about the benefits of Paw Club!  
 1051 S. Water St. • Starke, FL 32091  
 904-964-6411 • tncvet.net

**Parkside ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY**  
 Home Style Food & Care Assisted Living  
**904-964-2220**  
 329 N Church St, Starke, FL 32091

# BHS volleyball camp offers skills and sisterly camaraderie

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

New Bradford High School Varsity Volleyball Coach Jamie Segars has been working to build a relationship with the high school players, but she also helped fifth-grade students interested in playing in middle school a head start with the June 13 Little Sister-Big Sister Volleyball Camp.

"I think it's really important for them to start early and get exposure," Segars said.

Camp participants worked on the fundamentals of setting, attacking and serving. The goal was not perfection. Segars told the participants she expected to see them make mistakes, saying, "Mistakes are proof that you're trying."

Mistakes can be corrected over time.

"Individual growth is what we look for," Segars said. "Everyone is win, win, win, and absolutely we want to win, but the biggest win is when you look at all the athletes and let them know and encourage them that they are growing."

Segars said she saw improvement over the camp's four hours.

"There's growth already in just one day," she said. "Exposing them to these skills is extremely important."

Participants were also made aware of what will be expected

of them if they pursue the sport and want to play at BHS.

"I actually had a conversation with them in the locker room," Segars said. "I brought them in the locker room and explained to them the vision for the program."

The "Little Sister-Big Sister" name referred to the fact that participants were learning not just from Segars, but from BHS players, whether it was from one-on-one interactions or watching the BHS players scrimmage.

"Watching them and maybe hoping to be them one day I really think is beneficial," Segars said. "I know they were excited to watch (BHS players) scrimmage a little bit, even though they were a little rusty."

As BHS players scrimmaged, Segars pointed out their effort and sportsmanship to camp participants.

"That's what I want to see right now," Segars said. "Mirror them."

Having a youth camp will hopefully benefit the BHS program in the future, but it can also have an effect now. Segars said working the camp builds the confidence of the high school players and gives them a chance to brush up on their skills.

"It brings the high school players, I think, back to basics," Segars said. "Sometimes we get caught up in the game and being competitive and learning trick plays and things like that, that we do miss those little fundamentals

we still need to revisit every now and then."

The camp was also a good reminder to the high school players that they are serving as role models for the younger girls wanting to play volleyball. That's why Segars had to take the BHS players aside at one point during the camp when it appeared as if their effort level wasn't where it needed to be.

"Sometimes on the court, you get in a slump, and you have to regroup," Segars said. "I was able to regroup my high school girls and say, 'Listen, our energy level is low. They're following you. You need to pick this up.'"

"They were able to do that."



Jordan Padelford records a dig during a drill.



Elaina Smith (left) gets some tips on her serving form from BHS player ChristyAnna Burch.



BHS player Chloe Anderson (right) gives some pointers on how to attack to camp participant Treasure Barrington.



Camp participant Elaina SMith (foreground, left) works on setting as BHS player ChristyAnna Burch looks on.

**Terry McCarthy**  
Complete **Tree Service & STUMP GRINDING**  
Skid steer mulching now available...  
Lift Service Now Provided  
**WE DO IT ALL!**

904-364-7065  
Don't let your tree issue become a tree problem!

Fully Insured

The Genuine. The Original  
**OVERHEAD DOOR**  
Overhead Door Company of Gainesville™

- Garage Doors & Openers • Springs, Cables & Sections Replaced
- Residential & Commercial • Free Estimates • Licensed & Insured

Sales - Installation - Service  
**352-468-2733** [www.OverheadDoor.com](http://www.OverheadDoor.com)

**LWR** • Roof Leaks • Re-Roofs • Shingles  
LEWIS WALKER ROOFING INC. • Metal • Low Slope • Mobile Home  
**1-866-WLW-ROOF** • Commercial • Lifetime Roofs

Guaranteed Best Service • Siding • Rotten Wood Replacement  
Guaranteed Best Warranties • FREE ESTIMATES • Locally Owned  
Guaranteed Best Prices [www.LewisWalkerRoofing.com](http://www.LewisWalkerRoofing.com)

LICENSED & INSURED RC0067442 **Toll Free 866-959-7663**

★★★★★  
**HOW to Get YOUR Early Voting & Primary VOTERS to the BALLOT BOX!**

Via the **MOST** cost-effective advertising OPPORTUNITIES in the Tri-County News Area:

[www.BCTelegraph.com](http://www.BCTelegraph.com)  
Lake Region Monitor  
UNION COUNTY TIMES

CONTACT  
John Ryan Tillman (904) 964-6305 ofc (904) 796-3534 cell  
[johnryan@bctelegraph.com](mailto:johnryan@bctelegraph.com)  
Darlene Douglass (904) 796-0781 cell  
[douglass80@embarqmail.com](mailto:douglass80@embarqmail.com)

**VOTERS are READERS of NEWSPAPERS & NEWS PUBLICATIONS**

**YOUR VOTERS MATTER • REACH THEM EFFECTIVELY**

New Vision. New direction  
Leader we can trust!  
experienced florida leader [www.website.com](http://www.website.com)

**AUGUST 8 / 2022**  
**EARLY VOTING STARTS!**

Your own ad or we will custom design.

# STEAM camp supplements the classroom experience

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

A child can learn about the behaviors and properties of light by sitting in a classroom and listening to a teacher and reading from a textbook, but a child can also learn about optics by doing something fun, like constructing kaleidoscopes and telescopes.

That's the goal of the Cade Museum for Creativity and Invention's summer STEAM camps — teaching concepts of science, technology, engineering, the arts and math, while also making it fun, allowing children to participate in hands-on activities.

The museum typically hosts camps at its Gainesville facility, but this year it brought a four-day camp to Starke, which was held June 20-23 at Southside Elementary School.

"This is one of our first outreach partnerships," said Patty Lipka, the museum's director of experiential education. "We have three of them this summer, and (the one in Starke) is the first one."

Lipka said the camps are helping to fill a need. She cited a study titled "The 95-Percent Solution," which found that by the age of 22, 95 percent of what a person learns about science doesn't come from within the four walls of a classroom.

"It comes from experiences, like going to the library, going to a science show, going to a summer camp and visiting museums," Lipka said.

Two Bradford County teachers worked alongside Cade Museum

staff at the camp: Lilly Chappell and Michelle Greist. Greist said she was excited about the camp coming to Starke because it offered opportunities that aren't always available in the classroom.

"We don't have enough time during the school year to do a lot of projects that have to do with science," said Greist, who taught at Bradford Middle School this year and will teach at Starke Elementary this coming school year.

Participating in those projects — such as constructing kaleidoscopes and telescopes — will have a lasting effect on the camp participants, Greist said, adding, "Now they're going to remember light when we talk about it. If we're talking about light (in the classroom), it's, 'Oh, my gosh. Remember when we made the kaleidoscope?'"

Chappell, fortunately, gets to engage students in hands-on activities during the school year as a STEM teacher at Southside. She said projects and experiments can bring about what teachers call those "a-ha moments." In other words, those moments when the child understands what he or she is supposed to be learning.

"Once it sinks in, and it's there, they have it forever," Chappell said. "They may forget it, but once they're reminded of it, it comes right back to the front."

Hands-on activities provide creative outlets for children as well as helping them to learn various concepts. Lipka said that's huge because children tend to perceive themselves

as creative or not creative at a young age.

"Second grade is when kids realize, 'I can't draw. I can't create something. I am not able to.' Then they get to be a little jaded," Lipka said. "It takes root. Then we get uncreative adults saying, 'Well, I'm not the creative one. It's my sister.'"

"Everybody is born creative. We try to instill that in kids." The camp was free of charge, which Chappell said was a plus for some families, especially during these times.

"A lot of our families don't have that extra cash," Chappell said. "With gas prices going up and food prices going up, things like camps will be considered a luxury. If anything's going to be cut (from a family's budget), it's going to be the luxuries."

Of course, as a teacher, Chappell sees a tremendous benefit in children participating in academics for part of the summer. She hopes parents take advantage of such opportunities. Prior to the start of the Cade camp, Chappell said, "A STEM camp keeps that brain going. They have to think outside the box to be able to do some of the things we're going to do. For parents, this is an opportunity. It's free. Their kids are going to be thinking at a higher level — outside the box — and they'll be better equipped when they come to school next year."

The STEAM camp will benefit more than the children who attended. Lipka said the training that Chappell and Greist received prior to the camp may



Annika Hopkins shows off the car she built.



Ally Bradshaw adds some flair to the car she's constructing.



Amelia Clem places colored beads on mirrors as she constructs a small kaleidoscope.

have exposed them to ideas they can then incorporate into their classrooms.

"I like to learn still," Greist said. "Even after 20-something years of teaching — almost 30 — I've learned so much already."

Chappell said, "It's been exciting. I love to learn new things. It was a good time (at the training session)."

It was a good time for Chappell and Greist, and Lipka was confident the camp would offer a good time for the children.

"If you're not having fun, then you're half asleep," Lipka said. "We say there's something (here) for everybody."



Amelia Clem sprinkles paint to create a textured effect on her telescope.



Bentley Chamberlain uses hot glue to finish constructing his car.



Arabella Perkins (left) sees how far the car she built will travel. Avery Wulff-Vanderpujue waits to test hers as well.



Arabella Perkins concentrates on decorating her telescope.

Right: Blaine Smyth checks out his finished kaleidoscope.



Right: Avery Wulff-Vanderpujue uses color markers to decorate the car she built.



Bentley Chamberlain works on painting and designing his telescope.

## Beef cattle heifer selection and conditioning

BY LIZZIE WHITEHEAD  
UF/IFAS Extension Bradford  
County Livestock Agent

Depending on which calving season you have, cattlemen must make decisions on which heifer calves they want to keep or buy for their herd. Usually, 10-20 percent of your herd will need to be replaced with heifers each year. It is extremely important to apply adequate selection pressure to prospective herd replacements at weaning and after weaning.

Developing these heifers to become productive females in your cow herd can be a tremendous investment in a cow-calf operation. The following are some guidelines that should be used when selecting your replacement heifers.

### Record keeping

An individual record should be kept on each cow in your herd. Whether you right it down on a note pad or keep it in your cell phone, knowing when this cow has calved, birth weight and making sure the calf is growing properly is essential information. Keeping records on the following information will help you select



Beef cattle in a pasture. Developing heifers to become productive females in your cow herd can be a tremendous investment in a cow-calf operation.

the heifers you want to keep out of your high-performing cows:

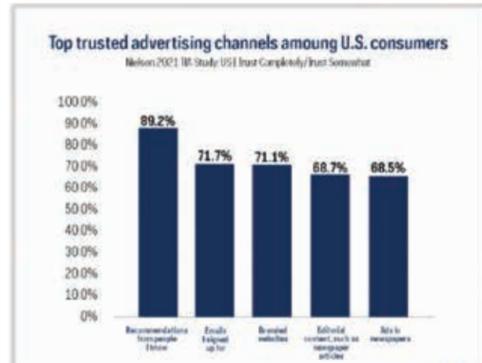
- Calving percentage.
- Cow performance (body condition, number of calves, rebreeding, etc.).
- Weaning weights.
- Quality of calves at weaning. (Are all the calves the same size and uniform in weight?)

### Longevity

It is important to keep heifers that are being selected from the cows that have consistently produced a heavy weight and high-quality calf every year. Keep notes on which cows have a 12-13-month calving interval each year. If it is possible, look at birth dates and select those heifers that were born in the beginning of your calving season. Research

See CATTLE, page 13

## CONSUMERS TRUST NEWSPAPERS



Special note: The Relevance Project thanks The Nielsen Co., a global leader in audience measurement, data, and analytics, for this excerpt from its Trust in Advertising Study. Nielsen used 23 channels, a term to distinguish where ads show up or are referenced, in the study.

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

**NEWS** **NEWS** **NEWSPAPER POWER.**  
Print, Digital & Creative Solutions for our advertisers.

**ADVERTISE & PROMOTE LOCAL** John Ryan: johnryan@bctelegraph.com 904-796-3534 cell  
Darlene: douglass80@embarqmail.com 904-796-0781 cell

**THE LAKE REGION MONITOR SPECIAL MAILS**  
FREE TO ~21,000 HOMES & MAILBOXES IN THE LAKE REGION : FROM STARKE TO INTERLACHEN

**SHOP • EAT • READ**  
**ADVERTISE LOCALLY**  
We're Local. Like You!

**www.BCTelegraph.com**  
**Lake Region Monitor**  
**UNION COUNTY TIMES**  
**MOBILE • PRINT • ONLINE**

# Obituaries

## John Adkins

John Rufus Adkins (J.R.), 72, of Starke, passed away on Thursday, July 7, 2022, after battling an extended illness. He was born July 24, 1949 to Edward and Ruby Pauline Adkins and lived in Bradford County his entire life. He attended Bradford High School, where he met the love of his life, his wife of 54 years, Linda DeVore Adkins. After high school, he was drafted into military service and served with the Army's 82nd Artillery Division. He faithfully served in Vietnam for 12 months and then volunteered to remain for an additional 6 months fighting for his country. He was the recipient of the Army Commendation Medal for sustained heroism and meritorious service. Upon completion of his final tour, he was honorably discharged in 1970.

He then made his living as a bricklayer, mason, and foreman. He was employed by the Painter Masonry company of Gainesville and bragged every chance he could that he built many of the modern buildings at the University of Florida. As a Gator fan, he was proud to play a part in the university's growth and achievement. He was an avid hunter and loved fishing as well. He was a member of the Sampson City Hunting Club where he spent time with his friends and his devoted hunting dogs. On weekends he rooted for the Gators and Jaguars, and watched his favorite drivers in NASCAR. In his role of "Best Pappa" ever, he spent his retirement doting on his precious grandsons, Preston, Noah, and Ezra; pushing them in the tire swing, riding them on his four-wheeler, and showing them how to grow a garden. He watched them play soccer, basketball, and even video games. He was happiest when they were happy. Besides his homestead, his favorite place to be was in the mountains of North Carolina. He was always ready for a mountain adventure and enjoyed his last trip in 2019 with his wife, Linda; son, Josh; and his sister and brother-in-law, Teresa and Bobby Patterson. Sitting in a rocking chair and gazing into the smoky valley from the porch was soothing to his soul. After that trip, his illness kept him mostly at home



where he was cared for day and night by his loving wife. He was of the Christian faith and a member of the Sampson City Church of God, where he was baptized in the latter years of his life. He found joy in worship and listening to gospel music. He remained steadfast in his faith until his last breath. He was not a perfect man, but he was a good and decent man, and a blessing to all who knew and loved him. May he rest in peace and may his memories be a blessing. He was preceded in death by his parents; his father and mother-in-law, John and Pauline DeVore; his brother, Mark Adkins; and beloved nephew, Adam Adkins.

He is survived by his loving wife, Linda Adkins; his beloved sons, John (Tanecchia) Adkins of Brookier and Josh (Stacie) Adkins of Starke; his amazing grandsons Preston, Noah, and Ezra; sisters, Sophie Massey of Naples, Janet Carter and Renee Hewett of Starke, Linda (Vern) Wickline of Middleburg; brothers, Edward Adkins Jr. of Starke, and Roy (Robyn) Adkins of Morriston; and many nieces and nephews whom he loved very much.

A Celebration of Life was held Tuesday, July 12 at Sampson City Church of God with Brother Gene Bass officiating. Interment followed at Lawtey Cemetery.

Arrangements were under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel, Starke. 904-964-5757. Visit [www.ferreirafuneralservices.com](http://www.ferreirafuneralservices.com) to sign the family's guest book.

PAID OBITUARY

## David Crews

David John Crews, 82, of Kingsley Lake, passed away peacefully on Friday, July 8, 2022, at his residence with his loving family by his side. He was born in Jacksonville on Jan. 15, 1940, to the late Samuel Gilmore Crews and Frieda Syfan Crews. He knew his calling at an early age was to help better his community. After graduating high school, he worked for Foremost Dairies, Anchor Hocking Glass Company, and started his real estate investment company. He married his best friend, Bonnie Yvonne Crews, on Jan. 15, 1960. In 1964, he began a lengthy career in law enforcement serving with the County Road Patrol which consolidated with the Jacksonville Police Department. After 31 years of dedicated service, he retired in 1995. In the late 1980's, he and Bonnie made Kingsley Lake their forever home. He enjoyed attending Kingsley Lake Baptist Church where he was a longtime member. He was an avid Florida Gator football fan and, for many years, held the record of 101 gallons of blood donated to the blood bank. He was most passionate about his family. He enjoyed family oyster roasts and cookouts, making memories with his grandbabies, and traveling all over the United States, visiting Hawaii multiple times. He was a devoted husband, loving son, brother, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend who will be deeply missed. He was preceded in death by his parents; son, David Wayne Crews; and siblings, Frieda Crews Sims, Stanley Joseph Crews, Elwell David Crews, Essie Evelyn Crews Carter, and Willie Hazel Crews Sauvage.

He is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Bonnie Yvonne

## Tracy Croft

LULU - Tracy Keith Croft, 61, of Lulu, passed away Monday, July 4, 2022, at his home. He was born on April 14, 1961, to Nelson Al Croft and Linda (Markham) Norris. He was a lifelong resident of Lulu and grew up on his family's farm. He began working on the farm at an early age and eventually got into the timber industry. His kids described him as a hard-working honest man that would give you his last dollar. He was the world's best "Pop-Pop". He loved spending time with his grandchildren, teaching them about the farm and hunting. He loved being in the woods, especially hunting and fishing. He also loved motocross and good music. He was a loving "Pop-Pop", father, son, and brother, and will be deeply missed. He was preceded in death by his stepfather, Carl Norris.

He is survived by his daughters, Sandra Marie Croft of High Springs and Katelyn (Nick) Reddick of Lake City; his father, Nelson "Al" (Sandra) Croft of Lake Butler; mother, Linda Norris of Gainesville; grandchildren, Holden Croft,

## Merrill Griffis

Merrill Griffis, 94, of Starke went to his heavenly home on Saturday, July 9, 2022, at Community Hospice & Palliative Care in Jacksonville. He was born in Starke to the late Charlie and Lois Geiger Griffis. He attended school until the eighth grade when he decided to leave and help take care of his family. At the age of 18, he enlisted in the United States Army where he proudly served in WWII before being honorably discharged. On June 23, 1956, he married the love of his life and best friend, Mary Helen Griffis. Together, they spent 66 beautiful years and raised four wonderful children. He began his career as a carpenter in the Union in Gainesville before he found his true passion as a chicken farmer. He farmed chickens and cattle for over 33 years. He was the president of the Bradford Roping Club, and was a member of the Lawtey Coon Hunting Club and Two Buck Hunting Club. In his later years, he enjoyed a simple life. He and his



Crews of Kingsley Lake; son, Troy Elwell Crews; grandchildren, Kelly (Clayton) Crews Bailey, Katelyn Danielle (Austin) Crawford, and Jared (Kassidy) Grant Crews; great-grandchildren, Rylan, Chip, Sawyer, Roland, and Walter; siblings, Sam Crews, Allen Crews, Charlie Crews, Robert Crews, Raymond Crews, Alice Crews Youngblood, and Carol Crews Harris; along with many extended family members and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Thursday, July 14, at 11 a.m. at Kingsley Lake Baptist Church. Interment will follow at Live Oak Baptist Church Cemetery in Callahan. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN, 38105.

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](http://www.ferreirafuneralservices.com) to sign the family's guest book.

PAID OBITUARY



Bryson, Ella, Addy, and Weston Reddick; his siblings, Stacy Croft of Middleburg, Jock (Christina) Croft and Josette (Steve) Russell all of Gainesville; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and nieces also survive.

A funeral to honor his life was held Saturday, July 9, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler. 352-463-2008. [www.ArcherFuneralHome.com](http://www.ArcherFuneralHome.com)

PAID OBITUARY



wife enjoyed spending their time together at their lake home where they could relax and fish. He had a beautiful knife collection, which he enjoyed sharpening most afternoons. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Starke where he enjoyed worshipping his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. More than anything, he was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather who loved his family deeply. He was a good man who will be loved and missed by all who knew him. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Milford Griffis and Nelson Griffis; and sisters, Lucille "Florey" Hornsby and Francis Johnson.

He is survived by his loving wife, Mary Helen Griffis of Starke; children, Rodney Griffis of Starke, Linda (Darrell) Perry of Macclenny, Darlene Plasters of Starke, and Marilyn "Punk" (Roy) Register of Middleburg; grandchildren, Amanda (Michael) Hardee, Dusty (Laura) Griffis, Chasity Davis, Darrell Jr. Rachel (Robert) Brinson, Kyle (Sarah) Plasters, Logan Register, and Dalton Register; great-grandchildren, Jencie (Matt) Stanwix-Hay, Karlie, Tenly Hardee, Colby, Ally Griffis, Tyler, Kierstyn Brinson, Triston Payne, Macy (Bryce) Watson, Gracie, Preslie Davis, Dalton, Wyatt, and Mason Perry; and great-great-grandson, Ryker Stanwix-Hay.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Thursday, July 14, at 11 a.m. at the Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel with Brother Wailon Haston officiating. The family will receive friends an hour prior at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Hope Baptist Church Cemetery.

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](http://www.ferreirafuneralservices.com) to sign the family's guest book.

PAID OBITUARY

## Jeanette Hastings

Jeanette "Jan" Hastings, 78, of Jacksonville, formerly a longtime resident of Keystone Heights, died Monday, June 27, 2022.

Survivors are her husband, Jerry Hastings of Jacksonville; son, Carl Edwin (Amy) Finney of Jacksonville; a daughter, Robin S. Black of Keystone Heights; a sister, Rosemary Sutherland, of Yulee.

## James Knight

James Vernon Knight, 74, of Jacksonville, died Wednesday, July 6, 2022, in the Community Hospice at St. Vincent's Hospital in Jacksonville.

He is survived by his son, Vernon Knight Jr. of Jacksonville; grandchildren, Micheal, Bryan, Lacey, Ginger, Christina, TJ, and JJ; and siblings, Richard Knight of Lake Butler, and Alice Sanford of Orlando.

A funeral was held on Tuesday, July 12, at old Oak Grove Cemetery Church in Lake Butler.

Arrangements were under the

## Elliott McLeod

Elliott Manche McLeod, 87, a proud veteran of the United States Army, passed away Friday, July 8, 2022, in Raleigh, North Carolina. He was born Aug. 2, 1934, in Lake Butler to Cyril and Dorrie McLeod and attended Union County High School. At the age of 19, he was drafted by the U.S. Army to serve during the Korean War. He was sent to Germany, where he drove trucks, transporting ammo and supplies to the troops. He valued this service highly and attained the rank of Private Second Class. He received the National Defense Service Medal, the Army of Occupation Medal (Germany) and the Good Conduct Medal. He retired from the Florida State Prison to take over his father's barber shop in downtown Lake Butler.

His loved ones will remember what a doting father and a loving grandfather he was. They will also remember all of his stories of growing up on the farm, his time in the military, and hunting and fishing. He was preceded in death by his parents, Cyril McLeod, and Dorrie Crawford McLeod, both of Lake Butler; his wife, Carolyn Carter McLeod of Bryceville; and one granddaughter.

He is survived by his daughters,

## Cynthia Norman

Cynthia Norman, 65, of Hampton died unexpectedly on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at Vero Beach.

She is survived by her mother, Carolyn Francis; son, Jeremy (Malia) Keen; brother, Thomas

## Keith Patray

Lucian Keith Patray, 69, of Orlando, passed away Tuesday, July 5, 2022. He was born on Nov. 29, 1952 at Morton F. Plant Hospital in Clearwater to the late Ernie Don and Minnie Lou Patray. He was named after his maternal grandfather Lucian Hazen, but was known by his middle name, Keith.

He grew up in Starke where he attended and graduated from Bradford High School in 1970. While attending high school, he played varsity football as a wide-out with jersey number "43". After high school, he went on to attend community college at Santa Fe College. He later became a corrections officer with the State of Florida, Department of Corrections at North Florida Reception Center in Lake Butler. He was known to other officers there as "Sugar Foot"; a nickname given to him for his kind and understanding nature. He later became a proud father to his daughter, Lesli Dawn. He moved to the Orlando area in 1992 and continued his career as a corrections sergeant and later retired from the State of Florida at Central Florida

## Kaitlyn Raymont

Kaitlyn Leighann Raymont (Kitchens), 26, of Lake City, passed away on Sunday, June 26, 2022, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. She was born in Gainesville and resided in Lake City. She was a graduate of P.K. Yonge Developmental Research School in Gainesville, class of 2014, and attended Santa Fe College. She was employed with the Florida Department of Corrections since 2017 and was aspiring to be an officer with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. She had a passion for outdoor adventures. She loved fishing and always had a rod & reel in her truck ready for the next big catch. She was preceded in death by her paternal grandfather, William "Bill" Dicks; maternal great-grandparents, Lucien "Papier" Jacques and Alice "Mamier" Jacques.

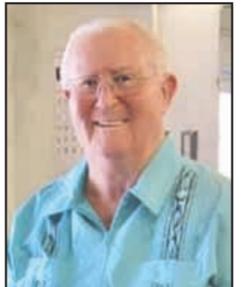
Survivors include her parents, Paul Owen Raymont and Melissa Wasden Raymont of Lake City; brother, Landon Blaize Raymont of Lake City; paternal grandparents, Florence M. Hewett of Lake City and Paul Edmond Raymont of Bear, Delaware; maternal grandparents, Trammel Wasden of Lake City, Suzanne Wasden of Palm Beach Gardens, Florida and John Alvey of Seffner; paternal uncle, Thomas Dicks of Orlando; paternal aunt, Sheila (Kris) Robertson of Lake City; maternal uncle, Adam Wasden of Lake City; godparents, Susan and

A Celebration of Life was held Saturday, July 2, at Gadora Baptist Church. Interment will be at Jacksonville National Cemetery at a later date.

Arrangements were by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 340 E. Walker Drive, Keystone Heights, 32656. 352-473-3176.



care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler. 352-496-2008. [www.ArcherFuneralHome.com](http://www.ArcherFuneralHome.com)



Debra Braddock of Pensacola; Carolyn Beverly of Jacksonville; and Michele Shinholser of Raleigh, North Carolina; his grandchildren; Dorris Braddock, Cody Shinholser, Lance Shinholser, Christina Carrasco; and eight great-grandchildren.

A viewing will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 16, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home in Lake Butler followed immediately by the funeral at 2 p.m. A small graveside service will be held at Elzey Chapel Cemetery. Both services will be officiated by Rev. J.R. McLeod.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home. 386-496-2008 [www.ArcherFuneralHome.com](http://www.ArcherFuneralHome.com)

PAID OBITUARY

Francis; sister, Martha VanLeet; two granddaughters; and numerous other family members.

Services will be held Saturday, Aug. 20 at 1 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 921 E. Call St., Starke.

Reception Center. It was while living and working there that he met his best friend, Ester Jordan. He had a strong relationship with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and enjoyed reading his Bible daily. He was an animal lover all his life and had many beloved pets over the years. He was also a lifelong fan of the University of Florida Gators. He was known for his kindness, love, and generosity. His heart was so big that everyone he knew had a special place within it.

He was preceded in death by both of his parents.

He is survived by his daughter, Lesli Patray of DeLand; sister Donna (Jeffrey) Jackson; brother, Mark (Jean) Patray, both of Starke; nephews, Gary Don Brewer, Joshua Brewer, Marcus Patray, Jacob Patray, Caleb (Ashlyn) Patray; and his best friend, Ester Jordan of Orlando.

Celebration of Life services are scheduled for Friday, July 15 at 2 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church, 3716 SR 21, Keystone Heights 32656, and Sunday, July 17 at 1 p.m. at A Community Funeral Home, located at 910 W. Michigan St., Orlando, 32805.

PAID OBITUARY



Joel Law of Lake City; and many other extended family and friends throughout Florida, Delaware, New Hampshire and Canada.

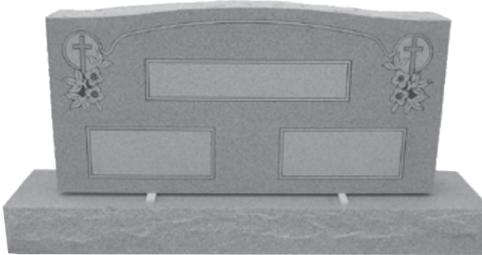
A Celebration of Life service will be conducted on Saturday, July 16 at Gateway-Forest Lawn Memorial Chapel. All are invited for visitation with the family one hour prior to the service from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. at the funeral home. The service will begin at 3 p.m. Feel free to honor her by wearing a fishing themed or styled shirt. Donations can be made in her memory to Puzzle Pieces of North Florida, 1572 SE High Falls Road, Lake City, 32025 for Casting for Autism. You can also donate at [puzzlepiecesnf.org](http://puzzlepiecesnf.org). Please include her name on your donation.

Arrangements are under the direction and care of Gateway-Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 3596 S. US Hwy 441, Lake City, 32025, 386-752-1954. Please leave words of comfort for the family at [www.gatewayforestlawn.com](http://www.gatewayforestlawn.com).

PAID OBITUARY

## Charles Custom Memorials

Serving Families in North Florida since 1973



The area's largest supplier of Colored Granite  
When Quality Counts, You Can Count On Us

STARKE OFFICE OPEN 8:30 to 5:00 MON-FRI  
Hwy 301 North, Starke • 904-964-2010  
(Next to Best Western)

Primary Location in Lake City at 561 NW Hilton Ave.

CharlesMonuments.com

Member of Better Business Bureau  
Monument Builders of North America  
Florida Monument Builders  
FL Lic. # F037700

A NAME YOU HAVE COME TO  
KNOW AND TRUST

V. Todd

*Ferreira*  
Funeral Services

Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel 904-964-5757

Lake Butler Chapel 386-496-1400



V. TODD FERREIRA



ASHLEY STEELE MILLER



JENCIE HARDEE STANWIX-HAY

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

[www.ferreirafuneralservices.com](http://www.ferreirafuneralservices.com)

## Margie Sapp

Margie Reece Beckham Sapp left this life on Saturday, July 9, 2022, to meet her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to be reunited with her beloved husband, Dempsey, who had been patiently waiting on her for over six years. She lived for 99 wonderful years and even to the very end she was a fighter and held on for as long as she could. She will be forever loved and missed. She was born on Nov. 11, 1922, to Robert and Thelma Beckham in Rochelle and was one of seven children. She spent her entire life in Florida. She graduated from Hawthorne High School in 1941 and went on the pursue many opportunities. She met the love of her life, Dempsey Robert Sapp, while she was working as a telephone operator at Southern Bell in Starke during WWII. They married Sept. 17, 1943 while he was serving in the U.S. Navy and stationed in Arlington, Virginia. They spent 72 wonderful years together. Together they created four children, and she loved being a stay at home Mom. She was a caregiver and loved her family. Her mother passed away at 59 years of age and she took over the care of her father for many years; cooking and cleaning for him on a weekly basis while managing her own four children. She and her husband founded Florida Pest Control in 1949 in Gainesville. The company became one of the largest independently owned pest control companies in the United States providing for hundreds of employees, their families, and thousands of valued customers throughout the years. She remained actively involved with the business well into her nineties. She was a wonderful Southern cook, and many came to enjoy her delicious meals. She will be especially remembered for incredible cakes, particularly her pound cakes and caramel nut cakes. She loved to garden, and she never met a plant she did not like or want. To this day, her yard is beautiful with blooming crepe myrtles, azaleas, sago palms and many more that she planted where she and Dempsey built their dream home over forty years ago on the Sapp family farm that Dempsey grew up on and established in Lake Butler. She was a wonderful homemaker and loved to sew, quilt, and craft. She was a member of the Rex Club in Hawthorne, and the Lake Forest Homemakers Club (UF Extension office) since 1961. She hosted the annual end-of-the-year party at her house every spring for many years. She loved to shop, especially for shoes and purses. She was always beautifully dressed from top to bottom and her beautiful blonde hair was fixed to perfection. She would dazzle you with her sea blue eyes. One of her greatest loves was the University of Florida Gators. She and her husband, a



graduate of UF, were avid fans for over 50 years, rarely missing a game. You did not want to sit next to her at a football game because her excitement could be dangerous. Since 1952, she and her husband were members of Wesley United Methodist Church, where she attended faithfully every Sunday until COVID. She instilled her faith among her children. She was affectionately known as "MeMa" and had four children, seven grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren and several step-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband: brothers, Julian Beckham, Aldine Beckham, and Frank Beckham; sister, Bobbie Alvarez; daughter, Debi Sapp Wise; and great-granddaughter, Sofia Wise.

She is survived by her loving children, Kay (Don) Frowick, D.R. (Diane) Sapp, and Angelia (Don) Dickey; seven grandchildren; thirteen great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren; sisters, Irma Glenn Hales and Sandra Cannon; and many relatives. She has had many loving caretakers through the years that allowed her to remain in her home until the end. A special thank you to Regina Lane, her sister, Sandra Cannon, Sara Chesser, Lisa McKibben; Elizabeth Ivey, Belinda Williams, and many others through Touching Hearts. We are forever grateful for their loving care and devotion allowing our mother to live 99 wonderful years. A special thank you to Dr. Nadkarni and his staff for their care and attention over the years. We would also like to thank Vistas Hospice and their loving nurses. A Celebration of Life was held on Wednesday, July 13 at Wesley United Methodist Church, Gainesville. Honorary pallbearers were Chad Frowick, Zac Wise, Dempsey Sapp III, Dylan Dickey, Austin Sapp, and Colby Frowick. Donations can be made to Wesley United Methodist Church, 826 NW 23rd Ave., Gainesville, 32609 in her honor.

Arrangements were under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler. 386-496-2008. [www.ArcherFuneralHome.com](http://www.ArcherFuneralHome.com)

PAID OBITUARY

## Margaret Sutton

STARKE - Margaret Marie "Kozelka" Sutton, 102, of Starke passed away on Monday, June 27, 2022. She was born in Prairie du Chein, Wisconsin on Dec. 12, 1919. She was preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, Clifford; parents, Vincent and Josephine Kozelka; eight brothers and sisters; a son, Clyde (Judy); and three grandsons.

Survivors include her children, Thomas (Margie) Sutton, Kenneth (Glenda) Sutton and Janet (John) Pate; eight grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren and numerous great-great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are by Jones-



Gallagher Funeral Home, 620 E. Nona St., Starke, 32091. [www.jonesgallagherfh.com](http://www.jonesgallagherfh.com)

PAID OBITUARY

## Gregory Tyre III

Gregory Patrick Tyre III, 18, of Lake Park, Georgia passed away suddenly on Wednesday, July 6, 2022. He was born in Gainesville on Aug. 15, 2003 to his loving parents, Gregory Patrick Tyre II and Leslie Anne Powell Lee. He was raised in Lake Butler until he turned 16 and then relocated to Lake Park, Georgia. He attended Lowndes County High School and earned his diploma from Wiregrass Community College in 2021. Shortly after high school, he began his career at Binderholtz Sawmill, where he enjoyed working and was eager to grow in the company. He enjoyed fishing, kayaking, swimming at the springs, and listening to a variety of music. He had the biggest heart and would do anything for others. He spent his money on things he wanted, and spoiled others; he knew he would make more and wasn't afraid to spend it. More than anything, he loved his family and friends. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Gregory Patrick Tyre Sr..

He is survived by his parents, Gregory (Jessica) Patrick Tyre II of Jennings, and Leslie (Jerome) Lee of Lake City; paternal grandparents, Gary (Donna) Jackson of Lake Park, Georgia; maternal grandparents, Jerry (Debra) Powell of Lake Butler; great-grandmother, Judith



G. Young of Orange Park; brother, Chase Tyre of Lake City; sister, Mary Tyre of Lake City; step sister, Talena Lee of Lake City and Hayleigh Capps of Jennings; aunt, Judith Young; uncles, Jeremy Powell, Chris Tyre, Jason Barnett, and Kyle (Tiffany) Tyre; and many cousins, friends, and extended family members.

A Celebration of Life was held on Wednesday, July 13 at Ferreira Chapel in Lake Butler with Brother Dalton Harrington officiating. Interment followed at Oak Grove Cemetery in Providence.

Arrangements were under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services, 435 Lake Butler, 32054. 386-496-1400. Visit [www.ferreirafuneralservices.com](http://www.ferreirafuneralservices.com) to sign the family's guest book.

PAID OBITUARY

## Michael Vinci Faye Vinci

Michael Stephen Vinci passed away Saturday, July 2, 2022, and patiently waited until Wednesday, July 6, 2022, for his wife of 37 years, Faye Marie Bryant Vinci, to join him. The two married on June 22, 1985, and enjoyed a good life together in Lake Butler. He was born Sept. 9, 1947, in Belleville, Illinois to the late A.J. and Evelyn Lee Vinci. In July of 1968, he proudly joined the United States Army and served until his retirement from the Army National Guard in 1997. He worked for the Florida Highway Patrol and later retired as a correctional officer with the Department of Corrections. He enjoyed riding motorcycles, scuba diving, going crabbing, and watching westerns. Together, he and Faye enjoyed taking cruises. They both were also animal lovers. She was born March 23, 1956, in Jacksonville, to the late Everett and Lilian Andrews Bryant. She also had a long career with the Department of Corrections until her retirement. In her spare time, she enjoyed crocheting, sponsoring animals, and riding horses. She also was a thrill seeker, riding in race cars; and she wouldn't pass up a roller coaster. They loved their family more than anything and will be deeply missed.

They are survived by their



children, Michael Blaine Vinci, Elizabeth (Tony) Hodges, and Michael Anthony Vinci, all of Lake Butler; grandchildren, Michael G. Vinci, Victoria K. Vinci, Nathan Brand, Morgan Hodges, Michael Everett Vinci, and Eva Vinci; a great-grandson, Briggs Anthony Brand; Michael's brother, Joe (Joanne) Vinci of Brandon; Faye's siblings, Loriann (Adam) Bennett of Jacksonville, Susan Brown of Iowa, and Ronnie Bryant of Jacksonville; Faye's step-sister, Judy Davis of Tallahassee; and a host of nieces, nephews, and extended family.

A service to honor them will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 16 at Archer-Milton Funeral Home. A visitation will be held from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Friday, July 15, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home. They will be laid to rest immediately following the service at Elzey Chapel Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler 386-496-2008. [www.ArcherFuneralHome.com](http://www.ArcherFuneralHome.com)

PAID OBITUARY

## Sun honors 4 UCHS athletes in track and field, baseball

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Jay Cohen, a recent Union County High School graduate, received first-team small-school honors with the release of the Gainesville Sun's all-area baseball teams, while two of his teammates were second-team selections.

Cohen, an outfielder, batted .379 with six doubles, four home runs and 21 RBI.

Rising seniors Ayden Elixson and Tre'Von Lee were

second-team picks. Elixson, an outfielder, batted .328 with seven doubles, one triple, one home run and 17 RBI, while Lee, an infielder, batted .351 with two doubles, two triples, one home run and 18 RBI.

The Sun also released its all-area boys track and field teams, with recent UCHS graduate Malcolm Odum being named to the second team. Odum earned two medals at the Class 2A state finals, placing eighth in the 200m with a time of 21.75 and eighth in the 400m with a time of 49.24.

At the district level, Odum won the 200m with a time of 22.47 and placed third in the 400m with a time of 49.83.

Odum was then the Region 1 runner-up in the 200m with a time of 21.65, while placing fourth in the 400m with a time of 48.89.

## CATTLE

Continued from page 11

shows that these heifers tend to reach puberty at an earlier age. This means that these heifers should start their estrus cycle earlier and get bred earlier than those that calved at the end of your breeding season.

Select high-quality heifers at weaning time:

- Heifers from a high-milking dam.
- Disposition.
- Visual appraisal.
- Adequate growth.

## Average daily gain

Heifers should be gaining 1.5-2.25 pounds per day to reach 65 percent of their mature weight when it is time to start breeding them at 15 months of age, so they can calve at 2 years old. Monitor your heifers by viewing their body-condition scores to make sure they are not losing or gaining too much weight. Depending on the breed of heifer, weights and age of maturity will vary.

Heifers that have failed to develop and gain the appropriate amount of weight should be culled. For example:

- Mature weight, 1,200 pounds.
- Weight at breeding, 780 pounds.

## Conditioning

In order to achieve a target body weight for a cycling heifer at breeding, some challenges need to be overcome. The first challenge is making sure your heifers are achieving an ideal average daily weight gain (ADG) to avoid over- and under-conditioning.

Here are a few tips on how to overcome these challenges:

- High enough protein concentration to support muscle growth.
- Ideal heifer development

## Fuhrman is Guard's Family Programs Volunteer of the Year



Melanie Fuhrman (left) receives the Florida Commendation Medal from Maj. Gen. James Eifert (Florida's adjutant general) in recognition of being named the Florida National Guard Family Programs Volunteer of the Year.

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Melanie Fuhrman of Lawtey received quite a surprise when Florida National Guard Adjutant Gen. James Eifert presented her with the Florida Commendation Medal for recognition as the Florida National Guard Family Programs Volunteer of the Year.

Fuhrman was at the St. Francis Barracks in St. Augustine (the Florida National Guard's headquarters), attending the Florida National Guard Family Programs' annual workshop for family readiness volunteers.

"It was good to see everybody, but I had no clue they were springing that on me," she said. "It was a huge shock."

Fuhrman is co-coordinator of the family readiness group for the 146th Signal Battalion along with Cassidy May.

"I support her," Fuhrman said. "I've been in pretty much every volunteer role since 2007."

Maj. Gen. James Eifert — Florida's adjutant general — wrote a letter to Fuhrman, which congratulated her on the honor and expressing his appreciation for her "dedication, support and commitment to the soldier family."

"You are the epitome of what it means to serve others," Eifert wrote.

Fuhrman became involved with family readiness support when her husband, Mike, served in the Army. Her volunteer efforts continued when he joined the Florida National Guard.

Service to others comes

naturally to her, said Fuhrman, whose mother was a Red Cross volunteer and whose father served in the Navy.

"I was raised that way — to be able to think about helping other people and to be selfless," she said.

Family readiness volunteers assist families of Guard members when those Guardsmen are away from home. Basically, they point families in the right direction.

"Family readiness is important every day of the year because you never know when a soldier or their family is going to have a need for resources," Fuhrman said. "We're that liaison between the soldiers and their families and those resources. We don't fix the problem, but we can get you — hopefully — to someone who can get you what you need."

Fuhrman said most of the time, volunteers are assisting families in simple matters — which could fall into the areas of finances, benefits or health care — or helping them become aware of resources in their community when a particular need arises.

Sometimes, something beyond one of those simple matters occurs. For example, Fuhrman remembered one incident in which a woman received help in getting word to her spouse when a family member had died.

Assistance isn't rendered solely during times of deployments. Fuhrman said she once talked to a woman whose husband was participating in annual

See FUHRMAN, page 14

## Curtis A. "Lex" Sanders Attorney at Law



The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Before you decide, ask us to send you information about our qualifications and experience.

- Personal Injury
- Divorce and Family
- Bankruptcy
- Criminal Law
- Auto Accidents
- Real Estate
- Traffic/DUI
- Wills, Trusts, Probate
- Estate Planning

(904) 964-4111  
407 W. Georgia St. • Starke

We're here for you... Your loved one NEVER leaves our care...

To help celebrate a life...to help say goodbye.

Whether your loved one wanted a traditional funeral or a more casual way to bring family and friends together, we'll help your remembrance be something special. Let us ease the burden and help you celebrate a life in a wonderful way.

Complete Funeral Arrangements • Pre-planning Assistance • Cremation Services • Monuments  
Out of Town Arrangements • Spacious and Intimate Facilities • Off Street Parking

P. Steven Futch  
Funeral Director  
Austin Gaver  
Funeral Director

620 East Nona Street  
(corner of SR 100)  
Starke  
904.964.6200

Joe Gallagher  
Owner/Funeral Director

JONES-GALLAGHER  
FUNERAL HOME  
[jonesgallagherfh.com](http://jonesgallagherfh.com)

Kelli Parks Moreland  
Funeral Director  
Laura Crews  
Office Manager

340 E. Walker Drive  
(SR 100)  
Keystone Heights  
352.473.3176

Only on-site crematory in Bradford, Union & Lake Region area

## In Memory

Frank,

The 10<sup>th</sup> of July was your birthday. You would have been 80. The 14<sup>th</sup> of July makes 14 years you've been gone. I miss your smiling face when I would say something funny.

Love,  
Caroline and Family

## T & L Lawn Service

352-214-9776 // 904-454-6638

Mowing - Yard Cleaning  
Trimming - Pruning - Bush Hogging

# Legal Notices

## Bradford

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida will hold a meeting on July 21, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the Bradford County Courthouse, located at 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida. The public is encouraged to visit [www.bradfordcountyny.gov/meetings](http://www.bradfordcountyny.gov/meetings) or to call the Office of the County Manager at (904) 966-6327 to obtain a copy of the agenda for this meeting.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
MIRACLE AUTOMOTIVE & TRUCK SERVICE CENTER INC. gives notice that on 07/29/2022 at 12:00 PM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 620 N. THOMPSON ST. STARKE FL, 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78.  
1D8HB48P97F528232 2007 DODGE 1GKEC13Z74J332972 2004 GMC 2C3HC56G2YH139618 2000 CHRY 2D4GP44L24R542978 2004 DODG 3N1AB61E97L664325 2007 NISS 4F4CR16X6RTM23892 1994 MAZD JA4AS3AA7KZ018110 2019 MITS  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CIVIL DIVISION  
Case #: 2016-CA-000264  
JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association  
Plaintiff,  
-vs.-  
Danny A. Collins, Jr.; Kandace N. Collins; Unknown Parties in Possession #1, If living, and all Unknown Parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named Defendant(s) who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said Unknown Parties may claim an interest as Spouse, Heirs, devisees, Grantees, or Other Claimants; Unknown Parties in Possession #2, If living, and all Unknown Parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named Defendant(s) who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said Unknown Parties may claim an interest as Spouse, Heirs, devisees, Grantees, or Other Claimants Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
301 Legacy Auto LLC gives notice that on 07/29/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 13168 US HWY 301 South, Starke, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed.  
Cadillac 2008 1G6KD57Y48U151954  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
301 Legacy Auto LLC gives notice that on 07/29/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 13168 US HWY 301 South, Starke, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed.  
Toyota Sienna 2012  
5TDDK3DC2CS015872  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
301 Legacy Auto LLC gives notice that on 07/29/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 13168 US HWY 301 South, Starke, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed.  
Toyota Sienna 2012  
5TDDK3DC2CS015872  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
301 Legacy Auto LLC gives notice that on 07/29/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 13168 US HWY 301 South, Starke, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed.  
Toyota Sienna 2012  
5TDDK3DC2CS015872  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, 201 East University Avenue, Room 410, Gainesville, Florida 32601 (352) 491-4490 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification of the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.  
Denny Thompson  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
Bradford County, Florida  
Lisa Brannen  
DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT  
Submitted By: ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:  
LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP  
2424 North Federal Highway, Suite 360  
Boca Raton, Florida 33431  
(561) 998-6700  
(561) 998-6707  
7/14 2tchg 7/21-BCT

Notice is hereby given:  
Mark T. Kurimay JR  
Last known address of:  
9960 SW 104 Th Ave  
Hampton FL 32044  
You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.  
Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph  
Amanda Seyfang  
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections  
P. O. Box 58  
945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C  
Starke, FL 32091  
Date: July 11, 2022  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

Notice is hereby given:  
Anthony L. Sheppard  
Last known address of:  
1610 W Madison St APT J5  
Starke FL 32091 I  
You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.  
Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph  
Amanda Seyfang  
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections  
P. O. Box 58  
945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C  
Starke, FL 32091  
Date: July 11, 2022  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
301 Legacy Auto LLC gives notice that on 07/29/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 13168 US HWY 301 South, Starke, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed.  
Toyota Sienna 2012  
5TDDK3DC2CS015872  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
301 Legacy Auto LLC gives notice that on 07/29/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 13168 US HWY 301 South, Starke, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed.  
Toyota Sienna 2012  
5TDDK3DC2CS015872  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

administrative fees allowed.  
Cadillac 2008 1G6KD57Y48U151954  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
301 Legacy Auto LLC gives notice that on 07/29/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 13168 US HWY 301 South, Starke, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed.  
HONDA ACCORD 2005  
1HGCM66525A066088  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

Bradford County Canvassing Board  
Schedule for August 23<sup>rd</sup> Primary Election

July 18<sup>th</sup> @ 11am Logic & Accuracy Test & Orientation  
July 21<sup>st</sup> @3pm Initial Canvass of Vote-By-Mail ballots, Duplications August 23<sup>rd</sup> @6pm Election Day Oversight, Provisional Canvass, Duplications  
August 26<sup>th</sup> @5pm Unofficial/Official Results and additional Provisional Canvass  
Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> @9am Post-Election Manual Audit  
The Logic & Accuracy test is held in the Elections storage facility adjacent to Courthouse. All other events scheduled for Supervisor of Elections Office, 945 N. Temple Ave., Starke, FL 32091.  
Canvassing Board Members:  
Amanda Seyfang – Supervisor of Elections  
Tatum Davis – County Judge  
Chris Dougherty – Chair of County Commission  
Carolynn Spooner – Alternate  
Scott Roberts – Alternate  
Amanda Seyfang  
Supervisor of Elections  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

**GENERAL ELECTION**  
The City of Starke General Election will be held August 23, 2022 in conjunction with the county Primary election. Polls will be open from 7am to 7pm. Early voting will take place in the Bradford County Supervisor of Elections office beginning on August 8th-Aug. 21st, from 9am-6pm daily. City Commissioner District 1 and City Commissioner District 5 will be on the ballot.  
Poll workers will be selected and staffed by the Supervisor of Elections. A public Logic and Accuracy Test of equipment to be used in this election is scheduled for July 18, 2022 at 11am at the Supervisor of Elections office.  
Amanda Seyfang  
Bradford Supervisor of Elections  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

City of Starke Commission Workshop and Regular Meeting Time Change  
There will be a workshop of the City of Starke Commission on July 19, 2022 at 5:30 pm to discuss recommendations on ethics and civility. The meeting will be held at 209 North Thompson Street in Starke. The regular commission meeting will begin at 6:30 pm.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

## Union

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF FLORIDA GATEWAY COLLEGE WILL RECEIVE PROPOSALS FOR THE FOLLOWING: RFP # (P-001-22-0123)**  
**LEGAL SERVICES**  
Florida Gateway College is soliciting Request for Proposals from qualified attorneys and law firms to provide legal services primarily regarding student, employment, and labor law matters.  
The College will consider all proposals that meet the minimum qualifications and will provide a basis for a mutually beneficial partnership.  
Proposal Documents Available From: <https://www.fgc.edu/florida-gateway-college/procurement-contracts/solicitations-goods-services/>  
Inquiries  
Aaron Mathews  
Director of Procurement & Contracts  
Florida Gateway College  
149 SE College Place  
Lake City, FL 32025  
P: (386) 754-4381  
E: aaron.mathews@fgc.edu  
Date & Time for Receiving Proposals: 5:00 p.m. (EST), Friday, July 15, 2022  
Place for Receiving Proposals: Proposals will be received electronically via FGC Dropbox with instructions provided in the Proposal Documents.  
Proposals must be electronically submitted to the FGC Dropbox prior to the 5:00 p.m. deadline on July 15, 2022. The College will not be responsible for delays that cause a Proposal to arrive after the designated submission deadline.  
7/7 2tchg 7/14-UCT

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION**  
CASE NO. 2022-00025 CP  
IN RE: The Estate of STEPHEN MELTON CLYATT, Deceased.  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the estate of STEPHEN MELTON CLYATT, deceased, whose date of death was April 17, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Union County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 1 Union County Courthouse, 55 W. Main St., #103, Lake Butler, FL 32054. The name and address of the personal representative and the personal representatives' attorney are set forth below.  
All creditors of Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate, or on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE, OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
All other creditors of Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate, must file their claims with this Court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.  
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.  
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.  
The date of first publication of this notice is July 7, 2022.  
SHELLY CLYATT BAISDEN  
4164 W State Road 238  
Lake Butler, Florida 32054  
MORGAN & GETZAN, PLLC  
/s/ Roberta O. Getzan  
Roberta O. Getzan  
Florida Bar No. 0577200  
234 East Duval Street  
Lake City, Florida 32055  
Telephone (386) 755-1977  
Facsimile (386) 755-8781  
info@morgangetzan.com  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
7/7 2tchg 7/14-UCT

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION**  
Case #: 2016-CA-000264  
JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association  
Plaintiff,  
-vs.-  
Danny A. Collins, Jr.; Kandace N. Collins; Unknown Parties in Possession #1, If living, and all Unknown Parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named Defendant(s) who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said Unknown Parties may claim an interest as Spouse, Heirs, devisees, Grantees, or Other Claimants; Unknown Parties in Possession #2, If living, and all Unknown Parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named Defendant(s) who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said Unknown Parties may claim an interest as Spouse, Heirs, devisees, Grantees, or Other Claimants Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
301 Legacy Auto LLC gives notice that on 07/29/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 13168 US HWY 301 South, Starke, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed.  
Cadillac 2008 1G6KD57Y48U151954  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
301 Legacy Auto LLC gives notice that on 07/29/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 13168 US HWY 301 South, Starke, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed.  
Cadillac 2008 1G6KD57Y48U151954  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
301 Legacy Auto LLC gives notice that on 07/29/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 13168 US HWY 301 South, Starke, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed.  
Cadillac 2008 1G6KD57Y48U151954  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
301 Legacy Auto LLC gives notice that on 07/29/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 13168 US HWY 301 South, Starke, FL 32091 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed.  
Cadillac 2008 1G6KD57Y48U151954  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/14/2022.  
7/14 1tchg-BCT

88-3, and WHEREAS, it is necessary to fund the Union County Special Library District by levy of up to and not exceeding one half (½) mill of ad valorem taxes; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of County Commissioners of Union County, Florida, as follows:  
**SECTION 1, FUNDING**  
A. The Board of County Commissioners herein directs the Union County Supervisor of Elections to place upon the First Primary Election Ballot, to be held August 23, 2022, the following:  
For the continued funding of the Union County Special Library District by taxation of up to (½) mill of ad valorem taxes.  
Against the continued funding of the Union County Special Library District of taxation of up to one half (½) mill ad valorem taxes.  
B. The Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners is hereby directed to forward a certified true copy of this Ordinance to the Union County Supervisor of Elections upon its final adoption.  
C. If the majority of the qualified electors voting in the referendum election, called for and provided in Section 2(A) above, vote in favor of the funding of Union County Special District, then, in that event, the funding of the Union County Special Library District for fiscal years October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2025, will be taxation of up to (½) mill of ad valorem taxes, and all property subject to assessment of ad valorem taxes shall be taxed accordingly.  
D. If the majority of qualified electors voting in the referendum election, provided for in Section 2 (A) above, vote against the funding of the Union County Special Library District, then, in that event, this Ordinance shall be automatically repealed.  
**SECTION 3, DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS**  
Those funds obtained from the levy of the ad valorem taxes on all real and tangible, taxable property within the boundaries of Union County Special Library District, shall be used solely for the purpose of construction, operating and maintaining the Library facilities to the citizens of Union County, Florida and for no other purpose.  
**SECTION 4, COLLECTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE UNION COUNTY SPECIAL LIBRARY DISTRICT**  
The herein provided for the ad valorem tax shall be levied and collected in the manner provided for the levy and collection of the County ad valorem taxes. The Union County Board of Commissioners shall certify annually to the Property Appraiser of Union County, Florida the millage to be levied for the Union County Special Library District. Taxes collected shall be remitted by the Union County Tax Collector to the Clerk of the Court in and for Union County, Florida who shall be the Ex-Officio Clerk and Treasurer for the Union County Special Library District.  
**SECTION 5, REIMBURSEMENT FOR FUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE BY COUNTY OFFICERS**  
All cost and expenses incurred by a Constitutional Officer of Union County, Florida in performing any of the provisions of this ordinance may be reimbursed by the Union County Special Library District to said Constitutional Officer; said reimbursements however, shall not collectively exceed ten percent (10) of the revenues collected within the Union County Special Library District in any budget year.  
**SECTION 6, CONSTRUCTION**  
This Ordinance shall be liberally construed in order to effectuate the legislative intent of the Board of County Commissioners, Union County, Florida.  
**SECTION 7, SEVERABILITY**  
It is declared to be the intent of the Board of County Commissioners, Union County, Florida, that if any section, subsection, sentence, clause,

phrase or provision of the Ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional such invalidity unconstitutional shall not be construed as to render invalid or unconstitutional the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.  
**SECTION 8, EFFECTIVE DATE**  
This Ordinance shall become effective by law.  
ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Board of County Commissioners, Union County, Florida this 20th day of June, 2022.  
APPROVED: ATTEST:  
James Tallman, Union County Board of County Commission, Chairman  
Kellie H. Rhoades, Union County Clerk of Courts  
7/14 2tchg and 7/28-UCT

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION**  
File# 2022-CP-27  
IN RE: STATE OF JOHN D. RIMES, JR.  
Deceased  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the estate of JOHN D. RIMES, JR., deceased, whose date of death was April 8, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Union County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 55 W. Main Street, Room 103, Lake Butler, FL 32054. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.  
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.  
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.  
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.  
The date of first publication of this notice is July 14, 2022.  
Attorney for Personal Representative: HARRISON, ESTATE LAW, P.A.  
McCabe G. Harrison  
Florida Bar Number: 96805  
Email: mccabe@harrisonstatelaw.com  
Attorneys for Personal Representative 6224 NW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite B Gainesville, FL 32653  
Tel: (352) 559-9828  
Fax: (352) 559-0880  
Secondary Email: connie@harrisonstatelaw.com  
Personal Representative: TAMMY LYNN RIMES  
305 South Ridge Street Unit 301 Breckenridge, Colorado 80424  
7/14 2tchg 7/21-UCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Monday, July 25, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Units# 203, containing misc. household items.  
7/7 2tchg 7/14-LRM

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION**  
File# 2022-CP-27  
IN RE: STATE OF JOHN D. RIMES, JR.  
Deceased  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the estate of JOHN D. RIMES, JR., deceased, whose date of death was April 8, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Union County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 55 W. Main Street, Room 103, Lake Butler, FL 32054. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.  
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.  
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.  
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.  
The date of first publication of this notice is July 14, 2022.  
Attorney for Personal Representative: HARRISON, ESTATE LAW, P.A.  
McCabe G. Harrison  
Florida Bar Number: 96805  
Email: mccabe@harrisonstatelaw.com  
Attorneys for Personal Representative 6224 NW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite B Gainesville, FL 32653  
Tel: (352) 559-9828  
Fax: (352) 559-0880  
Secondary Email: connie@harrisonstatelaw.com  
Personal Representative: TAMMY LYNN RIMES  
305 South Ridge Street Unit 301 Breckenridge, Colorado 80424  
7/14 2tchg 7/21-UCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Monday, July 25, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Units# 203, containing misc. household items.  
7/7 2tchg 7/14-LRM

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Monday, July 25, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Units# 203, containing misc. household items.  
7/7 2tchg 7/14-LRM

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Monday, July 25, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Units# 203, containing misc. household items.  
7/7 2tchg 7/14-LRM

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Monday, July 25, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Units# 203, containing misc. household items.  
7/7 2tchg 7/14-LRM

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Monday, July 25, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Units# 203, containing misc. household items.  
7/7 2tchg 7/14-LRM

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Monday, July 25, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Units# 203, containing misc. household items.  
7/7 2tchg 7/14-LRM

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Monday, July 25, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Units# 203, containing misc. household items.  
7/7 2tchg 7/14-LRM

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Monday, July 25, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Units# 203, containing misc. household items.  
7/7 2tchg 7/14-LRM

## FUHRMAN

Continued from page 13

training at Camp Blanding. The Guardsman's cell phone had died, so his wife couldn't reach him to tell him their son had been injured. The woman didn't know what company her husband was in or what officers he served under.

"She may have known, but she was really upset," Fuhrman said.

Through a series of phone calls begun by Fuhrman, the Guardsman was located.

Family readiness volunteers and the Guard's Family Programs combine to create a support system that's far-reaching, which is a necessity.

"We're not stationed on a military post. We don't all live at Camp Blanding. We're all over the place," Fuhrman said, adding, "(Guard families) just don't have that same connection that an active-duty Army soldier does living on a post or just



**LEFT: Melanie Fuhrman (right) is pictured with Cassidy May are pictured volunteering at an event. They are co-coordinators of the 146th Signal Battalion's family readiness group.**

support possible. Eifert worked with a group of volunteers (including Fuhrman), with one result being the creation of FloridaGuardFamilies.com. The website helps educate families on the Florida National Guard itself with its "Guard 101" section, and provides helpful information on planning for a deployment, what to expect during that deployment and what a family readiness group is. A resources section provides information on such things as benefits, military bargains, benefits, mental wellness, physical wellness, relationship wellness, financial wellness and the loss of a loved one.

"Being a part of that was just huge in trying to support our



**Above: Melanie Fuhrman is pictured with her husband, Mike.**

families and giving them a place to go," Fuhrman said. Being recognized for her efforts means a lot to Fuhrman because she knows those efforts are helping others. However, she will tell you that the Florida National Guard Family Programs Volunteer of the Year could've gone to one of a number of people.

"I would like to think I'm

**Bradford County Telegraph**  
USPS 062-700  
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Starke, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.  
**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to:  
**Bradford County Telegraph**  
131 West Call Street • Starke, Florida 32091  
Phone: 964-6305 • P.O. Drawer A • Starke, FL 32091  
**John Miller, Publisher**  
Editor: Mark J. Crawford  
Sports Editor: Cliff Smelley  
Advertising: John R. Tillman  
Typesetting: Mary Goode  
Advertising & Newspaper Prod: C. Hurston  
Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts: Heather Wheeler  
Bookkeeping Asst: Mary Goode  
Front office Asst:

Subscription Rate in Trade Area  
Area \$52.00 per year:  
\$26.00 six months  
Outside Trade Area:  
\$52.00 per year:  
\$26.00 six months

**Lake Region Monitor**  
USPS 114-170  
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Keystone Heights, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.  
**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to:  
**Lake Region Monitor**  
P.O. Drawer A - Starke, FL 32091  
131 W. Call Street - Starke, FL 32091  
Phone: (904)964-6305 • Fax: (904)964-8628  
**John Miller, Publisher**  
Editor: Dan Hildebrand  
Sports Editor: Cliff Smelley  
Advertising: John R. Tillman  
Typesetting: Mary Goode  
Advertising & Newspaper Prod: C. Hurston  
Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts: Heather Wheeler  
Bookkeeping Asst: Mary Goode  
Front office Asst:

Subscription Rate in Trade Area  
\$52.00 per year:  
\$26.00 six months  
Outside Trade Area:  
\$52.00 per year:  
\$26.00 six months

**UNION COUNTY TIMES**  
USPS 648-200  
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Lake Butler, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.  
**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to:  
**UNION COUNTY TIMES**  
131 W. Call Street • Starke, FL 32091  
uctimeseditor@gmail.com  
904-964-6305 • fax 904-964-8628  
**John Miller, Publisher**  
Editor: Mark J. Crawford  
Advertising: John R. Tillman  
Typesetting: Mary Goode  
Advertising & Newspaper Prod: C. Hurston  
Bookkeeping & Classified Adverts: Heather Wheeler  
Bookkeeping Asst: Mary Goode  
Front office Asst:

Subscription Rate in Trade Area  
\$52.00 per year:  
\$26.00 six months  
Outside Trade Area:  
\$52.00 per year:  
\$26.00 six months

# BHS grad Kendrick is Guard's senior enlisted leader

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Kendrick became part of a family when he joined the military. Now, his job is to look after the best interests of those family members as the Florida National Guard's new senior enlisted leader.

Kendrick, a 1989 Bradford High School graduate, was promoted on May 14, replacing Command Sgt. Major David Lanham, who retired after 35-plus years of service.

"Just incredibly excited and very honored to have the opportunity to serve the soldiers and the airmen of the Florida National Guard," Kendrick said. "That's really how I see this position. It's one of service. It's my job to advocate for them, make sure they have the resources and the equipment needed to fight and win our nation's wars and the resources and the equipment they need to ensure that we can support our citizens here in Florida should a natural disaster — hurricane, wildfire and that sort of thing — strike here."

Kendrick, who lives in St. Augustine with his wife, Tracey, didn't intend to make a career out of being in the military, but what was once viewed as an avenue to help him pay for college became a love and something he wanted to be a part of.

## 'A great deal'

Kendrick said he lived a "country kind of lifestyle" growing up in Graham, enjoying such activities as hunting and fishing.

"Graham is a little more populated today than it was in the '70s or '80s, but it's still pretty sparse," said Kendrick, who

attended Brooker Elementary School.

He participated in weightlifting at BHS as well as playing football for David Hurse.

"I loved Coach Hurse," Kendrick said. "He was a role model. He did more than just make football players. He really was interested in building men, good citizens — work hard, do your best, do the right thing and treat others the way you want to be treated."

Kendrick's father, Jim, is an Army veteran who served in the Vietnam War. Kendrick, though, had no thoughts of joining the military until he reached that moment in high school where he started mulling over his options, telling himself, "OK. What am I going to do? If I'm going to college, how am I going to pay for it?"

His father invited an Army Reserve recruiter to the house. The recruiter also brought along an active-duty recruiter. Kendrick said he listened the Army Reserve recruiter and found it appealing that he could fulfil his commitment while still going to college and possibly working a part-time job as well.

Then he heard what the active-duty recruiter had to say about a two-year commitment and being able to qualify for the GI Bill and the Army College Fund.

"I was like, 'Wow. That sounds like a great deal,'" Kendrick said. "Two years. Maybe get stationed somewhere. Go see the world. Come back, and college will be paid for."

"That's what I did. The Army Reserve recruiter probably regrets having brought the active-duty recruiter along. He just poached a recruit."

## Joining a family

Kendrick went from Graham to



Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Kendrick is pictured outside the Florida National Guard's St. Francis Barracks in St. Augustine. Kendrick, a Bradford County native, is the Guard's new senior enlisted leader.

Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri. He became a combat engineer and was assigned to the 9th Engineer Battalion in Germany. He deployed with the battalion in support of Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. Kendrick said he was too "young and dumb" to be afraid. "When you're that young, you're 10 feet tall and bullet-proof," he said. "You're not the one who's ever going to get hurt or injured."

Not that he would've given thought to being afraid anyway. "When you're a private, you do what you're told," Kendrick said. "There's no thinking involved."

His service took him to see other countries, which is what he was hoping to get out of joining the Army. He saw how those countries were different from the United States, but he also saw similarities.

"Every culture around the world is different, but people truly are basically the same no matter where you go," Kendrick said. "Moms and dads want their kids to be able to walk to school safely and get a good education. They want them to do a little better than they did. I think that's true of Europeans. That's been true when I deployed to predominantly Islamic countries. "At the end of the day, people really are the same all over."

What Kendrick also discovered is that he fell in love with being in the military, even though he joined the Army expecting just to "do my one hitch and get out." "At the end of my enlistment, I really had grown kind of fond of the Army," he said, adding, "I think what kept me interested

was the camaraderie. When we get it right in the military, it feels like a second family. It really becomes a fulfilling part of your life."

After completing his active-duty requirements, Kendrick transitioned into the Florida National Guard. He spent a number of years at Camp Blanding, mostly with the 21st Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company from 1992 until 2002. He first volunteered as an EOD disposal technician and was later hired full-time to be the administration and supply non-commissioned officer.

Kendrick later spent two years in St. Augustine before returning to Camp Blanding from 2004 until 2008. In 2006, as a first sergeant, he deployed with the 221st EOD Company in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, coordinating multiple explosive ordnance-disposal teams operating in Iraq, Kuwait and Qatar.

That deployment was different from his participation in the earlier Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. He felt the burden of responsibility that comes with wanting to make sure everyone who deployed was able to return home. He talked of how parents would come up to him during departure ceremonies, telling him they were entrusting him with their sons and daughters.

"There was plenty of concern there because you've got multiple teams working in three different countries in some very dangerous conditions," Kendrick said. "It's that weight that you feel as a leader — 'Hey, I'm responsible for these soldiers.'"



Brian Kendrick (right) participates in a change-of-responsibility ceremony with Florida's adjutant general, James Eifert.

Kendrick added, "It's an entirely different experience from being a private, when you're worried only about yourself."

In 2008, Kendrick was promoted, becoming the G3 (operations and training) directorate sergeant major at Joint Force Headquarters in St. Augustine. Later, he served as the G1 (military personnel) sergeant major.

The G1 position proved invaluable.

"That one assignment probably helped better prepare me for the job I'm in now than any other because most of the advice that I provide (as senior enlisted leader) deals with people, whether it's promotions, awards, discipline — those kinds of things."

Kendrick, who was selected for appointment to command sergeant major in 2013, also served as commandant of the NCO academy at the 211th Regiment, Regional Training

Institute at Camp Blanding. Additional leadership tours included serving as command sergeant major for the 753rd Brigade Engineer Battalion, command sergeant major for the 83rd Troop Command and state command sergeant major for the Florida National Guard.

## Serving as senior enlisted leader

Kendrick said he'll be working in his current position to help the Guard members meet training requirements that were delayed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Because everything ground to a halt, we weren't able to send a lot of our soldiers and airmen off to the training that they require to be promoted," he said. "I think probably for the majority of my time here, I'll be assisting with

See GRAD, page 16



Brian Kendrick (center) is pictured with his father, Jim (far left), and brother, Justin. Photo provided courtesy of Jim Kendrick.

### Tri-County Classifieds

Bradford • Union • Clay

Reach over 27,000 Readers Every Week!

#### INDEX

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

#### CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

Word Ad Classified Tuesday, 12:00 noon  
Classified Display Tuesday, 12:00 noon

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED USE YOUR PHONE

MasTec CARD AMERICAN EXPRESS VISA

904-964-6305  
NOTICE

Classified Advertising should be paid in advance unless credit has already been established with the newspaper. A \$3.00 service charge will be added to all billing to cover postage and handling. All ads placed by phone are read back to the advertiser at the time of placement. However, the classified staff cannot be held responsible for mistakes in classified advertising taken by phone. The newspaper reserves the right to correctly classify and edit all copy or to reject or cancel any advertisements at any time. Only standard abbreviations will be accepted.

# CLASSIFIEDS

Don't Miss the DEADLINE! TUESDAY by 12 pm

CALL 904-964-6305 OR EMAIL CLASSADS@BCTELEGRAPH.COM

## Help Wanted

**NAPA** NAPA Auto Parts in Lake Butler, Florida is now hiring full-time and part-time customer service associates. Applications available at the NAPA Store:

675 SE 6th Street  
Lake Butler.

## WELL DRILLING

QUALITY SERVICE SINCE 1964

24 Hr. PUMP SERVICE

STATE LICENSE #1305

964-7061

DURRANCE PUMP

## OUT OF AREA CLASSIFIED ADS

<p><b>FINANCIAL</b></p> <p>Foreclosure and Eviction Assistance A+Rated, HUD-Approved (Lic.83706) NonProfit offering Assistance for Eviction and Foreclosure Avoidance. Free &amp; Confidential Call: 561-472-8000 Debthelper.com</p> <p><b>SERVICES</b></p> <p>PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Pest, rodent, termite, and mosquito control. Call for a quote or inspection today 888-498-0446</p> <p><b>MEDICAL</b></p> <p>Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drug store prices! 50 Pill Special-Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 866-259-6816</p> <p><b>HOME IMPROVEMENT/SERVICE</b></p> <p>UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds &amp; Shades. FREE in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional installation. Top quality - Made in the USA.</p>	<p>Call for free consultation: 866-636-1910. Ask about our specials!</p> <p><b>MEDICAL</b></p> <p>ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 866-925-2362.</p> <p><b>SERVICES</b></p> <p>DirectTV Satellite TV Service Starting at \$74.99/month! Free Installation! 160+ channels available. Call Now to Get the Most Sports &amp; Entertainment on TV! 844-614-2532</p> <p><b>LEGAL/LEGAL SERVICES</b></p> <p>If you or a loved one worked around Roundup Weed Killer, (glyphosate), for at least two years and were diagnosed with lymphoma, you may be entitled to compensation. To see if you qualify, call now: 833-479-1286</p> <p><b>WANTED TO BUY</b></p> <p>TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS! 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch,</p>	<p>Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg, And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. 833-860-0454.</p> <p><b>HOME IMPROVEMENT/SERVICE</b></p> <p>BCI Bath and Shower- BATH &amp; SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty &amp; professional installs. Senior &amp; Military Discounts available. Call: 888-460-2264</p> <p><b>MEDICAL</b></p> <p>ATTENTION MEDICARE RECIPIENTS! Open Enrollment for Medicare health plans is here! Call our licensed insurance agents for an affordable quote for your needed coverage. Call for a no obligation free quote now! 833-260-2632 (TTY: 711)</p> <p><b>HOME IMPROVEMENT/SERVICE</b></p> <p>NEED NEW FLOORING? Call Empire Today* to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting &amp; Flooring. Call Today! 855-919-2509</p>
--	---	--

**40 Notices**

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY. All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 in which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising

for real estate in which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777, the toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275. For further information call Florida Commission on Human Relations, Lisa Sutherland 850-488-7082 ext. #1005

**48 Homes for Sale**

HOUSE 4 SALE OR RENT in Lawtey. Owner financing not available. 4BR/2BA with central

heat on 1 acre. Sale price is \$139k. Rent \$1150, first, last & deposit. Available August 1st. 904-364-9869.

**50 For Rent**

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

**Orangewood Apartments**

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

NEWLY RENOVATED 2BR/2BA SW, 3BR/2BA DW. 18 acres for sale. Starke-Lake Butler. 1-678-438-6828.

HOME RENTALS available. 2BR/2BA in Starke - Keystone - near Lake City from \$900 up to \$1400. Good safe neighborhoods. Call 904-613-5715.

**Lake Butler Apartments 1, 2, 3 & 4 BEDROOM APARTMENTS**

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

**53 A Yard Sales**

YARD SALE; tools, fishing poles, some furniture, household items. Fri. & Sat. 8:30am-2pm. 20932 NE 20th Lane, Lawtey.

**Now Accepting Applications**

1 AND 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS HERITAGE VILLAS APARTMENTS 607 Bradford Court Starke, FL

Call for more info 904-964-6216  
Hearing Impaired Only call 800-955-8771

Handicapped Accessible This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

**NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS**

Southern Villas of Starke

Ask about our 1&2 BR Apartments HC & non-HC Units. Central AC/Heat, on-site laundry, playground, private, quiet atmosphere.

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

# GRAD

Continued from page 15

the after-effects, trying to get all those schools scheduled, making up all that required education that needed to occur.”

That’s a priority, as is increasing the numbers in the Florida National Guard. Kendrick said Florida has the second-to-worst Guard member-to-citizen ratio in the U.S. and its territories.

“Florida has been growing,” Kendrick said. “We’re growing every day it seems like. Folks are moving here. A lot of those new residents are maybe an elderly population. A lot of them want to live along the coast. That means if we get a hurricane, there are a lot more folks who need assistance.”

“The Florida National Guard has not grown proportionally to keep pace with our increased population. Our number-one priority is growing the force. Anything I can do to assist our

recruiting efforts is a priority.”

Kendrick said he also sees a need for improved communication within the Guard so that soldiers and airmen better understand the career paths they’re on and its requirements as well as the benefits they’re entitled to.

“It’s amazing to me that in this day and age, when we can communicate more easily to more people around the world, we still really struggle to get some important messages all the way down to our soldiers and airmen,” Kendrick said.

Kendrick said in baseball, a hitter can bat .500 and be a star and make a lot of money, but that batting average, if you will, won’t do in his and other leadership positions in the Guard.

“In this business, we have to be right 100 percent of the time,” he said. “It puts a lot of pressure on whoever sits in a position like this to constantly look for ways to improve our processes.”

It’s a big responsibility being the senior enlisted leader and

advising the adjutant general on the morale and welfare of the soldiers and airmen.

“It’s a joyful burden to have, but it is a weight that you feel,” Kendrick said.

When he’s not working, Kendrick said one of his hobbies is music.

“I hesitate to say I play guitar and bass because I’ll never earn a dime,” he said. “There’s no danger of me becoming a professional by any stretch of the imagination.”

He also enjoys riding motorcycles and just recently bought his first Harley-Davidson.

“Before that, I primarily rode sport bikes,” Kendrick said. “I’ve had Hondas, Kawasakis and Suzukis. I had one of just about everything.”

Kendrick said he bought a Harley in part because there’s a camaraderie that exists between Harley owners, and a lot of towns have Harley riders’ groups. He had an eye toward his life after the Florida National Guard when he made the purchase.



Brian Kendrick (in uniform) is pictured with his parents, Jim and Jean.

“I started realizing the only people I socialize with or hang out with wear this uniform,” Kendrick said. “What am I going to do in a couple of years? Because this is the end of the road in the Florida National Guard for me. There are no other positions I can go to.”

Until retirement, Kendrick is exactly where he’s supposed to be. His wife and his three daughters — Katelyn, Chloe and Kelsey — are one family. The Florida National Guard (and the Army before it) is another. “I think it was Rick Warren who wrote a book — ‘The

Purpose Driven Life.’ When I read that, I definitely felt that the military was my calling,” Kendrick said, adding, “This is what I’m supposed to be doing. I didn’t intend to, but it became clear this is what I’m supposed to be doing.”

Visit Our Showroom!

## TEAL TILE

### CARPET ONE

Local Flooring Specialists • Over 40 Years

**Sales • Service • Installation**

Free Estimates

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

THANK YOU

for allowing us the opportunity to serve you for the last 46 years.

Call for DIY specials!

90 Days Financing

Same As Cash, No Interest

We will beat all competitor pricing!

M-F 8:30 am – 5:30 pm  
Saturdays by Appointment

• Vinyl • Carpet • Hardwood & Laminate Floors  
• Ceramic Tile • Laminate Floors

DISCOUNT PRICING POWER OF OVER 1,400 STORES!!

131 N. Cherry Street  
Starke, FL 32091

904-964-7423

## WINDSOR

HEALTH AND REHABILITATION CENTER

A new generation of care

Expertly Transition

from Hospital to Home,

Close to Home!

Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy Daily  
Skilled Nursing Care 24/7  
Nurse Practitioner on site Monday - Friday  
AHCA Silver Quality Award Recipient

PLEASE CALL

904-964-3383

602 East Laura Street, Starke, FL 32091

www.windsorhrc.com

\$95

JULY IS BLAZING!

\$0

DOWN DELIVERS

WITH HOT SUMMER SAVINGS!

DOWN DELIVERS

ALL PORTABLE BUILDINGS RENT-TO-OWN

STEEL BUILDINGS

AS LOW AS

REPOS

MANAGER'S SPECIALS!

STEEL BUILDINGS

8x8 REPO

\$1,500

\$52 /MO. RTG

10x10 REPO

\$2,790

\$90 /MO. RTG

18x21 CARPORT

\$2,018

\$29 /MO. RTG

18x41 RV/BOAT COVER

\$4,630

\$66 /MO. RTG

12x16 SCREENED ROOM REPO

\$4,210

\$145 /MO. RTG

12x20 PORCH REPO

\$5,990

\$191 /MO. RTG

18x31 UTILITY

\$6,340

\$90 /MO. RTG

24x31

\$7,895

\$110 /MO. RTG

12x12 END GABLE

\$4,004

\$138 /MO. RTG

10x16 SIDE GABLE

\$4,318

\$149 /MO. RTG

12x24 RUD + SIDE ENTRY DOOR

\$7,375

\$252 /MO. RTG

18x26 LEAN TO

\$9,360

\$132 /MO. RTG

42x26 CAROLINA BARN

\$12,734

\$179 /MO. RTG

12x20 DBL LOFTED BARN

\$8,355

\$285 /MO. RTG

12x30 PORCH

\$10,360

\$353 /MO. RTG

18x26

\$9,360

\$132 /MO. RTG

38x36 Triple Garage

\$12,734

\$179 /MO. RTG

HUGE SELECTION! BIG SAVINGS!

PLUS!

CUSTOMIZED TO YOUR SPECS! &

FASTEST DELIVERY GUARANTEED!

1540 S Walnut Street  
Starke, FL 32091

BUILDINGS AND MORE

904-966-0077

www.BuildingsAndMore.com

Authorized Dealer for