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# Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, July 7, 2022

142nd year, 46th Issue — \$1

## Splish, Splash! Starke had a Bash!



Oliver Alsop (foreground) enjoys playing in foam at Starke's inaugural Splash Bash, celebrating the Independence Day Holiday. The day began with a patriotic parade and ended with a fireworks spectacle. For more on the celebrations from Starke, Keystone Heights and Lake Butler, see inside. Photos: Cliff Smelley.

## Law enforcement gives notice on new noise law

*Statute was not enforced for 10 years*

**BY DAN HILDEBRAN**  
Monitor Editor

STARKE— Sheriff's in Bradford, Union and Clay counties said they will start enforcing the state's new noise statute on July 1.

A previous state law regulating noise emitting from vehicles was struck down by the Florida Supreme Court in 2012. The court said the statute was unconstitutionally vague.

Gov. Ron DeSantis signed House Bill 1435 on May 26. The law allows police to ticket motorists for playing loud radios or sound devices that can be heard 25 feet away from vehicles.

Starke police said they will not immediately issue the \$114 tickets for infractions. Instead, the agency said it would educate violators on the new law beginning in July.

The statute also allows law

enforcement to declare special event zones in reaction to pop-up parties. Fines within the zone for noncriminal traffic infractions are doubled, police can impound a vehicle for up to 72 hours and can recover costs involved with enforcing the special event zone from the organizer or promoter of the event.

Several other laws affecting law enforcement agencies went into effect on July 1. Among them are:

### Bonuses and raises

The legislature created the Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Program within the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to provide one-time bonus payments of up to \$5,000 to newly employed law enforcement officers.

House Bill 3 also gave a \$5,000-a-year raise to sheriffs and allows sheriffs to transfer funds

See LAW, page 7



## Urgent Care Center on the way

**BY MARK J. CRAWFORD**  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — A new urgent care center is currently under construction across from the Walmart Supercenter in Starke.

A house was demolished at the corner of U.S. 301 and Southeast 48th Avenue to make way for the health care facility.

Deerwood Subdivision residents opposed the commercial rezoning of that and other lots in the subdivision. Originally, most county

commissioners agreed, but a lawsuit was filed with a judge finding there was no evidence presented to support the application's denial. The commission was ordered to approve the rezoning.

The site plan was submitted by Rural Urgent Care LLC of Birmingham, Alabama. It depicts a 3,256 square-foot building fronting U.S. 301 with parking in the rear and ingress and egress from Southeast 48th Avenue.

According to an internet search, Rural Urgent Care has nearly 20 centers open in Alabama and Florida.



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# WORTH NOTING

### Food distribution first and third Thursdays

There will be a food distribution at Starke Church of God by Faith, 730 Old Lawtey Road, on the first and third Thursdays of July, July 7 and July 21, from 10 a.m. to noon. Distribution may begin earlier, depending on the arrival time of the FarmShare delivery truck.

### 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.

### Fellowship Food Pantry

Fellowship Baptist Church off S.R. 121 in Raiford opens its food pantry on the second Saturday of each month from 10 to 11 a.m.

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## Bradford educators continue achievements



Bradford School Superintendent Will Hartley recently recognized Starke Elementary Principal Ray Schaefer for completing the Principals Leadership Academy.



The superintendent also recognized Lawtey Elementary Principal Terri O'Quinn on the completion of her doctorate degree.



Tammy Saxon was recognized for completing the Aspiring Leaders Program.



Nichole Stafford also completed the Aspiring Leaders Program.

## Legislative races set

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

Republican Kat Cammack has challengers for her Congressional seat.

Congressional District 3's coverage area includes Bradford, Clay and Union counties, among others.

Cammack is a first-time incumbent, having won the seat following the retirement of her former boss, Rep. Ted Yoho. She was his chief of staff. Her agricultural past helped place her on the Committee on Agriculture. She opposes gun control and advocates for more restrictions on abortion. She wants the government to do more to support renewable energy.

Challengers among the Republicans include Manual Asensio of Gainesville, a childhood emigrant from communist Cuba who went on to found a company with a mission to expose stock fraud. A conservative Christian, he wants to preserve gun rights, end communism and secure America's borders.

The final Republican running is juvenile law attorney Justin Waters. A "constitutional conservative," he supports the Second Amendment and wants to lower taxes and protect the borders.

Gainesville Democrat Tom Wells is running again for the Congressional seat. He supports Medicaid for all and Green New Deal legislation to fight global warming. Wells says the minimum wage should be increased and public schools better funded.

Danielle Hawk, another Democrat, works in higher education where she has advocated for workplace safety and equitable distribution of scholarship funding. She

organized a recent march for reproductive freedom, and wants to expand health care and reduce gun violence.

Linda Brooks is running as an independent, but describes herself as conservative and a Trump supporter. She studied at Santa Fe College and Florida Atlantic University, and has invested in residential property for 30 years. She wants to end Medicare, protect gun rights and limit abortions.

The Republican and Democrat nominees for the seat will be decided during the Aug. 23 primary.

U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio was unopposed on the Republican ticket, as was challenger Dennis Misigoy, who is running as a Libertarian. Four Democrats qualified to run: Ricardo De La Fuente, Val Demings, Brian Rush and William Sanchez. Other nonaffiliated and write-in candidates are on the list. The Democrat nominee will also be chosen during the primary.

In the Florida Legislature, both Sen. Jennifer Bradley (R) and Rep. Chuck Brannan — who now represents Bradford and Union as a part of the new House District 10 — were unopposed. They will retain their offices.

Voters are more familiar with Bradley and her husband, who held the Senate seat prior to her. Brannan is a former law enforcement officer who joined the House in 2018. According to his website, he has spent a lifetime involved in agriculture and education, and describes himself as "pro-life, pro-gun and anti-tax."

Florida District 6's Sen. Bradley has a background in law and real estate. She is a small business owner and manager, and is a board member for the PACE Center for Girls in Clay County.

## 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.

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



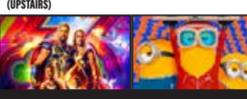
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<b>WEDNESDAY 7/6:</b>		<b>SATURDAY 7/9:</b>	
Minions (DOWNSTAIRS) PG	7:00	Thor: Love & Thunder PG-13 (DOWNSTAIRS)	7:00 & 9:45
Top Gun (UPSTAIRS) PG-13	7:15	Minions: The Rise of Gru (UPSTAIRS) PG	7:30 & 9:45
<b>THURSDAY 7/7:</b>		<b>SUNDAY 7/10:</b>	
Minions (DOWNSTAIRS) PG	7:00	Thor: Love & Thunder PG-13 (DOWNSTAIRS)	7:00 & 9:45
Top Gun (UPSTAIRS) PG-13	7:15	Minions: The Rise of Gru (UPSTAIRS) PG	7:30 & 9:45
<b>NEW! FRIDAY 7/8:</b>			
Thor: Love & Thunder PG-13 (DOWNSTAIRS)	7:00 & 9:45		
Minions: The Rise of Gru PG (UPSTAIRS)	7:30 & 9:45		

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Josh Chasen, Cash Collins and Claire Massey work together to hold the heavy-bodied constrictor while Mike Rossi highlights the distinct traits and habits of snake.

## Summer library program has more fun in store

Things got wild when Mike Rossi brought his educational animal show to Bradford County Public Library on June 9.

Throughout the Wild Wonders Animal Show, children watched with curious eyes as Rossi and his assistant introduced a wide variety of creatures. Understandably, the response to seeing Rossi's furry friends, such as the ferret, rabbit and young opossum was noticeably different to the reaction ignited by the slithering snakes, fork-tongued lizards, and other cold blooded crawlers.

On Thursday, July 14, talented dogs will take the stage for the Circus Dog Show Menestrelli. The show is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m.. It is recommended that attendees arrive early due to limited seating. All seats are available on a first come, first serve basis. Due to the need to maximize space for children,



At the Wild Wonders Summer Program at Bradford County Public Library, Mike Rossi talks to a crowd of children about American Alligators.

attendance is being limited to one adult per family.

Funding for the 2022 summer library programs has been

provided by New River Public Library Cooperative and Friends of the Bradford County Public Library.

## Millions approved in local funding

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

Starke Police Department is getting a new roof, and that's one of several local appropriations for the area that made into the 2022-23 state budget

The nearly \$110 billion budget is a record breaker, even after Gov. Ron DeSantis vetoed more than \$3 billion in proposed spending. All of the allocations intended for Bradford and Union counties, fought for by local leaders and legislators, survived the veto process.

The state budget includes the latest \$16.7 million allocation for Bradford County School District's new K-7 school. The campus is already under construction and slated to open in fall of 2023.

Bradford County Fairgrounds received another \$3 million for its reconstruction project, which includes hardening the facility as an emergency evacuation shelter.

Starke also has three allocations in the budget, including \$1 million for wastewater tank improvement and \$750,000 for the rehabilitation of wastewater lines. The police department could also receive \$207,500 for roof and electrical work at the police station.

Allocations for Union County included \$3 million for a new safety complex. The budget also contains allocations in the amount of \$875,000 to upgrade Lake Butler's drinking water tank, \$750,000 for a county agriculture education building and \$415,000 for enhanced courthouse security.

### Raises for state employees

Every state employee is set to receive a 5.38% pay raise under the new budget to account for inflation, and no state worker will make less than \$15 an hour if

the proposed budget is approved. The proposed minimum wage for correctional officers is \$20 an hour.

A bill was also approved provide a \$5,000 signing bonus for new recruits, a \$1,000 bonus for those who transfer from a job out of state and a \$1,000 scholarship for law enforcement trainees.

The state has also set aside money to provide for up to \$5,000 signing bonuses for new or out-of-state law enforcement officers who join policing agencies in Florida. Existing officers will also see a raise.

The budget for K-12 education is \$24.3 billion, \$250 million of which is earmarked to increase teacher salaries. The goal is still to increase minimum teacher pay to \$47,500. Half of the money will be spent toward that goal while the rest will increase the salaries of veteran teachers.

## RJE banquet in September

The RJE Alumni will be hosting a Purple and Gold Banquet on Saturday, Sept. 3, beginning at 6 p.m. with a social hour and a banquet at 7 p.m. The banquet will be held at the Florida National Guard Facility, 720 Edwards Road in Starke.

Tickets are \$30 per person and can be purchased from any Alumni Executive Committee Member: Joann Jackson, Sherry Williams, Alica McMillian, Carnell Williams, Linda Hampton, Sandra Demps, Sylvia Patterson, Brenda Butler, Mary Lett, Glory Jackson, Gloria Harrison, Wanda Middleton, Mildred Petteway and Lillie Strachan.

Dress is dressy causal. If you are ready to get out and enjoy some good food, fellowship, great music and share memories of Dear Ol' RJE, the committee looks forward to seeing you there. Please share with your family and friends.

# Church News

## Senior Food Program

Fellowship Baptist Church off S.R. 121 in Raiford has a new food program for seniors 60 and above beginning in July and 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.

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.

## 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 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

For more information, please call 386-496-3685.

## Get help quitting

Quitting tobacco isn't easy. Finding help should be. If you're ready to quit, join the next Tools to Quit Tobacco group on Thursday, July 14, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Bradford County Health Department. Virtual options by computer and phone are also available.

This free, one-time two-hour group will give you tips on how to deal with triggers and withdrawal symptoms and how to prevent relapse. You'll also receive up to four weeks of free nicotine patches, gum or lozenges.

This group more than doubles your chance of quitting for good. Pre-registration is required. Call 866-341-2730 to reserve your spot.



## 10 Things the Devil Hates

1. The old Bloodstained Rugged Cross.
2. A lost sinner coming to Christ.
3. King James version Bibles being handed out world wide.
4. A Christian giving his or her testimony.
5. A studying Christian praying to a hearing Savior.
6. A local church praying for revival.
7. The old traditional gospel songs being sung by a dedicated people.
8. A Christian renewing fellowship with his or her savior.
9. The Devil hates the place he's going to.
10. The Devil hates everything God designed.

—Henry Hodges  
Lawtey, Fla.

<p>THE ORIGINAL BRADFORD • UNION • CLAY COUNTIES</p> <h2>REGIONAL CHURCH DIRECTORY</h2> <p>Supported by Nearby Local Businesses, Services &amp; Merchants who encourage you to</p> <p>Worship in the house of the Lord... Somewhere this week!</p>		
<p><b>JBS JACKSON BUILDING SUPPLY</b></p> <p>"I am the way, the truth &amp; the life. No one comes to the Father but through me" John 14:6</p> <p>Starke 904-964-6078 Lake Butler 386-496-3079</p>	<p><b>R ROBERTS INSURANCE</b></p> <p>EXPERIENCE, SERVICE &amp; GREAT RATES</p> <p>Starke Keystone Heights Middleburg Lake Butler 904.964.7826 352.473.7209 904.282.7055 352.496.3411</p> <p>www.georgerobertsins.com</p>	<p><b>Bryan's ACE Hardware</b></p> <p>Starke 904-964-4642 Melrose 352-475-2400 Keystone Hts 352-473-4006</p>
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<p><b>Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.</b></p> <p>Competitive Rates, non-profit, right here in your community</p> <p>A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative</p> <p>Keystone District Office 352-473-4917 • clayelectric.com</p>	<p><b>After Church on Sunday Come to Powell's Dairy Freeze</b></p> <p>"Home of the Foot Long Steak"</p> <p>Stop by for Ice Cream on Wednesday Night!</p> <p>US 301 NORTH • STARKE, FL</p>	<p>Come Worship with us</p> <p><b>STARKE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH</b></p> <p>Church • Saturday 11:00 a.m. School • Saturday 10:00 a.m. 1649 W. Madison St • Starke, FL</p>
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<p><b>SAVE OUR LAKES MEETING!!!</b></p> <p><b>TUESDAY, JULY 12</b></p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b></p> <p>at the</p> <p><b>First Baptist Church</b> Keystone Heights</p> <p><b>Hwy. 100 just East of Hwy 21</b></p> <p><b>JOIN US FOR UPDATES ON THE LAKES PROJECTS</b></p>	<p><b>REACH TENS OF THOUSANDS of LOCAL CUSTOMERS in OUR TRI-COUNTY REGION EVERY WEEK • COST EFFECTIVE</b></p> <p>904-964-6305</p>	<p><b>Norton Telecom/A+ Alarms</b></p> <p>904-964-4580</p> <p>804 N Temple Ave   Starke State Lic # EG13000304</p> <p>PLEASE DRIVE BY TO SEE THE NEW HOME OF HIS CROSS</p>

# Lake Region

## Parade celebrates 'One Nation'

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

**KEYSTONE HEIGHTS** — The 54<sup>th</sup> annual Our Country Day Parade proceeded north on South Lawrence Boulevard on Saturday, July 2, celebrating the theme "One Nation."

The procession, sponsored by Lake Region Kiwanis, featured 38 entries.

Lake Region Kiwanis won

the Most Original prize, with America the Beautiful placing second.

Judges awarded the Bound to Soar Flag Team first place in the Best Marching Unit category and second to Keystone Heights High School Cheerleaders.

Keystone Sports Association won the Best Youth prize. American Heritage Girls was runner-up.

First place in the Closest to Theme category went to the Women's Club of Keystone Heights. AMVETS Post 86 was runner-up.

Ferrell Flag won the Judges' Choice award, with Melrose Patriots coming in second.

Judges awarded the Best Business award to Hatch Realty Services, with Costello's Tree Service placing second.



Riding for Britt Renee Creative (l-r) Mermaid Britt Renee, Creative Fairy Jules Sanz and Mermaid Sarah Blakeslee



(L-R) Front: L. Morrow, Ray Gottschalk, Jackson MacDonald, Noah Wasserman and Cohen MacDonald lead the pack at the start of the 2022 Freedom 5K in Keystone Heights. Wasserman, 16 from South Carolina, was first with a time of 15:57:56.



AMVETS Post 86 Bob Beinlich hands out American flags.

## Fireworks display cut short

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

**KEYSTONE HEIGHTS** — An Our Country Day committee member said the organization's July 2 fireworks display at Lake Geneva was cut short by a malfunctioning controller during the show.

Fred Goetzman said that only about 40% of the show went through because of the problem.

"Nothing they could do but apologize," Goetzman said of the contractor that produced the show. "We will be getting money

back to put towards next year's show. Things like this happen; thank God no one got hurt."

However, Goetzman also said next year's fireworks display could be significantly different from the past because of the difficulty in obtaining fireworks and skyrocketing prices.

"The fireworks come from China, and they have been restricting shipments," he said, "and the price of fireworks has really gone up."

Goetzman said the cost of pyrotechnics is approaching

\$2,000 a minute.

"So, for a 15-minute show," he said, "it's going to cost \$30,000. We were paying \$1,200 for 15 minutes."

Goetzman also said several fireworks providers have gone out of business, and the remaining ones have more business than they can handle.

Goetzman said fireworks shows will likely go on in the future but may be scaled back or in a different format to meet the Our Country Day Committee's budget.



Clay County Commissioner Betsy Condon (right)



Miss Keystone Heights High School Candace Jackson



Parade Grand Marshal Diana Rothwell



Miss Clay County Fair Allison Cox



Republican Party Committeeman Scotty Taylor and Committeewoman Rhonda Jett



Riding with Starke-Keystone Shriners (l-r) Bruce Ford and President David Kniseley



Riding with the Keystone Sports Association (far left standing) Kellan Hillyer and (right driving) Todd Hayes



On the Lake Region Kiwanis float: Kamryn Palzer, Grayson Murrhee, and Marion Murrhee. Also, riding were Chrissy Huffman and Fred Goetzman



Keystone Heights Rotary Club President-Elect Heather Davis, followed by Paige Davis.

## South Carolina man wins Freedom 5K

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — Noah Wasserman of Bluffton, South Carolina, won the Freedom 5k in Keystone Heights Saturday with a time of 15:57.56.

Last year Wasserman's teammate, also from Bluffton, won the race. Wasserman said one of the members of his high school cross country team has grandparents who live in the Lake Region, and the group comes down for the holiday and race.

The highest placing Lake Region resident: Tyler Griffin of Keystone Heights, placed fourth with a time of 17:48.25.

Of the 138 participants, 63 were from Keystone Heights.

Event organizer Kerry Cooper Collins told the racers before the start that the event is the sole fundraiser for the Jordan Cooper Memorial Scholarship Fund,



Noah Wasserman of Bluffton, South Carolina, crosses the finish line of the Freedom 5k in Keystone Heights Saturday with a time of 15:57.56.

which awards scholarships to graduating Keystone Heights High School students.

"I truly believe that one person can make a difference, and I see that lived out when I look around

and see all of the volunteers here today," Collins said. "What they all share is a commitment to friendship, service and investing themselves into the community."

## Clay raising trash collection fee, but residents will pay less

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Commissioners voted to raise the fee it charges residents to pick up trash; however, because of an offsetting credit for the absence of curbside recycling, residents will pay less for garbage pickup.

The current collection assessment is \$154 a year, which, when combined with the disposal assessment of \$72 a year, totals \$226. The assessment is required for all Clay County properties.

During their June 28 meeting, commissioners increased the collection assessment by \$7 to \$161 a year with a recycling

credit of \$23.

The \$7 increase, combined with the \$23 credit, means residents will pay \$16 less for trash pickup.

Environmental Services Director Milton Towns told commissioners that the county is projecting a \$721,271 deficit for solid waste activities next year with the assessment increase and recycling credit.

## Flu bug runs through Keystone camps

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—Flu symptoms forced one Lake Region summer camp to end one of its sessions early and forced a second to quarantine campers during the last week of June.

In an email to parents, leaders at Camp Crystal Lake said they were cutting short a weeklong camp on Wednesday afternoon after an outbreak of flu-like symptoms.

"We have sent home numerous campers and staff within the past two days with COVID and non-COVID symptoms," camp administrators said.

Camp Crystal Lake is owned and operated by the Alachua County School District. The facility is located between Crystal Lake and the Keystone Heights Airport.

The Camp said it would refund a portion of fees to parents representing the last two days of the session. However, processing the refunds could take up to two weeks.

A staff member at nearby Camp Montgomery said that a flu bug forced the facility to quarantine campers the same week.



(L-R) Commissioners Jim Renninger and Betsy Condon, Sheriff Michelle Cook, Commissioners Mike Cella and Kristen Burke, and County Manager Howard Wanamaker break ground on the county's new gun range.

## Construction begins on gun range

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS —Clay County officials broke ground on a sheriff's office shooting range between Camp Blanding and Middleburg on

June 23.

In a news release, the county said the range would allow deputies to complete their required training and certifications locally. It will be open to residents several days a week.

The 200-foot long, 30-station range will be located on County Road 215, about halfway between Camp Blanding and Middleburg. The county said the facility should be open by the end of the year.

## 1 dead in Lake Geneva boating accident

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

MELROSE — The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Division of Law Enforcement said a Melrose woman drowned after being thrown from a boat on Tuesday, June 28.

According to an investigative report, Elizabeth Spisak, 56, was accompanying 68-year-old Paul Kolomitz while testing a new motor on his 1999 12-foot Gheenoe Water Bug.

FFW investigators wrote that while the pair were on the water, the boat suddenly dipped on the port side, throwing Spisak and Kolomitz into the lake.

After some time, the boat owner found Spisak and got her to shore. He administered CPR but was unable to revive the 56-year-old. Spisak was



The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Division of Law Enforcement said a 1999 12-foot Gheenoe Water Bug, similar to the one pictured, nearly capsized, throwing a man and woman into Lake Geneva.

pronounced dead at 5:02 p.m. occurred near Breezy Point Road  
Investigators said alcohol was East.  
not a factor in the incident, which

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# UNION COUNTY

## Independence Day at the lake saw rain but fireworks flew in the dark

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Times Editor

LAKE BUTLER — Independence Day in Lake Butler was celebrated on Saturday, July 2 this year, but the mood and the celebration was as happy as ever. A great number of the attendees sported patriotic clothing of gear to show their American pride. The event was sponsored and organized by the Lake Butler Rotary Club and members were on hand all day to see that things ran smoothly.

The day started out mild, but a late morning shower had vendors running to keep their wares dry and attendees looking for cover. Vendors reported a busy morning, with business slacking off after the rain as the crowd thinned. Throughout the afternoon attendance was moderate and in no way the size of previous years, but the numbers surged as the sun started to drop and the crowd increased to almost “normal” levels for the holiday event.

As always, some attendees were cooking out in the pavilions and playing in the water, splash park or on the playground with their children. Sunscreen was required for the afternoon, but a steady breeze kept the “feel” of the air from being terribly hot. Vendors were located inside the Hal Y. Maines Community Center, as well as outside, so many people ducked in to see what was there and attend the Lake Butler Woman’s Club silent auction taking place on one side of the room.

More than a dozen vendors



The fireworks started at dusk over Lake Butler, but the brightness was still great.

were on hand, selling handmade items, drinks and snacks. The Lake Butler Church of Christ had a booth next to the community center, giving away free cold drinks to anyone who needed one. Other booths were staffed by political candidate’s campaign staffs and a couple of businesses offering giveaways. A number of food trucks and kiosks offered a

variety of food to attendees. Despite the problems, the fireworks display went off as planned. The display went on, with multiple bursts in the sky at one time, for about 25-30 minutes and all faces were turned to the heavens to see the sky painted in bright colors. After the show the crowd dispersed quickly and night fell on the park.



Beatrice Mallory, from Raiford, was on hand with her business, Kingdom Jewels. She is a Paparazzi consultant and her booth literally sparkled in the bright sunlight.



Heather Rhoden, owner of She-Shed Creations by Heather, offered a wide assortment of custom, handmade items for sale in the community center.



Richard Kelley, with Kettle Creations, stirs a batch of popping corn, soon to be a sweet treat for eager customers.

### Film and poetry nights

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.

An open mic poetry night will take place Saturday, July 9, at 5 p.m. hosted by Nicole Goff. The theme is Poetry for Freedom. Refreshments available.

### Help for elder abuse

Are you aged 60 or older and being hurt or taken advantage of by someone you know or trust? To report suspected cases of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation for yourself or someone you know, please call 1-800-96-ABUSE or 1-800-962-2873.

For information about services and resources that may be available in your area, call the Elder Helpline at 1-800-96-ELDER or 1-800-965-5337.



Krista Fort and Morgan Rogers were selling arts and crafts at the Krista’s Kustoms booth. Both young ladies are from Lake Butler.

Union County Firefighter Jack Eck stands by while Nevaeh Garnto gets a chance to feel what it must be like to drive a fire truck.



### 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.

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## Candidate guilty

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Monitor Editor

STARKE — An Alachua County jury convicted District 3 U.S. Congressional candidate Tom Wells of resisting an officer. Wells is attempting to unseat first-term incumbent Kat Cammack, who represents Bradford and Union counties in Washington.

Wells was arrested on Jan. 30 at the University of Florida after handing out campaign literature during the Family Extravaganza, hosted by UF's Hispanic Student Association.

According to an arrest report, University of Florida Police approached the defendant after the event organizer told them Wells was harassing students.

"The event coordinator asked Wells to leave due to him making the students uncomfortable, and she did not want to make the event politically-based," wrote the arresting officer. "(Another officer) and I approached Wells and informed him that the event coordinator wanted him to leave the premise, and he refused. He stated he did not recognize our authority to escort him out."

The officer added that after the defendant resisted their efforts to escort him away from the event, the two officers took the 71-year-old to the ground, handcuffed him, and walked him out of the event.

Wells's June 28 trial lasted 20 hours and ended at 3 a.m. the



Wells

following morning.

After the guilty verdict, Judge Meshon T. Rawls ordered Wells to pay \$276 in fines and court costs.

In addition, UF has banned him from the campus for three years.

## Florida Purple Alert Plan

FDLE's Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse has launched the Florida Purple Alert Plan. The plan was established by the Florida Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Ron DeSantis.

The Purple Alert will be used to assist in the location of missing adults suffering from mental, cognitive, intellectual or developmental disabilities, and who do not meet the criteria for a statewide Silver Alert. Purple Alerts engage the public in the search for the missing person and provide a standardized

and coordinated community response.

Purple Alert criteria:

1. The person is 18 or older and does not qualify for a state- or local-level Silver Alert.

2. The person has an intellectual or developmental disability, brain injury or another physical, mental or emotional disability that is not related to substance abuse and does not have Alzheimer's disease or a dementia-related disorder.

3. The local law enforcement agency's investigation concluded the disappearance poses a credible threat of immediate danger or serious bodily harm to the missing person and they can only be returned to safety through law enforcement intervention.

4. There is a detailed description of the missing person suitable for distribution.

5. The missing person information has been entered into Florida Crime Information Center (FCIC).

6. The law enforcement agency of jurisdiction recommends activation.

When issued, Purple Alert information will be distributed to citizens who have signed up to receive the alerts and displayed on dynamic highway message signs when applicable. The alerts will also be posted on the FDLE public website.

Sign up to receive Florida Purple Alerts today through email or text messages at [www.fdle.state.fl.us/PurpleAlerts/Purple-Alert-Plan.aspx](http://www.fdle.state.fl.us/PurpleAlerts/Purple-Alert-Plan.aspx).

# Crime

## Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

June 25 through July 1

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

Cicera Deneise Barnett, 29, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on June 30 for possession of marijuana and possession of drug equipment.

Bryce Darryl Bolinger, 35, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on June 28 for a probation violation.

Bobby Jean Green, 53, of Lake Butler was arrested by Starke police on July 1 for a probation violation.

Julia Marie Hodge, 32, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on June 30 for failure to appear.

Emily Nicole Middleton, 41, of Raiford was arrested by Bradford deputies on June 26 for driving with a suspended or revoked license, possession of marijuana and possession of drug equipment.

### 'Sovereign citizen' threatens police

Ladiante Zachary Smith, 31, of Port St. Lucie was arrested by Lawtey police on June 26 for failure to surrender license or registration, driving with a suspended or revoked license, threatening harm of a public servant, resisting an officer with violence and resisting an officer without violence.

According to an arrest report, officer Michael W. Starling clocked the defendant driving 66 in a 45-mph zone.

Starling reported that after

the defendant pulled over, he told Starling that he was a sovereign citizen and does not recognize government law. The officer added that while he and Chief Jerry Feltner arrested the defendant, Smith said: "I'm Jamaican; you know what we do. I will come back for both of you."

### Union

Thomas Robert Bruce, 37, of Crescent City was arrested by Union deputies on June 28 for battery, disorderly intoxication and resisting an officer.

Howard Frederick Redding III, 38, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on July 1 for a probation violation.

Camryn Silcox, 19, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on June 25 for possession of synthetic narcotics, and possession of drugs.

Devon Alexander Smith Sr. 22, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on June 27 for a probation violation.

### Left man alone 'to die'

Michael Anthony Vinci, 35, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on July 1 for abuse of an elderly adult.

According to an arrest report, the defendant took over care of the victim after picking the victim up from a hospital.

One witness told deputies that when the witness went to the defendant's home to check on the victim, the elderly man was sitting in a dirty diaper and appeared to need medical attention.

"When (the witness) tried to help (the victim) Anthony made her leave and told her he had a .38 pistol," wrote arresting officer Charles W. Townsend. "Three older cousins stopped by the house early afternoon. Anthony refused to let them into the house and displayed the .38 pistol. (The cousins) said Anthony even threatened to shoot them if they came back."

A witness told Townsend that the victim needs full-time care because of his medical condition, adding the elderly man cannot move, eat or bathe without assistance.

The witness added that when

she questioned the defendant about the victim's care, Vinci responded, "I'm going to leave him at home. He's coming home to die."

When the witness responded: "You just can't leave him alone to care for himself, that's cruel," the defendant responded, "That's life. It happens in third-world countries every day, especially India."

Townsend added that emergency medical services transported the victim to a hospital and that additional charges may be added depending on the condition of the victim.

### Clay

Zachary Nelson Bryant, 38, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on June 29 for a domestic violence injunction violation.

Rodrigo Cruz, 31, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on July 1 for driving with a license expired for more than six months.

Joseph William Harper, 41, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on June 29 for possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, possession of cocaine, possession of drug equipment and fleeing and eluding.

Roger Lee Hartley, 57, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on June 28 for driving with a suspended or revoked license, nonsupport and failure to register a motor vehicle.

Megan Marie Lewis, 28, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on June 28 for domestic battery.

Benjamin Morris, 30, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on June 30 for fraudulent use of a credit card.

## July sobriety checkpoints

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

## LAW

Continued from page 1

between budget line items without seeking approval from boards of county commissioners.

The budget provision nullifies the recent Supreme Court ruling in Alachua County, FL v. Watson, which required that sheriffs seek permission from their county commissions to move budgeted funds among the law enforcement, corrections, and judicial operations functions, as well as the personnel, operating, and capital objects in their budgets.

The law also creates \$1,000 scholarships for officer training, provides up to \$1,000 in training reimbursements for out-of-state law enforcement officers moving into Florida, and provides up to a \$25,000 benefit for law enforcement officers adopting children.

## Pretrial detention for juveniles

House Bill 7029 was sponsored by MacClenny's Chuck Brannan and the accompanying Senate Bill 7040 was sponsored by Gainesville's Keith Perry.

The measure extends the time a juvenile can be detained before a trial. The prior limit was 21 days.

## Jail standards

Lawmakers established the Florida Model Jail Standards Working Group to create standards for the state's jails. The new statute requires that all jails be inspected twice a year and imposes penalties for detention facilities that fail to meet minimum standards.

Any notable deficiency uncovered during an inspection must be corrected within 30 days, and jails will be fined \$500 a day for violations not corrected after 30 days, \$1,000 a day for deficiencies not corrected after 60 days, and \$2,000 a day for violations not corrected after 90 days.

For any serious deficiency not corrected within 24 hours, a jail will be fined \$2,000 a day after the 24-hour grace period. All fines must be contributed into the facility's inmate welfare fund.

For repeat violations, a jail could be ordered to cease operations.

The new law also removes the requirement that those awaiting trial must be housed separately from convicted inmates, and it specifies that jails should give special consideration to inmates who are pregnant.

## Drug offenses

Effective Oct. 1, a new law adds methamphetamine to the list of controlled substances which, if the substance caused or is proven to have been the proximate cause in producing the victim's death, can subject the person who distributed the controlled substance to a conviction for first-degree murder.

The new law also increases the penalties for selling illegal drugs within 1,000 feet of schools, churches and other structures. In addition, it increases the penalties for selling fentanyl or fentanyl derivatives.

## Mental health

A new law makes it a misdemeanor to furnish false information for the purpose of obtaining the involuntary commitment of a person under the state's Baker Act.

A second statute requires law enforcement to use the least restrictive restraints possible when transporting a person involuntarily committed to a receiving facility.

## Residential picketing

A new law makes it a second-degree misdemeanor to picket or protest outside another person's home in order to harass or disturb the resident.

Before making an arrest, the statute requires law enforcement to first warn a protester and give the offender an opportunity to leave the scene.

## Street takeovers and stunt driving

Lawmakers added activities to the first-degree misdemeanor of street racing. The updated statute now makes street takeovers, stunt driving, burnouts, doughnuts, drifting and wheelies illegal on public roads. The law also prohibits spectators from passively participating in such activities by filming or recording the infractions.

## Overdose prevention

A new law allows pharmacists to dispense opioid antagonists, like Narcan to patients or caregivers without a prescription.

The law also authorizes law enforcement officers and probation officers to possess and administer the antagonists and shields such personnel from civil or criminal liability resulting from the administration of emergency opioid antagonists.

## Retail theft

Rep. Chuck Clemmons of Gainesville sponsored a new law that defines two new organized retail theft crimes.

The first is a third-degree felony when an individual, acting alone or in concert with one or more other persons, commits five or more retail thefts within a 30-day period, and in committing such thefts: the offender obtains or uses 10 or more items of merchandise, regardless of the value of such merchandise, and two or more of the thefts occur at different physical merchant locations.

A second-degree felony is committed when an offender commits the acts described above, except the number of items obtained, is 20 or more.

## Sexual offenses

A new law creates criminal and civil penalties for persons who promote certain altered sexual depictions, commonly called "deep fakes."

Deep fakes are altered images that depict individuals engaging in sexual behavior that they did not engage in.

The law also makes illegal the act of obtaining sexually explicit images and using those images for financial gain.

It also defines as a second-degree felony, the act of promoting a sexually explicit image of an identifiable person without that person's consent.

# Russ WADE

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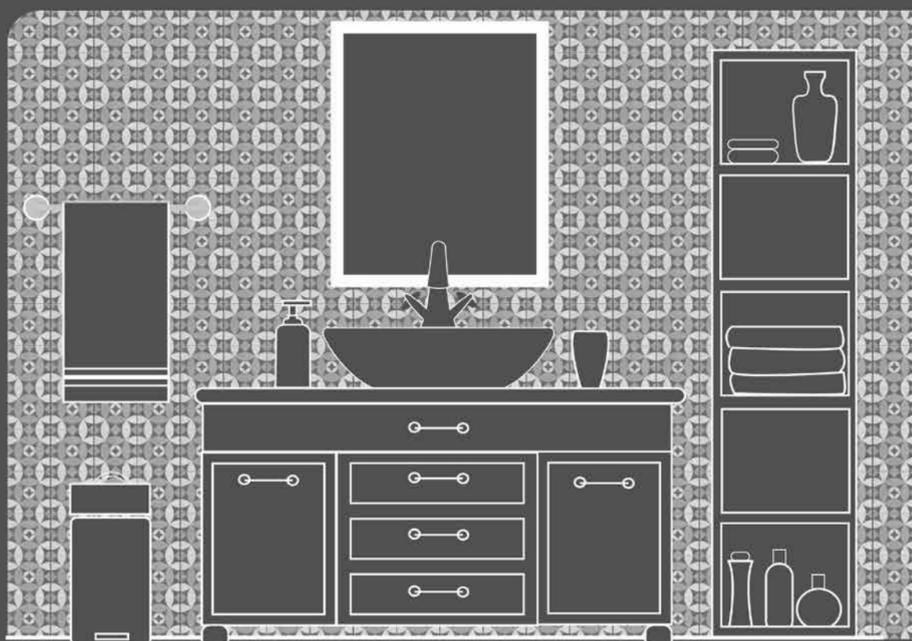
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## Bradford 10U All-Stars play to 2nd-place finish at state

The Bradford 10U all-star softball team's hard work paid off as it competed in the Florida Babe Ruth State Championships in Lake City, placing second against some competitive teams. Thanks go to the sponsors for their generosity, which helped provide the team with new equipment. Pictured are: (front) Kelsey Padgett, (second row, l-r) Celia Cisco, Virginia Hancock, Paislee Griffis, Macie McCoy, Addyson Griffis, Aaleyah Gutierrez, (third row, l-r) Tamaya McCloud, Jalyaah Johnson, Harmony Reed, Briella Arnot, Addie Lansford, Aubri Thomas and (back row, l-r) coaches John Padgett, Victoria Padgett, Daniel Gutierrez and Brittney Griffis.

## Marshall qualifies for AAU Junior Olympics in 3 track, field events

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Lake Butler Elementary School student Zoey Marshall has qualified to compete in the AAU Junior Olympic Games in track and field, winning the long jump and placing second in the 200m and 400m in the 9-year-old girls division at the June 23-26 Region 9 National Qualifier in Jacksonville.

Marshall, who competes for Athletics Academy Elite and is coached by Travis Sheppard, won the long jump with a personal record of 3.9 meters, while the runner-up had a distance of 3.23. She ran the 200m and 400m in times of 29.63 and 1:05.81, respectively, with the 400m performance being a personal record. Her 200m time wasn't far off her personal record, which is 29.56).

The winning times in the 200m and 400m were 28.60 and 1:05.70.

An athlete had to place in the top five to qualify for the Junior Olympics.

To get to a national regional qualifier, an athlete had to earn a top-eight finish. Marshall won the long jump with a distance of 3.82 at the June 4 district qualifier in Jacksonville, while placing second in the 200m and 400m with times of 29.29 and 1:09.64.

Marshall, who is in her fourth year of AAU competition (and third year under Sheppard as her coach), has earned medals at every meet she's competed in this year. Medals are awarded for placing in the top three. (The top eight in each event at the Junior Olympics will receive medals.)

The young athlete is



Zoey Marshall, a Lake Butler Elementary student, will compete at the AAU Junior Olympics in the long jump and 200m and 400m sprints.

following in the footsteps of her sister, Amika Davis, who was a standout in track and field as well, competing in the long jump, triple jump, 100m and 200m. Davis qualified for the Florida High School Athletic Association state championships at Union County High School in the triple jump.

The AAU Junior Olympic Games will be held July 30-Aug. 6 in Greensboro, North Carolina. A fundraiser to help Marshall make the trip — held in cooperation with the group 20 Strong — will be held Saturday, July 9, at 10:30 a.m. at the corner of C.R. 231 (Southwest Sixth Avenue) and First Way in Lake Butler.

# BHS, UCHS softball players are part of undefeated travel team

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

A travel softball team composed mostly of Bradford High School and Union County High School players (current student-athletes and graduates) has put together quite a summer season to date, having won two tournaments by a combined 9-0 record.

Team Florida EvoShield-Taylor 18U is coached by BHS Head Coach Kaylan Taylor, her BHS assistants (and husband and father, respectively), Joey Taylor and Vince Tucker, and Fort White Head Coach Chad Padgett. Taylor said she brought up the idea of putting such a team together with BHS players during this past season.

"The girls were excited about it," Taylor said.

The team played in the North Florida Summer State Championships in Lake City June 4-5, going 5-0. Madison County graduate Carter Gore hit four home runs in the tournament and led the team with seven RBI, while Bradford High School's Rylie Blankenship had six RBI.

On June 25, the team went 4-0 in winning the USSSA Summer Waves tournament in Jacksonville. BHS graduate Hannah McFarland had six RBI, while current BHS player Takeirra Bakken and current UCHS player Tamia Young each had four RBI.

"There's obviously a lot of talent in this area," Taylor said, adding, "We had high expectations of them. They've exceeded them."

The team will participate in the Southeast National Association World Series July 13-16 in Clearwater. Players are fundraising to help pay for the cost. Taylor said businesses and individuals in the community have already been generous with their donations.

"We're so appreciative," she said.

If you'd like to help out, you may make a donation to a player or call Taylor at 904-769-3562.

Besides Bakken, Blankenship and McFarland, the team's other Bradford players are Madison Highland, Masey Padgett, Taylor Reddish (graduate), Chrissy Samons and Blakeleigh Smith.



Team Florida EvoShield-Taylor 18U is pictured after winning the June 25 USSSA Summer Waves tournament. Pictured are: (front, l-r) Angela Tucker, Takeirra Bakken, Blakeleigh Smith, Hannah McFarland, Taylor Reddish, Chrissy Samons, (back, l-r) Coach Joey Taylor, Madison Highland, Madelyn Jones, Tamia Young, Megan Sullivan, Coach Chad Padgett, Jordan Jarrell, Masey Padgett, Coach Vince Tucker (behind Padgett), who's holding his grandson Easton Taylor, and Coach Kaylan Taylor. Not pictured: Rylie Blankenship, Carter Gore and Starla Vaughn.

Taylor said it has been a great experience for her players to play one more time with graduates McFarland and Reddish. It's also something she and her BHS assistants have enjoyed.

"It's kind of providing us another opportunity to coach them before they start their new lives," Taylor said.

Angela Tucker and graduates Megan Sullivan and Starla Vaughn are other UCHS players who have joined Young on the team. Taylor said UCHS player Leah Clark also plans to become involved.

### 1st tournament

A couple of home runs helped broke a 5-5 tie as the team began the Lake City tournament with a 9-5 win over the North Florida Stars.

Four of the team's first five runs came off RBI doubles by Gore and Padgett and a two-run homer by Gore.

In the final inning, Samons singled, while Smith reached on an error. Blankenship then

hit an inside-the-park home run, followed by Gore's second homer of the day — a solo shot that resulted in the 9-5 final.

Blankenship and Gore each had two RBI in the second game to help the team beat Team Xtreme 6-0.

A home run by Gore put the first two runs on the board, while Blankenship drove in the next two on a single. Blankenship scored herself on an error.

Blankenship scored the final run, reaching on a two-out walk and crossing home plate on a Reddish double.

Bakken also hit a double, going 2 for 3.

Madelyn Jones (Columbia) gave up one hit and one walk in pitching all three innings.

The team next played Team Florida EvoShield Jax, scoring all of its runs in the second inning to win 3-1.

Blankenship drove in one run on a single, while Reddish drove in two on a double.

Pitchers Jones and Sullivan combined to allow two hits, with Sullivan striking out four in three

innings of work.

Next came a come-from-behind 4-3 win over the Firecrackers. Taylor's team, trailing 3-2, put two runners on when Reddish doubled and Bakken walked. Padgett hit a run-scoring single to even it up before Vaughn drove in the winning run on a ground out.

Gore drove in the team's first run with her fourth home run of the tournament, while Highland drove in the second on a ground out.

Jones gave up two hits in 3.1 innings. Sullivan recorded the final out.

The team put together a four-run third inning to win the tournament, defeating the North Florida Stars 6-2.

Bakken, who went 2 for 3, drove in the first two runs on a double.

In the third inning, Gore reached on an error and scored on another Bakken double. Padgett then hit her own run-scoring double before Vaughn hit

See TEAM, page 11

# Terry McCarthy

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# Legal Notices

## Bradford

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Ron Denmark Mini Storage will hold a public auction on Friday July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 10:00 am at 2117 N. Temple Ave. Starke, FL on the following units containing personal items:  
# 83- Belonging to J. Wells  
# 31- Belonging to A. Pope  
# 35- Belonging to J. Staten  
6/30 2tchg 7/7-BCT

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida will hold a joint workshop on redistricting with the Bradford County School District on July 11, 2022 at 4:30 PM at the Bradford County School District located at 501 West Washington Street, Starke, Florida. The public is encouraged to visit [www.bradfordcountytfl.gov/meetings](http://www.bradfordcountytfl.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.  
6/30 2tchg 7/7-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8<sup>th</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION  
CASE NO.: 2200070CPAXMX  
IN RE: ESTATE OF JUSTIN M. MARTINEZ-SOLIS, Decedent.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the Estate of JUSTIN M. MARTINEZ-SOLIS, deceased, whose date of death was March 5, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 945 N. Temple Ave, Starke, FL 32091. The names of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.  
All creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice has been served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE TIME OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
All other creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.  
ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.  
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DEATH IS BARRED.  
The date of first publication of this notice is June 30, 2022.  
Personal Representative:  
Melissa Gail Cortes

Attorney for Personal Representative:  
ARROYAVE LAW, P.A.  
2605 Ponce de Leon Blvd  
Coral Gables, Florida 33134  
Telephone: 305-441-7091  
Facsimile: 305-328-9404  
BY: /s/ Michael V. Arroyave  
Michael V. Arroyave, Esq.  
6/30 2tchg 7/7-BCT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:**  
MIRACLE AUTOMOTIVE & TRUCK SERVICE CENTER INC. gives notice that on 07/22/2022 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.  
1FA6P8TH0G528 1662 2016 FORD 1J4GW58SXXC607588 1999 JEEP  
This notification is published in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH on 07/07/2022.  
7/7 1tchg-BCT

**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-BCT

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District (BSWCD) will hold an emergency meeting on Tuesday July 12, 2022, at 1:00 pm at the Bradford County Extension Office to review and file a Petition for an Administrative Hearing for the Chemours State 404 Program Permit for the Chemours Trail Ridge South Mine. Contact Paul Still at stillpe@aol.com or call him at 904 368-0291 for more information. The public is welcome to attend the meeting.  
7/7 1tchg-BCT

Notice is hereby given:  
Chris Lanier  
Last known address of:  
13823 SW County Road 227  
Starke FL 32091  
You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.  
Published one time in the Bradford County Telegraph  
Amanda Seyfang  
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections  
P. O. Box 58  
945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C  
Starke, FL 32091  
Date: June 29, 2022  
7/7 1tchg-BCT

P. O. Box 58  
945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C  
Starke, FL 32091  
Date: July 5, 2022  
7/7 1tchg-BCT

Notice is hereby given:  
Amanda L. Welch  
Last known address of:  
11391 SW 106th 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 5, 2022  
7/7 1tchg-BCT

Notice is hereby given:  
Clarence A. Sumner Jr  
Last known address of:  
19072 NW 51st Ave  
Starke FL 32091-7841  
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: June 29, 2022  
7/7 1tchg-BCT

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
The Bradford County School Board has rescheduled the July 11, 2022 Workshop, School Board Meeting and Executive Session for July 18, 2022.  
7/7 1tchg-BCT

## Union

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA. CIVIL DIVISION  
CASE NO. 2020CA000073CAAXMX  
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, FOR MANUFACTURED HOUSING CONTRACT SENIOR/SUBORDINATE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATE TRUST 2001-3,  
Plaintiff,  
VS.  
THE UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, CREDITORS, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF NELSON W. BEATY, DECEASED; MICHAEL A. PETERS; INDIA PETERS; GINNY LEISSA; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED, are Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash on the Front Steps of the Union County Courthouse, 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, FL 32054, 11:00 a.m., on Monday, August 22, 2022, the following described property as set forth in said Order of Final Judgment, to-wit:  
COMMENCE AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE WEST LINE OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 19 EAST, UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, WITH THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF COUNTY ROAD NO. 18-A; THENCE RUN N 88°41'26" EAST, ALONG THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE A DISTANCE OF 40 FEET; THENCE RUN S 00°09'21" EAST, PARALLEL WITH SAID WEST LINE OF SECTION 26, A DISTANCE OF 1120.20 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN EAST A DISTANCE OF 344.30 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH A DISTANCE OF 224.07 FEET, THENCE RUN WEST A DISTANCE OF 344.08 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH A

DISTANCE OF 224.06 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. LESS THE WEST 40 FEET FOR EASEMENT. EASEMENT FROM LOT #1 TO LOT #3; FROM POINT OF BEGINNING OF LOT #1, WHICH IS ALSO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF EASEMENT, RUN EAST 344.30 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 24 FEET, THENCE RUN WEST 344.30 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 24 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.  
TOGETHER WITH A 1995 FLEETCRAFT DOUBLE-WIDE MOBILE HOME, VIN NUMBER(S) GAFLR34A20127SH AND GAFLR34B20127SH, TITLE NUMBER(S) 68883550 AND 68883549  
ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM BEFORE THE CLERK REPORTS THE SURPLUS. AS UNCLAIMED, THE COURT, IN ITS DISCRETION MAY ENLARGE THE TIME OF THE SALE. NOTICE OF THE CHANGED TIME OF SALE SHALL BE PUBLISHED AS PROVIDED HEREIN.  
DATED at Lake Butler, Florida, on June 20th, 2022.  
KELLIE HENDRICKS RHOADES  
As Clerk, Circuit Court  
CRYSTAL NORMAN  
As Deputy Clerk  
Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A.  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
P.O. BOX 19519  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33318  
Telephone: (954) 564-0071  
Service E-mail: [answers@dallegal.com](mailto:answers@dallegal.com)  
6/30 2tchg 7/7-UCT

**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](mailto:aaron.mathews@fgc.edu)  
Date & Time for Receiving Proposals:

7:00 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 1Union 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](mailto:info@morgangetzan.com)  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
7/7 2tchg 7/14-UCT

**Help Wanted**  
**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  
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Position details and applications available online at: [www.fgc.edu](http://www.fgc.edu) or visit Human Resources  
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149 S.E. College Place  
Lake City, FL 32025-2007  
Phone (386) 754-4314  
Fax (386) 754-4814  
Email: [human\\_resources@fgc.edu](mailto:human_resources@fgc.edu)  
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VP/ADA/EA/EO College in Education and Employment

**CLASSIFIEDS**  
Don't Miss the DEADLINE! TUESDAY by 12 pm  
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## 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

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

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

**53 A Yard Sales**

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TAMMY'S YARD SALE: 1010 E Call Street. Thurs., Fri., & Sat. 8am-12pm. Clothing & misc. items.

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\*Equal Housing Opportunity\*

# Assistant James is new UCHS head baseball coach

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Jiwan James has his first head-coaching opportunity, and it couldn't come at a better place — the school he's been at for the past two years.

James, who had been a Union County High School assistant, was named the Tigers' new head coach, replacing Travis Rimes, who coached UCHS for four years.

"I know what kind of support system I'll have here," James said. "I know that the community actually cares about their program. One of the first things I noticed when I got here two years ago was how much the community is behind their sports programs."

"I think I'm in a real good spot here."

James has been a full-time coach for the past six years, starting out as an assistant at his alma mater, Williston, but he did some coaching before that. During his time playing professionally, he helped Williston during his off season before he'd have to report for spring training. James also got involved with the Naturals travel organization, which was started by Williston alumnus and former professional player Esix Snead.

"He started that in 2008," said James, who's now a co-owner of the organization. "He kind of got me into coaching a little bit

then."

## 1st love put James on road to pro ball

James was a three-sport athlete at Williston, also playing football and basketball, but he said, "Baseball was always my first love. More than likely, it came from my dad and my grandpa. It was also the first organized sport I was able to play."

Since he played other sports, James said it was easy to escape from the pressures of being a recruited student-athlete. Plus, he made an early commitment, which helped as well.

"Fortunately, I committed to the University of Florida my sophomore year," he said. "That kind of took a lot of the pressure off. I was able to go out and just play."

When James made his commitment to Florida official with his letter of intent in November 2006, he was coming off a pair of incredible seasons. As a sophomore, he batted .477 with 28 RBI, while going 9-0 as a pitcher with 48 strikeouts and an ERA of 0.82 in 42 innings. During his junior season, James batted .554 with 28 RBI, while going 3-3 on the mound with four saves, 53 strikeouts and an ERA of 1.75 in 48 innings.

James was a first-team all-state selection both seasons and was named the Florida Dairy Farmers



Jiwan James, who's been an assistant coach at UCHS, is the Tigers' new head baseball coach. James was a standout at Williston High School and played professionally for nine years. Photo by Cliff Smelley.

Class 3A Player of the Year his junior season.

The intent was to honor that commitment. However, Florida Head Coach Pat McMahon and his staff were fired on draft day.

"In the middle of the draft, I found out the whole staff got canned," James said. "I was like, 'Now what?'"

James said he did talk to Kevin O'Sullivan, the current UF coach who was hired to replace McMahon, but he just didn't have the time to build a relationship with him, so he decided to sign with the Philadelphia Phillies organization, which drafted him in the 22nd round.

James was part of the Phillies organization for seven years. A couple of highlights were putting together a 24-game hit streak

for the High-A Lakewood (New Jersey) BlueClaws which is still a record for that organization and moving up to the Double-A level to play for the Reading (Pennsylvania) Phillies in 2012.

Though James said he was never one of those players who believed in superstitions, he did stick to a routine throughout the duration of his hitting streak with Lakewood, which occurred in 2010.

"I'm pretty sure I ate the same meal at McDonald's for three weeks straight," James said.

Injuries and health issues began taking a toll on James. He had knee surgery, which wiped out most of his 2013 season. When he did return, he experienced a flare-up of his Crohn's disease, which caused him to miss the remainder of the season.

In November of that same year, he had surgery related to his Crohn's disease, which kept him out of action until July 2014. Two weeks after his return, the Phillies released him.

James signed with the Detroit organization in 2015. While there, he missed some action again because of Crohn's disease. Detroit released him at the end of spring training in 2016.

He played for a couple of independent organizations, but during his first week of play after signing with one, he was hit by a pitch, which fractured his ankle. That put him out for two months. James was released shortly

thereafter.

Because he had been in a walking boot for seven to eight weeks, James said he was having problems with his sciatic nerve, which affected his play, which ended with a stint in the Canadian American Association of Professional Baseball.

"I pretty much played the last two months in Canada kind of one-legged almost," James said. "The biggest part of my game was speed. That was one of the most important parts of my game. Not being able to play to my strength kind of hurt me a bit."

In looking back on it, James said he enjoyed everything that came with playing pro ball — even the 7:30 a.m. sessions in the weight room, the bus rides to games and trying to find somewhere to eat at 11:30 p.m. after games.

"It was a great experience," James said. "Anybody who loves the game and who had the chance to play professionally, more than likely they loved it."

## Coaching UCHS

James was no stranger to some of the players when he joined the UCHS staff as an assistant. He was familiar with many of the seniors the last two seasons from coaching in the Naturals organization.

"I had relationships built over the last 10 years," James said. "The last two classes that graduated played a big part in me coming to Union County. I said when they were 9 and 10 years old that Union was going to be a

problem (for other teams) in such and such years when those guys got into high school.

"They didn't get the state championship, but they had a lot of success in their high-school years. It wasn't by accident. There was a lot of talent."

James said returning players won't experience much difference in the program with him as the new head coach.

"I don't plan on making any huge changes. It's more of just being a different voice," James said, adding, "I was on the staff the last two years, so (players) kind of know already what to expect."

James said describes himself as a laid-back coach, but said he'll get fired up if the need arises.

"When I do speak up, (players) better be listening," he said, while also adding, "As long as these boys are working hard and playing hard, I'm real easy to play for, and then it'll be a lot of fun."

Coaching consists of more than helping players improve on the fundamentals of the game and making in-game decisions. For example, James said one of the things he learned from Rimes and his staff was how important it is for a coach of a small-town school to build relationships in the community.

James also knows that high-school coaches should help set up student-athletes for success in life.

"I think being in a position where you can help young men

See JAMES, page 14

# Raiford Wreckshop lifters to compete in Turkey, Panama

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Three area youth who train with Bryan Griffis at Raiford Wreckshop will be traveling outside the U.S. for competitions, including Courtney Comer and Mahailya Reeves, who qualified for the International Powerlifting Federation Worlds.

The IPF event will be held Aug. 27-Sept. 4 in Istanbul, Turkey.

Brianna Jordan and Zeke Malphurs qualified to compete at the North American Powerlifting Federation North American Regional Powerlifting Championships, which will be held Aug. 14-20 in Panama,

though only Jordan will compete.

The lifters are trying to raise money to cover the costs of their trips. For Jordan, the cost is \$2,000, while the trip for Comer and Reeves is a combined \$6,400.

If you'd like to help in any way, please contact Griffis at 352-494-1362.

## TEAM

Continued from page 9

a two-run homer.

Vaughn was named the game's MVP.

Sullivan faced every batter but one, giving up one run on two hits.

## 2nd tournament

The second tournament the team played in started with a bang with a six-run first inning leading to a 6-3 win over the Lady Black Hawks-Teledo.

Young hit a two-run single and scored on a steal of home, while Tucker scored on a passed ball. The team also scored two runs with the bases loaded, with Smith getting hit by a pitch and Highland drawing a walk.

The next game saw Bakken, McFarland and Jordan Jarrell (Baker County) each driving in two runs as the team defeated

Suwannee River Elite 12-0.

Bakken, Jarrell and Smith each hit a run-scoring single as part of a six-run third inning that put the team up 8-0. Highland drove in a run on a sacrifice fly as part of the inning, which also consisted of two runs scoring on errors.

McFarland, who went 2 for 2 with two RBI, hit a solo homer as part of a four-run fourth, which also consisted of Jarrell, Samons and Young each driving in a run.

Bakken went 3 for 3, while Jarrell and Reddish each went 2 for 3. Highland, Samons, Smith and Young each had one RBI, with Young going 2 for 4.

Sullivan pitched all four innings, giving up one hit, while striking out seven.

The team's third game was an 8-4 win over the Lady Black Hawks. McFarland, who went 2 for 2 with two RBI, hit a run-scoring triple and scored on a steal of home as part of a four-run second inning. Tucker also scored on a steal of home in the

inning, while Young scored on an error.

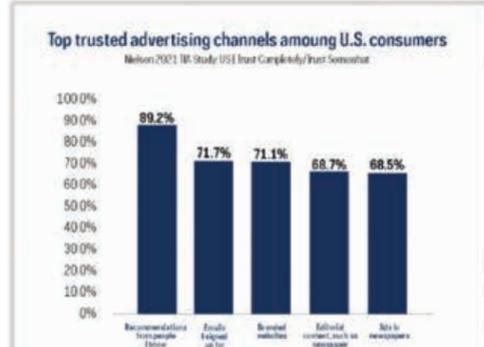
Tucker and Young each went 2 for 3, while Highland had one RBI.

Sullivan gave up six hits. The team got some clutch performances in the championship game, with McFarland hitting a walkoff RBI single in a 7-6 win over the Inferno.

The teams were tied 5-5 after three innings, resulting in an extra inning with a tiebreaker employed in which each team started its half of the inning with a runner on second base. After the Inferno scored a run, Taylor's team began the bottom of the fourth with Samons on second base. She advanced to third on Smith's sacrifice bunt and scored on Young's single to tie the score. Later, with two outs, McFarland hit a run-scoring single to win it.

Bakken hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the third to force the extra inning.

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# Obituaries

## Zachary Andrews

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Zachary Dale Andrews, 67, of Keystone Heights and Crescent City passed away Wednesday, June 15, 2022, under hospice care at North Florida Regional Medical Center. He was born Dec. 2, 1954, in Carlsbad, New Mexico and lived most of his life in north Florida. He was raised in Anaheim, California, Starke, and Keystone Heights, and graduated from Keystone Heights High School in 1974 where he was in the marching band and played football. He earned a bachelor's degree at Baptist College of Florida in Graceville and attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas. He was most recently a member of Keystone United Methodist Church and enjoyed serving in local churches with music ministry and other areas when needed; he had a strong spiritual life and loved being involved and helping when he was able. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, James Albert and Sarah Shaner Wright, Lucian Wesley and Maude Roberts Andrews; his parents, Wesley Ronald Andrews and Jeanne Alberta Wright Wood; and stepfather, Clarence Wood.

His survivors include three children: Brandon (Carrie) of Colorado, Vinita of Illinois, and Benjamin of North Carolina; two brothers, Jimmy (Cecelia) Andrews of Keystone Heights and Rev. Barry Andrews of Jacksonville; and stepdaughter, Becky Wood Raymond. Also left behind are nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

A memorial service will be held Tuesday, July 12, at 10 a.m. in the Keystone United Methodist Church with Pastor Melanie Fierbaugh and Rev. Barry Andrews officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Keystone United Methodist Church.

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



## Vera Clayton

Vera Crews Clayton, 78, passed away Monday, June 27, 2022. She was born in Lawtey and resided in Hilliard. She was a member of Franklin Street Baptist Church, and the Order of the Eastern Star. She had 50 years' perfect attendance for Sunday school and was Sunday school director for many years. She was a lifelong Florida Gator fan. She was a clerk, having worked for the public school system. July 5, 2022 would have been her 55th wedding anniversary.

Survivors include her loving husband of 55 years, Thomas B. Clayton Sr.; one son, Thomas B. (Beth) Clayton Jr.; and two grandchildren, Madison (Dylan) Williams and Garret (Taylor Kelley) Clayton.

Funeral services were held Friday, July 1, at Franklin Street Baptist Church with Dr. Terry R. Gore officiating. Interment followed in Evergreen Cemetery.

Arrangements were under the direction of George H. Hewell and Son Funeral Home, 4747 Main St., Jacksonville, 32206. 904-355-9545.



## Ramon Dix

LAKE BUTLER Ramon T. Dix, 92, of Lake Butler, passed away peacefully on Friday, July 1, 2022, at Suwannee Valley Care Center in Lake City. He was born Sept. 26, 1929, in Bradenton. After spending his early years in central Florida, he relocated to his farm in Union County. He worked as a brick and block mason. As a Union worker, he built buildings such as North Florida Medical Center; as a husband, he built a beautiful home for him and his wife. After his retirement, he bought a combine and did combine work for hay and corn. Being the resourceful gentleman he was, he would enlist the help of his wife to drive the truck to load the harvest. He enjoyed working on his land and tinkering with his machines. He was also a member of Oneca Methodist Church in Bradenton. However, for the past 15 years, he has been active at Sardis Baptist Church in Worthington Springs. He was preceded in death by his son, Edward Dix.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Lavonda Dix of Lake Butler; his stepchildren, Ed Ripplinger of Starke and Sherry (Randy) Wilson of Dallas, Texas; daughter-in-law, Millie Dix; grandchildren, Mike (Dawn) Ripplinger, John Ripplinger, Heather (Paul) Norris, and Jay (Debbie) Wilson; and seven great-grandchildren.

A service to honor his life was held Tuesday, July 5, at Sardis Baptist Church. He was laid to rest immediately following the service at Dekle Cemetery. Pastor Paul O'Steen officiated the services.

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



## James Dougherty Jr.

Col. James (Jim) F. Dougherty Jr., USAF (Retired), 80, died at the Lake City VA Medical Center on Thursday, June 16, 2022 and is remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather and mentor and as being one of a kind. He was born Jan. 31, 1942 in Bayonne, New Jersey to James F. Sr. and Mayfred Dougherty. He graduated from Boston College in 1963 with a bachelor's degree in finance before joining the Air Force in 1964. While in the Air Force he went on to get his master's degree in business administration from Troy State University. He is also a 1982 graduate of (ICAF) Industrial College of the Armed Forces. His career in the Air Force started out as a pilot (T-38's) before moving into the financial management arena. The unprecedented projects he tackled in financial management at Air Force and Department of Defense level were a credit to his willingness to do the seemingly impossible in the interest of efficiency and streamlining processes to better account for hundreds of millions of dollars and support military pay improvements for the troops worldwide. He served in Vietnam and in support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm from Aug. 2, 1990 until May 31, 1994. After retiring from the Air Force and setting up home in Gainesville, he went on to do financial management consulting work in the Washington, D.C. area for another 12 years before returning to the Gainesville area. He was active with the Boy Scouts growing up and his interests included cars and anything to do with car racing, model rockets, model trains, boat engines, reading and travel. His military awards and decorations include: the Defense Superior Service Medal; Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster; Bronze Star Medal; Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters; Air Force Commendation Medal; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with one oak leaf cluster; Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with two oak leaf clusters; National Defense Service Medal with one device; Vietnam Service Medal; Air Force Overseas Short Tour Ribbon; Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon with two oak leaf clusters; Air Force Longevity, Service Award Ribbon with six oak leaf clusters; Air Force Training Ribbon; Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with device; Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. He was a member of the ASMC American Society of Military Comptrollers, Military Officers Association (MOAA) and The Retired Officers Association (TROA). He was preceded in death by his parents, James F. Sr. and Mayfred Dougherty; and his loving wife, Muriel (Del) Dougherty.

He is survived by his sister MaryAnn Dougherty of Lake Tahoe, Nevada; four sons, Wendell Courtney Dougherty of Gainesville, Joseph Christopher (Tiffany) Dougherty of Starke, James William Patrick Dougherty (Christopher Belden) of Seattle, Washington, and Peter Wilson Dougherty of Gainesville; and five grandchildren, Ryan, McKenzie, Deklan, Josh and Ashlyn.

The Dougherty family would like to thank all their friends for their loving support and kindness. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association at www.alz.org

"On the plains of hesitation lie the blackened bones of countless millions who at the dawn of victory lay down to rest, and in resting died." Adlai Stevenson

A memorial service was held on Tuesday, July 5 at Williams Thomas Funeral Home Downtown, 404 N. Main St., Gainesville. Interment will be in Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. Please visit his memorial page at www.williamsthomasfuneralhome.com.



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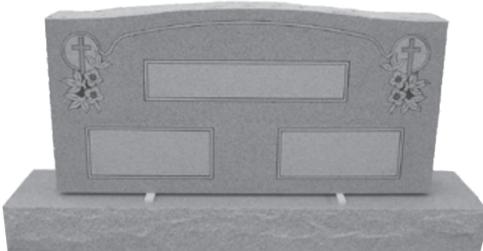
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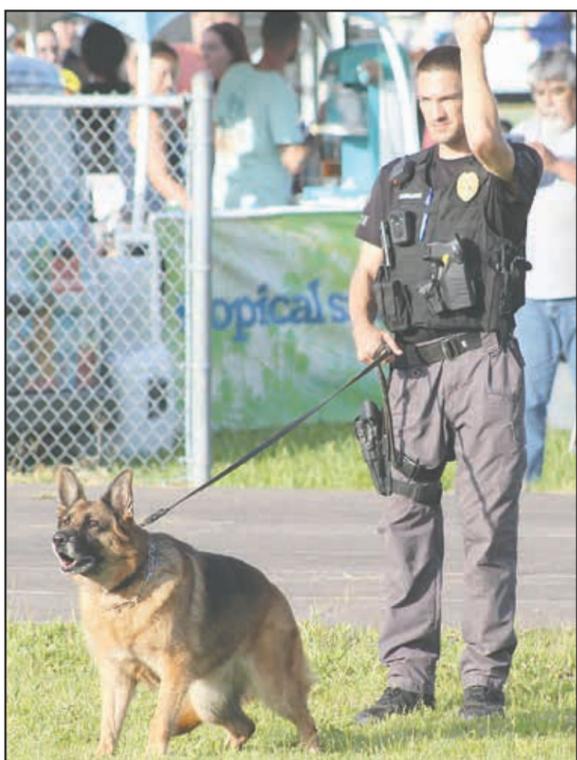
PAID OBITUARY

# City of Starke makes a splash with July 3 bash



Joseph Reese dances in a spray of water, courtesy of a fire hose.

More than 5,100 people visited the city of Starke's inaugural Splash Bash on July 3, which consisted of water activities for children, a golf cart/side-by-side parade, a car show, live entertainment, food vendors and, to cap off the celebration of Independence Day, fireworks. The free event took place at Bradford High School's David Hurst Stadium as well as at the school's track. ABOVE LEFT: Claire Massey holds her nose as she prepares to slide into water. ABOVE RIGHT: Colt Moody enjoys one of the five inflatable water slides. Photos by Cliff Smelley.



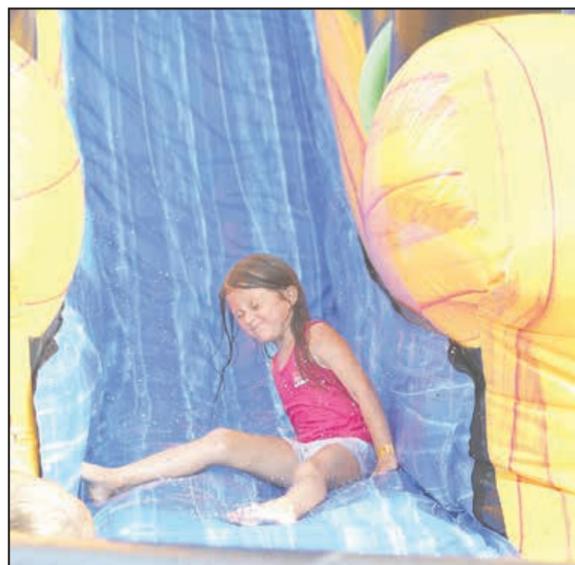
Starke Police Department treated visitors to some demonstrations that highlighted the skills of its K-9 officers. ABOVE LEFT: Michael Gillick prepares to let K-9 Officer Erin go in order to chase down a "suspect." ABOVE RIGHT: Erin grabs hold of the fleeing "suspect," portrayed by Officer David Hall.



Esmerelda Hackett enjoys a perfect activity for a hot day.



Jencie Garrison plays with a handful (and then some) of foam.



Aumbrie McNeill finds it better to go down the slide with her eyes closed, especially when a pool of water is waiting for her at the bottom.



American Legion Post 56 members presented the flags associated with each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces as each branch's song was played. Pictured (l-r) are John Crews (Army), Raymond Hunt (Navy), Dale Tenly (Air Force), Ernest Beeman (Marines) and John Snodgrass (Coast Guard).



Bryce Shortes splashes down at the bottom of a slide.



Miss Florida High School America LeeAnn Purvis sings for the crowd.

**Bradford County Telegraph**  
 USPS 062-700  
 Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Starke, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.  
**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to:  
**Bradford County Telegraph**  
 131 West Call Street • Starke, Florida 32091  
 Phone: 964-6305 • P.O. Drawer A • Starke, FL 32091  
**John Miller, Publisher**  
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 \$52.00 per year;  
 \$26.00 six months  
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 \$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 Hildebran  
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 Advertising: John R. Tillman  
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 \$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  
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# JAMES

Continued from page 11

grow into their adulthood is kind of one of the most important things," James said. "Your high-school years are pretty much your most important years as far as going into the real world. I was telling somebody the other day, if I can just be like one screw in their springboards, sending them off into the adult world to be successful, then I'll feel like I did my part."

Winning games, of course, is the goal, but James said if you put the record aside, what would make a successful season is one in which players experience growth — on the field and in the classroom. Players should improve from the start of the season to its end.

As a coach, James said it's his job to make sure the players see the improvement within themselves by having conversations with them throughout the season, perhaps saying, "You may not see it, but I'm letting you know to keep doing what you're doing. Everything will work out."

"You've got to be able to talk to the kids on the side, one on one, instead of it always being a group conversation," James said, adding, "Let them know that you do care about them and that you are paying attention."

Basically, it's all about creating a foundation that will factor into



Jiwan James (left) and Blake Agner watch an at-bat from third base during a game this past season, which was James' second year as an assistant coach at UCHS. File photo by Cliff Smelley.

the number of wins and losses. record will take care of itself," "If we do everything right, the James said.

# Patriotism on wheels at Starke Splash Bash



Florida State Prison had the winning entry in the golf cart/side-by-side parade. Pictured are: (front, l-r) Ciara Johnson, Julie Bieghley, (inside the vehicle, l-r) Arizona Johnson, Rylin Johnson, (back, l-r) Logan Smith, Braxton Smith and Nolan Bieghley. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

# FWC to meet in Jacksonville

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will meet in person July 13-14 at the Adam W. Herbert University Center (12000 Alumni Drive) in Jacksonville. Meetings begin at 8:30 a.m. each day and are open

to the public.

FWC is committed to providing opportunity for public input. There are several opportunities prior to the meetings to provide comments. Also, time is allotted for public speakers.

Additionally, at the end of the second day, the commission will provide time for public comment on subjects not on the agenda. Those people who wish to offer comments during this period will be asked to ensure their comments are not related to any agenda item. The deadline for registration to speak on items not on the agenda is 9:30 a.m. on July 14.

Public speaking is organized using a speaker registration process and time limits. To accommodate as much input as possible from those attending, the chairman reserves the right to designate the amount of time given to each topic and speaker.

For the full agenda and links to background reports, visit MyFWC.com/Commission and select "Commission Meetings."

Those who can't attend can follow coverage at Twitter.com/MyFWC (@MyFWC) and sign up for news updates at MyFWC.com.

Check the Florida Channel for possible live coverage at TheFloridaChannel.org.

The second-place entry in the golf cart/side-by-side parade. Pictured in the vehicle are (l-r) Dottie Hansen and Jaelynn Jackson, while on the back are (l-r) Jejetta Lee and Blake McGriff.



Pictured by the third-place vehicle in the golf cart/side-by-side parade are (l-r) Amanda Whitehead (holding Olivia Whitehead), David Hall, Lisa Hall and Karen Hall.



More than 60 golf carts and side-by-sides took part in the parade that kicked off the Splash Bash.



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