

# Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, Sept. 28, 2023

145th year, 10th Issue — \$1

## Bradford approves new assessment study

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Bradford County commissioners are calling upon its former consultant to look at new returning revenue streams.

County Manager Scott Kornegay previously said he had reached out to the Bryant Miller Olive law firm to explore reengagement. Kornegay presented the terms of the agreement, which commissioners approved at their Sept. 21 meeting.

Bryant Miller Olive will undertake two projects. The first is the development and implementation of a new special assessment to fund firefighting services. The firm will also update the county's impact fee schedule since fees haven't been collected since 2009 when the commission declared a moratorium after the housing market crashed.

While the law firm will provide the legal expertise, it will work

with consulting firm Stantec for the methodology, i.e. the calculations to determine the amount of the fees.

It will eventually be up to the commission to decide what fees to adopt and at what level based on the consultant's reports. This includes the number of impact fee categories to collect — roads, law enforcement, fire, etc.

Special assessments, such as the solid waste special assessment that was just raised from \$75 to \$125 for most property owners, are assessed to fund specific services. Impact fees are charged to new development, so a contractor building homes in the county would typically build them into the cost for the buyer. They are used to offset the additional infrastructural costs resulting from growth.

With the fire assessment study, the consultant will obtain and analyze historic call data, parcel data, prior public safety budgets and proposed

budget information, then develop apportionment methodologies for allocating the costs of fire protection among parcels in the county.

For the impact fee study, the consultant will update the methodologies previously used to calculate impact fees.

The cost of legal and consultant fees for the special assessment should not exceed \$60,000. Legal fees for the impact fee study should not exceed \$15,000, plus \$10,000 per impact fee studied, not to exceed \$60,000 for all seven categories. By undertaking both project simultaneously, the county should see some savings.

As the board prepared to vote to engage the consultant, Commissioner Danny Riddick and Chair Diane Andrews again expressed disappointment that Clay Electric had not cooperated with a proposed electric franchise fee that would have at least partially offset the need for

these other fees.

In addition to funding public safety and infrastructure costs, the goal of exploring alternative revenue sources is to lower property taxes. Commissioner Chris Dougherty said looking at other counties that have these fees in place, they are not at the same 10-mill tax rate as Bradford County.

"Whether it's a fixed income or paycheck to paycheck, or whatever you want to call it, that makes it very difficult. But at the same time, if we don't do the things that we need to do now, we're going to continue to be that county," he said.

If Bradford County does grow and becomes the haven for people that some want it to be, it is going to cost the county that much more to take care of everyone, Dougherty said.

The commission was unanimous in hiring Bryant Miller Olive.



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## WORTH NOTING

### DAR chapter meets Oct. 2

The Col. Samuel Elbert Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, will meet Monday, Oct. 2, at 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall of Keystone United Methodist Church (4004 S.R. 21).

Light refreshments will be available.

Do you have a Revolutionary War-era patriot in your family tree? If you would like to find out, DAR can help with its genealogical resources. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove direct descent from a person who aided in achieving American independence between April 19, 1775, and Nov. 26, 1783, is eligible for membership. Please contact Tara Hildebran at 904-964-2352 for more information.

### Conservation board meeting Oct. 3

#### Vacant supervisor position

The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District will meet at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 3, at the Bradford County Extension Office.

The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District has a vacant supervisor position. If you vote in county commission Districts 3 or 4, are involved with agriculture and would like to serve as a volunteer supervisor, contact Paul Still at 904-368-0291 or email stillpe@aol.com for more information.

### Come out and dance on Sept. 30

This year, the annual Lakes Area Community Dance will be held at the Keystone Women's Club. With more room for dancing, a stage for the band, a kitchen and convenient bathrooms, more people will be able to participate. The popular rock-n-roll band, Crooked Counsel, will keep everyone moving. Drinks and snacks will be available.

Join in and dance for a cause! The address is 6747 Women's Club Drive, a couple of blocks uphill from S.R. 21 in Keystone Heights. The \$20 donation per ticket will go to the Democratic Women's Club of the Lakes Area, to provide funding for their Christmas family sponsorship and other projects. For tickets or information, text 352-240-5181.

### Service for McKnights

Join Starke Church of God by Faith at 730 Old Lawter Road on Sunday, Oct. 15, at 10 a.m. as they celebrate and appreciate Bishop James and Lady Delois McKnight for 36 years of dedicated service throughout Bradford County and beyond. Everyone is welcome.



Bradford High School's 2023 Homecoming Court! Pictured (l-r) are Chloe Anderson, Kamryn Aldridge, Dalayshia Coleman, Torin Brazell, Ajiyah Jackson, Samuel Williams, Luke Stucky, Abbigaile Moore, Nikolas Vargas and Abigail Casey. The queen and king will be crowned at Tornado Whirl Thursday night. For more on that, the parade and the game, see inside.

## Gary Cooper memorial under construction in KH

KHHS grad died in Vietnam

BY NATALIE GILSTRAP  
Special to the Monitor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — To preserve the memory of Gary Ray Cooper, a Keystone Heights High School graduate killed in the Vietnam War, a new, enhanced memorial will be built and placed at the corner of Southwest Peach Street and Highland Avenue.

A previous memorial to Cooper was erected at the former site of Keystone Heights High School's football field,

which later became a playground at the elementary school. Construction of the elementary school's new cafeteria meant the memorial had to be moved, and a reconstruction committee took the lead in designing and building the new monument.

"It's near and dear to my heart to be involved in putting it back more enhanced than what it was," said Jeff Miller, chairman of the reconstruction committee for the Gary Cooper Memorial.

Miller added that the reconstruction committee has worked closely with architect Paul Stresing, the construction team at Scorpio, and the

school board to bring this memorial to fruition.

The new memorial will consist of a four-foot-tall, three-foot-wide, six-inch-thick granite stone shaped as a keystone.

The stone will have a ceramic rendering of Cooper's football picture, his service photograph, and a proclamation from the city stating his achievements.

In addition, the committee will include the original monument's plaque, a bronze star, three Purple Hearts, and a poem on the stone.

The Scripture John 15:13 will be at the base. The monument will be

placed on a grey granite tile shaped like a hexagon, 22 feet across.

The memorial will also have floodlights, a flag, benches, and a Wall of Faces leaflet attached to the monument, providing individuals with information about Cooper.

Lastly, the committee plans to have the bricks from the original monument turned into a platform with a bronze statue placed on top.

"A tremendous amount of thought went into this," Miller said. "This didn't just happen; this is months and months of planning."

See MEMORIAL, page 4

## Union County fire station nears bidding stage

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Special to the Times

LAKE BUTLER — The long-awaited Union County Fire Station will soon be a reality as the funding for the project is in place, and some work has already been done.

The idea of placing a fire station in Providence originated about the same time as the county's special assessment for fire and rescue services. The Providence area has grown since the assessment was put in place, and with that growth, the need has increased.

The area is the farthest distance from the Lake Butler-based fire department, which does not have

some sort of station.

There are small satellite stations in Lulu, Worthington Springs, and Raiford that, while not fully equipped, can get at least some equipment to their surrounding areas more quickly to get started on a fire while the main units are en route.

The property for the new station was purchased through the efforts of then-County Commissioner Lacey Cannon and County Coordinator Jimmy Williams several years ago — located on County Road 238 near County Road 791.

### Permitting delays project

According to Union County Fire and Rescue Director Toby Witt, the property has been cleared, the site prep done, and the architecture and engineering phases of the project are complete.

The property will serve two purposes — a fire/EMS station and a lay-down yard for the road department where lime rock and other materials that can be piled outside can be stored, and equipment may be parked.

The funding for the construction of

the station is already in county coffers — \$750,000 that cannot be legally diverted elsewhere.

The hold-up has been permitting through the Suwannee River Water Management District and the Florida Department of Transportation. The water management district permit has finally been granted, while there are still a few points to be cleared up with the FDOT concerning the location of the driveways, but Witt said this should be cleared up soon and the permit secured.

See STATION, page 6



# Educator of the Month

## September 2023



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**Lake Region Monitor**

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- Brad Henry



**Small businesses are the backbone of local economies.**

# Educator of the Month

## September 2023



**We are proud to sponsor the educator of the month at *Keystone Heights Elementary!***  
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Keystone Heights, FL 32656  
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Craig Falstreux  
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852 N SR 21, Melrose, FL 32666  
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**Autumn Sellers**

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Phillip McDonald Plumbing  
740 S Orange St, Starke, FL 32091  
(904) 964-3737

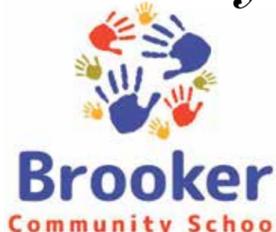
  
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**We are proud to sponsor the educator of the month at *Brooker Community School!***  
**Ashley Shelton**

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- Brad Henry



**Small businesses are the backbone of local economies.**

# Lake Region

## Community Church celebrates 100th anniversary

BY NATALIE GILSTRAP  
Special to the Monitor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – Community Church recently celebrated its 100th anniversary.

“This is a testament to God’s grace, it’s a testament to God’s faithfulness and all the people,” said Pastor Ray Peters.

Established in 1923, the church was founded by a group that first met at the Keystone School House. The small congregation formed a board of trustees with the city’s founder, J.J. Lawrence as the chairman.

In 1924, construction for the original church building began and served its purpose for 41 years until the current sanctuary was built in 1966.

In the late 1980s, the church adopted a contemporary style of worship, focusing more on the spiritual relationship with God.

“The mission of Community Church is knowing Jesus and making Him known,” Peters said. “We are a non-denominational Jesus church. It’s all about Jesus and gospel-centered. We’re all

about proclaiming Jesus and the message of grace.”

To celebrate its 100th anniversary, the church held a centennial celebration on September 10 at its Robert Morford Family Life Center.

Residents, members, and city officials such as Mayor Nina Rodenroth, City Manager Lynn Rutkowski, and City Council members Tony Brown and Steve Hart attended the event, showing their support for the church’s ongoing history.

During the celebration, Peters welcomed everyone and acknowledged the hard work of the Centennial Committee.

In addition, Lynde Jones, the chair of the Centennial Committee, spoke to the audience about the church’s humble beginnings and thanked the individuals who put the celebration together.

Key contributors such as Johnny Brooks and former church pastor Rob Morford also spoke at the event, sharing their testimonies and stories about the

congregation.

Lastly, Mayor Rodenroth announced that September 10th is Community Church Day, and the Keystone Heights Heritage Commission presented the congregation with a Heritage Commission plaque.

The celebration had almost 400 attendees enjoying the festivities, such as viewing historical photos of the church’s history and having lunch and dessert.

“I think it’s fantastic,” Rutkowski exclaimed. “What a way to bring together the community and showcase what they have done for the past 100 years.”

Now, the Centennial Committee is working toward finishing a commemorative coloring book and plans to participate in the annual holiday parade.

Lastly, the church is looking toward the future as it shepherds the next generation of youth and stays true to its vision.

“The vision is staying true to Jesus,” said Peters.



The celebration had almost 400 attendees enjoying the festivities, such as viewing historical photos of the church’s history and having lunch and dessert.

### Florida Twin Theatre

904-964-5451

### SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT SCHEDULE

<b>Thursday 9/28:</b> Haunted Mansion - 6:30 (Upstairs) The Blind - 6:30 (Downstairs)	<b>Monday 10/2:</b> Paw Patrol the Mighty Movie - 6:30 (Upstairs)
<b>Friday 9/29:</b> Paw Patrol the Mighty Movie - 7:00 (Upstairs) The Blind - 7:00 (Downstairs)	<b>Tuesday 10/3:</b> Paw Patrol the Mighty Movie - 6:30 (Upstairs)
<b>Saturday 9/30:</b> Paw Patrol the Mighty Movie - 4:00 & 7:00 (Upstairs) The Blind - 4:00 & 7:00 (Downstairs)	<b>Wednesday 10/4:</b> Paw Patrol the Mighty Movie - 6:30 (Upstairs)
<b>Sunday 10/1:</b> Paw Patrol the Mighty Movie - 4:00 & 7:00 (Upstairs) The Blind - 4:00 & 7:00 (Downstairs)	<b>Thursday 10/5:</b> The Blind - 6:30 (Downstairs)

Special Engagement 9/28-10/5 'The Blind' Long before Phil Robertson was a reality TV star, he fell in love and started a family, but his demons threatened to tear their lives apart. This is the true story that started a dynasty, a duck dynasty.

www.FloridaTwinTheatre.com

## Clay County gun range opening to the public in October

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – A Clay County Sheriff’s Office official said the agency’s new gun range between Camp Blanding and Middleburg is now open to deputies and will soon be available to the public.

Gun Range Manager Michael Davidson said that beginning in October, the public may use the facility on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

“Law enforcement will have it Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays,” he said.

Davidson said a ribbon cutting is scheduled for Sept. 29, followed by an open house on Sept. 30.

“We won’t be shooting that day, but have people come and look at the facility (and) see if we can get some members signed up.”

The manager said the facility offers yearly memberships to Clay County residents and nonresidents in addition to daily use fees.

However, any sworn law enforcement officer may use the range free of charge.

## Santa Fe College features Melrose artist

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—The Santa Fe College Art Gallery is displaying the works of Melrose-based artist Chris Teasley through Oct. 27.

The college said that Teasley, originally from Kansas City, Missouri, creates non-objective works through a unique process combining traditional painting techniques with air-blown pigments.

Teasley said that in his past works, the air-blown images were the primary focus of the paintings, typically supported by solid color fields as constructs to display the images.

“My current work reflects further refinement of technique

in an effort to both inform the basic composition and provide a monochromatic underpainting,” Teasley told the college. “This allows me to make many more painterly decisions regarding color, tone, and texture, and in some cases, to directly quote the historic while preserving non-objectivity.”

## Bradford unemployment continues to inch up

Clay’s rate holds, Union’s drops

Bradford County’s unemployment rate climbed in August from July’s 3.2% to 3.3%, marking the third month over the last four that the county’s rate has increased by 0.1%.

According to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, 359 people were unemployed in Bradford at the end of July. That number rose to 374 the following month.

The county’s labor force increased by 110 during August, bringing the total number of people employed or looking for work to 11,463.

Florida DEO said the statewide rate remained at 2.7% in August, unchanged since the previous month and the same rate as August 2022. The U.S. unemployment rate at the end of August was 3.8%.

Miami-Dade had the state’s lowest unemployment rate at 1.9%, followed by Monroe County at 2.0% and Okaloosa

County at 2.7%. St. Johns and Bay Counties were both at 2.8%.

Hendry County had the highest unemployment rate of 6.3%, followed by Hamilton at 5.1%, Citrus at 4.4%, and Hardee at 4.9%. Highlands and Citrus Counties were both at 4.85%.

Clay County’s rate remained at 3.0% in August, unchanged from the previous month and up from 2.8% since August 2022.

Union County’s unemployment rate dropped from 3.3% in July to 3.2% in August. In August 2022, Union had a jobless rate of 3.1%

## Huge Kingsley Lake community yard sale Oct. 14

Buyers won’t want to miss the opportunity to check out the multiple sale sites up and down the streets within the Kingsley Lake community, along Kingsley Lake Drive, at the Civic Center (6110 Kingsley Lake Drive) and in The Cove.

The sale runs from 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 14, and is sponsored by Kingsley Lake Property Owners Association. There will be a wide variety of items for sale including holiday decorations, yard and power tools, books, CDs, DVDs, clothes, costume jewelry, handbags, and new and slightly used gift items. Come do your Christmas shopping.

Sellers still wishing to reserve a spot should email klpoflorida@yahoo.com ASAP.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Bradford County Value Adjustment Board, in compliance with § 196.194, Fla. Stat., will conduct hearings in the County Commission Chambers located in the North Annex of the Courthouse at 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida, to hear objections to the valuation placed on real estate and tangible personal property, on the following date:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2023  
Beginning at 9:45 a.m.

Separate lists of applicants for exemption that have been wholly or partially approved by the Property Appraiser and of applicants for exemptions that have been denied by the Property Appraiser are maintained for public viewing in the Property Appraiser’s Office, located in Suite A in the south annex of the Bradford County Courthouse, 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you have any questions, please call the Property Appraiser’s Office at (904) 966-6216. The lists may include applicants for the following exemptions or classifications:

- Homestead-all categories
- Certain Permanently & Totally Disabled Veterans
- VA Partial Disability exemption
- VA Discount exemption
- Licensed Child Care Facility in Enterprise Zone
- Totally & Permanently Disabled persons
- Tangible Personal Property exemption
- Exemption for Nonprofit home for aged
- Affordable Housing property exemption
- Government property exemption
- Economic development ad valorem tax exemption
- Exemption for Historic properties
- Widow exemption
- Widower exemption
- Property of persons Totally & Permanently Disabled
- Charitable, religious, scientific or literary uses exemption

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Fla. Stat. §286.26, persons needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact Rachel Rhoden, VAB Clerk, P.O. Drawer B, Starke, Florida, at least 24 hours prior to the proceeding. Telephone: 904-368-3917. Any person desiring to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at these hearings will need a record of the proceedings. For such purpose, said person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based, F.S. 286.0105.

Denny Thompson, Clerk of the Circuit Court  
As Clerk of the Value Adjustment Board

## MEMORIAL Continued from page 1

Construction for the new memorial has started, and the committee plans to have it completed on Veteran’s Day.

In addition, the committee will be hosting a rededication ceremony on the Friday after Thanksgiving. It will consist of AMVETS Post 86 conducting a color guard ceremony and playing taps.

The committee also plans to have American Legion members, county commissioners, school board members, and the Scorpio construction team attend the rededication.

Lastly, Keystone Heights Elementary Principal Beth Turbeville will present a learning opportunity for the students on Veteran’s Day at the new



Gary Ray Cooper memorial.

## Gave 110%

Gary Ray Cooper was born on July 23, 1947, and died on

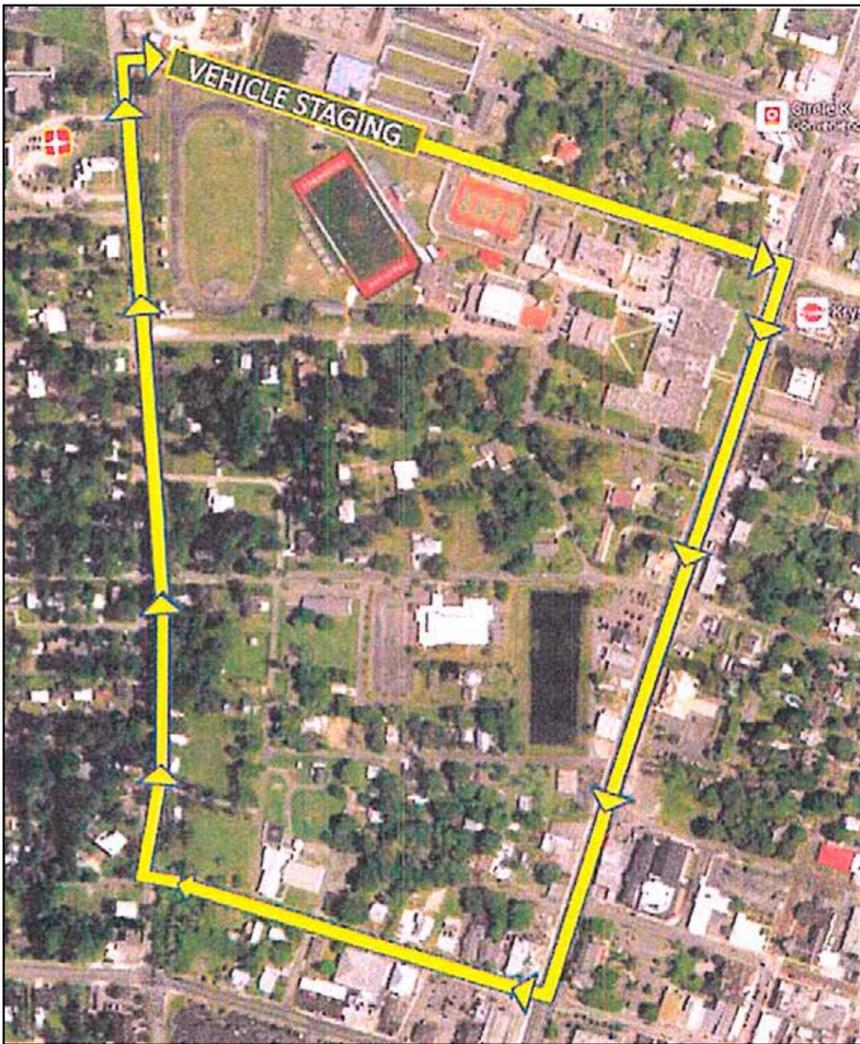
November 8, 1968, while serving his country in Vietnam.

At Keystone Heights High School, Cooper was chosen for All-area and All-conference teams in basketball. He was also selected for football All-conference teams for two years.

Cooper was the class president, K-Club president, and on the student council. He was also voted Best Personality for the Class of 1967.

As a soldier, he was known to be outstandingly brave and was awarded 3 Purple Heart medals. Other accomplishments include being awarded the Bronze Star for Bravery in Combat, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Expert Marksman Medal, and the Vietnam Service Medal.

“He was just a fella who gave 110% while he was here, and he gave the ultimate sacrifice when he went to Vietnam,” said Miller.



## Tornado Whirl tonight! Parade tomorrow!

Bradford High School's Homecoming Parade will take place Friday, Sept. 29, at 1 p.m. Parade line-up and staging will be on Washington Street, and the parade will proceed south on Temple Avenue (U.S. 301) to Call Street. The parade will turn right onto Call Street and right

again at Orange Street to go back to Washington Street. Tornado Whirl will take place Thursday, Sept. 28, at 7 p.m. Entry is \$6 for everyone. The Homecoming game against Keystone Heights will begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday night, Sept. 29. It is a whiteout, and

all fans are encouraged to wear white. The high school has T-shirts on sale (<https://tinyurl.com/WhiteoutTShirts>). Endzone bleachers at the game are being reserved for any class reunion groups who attend.



James Hudgens



Devon McBride



Brett Redding

## Bradford High School celebrates students awarded with academic honors

*Awards recognize high-performing students and help them stand out to colleges*

Students at Bradford High School earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs. These programs celebrate students' hard work in high school and showcase their strong academic performance.

The academic honors for rural area, Black, Indigenous, and/or Latino students are an opportunity for students to share their strong academic achievements with colleges and scholarship programs that are seeking to recruit diverse talent.

The following students received the academic honor: Brett Redding - National Rural and Small Town Award; Devon McBride - National African American Recognition; James Hudgens - National

Rural and Small Town Award. McKaylah Mullen - National Rural and Small Town Award (not pictured).

"We're thrilled to celebrate our students and recognize them for the great work they've been doing. We're proud of their strong academic performance in the classroom and on College Board assessments like the PSAT/NMSQT, PSAT 10, and AP exams," said BHS Principal Christopher Coffey. "There's so much that makes our students unique, and receiving this honor reinforces this as an asset for their future."

The criteria for eligible students include:

- GPA of 3.5 or higher.
- PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10 assessment scores that are within the top 10% of assessment takers in each state for each award program, or earned a score of 3 or higher on two or more AP exams in ninth and 10th grade.

— Attend school in a rural area or small town, or identify as African American/Black, Hispanic American/Latino, or

Indigenous/Native. Eligible students are invited to apply on BigFuture during their sophomore or junior year and are awarded at the start of the next school year in time to share their achievements in high school as they plan for the future. At the same time, colleges and organizations using College Board's Student Search Service can connect directly with awardees during the recruitment process.

"It's becoming increasingly hard for students to be 'seen' during the college recruitment process. We're exceptionally proud of the National Recognition Programs for celebrating students who are at times overlooked but have shown their outstanding academic abilities," said Tarlin Ray, senior vice president of BigFuture at College Board. "This is a benefit not only for students but also for colleges and universities committed to recruiting diverse and talented students."

## Dumping decals will be required at collection sites

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

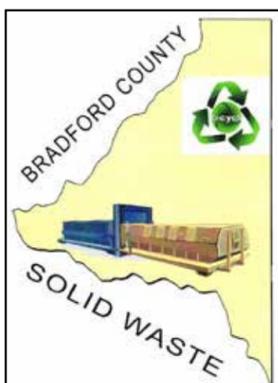
STARKE — Window decals will once again be used at Bradford County's solid waste collection sites to verify residency.

County commissioners approved the plan Sept. 21. County Manager Scott Kornegay said when the solid waste special assessment was recently increased, commissioners received complaints about nonresidents using the county's solid waste collection sites.

Speaking with the directors public works and solid waste, Jason Dodds and Bennie Jackson, they decided window decals would be an effective way for those using the sites to prove their residency.

Once the decals are ready, residents will have two ways to obtain them.

The first is through the tax collector's office when residents go in to pay their tax bills, which



The 2-inch decals will be available through the tax collector's office as well as at solid waste collection sites.

include the annual solid waste assessment.

Residents will also be able to receive decals at the solid waste collection sites by presenting a copy of their tax assessment. (This option won't be available to

those who rent as site attendants aren't familiar with all street addresses and cannot assist those without a tax assessment.)

Kornegay said the process was in place some years ago, but it was discontinued. Commissioner Danny Riddick said he has been "hit hard" by the complaints since the collection site in his district on State Road 100 at County Road 21B is frequently used by individuals who live outside of the county.

"I get a lot of calls on that, people complaining that they go and they see people from Clay County or wherever dumping in there," he said.

The commission unanimously approved the plan.

The county is working with Showcase Advertising to obtain 15,000 decals for \$4,195.

In other business: —the commission moved its Nov. 16 meeting to Nov. 28 at 6:30 p.m. because of the Florida Association of Counties annual conference.

## Bradford looking elsewhere for planning services

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — A year after the commission had a similar conversation, Dougherty said he doesn't believe the county is getting all it pays for from the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

Each year the county renews its agreement with the council for comprehensive planning services related to land use and future planning. The request from Executive Director Scott Koons for \$23,500 to cover these services arrived like clockwork.

According to Dougherty, the work isn't as timely, and people have been left waiting.

"As we continue to move forward with them, it just seems like the service drops off," he said. This is corrected when the commission discusses other options, he said, but only

temporarily. The planning council's work includes:

- general technical assistance: conducting research, answering questions and assisting with comprehensive plan and land development regulations interpretations.
- amendment assistance: preparing public notices, drafting ordinances, data, and analysis and concurrency review for text and map and amendments to the comprehensive plan and land development regulations.

In addition to the regular future land use and zoning changes, the planning council has recently been involved in discussions to revamp the permit requirements for mining and borrow pits in Bradford County.

Commissioner Carolyn Spooner said the county has been long served by the North Central Florida Regional Planning

Council, as have many other counties and municipalities. She said the council has delivered on its obligations, and if not, should be given a chance to make amends, saying Koons is surrounded by some of the best planners around.

Dougherty said the planning council office is not staffed, which he knows because he's at the office next door.

"I think Mr. Koons is probably working as hard as he can. I just don't think he has the staff. And like you said, with all these other municipalities and counties, I think you could probably find out that some of them are dropping off too because of lack of service," he said.

It was the consensus of most board members that County Manager Scott Kornegay begin looking for alternative planning services.

## Highway dedicated to Gianas

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Bradford County commissioners approved a joint resolution with the Starke City Commission to dedicate State Road 230 (Call Street) to the memory of Dr. Peter J. Gianas.

"We wanted to work with the city on this and it be a joint effort because he meant so much to our county, the city and so many people in the county, in the city and also a lot of counties around us," Commissioner Chris Dougherty said.

Among them, he listed Clay, Union, Alachua, Levy and Gilchrist counties.

Dougherty said they had also worked with Clay County on dedicating the portion of S.R. 230 across the county line. Signage is already up in Clay County, and he said the signage in Bradford County will be placed in front of the hospital where Gianas worked.

"I can't think of anywhere more appropriate," Dougherty said.

State Road 230 was also chosen because Gianas lived on Kingsley Lake.

August marked two years since Dr. Gianas passed away at the age of 65, leaving the community with innumerable memories of his lifetime of service, care and leadership.

Gianas opened his private practice in Starke and began work with Shands hospital in 1983 after attending medical school at John Hopkins University and George Washington University. His career included serving as medical director for Alachua County Fire Rescue, Bradford County EMS, Bradford County Fire Rescue, Clay County Fire Rescue, Union County EMS, Gilchrist County Fire Rescue, Starke Fire Rescue, Santa Fe Community College EMS Programs and the Florida Gateway EMS Training Programs. He served on the Area Health Care Center board of directors and the International Trauma Life Support board of directors.

Gianas worked with ITLS for more than 20 years, including serving as medical director of the Florida chapter. Among

his accolades was winning the ITLS Jackie Campbell Award, the organization's highest honor. The global nonprofit works to prevent death and disability through education and emergency care.

Earlier this year, Gianas was posthumously awarded the Wendell N. Rollason Award by the Florida Rural Health Association. The award is presented to individuals who

have provided an enduring contribution to rural health care.

In other business: —the commission set a reserve price of \$250,000 for the old Pizza Hut property (appraised at \$200,000) and authorized advertising it on a government surplus website.

The commission is also selling an old welding shop in Brooker. The reserve price was set at \$81,000.

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# UNION COUNTY

## Double duty for Lake Butler city commissioners

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Special to the Times

LAKE BUTLER—The Lake Butler City Commission did double duty last week with two meetings on their to-do list. First, they held their regular meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 19. Then, on Thursday, Sept. 21, the final budget public hearing was held.

### Middle schoolers want Chick-Fil-A

At their first meeting of the week, commissioners were treated to a presentation from the Lake Butler Middle School sixth-grade gifted student class members, accompanied by their teacher, Alexa Menz. Six young people read their suggestions to the commissioners concerning things they wanted to see that would improve Lake Butler. The kids had been learning about what it takes to run a municipality and decided to try to improve the community. Their suggestions were interesting and included more restaurants (including Fire House Subs and Chick-fil-A), a mini-mall, more fire hydrants and fire stations, a public pool, and a community garden. Commissioners listened politely, told the students they would consider their suggestions, and thanked them for attending the meeting.

Mayor David Stegall reported that the new public works director interviews had been completed and provided commissioners with his recommendations. The financial report passed on a motion from Commissioner Annette Redman 4-0, with Commissioner Fred Sirmones absent from the meeting. Vice-Mayor Melissa Hendrix requested one change to the consent agenda – asking that the proceeds from the sale of the animal control vehicle be put into a restricted fund to gather interest and questioned whether or not the vehicle could be sold



Teacher Alexa Menz brought members of her sixth grade gifted students class from BMS to meet the Lake Butler City Commissioners and present their ideas for improvements they would like to see in the city. Pictured are: (l-r) Carter Fitzpatrick, Skye Leon, Emmy Vaughn, Ashlyn Ferris and Brantley Moore. (in back) Alexa Menz. Not pictured: Miles Anderson Davis.

because she believed that it had been a gift from Alachua County. With the requested change, the consent agenda was approved 4-0 on a motion from Hendrix, pending the determination that the city could sell the vehicle.

### Agent moving out of depot building

The commission heard comments from local insurance agent Debbie Thomas, whose lease on the depot building has not been renewed. The building will be returned to its designated purpose as a public space.

Thomas, who had located her insurance office there, had questions about the return of rent paid in advance and her security deposit – she was assured all monies due her would be returned.

She also told commissioners

that her 30-day notice letter had arrived a week late. So, she only had until Sept. 30 to move her office (three weeks instead of the intended four) and asked the commission to grant her an additional week to allow her to complete her move. The week extension was granted as an administrative matter with no motion needed.

Thomas said she had, so far, been unable to find a new place for her business and, as such, would be putting everything into storage until she finds a new location, causing problems with her customers who come into the office to get insurance, make changes and make payments.

### Request for speed bumps

Commissioners heard a request from residents of Northeast

Ninth Avenue for speed bumps to slow traffic on the residential road. They said there were speed bumps on the road at one time, but they disappeared when the road was repaved.

City Attorney John Maines noted that he believed the road had been repaved by the Florida Department of Transportation, which will not authorize speed bumps. He said if the city wanted to install them, then the disappearance could be looked into. Hendrix said she would get with County Commissioner Ryan Perez concerning the matter, and the issue was tabled until next month on a motion from Hendrix.

The board also agreed to a proclamation naming October 2023 National Pharmacist's Month in the city, made by Lake Butler Hospital Pharmacist Bill Garst. The proclamation was

read, and the observance was approved 4-0.

### Public works director selected, mother angry

The last item to be considered was hiring a new public works director. Stegall had selected the three top candidates from his interviews – Cal Stewart (current city employee and current assistant director), Matthew Kelley (current city employee), and Mark Myers. Stegall's selection was Stewart, Redman selected Myers, with Stewart as her second choice, Commissioner Rondoll Huggins followed Stegall's recommendation and selected Kelly as did Hendrix. The board selected Stewart 3 to 1, with Redman dissenting. As soon as the vote was final, Stewart's mother left the meeting rapidly, calling the commissioner a derogatory name.

### Stegall interested in city manager's job

Maines spoke to the commission about the possibility of a commissioner permanently taking the city manager position.

According to the city charter, Maines said there is a prohibition against it in the form of an ordinance and that he would need to send a letter to the State Ethics Commission for judgment. He asked if any commissioner was interested and was answered in the affirmative by Stegall. Hendrix asked Maines to proceed with the letter.

### Millage, budget passed

At the Sept. 21 meeting, the board voted 5-0 to approve the 2023-24 fiscal year budget by resolution. The millage rate was

also approved 5-0 by resolution to be 3.25 mills (25.17% more than the rollback rate of 2.5964).

Former City Manager Dave Mecusker had been brought in as a budget consultant after the departure of Interim City Manager Richard Tillis and had tailored Tillis' austere budget to meet the requests of the board at a previous budget meeting, moving funds to cover needs the commission considered important that Tillis had not included.

Various revenue and funding sources were adjusted to include the pay of the city manager, finance director, public works director and implementing minimum wage adjustments to employee's salaries to \$14 per hour in compliance with Federal guidelines, removing a vacant position from funding and removing an across-the-board employee raise to be revisited later as the year progresses. These changes enabled the budget to allow for expected auditing, legal fees, and equipment funding to purchase lawnmowers, vans, and other operational equipment.

The final budget documents show total revenues of \$2,755,867 and are balanced with the expected expenditures totaling the same amount. Most of these funds are budgeted for operations costs of the general fund, the water fund, the solid waste fund, the wastewater fund, the downtown redevelopment fund, and the street reserve fund.

The city is financially on a very tight leash, and it may be a few years before these changes. Commissioners all state that they are willing to see to the belt-tightening and work within the limits of this and future budgets.

### School board reps hold meeting in Lake Butler

LAKE BUTLER—Members of the Crown Region of the Florida School Boards Association held a meeting in Lake Butler on Sept. 6. School board members from Duval, Baker, Bradford, St. Johns, Clay, Marion, and Citrus counties discussed best practices and exchanged ideas on how to run their boards more effectively.

Union County's Becky Raulerson said she was surprised by the wide variance in how North Florida boards conduct workshops: informational meetings in which boards may

not take any official action.

"Some of the other board members from the other districts basically asked us, do you have workshops in your district?" Raulerson recalled. "And some of them didn't. And then some of them had very extensive workshops, like full-day workshops once a month."

Mary Bolla of Clay County Public Schools said she left the meeting with the idea of a more structured, periodic review of district policies.

"We're supposed to review them every year annually," Bolla told her colleagues during their September board meeting. "We all know that we don't do that as effectively as we should, and I'm hoping maybe at the next workshop that we can talk about setting a schedule for policy review."



School board members from Duval, Baker, Bradford, St. Johns, Clay, Marion, and Citrus counties gathered in Lake Butler on Sept. 6 to network, exchange ideas and hone their communications skills. Photo: Becky Raulerson

### 'Oktober Fest' has music, food and more

Concerned Citizens for Bradford County will be hosting its annual "Oktober Fest" on Saturday, Oct. 21, from 3 p.m. – until at the RJE ballfield on Old Lawley Road in Starke. There will be a DJ, softball games, food trucks and vendors, arts and crafts booths, information booths, gospel singing and a DJ to close the event. To inquire about the booth and vendor truck space, please contact Alica McMillian at 904-966-1100, Glenda Ruise at 904-769-1691 or Carnell Williams at 904-769-9129.

### STATION Continued from page 1

"The building is designed, the plans drawn, and the project is ready to be put out for bid as soon as the FDOT permit comes in," Witt said.

### Manned 24/7

Once a call for bids is advertised, the bidding process will take 30 days, meaning the construction project could begin in two months.

"We may be done by the end of the first quarter of next year, allowing for the usual holidays and the delays often associated with them," Witt said.

Union County Fire and Rescue

is ready to set up shop as soon as the building is complete. Witt reports that the services have enough staff, all that the departments can afford, and all of the equipment is ready to go.

The building will be a three-bay facility, housing two fire trucks and a rescue unit. It will contain complete living quarters for personnel and will be manned 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"Getting ready for something like this takes time," Witt said. "It is not like pre-COVID times. For example, if a new ambulance or fire truck is ordered today, it will be 24 months until delivery. Shortages in labor and the supply chain of materials are much different in the post-COVID world. The construction industry is also suffering from the cost of labor and materials, and those materials have very fluid prices,

sometimes changing from day to day."

### Providence response time improved

"This station will decrease our response time to Providence greatly," Witt continued. "The station and equipment will be state-of-the-art. It will be a long time before we get anything like

this again."

County Coordinator Jimmy Williams agreed, adding, "We are ready for this much-needed station to be open and, rest assured, we have the staff and equipment to serve it and another one in the future should we be able to get the funding to build one."



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# Culinary program prepares students for fast-growing industry

BY TRACY LEE TATE  
Special to the Times

LAKE BUTLER — Union County High School has a delicious offering among their career and technical education programs — Culinary Arts, taught by Lori Howard.

The three-year program is open to all grade levels, with the three levels taken in order. All three levels are taught as 53-minute classes, with much hands-on experience.

Level 1 focuses on food-borne illnesses and their prevention as well as kitchen safety. Level 2 involves more actual cooking as students learn about knife skills and making stocks and sauces. Level 3 covers presentation, putting meals together, and serving.

Students get to select many of the recipes they prepare and work together to produce them.

Upon completion, students will have the opportunity to take their certification test for ServSafe, which allows them to enter into a position in the food service industry, including some grocery stores.

Like all of the CTE programs, students learn life and career skills, giving them the basis to continue to learn throughout their lives.



UCHS Culinary Arts instructor Lori Howard

“The food industry hires many entry-level workers, which can provide students who need to go to work immediately after graduation or need a job while in college,” Howard said. “What they are learning is a life skill and a potential way to earn a living.”

Howard has been teaching for more than 20 years in career and technical education, health science and, family and consumer science, what used to be called Home Economics, and is now in the culinary program. She is a certified teacher and an RN and

has operated her own cottage industry business, making and decorating cakes at home.

She has completed the Escoffier Institute for Educators, a continuing education program made up of a series of modules concerning culinary arts. This is the first year teaching Culinary Arts 3, so she is now working with students she has taught throughout the program, some of whom will graduate in the spring.

“I really enjoy working with young people,” Howard said. “I would like to see this program develop and grow and hope to attract more students through the years.”

When not working with her students, Howard said she enjoys cooking, spending time with her grandchildren, two plus one on the way, working in the yard, and spending time at home. She said she looks forward to working with more young people in the program.

On the day of the interview for this story, Howard’s third-year class was preparing a special thank-you breakfast for the custodial staff at the high school. Served at a set table were breakfast casserole, orange muffins and sweet tea.



Culinary Arts student Aubrie Muse setting the table for the breakfast to thank the UCHS custodial staff.



Annemarie Smith creating orange peel rosettes as a garnish for the breakfast.



Jamari Young grates orange zest while Morgan Rogers mixes the glaze for the breakfast cupcakes.



Superintendent Mike Ripplinger with Nancy Griffis.



Superintendent Mike Ripplinger with Emma Fulton.

## School district thanks volunteers

LAKE BUTLER— Superintendent Mike Ripplinger recognized a student and an adult for outstanding volunteer service to Union County Schools during the 2022-2023 school year.

Nancy Griffins and Emma Fulton won the Florida

Department of Education’s Volunteer of the Year Award.

Ripplinger said Griffis is a retired teacher who continues to contribute to the well-being of students through the Rotary’s high school Interact Club.

“They do a variety of things with Farm Share, with putting out flags at the cemeteries and also, as we all know, with the putting out of the crosses and the flags each year at Veteran’s

Day and also Memorial Day,” the superintendent said.

Ripplinger said Fulton assists with health screenings at the elementary school in addition to her work with her school band.

“Volunteer roles are extremely important,” school board chair Becky Raulerson told the award recipients. “We couldn’t do everything we do in our district without volunteers, so thank you very much.”

## Lake Butler proposes 17% tax increase

LAKE BUTLER—Lake Butler City Commissioners approved the first reading of its 2023-2024 millage rate and budget after a public hearing on Thursday, Sept. 14.

Commissioners passed a millage rate of 3.25 mills, 17% higher than the rollback rate of 2.9564 mills. The rollback rate is the millage that would bring in the same revenue to the city as the previous year.

The panel also approved the first reading of Lake Butler’s 2023-2024 budget without comment. No members of the public spoke during the hearings on the tax rate or the budget.

A second and final public hearing and vote will be held to finalize the revenue and spending plans.

money or receive your personal information, ‘to post bond’, etc. from you to take your money.”

The agency added that many calls have been traced to overseas locations. Previous attempts to defraud Union County residents included scammers impersonating Social Security and Internal Revenue Service employees.

## Democratic Women meet Sept. 28

The Democratic Women’s Club of the Lakes Area’s regular monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, Sept. 28. All Democrats are welcome, and doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the program begins at 7 p.m. The group meets at the Melrose Historic Homemakers

Club, 25728 Park St. For further information, please contact 352-235-4161 or Info@dwc-la.org.

## LB VFW hosts bingo

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

## 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. Virtual options by computer and phone are also available.

Pre-registration is required. Call 866-341-2730 to reserve your spot.

## Summit will deepen your prayer life

Have you ever felt like there was something lacking in your prayer life? You want to go deeper with God and draw closer to Him but just aren’t quite sure how to do it. Even the disciples had those same feelings because twice they asked Jesus “Teach us to pray!”

You are invited to New River Baptist Church for a Prayer Summit to be held Oct. 11–13. It will be five sessions of prayer and worship with only one agenda: to seek the face of God. All you need to bring is your Bible and a heart bent towards hearing from God.

Sandy Robertson from the 6:4 Fellowship and Strategic Renewal will lead the Prayer Summit. The first session will be

Wednesday evening from 7–8:30 p.m. on Oct. 11, followed by three sessions on Thursday Oct. 12: morning from 9 a.m.–noon with lunch provided; afternoon from 1–4 p.m.; and dinner at 5 p.m. before the evening session from 6:30–8:30 p.m. The final Friday morning will be 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

If you desire to change your

prayer life, come experience Scripture-fed, Spirit-led, Worship-based prayer.

New River Baptist Church is located at 16703 SW 144th Ave. in Brooker. The church is online at [www.newriverbaptistbrooker.com](http://www.newriverbaptistbrooker.com). You can text Pastor Terry at 904-796-2359 with your name and the words “prayer summit” to register for this free event.

**“Autumn”**

*Tis autumn time of the year again,  
When animals begin tuckin’ in  
The nuts and seeds nature did provide  
They put them in the trees to hide  
The green leaves have a touch of gold  
They’ll soon be darkened by the cold  
The touch of frost is very near  
But it’s still a good time of the year.*

— Henry Hodges  
Lawtey, FL

## Scammers impersonate law enforcement officials

LAKE BUTLER—The Union County Sheriff’s Office said scammers are calling residents claiming to be working for the sheriff’s office and demanding money for alleged missed court dates or jury duty.

“These scam calls even spoof our phone number to make it look more realistic,” the office said in a social media post. “They will try to convince you to obtain a pre-paid credit card, gift card, digital currency, transferring

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# Crime

## Recent arrests in Bradford, Union and Clay

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

### Bradford

Clint Felton Andrews, 32, of Raiford was arrested by Bradford deputies on September 22 for failure to appear.

Faith Renay Choung, 35, of Ocala was arrested by Bradford deputies on September 16 for vehicle theft.

Laura Brittany Cornwell, 38, of Macclenny was arrested by Bradford deputies on September 19 for a probation violation.

Erika Whitney Culverson, 37, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on September 19 for an out-of-county warrant.

Terrence Deron Demps, 33, of Winter Garden was arrested on September 16 for possession of marijuana, destroying evidence, possession of a weapon by a convicted felon, and an out-of-county warrant.

Kassie Leighana Gilliam, 33, of Starke was arrested on September 22 for child neglect.

William Joseph Hallam, 42, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on September 22 for reckless driving, attaching a tag not assigned, driving with a suspended or revoked license, and driving an unregistered vehicle.

Mitchell Harrison, 35, of Jacksonville was arrested by Bradford deputies on September 20 for failure to appear.

Heather Lyn Lambert, 23, of Jacksonville was arrested by Lawtey police on September 17 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Shane Patrick Mroz, 30, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on September 16 for battery, aggravated battery, and a probation violation.

Emmett Favian Paige, 25, of Sanderson was arrested on September 20 for a probation violation.

Gari Aliana Perry, 34, of Starke was arrested by Bradford deputies on September 17 for DUI and resisting an officer.

John William Phillips, 30, of Starke was arrested on September 20 for failure to appear.

Meighan Kristine Rosier, 42, of Macclenny was arrested on September 16 for an out-of-county warrant.

Allen David Schmitt, 33, of Starke was arrested on September 22 for possession of a weapon by a convicted felon and battery.

Charles Jerome Sowell, 54, of Jasper was arrested by Bradford deputies on September 19 for a probation violation.

### Union

Kenneth B. Kratochvil, 35, of Dexter, Georgia was arrested by Union deputies on September 18 for failure to appear.

Willie Michael Hill, 62, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on September 18 for failure to appear.

Brian Alfonso Cummings, 42, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on September 20 for battery.

Reginald Terrell Nelson, 45, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on September 23 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

### Clay

Michael Zachary Wright, 36, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on September 16 for child abuse without great bodily harm.

Mickie Ilene Brantley, 51, of Keystone Heights was arrested by Clay deputies on September 19 for simple domestic battery.

Marissa Lee Eaton, 25, of Melrose was arrested by Clay deputies on September 21 for possession of methamphetamine.



Crawford

## 13 months for drugs, driving

A 49-year-old Starke woman was sentenced to 13 months in prison after pleading to drug and driver's license charges.

Shandah Michelle Crawford pleaded to possessing a controlled substance without a prescription, using or possessing drug paraphernalia, and driving with a suspended or revoked license.

According to an arrest report, two Bradford Sheriff's Office detectives saw Crawford's vehicle leave a residence known to be frequented by drug users in the Sampson City area. They conducted a traffic stop after noting that the driver of the car was not wearing a seat belt. Crawford consented to a search of the vehicle, and the pair found a bottle containing an orange pill cut into four pieces. The pill segments tested positive for suboxone.

Detective Michael Garmon wrote in the report that Crawford's driver's license had been suspended and that she had been found guilty of driving with a suspended or revoked license six previous times.

The defendant also has previous convictions of possession of cocaine, giving a false ID to a law enforcement officer and additional drug convictions.



Gignac

## Claimed entrapment by law enforcement source

STARKE — A McIntosh man who claimed he was entrapped by a law enforcement source was sentenced to two years in prison followed by two years of community control probation after he pleaded to selling methamphetamine in the parking lot of a Starke Dollar General.

Troy Allen Gignac, 36, pleaded to selling methamphetamine while the state dropped a second charge of unlawful use of a two-way communications device.

According to a warrant affidavit, the Marion County resident sold 28 grams of the stimulant to a confidential Bradford County Sheriff's Office source at a Dollar General for \$350 on Jan. 23.

Although represented by the public defender, Gignac filed a pro se motion, asking a judge to dismiss the charges "in the interest of justice."

In his motion, the defendant wrote that he took marijuana, cocaine, and methamphetamine as self-medication for ADHD, ADD, and bipolar disorder. He claimed that the sheriff's office's confidential source entrapped him by harassing him with more than 10 phone calls and text messages. He also complained that the source had been arrested more than five times in the past year.

Judge James Colaw struck Gignac's motion because defendants cannot simultaneously be represented by counsel and represent themselves.

The defendant had no prior convictions.

## Starke woman killed in Melrose crash

The Florida Highway Patrol said a 42-year-old Starke woman was killed when a pickup truck veered into her lane and hit her car.

According to an FHP report, the 42-year-old was driving westbound on State Road 21 between U.S. 301 and Melrose when an eastbound pickup truck driven by a 49-year-old Melrose resident veered off the roadway, then back onto SR 21, crossing the center line and colliding with the Starke woman's sedan.

The woman was pronounced dead at the scene around 6:51 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 19. FHP said both drivers were wearing seatbelts, and the pickup driver sustained minor injuries. The crash occurred in the vicinity of Alachua County Road 219A.

## Program will help fund EMS transports

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

STARKE — Bradford County will leverage more than \$300,000 in federal funding in hopes of receiving more than \$700,000 for emergency medical response.

The Public Emergency Medical Transportation program compensates unreimbursed costs for emergency medical transport providers serving Medicaid managed care patients.

According to Chief Ben Carter, full participation in the program requires the local government to support the it with an intergovernmental transfer of funds.

This buy-in makes a difference in how much the county and other agencies are ultimately reimbursed. Bradford was one of seven who did not pay into the program last year — seven out of 94. When more agencies participate, the reimbursements increase for everyone and vice versa.

"If other agencies don't participate in that IGT, the total allotment for the whole state goes down, which will bring our

number down as well," he said. "It's very glaringly obvious what departments don't participate in that program."

Carter recommended the commission agree to contribute \$300,763 of the approximately \$480,000 it is slated to receive through the PEMT later this year to support the next round of funding. The resulting payout next year could be as much as \$715,423, depending on the investments of other providers.

That could net the county as much as \$414,659 for emergency medical transportation services.

"We're basically using their money at that point to buy us into the program," Carter said.

The allotment is also determined by the federal medical assistance percentages as well as the number of Medicaid managed care patients transported by the county. Accurate reporting is required. Even if the funding amounts are less based on participation or other factors, the county will not be losing money, according to the chief.

Carter said any money not committed to the transfer would

be held in reserve, with spending suggestions brought to the commission for approval.

The commission unanimously agreed Carter to move forward with the PEMT program.

In other business: —the commission approved two commercial rezonings. The first was for Murray Capital Investments for a parcel contiguous to Murray Ford. The second was for Edith and Karen Mattox at the the intersection of Southeast S.R. 100 and Southeast 66th Street.

The commission also finalized an amendment to the comprehensive plan allowing for solar facilities as a permitted use in agricultural land classifications.

—the commission approved the purchase of a used fire engine using \$50,000 in unused grant matching funds.

Other equipment purchases included an asphalt roller for public works using \$139,400 in gas tax funding and an F150 response vehicle for a cost not to exceed \$50,000.



Work began clearing the property and removing the roof before the walls came down.

## Checkers drive-in demolished

Workers began tearing down the former Checkers Drive-in at the corner of U.S. 301 and Lafayette Street in Starke.

D & R Restaurants Inc. acquired the parcel in 1994 and

constructed the 1,084-square-foot drive-through that same year.

In August of 2012 D&R sold the building on less than an acre to NAKD LLC of Jacksonville.

The building underwent a brief second life as a drive-thru for Asian food.

In August 2019, a Starke code enforcement officer found the property in violation of city codes

for discarded debris, excessive overgrowth of vegetation and disrepair of the structure.

Inspections the following October and November determined that minor corrections had been made to the property, but overall conditions remained the same. In December

2019 the city filed a lien on the property and began imposing a \$100-a-day fine.



## FDC announces comprehensive bonuses for new prison hires

The Florida Department of Corrections has announced a landmark pay package for correctional officer new hires, including retention bonuses up to \$6,000.

In addition to the comprehensive benefits offered to state of Florida employees, FDC correctional officers will start their careers at \$22 an hour, or \$48,620 annually. They will receive paid training, special high-risk retirement, and various opportunities for career

advancement.

"There has been no better time than now to be a part of the Florida Department of Corrections," said Florida Department of Corrections Secretary Ricky Dixon. "I express my sincere gratitude to our governor and the Florida legislature for recognizing that an investment in corrections is an investment in public safety. I am thrilled to observe the favorable outcomes of these extraordinary incentives and retention measures, enabling

us to attract and retain the best correctional professionals nationwide."

Selected institutions identified as "hard-to-fill" locations across the state offer \$6,000 retention payments to certified correctional officers, sergeants, lieutenants and captains. This comes in the form of a three-installment pay plan upon certification.

Eligible institutions include Florida State Prison, Union Correctional Institution and the Reception and Medical Center.



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# Durrance, Rhoden earn 'outstanding' honors at BC 4-H banquet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Shayna Durrance and Saylor Rhoden received Outstanding Bradford County 4-H Members of the Year awards at the organization's annual banquet, which was held Sept. 7 at the Gov. Charley E. Johns Conference Center in Starke.

Durrance, a senior member, is active in the Green Acres Club. UF/IFAS Bradford Extension Livestock and Natural Resource Agent Lizzie Whitehead said, "She's a very dedicated, young lady and has a serving heart."

For the past two years, Durrance, who exhibited the homegrown reserve grand-champion heifer at the breed show at the Bradford Agricultural Fair, has been involved in livestock judging. She was part of this year's state-championship team, which will compete at the national contest in November in Louisville, Kentucky.

"She has worked hard collecting sponsorships for her team to be able to travel to the national contest and pushes her livestock-judging team to the next level," Whitehead said. "She always gives 110 percent of herself to the sport, and she is always there when we need her."

Rhoden, a junior member, is active in the Horsin' Around club. She won the Versatility championship at the Area North Horse Show and qualified for the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships after her performance at the Florida 4-H State Horse Show. At state, Rhoden placed first in Speed Events Ground Handling, third in Western Pleasure, fourth in Keyhole Race and seventh in Ranch Trail. She was also seventh among juniors in the high-point awards.

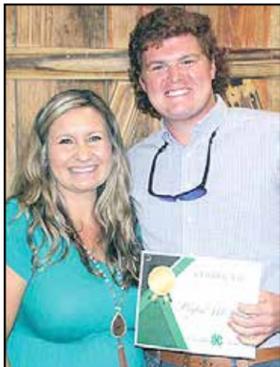
"She and her fellow 4-H'ers put together a fundraiser to help



Saylor Rhoden (left) and Shayna Durrance were named Outstanding 4-H Members of the Year. Photos by Cliff Smelley.



An Outstanding Club Award was presented to the Show Stoppers Club. Pictured (l-r) are William Hamilton, Auston McKenzie, Club Leader Dana McKenzie, Ridge Bradley, Teagan Bradley, Payton McKenzie, Kierstyn McKenzie and Kaitlyn McKenzie. Dana McKenzie also received the Rookie Leader of the Year Award.



LEFT: Payton McKenzie, pictured with Livestock and Natural Resource Agent Lizzie Whitehead, received a \$1,000 scholarship. RIGHT: Kim Griffis was named Outstanding Leader of the Year.



Horse-show participants receive their certificates for competing in shows at various levels. Pictured (l-r) are Livestock and Natural Resource Agent Lizzie Whitehead, Mason Stone, Saylor Rhoden, Raegan Luke and Ryleigh Rhoden.

raise money to go the State 4-H Horse Show in Tampa, Florida, called Ponies and Popsicles," Whitehead said. "What a great entrepreneur we have here."

Whitehead said Rhoden has been involved in a number of community service projects, such as the 4-H Giving Tree and taking her miniature horse to area nursing homes as therapy for the residents.

Payton McKenzie was recognized as a recipient of the Bradford 4-H endowed scholarship. The amount of

\$1,000 has already been sent to Santa Fe College, where McKenzie is a full-time student after taking dual-enrollment classes while in high school.

"He's studying business management administration," said Interim Extension Director Cindy Sanders. "He plans to graduate with his AA degree in December and is going to begin working at Ring Power in St. Augustine."

McKenzie will be pursuing his bachelor's degree in business after earning his AA degree.

A couple of club leaders were honored, including Dana McKenzie, who received the Rookie Leader of the Year Award. The club she leads is Show Stoppers, which received the Gold Clover Award for being an outstanding club.

"Dana has done an excellent job getting this new group up and running. As those of you know who have been in 4-H for a while now, there is a lot to learn," Whitehead said. Then, referring to the 4-H motto of "To Make the Best Better," Whitehead said, "Dana has embraced her role as a 4-H club leader in showing the youth in Show Stoppers what it means to make the best better."

Whitehead then announced it was time to present its Leader of the Year Award to one who has been a 4-H volunteer for 18 years.

"She has not been recognized in the past because she was one of our very good staff and humbly did not want herself to be recognized," Whitehead said.

The award went to Kim Griffis, who no longer works in the Extension office, but who remains a leader of the Green Acres club.

"Tonight, we want to take the opportunity to tell you how much we appreciate you and thank you for your service," Whitehead said.

## Recognition of contest participants

Besides the presentation of Outstanding 4-H Member of the Year awards, youth were recognized for their participation on teams and in events. That began with Kaitlin Van Heusen, the leader of the Fancy Feathers club, intruding her poultry

judging team, which consists of Cayman Brown, Landon Brown, Mason Scoggins, Reece Scoggins, Ansley Smith, Callie Smith, Nicholas Ward, Shawn Ward and Julia Zurfluh.

At the Northeast Florida Fair in Callahan last October, Zurfluh, Mason Scoggins and Reece Scoggins were part of the first-place intermediate team. Brown received second place at the Jacksonville Fair.

Fancy Feathers members exhibit poultry as well as participate in poultry judging. Nicholas Ward had the grand-champion chicken at the Columbia County Poultry Show and was second in junior showmanship behind Shawn Ward.

Nicholas Ward went on to win two reserve championships in American Poultry Association shows.

"He won two class championships over in Fanning Springs," Van Heusen said of Nicholas Ward. "He went on to the Lake City show, which is the Sunshine State Classic, and received another class championship."

Whitehead recognized Ansley Smith and Callie Smith for their participation in the February Insectathon in Gainesville, where they were tested on their knowledge of entomology. She then presented 4-H members who participate in livestock judging: Kaylan Box, Regan Broome, Cayman Brown, Tanner Connell, Shayna Durrance, Bailey Jones, Bailey Varnes and Macy Wilson.

"These guys hold a very special place in my heart," said Whitehead, who is the livestock-judging coach. "They worked really hard."

At the SE3 contest this past spring in Perry, Georgia, the team competed against 4-H and FFA teams, placing ninth. Durrance was the fourth high-point senior individual.

Durrance was the seventh high-point individual at the Florida Youth Expo, followed by Bradford placing eighth out of 14 teams at the Florida State 4-H Livestock-Judging Contest.

"After that contest, I set a lot of high goals and expectations," Whitehead said. "They did very well at the Alachua County Fair, Bradford County Fair, Union County Fair, Putnam County Fair and also the Clay County Fair."

The state-championship team consisted of Connell, Durrance, Jones and Varnes. Jones was the top high-point individual.

"They dominated the contest," Whitehead said. "When I looked at their scores, they beat all the FFA teams as well. They were 16 points above the winning FFA team."

"They have a lot of potential going into the national contest."

Connell, Durrance, Jones and Varnes received state-championship jackets, sponsored by Bradford County Farm Bureau and belt buckles sponsored by R&B Fencing, AAA Hay, Blackberry Creek Cattle and 3RD Cattle.

"I wanted to let all of you know you have made me very proud and exceeded my expectations this year," Whitehead said. "I'm very thankful to have worked with all of you and gained a relationship with you."

Whitehead received a gift of appreciation from the team members, with Jones thanking her her "time and dedication to each and every one of us on this team."

"We would not be here without you and the time you committed to us, both as a team and as individuals," Jones said.

The team also presented a gift of appreciation to Assistant Coach Carson Willis, who was on a livestock-judging team while in high school that experienced success and plans to participate on the University of Florida's livestock-judging team.

"She has helped us tremendously by sharing her knowledge," Connell said.

Sanders recognized those members who have competed in horse shows: Raegan Luke, Ryleigh Rhoden, Saylor Rhoden and Mason Stone.

Besides Saylor Rhoden's accomplishments, the year

saw her older sister, Ryleigh, do very well, culminating with the Breakaway Roping championship and a seventh-place finish in Boxing at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Show.

Ryleigh Rhoden was the reserve champion in Versatility behind her sister at the Area North show and placed fifth in Ranch Roping, ninth in both Boxing and Ranch Trail and 10th in Ranch Riding at the state show.

Stone was the reserve grand champion in the Ranch class at the Area North show and placed third in Ranch Riding, fifth in Ranch Trail, seventh in Western Pleasure, eighth in Keyhole Race and 10th in Ranch Ground Handling at state.

Luke took second in Speed Events Ground Handling at state.

## Record-book and performance awards

The following members were recognized for completing and submitting record books this past year: Ridge Bradley (swine), Teagan Bradley (swine), Regan Broome (steer), Shayna Durrance (heifer and steer), Lucas Grider (swine), Caleb Griffis (steer), Joshua Griffis (cloverbud), Raegan Luke (horse), Auston McKenzie (swine), Kaitlyn McKenzie (swine), Kierstyn McKenzie (swine), Payton McKenzie (swine), Kylie Odom (horse), Ryleigh Rhoden (horse), Saylor Rhoden (horse), Mason Stone (horse), Ava Lynn Thomas (swine), Adaleigh Wainwright (heifer), Ansley Ward (heifer and steer), Nicholas Ward (heifer) and Shawn Ward (heifer).

Performance-Standard Awards

See AWARDS, page 15



Livestock and Natural Resource Agent Lizzie Whitehead (far left) expressed thanks to the Bradford County commission for its support. Present at the banquet were County Manager Scott Kornegay (center) and Commissioner Diane Andrews.



Receiving recognition in poultry judging were (l-r) Callie Smith, Cayman Brown, Ansley Smith and Landon Brown. Callie Smith and Ansley Smith also received recognition for their participation in the Insectathon. Poultry judging participants not pictured: Mason Scoggins, Reece Scoggins, Nicholas Ward, Shawn Ward and Julia Zurfluh.



The livestock-judging team, which includes state-championship participants Tanner Connell, Shayna Durrance, Bailey Jones and Bailey Varnes. Pictured (l-r) are Connell, Coach Lizzie Whitehead, Regan Broome, Macie Wilson, Durrance, Ansley Ward, Varnes, Cayman Brown, Assistant Coach Carson Willis and Jones.

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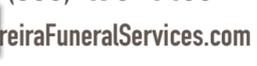
**10** *USC Trojans vs. Colorado Buffaloes*



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ENTER one TEAM Winner in space for each of GAMES OF THE WEEK:  
**★ Deadline: 5 pm 9/29/23\* ★**  
**NEW! EMAIL US YOUR ENTRY \*\*\* see rules below**

Biz 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Biz 11 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Biz 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Biz 12 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Biz 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Biz 13 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Biz 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Biz 14 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Biz 5 \_\_\_\_\_ Biz 15 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Biz 6 \_\_\_\_\_ Biz 16 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Biz 7 \_\_\_\_\_ Biz 17 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Biz 8 \_\_\_\_\_ Biz 18 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Biz 9 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Biz 10 \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Tiebreaker Score: Total points scored by both teams  
**Gators game** \_\_\_\_\_



*This Weeks Winner:*  
**Armstrong,**  
missed 3, won with tiebreaker  
*Congratulations!*

ENTRANT INFO:  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Phone# \_\_\_\_\_  
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\* CONTEST RULES 1. Anyone (except Telegraph/Times/Monitor employees and their immediate family members) is welcome to enter. One entry per person per week please. Persons winning one week are not eligible to win again for at least three weeks. 2. When picking up winnings, the winner will have their photograph taken for the paper. 3. Entry must be on an official form from the BCT/UCT/LRM and submitted to one of our drop off locations: BC Telegraph, 131 W. Call St., Starke; Spires Market in Lake Butler; Capital City Bank in Keystone Heights OR \*\*\* email a photo/scan of your official entry form to CONTEST@BCTELEGRAPH.COM — ALL entries due before 5 p.m. on Fridays. Entrants consent to be added to our email list and having photo taken for paper. Fill in all the blanks with the name of the team you think will win, matching the biz & card numbers. The person who picks the most games correctly will win \$50 cash from the pool of BCT/UCT/LRM entries. 4. \*\*In case of a tie, the total points scored in the GATORS' game this week is the tie breaker. Please fill in the points you think will be scored by the GATORS and their opponent, combined, in the tie breaker blank. (For instance, if the score of the game was GATORS 19, opponent 7, the correct tie-breaker score is 26 points). 5. Decision of the judges is final. A second, follow up tie-breaker will be used if necessary. Results will be tabulated on Monday and winners notified by telephone. Don't forget to list a phone number where you can be reached. INFO: 904-964-6305.

# KHHS defeats Interlachen 46-8

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School's Sept. 22 football game against Interlachen featured some early fireworks, with each team putting a touchdown on the board in the first two minutes, but at that point, the Indians' defense had yet to step onto the field. When it did, that spelled trouble for the visiting Rams as Keystone won 46-8.

The Indians (2-2) got big plays offensively, with Cartez Daniels rushing for two scores and quarterback Baylor Ford throwing for another two, but the defense had its share of big plays as well with four takeaways (including an interception return for a score) and a blocked punt for a safety.

Interlachen, which scored on a kickoff return, was limited to less than 60 yards. Three of the Rams' five first downs occurred on the game's final drive.

After opening the season with losses of 35-0 and 49-26, Keystone now has two wins by a combined score of 95-8.

"I'm so proud of that defense," Keystone Head Coach Steve Reynolds said. "Two great efforts in a row after having some rough times to start off with. The kids

worked hard. They focused. They paid attention to the details. They paid attention to play a ball game."

Of course, the defense could've afforded to give up a little, thanks to an offense that averaged 11 yards per play.

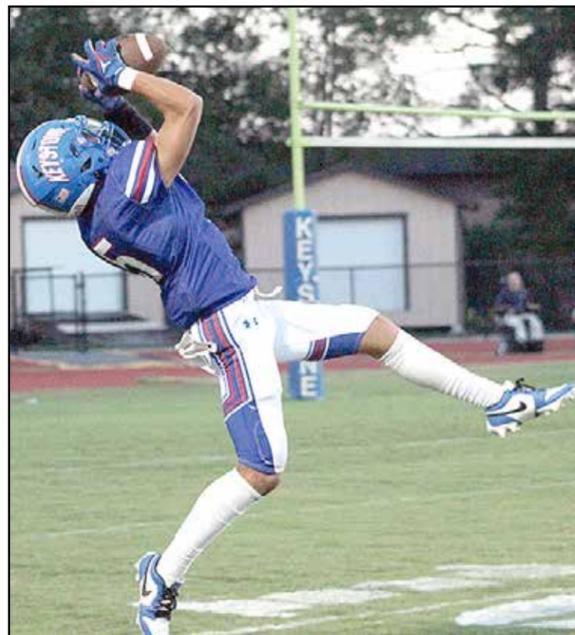
It all amounted to two straight wins as the Indians now prepare to take on a tough Bradford team on Friday, Sept. 29, at 7:30 p.m. in Starke.

"They've been stacking up good days of practice and getting better every day," Reynolds said. "I'm proud of their effort. I'm proud of their focus."

Keystone's Colton Hollingsworth recovered an onside kick to open the game. After two Daniels runs for a total of 12 yards, Ford connected with Jackson Parmeter for a 26-yard gain and first-and-goal at the 9. Daniels scored on a run from there at the 10:18 mark of the first quarter. Tyler Sapp added the PAT for a 7-0 lead.

The Rams took the lead 13 seconds later, thanks to Raszir Phelps returning the ensuing kickoff 72 yards for a touchdown. Phelps' successful run on the two-point conversion made it an 8-7 game.

Interlachen (0-5) forced the Keystone offense to go three-and-out on the following series,



Jackson Parmeter catches a 26-yard pass that helped set up the Indians' first touchdown. Photo by Cliff Smelley.

but a 65-yard Connor Guy punt pinned the Rams at their own 6. After receiving the free kick because of the safety, the Indians put together a four-play, 45-yard scoring drive. Daniels had a 16-yard run on the first play, but was

back of the end zone for a safety and a 9-8 Keystone lead. See KHHS, page 19



Union's Layla Barber (far right) attempts to spike the ball past Keystone's Taylor Marquart (far left) and Abbie Roach. Union's Abby Williams (background) is also pictured. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

# Tigers take 3-1 win over Indians

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Union County High School's volleyball team scored 13 straight points with Kamryn Southerland serving to avoid dropping a second straight set and defeating host Keystone Heights 3-1 (25-23, 25-22, 23-25, 25-16) on Sept. 21.

Keystone (2-12) put its own run together in the final set, scoring seven points with Taylor Marquart serving. Two of those points came off Kiersten Shaw kills that were assisted by Marquart.

Forcing side-out and trailing 13-11, the Tigers (7-7) answered with their string of 13 points — a span that included three aces by Southerland and three kills by Layla Barber. One of Barber's kills came after she blocked an attack by the Indians' Shaw.

After an error finally forced

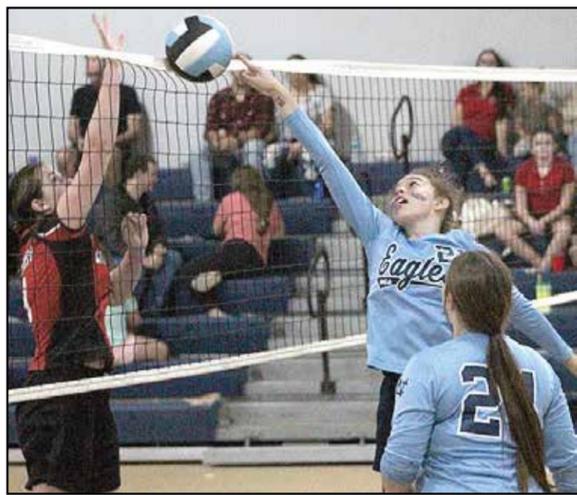
side-out, Barber recorded another kill for the match-winning point.

A Shaw kill seemingly forced side-out and gave the serve to Marquart with the score tied at 24-24 in the first set, but the Indians were penalized for being out of rotation, which resulted in the Tigers instead winning 25-23.

The second set was tied at 16-16 when Union scored two points off kills by Barber and Rylie Parrish with Southerland serving. The Tigers later led 20-17, but failed to take advantage of two free balls, resulting in Keystone forcing a side-out off a Kadence Carlton kill.

Keystone couldn't string points together, though, committing two service errors in the latter stages of the set, in which the Indians committed eight service errors in all.

See VOLLEY, page 19



Lexie Welsh (right) makes a play at the net as Bella Smith (foreground) looks on. Photos by Cliff Smelley.

# NCA volleyball keeps rolling with win over Victory

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

After dropping three of their first four matches, the Northside Christian Academy volleyball team has reeled off six straight wins, with the latest being a sweep of Jacksonville's Victory Christian on Sept. 22 in Starke.

The Eagles (7-3) were strong

from the outset against Victory, scoring eight straight points with Rosalea Norman serving. Norman would end the first set with a kill.

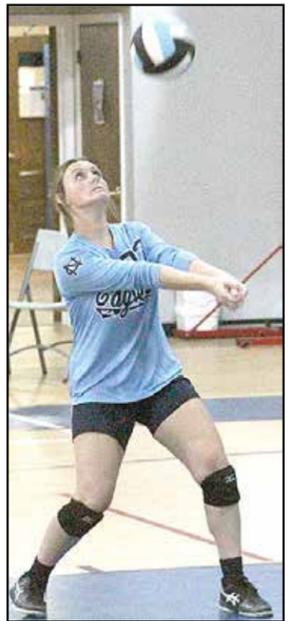
Northside continued to roll, scoring the first six points of the second set with Briley Parrish serving. Two of those points came off aces.

It turned out to be Northside's third straight 3-0 win.

The Eagles opened the season with a 3-0 win over Hope Christian on Aug. 24 before losing matches against Pompano Beach's Highlands Christian, Morrisdale, Pennsylvania's West Branch and Highlands Christian again in a Sept. 1-2 tournament.

Northside bounced back with a 3-2 win over High Springs' First Christian on Sept. 5, followed by a 3-0 win over Live Oak's Westwood Christian on Sept. 12. After a 3-1 win over Jasper's Corinth Christian on Sept. 14, the Eagles swept Hope Christian on Sept. 18 and Ocala's First Assembly Christian on Sept. 19 before the Sept. 22 win over Victory.

The Eagles, who played First Christian this past Tuesday, will host Westwood on Thursday, Sept. 28, at 5:30 p.m. Northside travels to Yulee to play Faith Christian on Friday, Sept. 29, at 5 p.m. before returning home to play First Assembly on Tuesday, Oct. 3, at 5:30 p.m.



Rosalea Norman sets up for a pass.

# UCHS can't hold lead in 22-21 loss

BY ANTONIO HENDERSON  
Special to the Telegraph-Times-Monitor

Class 1M Orlando Christian Prep outscored the Union County High School football team 9-0 in the fourth quarter, with a Gustavo Garcia field goal proving to be the difference as the host Tigers lost 22-21 on Sept. 22.

The Tigers take a 2-2 record into a bye week, returning to action at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 6, when they host Hollis Christian for homecoming.

After Orlando Christian (5-0) was unsuccessful on an onside-kick attempt to start the game, Union marched down the field with quick screen plays, with one paying off in the form of a 20-yard touchdown from Trenton Klein to Dayquan Diston. Jonathan Edwards added the extra point for a 7-0 lead.

The Warriors started their first possession with the run game, handing the ball to Akeevin Anderson for a 7-yard gain. On the next play, the Tigers' Anthony Holmes made a tackle in the backfield for a 1-yard loss, but Orlando Christian would eventually pick up a first down. The Warriors then went back to Anderson, who broke free for a 65-yard run. Orlando Christian kept it on the ground, with Joshua Demosthenes carrying the ball into the end zone on a fourth-and-1 play with 1:24 left in the first quarter. Garcia kicked the extra point to tie the score.

Union went back to its bread-and-butter run game, handing off to Bobo Woodall, who had a 15-yard gain. Two more carries by Woodall set up third-and-6 entering the second quarter. Klein dropped back and threw a ball to Gavin Jenkins for a 13-yard gain. On the next play, Klein called his own number, but the Warriors held him to no gain. The quarterback, who completed 8 of 15 passes for 149 yards, went back to the air, finding a wide-open Ibn Williams for a 14-yard gain. It was then back to the run game, with Woodall racking up a 7-yard gain. Woodall then caught a screen pass, breaking it for a 37-yard touchdown. With Edwards' PAT, the Tigers led 14-7.

The Tigers were backed up near their own end zone on their next possession when they fumbled. Orlando Christian recovered for a goal-to-go opportunity, but the Union defense came up with a big play on first down with a 10-yard sack by Connor Bresee. The Warriors then handed the ball off to Avery Anderson for a 6-yard gain. Jacob Jenkins came up with a sack-fumble on third down, with Orlando Christian recovering the loose ball. With three seconds left in the half, Garcia kicked a 26-yard field goal to make the score 14-10.

Union's defense forced a three-and-out to start the second half, but the Tigers muffed the punt, which allowed the Warriors

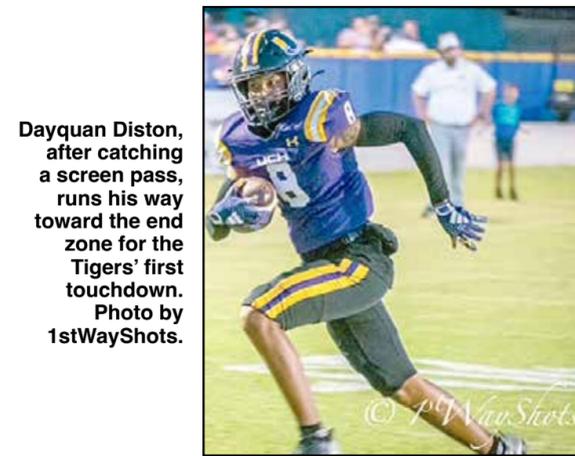
to get the ball back at the Union 9-yard line. The Tigers' Erich Seager was all over the Orlando Christian offense, racking up two sacks and another tackle for a loss, forcing the Warriors to settle for a field goal, which was good, making the score 14-13 with 6:51 remaining in the third quarter.

The Tigers were penalized for a false start prior to the first play on their next offensive series, but Woodall, who was their workhorse for the night, rushed for a 15-yard gain. A holding penalty backed Union up again, but Klein went up the middle to pick up a first down. Klein then went with a hard count to draw the Warriors offside, setting up first-and-5. Two plays later, on third-and-3, Woodall was able to pick up the first down. Woodall, who rushed for 78 yards on 12 carries, picked up another 4 yards on the next play.

Running the ball opened up the pass game, which resulted in Brycen Boney catching a 13-yard pass. Klein, who rushed for 42 yards on 10 carries, then snuck the ball up the middle for a 4-yard touchdown with 19 seconds left in the third quarter. Edwards kicked the extra point, making it 21-13.

Orlando Christian picked up a first down on a quick screen to Avery Anderson as the third quarter expired. Cameron Kurzon then found a wide-open Akeevin Anderson for a 67-yard touchdown. The Warriors went for the tie on a two-point conversion attempt, but Diston broke up the pass on a fade route, with the Tigers clinging to a 21-19 lead.

The Warriors got the ball back in good field position when they stopped the Tigers on a fourth-



Dayquan Diston, after catching a screen pass, runs his way toward the end zone for the Tigers' first touchdown. Photo by 1stWayShots.

and-2 play at the Union 25-yard line. Union's defense responded with Jacob Jenkins making a tackle for a 2-yard loss on the first play following the turnover on downs. After a false-start penalty and an incomplete pass, Orlando Christian had a 13-yard pass. Garcia then completed his 3-for-3 night on field-goal attempts, putting the Warriors

ahead 22-21 with 7:19 left in the game. Union's offense gained a first down on the next series on a facemask penalty, but the Warriors' Brayden Schuster picked off a pass.

The Warriors went back to their ground game, with Avery

See UCHS, page 19

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# Obituaries

## Roger Bennett

Roger Dale Bennett, 64, of Starke stepped over to the other side to his heavenly home on Monday, Sept. 4, 2023, at St. Vincent's Hospital with his family by his side. He was born Dec. 9, 1958 to the late Glen Gary and Ferrell Jean Bennett and was raised in Lawtey. He graduated from Bradford High School in 1977, where he met and married his high school sweetheart, the love of his life, in October 1977. They have been together for more than 50 wonderful years. He went to work right out of high school for Winn-Dixie #85 in Starke. He transferred later to Winn-Dixie Warehouse in Jacksonville as a truck driver for C & S Wholesale Grocers in Baldwin. He was looking forward to retiring in December of this year with nearly 45 years of service. He was an avid hunter and loved to fish. He was a great outdoorsman. He loved farming for many years and giving away the fruits of his labor. He enjoyed just being outdoors, but most of all he loved sitting on his porch swing with family and friends, sharing many of his life's stories. In 2007, he received a God-given Certificate of Ordination by Grace Community Fellowship Church. He loved his church family and worshipping his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He was known for the "Famous Whistle" throughout his years in the church. He was preceded in death by his parents; and his uncle, Randall Bradley.

He is survived by his loving wife, Margaret Ann Bennett of Starke; sons, Jason Bradley (Sonia) Bennett of Starke, Brian (Lacey) Wellborn of Keystone Heights; brother, Dennis Gary Bennett of Lawtey; grandsons (his pride and joy), Bradley Gary (Tatiana) Bennett of Tillamook, Orgeon and Aden Dale Bennett of Starke; aunt, Marilyn Bradley of Keystone Heights; niece, Angel (Clayton) Cooksey; nephew, James Bennett; and uncle, A.Q. and Jackie Smith of Winter Haven. And to all the staff, fleet and truck drivers (brothers) of C & S Wholesale Grocers. Roger said he "will see you all on the other side."

His Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, Oct. 14, from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. at the Bradford Fairgrounds, Building #3, 2300 N. Temple Ave., Starke. Come join the family for his Celebration of Life and a B-B-Q dinner at Roger's request.



## Robert Keen Jr.

Robert "Bobby" Keen Jr., 60, of Melrose passed away Friday, Sept. 22, 2023.

A Celebration of Life will be held Sunday, Dec. 17. Please contact family for further information.

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

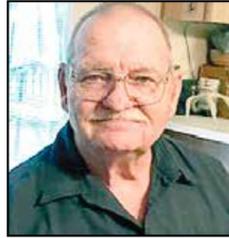
## Stuart Parker III

On Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2023, Stuart Parker III passed away in Starke surrounded by his family. Born on Sept. 29, 1945, in Hamilton, Ohio, his journey through life would be marked by hard work, devotion to family, and a zest for the simple pleasures. A truck driver by trade, he retired in 2014 after 41 years of service with Winn-Dixie. He was known as "Applejack" by his fellow drivers and dispatchers. His love for his career was only surpassed by his love for his family. He was a man of sincerity and integrity; a stern father figure whose eyes would light up as soon as he heard the word "Papa" from one of his grandchildren. Though stern in demeanor, he possessed a heart that overflowed with tenderness when it came to those closest to him. Beyond his role as a provider and caregiver, he possessed to always have whatever you were in need of. His thoughtful nature extended beyond immediate family - friends and acquaintances alike could rely on him whenever they needed assistance. He loved exploring yard sales and thrift stores. He was also a connoisseur of antiques. This love allowed him to dote on his family with the hidden treasures he would bring them. He was preceded in death by his parents, Stuart Jr. and Nada Briscoe Parker; and his sons, Sean Parker, James Watkins, and Kevin Parker.

He leaves behind a legacy of strong and independent women whom he lovingly raised; his daughters, Michelle Lovell (Randy Faile), Deena (Rod) Crawford, Renee (Leroy) Griffis, and Karen (Kenny) Parker. The love he had for his grandchildren was a force that knew no bounds; Kristen Furneaux, Paul Crawford, Hailee Crawford, Logan Crawford, Rod Crawford, Kyleigh Crawford, Morgan Box-Crawford, Hunter Smith (Shae Clark), Harley Smith, Emma Griffis, Easton Griffis, Sean Parker. He also leaves behind great-grandchildren, Carson, Caroline, Genevieve, Chaslyn, Elizabeth, Austin, Channing, and Weston; and his sister, Margaret (Lanny) Paige.

A graveside service was held at Crosby Lake Cemetery in Starke, on Monday, Sept. 25.

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



## Horace G. Crawford

Horace Greeley "H.G." Crawford, a proud veteran of the U.S. Army, passed away surrounded by loved ones on Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023, after a brief illness. He was born July 2, 1946, in Union County to St. Clair "Red" and Betty Grace Crawford. At the age of 20 years old, he was drafted in the United States Army. He valued his service highly and attained the rank of Sergeant E-5. After serving in Vietnam as a sharpshooter, he was awarded two Bronze Stars, a good conduct medal and was a double Purple Heart recipient. He met his wife, Connie, in September 1970. After a brief courtship, the two were wed on Jan. 23, 1971, and were blessed with three children. He was preceded in death by his parents, St. Clair and Betty Grace; his brother, Billy Crawford; his sister, Linda-Kay Jones; and nieces, Tammy Grammer, and Landa Yester.

He is survived by Connie, his loving wife of 52 years; sons, Joe (Kara) Crawford and Glen (Julie) Crawford; daughter, Tanya (Dirk) Crawford; grandchildren, Maddy, Haylie, Cassidy, Hannah, Riley, Cameron, Koen, and Stijn; siblings, Wayne (Pauline) Crawford, Mary-Sue (Benny) Adams, Barbara (Bill) Sefcik, Pat (Chuck) Kuhr, Charles (Susie) Crawford, Larry (Joyce) Crawford, Martha (Bill) Stein, Lester Crawford, and Kim (Rodney) Barnett; sister-in-law Gail Crawford; and brother-in-law, Paul "PJ" Jones; along with a multitude of nieces and nephews.

A funeral service to honor him will be held Friday, Sept. 29, at Harmony Free Will Baptist Church. The visitation will begin at 11 a.m. and a service at 12 p.m. He will be laid to rest immediately following the funeral at Ft. Call Cemetery with military honors.

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



## Frederick Gifford

Frederick L. Gifford, 73, of Lawtey passed away Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2023, in Starke. He was born Oct. 7, 1949, in Bradford, Pennsylvania to the late John D. and Hattie (Jackson) Gifford. He retired from the United States Navy as Mess Management Specialist Chef and is a member of the Lawtey Church of God.

His survivors are his wife of almost 45 years, Mary (Shira) Gifford of Lawtey; and their children, Adam (Amy) Gifford (Amy) of Pulaski, Virginia, Benjamin (Angela) Gifford of Starke, Caleb (Serena) Gifford of Waxahachie, Texas; along with siblings, Nancy (Bruce) Tilts of Ashland, Virginia, Donald (Lisa) Gifford of Bradford, Pennsylvania, and Judy Gifford of Jacksonville. He was lovingly called "Tapaw" by grandchildren, Benjamin Gifford Jr., Joel Gifford, Seth Gifford, Nathaniel Gifford, Tabitha Gifford, and Jacob Gifford. Also left behind are many nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

Viewing will begin at 4 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 28, at Lawtey Church of God and funeral services will start at 5 p.m. with Pastor Alton Coleman officiating. Interment will be at Jacksonville National Cemetery, Friday, Sept. 29, at 12:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Lawtey Church of God.

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



## Mark Wagoner

Mark W. Wagoner, 65, of Keystone Heights passed away at his home, Monday, Sept. 18, 2023, unexpectedly. He was born July 16, 1958, in Montgomery, Alabama to Samuel and Theresa (Cramer) Wagoner. He was a retired diesel mechanic and a current parishioner of St. William Catholic Church. He enjoyed gardening, tinkering, working on automobiles and was a true racer at heart. His family was first and foremost most important to him. In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by his devoted and loving wife of 30 years, Rebecca "Becky" (Outlaw) Wagoner.

Survivors are his two sons, Jake Wagoner and Zac Wagoner, both of Keystone Heights; his mother, Theresa (Cramer) Wagoner of Louisburg, North Carolina; two sisters, Judy Nicholson of Louisburg, North Carolina, and Patty Reese of Palm Harbor; cousins, Anne and David Dickenson of Keystone Heights. Also left behind are several nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family members.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Sept. 23, at Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home Chapel with Brother Michael Hudson and Father Mason Wiggins officiating. Interment followed at Keystone Heights Cemetery.

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

PAID OBITUARY

# Kruzan turns passion into data-science business

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Katie Kruzan's love of math put her onto a career path she never would've envisioned as a student at Hope Christian Academy and has ultimately led to her having her own data-science consulting business.

Kruzan, Hope Christian's 2013-14 valedictorian, lives in Chicago, helping small businesses figure out data science and how it can be utilized to hopefully bring them success.

"They don't necessarily have to be the next Facebook, don't necessarily have to be the next Google," Kruzan said, "but they can still get a lot of value out of data."

It's not close to what the daughter of Dawn Kruzan thought she'd be doing when she was in high school.

"I loved math. Math and I were besties growing up," Kruzan said. "I wanted to be an engineer because that's what I thought that people good at math would do, but the college I ended up going to, which was Belmont University in Nashville, didn't have an engineering program. They were like, 'If you want to, you can just do math.' I was like, 'Wait, you can just major in math and not teach? Sounds great.'"

"I ended up majoring in math." Data science allows businesses to gain insights through the collection and study of data. As Kruzan sates on her website (katiekruzan.com), data science can help increase revenue, drive competitive advantage and mitigate risk with applied mathematics.

Her website also states: "In spite of misconceptions about data science being an aspirational, extremely expensive business capability, I strive to help people build their own data-science functions without needing to hire an entire team."

"With the power of AI cloud services that can support data-science functions much more affordably, one consultant really can make the world of a difference in terms of how a company leverages data."

"Kruzan works with people who don't fully understand data science and don't realize that it's something they can use."



**Katie Kruzan followed her love of math into a career as a data-science consultant. The 2014 Hope Christian Academy graduate is also working toward a Ph.D. and a possible career as a professor. Photo provided courtesy of Kruzan.**

"They feel like it's this big, nebulous thing that they can never do," Kruzan said.

What those people come to realize, Kruzan said, is that the tools of data science are financially obtainable and profitable.

"Seeing them have that realization is nice because sometimes there are people who try to over-engineer for a small business," Kruzan said. "They try to make this beautiful, super-crisp model that ends up costing tens of thousands of dollars. Some people have been burned by that and are like, 'That's not for me.'"

"I can work with those businesses and be like, 'No. This can be very successful for you.'"

Kruzan also comes across people who believe data science and artificial intelligence "can solve everything." She has to remind them, "We're still useful (as humans)."

## Music City

Math may be something Kruzan loves, but it was her love of music that played a factor in where she went to college. She took a trip to Nashville because of her love of music and fell in love with the area.

"It's a beautiful city," Kruzan

See KRUZAN, page 18

## Urban-forestry grants available

BY RACHEL KYLE  
Bradford/Union County Forester

I am happy to share with you that we just opened a new urban-forestry grant today. The program is called Urban and Community Forestry — Plantings, Preservation and Invasives Control (UCF-PPIC) and focuses on invasive-species control and reforestation and improved stormwater retention and has new opportunities to incentivize tree preservation.

The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance to local governments, Native-American tribal governments, nonprofit organizations and educational institutions to initiate or enhance local urban

and community forestry programs and improve the urban environment within the state by providing funding for projects aimed at enhancing community forests. The state anticipates an allocation of \$750,000 for Fiscal Year 2023.

Grant awards can range from \$5,000 to \$75,000 each with no match required.

The categories of projects to be funded by this grant program include:

—Remove invasive trees and replace them with native trees in areas where they will provide direct benefit to Floridians through energy reduction, mitigating urban heat, water or air quality improvement, stormwater runoff avoidance, or increasing greenspace accessibility. Projects in this category must follow the tree-planting requirements listed later in this section.

—Plant trees in disadvantaged communities, as identified by the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (screeningtool.geoplatform.gov).

—Plant trees in riparian or coastal waterway areas to decrease erosion, improve stormwater runoff capture and enhance the water quality of Florida's waterways.

—Provide a service that enhances tree preservation during construction by offering tree preservation advice to developers and homebuilders at no cost to the builder.

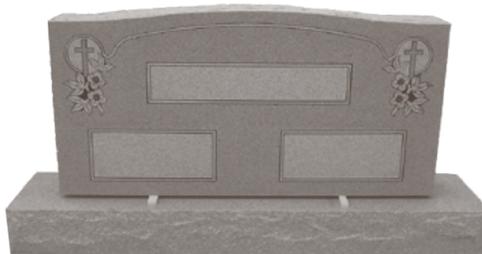
—Conduct an analysis of areas within municipality boundaries to identify the most valuable locations for tree-planting initiatives to capture the most stormwater runoff.

This grant offering will close on Nov. 17.

For more information, visit grants.fdaacs.gov or send email inquiries to rachel.kyle@fdaacs.gov.

## Charles Custom Memorials

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The area's largest supplier of Colored Granite  
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# Terry McCarthy

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We do tree removal, tree trimming, and skid steer mulching. We have a lift for those hard-to-reach heights and places! **WE DO IT ALL!**



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# Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Sept. 28, 2023 CONTINUED from pg 13

## BRADFORD

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 1197  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 05197-0-00100  
Case Number: 04-2023-TD-030  
Description of Property: A parcel of land lying in Section 35, Township 7 South, Range 22 East, Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows:  
Commence at an axle found at the Southwest corner of the SE1/4 of said Section 35 and run North 00 degrees 48 minutes 26 seconds East, along the Westerly boundary thereof, 126.83 feet to an iron rod located on the Southerly boundary of the right of way of the G.S. & F. Railroad (50' R/W, abandoned) for the Point of Beginning, said Southerly boundary being on a curve, concave to the North and having a radius of 603.69 feet. From Point of Beginning thus described run Northwesterly, along said Southerly boundary and along the arc of said curve, 112.22 feet as measured along a chord having a bearing of North 76 degrees 59 minutes 42 seconds West to an iron rod on the Easterly boundary of the right of way of said G.S. & F. railroad (200' R/W); thence North 33 degrees 15 minutes 31 seconds West, along said Easterly boundary, 87.32 feet to an iron rod located on the Northerly boundary of an abandoned G.S.&F. Railroad (50' R/W), said Northerly boundary being on a curve concave to the North and having a radius of 553.69 feet; thence Southeasterly, along said Northerly boundary and along the arc of said curve, 165.04 feet as measured along a chord having a bearing of South 73 degrees 07 minutes 57 seconds East, to an iron rod on the Easterly boundary of said SE1/4; thence Northeasterly, along said Northerly boundary and along the arc of said curve, 282.16 feet as measured along a chord having a bearing of North 83 degrees 32 minutes 04 seconds East, to an iron rod located on the Westerly boundary of the right of way of SE 35th Street (a County maintained graded road); thence South 09 degrees 01 minute 03 seconds West, along said Westerly boundary, 57.09 feet to an iron rod located on the aforesaid Southerly boundary of the right of way of abandoned G.S.&F. Railroad; thence continue South 09 degrees 01 minute 03 seconds West, along said Westerly boundary, 6.25 feet to the beginning of a curve concave to the East and having a radius of 1221.69 feet; thence Southwesterly, along said Westerly boundary, and along the arc of said curve, 25.0 feet as measured along a chord having a bearing of South 08 degrees 26 minutes 09 seconds West; thence North 89 degrees 17 minutes 46 seconds West, parallel with the Southerly boundary of said SE1/4 a distance of 138.06 feet to an intersection with aforesaid Southerly boundary of the right of way of said abandoned G.S.&F. Railroad; thence Northwesterly, along said Southerly boundary and along the arc of said curve having a radius of 603.69 feet, a distance of 129.48 feet as measured along a chord having a bearing of North 88 degrees 28 minutes 51 seconds West to the Point of Beginning.  
Containing 0.52 of an acre, more or less.

TOGETHER WITH a 1971 Champion single wide mobile home, with ID number 0419649757 and title number 4458813, which is located thereon. Name in Which Assessed: DANNY MULLIS  
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 11/15/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: KYRAH SMITH  
KYRAH SMITH, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
DATED: September 7, 2023  
DATE OF PUBLICATION: September 14, 2023; September 21, 2023; September 28, 2023; October 5, 2023  
9/14 4tchg 10/5-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED  
Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 1179  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 05137-0-00000  
Case Number: 04-2023-TD-0041  
Description of Property: 30 7S 22 ALL SE1/4 OF SW1/4 W OF RY (per Property Appraiser Records)  
Name in Which Assessed: ARNOLD LAND COMPANY & C HARPER  
Name on last tax roll, if different: OVELLA PERRY  
All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to

the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 12/6/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: KYRAH SMITH  
KYRAH SMITH, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
DATED: September 7, 2023  
DATE OF PUBLICATION: September 14, 2023; September 21, 2023; September 28, 2023; October 5, 2023  
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Certificate Number: 1197  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 05197-0-00100  
Case Number: 04-2023-TD-030  
Description of Property: A parcel of land lying in Section 35, Township 7 South, Range 22 East, Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows:  
Commence at an axle found at the Southwest corner of the SE1/4 of said Section 35 and run North 00 degrees 48 minutes 26 seconds East, along the Westerly boundary thereof, 126.83 feet to an iron rod located on the Southerly boundary of the right of way of the G.S. & F. Railroad (50' R/W, abandoned) for the Point of Beginning, said Southerly boundary being on a curve, concave to the North and having a radius of 603.69 feet. From Point of Beginning thus described run Northwesterly, along said Southerly boundary and along the arc of said curve, 112.22 feet as measured along a chord having a bearing of North 76 degrees 59 minutes 42 seconds West to an iron rod on the Easterly boundary of the right of way of said G.S. & F. railroad (200' R/W); thence North 33 degrees 15 minutes 31 seconds West, along said Easterly boundary, 87.32 feet to an iron rod located on the Northerly boundary of an abandoned G.S.&F. Railroad (50' R/W), said Northerly boundary being on a curve concave to the North and having a radius of 553.69 feet; thence Southeasterly, along said Northerly boundary and along the arc of said curve, 165.04 feet as measured along a chord having a bearing of South 73 degrees 07 minutes 57 seconds East, to an iron rod on the Easterly boundary of said SE1/4; thence Northeasterly, along said Northerly boundary and along the arc of said curve, 282.16 feet as measured along a chord having a bearing of North 83 degrees 32 minutes 04 seconds East, to an iron rod located on the Westerly boundary of the right of way of SE 35th Street (a County maintained graded road); thence South 09 degrees 01 minute 03 seconds West, along said Westerly boundary, 57.09 feet to an iron rod located on the aforesaid Southerly boundary of the right of way of abandoned G.S.&F. Railroad; thence continue South 09 degrees 01 minute 03 seconds West, along said Westerly boundary, 6.25 feet to the beginning of a curve concave to the East and having a radius of 1221.69 feet; thence Southwesterly, along said Westerly boundary, and along the arc of said curve, 25.0 feet as measured along a chord having a bearing of South 08 degrees 26 minutes 09 seconds West; thence North 89 degrees 17 minutes 46 seconds West, parallel with the Southerly boundary of said SE1/4 a distance of 138.06 feet to an intersection with aforesaid Southerly boundary of the right of way of said abandoned G.S.&F. Railroad; thence Northwesterly, along said Southerly boundary and along the arc of said curve having a radius of 603.69 feet, a distance of 129.48 feet as measured along a chord having a bearing of North 88 degrees 28 minutes 51 seconds West to the Point of Beginning.  
Containing 0.52 of an acre, more or less.

RANGE 22 EAST, BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA; SAID PARCEL BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:  
COMMENCE AT AN IRON ROD AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 4 AND RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 17 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY THEREOF, 2664.73 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID NORTH 1/2 OF NORTHEAST 1/4; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 44 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE WESTERLY BOUNDARY THEREOF, 703.74 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, FROM POINT OF BEGINNING THUS DESCRIBED RUN SOUTH 87 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 54 SECONDS EAST, PARALLEL WITH THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF SE 139TH STREET, 300.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES, 07 MINUTES 44 SECONDS WEST, PARALLEL WITH SAID WESTERLY BOUNDARY, 672.28 FEET TO SAID NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF SE 139TH STREET; THENCE NORTH 87 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 54 SECONDS WEST, ALONG SAID NORTHERLY BOUNDARY, 300.00 TO AN IRON ROD ON SAID WESTERLY BOUNDARY; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 44 SECONDS EAST, ALONG SAID WESTERLY BOUNDARY, 672.28 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 4.63 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.  
Name in Which Assessed: RICHARD A WILLIAMSON  
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 11/15/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: KYRAH SMITH  
KYRAH SMITH, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
DATED: September 7, 2023  
DATE OF PUBLICATION: September 14, 2023; September 21, 2023; September 28, 2023; October 5, 2023  
9/14 4tchg 10/5-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED  
Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 719  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 02542-0-00000  
Case Number: 04-2023-TD-0036  
Description of Property: Lots Seven and Ten (7 and 10) in Block Twenty-three (23) in that certain subdivision known as North Reno and embracing the West half (W1/2) of the Southeast quarter (SE1/4) of the Southeast quarter (SE1/4) and the Southwest quarter (SW1/4) of the Northeast quarter (NE1/4) of the Southeast quarter (SE1/4), Section Twenty-one (21), Township six (6) South, Range Twenty-two (22) East, in Bradford County, Florida.  
Name in Which Assessed: GEORGIA JENKINS & ANNIE MAE WOODY  
Name on last tax roll, if different: ANNIE M WOODY  
All said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 11/15/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: KYRAH SMITH  
KYRAH SMITH, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
DATED: September 7, 2023  
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Certificate Number: 1179  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 05137-0-00000  
Case Number: 04-2023-TD-0041  
Description of Property: 30 7S 22 ALL SE1/4 OF SW1/4 W OF RY (per Property Appraiser Records)  
Name in Which Assessed: ARNOLD LAND COMPANY & C HARPER  
Name on last tax roll, if different: OVELLA PERRY  
All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to

the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 12/6/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: KYRAH SMITH  
KYRAH SMITH, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
DATED: September 7, 2023  
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Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 211  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 00867-0-02600  
Case Number: 04-2023-TD-0023  
Description of Property: Parcel 26  
The West 132.00 feet of the East 1716.00 feet of the South 330.00 feet of the S1/2 of the NE1/4 of Section 11, Township 7 South, Range 21 East, Bradford County, Florida, containing 1.00 acre. Above described parcel being conveyed with a 60.00 foot easement for ingress, egress and utilities described as follows: That part of the Westerly 60.00 feet of the SW1/4 of NW1/4 lying South of County Road 225 (formerly State Road S-225) of Section 12, Township 7 South, Range 21 East together with the Northerly 60.00 feet of the Southerly 390.00 feet of the S1/2 of NE1/4 of said Section 11.  
Name in Which Assessed: ADELA M TURK  
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 11/15/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: Lisa Brannon  
LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
DATED: September 8, 2023  
DATE OF PUBLICATION: September 14, 2023; September 21, 2023; September 28, 2023; October 5, 2023  
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Certificate Number: 211  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 00867-0-02600  
Case Number: 04-2023-TD-0023  
Description of Property: Parcel 26  
The West 132.00 feet of the East 1716.00 feet of the South 330.00 feet of the S1/2 of the NE1/4 of Section 11, Township 7 South, Range 21 East, Bradford County, Florida, containing 1.00 acre. Above described parcel being conveyed with a 60.00 foot easement for ingress, egress and utilities described as follows: That part of the Westerly 60.00 feet of the SW1/4 of NW1/4 lying South of County Road 225 (formerly State Road S-225) of Section 12, Township 7 South, Range 21 East together with the Northerly 60.00 feet of the Southerly 390.00 feet of the S1/2 of NE1/4 of said Section 11.  
Name in Which Assessed: ADELA M TURK  
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 11/15/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
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Bradford County, Florida  
BY: Lisa Brannon  
LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk  
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Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 405  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 01569-0-00000  
Case Number: 04-2023-TD-0029  
Description of Property: Section 26, Township 5 South, Range 22 East, Lot 42 of the TOWN OF LAWTEY, Bradford County, Florida. EXCEPTING THEREFROM that certain portion thereof described in O.R. Book 711, page 190 of the public records of Bradford County, Florida.  
Name in Which Assessed: WAPN AS CUSTODIAN FOR TC 13 SUBSIDIARY LLC  
Name on last tax roll, if different: TC 13 SUBSIDIARY LLC  
All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 12/6/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: Lisa Brannon  
LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
DATED: September 8, 2023  
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Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 1136  
Year of Issuance: 2016  
Parcel Number: 05157-0-00217  
Case Number: 04-2023-TD-0027  
Description of Property: A PARCEL OF LAND IN THE NW 1/4 OF SE 1/4, SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 7 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST, CONTAINING ONE (1) ACRE, MORE OR LESS, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS  
COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID NW 1/4 OF SE 1/4 RUN THENCE NORTH 01 DEGREES, 18 MINUTES AND 38 SECONDS WEST 865.03 FEET TO AN IRON PIPE; RUN THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES, 46 MINUTES, 05 SECONDS WEST 136.0 FEET TO POINT OF BEGINNING, FROM POINT OF BEGINNING THUS DESCRIBED, CONTINUE SOUTH 89 DEGREES, 46 MINUTES AND 05 SECONDS WEST 136.0 FEET; RUN THENCE SOUTH 01 DEGREES, 18 MINUTES AND 38 SECONDS EAST 336.0 FEET; RUN THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES, 46 MINUTES AND 05 SECONDS EAST 136.0 FEET; RUN THENCE NORTH 01 DEGREES, 18 MINUTES AND 38 SECONDS WEST 336.0 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO POINT OF BEGINNING.  
SUBJECT TO AND TOGETHER WITH A NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT FOR INGRESS, EGRESS AND UTILITIES OVER, UNDER AND ACROSS A THIRTY (30) FOOT WIDE STRIP OF LAND LOCATED WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) FEET OF AND ON EACH SIDE OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED CENTERLINE: COMMENCE AT A CONCRETE MONUMENT ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE NW 1/4 OF SE 1/4 IN SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 7 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST, AND RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES, 41 MINUTES AND 13 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 1277.08 FEET TO THE EASTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD #S-325 (80 FOOT RIGHT-OF-WAY); THENCE RUN NORTHERLY AND ALONG SAID AFORESAID EASTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE A DISTANCE OF 697.22 FEET TO A 5/8" STEEL ROD AND CAP LOCATED ON SAID EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE AND THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE EASEMENT CENTERLINE; THENCE RUN SOUTH 71 DEGREES, 33 MINUTES AND 01 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 519.32 FEET TO A 5/8" STEEL ROD AND CAP; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES, 46 MINUTES AND

05 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 750 FEET AND THE TERMINUS OF SAID CENTERLINE; EASEMENT LINE SHALL BE LENGTHENED OR SHORTENED TO COMMENCE OR TERMINATE ON THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD #S-325.  
TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE HOME with Identification numbers GMHGA51881996A&B and with Title numbers 48141921 & 48148103 and with RP #'s R347176 & R347175, which is located thereon and considered a fixture thereof.  
Name in Which Assessed: MERLE P CARTER & SANDRA M COUEY  
Name on last tax roll, if different: SANDRA COUEY  
All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 12/6/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: Lisa Brannon  
LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
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Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 197  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 00845-0-00000  
Case Number: 04-2023-TD-0024  
Description of Property: Commence at the centerline intersection of State Road No. 225 and the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad thence North 46 degrees 31 minutes 44 seconds West along the centerline of State Road No. 225, 1778.47 feet, thence North 34 degrees 53 minutes 36 seconds East 50.56 feet to a point on the East right of way line of State Road No. 225 said point being the Point of Beginning; thence continue North 34 degrees 53 minutes 36 seconds East, 155.00 feet, thence South 46 degrees 31 minutes 44 seconds East 360.00 feet, thence South 34 degrees 53 minutes 36 seconds West 155.00 feet thence North 44 degrees 31 minutes 44 seconds West 360.00 feet to the Point of Beginning. Same lying in Section 4, Township 7, Range 21 East. Description Verified ejn/erml.  
Name in Which Assessed: GEORGE A WILL III  
Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 12/6/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.  
Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: Lisa Brannon  
LISA BRANNON, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.  
DATED: September 8, 2023  
DATE OF PUBLICATION: September 14, 2023; September 21, 2023;

September 28, 2023; October 5, 2023  
9/14 4tchg 10/5-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO.: 2022-CA-0105  
CIVIL DIVISION  
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,  
Plaintiff,  
vs  
UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF KATHLYN D. SANDERS, et al.,  
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION  
TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTITERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF JAMES LEE ALDRIDGE, JR.  
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:  
LOT 28, KNIGHTS REPLAT, ACCORDING TO MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 54 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA. LYING AND BEING IN SECTION 21, TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST, BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA.  
has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to, on De Cubas & Lewis, P.A., Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is PO BOX 5026, CORAL SPRINGS, FL 33310 on or before, a date at least thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the (Please publish in BRADFORD COUNTY TELEGRAPH) and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.  
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a proceeding, you are entitled to be provided with certain assistance at no cost to you. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 East University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601 (352) 337-6237 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service.  
WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 3 day of August, 2023.  
DENNY THOMPSON  
As Clerk of the Court  
By: K. Jenkins  
As Deputy Clerk  
9/21 2tchg 9/28-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROBATE DIVISION  
File No. 2023-CP-79  
IN RE: ESTATE OF HELEN M. KINNEY  
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
The administration of the estate of HELEN M. KINNEY, deceased, whose date of death was April 13, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division; File Number 2023-CP-79, the address of which is 945 North Temple Avenue, P.O. Drawer B, Starke, Florida 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.  
All creditors of the decedent and other persons, who have claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims, and who have been served a copy of this notice, must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons who have claims or demands against the decedent's estate, including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims, must file their claims with this court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.  
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.  
THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE IS: September 21, 2023.  
Attorney for Personal Representative: NORBERTO S. KATZ  
Florida Bar No. 399086  
THE VELIZ KATZ LAW FIRM  
630 North Wymore Road, Suite 330 Maitland, Florida 32751  
Telephone: (407) 849-7072  
E-Mail: velizlaw@velizkatzlaw.com  
Personal Representative  
MARTHA TOMPSON  
10747 South East County Road 221 Starke, Florida 32091  
9/21 2tchg 9/28-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE  
To satisfy the owner's storage lien, KO Storage LLC will sell at public lien sale on October 18, 2023. The personal property in the below-listed units, which may include but are not limited to: Household goods, boxes/totes/bags, clothing, bedding, tools

and toys. The public sale of these items will begin at 10AM on October 11, 2023 and end at 10AM on October 18, 2023. The public sale will take place on www.storagetreasures.com. KO Storage of Starke - S Walnut St, 1650 South Walnut Street, Starke FL 32091, (952) 314-7121  
Time: 10:00AM CST  
A49, Starling, Lynn, B80, Cantu, Timothy, B07, CHANDLER, ANTIONA, A74, Acta , Wilton, B38, Norman, Kenneth  
Public sale terms, rules, and regulations will be made available on www.storagetreasures.com. All sales are subject to cancellation. We reserve the right to refuse any bid. Payment must be by credit/debit card, we do not accept checks or cash. Buyers must secure the units with their own personal locks. To claim tax-exempt status, original RESALE certificates for each space purchased is required. By KO Storage LLC, 10301 Wayzata Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55305. (952)-314-7121.  
9/21 2tchg 9/28-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO. 04-2023-CA-338  
CAPITAL CITY BANK,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND/OR DEVISEES OF DENNIS C. RHODEN, Deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND/OR DEVISEES OF WAYNETTE S. RHODEN, Deceased; DENNIS C. RHODEN, JR. and LORI DENNETTE RHODEN, as surviving heirs of Dennis C. Rhoden, Deceased and Waynette S. Rhoden, Deceased; and JOHN DOE and JANE DOE (Unknown Tenants/Occupants),  
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION  
TO: LORI DENNETTE RHODEN  
23451 NW 32nd Place  
Lawtey, Florida 32058  
(Last Known Address)  
CHRISTOPHER SCOTT RHODEN  
1610 West Madison Street, F3 Starke, Florida 32091  
(Last Known Address)  
CORBETT BRANDON RHODEN  
1610 West Madison Street, F3 Starke, Florida 32091  
(Last Known Address)  
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage securing a debt on the following property in Bradford County, Florida:  
A parcel of land lying in Lots 55, 56, 57 and 58 of Woodlawn in Section 15, Township 5 South, Range 22 East, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 17 of the public records of Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being shown as Parcel 27 on a map prepared by Patrick B. Welch & Associates, Inc. and recorded in Misc. Map Book 1, Page 1 of the public records of said County, also being described as follows:  
Commence at an iron rod set at an intersection of the Southerly boundary of said Section 15 with the Southerly boundary of the right of way of County Road 125 (formerly State Road 125) and run North 89 degrees, 27 minutes and 23 seconds West, along the Southerly boundary of said Section 15, a distance of 458.01 feet to a set concrete monument; thence South 0 degrees, 32 minutes and 37 seconds West, 15.00 feet; thence North 86 degrees, 21 minutes and 33 seconds West, 492.32 feet to a set iron rod; thence North 89 degrees, 33 minutes and 20 seconds West, 803.02 feet to a set iron rod; thence North 00 degrees, 32 minutes and 37 seconds East, 341.58 feet to a set iron rod for the Point of Beginning. From Point of Beginning thus described run North 89 degrees, 27 minutes and 23 seconds West, parallel with last said Southerly boundary, 690.33 feet to the Westerly boundary of said Section 15 (also being the Easterly boundary of a parcel of land described in Deed Book 82, Page 119 of said public records); thence North 00 degrees, 47 minutes and 56 seconds East, along said Westerly boundary and along said Easterly boundary, 315.83 feet; thence South 89 degrees, 27 minutes and 23 seconds East, parallel with last said Southerly boundary, 688.92 feet to a set iron rod; thence South 00 degrees, 32 minutes and 37 seconds West, 315.82 feet to the Point of Beginning.  
Together With that certain Mobile Home situated thereon, has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Plaintiff's attorney, J. Marshall Conrad, whose address is Ausley & McMullen, Post Office Box 391, Tallahassee, Florida 32302, on or before October 21, 2023, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.  
DATED on September 14, 2023.  
DENNY THOMPSON, Clerk of Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
By: K. Jenkins  
Deputy Clerk  
945 N. Temple Avenue  
Starke, Florida 32091  
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Clerk's Office (904) 966-6280 within seven (7) working days of your receipt of this notice; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.  
9/21 2tchg 9/28-BCT

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

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

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

# AWARDS

Continued from page 9

were presented to youth in each age division. Youth earned gold, silver or bronze status based on establishing a project plan, attending club meetings, giving presentations, attending, participating or competing in club-, county-, district- or state-level activities, completing service projects and completing project books.

"I had the privilege of judging these," Sanders said. "I just want to say the participation these kids do and community activities and outreach within the community and their 4-H club is amazing."

Gold awards were presented to Shayna Durrance, Kayla Griffis, Raegan Luke, Saylor Rhoden and Ansley Ward.

The following received silver awards: Ridge Bradley, Teagan Bradley, Regan Broome, Auston McKenzie, Kaitlyn McKenzie, Kierstyn McKenzie, Payton McKenzie, Kylie Odom, Ryleigh

Rhoden, Mason Stone, Nicholas Ward and Shawn Ward.

A bronze award went to Adelaide Wainwright.

Joshua Griffis received a Cloverbud Performance Award. Cloverbuds are 4-H members who are 5-7 years old.

Cloverbuds in attending the banquet besides Griffis were Ansley Smith and Callie Smith. All three received certificates for their participation as cloverbuds.

## Club leaders and other 4-H supporters

"Clubs are the backbone of our program," Whitehead said. "Our club leaders are among the best. These are the caring adults who impact youth throughout the county with the countless hours of volunteer work they put into their clubs."

The following club leaders were recognized: Kristen Canon with Crafty Clovers, Tamara Dinkins with GRITS, Kim Griffis with Green Acres, Hailey

McElhenny with Blue Ribbon Swine, Dana McKenzie with Show Stoppers, Kara Rhoden with Horsin' Around, Miranda Sellers with Little Rascals, Laura Sirak with Young Bucks and Kaitlin Van Heusen with Fancy Feathers.

"Without these guys, are 4-H program would not be as strong," Whitehead said. "These caring adults are pillars who lift our youth to their potential."

Whitehead expressed her appreciation to all who support and sponsor the 4-H program, saying, "You are sending kids to horse contests and shows. You are sending kids to national contests. You're also helping sponsor kids who can't afford summer day camps."

"We couldn't do it without you. Your donation is greatly appreciated and is spent very wisely on the youth."

Bradford County Commissioner Diane Andrews and County Manager Scott Kornegay received Community Support Awards. Commissioners



**Bradford County 4-H staff expressed their appreciation to new Executive Secretary Tamara Dinkins and new Agricultural Program Assistant Sterling Westbrook. Pictured (l-r) are Horticulture and Small Farms Agent Luke Harlow, Dinkins, Westbrook and Livestock and Natural Resource Agent Lizzie Whitehead.**

Chris Dougherty, Danny Riddick, Carolyn Spooner and Kenny Thompson weren't present, but they received awards as well.

An award was also presented to Mary Bledsoe, who wasn't present. Whitehead said Bledsoe "has bent over backward for our youth in our community." Her efforts included providing the food for 140 youths at the livestock-judging contest at the Bradford Agricultural Fair.

Sanders expressed her thanks to UF/IFAS Extension Dean Andra Johnson and State 4-H Program Leader Stacey Ellison as well as to those who work at the Bradford Extension office. Whitehead and Horticulture and Small Farms Agent Luke Harlow were, at times this past year, the only ones manning the office, Sanders said, adding, "They kept it going."

Tamara Dinkins (executive

secretary) and Sterling Westbrook (agricultural program assistant) are recent additions to the office. Their efforts have been greatly appreciated, Sanders said. Both received gifts of appreciation to close the banquet.

"We can't thank them enough for all they do in the office," Sanders said, adding, "We appreciate it, and thank you. We look forward to great things for many years."

# Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Sept. 28, 2023 CONTINUED from pg 14

## BRADFORD

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 734  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 02612-0-00100  
Case Number: 2023-TD-0038  
Description of Property: A parcel of land lying in Block 1 North, Range 2 East of Simon J. Temple's Subdivision as per plat thereof recorded in Deed Book C, Page 424 of the public records of Bradford County, Florida, and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at the initial point of Simon J. Temple's Subdivision said initial point being located at the intersection of the center line of the right of way of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad and the center line of Market Road (formerly Center Street). From said initial point run South 72 degrees and 15 minutes East along said center line of Market Road (formerly Center Street) a distance of 516.8 feet to a point; run thence North 15 degrees and 54 minutes East a distance of 30 feet to a concrete monument; run thence South 72 degrees and 15 minutes East along the Northerly boundary of the right of way of said Market Road a distance of 312.87 feet to a concrete monument for point of beginning.

From point of beginning thus described continue South 72 degrees and 15 minutes East along said Northerly boundary a distance of 65 feet to a concrete monument; run thence North 17 degrees, 25 minutes and 10 seconds East a distance of 160 feet to a point; run thence North 72 degrees and 15 minutes West a distance of 65 feet to concrete monument; run thence South 17 degrees, 25 minutes and 10 seconds West a distance of 160 feet to point of beginning.

Name in Which Assessed: LEVY MCCLOUD

Name on last tax roll, if different: All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 12/13/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: KANETRA JENKINS  
Kanetra Jenkins, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.

DATED: September 15, 2023  
DATE OF PUBLICATION: September 21, 2023; September 28, 2023; October 5, 2023; October 12, 2023

### WARNING

THERE ARE UNPAID TAXES ON PROPERTY WHICH YOU OWN, IN WHICH YOU MAY HAVE A LEGAL INTEREST, OR IS CONTINGUOUS TO YOUR PROPERTY. THE PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION ON 12/13/2023, UNLESS THE BACK TAXES ARE PAID. TO MAKE PAYMENT, OR TO RECEIVE FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT THE CLERK OF COURT IMMEDIATELY AT 945 N. TEMPLE AVE/P.O. DRAWER B, STARKE, FL 32091 OR (904)966-6280.

Payment must be CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK or MONEY ORDER made payable to BRADFORD COUNTY CLERK OF THE COURT.

9/21 4tchg 10/12-BCT

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that SHIRLEY R PICKFORD REVOCABLE TRUST the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 760  
Year of Issuance: 2017  
Parcel Number: 02689-0-00000  
Case Number: 2023-TD-0039  
Description of Property: South 93.75 feet of the East 75 feet of West 360 feet of West Half of Southwest

Quarter Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East.

Name in Which Assessed: CHARLES H SMITH; LILLIAN SMITH  
Name on last tax roll, if different: CHARLES H SMITH (DEC)

All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 12/13/2023, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: Kanetra Jenkins  
KANETRA JENKINS, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.

DATED: September 15, 2023  
DATE OF PUBLICATION: September 21, 2023; September 28, 2023; October 5, 2023; October 12, 2023

### WARNING

THERE ARE UNPAID TAXES ON PROPERTY WHICH YOU OWN, IN WHICH YOU MAY HAVE A LEGAL INTEREST, OR IS CONTINGUOUS TO YOUR PROPERTY. THE PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION ON 12/13/2023, UNLESS THE BACK TAXES ARE PAID. TO MAKE PAYMENT, OR TO RECEIVE FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT THE CLERK OF COURT IMMEDIATELY AT 945 N. TEMPLE AVE/P.O. DRAWER B, STARKE, FL 32091 OR (904)966-6280.

Payment must be CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK or MONEY ORDER made payable to BRADFORD COUNTY CLERK OF THE COURT.

9/21 4tchg 10/12-BCT

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that MIKON FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC AND OCEAN BANK the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 949  
Year of Issuance: 2021  
Parcel Number: 05488-A-00600  
Case Number: 2023-TD-0040

Description of Property: Lots 20, 21, 22 Smokerise Subdivision as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 33 of the Public Records of Bradford County, Florida

Name in Which Assessed: JACQUES TODD CALDWELL AS TENANTS IN COMMON; MARY JEANNE CALDWELL CABANEL AS TENANTS IN COMMON

Name on last tax roll, if different: JACQUES T CALDWELL ET AL  
All of said property being in the County of Bradford, State of Florida. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on 01/03/2024, at 11:00 AM, or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

Denny Thompson, Clerk Of The Circuit Court  
Bradford County, Florida  
BY: Kanetra Jenkins  
KANETRA JENKINS, Deputy Clerk  
Contact the Tax Deed Office at 904-966-6280 to obtain the amount necessary to redeem.

DATED: September 15, 2023  
DATE OF PUBLICATION: September 21, 2023; September 28, 2023; October 5, 2023; October 12, 2023

### WARNING

THERE ARE UNPAID TAXES ON PROPERTY WHICH YOU OWN, IN WHICH YOU MAY HAVE A LEGAL INTEREST, OR IS CONTINGUOUS TO YOUR PROPERTY. THE PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION ON 01/03/2024, UNLESS THE BACK TAXES ARE PAID. TO MAKE PAYMENT, OR TO RECEIVE FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT THE CLERK OF COURT IMMEDIATELY AT 945 N. TEMPLE AVE/P.O. DRAWER B, STARKE, FL 32091 OR (904)966-6280.

Payment must be CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK or MONEY ORDER made payable to BRADFORD COUNTY CLERK OF THE COURT.

9/21 4tchg 10/12-BCT

### SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, the following application for permit was

received on June 5, 2023:

GH&G Starke, LLC, 400 River Vista Dr, Atlanta, GA 30339 has submitted an environmental resource permit (ERP) application number ERP-007-246154-1. The project is located in Bradford County, Section 28, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, and includes 2.49-acres.

Interested persons may comment upon the application or submit a written request for a staff report containing proposed agency action regarding the application by writing to the Suwannee River Water Management District, Attn: Resource Management, 9225 C.R. 49, Live Oak, Florida 32060. Such comments or requests must be received by 5:00 PM within 14 days from the date of publication.

No further public notice will be provided regarding this application. A copy of the staff report must be requested in order to remain advised of further proceedings. Substantially affected persons are entitled to request an administrative hearing, pursuant to Title 28, Florida Administrative Code, regarding the proposed agency action by submitting a written request after reviewing the staff report.

9/28 1tchg-BCT

### NEW RIVER BOARD MEETING

The New River Community Health Center Board of Directors will meet Thursday, September 28, 2023 at the Community State Bank Board Room, 811 South Walnut Street, Starke, FL 32091 from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm.

9/28 1tchg-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

FILE NO.: 23-CP-000081

IN RE: ESTATE OF JOSEPH WOLFE LAPLANTE DECEASED.

### NOTICE OF ACTION

(Formal Notice by Publication)  
TO: All known and unknown heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, or all others who may have an interest in the above estate:

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a Petition to Appoint Administrator Ad Litem and a Petition for Administration has been filed in this court. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on petitioner's attorney, whose name and address are:

L. Michael Maddox, Esq  
2119 Riverside Ave  
Jacksonville, Florida 32204

on or before 10/30/2023, and to file the original of the written defenses with the clerk of this court either before service or immediately thereafter. Failure to serve and file written defenses as required may result in a judgment or order for relief demanded, without further notice.

Dated on Sept. 5th, 2023.  
Denny Thompson  
As Clerk of the Court  
BY: Tasher Allen  
As Deputy Clerk

9/28 4tchg 10/19-BCT

### PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

CareerSource Florida Crown will hold a Special Board Meeting  
Date: October 2, 2023, Monday  
Time: 10:30am  
Place: Teleconference & CareerSource Board Room-1389 US Hwy 90 W Ste 170/Lake City, FL  
Join Zoom Meeting  
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3962013193?pwd=bnRSL3JocTFiL0ZHWU9tUjJkZStvQT09

Call In 1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
Meeting ID: 396 201 3193  
Participant ID: #  
Passcode: 944786

It is advised that you call in as well as log in via the computer application. The public is invited to attend. Notice has been made of this meeting, through publication, to comply with the "Government in the Sunshine Law". All CareerSource Florida Crown public meetings are listed on the CareerSource Florida Crown web site at www.careersourcefloridacrown.com.

CareerSource Florida Crown is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711. Contact Jeff Geering at 386-755-9026 X 3221.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need to record the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

9/28 1tchg-BCT

## UNION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION

CASE NO. 23000039CAAXMX LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs. MAURICE PATTERSON, et al. Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated July 20, 2023, and entered in 23000039CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the EIGHTH Judicial Circuit in and for Union County, Florida, wherein LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC is the Plaintiff and MAURICE PATTERSON; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MAURICE PATTERSON N/K/A VONSCHCELL GANDY are the Defendant(s). Kellie Hendricks Rhoades as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Front Lobby, Union County Courthouse 55 W. Main Street, Lake Butler, FL 32054, at 11:00 AM, on **October 12, 2023**, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

THAT PORTION OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 18 EAST, UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, LYING NORTH OF STATE ROAD 100. TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 2006 HORTON SINGLE-WIDE MOBILE HOME, VIN NUMBER H215997G AND TITLE NUMBER 96688086.

Property Address: 9125 W STATE ROAD 100, LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 45.031. Dated this 13 day of September, 2023.

Kellie Hendricks Rhoades  
As Clerk of the Court  
By: C Norman  
As Deputy Clerk

### IMPORTANT

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a proceeding, you are entitled to be provided with certain assistance at no cost to you. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 East University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601 (352) 337-6237 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service.

9/21 2tchg 9/28-BCT

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

FILE NO. 2023-CP-000039 Division

IN RE: ESTATE OF TIMOTHY YORK MAINES, SR. Deceased

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Timothy York Maines, Sr., deceased, whose date of death was January 25, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Union County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 55 West Main Street, Room 103, Lake Butler, FL 32054. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.202 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

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

The date of first publication of this notice is September 21, 2023.

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Sean P. Mason  
Sean P. Mason  
Attorney  
Florida Bar Number: 73894  
Mason Law Firm, P.A.  
330 A1A North, Suite 323  
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082  
Telephone: (904) 565-1421  
Fax: (904) 371-3123  
E-Mail: sean@masonfirm.net  
Secondary E-Mail: mary@masonfirm.net  
Personal Representative:  
Susan Y. Maines  
3665 Highway 1  
Raceland, Louisiana 70394

9/21 2tchg 9/28-UCT

File No. 2023-CP-000039 Division

IN RE: ESTATE OF TIMOTHY YORK MAINES, SR. Deceased

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Timothy York Maines, Sr., deceased, whose date of death was January 25, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Union County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 55 West Main Street, Room 103, Lake Butler, FL 32054. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.202 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

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

The date of first publication of this notice is September 21, 2023.

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Sean P. Mason  
Sean P. Mason  
Attorney  
Florida Bar Number: 73894  
Mason Law Firm, P.A.  
330 A1A North, Suite 323  
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082  
Telephone: (904) 565-1421  
Fax: (904) 371-3123  
E-Mail: sean@masonfirm.net  
Secondary E-Mail: mary@masonfirm.net  
Personal Representative:  
Susan Y. Maines  
3665 Highway 1  
Raceland, Louisiana 70394

9/21 2tchg 9/28-UCT

### NOTICE

The 2023 Union County Value Adjustment Board will hold it's Organizational Meeting Tuesday, October 3, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

In County Commission Room No 101  
55 West Main Street  
Lake Butler, FL

### HEARINGS

Hearings for Petitions filed with the Union County Value Adjustment Board

Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Alternate Hearing Date for Petitions filed will be

Held Monday, October 9, 2023 @

9:00 a.m.

All hearings will be held in County Commission Room 101  
55 West Main Street  
Lake Butler, FL 32054  
9/28 1tchg-UCT

### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME

Notice is hereby given that CLINT S. DAVIS LLC, OWNER, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of DAVIS SITE PREP located at 3775 NW 92ND TRAIL, LAKE BUTLER, FLORIDA 32054 intends to register the said name in UNION county with the Division of Corporations, Florida Department of State, pursuant to section 865.09 of the Florida Statutes. Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.

9/28 1tchg-UCT

County Court  
Bradford County  
Case No.: 04-2004-CC-0297

Campus USA Credit Union Plaintiff

VS

Carrie Ann Godsmark, As Individual  
AKA Carrie Ann Young Defendant

### AMENDED NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued in the County Court of Bradford County, Florida, on the 17th day of April, 2023 in the cause wherein CAMPUS USA CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff, and Carrie Ann Godsmark, Defendant, being Case number: 04-2004-CC-0297, in said court, I, Brad Whitehead, as Sheriff of Union County, Florida, have levied upon all the right, title and interest of the Defendant, Carrie Ann Godsmark in and to the following described personal property, to-wit: 2018 Ford F150, Color: Red VIN:1FTEW1C53JFA88655

I shall offer this property for sale at 55 West Main Street, Room 102, County of Union, Florida, on Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 at 10:00AM, or as soon thereafter as possible. I will offer for sale all the said Defendant's, Carrie Ann Godsmark right, title, and interest in the aforesaid personal property, at public auction and will sell the same, subject to taxes, all prior liens, encumbrances and judgments, if any, to the highest and best bidder for CASH IN HAND plus Florida sales tax if appropriate. The monies received through the levy on sale will be paid as prescribed by Fla. Stat. 56.27 and in accordance with the American with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding shall contact the individual or agency sending notice not later than seven days prior to the proceeding at the address given on notice. Union County Sheriff's Office 386-496-2501

Brad Whitehead, As Sheriff of Union County, Florida  
By: Lieutenant B. Miller  
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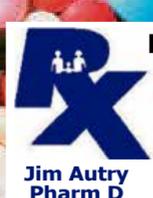
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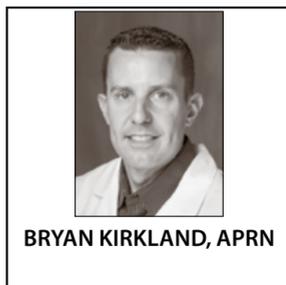
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# KRUZAN

Continued from page 12

said. "It has a lot of culture going on."

With a laugh, she added, "It's got mountains, which we don't

have very much of in Florida."

When it came time to apply to colleges, Kruzan said she had made up her mind she wanted to

go to school in Nashville. She convinced her mother to take her on a college visit to Nashville. Her mother agreed to do so if Kruzan would visit more than just Vanderbilt University. That led to a trip to Belmont.

Kruzan said she liked the fact that Christianity in a broad sense was a part of the Belmont culture.

She also found the Belmont campus to be full of friendly people.

"Long story short, I ended up loving Belmont. Didn't really care for Vanderbilt," Kruzan said, adding, "People were really, really nice at Belmont. Everybody was friendly. In my four years there, I maybe met two people who I didn't like."

Though she admitted it's stressful, Kruzan said she does enjoy change, such as moving to Nashville and now living in Chicago.

"I said that Nashville was not big enough of a city, apparently," she cracked.

In all seriousness, she's enjoying her new experiences, which include enjoying non-Florida weather.

"We have all four seasons up here, which is delightful," Kruzan said. "I think living in a city is very interesting in like you're kind of part of this massive, massive place, but at the same time, the neighborhoods almost feel like their own small, little

towns. You kind of get a different flavor with each neighborhood.

"Also, it's nice to not have to drive everywhere. Using a bus is great."

## Entrepreneur, student, teacher

Kruzan said Belmont University is "pretty plugged into the tech sector in Nashville." That led to an internship with a healthcare start-up, which eventually led to a full-time job.

"Basically, that start-up took in a bunch of healthcare claims and just ran a bunch of data on them," Kruzan said. "Their main business was showing hospitals how they could get referrals from like primary care and all this other stuff. What I did was I helped them build a product that took patients' previous claim histories and would predict how likely they were to get a particular disease like lung cancer."

The desire to branch out on her own came from wanting the flexibility to choose her own projects.

"I also kind of wanted to niche down, specifically to small businesses," Kruzan said.

That began in January 2021. Kruzan described taking the plunge into going into business for herself "genuinely terrifying," adding, "I just believed in myself

and hoped for the best."

Kruzan benefited some from having friends who are entrepreneurs, saying she was able to avoid learning some of the "hard lessons" on her own.

Wearing many hats has also benefited her as well.

"At the end of the day, you're not just doing the work of data science," Kruzan said. "You're also doing all of the marketing, you're doing the selling, you're doing all the back-end business stuff. Obviously, you can hire this stuff out, but early on, you have no clue what to do."

"That side of it also helped me to get more business savvy and be able to talk to small businessowners."

So, what advice would Kruzan give to someone who wants to start a business? For one, she said accept the fact that mistakes are OK.

"It's OK to try something out. If it doesn't work, it's OK to leave it. It's OK to try things out and fail," Kruzan said, adding, "As long as you're learning things along the way, that's the key."

Kruzan said to also not adhere to a one-business-model-fits-all approach. Just because something's always been done one way doesn't mean that's the way you have to do it. With regard to her own experience, she said, "It was kind of fun to kind of experiment. Try this thing for a little bit, try this thing for a little bit and end up finding something that works out."

## The future

Kruzan is currently working toward her Ph.D. at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She's also a teaching assistant, which has provided her with an experience she'd like to continue.

"I didn't want to be a teacher as an undergrad, but now, as it turns out, I'm wanting to be a professor," Kruzan said.

That's what Kruzan finds so interesting about her life's journey. She wanted a career in math, but didn't know that specific career would be. All she could do was follow her passion, which is what she encourages young people to do.

"Listen to yourself," Kruzan said. "Trust whatever you feel called to do and what you feel like you enjoy doing. Trust that will get you to where you want to go, and you will be happy."

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# VOLLEY

Continued from page 11



**The Indians' Kadence Carlton receives a serve. Kaylee Paschall (background) is also pictured.**

Union led 23-22 with Jordan Hendricks serving. Keystone's Abbie Roach was able to block an attack by Jaily Simmons, but the Tigers eventually scored on a Barber kill. Simmons then recorded a kill for the set-winning point.

The Indians took a 14-7 lead in the third set with Sammi Potter serving, with one point coming off a Mya Jennings kill. Shaw later added two kills to help Keystone go up 20-14.

Three straight points (including an ace) with Barber serving helped the Tigers cut the Indians' lead to 21-18. Simmons scored two points off free balls and Southerland assists during a four-point stretch with Jurney Crim serving as Union went ahead 23-22.

A Roach block forced side-out and tied the score at 23-23. Keystone got a kill from Shaw in scoring the final two points and avoiding the sweep.

Union got 12 kills from Barber and 11 from Simmons. Parrish added six kills.

Hendricks and Southerland each had 15 assists, with Southerland also adding six



**Kamryn Southerland serves for Union. The Tigers scored 13 straight points in the fourth set with Southerland serving to avoid dropping a second straight set and close out the 3-1 match win.**

service aces and six digs. Hendricks had 10 digs.

Crim and Barber led the team in digs with 20 and 17, respectively. Indi Knox had seven, while Abby Williams had six.

Simmons and Parrish had seven and five blocks, respectively.

It was the first win in three matches for the Tigers, who were coming off a 3-0 loss to The Rock on Sept. 19.

Barber and Simmons each had eight kills in the loss to The Rock. Crim led the team in digs with 10, while Bella Johns had six. Hendricks and Southerland had 10 and seven assists, respectively.

The Tigers, who played Dixie County on Sept. 23 and The Rock on Sept. 26, travel to play Branford on Thursday, Sept. 28, at 6:30 p.m. Union hosts Bell on Saturday, Sept. 30, at 11 a.m. and Dixie County on Tuesday, Oct. 3, at 6:30 p.m.

Union's junior varsity team plays one hour prior to each match.

Keystone played Oakleaf this past Tuesday and will host Newberry on Thursday, Sept. 28, at 7 p.m. The Indians travel to play Fleming Island on Monday, Oct. 2, at 7 p.m. before returning home to play Baker County on Tuesday, Oct. 3, at 7 p.m.

The Indians' junior varsity team will play one hour prior to each match.

# UCHS

Continued from page 11

Anderson gaining 3 yards, but a bad snap on the next play resulted in a 17-yard loss. Union's defense held and forced

# KHHS

Continued from page 11

then dropped for a 4-yard loss on his next carry. Two plays later, though, Ford hit Andru Siemer in stride along the visitors' sideline for a 32-yard touchdown pass. Sapp added the extra point for a 16-8 lead.

Approximately three minutes remained in the first quarter, but Keystone had more points to add to the scoreboard before entering the second quarter. Interlachen's first play following Siemer's touchdown reception was a fumble, which the Indians' Talan Messina recovered. Keystone's first play after the turnover was a 35-yard reception by Siemer to the Interlachen 13-yard line. Siemer finished with three catches for 77 yards.

The offense did stall after that, but Sapp kicked a 27-yard field goal to extend his team's lead to 19-8.

Keystone came up with its second pick-six in two weeks when Kyle Perkins intercepted a pass on the Rams' second series of the second quarter and returned it more than 40 yards to put the Indians up 25-8 at the 8:16 mark of the second quarter. Ford's pass on the two-point conversion attempt was incomplete.

Interlachen picked up its first first down on its next series, but the Rams eventually punted after Dowling tackled a runner for a 1-yard loss on a third-and-2 play.

With the ball at their own 21, the Indians needed just two plays to find the end zone as Daniels, who finished with 150 yards on 17 carries, spun out of a tackle and made his way down the home sideline for a 79-yard touchdown with 3:02 remaining

Orlando Christian to punt with 4:20 remaining.

After two incomplete passes to start their next drive, the Tigers gained a first down on a 50-yard run by Woodall. Drew Simmons then had carries for 9 and 15 yards, but a holding penalty

brought the second run back. Union eventually turned the ball over on downs, which allowed the Warriors to take a knee and run out the clock.

Woodall complemented his ground game with two catches for 81 yards, giving him 159 all-

purpose yards.

The Tigers finished with 288 yards, while the Warriors had 176.

Klein and Cole Austin led the defense in tackles with nine each. Jacob Jenkins had seven, while Boney had six.

for a 48-yard run to the 2-yard line. Hollingsworth, who had 74 yards on six carries, then scored on a run from there with 8:31 remaining in the third quarter.

Sapp then completed his 4-for-4 night on extra-point kicks for the final 46-8 score.

Keystone's defense created another turnover on a Parmeter interception, while Brody Stevens entered on offense and gained 26 yards on four carries.

In all, the Indians rushed for 225 yards on 31 carries.

The Indians' upcoming game against Bradford is their first against District 6-2S competition. Bradford's defense, which was stingy last season, is

strong again. Opponents have scored a total of 20 points against the Tornados, with six of those points coming as the result of a special-teams play.

Bradford (4-0) had a bye last week after a 34-7 win over an Eastside team that defeated Keystone 35-0.

Last year's meeting between the Indians and Tornados was a 38-0 Bradford win.

"We're going to be going there for their homecoming," Reynolds said. "They had a bye this week, so they'll be well-rested. They're a great club. We're excited to go over there and take on the Tornados."

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#### SCHEDULE:

<b>WEDNESDAY Oct. 11</b> 7:00-8:45pm: Opening Session	<b>THURSDAY Oct. 12</b> 9am-12pm: Morning Session 12pm-1pm: Lunch Provided 1pm-4pm: Afternoon Session 4pm-5pm: Free Time 5pm-6:30pm: Dinner Provided 6:30pm-8:30pm: Evening Session	<b>FRIDAY Oct. 13</b> 9am-12:30pm: Morning Session
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Call or text Pastor Terry J. Blakeslee at (904) 796-2359

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# Bradford grad Balfour has game-high mark against Gators

**BY CLIFF SMELLEY**  
Telegraph Staff Writer

University of North Carolina at Charlotte redshirt sophomore defensive back Dontae Balfour, a 2021 Bradford High School graduate, recorded a game-high

six solo tackles in his team's 22-7 loss to the Florida Gators on Sept. 23 in Gainesville.

Balfour's six solo tackles tied a career best, which he also accomplished in the 49ers' previous game (a 41-25 loss to Georgia State on Sept. 16).

In all, Balfour had eight tackles, which was tied for second on his team. He also forced a third-quarter fumble that his team recovered.

The Charlotte defense held UF to just one touchdown in five red-zone trips. Florida also converted

just 1 of 9 third-down attempts.

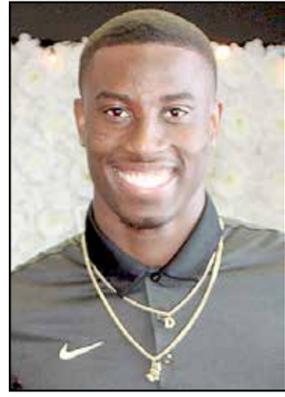
Balfour, who spent two years at North Carolina before transferring to Charlotte this year, has 22 tackles (15 solo) for the season.

Charlotte (1-3) plays at SMU on Saturday, Sept. 30, at 7 p.m. The game will be broadcast on ESPN.

The 49ers can also be seen on ESPN 2 in their home game against Florida Atlantic on Friday, Oct. 27, at 7:30 p.m.

Charlotte opened the season with a 24-3 win over South Carolina State, but has since lost two straight. Prior to playing Georgia State, the 49ers lost 38-20 to Maryland.

The 49ers played in



**Dontae Balfour**

Conference USA before joining the American Athletic Conference this year. The AAC

also consists of East Carolina, Florida Atlantic, Memphis, Navy, North Texas, Rice, SMU, South Florida, Temple, Tulane, Tulsa, UAB and UTSA.

Balfour was a first-team Class 4A All-State selection his senior year at BHS, recording team highs in tackles with 77 (75 solo) and interceptions (4).

## DAR chapter meets Oct. 2

The Col. Samuel Elbert Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, will meet Monday, Oct. 2, at 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall of Keystone United Methodist Church (4004 S.R. 21).

Light refreshments will be available.

Do you have a Revolutionary War-era patriot in your family tree? If you would like to find out, DAR can help with its genealogical resources. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove direct descent from a person who aided in achieving American independence between April 19, 1775, and Nov. 26, 1783, is eligible for membership. Please contact Tara Hildebran at 904-964-2352 for more information.

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