

Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — Starke, Florida

Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025

146th year, 6th Issue — \$1



Bradford fire assessment approved

Fire Chief Ben Carter makes his case in front of an audience mostly hostile to the fire assessment resolution, which Bradford County commissioners passed 4-0 Tuesday night following hours of public comments, including calls to vote them out of office. Households that don't qualify for an exemption will see the \$167 on their annual tax bills beginning this year. For more on what happened, see inside.

Keystone Heights updates community redevelopment plan

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

The Keystone Heights City Council approved an update to its community development plan during its August 4 meeting. The update was recommended by the CRA Board on June 23, 2025, to guide future redevelopment projects.

Florida law allows cities to establish community redevelopment agencies to improve infrastructure, combat blight, and foster economic development within a community redevelopment district. Keystone's district runs along South Lawrence Boulevard.

The projects are funded by increases in property taxes on parcels within the district that would otherwise go to the county.

In the past, Keystone's CRA has funded a façade program that allowed businesses within the district to improve the exterior of their buildings and a sign program that funded business sign replacements along South Lawrence Boulevard.

Most recently, the city used CRA

funds to acquire and demolish the China Chef Restaurant at the corner of South Lawrence Boulevard and Walker Drive.

During the council's March 3 meeting, members reviewed their current list of community improvement projects. Those include \$15,000 to resurface the city's basketball courts, \$8,000 to repair Geneva Jungle, the city's playground within Keystone Beach Park, \$9,000 for pickleball courts, \$7,000 for picnic tables, and \$8,000 for roadway signs.

City Manager Jamie Booth summarized the updated plan during the council's August 4 meeting. The plan now focuses on four areas: streetscape and parking improvements on South Lawrence Boulevard, Commercial Circle, and sidewalk enhancements for ADA compliance; park upgrades for Keystone Beach, Natural Park, and a new downtown pocket park, economic development through festivals, business grants, and a downtown manager, and infrastructure investments through property acquisition, a city museum,



Earlier CRA projects included new signs for South Lawrence Street businesses.

and underground utility lines.

The streamlined eight-page plan, crafted with input from Janice Fleet, replaces the 2015 plan and addresses audit findings by ensuring future projects align with these categories.

The update responds to recent legislative scrutiny of CRAs, providing a framework to justify expenditures and avoid audit issues.

Booth noted that unallocated CRA trust fund balances will now be tied to specific project areas, addressing a recurring audit finding. The council unanimously approved the plan, ensuring compliance with state statutes and flexibility for long-term redevelopment.

Union school board approves new student handbooks

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
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Union County School Board members, during their August 26 meeting, approved student handbooks for Lake Butler Elementary, Lake Butler Middle, and Union County High Schools for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Lake Butler Elementary

The elementary handbook covers identification requirements while on campus, procedures for early sign out, bus rules, pick up and drop off locations and policies, attendance and electronic device rules.

"Personal cell phones, smart watches, pagers or any kind of recording devices are prohibited at school," the document reads. "If personal phones ring or are used during the school day, the device will be subject to confiscation to be returned only to a parent. Repeated offenses may result in disciplinary action."

The student dress code guides primary school students. It includes prohibitions on tobacco, alcohol, or drug logos, baggy pants that drag on the floor, exposed underwear, halter tops, or shirts with spaghetti straps, bare stomachs or backs, and short shorts or skirts.

Lake Butler Middle School

The middle school handbook discusses the use by students of artificial intelligence.

"LBMS recognizes the growing role of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) as a tool to enhance learning and creativity," the handbook reads. "The expectation is that students will develop their knowledge, skills, and understanding of course material rather than relying on GenAI tools, and they should ask their teachers when they have questions and/or need assistance. While students may consult GenAI tools as a resource, they must demonstrate mastery of the subject matter and adhere to academic integrity standards. Plagiarism involving GenAI, submitting AI-generated content as the student's original work, or any other unethical use of GenAI is strictly prohibited."

While the elementary school prohibits cell phones on campus, the middle school policy allows the devices on school property, but they must remain off during school hours.

"Electronic devices such as smart watches (ex., Apple watches, etc.), iPods, recording devices, lasers, etc. are also not to be used during school hours," the handbook states. "These devices must be out of sight. Earbuds and headphones may only be used for school-related assignments but not worn around school. Cell phones are not to be used in the restroom."

The middle school's dress code prohibits trench coats, blankets, revealing attire, clothing with offensive language or images, headgear and holes in pants above where the student's fingertips fall beside the outerwear.

Union County High School

The high school handbook addresses academic requirements for NCAA Division 1 eligibility.

It states that student-athletes entering Division 1 schools must have graduated from high school and must have completed 16 core courses before their senior year in high school. A minimum 2.3 GPA is required.

The handbook also discusses athletic teams, clubs, and organizations, prohibiting secret societies, hazing, and discrimination based on race, sex, creed, or religious background. The document also states a student must maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher to participate in extracurricular



The high school's handbook points out that the district is required to report to the Department of Motor Vehicles any student who has accumulated 15 unexcused absences within 90 calendar days. "Those students' driver's licenses will be suspended along with their driving privileges until they attend school with no unexcused absences within 30 calendar days," the handbook adds.

activities.

The handbook's attendance section points out that the district is required to report to the Department of Motor Vehicles any student who has accumulated 15 unexcused absences within 90 calendar days.

"Those students' driver's licenses will be suspended along with their driving privileges until they attend school with no unexcused absences within 30 calendar days," the handbook states. "Students that are turned into the DMV for attendance issues will lose their driving privileges and will not receive privileges until they can provide proof of a valid driver's license."



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WORTH NOTING

Food distribution at RJE

A communitywide food distribution hosted by Feeding Northeast Florida and True Vine Ministry will take place Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 8:30 a.m. at the RJE Complex on Pine Street in Starke.

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

Providence Village church launches kids program

Providence Village Baptist Church will kick off its FBI (Faithful Bible Investigators) Kids Program on Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 6 p.m. The program offers classes for children from pre-K4 through youth and includes Bible study, games and other activities.

Providence Village Baptist Church is located at 4505 W. State Road 238 in Providence. More information is available at www.providencevillage.org.

Lunch for first responders, public employees

VFW Post 10082 in Lake Butler will have its annual Patriot's Day luncheon on Thursday, Sept. 11, at 11 a.m. at the VFW. The post will serve fried chicken, potato salad and baked beans with dessert. VFW invites all law enforcement, fire/rescue, forestry, road department, waste management, RMC/Outside grounds, county commissioners, city commission and council members, city employees, and all other first responders.

Celebration planned for Deacon Oliver Crum

New Covenant Baptist Ministries will host a celebration in honor of Deacon Oliver Crum on Sunday, Sept. 14, at 4 p.m. The program, titled "Celebrating All He Has Done," will recognize Crum for his service and legacy, highlighting his faith, his life, and his contributions to the church community.

The event will take place at New Covenant Baptist Ministries, 863 E. Brownlee St., Starke. The celebration is open to the public.



Starke takes step toward city manager's return

Working with incoming clerk on role

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
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Agreeing questions about the incoming clerk's duties still need to be addressed, most Starke commissioners moved forward an ordinance restoring the office of city manager.

Only Commissioner Scott Roberts voted against the first reading of the ordinance because it eliminated the position of chief administrative officer.

That now vacant position was created a year ago and held by Jimmy Crosby until he resigned amidst an investigation into his leadership. City Manager Drew

Mullins became general manager over utilities during that time, with all other administrative oversight given to Crosby.

Roberts argued that the job was too big for a single individual and that returning to a single city manager was a step backwards. Referencing multiple presentations that evening on planning for the funding and construction of ongoing and future infrastructure projects, Roberts said it was "just a tip of the iceberg" and too much for a single person to handle. He said the point of dividing city management was to become more efficient.

"I think the structure we had before was the most efficient. I'm not talking personalities; I'm talking about structure," he said, adding the city needs not

just a separate utilities manager but a separate utilities board. He wasn't confident Starke would go that far. ("It's too big of a leap.") But he said with a capable workforce in place handling broken water mains and zoning changes, the separate managers would be able to focus on the city's future.

"The way this is written up will work, but it will not work as efficient as it should," he said.

Commissioner Bob Milner, former city manager, was "unabashedly in favor" of a city manager form of government. He had the support of Scott Anaheim as project director, he said, and Mullins now has David Sparks over utility operations. That frees Mullins to concentrate on many of the things Roberts had mentioned, from future planning to taking on agencies like the water management district and lobbying for the city in Tallahassee.

Mayor Andy Redding agreed with Milner, saying the city manager ordinance before them was the same document they approved before splitting the duties to appoint Crosby CAO. He said the commission should stop rewriting job descriptions "every time we turn around because somebody has a stronger personality in one area or the

other." A strong city manager would be able to delegate responsibilities from the top down but would bear ultimate responsibility.

Commissioner Janice Mortimer initially agreed with Roberts, saying the city had made great progress over the past several years, and she wanted that to continue. "I really don't think we can afford to go back. I really don't think it would be fair to our constituents nor to ourselves to go backwards," she said. Both she and Roberts said they wanted to fill the position of chief administrative officer.

City Clerk-elect Chrissy Thompson also weighed in on the ordinance. Having been a city commissioner along with Mortimer when the commission first created a city manager form of government, Thompson said Mullins should be city manager or named chief administrative officer if the ordinance was not approved.

Mullins said splitting management and creating two heads proved problematic for him. With the clerk coming in, that's now three heads. Redding reminded the board that splitting management between a general manager and a chief administrative officer was in preparation for a future without

a city clerk. Many of the CAO's duties and employees belonged to the city clerk. Voters chose to keep the position in the charter. So, with either a city manager or CAO, there will still roles to define.

Hearing those points, Mortimer agreed and joined the vote to pass the ordinance on first reading, with Roberts dissenting.

Clerk-elect requests input, pledges positive working relationships

As for questions about the separation of duties between the city manager and an elected city clerk, Commissioner Danny Nugent continued to argue that the ordinance assigned financial duties to the manager that should belong to the city clerk. Milner said the clerk's duties must be defined between now and when Thompson is sworn in next month.

Thompson said the charter supersedes the city manager ordinance and secures her place as city treasurer. While she was fine with the ordinance passing on first reading, she requested input on anything regarding her

elected office.

"I intend to enforce the city charter," she said. "If I'm the one bonded, I'm signing the checks, how can I do that if I don't have access to those accounts? How can I do that if I can't ... see what's in there? I'm not signing blank checks, guys, you all know that."

"I will 100% work with you five. I will absolutely work with the city manager, whoever that may be, Drew or anybody, to make the city run more efficiently and better. So, wherever you put anybody, I just feel like we definitely need some clarification, because it's not fair to our employees. They don't really know who they're going to work for," she said.

Thompson offered to attend a workshop or work one on one with Mullins and their attorneys.

"Drew and I will figure it out and do it. He does have to have access to everything in that clerk's office, as does anybody in this city. It's all public record, and it should have always been open. I know it has not been. I'm sorry for that. I can't change what has been in the past, but I can absolutely stand up here and tell you how the future is going to be. We are all going to work together, and we're going to do it in a positive way."

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2. Can you tell me what benefits from the Florida Air National Guard have helped you the most?
I would say that the education benefits have been the most helpful. Prior to enlisting I was having trouble finding somewhere I could study and get Certifications without spending vast amount of money. Since enlisting I've been able to take several classes and I am preparing to take multiple certifications and commence my first year on college.

3. Can you talk about some of the new skills you have learned in the Florida Air National Guard that have helped you in the civilian work force?
Thanks to the experiences that the Florida Air National Guard has granted me I've been able to learn a variety of new and useful skills. I was able to learn the networking and cyber security. These are skills I use daily especially in my pursuit of a carrier in the IT field. Another very important skill that we learn no matter what job you have is communication. This has been by far the most advantageous skill I've learned. Its helped me through all aspects of the work force.



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Starke Branch - 2460 Commercial Dr.

Fire assessment approved after hours of public comment

4% increases removed from resolution

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
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Two minutes after the advertised start time there was already a shout from the audience: "No new taxes!"

That sums up much of the sentiment shared over the next four hours. Chairman Danny Riddick, an unflinching supporter of the fire assessment, pleaded as things were getting started for kindness and courtesy from all to all.

"Please be kind, be courteous, just knowing that whatever you say tonight, you're going to have to live with all the citizens in this room from now on as long as you're in Bradford County."

Fire Chief Ben Carter was up first with a presentation to too few people had seen over the years, including the three fire assessment workshops held over the past few months. It shares the current operations plan in comparison to prior years, how the department falls short of national standards, but also the kinds of emergencies handled with the staffing they have. A motel fire. Sawmill fires. A train versus a semi. He shared the number of responses and the average response time. He tried to combat misperceptions

of overspending by explaining how they obtained their vehicles and how it cost local taxpayers much less than they know. There were exemptions built in for the poorest households, he said, and a grievance process for those challenging their number of assessments.

The audience was vocal and, as he went on, losing patience. His explanation of how the current station coverage lowers property insurance bills backfired when the audience heard his slide was comparing the premium for a \$400,000 home. As for breaking down the \$167 annual assessment to skipping a fast-food meal each month — well, he predicted the response by first asking that no one throw anything at him.

As he was wrapping things up, Carter was already being confronted by a woman saying she received no EMS response and was told to call Union County because she had a Lake Butler address in western Bradford County. A man complained about 30- to 45-minute response times in Hampton.

When public comments actually began, the crowd cheered. Applause and cheering continued as most took turns telling commissioners to vote the assessment down or get voted out of office (or tarred and feathered). Many questioned the level of service they received or the ability for the fire department save their properties. None

were happy about the amount of the assessment and even less so knowing that amount could be increased by as much as 4% every year. Many felt the assessment was unfair and inequitable, questioning how the fee was apportioned, why the same amount was paid by households of very different means, and why vacant parcels were charged just \$47 regardless of their size.

Lisa Whitehead said the fee was outrageous. "It raises my taxes 24%, and my house is a \$50,000 house, it's not a \$400,000 house," she said.

The crowd was highly suspicious of the commission's intentions, its spending habits and felt they had little notice that a fire assessment was even being considered. Dean Poppell told the commission to look for the money in its existing budget, suggesting across the board cuts, salary reductions and a smaller workforce.

Anita Baker spoke to the crowd. "I come to these meetings all the time, and they spend money really foolishly," she said, pointing to funding for recreation, the purchase of the fairgrounds and Starke's utility extension to the bypass.

James Nielsen invoked Donald Trump and DOGE as he complained about government's wasteful spending. "What we have here is a bunch of people running red but then spending

blue," he said, continuing that commissioners were spitting in the face of the community's elderly. "Don't try to strike fear into the people to pass a tax. And don't say it's not a tax, because if we don't pay it, what do you do to our home?"

Marshall Rawson, who is running to represent District 10 in Florida House, said governments must live within their budgets just like families. "Our local government can't simply say yes to every proposed expenditure that comes their way. In one way, the fire assessment fee is a more honest tax than your typical property tax in that at least we know where it's going. But the issue is, when you combine that with an increase of property tax already, that is not acceptable and it's not equitable for our community when real estate speculators have already artificially driven up the price of homes and homeownership has become unaffordable for many in our community. This is an extra burden that we cannot afford."

Offering a different perspective, Amber Shepherd of the Northeast Florida Economic Development Corporation tied the strength of the fire department to the future of the county. "Anytime a new cost is introduced, people worry about how it affects their families and their budgets, and those concerns are real. But we also have to look at what's at stake for Bradford's

future. Fire and rescue isn't just about emergencies; it's about creating a safe, stable community where families want to live and businesses are willing to invest," she said.

Shepherd was one of a handful of speakers to say so and do it while being heckled or shouted down. Carol Montgomery was laughed at and taunted as she shared her support. "This is more than just a budget decision or another line on the tax bill. It's about protecting lives, property and the future of Bradford County," she said. "Without this funding, we gamble with response times, with firefighter safety and ultimately with the lives of our neighbors."

"You guys hold what's called the burden of leadership," Alex Hatch told commissioners. "Sometimes you've got to do the hard job."

A short time later, Commissioner Chris Dougherty moved the resolution and Commissioner Diane Andrews seconded. Discussion from Commissioner Carolyn Spooner, who had to fight to be heard, got the potential 4% annual increase removed. Then the commission

unanimously voted to adopt the amended resolution, placing the fire assessment on this year's tax bill — \$167 per dwelling unit, 11 cents per square foot for nonresidential buildings and \$47 for vacant parcels.

"I was elected by my constituents to lead. I'm not following," Dougherty said later, adding that he'd had a total of four comments leading up to the meeting.

"It is a tough decision that we have to make, but you, you elect us to make this tough decision, and I don't make it without considering the people of the community," Spooner said.

Andrews said she was disheartened by what was said to the commission, but also by what was said by some to their fellow citizens because they disagreed. She apologized that happened. "You were treated wrong, and nobody had the right to do that," she said. "We're going to make some people mad. And it's unfortunate that it can't be everybody that we can make happy. And I'm sorry for the ones who are angry and maybe lost friends tonight."

The CHRISTIAN ABCS

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Careful to do His Will, Dawn of a New Day,
Elect to do his Will to the End, Fight the Fight of Faith,
Go for the Gold, Happy because I Heard & I Heeded,
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Love for the Light, Magnify The Man,
Never Forget That Name, Offer & Obey,
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Rags to Riches, Sadness to Saint, Take, Taste, & Tell
Understandest thou What thou Readest
Verily, Verily, I say unto you, Walk with Him
X-ray and Examine the Things of God
Yearn for Him, Zealous of Good Works

by Henry Hodges
Lawtey, FL

Attorneys attempt to clarify city clerk's duties, authority

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
mark@bctelegraph.com

Addressing questions about a recently introduced ordinance related to the city manager position, Starke city attorney Scott Walker said his office does not believe it conflicts with the charter.

The charter identifies the city clerk as treasurer, responsible for accounts and payments, while a chief financial officer or city manager would focus on long-term financial planning.

"Nowhere can the city manager override a charter officer," Walker said, emphasizing that the city clerk and city manager must work together on financial matters.

Walker added that the ordinance now under consideration to restore the city manager position does not violate the charter and that the decision on how to structure city operations rests with the commission.

The ordinance passed 4-1 on first reading, but a second vote is necessary for adoption. (See related story.)

The memo

A memorandum from city attorneys Folds & Walker

was drafted to clarify the responsibilities of the city clerk as they are assigned in the city's charter.

As clerk of the city commission, the clerk attends all meetings, records and preserves minutes, maintains ordinances, safeguards city records and the city seal, and issues and co-signs financial warrants (checks).

In the role of city treasurer, the clerk receives and deposits city revenues, issues receipts, co-signs disbursements, maintains financial records, and provides financial information to commissioners and the city manager.

As tax collector, the clerk keeps departmental tax records, prepares monthly reports for commissioners, collects license taxes and fees, and publishes an annual list of all licenses issued and the revenues they generate.

In the capacity of license and fee administrator, the clerk collects fees, issues licenses, keeps complete records, and publishes annual summaries of transactions.

Serving as clerk to the Board of Bond Trustees, the position provides recordkeeping and support duties as directed by the board.

For elections, the clerk

certifies which offices are up for election, receives and safeguards ballot boxes, and oversees post-election recordkeeping.

The memorandum stressed that while the clerk monitors, certifies, and co-signs financial and administrative work, the position does not supervise staff. Support personnel report to the city manager or finance director.

See CLERK, page 4

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Christians Need to Think Right, Part 2

In our lesson last week, we stated the way a person thinks will affect what they believe, and what they believe will affect how they talk, live and act. I also said when a person is born again their spirit is made brand new but their body and mind has not changed. Even though a person is saved and sincere they can still go through life thinking the same old thoughts unless they renew their mind with the Word of God. There are many verses in the Old and New Testament that deal with the mind and the thought life. Here are a few scriptural examples that deal with our thought life: 2 Corinthians 10:5, "Casting down imaginations (reasonings) and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought (thinking) to the obedience of Christ." The Bible also says in Romans 12:2, "And be not conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." We renew our minds by studying, thinking, meditating, and acting on God's Word. One scripture that most Christians overlook or misunderstand is found in 1 Corinthians 2:16, "For who has the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ." A person is not born into this world with the mind of Christ. When a person is born again their mind is not changed instantaneously into the mind of Christ. The only way we can have the mind of Christ is to study God's Word, believe it in our heart, speak what the Word says, and act upon it. Another powerful scripture concerning our thought life is found in Philippians 4:8, where we are told what we are to think on, i.e., whatever is true, honest, just, pure, lovely, good report, and whatever has virtue or praise.

So, we can see that the Bible has much to say about our thought life. One thing that Christians need to realize, thoughts can come into our minds from different sources. All of our thoughts do not originate in our own minds. Many thoughts enter into our mind through outside sources. Satan can and will offer suggestions to our minds from the outside. God can also speak thoughts to us, but those thoughts come from within. As a Christian studies the Word and puts it into their daily life, it becomes easier to distinguish the source of our thoughts. Naturally, if the thought is evil or wicked you should know it did not come from God. Now when it comes to thinking, most people only think on the negative side. No doubt we deal every day with thoughts that are evil, thoughts that are contrary to the Word of God, but what about the positive side of thinking, which is more important than the negative side. It is so important to know which thought to resist and told to leave your mind, and which thought to keep and meditate upon it. You can do that by judging the thought by the Word of God. If we will allow the Word of God to change our thinking we will see a difference in the way we talk, act, and live. Your talk life will go the way of your thought life, but your entire life will shift it's direction when you align your "thinking and saying" with God's Word. Yes, it is a process, but essential if you desire to live a joyful and victorious Christian life.

Until next week, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of the Father God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you...-Pastor Rick

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Mrs. Meng's Dynasty: Life at 105

BY MELISSA PYLE
Special to the Telegraph

U.S. 301 isn't just a busy highway; it's a long stretch of history that winds through Bradford County. Along the way there's old buildings, some abandoned, some restored, and a lot of secrets left in the empty spaces. Fortunately, one such place tucked along the roadway has a reigning queen of sorts: 105-year-old Dolores Meng. Meng resides on Hampton Lake, far off the highway, in a quiet corner of peace and tranquility. In this beautiful space, she holds the secret to her own fountain of youth.

Life in the early 20th century

Her story began on Aug. 9, 1920, and much like the one-hundred-year-old farmhouse she raised her children in, and the large oaks lining the path to her current home, there's a simple richness and beauty to her story. She was born into a farming family in Custer, Ohio, and although there were 10 children in the family, 8 were girls, so her father made sure they were all good farmhands. She said she loved farm life, loved driving the horses and especially the tractor at the young age of 10. Driving the tractor and riding in a Ford Model T with her family are some of her earliest memories.

She grew up in a much simpler time without electricity and attended a school that had four grades to a classroom. She lived a life many modern people long to revive — growing your own, healthy food. Meng said there was rarely a need to buy anything at the store. All meat and vegetables came from their own farm.



Dolores Meng with daughter, Donna Gilbert, and son, Eugene Meng. The 105 year-old says they make her feel like a queen in how they care for her each day.

Adulthood

Farming life continued here in Florida, where she moved after marrying her husband Francis in 1948. She said she liked Florida because she liked her husband and then laughed. The couple moved to a log cabin on Hampton Lake, paying just \$5 a month rent before the couple joined her brother-in-law Paul Meng on their current property. The twin brothers both farmed, Paul, a dairy farmer and Francis, chickens.

Farm life and a large family kept Dolores active, but once her youngest of nine children went to school, she took a job as a teacher's aide at Hampton Elementary. This active spirit and service-minded life is what Meng attributes to her longevity. She says staying active and keep

positive, taking one day at a time, having a lot of faith, and praying a lot have added to her years. She also said she takes no prescription medicine and tries to stay away from the doctor.

A life of service

Her deep faith has been lived out at St. Edward Catholic Church in Starke since moving to Florida in 1948. She's been an active member and her service to others didn't stop there. She volunteered as a secretary in any organization she served. She especially loved her time serving with the Hospital Women's Auxiliary/The Pink Ladies in Starke for many years.

Her love for writing has been used in her years of correspondence with friends and family. Daughter, Donna (Meng) Gilbert, said her mother would

never sign a card that just said "Love, Dolores," but always wrote a meaningful note. Her gift for writing served the Hampton community when she began writing a weekly column for the Telegraph called the Hampton highlights during the 1970s and 80s.

Life has changed since 100

When Meng turned 100 in 2020, she graced the headlines, not just for her momentous birthday but a request her granddaughter made for her to receive 100 birthday cards. The goal was met and although the original plans for a large celebration were adjusted for the pandemic, friends and family drove by and wished her a happy birthday as she sat under her carport.

Things have slowed down a little due to a fall she took at her 101st birthday party. Her children said she was approved for surgery despite her age because of how healthy she was, and she spent her recovery at home. The family said that due to the fall being during the pandemic, hospital protocols meant they would not have been allowed to stay with her and that was not something they could live with, nor could Dolores. So, the family made the decision to bring her home where she could recover, and she did.

She requires the use of a walker now and doesn't get to go on walks down to the dock like she used to, except for on July 4th to enjoy the boat parade. Meng said she is blessed and gets to start each day with breakfast in bed, which she says, smiling, "makes me feel like a queen. She still checks emails, Facebook, plays Words with Friends and, although her hands are too worn



Francis and Dolores Meng at their wedding in 1948. The couple raised 9 children together on their farm in Hampton.

to write all the cards she once wrote, she still tries to write a few.

Staying spry at 105

Meng has a standing date with her hairdresser and the library every Wednesday. Keeping her mind sharp, she reads at least two or three books a week, she admits she enjoys reading biographies the most. Over the summer, her ferocious reading habits gained her a \$50 gift card from the Bradford County Library's summer reading program. Although she can get around, she made the decision not to renew her driver's license at 102 and relies on the faithful service of her son Eugene and daughter Donna.

Meng said the same thing about parenting advice that she said about life: "Take one day at a time and be patient." Her good parenting has reaped priceless rewards in her golden years. Her example of service is being

replayed in the way her family cares for her. "They do all the cooking and cleaning for me now." She said she knows she is blessed because not everyone can stay in their home as they age.

Her children say it's an honor to care for their mother daily, and Donna said she moved in with her years ago and feels as if she's going to live forever.

Meng is not only surrounded by beautiful people, but also nature, as she sits at her long family dinner table, the one that still hosts occasional family gatherings. She can look out at the birds landing on her plants, watch the lake rippling in the distance and she thanks God for each day of life. An attitude she says everyone needs to have. Be thankful, love God, love others, keep learning and moving. A legacy, a family dynasty, a good word from a lovely young lady at the spry age of 105.

CLERK Continued from page 3

Call for clarity

Commissioner Bob Milner said the city needs a clear understanding of the city clerk's responsibilities before Clerk-elect Chrissy Thompson takes office in a few weeks.

Milner agreed with the attorney's explanation that the clerk's duties must conform to the charter but said staff, attorneys and Thompson herself should work together to clarify how those responsibilities will function day to day.

He noted that while the clerk

provides required financial reports, the finance department oversees operations, and ordinances may need to be adjusted to reflect that balance.

Milner said both the incoming clerk and the public deserve clarity, and the commission should have a well-defined structure in place before Thompson assumes the role.

Charter revisions

Attorney Walker told commissioners that Starke's city charter, written in 1927, contains outdated provisions that should be reviewed.

Walker noted that much of the charter predates Florida's 1968 constitutional revision, which gave municipalities "home rule"

authority under Chapter 166. Before that, city powers had to be explicitly granted by the Legislature.

He advised the commission to consider forming a charter review commission to identify necessary updates and give residents input.

Grief Share Support Group

Old Providence Baptist Church invites community members to attend Grief Share, a weekly support group for those walking through a season of grief.

The group meets Mondays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the church. Each session offers comfort, hope and healing through Scripture and the support of others who understand loss.

All are welcome, regardless of religious affiliation, said group host Darlene Crawford. "Whether your loss is recent or years past, you are welcome here."

The current session continues through Sept. 29, with a new session beginning three weeks later.

Thermacell donation helps Hampton mark centennial with new banners

The city of Hampton is celebrating its 100th anniversary in style, thanks to a generous donation from Thermacell, which has a research center located there.

The contribution enabled the city to install new centennial banners along Navarre Avenue, as well as additional banners for the upcoming Christmas season.

"We are very grateful to have such a great community business partner located in Hampton," said City Clerk Mary Lou Hildreth. She noted that, as a small rural community, Hampton often focuses resources on essential needs rather than enhancements. "Opportunities to showcase our pride and identity are rare, but with this year marking our 100th centennial anniversary, it was especially important for us to celebrate our history and heritage."

Hildreth added that the banners will bring a sense of festivity and pride to the main street, appreciated by both residents and visitors. Many Hampton families have lived in the area for generations, making this celebration particularly meaningful.

The city is planning a Centennial Celebration for Oct. 25, at Bobbie Sheppard Memorial Park. Further details will be announced as the date approaches.



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Church of God food distribution

Starke Church of God by Faith and Farm Share's upcoming food distribution will take place on Thursday, Sept. 4 and 18, from 9 to 11 a.m. This is a drive-thru distribution. The church is located at 730 Old Lawtey Road in Starke. (Distribution could start early depending on delivery.)

Lake Region

Murphy now leading Heritage Commission



Heritage Commission member Deirdre Murphy (standing) explains the history of the city's Natural Park during the Heritage Commission's 2025 fifth-grade field trip.

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

The Keystone Heights Heritage Commission convened on August 19 and discussed past events, planned future initiatives, and welcomed its newest member.

New Member and Leadership Transition

The commission welcomed Navy veteran Ekaterina "Kat" Glenn to the panel, whom the city council appointed in August. Before her appointment, Glenn told council members her family moved to Keystone Heights two years ago and "we love the small feel of this community."

After Co-chair Dierdre Murphy welcomed the Regions Bank mortgage broker to the commission and asked her if she would like to say anything, Glenn responded, "I'm just glad to be here."

Commission members, including Murphy, Glenn, Helen Hersey, and Kim Willis, then voted to appoint Murphy as the commission's chair, replacing Christine Arnold, who resigned earlier this year. They also elected Glenn as co-chair.

More judges needed for pie contest

Murphy recapped the commission's Fourth of July pie contest. Key takeaways included the need for at least three judges and three backups to handle the increasing number of entries, which led to slower judging this year. To streamline future events, Murphy proposed using two tables—one for judging and one for pies—to reduce chaos.

Historic Preservation Efforts

The commission discussed several preservation projects:

Shadow Box Project

John Silva, a Heritage Commission member who was not present at the August 19 meeting, was commended for his work on shadow boxes presented during a Fourth of July event, which memorialized Keystone Heights police officers and firefighters.

Inventory Management

Murphy said the commission has a long list of historical artifacts and documents. She added that most items have been moved to an air-conditioned storage unit to protect them from deterioration, but that a few frequently used items, such as event banners, are stored in a cabinet.

Al Watson Jr. Donation

Hersey told commission members that Al Watson Jr. had sent her a collection of documents about his father, Al Watson Sr. The elder Watson was a community leader in the Lake Region for decades, and he and his wife were the key benefactors of Santa Fe College's Watson Center near Keystone Heights.

Murphy said the collection would be added to the commission's inventory of other historical artifacts and documents.

Historic Marker

Murphy reported that after a pause, the state's Division of Historical Resources has restarted its historical marker program. She added that she will call her contact in Tallahassee to continue her efforts for a marker commemorating the City of Keystone Heights.

Upcoming Events for 2025-2026

The commission outlined plans for several upcoming events:

Christmas Wreath Project

Murphy briefed Glenn on the Christmas Wreath project, in which the commission distributes wreaths to businesses in Keystone Heights to create a unified holiday theme.

She then proposed a 2025 distribution date of November 22, the Saturday before Thanksgiving, adding that the weekend after the holiday is typically busy with residents hosting out-of-town family members. The other commission members agreed with Murphy's proposal.

Yesterday's Festival

Murphy asked commission members if any would represent the city during the Yesterday's Festival at the Mike Roess Gold Head State Park. She said the event typically takes place in January.

She added that the commission usually sets up a table with

a banner and literature and stands by to answer questions about Heritage Commission programs.

After City Manager Jamie Booth stated that he could not find a specific date for the 2026 festival online, Murphy said the commission would address the matter during a future meeting.

Chautauqua Festival

Murphy noted that the inaugural 2025 Chautauqua Festival, held in the Spring, was hampered by rain and asked for suggestions for the 2026 edition. Commission members selected May 2 and 3 for the 2026 event, which commemorates the city's role in hosting the late 18th and early 19th-century adult education and entertainment movement.

Fourth-grade field trip

Over the past four years, the commission's fourth-grade field trip has been a hit with students and teachers at Keystone Heights Elementary School. The 2025 event hosted over 100 students and included 20-minute educational presentations on Chautauqua, Fort 11, the city's Moon Tree, and the Keystone Inn.

City council members also simulated a council meeting to teach students about municipal government.

During the August 19 Heritage Commission meeting, Murphy reported that she had tried to get McRae Elementary students into the field trip the previous year but was told the school had already scheduled its field trips for that year.

She told her colleagues that she had called the school again today to arrange for McRae students to attend the 2026 event, but was unsuccessful in making contact, adding that she would try again tomorrow.

Tour of homes

Murphy said having the 2024 event the week before Christmas was a mistake, as it put too much on homeowners and commission members on the eve of the holiday.

The chair recommended a 2025 date of December 6, the first Saturday of the month.

Booth said he would follow up with the commission about that date to ensure it does not conflict with the city's tree lighting event.

Keystone Youth Soccer continues growth, faces financial challenges

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
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The Rotary Club of Keystone Heights presented Keystone Youth Soccer with a \$1,000 check from the proceeds of the club's annual three-on-three soccer tournament at Twin Lakes Park.

Keystone Youth Soccer founder Trevor Waters declared the June tournament a success during the civic club's August 27 meeting, telling the group that its tournament drew around 80 teams this year, twice the number of teams that participate in other area three-by-threes.

Waters, who launched Keystone Youth Soccer 23 years ago, informed the club that approximately 60% of the league's 525 players reside in the Keystone Heights area. The organization also draws players from Starke, Melrose, Green Cove Springs, Crescent City, Gainesville, Palatka, Middleburg, and even Branford in Suwannee County.

Rotarian Branden Waters added that the league's affordability makes it attractive to parents from out of town.

"Other clubs are charging hundreds of dollars to play," he said, contrasting that with the \$80 registration fee the Lake Region league assesses.

Trevor Waters said cost control is the most significant factor in



Keystone Youth Soccer founder Trevor Waters (second from right) and Branden Waters (third from left) hold a ceremonial check from the Keystone Heights Rotary Club symbolizing the club's donation to the youth athletic league. Also pictured are Rotary board members (l-r) Ginger Lee, Shelley Gibbs, and Betsy Condon.

keeping his program affordable. "And last year we had quite a few donations," he added. "Some of the local businesses gave me substantial sums, which helped out, but this year it's going to be very, extremely tight."

Waters said the league's annual budget is around \$70,000.

He added that major expenses include background checks for coaches and volunteers, and electricity and trash service for Twin Lakes Park.

Waters said another attractive feature of his league is that it doesn't force coaches to change

teams, unlike other leagues.

"I've been doing this for 20 years," he explained, "and what I found out is the parents and the kids, when they get attached to a coach, they love the coach. And the only reason they're signing up to play is because of that coach."

The league founder added that with growth comes new challenges. He said the growing number of cars parking at Twin Lakes Park during games is forcing him to stagger the starting times of matches.

Clay school board checks on strategic plan progress

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
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Clay County School Superintendent David Broskie highlighted the district's achievements during an August 26 school board workshop in which school board members assessed the district's progress in obtaining goals outlined in its strategic plan.

Broski opened the workshop with a reflection on the start of the school year, likening it to a rebirth that offers opportunities to replicate successes or address past challenges.

He shared an anecdote from Oakley Village Elementary, where parents and students celebrated the first day with high-fives, signaling a positive kickoff.

The board reviewed the second year of its 2023 strategic plan, focusing on five key areas: student success, talent recruitment and retention, family and community engagement, safe learning environments, and fiscal/operational efficiency.

Key achievements included a 93% A and B school rating, top-10 rankings in English,



File photo: Clay County Public Schools Superintendent David Broskie displays the new track at Keystone Heights High School.

math, science, and social studies, and a significant increase in Career and Technical Education (CTE) certifications from 1,900 to 3,200.

The district also trained 43 schools in the Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) scheduling model, prioritizing the 21% of students with special needs.

Broski emphasized that

Clay County's Exceptional Student Education (ESE) population ranks in the top 10 statewide across all statistical categories. Other highlights included the opening of a Health Science Academy at Fleming Island, a \$2 million grant for advanced manufacturing technology, and the completion of 32-classroom wings at Oakleaf and Lake Asbury.



During the Heritage Commission's 2025 fourth-grade field trip, Mayor Nina Rodenroth (center), and council members (l-r) Elston "Speedy" Kussler, and Ryan Knight simulated a city council meeting to teach students about municipal government.

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UNION COUNTY

Lake Butler thanks seniors programs

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

Lake Butler city commissioners thanked three Union County programs focused on seniors during its August 19 meeting.

Mayor Melissa Hendrix handed out plaques to representatives of Lake Butler Hospital's Let's Thrive, Union County Senior Citizens on the Move and Gather Senior Connection.

Hendrix said the mission of Let's Thrive is simple yet powerful: to provide seniors with a welcoming space to connect, grow, and continue living vibrant, fulfilling lives.

"For the past six months," she said, "Let's Thrive has been bringing seniors together once a month for an uplifting time of connection, learning, and

fun. Each meeting is designed entirely with seniors in mind, offering an engaging presentation on an important health topic, delicious and wholesome treats, and a lighthearted game that encourages gentle movement."

Union County Senior Citizens on the Move recently celebrated its first anniversary of bringing seniors together for fellowship, support, and community connection.

The mayor stated that each month, various agencies and local businesses partner with Gather to offer valuable resources and information that directly benefit senior citizens.

"The program is powered entirely by volunteers who give their time and energy to service seniors," she said. "Most recently, the group has also

become a distribution site for food boxes, extending its mission of care to even more members of the community."

Hendrix said Gather Senior Connection started in May of 2024 through a collaboration between Jennifer Thomas and Pam Osteen.

"Both have the vision to provide a space for our community, seniors to come together for fun," she said. "Fellowship, food, educational programs, and activities including games, crafts, gentle body movement, cooking, gardening, and much more. Throughout the year, the Senior Connection has had the privilege to serve many seniors in our community. The free program meets on the first Monday of each month from 10:30 to 12:30 and is open to all individuals 55 and over."



Left: Doris Thomas and Lisa Maxwell of Union County Senior Citizens on the Move accept a plaque of appreciation from Lake Butler Mayor Melissa Hendrix.



Jennifer Thomas of Gather Senior Connection accept a plaque of appreciation from Lake Butler Mayor Melissa Hendrix.



Ashlie Bielling and Demetrise Thomas of Lake Butler Hospital with Lake Butler Mayor Melissa Hendrix

School district adopts home education policy

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
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The Union County School Board, during its August 26 meeting, approved a home education policy for home-schooled students not in Florida's Personalized Education Program. The new rule closely adheres to the district's prior policy.

Traditional homeschoolers are required to register with the local school district and receive no state funding unless the student has special needs.

Families enrolled in the Personalized Education Program register with the state's contractor rather than the school district and can receive Family Empowerment Scholarships from the state.

Under the district policy, parents of traditional homeschooled students must notify the superintendent in writing within 30 days of establishing a home education program.

The parent must maintain a portfolio of records and materials for two years, which could include writing samples, worksheets, and creative materials developed by the student.

A district employee may inspect portfolios after 15 days' written notice.

The parent must provide to the district an annual education evaluation that documents the student's educational progress.

The policy also states that homeschooled students may enroll in public school, solely for core and elective courses, career and technical courses, or industry certification courses.



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Crime

Speedville shooter pleads to 5 years

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

A Speedville man arrested for attempted second-degree murder pleaded to lesser charges and was sentenced to five years with the Department of Corrections.



Robinson

Michael Robinson, 60, pleaded to possession of a firearm by a felon, battery and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Deputies arrested the 60-year-old on November 30, 2024, for attempted second-degree murder.

According to a sheriff's office social media post, the victim visited Robinson's residence, and an altercation broke out.

"During the scuffle, Robinson disengaged and retrieved a handgun," the office reported, "which he proceeded to fire at the victim, emptying the partially loaded magazine."

The office said Robinson then retrieved a long gun and fired more rounds at the victim, striking him in the lower body.

In a hearing in which prosecutors argued that the defendant be incarcerated until his case was resolved, prosecutors showed body camera video in which the defendant admitted to shooting his nephew because the houseguest refused to leave the defendant's home after the two had argued and the

victim attacked Robinson.

Prosecutors later charged the Melrose man with possession of a firearm by a felon over the incident, omitting the attempted murder charge.

Robinson was released on a \$100,000 bond on December 11.

However, two days later, deputies arrested him again after a 36-year-old female told deputies Robinson pointed a handgun at her and struck her with the weapon. She and a 41-year-old man who was with the victim during the incident also claimed the Speedville resident pointed the gun at the male.

"(The victim) stated that she is friends with Michael Robinson, who has been in the Bradford County Jail since November 30, 2024," wrote Sheriff's Sergeant Logan Hough in an arrest report. "While in jail, Michael's house was broken into, and he asked her to lock his house up and take his important papers out of his house so they would not be stolen."

The sergeant added that according to the female, after the defendant bonded out of jail on the attempted murder charge, her male friend picked her up and drove her to Robinson's house to return papers the defendant asked her to secure.

According to the victim, after she knocked on the door, Robinson opened the entryway and pushed her in the neck with one hand while holding the handgun in the other.

"(The victim) fell back off the steps and hit the ground," reported Hough. "She immediately got up and ran to the car and got in. Michael followed her to the car and opened the passenger door, where she was sitting. Michael then hit (the victim) on the right cheek with the gun."

The woman claimed Robinson then pointed the weapon at her head and pointed it at her male friend, who was driving the car, threatening to kill the pair.

When interviewed at his home about the incident, Robinson told Hough that the alleged victim broke into his house and stole papers, guns, and his vehicle.

According to the lawman, Robinson added that when the victim came to his home, he demanded the woman return his vehicle and other belongings while pushing her shoulder.

"Michael then went back inside his residence and armed himself with a handgun," Hough wrote. "Michael stated that he never went outside the house with a handgun and denied ever striking or threatening either victim with a gun."

Hough also wrote that Robinson told deputies he placed the gun on a dryer in the back of the house. However, when officers walked to the rear of the home, they could not find the weapon.

A woman with Robinson in the house at the time of the incident backed up his version of the event.

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

Thomas Box, 43, was arrested by Bradford deputies on August 27 for driving with a suspended or revoked license, DUI and resisting an officer.

Derrick Clark, 42, of Jacksonville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on August 27 for failure to appear.

Aneilya Crum, 18, of Gainesville, was arrested by Bradford deputies on August 27 for larceny.

Rashaun Gray, 23, of Ocoee, was arrested by Bradford deputies on August 26 for obscene communication.

Michael James, 36, of Orange Park, was arrested by Bradford deputies on August 27 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Alvin Jenkins, 54, of Lawtey, was arrested by Bradford deputies on August 27 for a probation violation.

Austin Malone, 24, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on August 27 for child cruelty, possession of obscene material and unlawful use of a two-way communications device.

Sold stolen trailer, then vanished

Jason Padgett, 49, of Hawthorne, was arrested by Bradford deputies on August 28.

According to a sworn complaint, in September 2022, a man told deputies he responded to a Facebook ad selling a 15x7 dump trailer for \$7,000.

The victim said he remitted the purchase price to Padgett in cash at the defendant's Hampton-area home and observed several other trailers on the property at the time of the transaction.

When the buyer attempted to register the trailer in Jacksonville, the 15x7 came back as stolen from Marion County.

A detective wrote that when he drove to the location of the deal, Padgett was no longer there. He then found another property in the Hampton area where some of the defendant's family members lived but could not find Padgett there.

Joshua Padgett, 32, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on August 28 for probation violations.

Kimberly Rossi, 47, of Hampton, was arrested by Bradford deputies on August 25 for a probation violation.

Held onto sales taxes collected from customers

Justin Thompson, 39, of Starke, was arrested by Bradford deputies on August 28 for theft of state funds.

According to a Florida Department of Revenue warrant affidavit, the defendant, owner of Thompson's Mobile Home Supply and Hardware, LLC., operated a retail outlet north of Starke on U.S. 301 and failed to remit sales taxes collected from customers during multiple periods between December 2022 and January 2025.

A financial investigator wrote in the affidavit that during an interview at the Department of Revenue's Alachua Service Center, Thompson admitted to collecting sales taxes but stated he used the funds to cover business expenses, citing financial difficulties due to unpaid customer invoices.

The investigator computed the \$48,875 in sales taxes owed by taking the \$977,019 in sales deposited into the business's bank account over the relevant periods and dividing the sales by the applicable percentage.

According to the investigator, the Department of Revenue made multiple attempts to resolve the delinquencies, with a tax specialist contacting Thompson on seven occasions to discuss payment plans and filing requirements. Despite these efforts, Thompson failed to comply, resulting in Notices of Final Assessment and Jeopardy Findings, with tax warrants subsequently filed in Bradford County.

Wrong turn onto Hampton-area dead end road ends pursuit

Mathew Waldo, 47, of Gainesville, was arrested by FHP troopers on August 23 for vehicle theft, resisting an officer, possession of drugs, destroying evidence, possession of drug equipment and driving with a suspended or revoked license.

According to an arrest report, Trooper Alan Palmer was notified of a stolen white Chevrolet Metro out of Putnam County at 11 a.m., traveling north on U.S. 301 near the Alachua-Bradford County line.

"I observed the vehicle traveling north on US-301 in the inside lane," wrote the officer. "Upon seeing my marked patrol vehicle pull into the median of US-301, the vehicle went from the inside travel lane to the right lane and then veered right onto the (County Road 221) split. Upon seeing my marked vehicle pull onto CR-221 the vehicle began to speed up and then made an immediate right onto SE 92nd Terr."

As Palmer activated his lights and siren to initiate a traffic stop, the defendant accelerated down the dead-end road and attempted a U-turn, prompting Palmer to use his patrol vehicle to make intentional contact with the stolen car, disabling it.

The trooper reported that he exited his vehicle and ordered Waldo to show his hands and get on the ground.

"Upon me grabbing Mr. Waldo," Palmer wrote, "he yanked away from me and moved back into the vehicle. I then grabbed Mr. Waldo a second time, at which time he exited the vehicle. I then asked Mr. Waldo where he was going, to which he said to a buddy's house. I asked him which house was his buddy's, to which he responded, I made a wrong turn."

A search of the vehicle revealed a punched-out ignition, with Waldo admitting he started the car by hot-wiring it with two wires. Near the vehicle, Palmer found a black case with a clear lid containing a pipe commonly used for smoking methamphetamine and a plastic bag with a white crystalline substance that field-tested positive for the addictive nervous system stimulant. The trooper wrote that the dry condition of the case and bag in wet grass suggested an attempt to destroy evidence.

"Later on," Palmer concluded, "Mr. Waldo was then asked why he didn't immediately stop, to which he said he was nervous and freaked out."

Union

Justin Drawdy, 42, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on August 29 for resisting an officer.



Jason Padgett

Derrick Edwards, 47, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on August 31 for disorderly intoxication.



Mathew Waldo

Nikki Gutierrez-Bridgman, 38, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on August 30 for an out-of-county warrant.

Thomas Lindboe, 42, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on August 29 for failure to appear.

Carl Rowe, 43, of Lake Butler, was arrested by Union deputies on August 31 for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Clay

Brothers fight over bathroom use

Caden Dorris, 22, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on August 24 for domestic battery.

According to an arrest report, deputies responded to a Southwest Fairway Drive home after the mother of two brothers called 911.

The mother reported that the incident began when the victim asked his younger brother, who was using the bathroom, to hurry up. This led to an argument after Dorris told the victim to stop interfering. The verbal dispute escalated into a physical confrontation, during which the defendant grabbed his brother's neck, and both fell to the ground while fighting.

The pair briefly ceased fighting but continued arguing. Dorris then challenged the victim to "take it outside," where he attempted to kick the victim but missed. The two returned inside, where the mother attempted to mediate. During this time, the victim began recording the verbal altercation on Snapchat, prompting the defendant to slap the phone out of his hand before retreating to his room.

The responding officer interviewed the victim, who confirmed that the argument started over his request for his younger brother to leave the bathroom. He stated that Caden grabbed his neck during the fight, but his airway and blood flow were not obstructed. The officer observed a scratch on the right side of the victim's ribcage, which was photographed for evidence. He declined a medical evaluation, stating he was fine.

"I then made contact with the defendant," reported Deputy Brian Bolena, "who was uncooperative with my investigation. The defendant ignored most of my questioning and maintained an arrogant and argumentative demeanor throughout the course of our conversation."

Douglas Firth, 36, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on August 26 for domestic battery.

According to an arrest report, during an argument, the defendant placed both hands on his wife's shoulders and pushed her back, causing her to fall to the ground.

Justin Harris, 34, of Keystone Heights, was arrested by Clay deputies on August 28 for burglary, possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, possession of not more than 20 grams of marijuana and possession of drug equipment.

Charles McPherson, 69, of Melrose, was arrested by Clay deputies on August 28 for simple assault.

Probation for neglecting elderly couple

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

A Keystone Heights woman was sentenced to three years' probation and prohibited from caring for elderly people after pleading to two counts of elderly neglect.



Sarah Early

Sarah Early, 46, was arrested by Bradford deputies on March 31, 2025, after the victims said she abandoned her responsibilities as their primary caregiver soon after they granted her power of attorney.

According to an arrest report, one male victim was confined to a wheelchair following a stroke and had limited use of the left

side of his body. He said he had not had a bath in two weeks and had been wearing a soiled adult diaper for a week and a half.

"(The victim) also stated that he was insulin-dependent, and Sarah had not been downstairs in at least two days to provide any prescribed medicine," wrote deputy Michael Gillick in the arrest report. "(The victim) was utilizing empty plastic bottles to urinate to prevent urinating on himself."

Another female victim reported that Early intentionally left the downstairs windows open overnight when the temperature dropped to 40 degrees. The victim added that the controls for the heater were upstairs and that, being confined to a bed and wheelchair, she had no way to reach the controls. She also said

she was dependent on several prescription medications and was unable to take them due to the defendant's lack of care.

Gillick confirmed that the downstairs windows were open and that upon his arrival, the temperature was 60 degrees. He added that the male victim's bed, wheelchair, and person were covered in fecal matter.

According to Gillick, Early told him that she had been the couple's sole caregiver, and they required care 24-7.

"Sarah stated that she stopped providing care for (the couple) about three days ago when paramedics told her that she wasn't responsible for them," wrote Gillick. "Since that time, she had provided no medical or hygiene care for either party."

Made down payment for truck with worthless check

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

A Gainesville man was sentenced to three years' probation for writing a worthless check to obtain a 2024 Ram 3500 pickup.



Dakota Robinson

Dakota Robinson pleaded to issuing a worthless check over \$150. A judge scheduled a restitution hearing

for the case in September.

According to court papers, on March 2, the 38-year-old wrote a \$10,000 check for a down payment on the vehicle to Murray Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram.

The total amount for the truck after taxes and other costs was \$78,376.

However, when the dealership deposited the down payment, the check was returned for insufficient funds.

Bradford Sheriff's Detective T. Lovell wrote in the complaint that he subpoenaed the defendant's bank records.

"Upon reviewing the account balance history for the months of July 2024 through November 2024, there has never been \$10,000 in the account," he wrote. "On September 9, 2024, Dakota withdrew the last \$12 in the account. On September 10, 2024, the day the \$10,000 check was written, there was \$0 in the checking account."

Lovell added that when deputies told the defendant they were conducting a criminal investigation regarding the transaction, he responded, "I thought it was civil."

Shootout with son after being sprayed with Febreze

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
dan@bctelegraph.com

A 66-year-old Bradford County woman was sentenced to two years' probation and ordered to attend an anger management class after pleading to shooting a .38 Special at her adult son after he squirted air freshener in her face.



Judy Lee

Bradford deputies arrested Judy Lee on February 3 for child neglect and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

On August 27, she pleaded to the aggravated assault felony while prosecutors dropped the child neglect charge.

According to an arrest report, the defendant told deputies she was trying to go to sleep on her couch while her son was preparing for work.

"Judy stated (her son) was in

the kitchen being noisy and had the kitchen light and back porch light on," wrote Bradford Sheriff's Detective T. Lovell in the report. "Judy stated that her son stated she was not going to sleep tonight. Judy advised that he continuously walked into the living room to 'cuss her.'"

The defendant added that while she was sitting in a chair, her son came up to her and squirted Febreze in her face.

"Judy stated she doesn't know why, but she grabbed her gun," Lovell wrote. "Judy stated that (her son) observed her with the firearm, and he began to run towards the bedroom. Judy stated that she did not shoot at him, as she 'just shot.'"

The defendant added that the son retrieved a firearm from the room he is staying in and returned fire.

Lovell reported that a juvenile was asleep in the home at the time of the shootout. He added that deputies recovered the .38 Special revolver in addition to three empty shell casings and two live rounds in the cylinder.



RUSS WADE

Attorney at Law

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Begue, Ford lead KHHS boys golfers against Oak Hall Eagles

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Will Begue and Baylor Ford earned fourth- and fifth-place finishes, respectively, for the Keystone Heights High School boys golf team in a loss to host Oak Hall on Aug. 28 at Gainesville's Hawkstone Country Club.

The Indians had a team score of 184 to place 23 strokes behind the Eagles.

Begue had a birdie and made par on one hole in finishing with a score of 43, while Ford made par on three holes to finish at 44.

Landon Spence shot a 47 to finish in a three-way tie for sixth, while Sammy Wacha, who made par on two holes, shot a 50 to finish in a two-way tie for ninth. Jackson McDaniel, who made par on one hole, and Nate Bardier had scores of 51 and 53, respectively.

The Indians (3-3) were coming off a second-place finish in a five-team match on Aug. 26 at Lake City's Quail Heights Country Club. Keystone had a team score of 166 to finish behind Lafayette, which had a score of 158.

Keystone placed ahead

See KHHS, page 13

Carter places 2nd for BHS boys golf team vs. Middleburg

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Steven Carter shot a second-place score of 40 for the Bradford High School boys golf team in a loss to visiting Middleburg on Aug. 28.

The Tornadoes had a team score of 176, finishing just four strokes behind the Broncos.

Carter made par on six holes as he ended play just one stroke behind medalist Logan Wahlstrom.

Avery Burgin placed fourth for

the Tornadoes with a score of 44. He had a birdie and made par on two holes.

Bradford's Tucker Griffis finished in a two-way tie for fifth, making par on three holes and finishing with a score of 45. Patrick Pendarvis, who made par on two holes, shot a 47 to finish in a two-way tie for seventh.

Mason Stone and Mason Scoggins had scores of 55 and 62, respectively.

Bradford (2-5) entered the match off a home loss to Lafayette on Aug. 21 and a fourth-place finish in a five-team match on Aug. 26.

The match against Lafayette saw the Tornadoes finish with a team score of 191, while the Hornets had a score of 153.

Burgin and Pendarvis led

Bradford, tying for seventh with scores of 46. Each made par on three holes.

Griffis, who made par on one hole, had a score of 48, while Carter, who made par on two holes, had a score of 51.

Stone finished with a score of 60.

In the Aug. 26 five-team match, Bradford had a score of 198 to finish ahead of Branford and behind Lafayette, Keystone Heights and Newberry.

Burgin, who made par on three holes, led the team with a 12th-place score of 46.

Griffis and Pendarvis had scores of 49 and 50, respectively, with Pendarvis making par on two holes.

Stone and Carter finished with scores of 53 and 59, respectively,

with each making par on one hole.

Bradford played Palatka this past Tuesday and will host Union County on Thursday, Sept. 4, at 4 p.m.

Union Co. girls place 2nd in 3-team match

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Kerissa Seay led the Union County High School girls golf team with a third-place finish in the Tigers' second-place team finish against Bronson and Chiefland in an Aug. 28 match in

See UCHS, page 12

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**Bradford County
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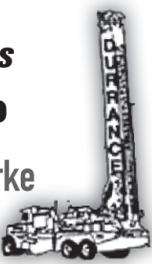
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5 *Ole Miss Rebels vs. Kentucky Wildcats*
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6 *East Texas A&M Lions vs. Florida State Seminoles*
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7 *Iowa Hawkeyes vs. Iowa State Cyclones*
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8 *Vanderbilt Commodores vs. Virginia Tech Hokies*
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9 *Austin Peay Governors vs. Georgia Bulldogs*
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10 *South Florida Bulls vs. Florida Gators*
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11 *Illinois Fighting Illini vs. Duke Blue Devils*
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12 *Kansas Jayhawks vs. Missouri Tigers*
BMS Tornadoes of the Week
Raef Cubbedge #10 (LEFT)
Cameron Hampton #14 (RIGHT)
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13 *Oklahoma State Cowboys vs. Oregon Ducks*
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Starke, FL
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14 *Arizona Cardinals vs. New Orleans Saints*
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15 *Miami Dolphins vs. Indianapolis Colts*
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17 *Detroit Lions vs. Green Bay Packers*
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18 *Cincinnati Bengals vs. Cleveland Browns*
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19 *Tampa Bay Buccaneers vs. Atlanta Falcons*
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21 *Baltimore Ravens vs. Buffalo Bills*
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22 *Kansas City Chiefs vs. Los Angeles Chargers*
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TELEGRAPH/TIMES/MONITOR WEEKLY FOOTBALL CONTEST ENTRY FORM
Pick the Week's Winners
★ **Win \$50 Cash**
ENTER one TEAM Winner in space for each of GAMES OF THE WEEK:
Deadline: 5 pm 9/5/25* ★

DROP BY OR EMAIL US YOUR ENTRY see rules below***

Biz 1 _____	Biz 8 _____	Biz 15 _____
Biz 2 _____	Biz 9 _____	Biz 16 _____
Biz 3 _____	Biz 10 _____	Biz 17 _____
Biz 4 _____	Biz 11 _____	Biz 18 _____
Biz 5 _____	Biz 12 _____	Biz 19 _____
Biz 6 _____	Biz 13 _____	Biz 20 _____
Biz 7 _____	Biz 14 _____	Biz 21 _____
		Biz 22 _____

****Tiebreaker Score:** _____
Total points scored by both teams in the **GATORS** game

ENTRANT INFO:
Name _____
Address _____
City/zip _____
Email _____
Phone# _____
or _____

This Weeks Winner:

Jarrod Warren
missed 2

* 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. [GATORS WILL BE USED FOR TIEBREAKER.]

Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Sept. 4, 2025

BRADFORD

PUBLIC AUCTION
Ron Denmark Mini Storage will hold a public auction on Friday Sept 12th at 10:00am at 2117 N. Temple Ave. Starke, FL on the following units containing personal items:
Unit 146 belonging to A. Harp
Unit 159 belonging to A. Smith
Unit 98 Belonging to S. Hampton
Unit 66 Belonging to S. Marshall
Unit 67 Belonging to M. Eunice
9/4 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A VARIANCE AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE BRADFORD COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS
BY THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to the Bradford County Land Development Regulations, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Regulations, objections, recommendations and comments concerning a variance, as described below, will be heard by the Board of Adjustment of Bradford County, Florida, at a public hearing on September 18th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the County Commission Meeting Room, North Wing, County Courthouse located at 945 N. Temple Avenue in Starke, Florida.
V 25-07, an application by Jon Martin, to request a Variance be granted as provided for in Section 4.8 "RSF" Residential Single Family, Section 4.8.7, Minimum Yard Requirements Setback from a required 15' to a requested 5' along the Westerly boundary of the property being described as follows:
Lot 7, Indian Lake Ranch, Phase 1, as per Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 6 and 7 of the public records of Bradford County, Fla. and being Bradford County Parcel Number 05710-A-00700
The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing. Aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the appeal.
Copies of the material are available for public inspection at the Office of the Director of Zoning, Planning, and Building, County Courthouse located at 945 North Temple Avenue, North Wing, Starke, Florida, during regular business hours.
All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.
9/4 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A VARIANCE AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE BRADFORD COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS
BY THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to the Bradford County Land Development Regulations, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Regulations, objections, recommendations and comments concerning a variance, as described below, will be heard by the Board of Adjustment of Bradford County, Florida, at a public hearing on September 18th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the County Commission Meeting Room, North Wing, County Courthouse located at 945 N. Temple Avenue in Starke, Florida.
V 25-07, an application by Jon Martin, to request a Variance be granted as provided for in Section 4.8 "RSF" Residential Single Family, Section 4.8.7, Minimum Yard Requirements Setback from a required 15' to a requested 5' along the Westerly boundary of the property being described as follows:
Lot 7, Indian Lake Ranch, Phase 1, as per Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 6 and 7 of the public records of Bradford County, Fla. and being Bradford County Parcel Number 05710-A-00700
The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing. Aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the appeal.
Copies of the material are available for public inspection at the Office of the Director of Zoning, Planning, and Building, County Courthouse located at 945 North Temple Avenue, North Wing, Starke, Florida, during regular business hours.
All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.
9/4 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A VARIANCE AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE BRADFORD COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS
BY THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to the Bradford County Land Development Regulations, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Regulations, objections, recommendations and comments concerning a variance, as described below, will be heard by the Board of Adjustment of Bradford County, Florida, at a public hearing on September 18th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the County Commission Meeting Room, North Wing, County Courthouse located at 945 N. Temple Avenue in Starke, Florida.
V 25-08, an application by Timothy Wessel, to request a Variance be granted as provided for in Section 4.8 "RSF" Residential Single Family, Section 4.8.7, Minimum Yard Requirements Setback from a required 15' to a requested 5' along the Westerly boundary of the property being described as follows:
Lot 27, NEW HAMPTON BEACH, as per Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 21 of the public records of Bradford County, Fla. and being Bradford County Parcel Number 00940-A-02700
The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing. Aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the appeal.
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V 25-08, an application by Timothy Wessel, to request a Variance be granted as provided for in Section 4.8 "RSF" Residential Single Family, Section 4.8.7, Minimum Yard Requirements Setback from a required 15' to a requested 5' along the Westerly boundary of the property being described as follows:
Lot 27, NEW HAMPTON BEACH, as per Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 21 of the public records of Bradford County, Fla. and being Bradford County Parcel Number 00940-A-02700
The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing. Aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the appeal.
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A VARIANCE AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE BRADFORD COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS
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V 25-08, an application by Timothy Wessel, to request a Variance be granted as provided for in Section 4.8 "RSF" Residential Single Family, Section 4.8.7, Minimum Yard Requirements Setback from a required 15' to a requested 5' along the Westerly boundary of the property being described as follows:
Lot 27, NEW HAMPTON BEACH, as per Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 21 of the public records of Bradford County, Fla. and being Bradford County Parcel Number 00940-A-02700
The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing. Aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the appeal.
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V 25-08, an application by Timothy Wessel, to request a Variance be granted as provided for in Section 4.8 "RSF" Residential Single Family, Section 4.8.7, Minimum Yard Requirements Setback from a required 15' to a requested 5' along the Westerly boundary of the property being described as follows:
Lot 27, NEW HAMPTON BEACH, as per Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 21 of the public records of Bradford County, Fla. and being Bradford County Parcel Number 00940-A-02700
The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing. Aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the appeal.
Copies of the material are available for public inspection at the Office of the Director of Zoning, Planning, and Building, County Courthouse located at 945 North Temple Avenue, North Wing, Starke, Florida, during regular business hours.
All persons are advised that if they

decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.
9/4 1tchg-BCT

City of Hampton NOTICE OF FAIR HOUSING
This notice will serve to advise all residents of the City of Hampton that the following actions, if based on race, color, sex, national origin, religion, familial status (families with children), or handicap (disability) are prohibited by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Act):
*Refusing to sell or rent to, deal or negotiate with any person.
*Discriminating on terms or conditions for buying or renting housing.
*Discriminating by advertising that housing is available only to persons of a certain race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, handicap (disability), age, ancestry or with no animals.
*Denying that housing is available for inspection, sale or rent when it really is available.
*Denying or making different terms or conditions for home loans by financial institutions.
*Denying to anyone the use of or participation in any real estate services, multiple listing services or other facilities related to the selling and renting of housing.
**"Blockbusting" and "steering" are two discriminatory practices that are also prohibited by the Act. Blockbusting includes engaging in conduct which conveys the impression that a neighborhood is about to undergo certain changes and, thus, panic owners into selling their properties. Steering involves guiding an individual seeking housing toward or away from particular property for discriminatory reasons.
If you would like to obtain more information about fair housing, or file a fair housing complaint, please contact the Fair Housing Coordinator listed below:
Mary Lou Hildreth, City Clerk/
Administrator
City of Hampton
P. O. Drawer 250 (5784 Navarre Avenue)
Hampton, FL 32044
Office: 352-468-1201
Fax: 352-473-1350
coh1@outlook.com

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE FACILITIES
9/4 1tchg-BCT

CDBG-DR GRANT PROGRAM
Notice is hereby given that Bradford County is proposing projects to apply for the Rebuild Florida Infrastructure Repair Program CDBG_DR Grant program through Florida Commerce and will be accepting Public Comments regarding these projects from September 10, 2025 through September 24, 2025. Please visit www.bradfordcountyfl.gov/rebuildfl for project information or to submit an electronic comment.
9/4 1tchg-BCT

CITY OF STARKE NOTICE OF FAIR HOUSING
This notice will serve to advise all residents of the City of Starke that the following actions, if based on race, color, sex, national origin, religion, familial status (families with children), or handicap (disability) are prohibited by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Act):
*Refusing to sell, rent to, deal or negotiate with any person.
*Discriminating on terms or conditions for buying or renting housing.
*Discriminating by advertising that housing is available only to persons of a certain race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, handicap (disability), age, ancestry or with no animals.
*Denying that housing is available for inspection, sale or rent when it really is available.
*Denying or making different terms or conditions for home loans by financial institutions.
*Denying to anyone the use of or participation in any real estate services, multiple listing services or other facilities related to the selling and renting of housing.
**"Blockbusting" and "steering" are two discriminatory practices that are also prohibited by the Act. Blockbusting includes engaging in conduct which conveys the impression that a neighborhood is about to undergo certain changes and, thus, panic owners into selling their properties. Steering involves guiding an individual seeking housing toward or away from particular property for discriminatory reasons.
If you would like to obtain more information about fair housing, or file a fair housing complaint, please contact the Fair Housing Coordinator listed below:
Stephanie Mann, Fair Housing Coordinator
Director of Administrative Operations
209 North Thompson Street
Starke, FL 32091
Phone: (904) 964-5027

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE FACILITIES
9/4 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A SPECIAL

EXCEPTION AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE BRADFORD COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS
BY THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to the Bradford County Land Development Regulations, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Regulations, objections, recommendations and comments concerning a special exception, as described below, will be heard by the Board of Adjustment of Bradford County, Florida, at a public hearing on September 18th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the County Commission Meeting Room, North Wing, County Courthouse located at 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida.
SE 25-03, a petition by Michael & Joan E. Chandler, to request a Special Exception be granted as provided for in Section 4.5.5 (Agricultural-2) # 14 of the Bradford County Land Development Regulations to allow for a Family Cemetery to be located at the property being described as follows:
A parcel of land lying in the SW1/4 of the SW1/4 of Section 27, Township 5 South, Range 22 East, Bradford County, Florida, being part of Bradford County Parcel Number 01780-0-00200.
The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing.
At the aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the appeal. Copies of the material are available for public inspection at the Office of the Director of Zoning, Planning, and Building, County Courthouse located at 945 North Temple Avenue, North Wing, Starke, Florida, during regular business hours.
All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.
9/4 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF THE filing of a Complaint against you to quiet title to the following property in Union County, Florida:
LOT 37, SADDLE-BROOK ESTATES, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, page 32-33, public records of Union County, Florida.
Union County Parcel Identification Number: 13-06-18-53-000-0370-0
You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on M. Aaron Dukes, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 328, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, on or before the 18th day of September, 2025, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either immediately before service on Plaintiffs' attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. DATED this 18th day of August, 2025.
KELLIE H. RHOADES
Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: C. Hollingsworth
Deputy Clerk
Published in: Union County Times
On (dates): August 21, 2025, August 28, 2025, September 4, 2025, September 11, 2025
DUKES LEGAL, P.A.
1/ M. Aaron Dukes
M. AARON DUKES
Florida Bar No. 124349
Post Office Box 328
Lake Butler, Florida 32054
(352) 225-1654 (Telephone)
aaron@dukeslegal.com
dukeslegal@outlook.com
Attorney for Plaintiff
8/21 4tchg 9/11-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2025 CP 000022
Division

IN RE: ESTATE OF MARGARET LOUISE DOBBS Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of MARGARET LOUISE DOBBS, deceased, whose date of death was October 23, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court for UNION County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida 32054 ;
The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice August 28, 2025.
Attorney for Personal Representative: Personal Representative: /s/ HECTOR L. ZAYAS JR. HECTOR L. ZAYAS JR. Attorney Florida Bar Number: 1021693 25 Cathedral St., Ste 303 St. Augustine, FL 32084 Telephone: (904) 327-4111 E-Mail: hzayas@taxestateplanning.com

NOTICE OF ACTION TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS
TO: Jason Mach, address unknown YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the State of Florida, Department of Children and Families, has filed a Petition to terminate your parental rights and permanently commit the following child for adoption: Z.J.M. born on 8/4/2013. You are hereby commanded to appear on October 7, 2025, at 10:00 AM before General Magistrate Bridget Baker at the Union Courthouse, 55 West Main Street Lake Butler, FL 32054, for an ADVISORY HEARING. FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THIS CHILD. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED, YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS AS A PARENT TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THIS NOTICE.
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, 201 E. University Avenue, Room 414A, Gainesville, FL 32601 at (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 711.
WITNESS, my hand as Clerk of said Court and the Seal thereof, this 12th day of August, 2025.
Kellie Hendricks Rhoades, Clerk of Court
By: TAMMY DUKES
As Deputy Clerk
8/21 4tchg 9/11-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NUMBER: 63-2025-CA-0060
OLUSTEE CREEK, LLC, Plaintiff,
vs.
UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, AND ANY OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST LESLIE L. BUBLITZ, deceased, and UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, AND ANY OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST SUSAN C. BUBLITZ, a/k/a SUSAN SAMS, a/k/a SUSAN BREWER, deceased, Defendants.
9/4 1tchg-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NUMBER: 63-2025-CA-0060
OLUSTEE CREEK, LLC, Plaintiff,
vs.
UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, AND ANY OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST LESLIE L. BUBLITZ, deceased, and UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, AND ANY OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST SUSAN C. BUBLITZ, a/k/a SUSAN SAMS, a/k/a SUSAN BREWER, deceased, Defendants.
9/4 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF THE filing of a Complaint against you to quiet title to the following property in Union County, Florida:
LOT 37, SADDLE-BROOK ESTATES, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, page 32-33, public records of Union County, Florida.
Union County Parcel Identification Number: 13-06-18-53-000-0370-0
You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on M. Aaron Dukes, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 328, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, on or before the 18th day of September, 2025, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either immediately before service on Plaintiffs' attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. DATED this 18th day of August, 2025.
KELLIE H. RHOADES
Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: C. Hollingsworth
Deputy Clerk
Published in: Union County Times
On (dates): August 21, 2025, August 28, 2025, September 4, 2025, September 11, 2025
DUKES LEGAL, P.A.
1/ M. Aaron Dukes
M. AARON DUKES
Florida Bar No. 124349
Post Office Box 328
Lake Butler, Florida 32054
(352) 225-1654 (Telephone)
aaron@dukeslegal.com
dukeslegal@outlook.com
Attorney for Plaintiff
8/21 4tchg 9/11-UCT

NOTICE OF ACTION
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Union County Parcel Identification Number: 13-06-18-53-000-0370-0
You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on M. Aaron Dukes, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 328, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, on or before the 18th day of September, 2025, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either immediately before service on Plaintiffs' attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. DATED this 18th day of August, 2025.
KELLIE H. RHOADES
Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: C. Hollingsworth
Deputy Clerk
Published in: Union County Times
On (dates): August 21, 2025, August 28, 2025, September 4, 2025, September 11, 2025
DUKES LEGAL, P.A.
1/ M. Aaron Dukes
M. AARON DUKES
Florida Bar No. 124349
Post Office Box 328
Lake Butler, Florida 32054
(352) 225-1654 (Telephone)
aaron@dukeslegal.com
dukeslegal@outlook.com
Attorney for Plaintiff
8/21 4tchg 9/11-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2025 CP 000022
Division

IN RE: ESTATE OF MARGARET LOUISE DOBBS Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of MARGARET LOUISE DOBBS, deceased, whose date of death was October 23, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court for UNION County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida 32054 ;
The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice August 28, 2025.
Attorney for Personal Representative: Personal Representative: /s/ HECTOR L. ZAYAS JR. HECTOR L. ZAYAS JR. Attorney Florida Bar Number: 1021693 25 Cathedral St., Ste 303 St. Augustine, FL 32084 Telephone: (904) 327-4111 E-Mail: hzayas@taxestateplanning.com

NOTICE OF ACTION
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LOT 37, SADDLE-BROOK ESTATES, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, page 32-33, public records of Union County, Florida.
Union County Parcel Identification Number: 13-06-18-53-000-0370-0
You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on M. Aaron Dukes, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 328, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, on or before the 18th day of September, 2025, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either immediately before service on Plaintiffs' attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. DATED this 18th day of August, 2025.
KELLIE H. RHOADES
Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: C. Hollingsworth
Deputy Clerk
Published in: Union County Times
On (dates): August 21, 2025, August 28, 2025, September 4, 2025, September 11, 2025
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dukeslegal@outlook.com
Attorney for Plaintiff
8/21 4tchg 9/11-UCT

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Union County Parcel Identification Number: 13-06-18-53-000-0370-0
You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on M. Aaron Dukes, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 328, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, on or before the 18th day of September, 2025, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either immediately before service on Plaintiffs' attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. DATED this 18th day of August, 2025.
KELLIE H. RHOADES
Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: C. Hollingsworth
Deputy Clerk
Published in: Union County Times
On (dates): August 21, 2025, August 28, 2025, September 4, 2025, September 11, 2025
DUKES LEGAL, P.A.
1/ M. Aaron Dukes
M. AARON DUKES
Florida Bar No. 124349
Post Office Box 328
Lake Butler, Florida 32054
(352) 225-1654 (Telephone)
aaron@dukeslegal.com
dukeslegal@outlook.com
Attorney for Plaintiff
8/21 4tchg 9/11-UCT

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Union County Parcel Identification Number: 13-06-18-53-000-0370-0
You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on M. Aaron Dukes, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 328, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, on or before the 18th day of September, 2025, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either immediately before service on Plaintiffs' attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. DATED this 18th day of August, 2025.
KELLIE H. RHOADES
Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: C. Hollingsworth
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Attorney for Plaintiff
8/21 4tchg 9/11-UCT

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LOT 37, SADDLE-BROOK ESTATES, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, page 32-33, public records of Union County, Florida.
Union County Parcel Identification Number: 13-06-18-53-000-0370-0
You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on M. Aaron Dukes, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 328, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, on or before the 18th day of September, 2025, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either immediately before service on Plaintiffs' attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. DATED this 18th day of August, 2025.
KELLIE H. RHOADES
Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: C. Hollingsworth
Deputy Clerk
Published in: Union County Times
On (dates): August 21, 2025, August 28, 2025, September 4, 2025, September 11, 2025
DUKES LEGAL, P.A.
1/ M. Aaron Dukes
M. AARON DUKES
Florida Bar No. 124349
Post Office Box 328
Lake Butler, Florida 32054
(352) 225-1654 (Telephone)
aaron@dukeslegal.com
dukeslegal@outlook.com
Attorney for Plaintiff
8/21 4tchg 9/11-UCT

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF THE filing of a Complaint against you to quiet title to the following property in Union County, Florida:
LOT 37, SADDLE-BROOK ESTATES, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, page 32-33, public records of Union County, Florida.
Union County Parcel Identification Number: 13-06-18-53-000-0370-0
You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on M. Aaron Dukes, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 328, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, on or before the 18th day of September, 2025, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either immediately before service on Plaintiffs' attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. DATED this 18th day of August, 2025.
KELLIE H. RHOADES
Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: C. Hollingsworth
Deputy Clerk
Published in: Union County Times
On (dates): August 21, 2025, August 28, 2025, September 4, 2025, September 11, 2025
DUKES LEGAL, P.A.
1/ M. Aaron Dukes
M. AARON DUKES
Florida Bar No. 124349
Post Office Box 328
Lake Butler, Florida 32054
(352) 225-1654 (Telephone)
aaron@dukeslegal.com
dukeslegal@outlook.com
Attorney for Plaintiff
8/21 4tchg 9/11-UCT

the matter can be heard, in the City Commission Meeting Room, City Hall, located at 200 Southwest First Street, Lake Butler, Florida. A copy of said ordinance may be inspected by any member of the public at the Office of the City Manager in the City Hall, at 200 Southwest First Street, Lake Butler, Florida, during regular business hours. On the date, time and place first above mentioned, all interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to the ordinance. The title of said ordinance reads, as follows:
ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAKE BUTLER, FLORIDA, RELATING TO AN AMENDMENT OF 50 OR LESS ACRES OF LAND TO THE FUTURE LAND USE PLAN MAP OF THE CITY OF LAKE BUTLER COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION, CPA 25-01, BY THE PROPERTY OWNER OF SAID ACREAGE; UNDER THE AMENDMENT PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED IN SECTIONS 163.3161 THROUGH 163.3248, FLORIDA STATUTES, AS AMENDED; PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE IN LAND USE CLASSIFICATION FROM RESIDENTIAL, MODERATE DENSITY (LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 4 DWELLING UNITS PER ACRE) TO COMMERCIAL 10F CERTAIN LANDS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF LAKE BUTLER, FLORIDA; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

All persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decisions made at the public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Any person requiring auxiliary aids and services at this meeting may contact the City Manager's Office at 386.496.3401 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 800.955.8770 (voice) or 800.955.8771 (TTY).
9/4 1tchg-UCT

NOTICE OF ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKE BUTLER, FLORIDA
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the ordinances, which titles hereinafter appear, will be considered for enactment by the City Commission of the City of Lake Butler, Florida, at public hearings on September 16, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matters can be heard, in the City Commission Meeting Room, City Hall, located at 200 Southwest First Street, Lake Butler, Florida. A copy of said ordinances may be inspected

Legal Notices

Legals for the week of Sept. 4, 2025

UNION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2025-02
The Board of County Commissioners of Union County, Florida proposes to adopt an ordinance relating to sexual predators and sexual offenders.

The public hearing on the proposed ordinance will be held during the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners on September 15, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, Union County Courthouse, located at 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida. The title of said ordinance reads as follows: AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO SEXUAL PREDATORS OR SEXUAL OFFENDERS; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS AND INTENT, DEFINITIONS; PREVENTING SEXUAL PREDATORS OR SEXUAL OFFENDERS FROM RESIDING OR TRAVELING WITHIN 2500 FEET OF SCHOOLS, DAYCARE CENTERS, PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS OR SCHOOL BUS STOPS; PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS, REQUIRING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO AFFORD AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN PRESENCE IN A PROHIBITED AREA; PROVIDING FOR MEASUREMENT OF CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; REQUIRING DECLARATION BY SEXUAL PREDATORS OR OFFENDERS UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; REQUIRING PHOTO IDENTIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR MAPS OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL BUS STOPS, DAYCARE CENTERS, PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS; PROHIBITING PROPERTY OWNERS FROM RENTING TO SEXUAL PREDATORS OR SEXUAL OFFENDERS A PROPERTY THAT LIES WITHIN 2500 FEET OF A SCHOOL, DAYCARE CENTER, PARK, PLAYGROUND OR SCHOOL BUS STOP; CREATING REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION OF KNOWLEDGE FOR COUNTYWIDE APPLICATIONS; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing.

At the aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the ordinance. Copies of the proposed ordinance are available for public inspection, at the Office of the Board of County Commissioners, located at 15 Northeast First Street, Lake Butler, Florida, during regular business hours. All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should

contact Dianne Hannon, Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners at 386.496.4241 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 1.800.955.8770 or 1.800.955.8771. 9/4 1tchg-BCT

IN THE 8th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No. 63-2024-CA-0148
21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION,
Plaintiff,

vs. JOANAS ERIC THOMPSON; MARYANN THOMPSON; and UNKNOWN TENANT
Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment dated August 22, 2025, entered in Case No. 63-2024-CA-0148 of the Circuit Court in and for Union County, Florida, wherein **JOANAS ERIC THOMPSON, MARYANN THOMPSON and UNKNOWN TENANT** are the Defendants, that Kellie Hendricks Rhoades, CPA, the Clerk of Court, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, in person at at Union County Courthouse, 55 W. Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, on **December 11, 2025 at 11:00 AM**, the following described real property as set forth in the Final Judgment:

Legal: LOT 27, PINE TREE ESTATES AND UNRECORDED SUBDIVISION, LYING AND BEING IN SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 20 EAST, UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE SE CORNER OF SAID SECTION 3; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89°06'08" WEST, ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 3, A DISTANCE OF 592.72 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 01°29'21" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 838.84 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 88°30'39" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 599.14 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 85°14'17" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 488.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED PARCEL, THENCE CONTINUE RUNNING NORTH 85°14'17" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 180.79 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 01°19'43" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 235.97 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 88°40'17" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 180.47 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 01°19'43" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 246.79 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

TOGETHER WITH A 2021 LIVE OAK 52X32 MODEL MANUFACTURED HOME BEARING SERIAL NOS.: LOHGA32071786A AND LOHGA32071786B.

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

Dated this 29th day of August, 2025. Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: C Hollingsworth
As Deputy Clerk

NOTICE
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 Union County Courthouse, 55 W. Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida 32054 and whose telephone number is 904-496-3711, within two working days of your receipt of this notice. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true copy of the foregoing has been served by U.S. Mail on this 29th day of August, 2025, to: Leslie S. White, Post Office Box 2346, Orlando, FL 32802-2346, Attorney for Plaintiff;

Attorney for Defendant
S via email to: M. Aaron Dukes, Esq., aaron@dukeslegal.com; dukeslegal@outlook.com
Defendant
S via U.S. Mail to: UNKNOWN TENANT, 20033 SE 84th Street, Lake Butler, FL 32054. 9/4 2tchg 9/11-UCT

LAKE REGION

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FUTURE LAND USE MAP
AMENDMENT FOR THE
PROPERTY LOCATED AT 200
NE COMMERCIAL CIRCLE,
KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, FLORIDA

The City of Keystone Heights will hold the following Public Hearings to amend the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) for a 2.47 acre parcel located at 200 NE Commercial Circle, Parcel RE# 20-08-23-002189-011-00, from Commercial to Industrial Light:

The following public hearings will be held on the ordinance:
Planning and Zoning Board:
Monday, September 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

City Council: Monday, October 6, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

The public hearings will be held at the Keystone Heights City Hall, 555 S Lawrence Boulevard, Keystone Heights, Florida.

Interested parties may appear at the hearings and be heard with respect to the Future Land Use Map amendment. After the public hearings, action may be taken on the proposed Future Land Use Map amendment, or may continue its deliberations to a date, time and place then announced without publishing further notice thereof. A copy of the application for the proposed Future Land Use Map amendment is available for inspection by the public at the Keystone Heights City Hall, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, a person deciding to appeal any decision made by the Planning and Zoning Board or the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the hearings is advised that such person will need a record of all proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of all proceedings is made, which must include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing accommodations to participate in this matter should contact City Hall at (352) 473-4807, no later than three (3) business days prior to the hearing for which this notice has been given. James Booth, Keystone Heights City Manager

8/28 2tchg 9/4-LRM

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REZONING OF THE
PROPERTY LOCATED AT 200
NE COMMERCIAL CIRCLE,
KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, FLORIDA
The City of Keystone Heights will hold the following Public Hearings for the rezoning of a 2.47 acre parcel located at 200 NE Commercial Circle, Parcel RE# 20-08-23-002189-011-00, from General Commercial to Industrial Light:

The following public hearings will be held on the ordinance:
Planning and Zoning Board:
Monday, September 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

City Council: Monday, October 6, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

The public hearings will be held at the Keystone Heights City Hall, 555 S Lawrence Boulevard, Keystone Heights, Florida.

Interested parties may appear at the hearings and be heard with respect to the rezoning. After the public hearings, action may be taken on the proposed rezoning, or may continue its deliberations to a date, time and place then announced without publishing further notice thereof. A copy of the application for the proposed rezoning is available for inspection by the public at the Keystone Heights City Hall, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, a person deciding to appeal any decision made by the Planning and Zoning Board or the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the hearings is advised that such person will need a record of all proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of all proceedings is made, which must include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing accommodations to participate in this matter should contact City Hall at (352) 473-4807, no later than three (3) business days prior to the hearing for which this notice has been given. James Booth, Keystone Heights City Manager

8/28 2tchg 9/4-LRM

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
THE CITY COUNCIL OF KEYSTONE
HEIGHTS will be holding a Public
Hearing on

Ordinance 2025 - 609
Monday, September 18, 2025, at 6
PM

Please be advised the City Council of the City of Keystone Heights, will consider Ordinance 2025-609, which is titled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 11 - BUSINESS REGULATION, ARTICLE VI - HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 11-52 MOBILE FOOD VENDING; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The public hearing will be held at the Keystone Heights City Hall, 555 S Lawrence Boulevard, Keystone Heights, Florida. Interested parties may appear at the hearings and be heard with respect to the amendment to the Code of Ordinances. After the public hearing, the City Council may take immediate action on the proposed ordinance, or may continue its deliberations to a date, time and place then announced without

publishing further notice thereof. A copy of the ordinance is available for inspection by the public at the Keystone Heights City Hall, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, a person deciding to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the hearings is advised that such person will need a record of all proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of all proceedings is made, which must include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing accommodations to participate in this matter should contact City Hall at (352) 473-4807, no later than three (3) business days prior to the hearing for which this notice has been given. James Booth, Keystone Heights City Manager

9/4 1tchg LRM

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SECOND AND FINAL HEARING
ORDINANCE 2025- 608

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, FLORIDA, REZONING A PROPERTY CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 13.88 ACRES, OWNED BY WIGGINS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY OF NORTH FLORIDA INC., LOCATED OFF SUNRISE BOULEVARD FROM A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) TO A PUD WITH DIFFERENT PERMISSIONS AND RESTRICTIONS AS DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "B" AND EXHIBIT "C"; AND PROVIDING FINDING BY THE CITY COUNCIL, PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING DIRECTION FOR RECORDING; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE

DATE. THE CITY COUNCIL OF KEYSTONE HEIGHTS THE CITY COUNCIL OF KEYSTONE HEIGHTS

will be holding a Public Hearing on
Monday, September 18, 2025 at
6 PM

Ordinance 2025-608 would REZONE a 13.88 acre parcel located off Sunrise Boulevard and Paradise Point Drive, RE# 19-08-23-022578-001-00, from PUD, Planned Unit Development to PUD, Planned Unit Development. The public hearing will be held at the Keystone Heights City Hall, 555 S Lawrence Boulevard, Keystone Heights, Florida. Interested parties may appear at the hearings and be heard with respect to the rezoning. After the public hearing, the City Council may take immediate action on the proposed rezoning, or may continue its deliberations to a date, time and place then announced without publishing further notice thereof. A copy of the application for the proposed rezoning is available for inspection by the public at the Keystone Heights City Hall, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, a person deciding to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the hearings is advised that such person will need a record of all proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of all proceedings is made, which must include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing accommodations to participate in this matter should contact City Hall at (352) 473-4807, no later than three (3) business days prior to the hearing for which this notice has been given. James Booth, Keystone Heights City Manager

9/4 1tchg-LRM

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Class Ads for week Sept 4 2025

40 Notices

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

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

50 For Rent

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

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

SPACE FOR LEASE- Starke, Close to downtown 1800+ sq.ft. Professional, general office, insurance, Realtor, attorney, etc. Two restrooms, space flexible for small business. Rent \$1500/mo. utilities not included. Call 904-964-7404.

LARGE APARTMENT 1 BR, near Starke City limits. Low utilities/FPL. Safe, quiet area. \$1000/mo. Senior discount or for one person. 904-613-5715.

2 HOMES-STARKE, 2BR/2BA. Keystone, Lake front. 2BR/1BA. Each \$1500/mo. Lawn care included. 904-613-5715.

53 A Yard Sales

YARD SALE; Friday & Saturday 8am-12pm-1374-Blanding Street, Starke

57 For Sale

LARGE BIRD Cage w/two medium cockatiels. Cage is 32"x22"x53". Asking \$25. Call Judy 386-496-0016.

65

Lake Butler Apartments - 1, 2, 3 & 4 BEDROOM APARTMENTS
HC & Non-HC accessible. 1005 SW 6th St. Lake Butler, FL **386-496-3141** TDD/TTY 711. Accepting Applications! Rental Assistance! "This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer." "Equal Housing Opportunity"

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS Southern Villas of Starke
Ask about our 1&2 BR Apartments HC & non-HC Units. Central AC/Heat, on-site laundry, playground, private, quiet atmosphere.
Located on SR-16, 1001 Southern Villas Dr. Starke, FL
Call 904-964-7295 TDD/TTY 711 "Equal Housing Opportunity"

Help Wanted
NEED A DRIVER to Gainesville for Dr. Appointments and housekeeping. 904-263-2853.

Tri-County Classifieds
Bradford County Lake Region UNION COUNTY
Telegraph Monitor TIMES
Classified

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Obituaries

William Bass

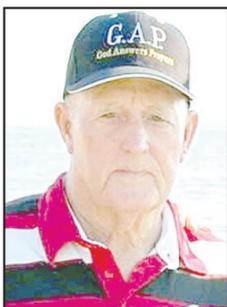
William Allen Bass, 90, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Aug. 23, 2025, at the Veterans Medical Center in Lake City, after an extended illness. He was born on April 7, 1935, in Newberry, to John and Elizabeth Bass. He dedicated many years of his career as a correctional officer for the Department of Corrections until his retirement. His time in service extended to the military as well, where he proudly served eight years with the United States Air Force, followed by three years with the United States Army. He was an outgoing individual who had a warm spirit and made friends easily, never meeting a stranger throughout his journey. Life for him was enriched by the activities he cherished. He had a profound love for the outdoors, which he expressed through his hobbies of hunting, fishing, boating, and yard work. These passions allowed him to connect deeply with nature and create lasting memories with family and friends. He shared a loving marriage with his wife of nearly 50 years, Betty Bass, and together they raised a family filled with love and support. He is survived by his daughters, Lori Foster, Wanda Wall, and Malissa Perryman; grandchildren Brittney Talmadge, Wyatt Snellgrove, Janell Fenn, Kasie Nocks, Dana Johnson, Danielle Raen-Saunders, Lynsi Bielling, and Hali Shaw; as well as 11 great-grandchildren who brought great joy to his life. His brother, Monroe Bass, also survives him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Elizabeth Bass; his daughters, Shelly Snellgrove and Kealyn Brown; son, Gary Rabon; grandson, Dillon Snellgrove; and siblings Baxter, Robert, and Thomas Bass; along with his sister, Martha Holder.

Family and friends were invited to honor his life and legacy with visitation on Wednesday, Aug. 27, followed by a graveside service. Both services took place at Dedan Cemetery, 13883 SW County Rd 231, Brookler 32622, with Rev. Kenneth Martin officiating.

Archer-Milton Funeral Home is honored to once again serve Mrs. Betty and the Bass family. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

PAID OBITUARY



Gary Faircloth

Gary Faircloth, 74, a lifelong resident of Jacksonville and Lake Santa Fe passed away Friday, Aug. 22, after a courageous battle with cancer. He left his earthly home surrounded by his loving family and was peacefully reunited in heaven with his wife, Lorraine. He was a vibrant person who loved staying active. He was an avid Alabama Crimson Tide season ticket holder and loved traveling to Tuscaloosa, where he had an amazing group of friends to tailgate with. He became an "Honorary Bailey Brother" (high praise for those who know). As part of his full lifestyle, he was a board member of Santa Fe Lake Dwellers Association, a member of Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, a member of Keystone Heights Methodist Church, and he enjoyed singing karaoke with his friends every week. He also maintained lifelong friendships with countless members of Paxon High School Class of 1969, for whom he and Lorraine coordinated class reunions, luncheons, and other events. They had close friendships with a core group of classmates who became like family to them and their children. His life was a personification of Proverbs 18:24, "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly; and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." He worked for decades in the underground utilities industry, most recently as a senior inspector for C&ES Consultants. His knowledge and expertise in this industry were invaluable on any site he managed. He was routinely tasked with multi-million-dollar projects, where his knowledge helped shape growth and development throughout the State of Florida. Gary was a devoted son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, and cousin to his family. He loved spending time with them all and especially enjoyed being surrounded by his grandchildren. He loved sharing stories of his life and passed on lessons that helped shape his children and grandchildren. He showed his affection through action, always willing to help others when called upon. He was a surrogate dad to nephew Dewayne (Danielle) Bennett and a proud, loving "Uncle Bo" to nieces Amy Kinsey, Kim Harrison, and Kate Harrison. He also loved his many other nieces and nephews, who affectionately called him "Uncle Bo" or "UG."

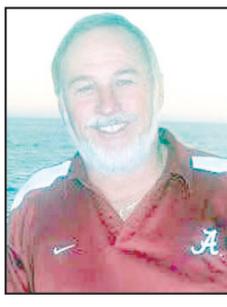
He is survived by his sister, Gilda Kinsey; children, Adam (Christina) Faircloth and Emily (Steve) Makley; grandchildren, Cameron Fletcher, Grayson Faircloth, Alex Fletcher and Reagan Faircloth; bonus grandchildren, Rory (Brad) Blum and Rachel Nickles' and his beloved great-granddaughter JoJo.

A Celebration of Life will take place Saturday, Sept. 13, at 10:30 a.m. at Keystone Heights Methodist Church, located at 4004 State Road 21, Keystone Heights 32656. Following the service, the family invites Gary's friends and family to join them for a catered tailgate party (inside the Multi-Ministry Center) to watch the Tide with Gary one last time. Kickoff at noon.

In lieu of flowers, the family humbly requests donations to be made in Gary's memory to the Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) at: concernsofpolicesurvivors.org or the National Fallen Firefighters Association at: firehero.org

There will be a private, family interment. Arrangements are under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services, 250 N. Lowder St., Macclenny 32063. Visit www.ferreirafuneralservices.com to sign the family's guest book. 904-259-5700.

PAID OBITUARY



Howard Driver

Howard Wayman Driver, born on Jan. 13, 1945, in Mayo, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2025, at Community Hospice Douglas Center for Caring at Baptist Health Hospital in Jacksonville after a short illness. He dedicated many years with the Department of Transportation, where he served with the road department until his retirement. He is remembered for his love of fishing and hunting, as well as his remarkable ability to cultivate a prize-winning garden. He shared an extraordinary bond with his sister, Wanda, a connection that many siblings may not experience. He spent his final years at Macclenny Nursing and Rehab Center, where he was cared for by Wanda until her passing in July 2024. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Vicky Driver, parents, Riley and Alpal Driver; and siblings, including Carol Swafford, Wanda Griffiths, Joe Driver, Shirley Mulkey, Ray Driver, Mack Driver, Wonell Mulkey, Bernice Jones, G.W. Driver, and Ernest Driver.

He leaves behind his beloved family, including his sister, Glenda Crawford; sons, Darrel Driver of Guantamo Bay, Cuba, and Keith (Andrea) Driver of Corpus Christi, Texas. Howard was a proud grandfather to Genevieve and Logan Driver; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

A graveside service to honor his life took place on Sunday, Aug. 24, at Midway Baptist Church Cemetery, 3701 SE County Road 405, Mayo, 32066.

Archer-Milton Funeral Home is honored to serve Howard's family during this time. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

PAID OBITUARY



Edgar Douglass Jr.

Edgar Wilson Douglass Jr., 78, of Lake Butler, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family Monday, Sept. 1, 2025. He was born Feb. 6, 1947, in Fort Meade, to Edgar Wilson Douglass, Sr. and Sara Lucille McClure. A lifelong resident of Lake Butler, he was a devoted Christian and believer in Jesus Christ. He retired from Clay Electric after 32 years of dedicated service. Known for his love of the outdoors, he enjoyed hunting, fishing, working cattle, and farming. His hardworking spirit, love for his family, and steadfast faith will be remembered by all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first loving wife, Martha Ann Douglass; son, Edgar Wilson Douglass III; and brothers, Sonny Douglass, Bert Douglass, and Roger Douglass.

He is survived by his loving daughters, Conney (Nicky) Gay and Kelly (Randy) Carlton; cherished granddaughters, Kierstin Jenkins, Karsyn (Andrew) Robinson, Katelynn Jenkins, Madison (Nate) Turner, and Taylor Douglass; and adored great-grandchildren, Maverick Robinson, Reagan Robinson, and Stella Turner. He is also survived by siblings, Lois Hersey, Charlotte (Lancin) Hersey, Mary (Doley) Hersey, Deborah (Gizzy) Hollingsworth, Barbara Hall, Jean Raulerson, Donna Warren, Larry Joe Douglass, and Bobby Douglass; along with countless nieces and nephews who loved him dearly.

Funeral services will be on Thursday, Sept. 4, at 4 p.m. at Mt. Zion Cemetery in Lake Butler. The eulogy will be given by Brother Mike Norman.

Archer-Milton Funeral Home is honored to serve the Douglass family during this time. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

PAID OBITUARY



William Howard Jr.

William Shands Howard Jr., 85 of Lake Butler, peacefully left for his heavenly home on Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2025, after a brief illness. Shands, as he was known by friends and family, was born Jan. 31, 1940, to Williams Shands Howard Sr. and Opal Baxter Howard. He graduated from Union County High School and entered the US Army in July of 1958, eventually becoming a part of the 82nd Airborne. Following his military service, he attended the University of Florida. He completed his degree with a major in animal science and a minor in agricultural economics in 1965. After college he began his banking career and would be employed by several financial institutions over time, including Farmer's and Dealer's Bank and Community State Bank. As a banker, he guided many young people through their first loans and helped farmers and small-business owners navigate troubled financial times. He shared his wisdom and friendship with many, who can testify to the life-changing advice he gave and how they benefited from his knowledge and caring. He married Barbara Frances Douglas of Gainesville in 1962. He and Fran had two children, Shands Douglas and Shantel D'Lynn. In 1975, his love for Union County drew him back to his hometown, and he and Fran built a home in Lake Butler to farm and raise their children. At age 59, after 37 years full of love and grandchildren, Fran passed away suddenly in 2000. In 2002, he found love again with Lori Mooneyham Clyatt, and they were married for 23 years until his death. He grew up with a deep appreciation for the land and the joys of country living. A lifelong outdoorsman, he found great happiness in hunting and farming. He lived a life rooted in hard work and respect for God's creation and loved being on a tractor and a deer stand. Always a farmer in his heart, he found success in the timber and cattle business and continued being a farmer until his death. In his words, he "lived on the farm growing timber, cattle and grandkids." He loved hunting and enjoyed sharing this love with his children and grandchildren and spent many hours in the woods, taking in the beauty of nature. He will be remembered for his love for the land and the countless memories made with family and friends around the farm and in the woods. His love for Union County ran deep, and he was actively involved in the community in many ways. He was a member of the Bradford-Union Cattlemen's Association and, over the years, assisted and supported many youths in their livestock projects. He was elected and served as a Union County School Board Member from 1986 to 1996. He was a member of Rotary club for many years. He loved Union County High School sports and was a football season ticket holder and booster club member. He was an avid Florida Gator fan and held football season tickets for many years and traveled to many away games, making memories on these trips with family and friends. Besides football, he loved all things Gator. Shands was an active and faithful member of Harmony Free Will Baptist Church in Lake Butler. He was raised in this church and through his years, he served as Deacon, Sunday School Director, and Church Trustee. His witness and testimony drew many people to the Lord, and the legacy of his Christian faith will follow him to eternity. He especially loved his role as "Poppy" and thrived in sharing time with his grandchildren and being involved in their lives.

Remaining to cherish Shands memory are his wife, Lori; his children, Shands Douglas (Danielle) Howard and Shantel Howard (Adam) Nelson; stepchildren, Lindsay (Jeremy) Craft and Jordan (Ashley) Clayatt; grandchildren, Sheyenne, Cole, Teala (Matthew), Shands, Sabrena, Charlotte, Levi and Walter; sister, Barbara (Edward) Carter; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. Shands was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Fran; and his sisters, Ila Howard Woodingto, and Gloria Howard Holmes.

Visitation was held on Thursday, Aug. 28, at Harmony Free Will Baptist Church. The funeral service was held Friday, Aug. 29, at the same location.

Archer-Milton Funeral Home is honored to serve the Howard family during this time. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

PAID OBITUARY



Jerry Lewis

Jerry Lee Lewis, 44, died Wednesday, July 23, 2025, in Jacksonville. He was born Oct. 19, 1980, in Phoenix, Arizona, the son of Charles Lewis and Mary Ann. He resided in Lawtey where he dedicated himself to being a handy man.

He is survived by his mother; two daughters; two sisters; a brother; and five growing grandbabies.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. For more info email Summer17385@gmail.com.

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

Lucy White

Mrs. Lucy Mae White, 96, of Coral Springs, passed away Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2025, at American House, Coconut Point in Estero, following an extended illness. She was born Sept. 3, 1928, in Armuchee, Georgia to the late Howard and Ruth Lillian (Self) Barton and graduated from Bradford High School. She was a homemaker and longtime member of First United Methodist Church of Starke, now known as Foundation Church. She was a member of Starke Women's Club, the local Hospital Auxiliary and Starke Red Hat Society. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband Olin W. White Jr.; sons, Larry O. White and Robert W. White; and siblings, J.C. Barton, Claude Barton, Avanelle Johnson, Olden (Pete) Barton, Clinton Barton, and Thelma (Topsy) Ebling.

Survivors are a son, Michael S. (Patricia) White of Coral Springs, and daughters-in-law, Melinda White of Bonita Springs and Cindy White of Starke. Also left are five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends at DeWitt C. Jones Chapel of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home on Saturday, Sept. 6, from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. with funeral services beginning at 3 p.m. A private interment at Crosby Lake Cemetery will follow. Rev. Jerry Carris will officiate. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Foundation Church, P.O. Box 157, Starke, 32091

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

PAID OBITUARY



Loretta Wolfe

Our beloved Grandma, Loretta Elaine Pewett Wolfe, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2025, at the age of 82. She was at home in Lake Butler, surrounded by family and love, exactly the way she would've wanted it. She was born Sept. 9, 1942, in Ocala to Ida Mae and Edwin Pewett, who preceded her in death along with her brother-in-law, Jimmy Reynolds; and sister-in-law, Bette Wolfe. Just two years ago, she beat colon cancer with her trademark strength and grace. And only last week, she began preparing to face a new battle with breast cancer. Her courage was never loud or showy, it was quiet, constant, and wrapped in love. That's who she was. A giver. A protector. The glue that held generations together. To us, she was simply "Grandma." She was the heart of our family, and not just because she was there for every milestone, every holiday, every time we needed someone to talk to. She was the one who kept the porch light on, the one who made sure no one ever left hungry or unloved. She hated cooking, and yet somehow there was always food. And her homemade pound cakes? You'd better get in line early, or you'd miss out. For the past 16 years, she gave up her own retirement to raise her great-grandchildren, pouring every ounce of her energy and love into giving them the best life she could. That was Grandma, selfless, unwavering, and full of a love that never asked for anything in return. She had a deep love for traveling, especially cross-country road trips with her family. She adored sports, both playing and watching. And yes, she had a bit of a thing for slot machines, penny ones especially. She knew how to find joy in small thrills and big moments alike. Above all, she was a woman of unshakable faith. A devoted member of Church of Christ, she lived her life in service to God and others. Her faith wasn't just something she spoke about. It was something she lived every single day, through kindness, compassion, and grace. Her love shaped us. Her strength carried us. Her presence grounded us. And while we already feel the enormous hole she leaves behind, we know she's exactly where she always hoped to be, resting in peace, wrapped in God's love, reunited with those who went before her.

She is survived by her loving husband, Jay Wolfe; her only daughter, Vicki Wolfe; and three grandchildren: Tony Gutierrez (Sean LeBlanc), Nikki Gutierrez, and Karinna Fuente. She also leaves behind three great-grandchildren, Antonio Geist, Bristol-Linn Geist, and Cash Geist, who were the light of her life. She is also survived by her siblings, Otis Pewett, Sue Pewett (Richard) Durgeon and Marcie Reynolds; and by nieces, nephews, and too many cousins to count, because once you were family to her, you were family forever.

The viewing was held Tuesday, Sept. 2, at Archer-Milton Funeral Home, Lake Butler. The funeral service was Wednesday, Sept. 3, at Lake Butler Church of Christ. Burial followed at Elzey Cemetery

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to assist with funeral and burial costs: gofundme.com/f/honoring-loretta-help-us-lay-her-to-rest

Thank you to everyone who has shown love, support, and prayers for our family. Grandma was truly one of a kind, and she'll live on in all of us.

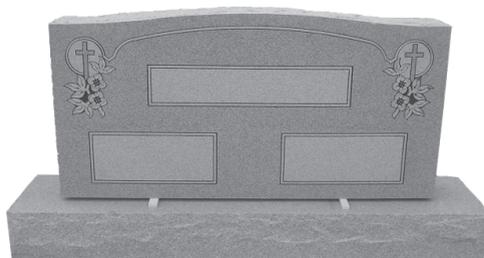
Archer-Milton Funeral Home was honored to serve Loretta's family during this difficult time. 386-496-2008 www.archerfuneralhome.com

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UCHS

Continued from page 8

Chieffland.

The Tigers had a team score of 250, putting them 33 strokes ahead of Bronson.

Chieffland placed first with a score of 220.

Seay finished with a score of 57, while Katelyn Seay placed fifth, shooting a 60.

Sophia Elixson shot a 65 to finish in a two-way tie for seventh, while Sierra Bell was in a two-way tie for 10th with a score of 68.

Summer Shaw had a score of 76.

Union (2-2) entered the match

off a loss to Chieffland on Aug. 26 at the Country Club at Lake City.

Chieffland had a team score of 252 in the Aug. 26 match, which saw the Tigers finish at 280.

Katelyn Seay shot a 61 to finish in a three-way tie for second.

Elixson and Shaw were sixth and seventh, respectively, with scores of 72 and 73.

Kerissa Seay was eighth with a score of 74.

Union played Branford this past Tuesday and will travel to play Bradford at the Starke Golf and Country Club on Thursday, Sept. 4, at 4 p.m.

The Tigers play in a match with Columbia and Keystone Heights on Tuesday, Sept. 9, at 3:30 p.m. at Quail Heights.

BMS and BHS sports schedules

Sept. 4

—BHS boys/girls golf, home vs. Union County, 4 p.m.
 —BMS volleyball at P.K. Yonge, 6 p.m.
 —BHS JV football, home vs. Trinity Catholic, 6 p.m.

Sept. 5

—BHS varsity football at South Sumter, 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 6

—BMS/BHS cross country at Middleburg Bronco Classic, 7:30 a.m.

Sept. 8

—BMS volleyball, home vs. Baker County, 6 p.m.
 —BHS JV/varsity volleyball, home vs. Keystone Heights, 6 p.m./7 p.m.

Sept. 9

—BMS volleyball, home vs. Lake City, 6 p.m.
 —BMS football, home vs. Lake Butler, 6 p.m.

KHHS jr. high, JV, varsity sports schedules

Sept. 4

—Varsity girls golf vs. Oakleaf at Eagle Landing at Oakleaf Plantation, 3:30 p.m.
 —JV/varsity volleyball, home vs. Palatka, 6 p.m./7 p.m.
 —JV football at Ridgeview, 6 p.m.

Sept. 6

—Cross country at Middleburg Bronco Classic, 7:30 a.m.

Sept. 8

—Varsity boys golf at Randy Warren Invitational at the Golf Club at Fleming Island, 8 a.m.
 —Jr. high volleyball, home vs. Wilkinson, 5:30 p.m.

Sept. 9

—Varsity girls golf vs. Columbia and Union County at Lake City's Quail Heights Country Club, 3:30 p.m.
 —JV/varsity volleyball at Interlachen, 6 p.m./7 p.m.

LBMS and UCHS sports schedules

Sept. 4

—UCHS boys/girls golf at Bradford, 4 p.m.
 —LBMS volleyball, home vs. Palatka, 6 p.m.
 —UCHS JV/varsity volleyball, home vs. Oak Hall, 5:30 p.m./6:30 p.m.
 —UCHS JV football, home vs. Eastside, 6 p.m.

Sept. 8

—LBMS golf vs. Branford at Lake City's Quail Heights Country Club, 4 p.m.
 —LBMS volleyball at Suwannee, 6 p.m.

Sept. 9

—UCHS girls golf vs. Columbia and Keystone Heights at Lake City's Quail Heights Country Club, 3:30 p.m.
 —UCHS JV/varsity volleyball at Dixie County, 5:30 p.m./6:30 p.m.
 —LBMS volleyball, home vs. P.K. Yonge (8th-grade night), 6 p.m.
 —LBMS football at Bradford, 6 p.m.

KHHS Continued from page 8

of Newberry, Bradford and Branford.

Begue had the second-lowest individual score of 38. He had two birdies and made par on three holes.

Bardier, who had two birdies and made par on two holes, had a seventh-place score of 41, while Ford, who made par on four holes, finished in a two-way tie for eighth with a score of 43.

Wacha and Spence had scores of 44 and 46, respectively, with each making par on three holes. McDanile made par on one hole and finished with a score of 51.

Keystone played in a match against Buchholz and Gainesville this past Tuesday and will participate in the Randy Warren Invitational on Monday, Sept. 8, at 8 a.m. at the Golf Club at Fleming Island.

Tornadoes have big 2nd half, defeat Dunnellon 35-0

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
 cliff@bctelegraph.com

A tough, close game became a blowout as the Bradford High School football team scored on four of its five second-half possessions in defeating Class 3A Dunnellon 35-0 on Aug. 29 in Dunnellon.

"That's a good football team," Bradford Head Coach Jamie Rodgers said of Dunnellon. "They've got a lot of good skill kids. They have players who could come play for us."

"I was just super happy with the way we came out in the second half and dominated. That was awesome."

Iyen Addison rushed for 131 yards and two touchdowns in the second half on just six carries, finishing his night 132 yards on nine carries.

Rodgers said his team's up-tempo offense eventually paid dividends. He said he thought the Dunnellon defense was getting worn out and added, "They got tired of tackling Iyen."

Each of the four touchdowns in the second half, which also included a Jarrell Harris run and a Cy Cubbedge pass to Chase Phillips on a fake punt, covered 26 yards or more.

Defensively, it was a performance typical of the Tornadoes since Rodgers became head coach. Dunnellon gained 81 yards in the first half, but was held to 35 yards in the second.

Bradford (2-0), which travels to play Class 3A South Sumter on Friday, Sept. 5, at 7:30 p.m., now has 21 shutouts dating back to the 2022 season — Rodgers' first.

"We haven't shown much 4-3 this year," Rodgers said. "We came out in a 4-3 tonight and had a couple of stunts that we hadn't shown yet. The pass rush from our front four was relentless."

Dunnellon (0-2) had what looked to be a promising drive that began at its own 40 late in the first quarter. Tony Tanner had consecutive runs of 5 and 10



J.J. Hall (left) sacks Dunnellon quarterback Dylan Curry.

yards, while quarterback Dylan Curry had a 5-yard run as the Tigers moved to the Bradford 40. The Tornadoes' Jy'Quez Cason then made the first of his two interceptions on the night.

The next time the Tigers had the ball, they benefitted from an unsportsmanlike-conduct penalty on the Bradford sideline and a 16-yard reception by Iterrean Mitchell, giving Dunnellon a first down at the Bradford 44. Parviele Lee helped force the Tigers into a fourth-down play, tackling Tanner for a loss of a yard on a first down and then holding Curry to a 5-yard scramble on third down. Dunnellon elected to go for it on fourth-and-6, resulting in Cason getting his second interception.

Bradford's offense had been struggling, with its first three drives netting a total of 20 yards, but the Tornadoes' fortunes turned around on their fourth series. The drive began with a personal-foul penalty on Dunnellon. A 6-yard reception by Phillips later set up a third-and-1 play that was converted by Harris' 3-yard run. Cubbedge connected with Jordan Cason on a pass play that gained 21 yards to the Dunnellon 22. The following play was a pass tipped at the line of scrimmage that was caught by Cubbedge for an 8-yard loss. Cubbedge

and Cason then hooked up again, with Cason making an over-the-shoulder catch in the end zone for a 30-yard touchdown that capped the 70-yard drive. Tyler Sapp kicked the extra point, giving the Tornadoes a 7-0 lead with less than two minutes remaining until halftime.

Cubbedge finished 8 of 15 for 125 yards, while Cason caught two passes for 51 yards.

The Tornadoes' first series of the second half began at their own 45-yard line after a 35-yard kickoff return by Phillips. Addison had consecutive carries of 15 and 5 yards. A 9-yard reception by Kamontae Nixon resulted in a first down at the Dunnellon 26. Addison broke free on a run from there, scampering into the end zone and giving Bradford a 14-0 lead after Sapp's PAT.

Dunnellon's first offensive play of the half was a bad snap that resulted in a 15-yard loss. The Tigers were able to gain 20 yards on their next two plays, but punted on fourth-and-5. Jy'Quez Cason's 14-yard return set the Bradford offense up at its own 40.

Two carries by Addison had the Tornadoes facing third-and-2, but after an incomplete pass, Bradford lined up to punt. Cubbedge, who's also the punter,

instead threw a pass to a wide-open Phillips for a 52-yard touchdown. Sapp added the PAT to make it a 21-0 game.

"Coach (John) Staples did a great job getting our special teams ready," Rodgers said. "We spend a lot of time on special teams. He saw something with the fake punt and made a great call at a great time on our side of the 50, which normally you don't see. He had confidence in it all week."

Phillips finished with three catches for 70 yards.

The Tigers picked up two first downs on their next drive, but the Bradford defense stepped up. Lee and Danny Torres teamed up to drop Tanner for a 1-yard loss on first down, while Cohen Cioffi sacked Curry for a 6-yard loss on second down. Dunnellon, after a 9-yard pass play on third down, punted on fourth-and-8 from its own 44.

One play was all Bradford needed to increase its lead, with Addison taking a handoff and sprinting 77 yards for a touchdown.

"He's a great worker, and he loves to finish runs," Rodgers said of Addison.

After Sapp's PAT, the Tornadoes led 28-0 late in the third quarter.

The Tornadoes' Nate Raymond had an 8-yard sack that helped force the Tigers to punt on their third series of the half.

Dunnellon went three-and-out the next time it had the ball, but a muffed punt gave the Tigers the ball at the Bradford 43. The Tigers, however, had two straight incomplete passes, followed by a holding penalty that backed them up to their own 49-yard line. Two straight incomplete passes ended the possession, with Raymond batting the pass on the fourth-down play as Curry was running for his life.

Bradford concluded its scoring with another one-play drive as Harris had a 49-yard touchdown run. Sapp then capped his perfect



Chase Phillips sprints toward the end zone after catching a pass from Cy Cubbedge on a fake punt play.

night on extra-point attempts.

Harris finished with 61 yards on six carries.

Rodgers' intent was for that series, which began with 2:58 left in the game, was to run time off the clock, but he gave kudos to the efforts of Harris and the backup linemen.

"Jarrell Harris is one of the fastest guys on our team," Rodgers said. "He just happens to be one of the backup running backs. He wants to play, too. Our backup linemen wanted to play, too. That was a lot of fun."

The Tornadoes have gotten off to a strong start this season, winning its two games by a combined score of 59-0.

"I'm proud of this group, but we've got a long way to go," Rodgers said. "We've got a lot to do."

Bradford now goes on the road to play a South Sumter team that has a 55-0 win over Haines City — a Class 7A playoff team from last season — and a 45-6 win over Springstead — a Class 5A playoff team from last season.

The Raiders (2-0) are attempting to bounce back from a 4-6 season in 2024, which included a 28-7 loss to Bradford.



Union's Drew Simmons (left) shakes off Keystone's Hunter Crumpton on a punt return.

Tigers roll to 51-6 win over Keystone

BY LISA HOLTZENDORF
 Special to the Telegraph-Times-Monitor

It was a dominant performance on both sides of the ball for the Rural Class Union County High School football team, which defeated Class 2A Keystone Heights 51-6 on Aug. 29 in Lake Butler.

The Tigers (1-1), whose game this week has been canceled due to the number of injuries sustained by opponent St. Joseph Academy, were relentless on offense, with running back Drew Simmons scoring three touchdowns.

Defensively, Union held the Indians to two first downs and 68 yards.

Keystone (0-2), which has a bye this week, scored its first points of the season on a Hunter Crumpton touchdown run late in the third quarter.

Taking the field for the coin toss were Union captains Jeffrey Brugh, Wyatt Elixson, Garhett Prevatt and Keegan Shuler and Keystone captains Luke Bacorn and Pete Bostic. The Indians won the toss and deferred, with the Tigers electing to receive the opening kickoff.

J.J. Buie received a short kick from Ryder Thomas and returned it to the Union 41. Simmons took a handoff from quarterback Brugh, twisting and spinning his way downfield and earning first-down yardage. Brugh and Bryce Lawton contributed yardage along with Simmons to set the Tigers up with first-and-goal. Simmons eventually scored on a 1-yard touchdown run to give Union an early 6-0 lead with 8:31 left in the first quarter. The extra point was no good.

Keystone's Cole Crabtree returned the Union kickoff to his own 38-yard line. Crumpton gained 5 yards on a quarterback keeper, but the Union defense proved to be stingy, stopping run plays and getting a big third-down stop by Erick Lasseter, forcing the Indians to punt.

The Tigers had good field position at their own 49, but a tipped pass was intercepted by Keystone's Trey Simmons, giving the Indians the ball at the Union 46.

Union's defense forced the Indians into a fourth-down play,

See ROLL, page 14

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Binet places 5th for Keystone girls golf team

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Keystone Heights High School played Middleburg and Ridgeview in an Aug. 26 girls match at Eagle Harbor Golf Club in Orange Park, placing second behind Middleburg.

Middleburg had a team score of 183 to Keystone's 249. Ridgeview didn't field a full team.

Rebecca Binet, who made par on one hole, led the Indians with a fifth-place score of 56. Aubrey Brooks, who also made par on one hole, placed seventh with a score of 62.

Zoey Gill and Amber Wagner were eighth and ninth, respectively, with scores of 64 and 67.

Keystone also got scores of 76 from Jillian Huntley and 81 from Averi Hemphill.

The Indians will play Oakleaf at Orange Park's Eagle Landing Golf Club on Tuesday, Sept. 4, at 3:30 p.m. Keystone then plays against Columbia and Union County at Lake City's Quail Heights Country Club at 3:30 p.m.

UCHS boys golf team has 2 tie for 3rd in match vs. Chiefland

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Gavin Kuhn and Ayden Tomlinson tied for third with scores of 50 for the Union County High School boys golf team, which lost to host Chiefland on Aug. 28.

The Tigers had a team score of 220, while Chiefland finished at 197.

Brysen Tomlinson made par on one hole and finished with a sixth-place score of 57 for the Tigers, who also got a seventh-place score of 63 from Emery Muse and a ninth-place score of 75 from Fenix Norman.

It was Union's second straight match against Chiefland as the Tigers hosted the Indians at the Country Club at Lake City on Aug. 26. That match saw Union finish with a team score of 245 to Chiefland's 214.

Kuhn and Ayden Tomlinson placed third and fourth, respectively, with scores of 54 and 55. Tomlinson made par on two holes.

Brysen Tomlinson shot a sixth-place score of 64, while Muse was seventh at 72.

Norman finished ninth at 78. The Tigers travel to play Bradford on Thursday, Sept. 4, at 4 p.m.

Tigers defeat Indians 3-0 in volleyball

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
cliff@bctelegraph.com

Union County High School earned its third straight win in volleyball, defeating host Keystone Heights 3-0 (25-18, 25-22, 25-10) on Aug. 28.

Stats weren't available by deadline for the Tigers, who improved to 4-2.

Keystone (3-3) got eight kills from Mia Rivera and 15 assists from Kaleigh Marquart. Mackenzie Castlevecchi, Bralee-Kate Chester and Kadence Massey each had two blocks, with Castlevecchi also adding three service aces.

The first match in Union's current win streak occurred at

home against Williston on Aug. 25. Jailyn Simmons had 13 kills and three blocks in the 3-0 (25-7, 25-12, 25-16) victory.

Mallory Waugh and Abby Williams recorded 12 and 10 assists, respectively, while Indi Knox led the team in digs with 13.

Waugh and Morgan Smith added eight and six digs, respectively.

The Tigers traveled to play Baker County on Aug. 26, defeating the Wildcats 3-0 (25-13, 25-17, 25-23).

Simmons recorded a team-high 11 kills, while Smith and Waugh each had seven. Simmons added seven digs and two blocks, while Waugh had 15 digs and 11 assists. Smith finished with eight digs.

Bella Johns and Bayley Staier led the team in digs with 14 each, while Knox had 13.

Williams recorded 21 assists.

Keystone entered the Union match off a 3-1 (17-25, 26-24, 25-23, 25-21) win at Columbia on Aug. 26.

Rivera and Marquart had 16 and six kills, respectively, with Marquart adding 25 assists and five aces.

Massey had 10 digs, while Rachel Blank and Bella Cumbo added eight and seven, respectively.

Chester and Castlevecchi had three and two blocks, respectively, with Chester also recording five aces.

Union played Newberry this past Tuesday and will host Oak Hall on Thursday, Sept. 4, at 6:30 p.m., following a junior varsity match at 5:30 p.m. The Tigers travel to play district opponent Dixie County on Tuesday, Sept. 9, at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Keystone played Baker

County this past Tuesday and will host district opponent Palatka on Thursday, Sept. 4, at 7 p.m., following a JV match at 6 p.m. The Indians travel to play Bradford on Monday, Sept. 8, at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. and then travel to play district opponent Interlachen on Tuesday, Sept. 9, at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.

BHS gets its 1st win in volleyball

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
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Bradford High School's volleyball team picked up its first win of the season, defeating visiting Palatka 3-1 (25-22, 23-25, 25-20, 25-18) on Aug. 28.

Stats weren't available by deadline.

The Tornados (1-3) entered the match off a 3-2 loss to visiting Baker County on Aug. 25, which saw Kingslee Phillips record 21 assists, 11 digs and eight kills, while Shelby Cole had 19 assists and 12 digs.

Autumn DeKorver, Ky'lee Johnson and Leila Roberts each had six kills. Johnson and Roberts each had two blocks as well, while DeKorver had nine digs.

Wynter Barrington led the team in blocks with three, while Manduo Wei recorded seven digs.

Bradford played Hawthorne this past Tuesday and was scheduled to host Newberry on Wednesday, Sept. 3, at 6:30 p.m., following a junior varsity match at 5:30 p.m. The Tornados host Keystone Heights on Monday, Sept. 8, at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Hope Christian JV/varsity volleyball schedule

Sept. 5

JV/varsity, home vs. Westwood Christian, 5 p.m./6 p.m.

Sept. 8

JV/varsity, home vs. Gainesville Christian Community, 5 p.m./6 p.m.

Northside Christian JV/varsity volleyball schedule

Sept. 4

JV/varsity, home vs. Westwood Christian, 5 p.m./6 p.m.

Sept. 5

Varsity at Crossroads Christian, 5 p.m.

Sept. 9

Varsity at First Christian, 5 p.m.



Union's Cadenz Merriex (right) returns an interception for a touchdown, giving the Tigers a 44-0 lead. The Tigers' Sept. 5 game at St. Joseph Academy was canceled, so they'll return to action at home on Friday, Sept. 12, against Baldwin at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL

Continued from page 13

but the Tigers jumped offside to give Keystone a first down. Union overcame the mistake, with Edward Durant, Elijah Llanes and Alec McClellon stepping up to make big stops and forcing the Indians to punt.

Keystone got a break on the punt when it wasn't fielded and rolled out of bounds at the Union 25-yard line. The Tigers, however, quickly went on the move, starting with Lawton getting a big run on first down.

That was followed by a big gain from Simmons, but a block-in-the-back penalty negated the run and put Union into a first-and-19 situation. McClellon took a handoff and gained significant yardage in giving the Tigers a first down at the Keystone 30.

Then, with the second quarter underway, C.J. Ivey carried the ball into the end zone on a 33-yard run. The PAT was blocked, but the Tigers led 12-0 with 11:10 left in the second quarter.

The Tigers' next offensive series began at midfield. Union gained a first down before Simmons sprinted for another touchdown. A holding penalty brought the play back, but on what seemed to be a replay, Simmons got the handoff again, spinning out of tackles as he scored from 30 yards out. No flags were on the field this time. Brugh kicked the extra point to make it 19-0 with 7:26 to play in the second quarter.

Keystone's following drive was marred by a bad snap and fumble, with Elixson and Llanes scrambling after the loose ball. Elixson eventually recovered the fumble to give the Tigers excellent field position at the Keystone 12-yard line.

Two short plays later, Simmons scored, going around left end for a 12-yard touchdown and a 25-0 lead with 5:25 left in the first half. The PAT was no good.

The Indians' defense came

up with a big play the next time the Tigers had the ball, with Josiah Bardier making an interception. Unfortunately, the Keystone offense went three-and-out, punting the ball back to the Tigers.

Union sought to close out the half with another touchdown in the closing seconds. The Tigers got it when Buie came down with a tipped pass in the end zone, extending their lead to 31-0.

The Tigers opened the floodgates to start the second half, beginning with a blocked punt. That led to a 51-yard touchdown run by Lawton to make the score 37-0 and implement a running clock. The PAT was no good.

Keystone's offense received another blow when the Indians went for it on a fourth-down play. A tipped pass led to a Cadenz Merriex interception, which he returned for a touchdown. The extra point was good, putting the Tigers up 44-0.

The Tigers started substituting in younger players as Keystone finally put points on the board this season. Crumpton broke through the defense on a big run to the Union 5-yard line. Crumpton carried the ball into the end zone from there to make it 44-6. The PAT was no good.

Union added the game's final score when Caleb Hall took the ball into the end zone on a 31-yard run. Durant kicked the extra point.

The Tigers return to action on Friday, Sept. 12, when they host Class 2A Baldwin at 7:30 p.m. Baldwin is currently 2-0, defeating Englewood and Palatka by a combined score of 59-17.

Keystone's next game is its first District 5 contest of the year. The Indians will host Newberry on Friday, Sept. 12, at 7:30 p.m. Newberry (0-2) The Panthers opened the season with a 47-14 loss to University Christian (a Class 1A regional finalist last season) and fell 32-7 to Hawthorne (the Rural Class state runner-up last season) on Aug. 29.



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