

Lake Region Monitor

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Keystone Heights physician settles suit with Justice Dept.

Whistleblower to pocket \$60,000

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

A physician with offices in Starke and Keystone Heights agreed to pay a \$100,000 settlement in connection with a Palatka-based sleep clinic for which he served as medical director.

According to a U.S. Justice Department press release, Dr. George Restea, acted as the medical director for the Sleep Medicine Center in Palatka. The center also operated an office in Keystone Heights but later closed it.

In the lawsuit, justice department lawyers claimed that Restea failed to properly carry out his role as medical director.

The Sleep Medicine Center, along with its proprietor, Dr. Hubert Zachary, also settled with the government. The center agreed to a \$200,000 payment and both the center and Zachary voluntarily agreed to be excluded from participation in federal health care programs for eight years.

The civil suit claimed that from Jan. 1, 2010, until Nov. 13, 2013, Zachary ran the center, a clinic that treated patients for sleep-related disorders. Rather than treat patients in accordance with Medicare and TRICARE regulations, the government contended that Zachary and the Sleep Medicine Center submitted claims for polysomnographic sleep studies and psychological testing that were not medically necessary, were not conducted by appropriately licensed individuals, or were not actually performed.

Donna Nichols, a former employee of the center, originally filed the lawsuit under the whistleblower provisions of the False Claims Act. She claimed that the defendants, the center and four physicians, violated the law by knowingly submitting false claims to the government for payment. Nichols will receive more than \$60,000 as part of the government's settlement with the center, Restea and Zachary.

The justice department's cases against the remaining two defendants, Dr. John DeCerce and Dr. George Young, continues.

The government contends that these individuals also agreed to act as medical directors and staff physicians. While these doctors certified that they would supervise the clinic, the government alleges that the doctors merely lent their names in exchange for compensation.

DOJ lawyers contend that the Sleep Medicine Center would not have been able to bill the federal health care programs, had the defendants exercised proper oversight.

For example, the government alleges that Young signed durable medical equipment orders for patients that he never saw and that DeCerce signed sleep study interpretations even when the machines allegedly performing the approved studies were broken.

Phone calls seeking comment for this story on Tuesday afternoon, to Restea's office in Starke were forwarded to a recording listing the practice's normal operating hours.

Clay Electric announces \$23 million construction project for Keystone Heights



A rendering of Clay Electric's new headquarters by Bhide & Hall Architects, P.A. Courtesy of Clay Electric Cooperative.

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, Sept. 17 - The general manager of Clay Electric Cooperative said the co-op plans to build four new buildings west of Keystone Heights over the next five years.

Ricky Davis said in the co-op's newsletter, The Kilowatt that the \$23 million project will house the organization's data and call centers and its finance, administrative, information and communications technology, human resources, member and public relations, and internal audit departments. The campus will also include the general manager's office and board meeting room facilities.

Workers will construct the new campus on property Clay Electric already owns, between its present buildings on the western edge of Keystone Heights and the Keystone Village Square shopping center. The co-op originally planned

to launch the project last year, but delayed construction after it increased its monthly customer charge by \$3 a month in October, and raised its energy charge on the first 1,000-kilowatt hours of power from 7.48 cents to 7.63 cents per kilowatt hour.

The following January, Clay began passing along a 4.4-percent fuel cost increase it received from its power supplier, Seminole Electric.

When announcing the delay last year, Davis said if the co-op would have proceeded with the buildings, the projects would not have materially affected the co-op's financial results nor customers' costs.

"These types of capital expenditures don't affect our expenses all that much because the money is borrowed and paid back over a long period, but I think it's wise to put these projects on hold," Davis said.

In 2013 the co-op completed construction of a new

7,496-square foot Lake City district office at a cost of \$2.6 million. It also remodeled and expanded its Orange Park district office.

Davis said conditions are now favorable for the co-op's \$23 million project because of low construction costs and interest rates. He also said Clay Electric's normal year-to-year construction budget is lower this year.

The need for the project first arose from a 2007 study which concluded that the co-op's current buildings in Keystone Heights, housing its administrative and other units, were vulnerable to fire and storm damage.

During the 2004 hurricane season, the structure housing the co-op's data and communications equipment suffered water damage to its walls, carpet and equipment.

"If we were to experience a fire or other damaging event," Davis wrote in The Kilowatt,

"our communications and data links would be down for a while and many of our functions would stop until these systems were replaced."

Davis also said the co-op's call center, now located in Keystone Heights District offices on Citrus Street, has outgrown the 1958 structure.

"The call center has grown in recent years to the point that it's now a less efficient work environment for our personnel," he wrote. "It's clear we need a new call center facility that offers additional space, more soundproofing features, and an area set aside for training."

Davis said the cost of the project, spread over 30 years and among 167,000 accounts, amounts to around 65 cents per customer per month. He added, however, that the co-op will not raise rates to cover construction costs.

Old planes bring new jobs to Keystone Airport

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, Sept. 16 -The Sept. 10 arrival of a Lockheed L-188 Electra to the Keystone Airport may have marked a new stage in the economic development of the facility, according to airport officials and the leader of a business there.

Don Deyo, the leader of Mercair, is refurbishing the Electra for future service as either a tanker or for transporting freight in the arctic.

Deyo has been developing his niche of servicing older aircraft for 30 years. Now, the growth of Mercair is forcing the airport to expand and is sending Deyo into the labor market looking for help.

Zantop Air Service

The American-made turboprop took off earlier in the day from an airport in Michigan. When the aircraft touched down in Keystone hours later, one of the most prominent features of the plane was the word "Zantop" painted in red lettering across the fuselage.

Deyo said the Zantop moniker represents the aircraft's prior service and the glory days of air freight.

Zantop was probably the largest domestic freight carrier from the 1940s through the 1970s. The company specialized in military contracts and automobile manufacturing inventory.



A Lockheed Electra, near the main hanger of the Keystone Heights Airport, after landing at the facility on Sept. 10. Photo courtesy of the Keystone Heights Airport.

Deyo said that changes in the aircraft industry eventually forced freight carriers out of the market.

"When they went to what they call the wide-body passenger airplanes," Deyo explained, "like a 767, the entire lower part of that airplane was full of freight."

He said that once the passenger airlines moved into the freight market, freight airlines like Zantop were pushed out.

Mercair

Deyo's company, Mercair,

specializes in maintenance for Lockheed Electras, P-3 Orions, C-130s and similar aircraft.

"I am probably the last person in the world that actively supports the Lockheed Electra," he said. "They were built from 1959 to 1961. There were only 170 airplanes built, and there are probably between 20 and 30 left operational, throughout the world, right now."

Deyo used to travel around the globe, training pilots and mechanics about the plane, in addition to supplying parts for the Electra.

"Right now, we are down

to about two or three major operators of the airplane and most of those are in western Canada," he said.

He added that one or two more operators may exist in South America or Africa, but the plane is no longer flown in European airspace.

Deyo said that today, the two primary missions of the Electra are firefighting and Arctic cargo.

Reality T.V. star

The Electra has also made its

See PLANES, 2A

Growth management committee tries to win over businesses to new sign rules

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, Sept. 18 - Members of the city's growth management committee presented their proposed sign ordinance to around 40 members of the Keystone Heights business community on Sept. 18.

The committee's chairman, Keystone Heights Mayor Tony Brown, started the meeting by trying to quell the notion heard among many of the merchants at the beginning of the meeting: that city officials with little business experience of their own, through the sign ordinance, were arbitrarily imposing rules and costs on businesses.

Brown told the crowd that the committee's goal is to help develop an economically viable commercial district with character and community support. He said he hoped the committee's work would result in a city with exciting weekend activities that give people a reason to come downtown.

"We are not out to throw down the hammer on anybody," he said. "We want to help you."

He added that over the previous 10 months, the panel has looked at successful development efforts of towns like Mt. Dora, Safety Harbor, Cedar Key and Tampa's Ybor City neighborhood.

The mayor's comments drew some heckles from the audience, pointing out that Keystone Heights is not Tampa.

City Planner Susan Frazier then took over for Brown, trying to sell the plan to the business leaders.

"You are right," said Frazier. "Your market area is not the same as St. Augustine, but the same rules apply. People come to you for certain reasons and we think we can make the area more attractive and draw more people to this area that wouldn't come unless we change."

"Some of these places are bigger than us," she added, "but they all have character."

"When you wake up on Saturday morning, and say, 'Where am I going this weekend?' you might say, 'I'm going to St. Augustine or I'm going to Mt. Dora to go antique shopping. But you go because there is a picture in your head of what these little places are like, so we are going to copy that.'"

Frazier then took the audience through a slide show, comparing blighted areas around the southeastern United States with successfully-redeveloped ones.

Frazier said the Growth Management Committee, working in concert with the Heritage Commission and the Community Redevelopment Agency, searched for communities that have successfully attracted visitors and customers to commercial districts.

Brown added, "We are not into marketing your business, but we are in the business of making our town look better."

"And it's not that we are telling you that you have ugly-looking buildings" he added.

Brown also reminded the audience about the city's successful facade grant program, which was a factor in the city winning the 2010 Florida Redevelopment Association President's Award.

He also said that the sign

See SIGNS, 3A

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Southwestern Clay County property crimes, Aug. 11- Sept. 14



- (1) On Aug. 11, an unlocked vehicle was stolen from in front of a residence on Orchid Avenue.
- (2) On Aug. 11, items were stolen from a vacant residence and a shed behind the residence on Paradise Drive. There were signs of forced entry into the residence.
- (3) On Aug. 13, miscellaneous collectible coins, other collectible items and a shotgun were stolen from a residence on C.R. 315C. There were signs of forced entry into the residence.
- (4) On Aug. 20, a cellphone and other items left unattended were stolen from an under-construction residence on C.R. 214.
- (5) On Aug. 20, a trailer containing lawn equipment was stolen from the yard at a residence on Cherokee Court.
- (6) On Aug. 22, a window was broken on a mobile home in a trailer park on S.R. 100.
- (7) On Aug. 24, items were stolen from an unlocked pickup truck parked under the car port at a residence on Highland Drive.
- (8) On Aug. 25, a lawnmower was stolen from the backyard at a residence on Rodeo Drive.
- (9) On Aug. 26, a riding lawn mower was stolen from vacant property on Dennison Avenue.
- (10) On Aug. 30, a wallet left unattended was stolen from the top of the Red Box video rental machine at the CVS Pharmacy on West Walker Drive.
- (11) On Aug. 31, a laptop computer, firearms, food and other items were stolen from an unlocked residence on Drake Avenue.
- (12) On Sept. 1, drawers were opened in the bedrooms and jewelry was stolen from a residence on Forest Hills Road in Melrose. There were no signs of forced entry into the residence.
- (13) On Sept. 1, a window-mounted air conditioning unit was stolen from a residence on South Lawrence Boulevard.
- (14) On Sept. 1, power tools were stolen from a residence being remodeled on Blazing Star Road in Melrose.
- (15) On Sept. 4, a metal mailbox was hit and damaged at a residence on Blue Marlin Drive.
- (16) On Sept. 7, a suspect walked up to a Keystone Heights homeowner, and asked for a ride down the road to the Kangaroo Express. When the suspect got out of the vehicle, the suspect stole the victim's purse.
- (17) On Sept. 13, lawn mowers were stolen from Lake Area Small Engine on Kyle Street. There were signs of forced entry into the business.
- (18) On Sept. 14, items were stolen from two residences along Southwest Pecan Street. There were signs of forced entry into both residences.

PLANES

Continued from 2A

way onto television, featured in the reality show Ice Pilots NWT. The program will begin its sixth season on Canada's History Television in October. It chronicles the operations of Buffalo Airways and its leader, "Buffalo" Joe McBryan. Among other services, the company flies fuel and supplies from its base in Yellowknife in Canada's Northwest Territory to the communities of Resolute and Alert. The latter settlement is the northernmost, permanently inhabited place on earth, only 508 miles from the North Pole.

Arctic freight

Deyo said that one or more of the Electras that are refurbished in Keystone may wind up with Buffalo Airways. He added that McBryan may visit Keystone in the coming year.

Deyo said the gravel runways in the remote areas of the Northwest Territory are off limits to jet engines.

He said the 737, which is the everyday, go-to airplane for most applications in United States, have large engines which hang down from the wings.

"They are like big Hoover Vacuum Cleaners," he said of the engines. "They suck up all that air and you can't operate them near gravel and snow, because there is a chance" the engines will take in the foreign materials.

Deyo added that the Electra's design gives it advantages over jets in firefighting. He said prop planes offer better maneuverability than jet aircraft and can perform short field take offs and landings.

Another company with operations at the airport, MHD-Rockland, is a parts supplier for the Electra, P-3 Orion (the military version of the L-188 Electra), C-130 Hercules, and some of the other aircraft that

Deyo's firm supports.

MHD-Rockland owns the Electra at the airport. Deyo said the two firms work together, with Mercair performing the field work and MHD-Rockland providing the parts.

McBryan has also incorporated Buffalo Airways USA in Florida. Deyo said the new company, also based in Keystone, will likely be the end user of the refurbished Electras, either for firefighting duty in the U.S. or hauling freight in Canada.

Deyo said the planes could also be used in a third application, delivering oil dispersants to an oil spill. Dispersants gained notoriety after their use following the 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

The move to Keystone

Deyo served in the Navy for 25 years, flying the P-3. After retirement, he flew the Electra.

Mercair was based at Jacksonville's Herlong Airport, with about half the space that the company leases now from the Keystone Airpark Authority. Seven years ago, Deyo was looking for a place to expand. He said the Jacksonville Aviation Authority, which owns Herlong, provided an additional incentive to move when it increased Deyo's rent.

"They actually doubled my rent in 2008, right in the heart of the recession-," he said, "just about put us out of business."

Deyo said that over the last 20-30 years, he has travelled the world, locating inoperable Electras and P-3s, buying the remains and stripping the planes of salvageable parts.

"Since we can't buy new parts anymore, we take old parts and do overhauls," he explained. "Since they don't build the subcomponents for them either, I'll take, for example, an

actuating cylinder, I'll take three cylinders and make two."

The only way to keep the airplanes running is by having a large stash of these spare components.

Mercair started its move from Herlong to Keystone in 2011. Deyo said his crew is still unpacking boxes from the move.

Airport expansion and job growth

The company's growth within the airport's main hanger is pushing expansion at the facility.

Airpark Authority Chairman Noel Thomas told the city council earlier this month that the authority is seeking a \$70,000 loan to finance a new hanger.

The Wings of Dreams Aviation Museum, which has held monthly fly-ins at Keystone's main hanger, recently announced that it will move the monthly events to another location at the airport.

Deyo added that he hopes to start hiring more workers, once the FAA approves his certificate for a repair station in Keystone.

He said that now, most of his labor force consists of part-time Navy retirees, who worked on P-3s and other planes while in the service.

He added that eventually, as business continues to grow, the company will transition to full-timers.

"We are looking at some of these young fellows coming back from the military," he said, "that may have worked on similar aircraft."

Deyo also said that since he has spent the last 30 years training people how to fly and repair the Electras, he is able to train novices about the aircraft.

"We are willing to teach people that have the right stuff," he said, "that can show us they

See HIRING, 3A



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Keystone Heights Mayor Tony Brown (center) opens a meeting of the growth management committee while (l-r) City Planner Susan Frazier and committee members Marion Kelly, Fred Pitts, Dan Lewandowski and Karen Lake look on.

SIGNS

Continued from 1A
ordinance and the accompanying grant program is just one component of the city's efforts to attract more visitors to Keystone Heights.

The goal is, we want you to make more money," added committee member Dan Lewandowski. "We want our community to look better. We want people to be proud to be from here."

Frazier then went into the specifics of the proposed ordinance. She reviewed a

handout that compared the city's current sign ordinance with the proposed changes. She also said that businesses with signs that are in compliance with the current law, but not with the new law would have five years to comply with the new sign ordinance.

Frazier and Brown also outlined the city's sign grant program, which will cover 80-percent of the costs of new signs, up to a total sign cost of \$2,000. Frazier added that the committee researched likely costs for businesses to purchase signs that comply with the new law and found an average cost of

\$1,500.

What became apparent to many in the audience as Frazier went over the new rules, is that many signs in the city do not comply with the town's current rules.

This brought complaints from some in the gallery that city officials have done a poor job communicating and enforcing the town's sign rules.

Several of the merchants, including Chaiyz Brown of Computer Solutions, asked the committee to allow lighted "Open" signs to be displayed in front windows.

"Pretty much every business in town has a neon open sign," Brown said.

Committee members said they would likely accommodate Brown's request.

Other audience members, including Ralph Leibold of Keystone Cutters, argued that the city should have taken a different approach than overhauling the entire sign ordinance.

He suggested that city officials should have targeted signs in the town "that don't look good" and offered to use community redevelopment funds to upgrade those displays.

Other business owners told the committee it should have focused on increasing foot traffic in the downtown area first, then directed its attention to signs.

Frazier responded by asking that if they were going to invite someone over to dinner, would they clean the house before or after the event.

HIRING

Continued from 2A

can learn. We'll train them."

He added that he already has one Keystone Heights hire in a training program.

"Every one of us working here now should be retired," he said, "so we are looking for some young blood to come in. We are looking for people who don't just want a job. We want people who are looking for a career."

LEGALS



LRM Legals 9/25/14

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Thursday, October 2, 2014 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Unit# 247, containing misc. household items.
9/18 2tchg 9/25-LRM

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801, 83.809), Lake Area Storage, LLC, will sell the following items to the highest and best bidder on Thursday, October 7, 2014 at 9:00 A.M. (EST) at 7101 SR 21, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656: Unit# 240, containing household items.
9/25 2tchg 10/2-LRM

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
City of Keystone Heights
The City Council of the City of Keystone Heights will hold a PUBLIC HEARING to consider Ordinance 2014-539 and Ordinance 2014-543 on October 6, 2014 at 6:00 PM or as

soon thereafter as can be heard. The PUBLIC HEARINGS will be held at City Hall, 555 South Lawrence Boulevard, Keystone Heights, FL 32656 in the Council Meeting Room.

Ordinance 2014-539
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE XI: BUSINESS REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 117: TOBACCO SALES TO MINORS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF KEYSTONE HEIGHTS PROHIBITING THE SALE OF E-CIGARETTES WITHIN THE CITY TO PERSONS UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE, PROHIBITING THE USE OF E-CIGARETTES WITHIN THE CITY WHERE SMOKING IS PROHIBITED, PROHIBITING SELF-SERVICE MERCHANDISING IN THE SALE OF E-CIGARETTES AND LIQUID NICOTINE WITHIN THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT WITH OTHER ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ordinance 2014-543
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 127 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF KEYSTONE HEIGHTS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT WITH OTHER ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE
Ordinance 2014-539 and Ordinance 2014-543 may be reviewed in its entirety at City Hall during regular business hours.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinances. Please be advised that if a person

decides to appeal any decision made to any matter considered at such hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceeding for such purpose. He or she will 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.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, a person deciding to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting or at any subsequent meeting to which the Board has continued its deliberations 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 a special accommodation to participate in this matter should contact the City of Keystone Heights City Manager by mail at Post Office Box 420, Keystone Heights, Florida 32656, or by telephone at number (352) 473-4807, no later than five (5) days prior to the hearing or proceeding for which this notice has been given.

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FOUR CORNERS REPORT: NEWS FROM ALACHUA, BRADFORD, CLAY AND PUTNAM COUNTIES

Alachua

Sheriff warns about green dot card fraud

GAINESVILLE, Sept. 23 - The Alachua County Sheriff's Office said it continues to receive calls from citizens who have been targeted by suspects representing themselves as agents from local businesses such as Gainesville Regional Utilities, Clay Electric, the Alachua County Sheriff's Office and most recently, Walmart in an effort to secure payment with a prepaid Green Dot Visa gift card. In a recent case involving the Alachua County Sheriff's Office, a citizen was notified that they had an active Alachua County warrant and needed to send a prepaid Green Dot Visa gift card in the amount of \$1000 to resolve the warrant. In another case, the suspect represented themselves as Walmart and told the citizen that there was a problem with their layaway and that in order to resolve that balance they needed to send a prepaid Green Dot Visa gift card.

"Please do not send anyone a prepaid Green Dot Visa gift card without first verifying that the problem is legitimate first," the office said in a statement. "With the holiday season quickly approaching, it is important that all residents be aware of these scams in order to keep from becoming a victim. We are encouraging residents to not send prepaid Green Dot Visa gift cards to anyone without first confirming that a problem is legitimate. Please call the Alachua County Sheriff's Office at 352-955-1818 if you receive a call that involves a scam."

Alachua

Sid Martin Biotechnology Incubator wins national award

GAINESVILLE, Sept. 19--- The University of Florida's Sid Martin Biotechnology Incubator has been recognized as a national leader in technology-based economic development by the State Science and Technology Institute, known as SSTI.

The incubator won SSTI's 2014 Excellence in Technology-Based Economic Development award for its exceptional achievement in the technology commercialization category.

Sid Martin Biotech companies and graduates have attracted more than \$1.2 billion in funding activity. Incubator companies have created more than 2,000 high-wage jobs and have had an economic impact of well over \$100 million per year in Alachua County.

"Gator research discoveries

are transforming both the laboratory and the marketplace. We're thrilled to earn another recognition of our efforts to fuel the state and nation's economy through technology commercialization," said UF Vice President for Research David Norton.

The award was presented during a ceremony sponsored by JP Morgan Chase & Co. at SSTI's Annual Conference in Chicago, attended by more than 300 local, regional and national leaders in economic development from 42 states and two Canadian provinces.

Award winners serve as national models for states and regions investing in science, technology and innovation to grow their economies and create high-paying jobs, according to the SSTI.

"The Sid Martin Biotech Incubator at the University of Florida has consistently moved forward in achieving its vision," said SSTI President Dan Berglund. "Any incubator, regardless of technology focus, could learn something from this program, its flexibility, and the long-term commitment of its community of partners."

Successful technology-based economies tend to include a research base that generates new knowledge, mechanisms for transferring knowledge into the marketplace, an entrepreneurial culture, sources of risk capital, and a technically skilled workforce, according to the SSTI.

Built in 1995, the UF Sid Martin Biotechnology Incubator is one of the country's first bio-business incubators. The 40,000-square-foot bioscience complex was created with the goal of commercializing UF technologies around the life sciences.

Bradford

Lawmakers celebrate Hampton comeback

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

HAMPTON, Sept. 19 Two state lawmakers, who were intent on dissolving the city of Hampton earlier this year hosted a barbecue for the town's residents to mark the city's achievements.

State Sen. Rob Bradley, Rep. Charles Van Zant Sr. and their staffs served around 150 meals at Hampton's Victory Baptist Church on Sept. 19.

The turnout equated to approximately 30 percent of the city's population.

The church was also the site of a legislative delegation meeting on March 28 where Van Zant and Bradley decided to rescind a measure that would have revoked the city's charter.

Bradley and Van Zant threatened the dissolution after reading the results of a state audit. The report catalogued 31 findings of inadequate accounting practices, poor budgetary controls and deficient administrative and procurement procedures.

Van Zant said during the barbecue that after reading the audit report, he felt he could get the backing from his colleagues to rescind Hampton's charter.

"The legislature generally believed the city of Hampton ought to be dissolved," said Van Zant. "They were a corrupt government and had been so for years. Their claim to fame was a police force out on 301 that was milking the public."

Bradley said that after he and Van Zant read the report, the pair saw dissolution as the most reasonable course of action.

"We were so shocked and appalled by what we read in that audit," he recalled. "It reflected such a deep and longstanding way of doing things that were not consistent with how things should be done. We were concerned that there was no turning back, that it was too far gone."

But shock and anger gave way to empathy when during a Feb. 27 meeting at the Bradford County Courthouse, Hampton residents pleaded with the lawmakers to give their city one more chance.

"They came to us and said, 'Do not do this. Do not dissolve this city,'" Bradley recalled. "They agreed with us that

what happened in the past was unacceptable and must change."

Sheriff Gordon Smith said that even before the lawmakers stunned Hampton residents with their announcement to dissolve the city, many residents had struggled for years with the town's leadership at city hall.

He said that some Hampton residents have been complaining for years about mismanagement and possible malfeasance within the municipal government, but those complaints appeared to fall on deaf ears. Frustration with the lack of change grew into apathy among the population and a disengaged electorate.

"They legitimately felt that 'no matter who I tell, nothing ever happens,'" he said.

New City Councilman Dan Williams said that participation in city government lapsed so low that the city clerk had to scour the town, recruiting candidates for the council so Hampton could maintain a minimum number of officials. For several years, Hampton went without a mayor because no one applied for the job.

Smith said that after he fielded complaints about Hampton's clerk and police force, he also at times, did not know where to turn.

"I didn't have any answers," he said.

Smith said that from a law enforcement perspective, he didn't have enough evidence to move against town officials, even though he knew that the claims of mismanagement and

abuse of power were valid.

And the complaints kept coming.

"I would go to church," he recalled. "I would go to Walmart. I would go to funerals and I would have people literally coming up to me crying and saying, 'You've got to help us.'"

Smith said that he and Hampton residents who were pushing for change, did not anticipate Van Zant's and Bradley's radical proposal to dissolve the town. He also said the he and others were unaware of the scope and magnitude of Hampton's problems.

County Commissioner Danny Riddick, another official pushing for change in Hampton's police department, said that he also was surprised by the drastic step the two lawmakers proposed.

Williams, who was appointed as an interim council member and won election to the panel on Sept. 9, said Bradley and Van

Zant's threat was the ultimate wakeup call.

"That was an 'aha' moment," he said. "From that point on, people have gotten a lot more involved."

Williams said that the February meeting in Starke also signaled a turning point in the town's direction. He sensed a change in the mood in both the town's residents and in the legislators as Hamptonites asked for a second chance.

Williams' family has been in Hampton since the 1920s and several of his family members have served on the city council through the years. His grandfather was a former town marshal.

He was also the last speaker during the meeting in Starke, and his presentation impressed Van Zant, who asked the T.D. Bank financial services representative

See HAMPTON, 5A



(L) Hampton resident Donnie Lott and State Rep. Charles Van Zant Sr.



(L) Bradford County Sheriff Gordon Smith and State Sen. Rob Bradley.

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HAMPTON

Continued from 4A

to serve on the town's council. "Rep. Van Zant asked me if I would be willing to serve," Williams recalled, "temporarily, at least until the election." Williams also worked in credit and collections for Gainesville Regional Utilities in the 1970s and has a background in grant writing, so he had some skills Hampton needed to get its accounting and utilities operations back in order. "I jumped in and just applied the stuff that I knew and did the best that I could," he said. "We stabilized the water department. We instituted some fiscal controls."

Williams said many of the policies he initiated were basic, like reconciling accounting reports, securing deposits and locking the office door when leaving.

Van Zant said former acting Mayor Myrtice McCullough also played a pivotal role in accounting for much of the town's missing funds and for shepherding the reforms he and Bradley demanded.

"She really hung in there," he said of McCullough. "She took a lot of heat from the legislature. She came to Tallahassee. She pulled the whole thing together and whatever we asked, she got it done."

The Keystone Heights-based representative also credited Smith, Florida's Rural Water Association, the city of Waldo and a small-government consultant from Georgia for helping the town get back on its feet.

However Van Zant gave most of the credit for the city's turnaround to Hampton residents, who first persuaded the lawmakers to reconsider the plan to abolish the city, and later enacted reforms.

"Folks stepped up to the plate," he said, "good citizens, pastors, people stepped up from all walks of life."

Bradley shared that assessment.

"This was a ground-up movement," he said. "The people of Hampton deserve 100 percent of the credit."

"There were some dark days there over the last year," he added. "But the darkness has subsided and the light has come out and this is a new beginning for the city. The best is yet to come."

"I hear nothing but optimism," Bradley continued. "I hear excellent feedback from the residents. They are excited that they took control of their city and have started to move it in the right direction."

Smith said that due to the international media coverage over the town's impending demise, Hampton's turnaround is now emerging as a case study in community leadership.

"They have shown the world that you can fight city hall and win," he said.

Smith said that the Hampton story is now one of municipal reform. He said other communities are asking how the town came back.

"I've got people calling me from other countries," he said. "I've got people calling me from other cities in the state of Florida and out of the state asking me, 'How did you get that to

happen?' People are interested." The sheriff echoed Bradley's and Van Zant's judgment that Hampton's rank and file led the charge to save the town.

"The heroes are really the average, everyday citizens," he said during the barbecue, "the people who showed up here. They stood up and they showed everybody that they could make a difference."

"They have set an example for cities all across this country," Smith continued, "for people who have given up. They have proven that it is worth the fight." Smith also said that the Hampton story is not over.

Investigators and prosecutors are continuing a criminal investigation of former town officials. Smith said the inquiry has slowed because of the need to assemble a proper paper trail and the requirement of matching specific allegations to the physical evidence.

"The good thing about it is," he said, "even with no criminal charges at this point, the people have made a total difference."

Bradley also said that even while celebrating the town's accomplishments over the past year, work remains.

"This is a long process," he said. "I am confident that they are heading in the right direction."

Williams appeared optimistic, yet reserved when talking about the town's future. He said some Hampton residents are still apathetic, content on letting others handle the town's affairs.

"Maybe it was kind of an emotional thing right at the beginning," he said of his neighbors' efforts to save the city. "We'll see what happens a year from now. I've noticed yards are cleaner. There are one or two yards that have had multiple, dilapidated, junkie cars in them. That has been cleaned up."

Williams also said that civic pride and taking responsibility for the town extends beyond running the government. He said he hopes residents will look out for one another and take pride in the city's appearance.

"I told a guy one day," he

recalled, "if you can't figure out what to do to help Hampton, go mow your grass."

Bradford

Pumpkin Escape turns 20 years old

STARKE, Sept. 23 - A rare — maybe even spooky — convergence will take place on Friday, Oct. 31, when the Great Pumpkin Escape in downtown Starke arrives on Halloween night.

Now in its 20th year, the safe alternative to trick-or-treating envisioned by downtown business leaders has certainly proven successful.

"The quest for a safe place for our children to trick-or-treat has definitely been accomplished," said Lee Sparks, president of the Downtown Business Community Association, in a recent letter seeking corporate sponsorship. "This event has become a real family-oriented occasion. We encourage surrounding communities to become part of the festival. Games, contests, entertainment and, of course, free candy are all part of the excitement."

In addition to all of that, restaurants including The Downtown Grill and Tony and Al's will be open for diners, and The Florida Twin Theatre will be open showing the latest movies.

The Great Pumpkin Escape will take place from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Halloween night.

It has been the community's support for a great idea that has carried the event this long, Sparks said. In addition to the Downtown Business Community Association, sponsors have included the city of Starke, the North Florida Regional Chamber of Commerce, Walmart, DuPont, Davis Brothers Express, CSX Railroad, Bradford County Telegraph, the residents of Walnut Street, Bradford High students, Phil and Charlotte Cay, Florida Twin Theatre, The Downtown Grill, Williams Jewelry, the fire departments in Theresa and Heilbron Springs, Carl's Signs, and Bradford Salvage & Parts.

Because of the growth of the event, the business association is seeking additional sponsorships and individual contributors. Small toys, candy and gift certificates are all needed.

In addition, you can sign up to run a booth or become a corporate sponsor by calling Sparks at the Florida Twin Theatre at 904-966-1150, Chrissy Thompson at The Downtown Grill at 904-

964-9253 or the chamber of commerce at 904-964-5278.

Donations or booth applications can also be mailed to DBCA, P.O. Box 1027, Starke, FL 32091.

Putnam

VyStar opens branch inside Palatka High School

PALATKA, Sept. 17 - Student employees, VyStar Credit Union executives, local elected officials and school administrators were on hand to cut the ribbon for the grand opening of VyStar's Palatka High School branch on Sept. 16.

The branch will be staffed entirely by PHS students and will offer checking and savings accounts. It will be open only to PHS students, teachers and staff members, and is located in a former classroom near the commons area.

VyStar entered into an agreement with the Putnam County School District to establish the VyStar Academy of Business and Finance for the 2014-15 school year.

"This is another opportunity for VyStar to play a role in educating our young people in northeast Florida on financial matters that could affect them over their entire life," said Terry West, president and CEO of VyStar Credit Union. "We are proud to be a part of the VyStar Academy of Business and to be working with the Putnam school system."

George Berry, chairman of VyStar's board of directors, told the students who work in the branch that they exemplified PHS's motto of "Pride, Honor and Success."

Senior Jacob Higginbotham, the branch's marketing manager, told the audience that VyStar has high professional expectations for their employees. He also said that he enjoyed speaking to other students about the advantages of opening an account with the credit union.

"We are so appreciative that Vystar is providing this opportunity for our students," said Phyllis Criswell, superintendent of Putnam County Schools. "It's a great professional working experience for the students employed by the branch. It will also encourage and teach financial responsibility to the students who use its services."

VyStar accepted applications from students within the

Academy of Business at PHS. They selected 12 students through an interview process by school personnel and VyStar management. The selected students went through an extensive 10-week, paid, training program at VyStar during the summer.

"VyStar is truly making a difference in the students' education and their future," said Mary Beth Hedstrom, PHS principal.



Melrose United Methodist Church

The Melrose United Methodist Church is holding a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, Sept. 27 from 4 to 7 p.m. Carry-out dinners are available. The church will also be selling home-baked goodies.

American Legion Post 202

Every Tuesday night from 4 to 7 p.m., Post 202 offers tacos to the general public. Dine-in or carry-out. Steak, chicken, or burger and beans tacos sell for \$1.50 each. Taco salads, \$4.

Gadara Baptist Church

Gadara Baptist Church will celebrate its 138th Homecoming on Sept. 28. Pastor Shawn House and the congregation extend a warm welcome to come and join them on this special day. Dan Benham will lead in worship and provide special music. We will have a great time of testimony during the worship hour. A covered dish luncheon will be provided after the morning service. Gadara Baptist Church is located at 6779 CR 315-C across from McRae Elementary School. For more information please contact the church office at 352-473-3615.

Santa Fe Audubon

The bugs of Florida's ancient scrub are the fascinating topic of the next meeting of Santa Fe Audubon. The meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 14, 6:45 pm at Trinity Episcopal Parish Hall in Melrose.

Dr. Mark Deyrup is the speaker; he is Senior Research Biologist at Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid, and an authority on Florida's scrub community of plants and animals. His talk will be entertaining and enlightening. Dr. Deyrup is co-author of "Florida's Fabulous Insects."

Insects are our most important pollinators of food, landscape, and forest plants and trees. They are subject to population declines because of indiscriminate insecticide use, introduced

See AUDUBON, 6A

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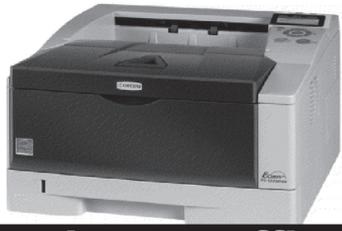


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AUDUBON

Continued from 5A
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For more information, call Joyce King, 352-475-1999.

Lake Area Ministries

2014 marks the 25th year Lake Area Ministries has been providing food and other needed resources to the needy and hungry within our lake area community. The LAM executive board is planning a celebration on Saturday, Sept. 27 to commemorate this milestone and recognize the many volunteers and community organizations who have been so supportive over the years.

LAM is an all-volunteer food pantry located on Commercial Circle in Keystone Heights. Twenty-two local churches, as well as community clubs, organizations and businesses enable the ministry to serve many who are dealing with hard times or who are permanently disabled and unable to work. The number of clients needing assistance has increased significantly over the past 25 years.

The celebration will center on recognizing supporters and volunteers who have enabled LAM to serve the less fortunate within our lake area community. Because LAM is operated totally by volunteers and financially supported by contributions from the community, the focus of the celebration will be an appreciation to all who have made the ministry possible.

Sons of AMVETS

The Sons of AMVETS annual golf tournament will be held on Sept. 27 at the Keystone Country Club. The shotgun start is at 9 a.m. Early sign up is recommended.

All proceeds will go to the Sons of AMVETS family of charities such as the Wounded Warrior Project, American Cancer Society and many others. After the tournament, a dinner, which is included in the price of the registration fee, will be held at Post 86 where team and individual awards will be handed out. There will also be raffles and many other prizes. Registration fees are \$50 per golfer, \$5 per mulligan, \$10 for three mulligans, \$2 per raffle.

Hole sponsorships are also available. For more information, call Bob Alexander at 352-494-3953 Gary Ellingham at 352-215-1235, Seaboard Johnson at 352-235-2311 or the post at 352-473-7951.

Florida Monarch Festival

Join us Saturday, September 27, 10am - 5pm and Sunday, September 28, 10am - 4pm for the 4th Annual Florida Monarch Festival. Held at the picturesque Greathouse Butterfly Farm, the Florida Monarch Festival has something for everyone. Enjoy delicious food, including gluten-free choices, activities for all ages, educational talks and walks and three butterfly releases, which include a tag and release of monarch butterflies. Partake in a delightful shopping experience with our wonderful variety of vendors, and don't forget the Butterfly Emporium, the most unique butterfly gift shop you will find anywhere.

Keystone-Lake Region Business Association

The Keystone Lake-Region Business Association invites you to celebrate the spirit of the fall by creating a scarecrow for the Second Annual Scarecrow Strut. Every business, school, civic, and non-profit organization, is encouraged to design, build, and display a themed scarecrow for the community to enjoy throughout downtown Keystone Heights. The Scarecrow Strut is a time when our community comes alive with whimsical scarecrows and we get a chance to "Strut Our Stuff." This is a great opportunity for visitors to Keystone Heights to get out and enjoy a relaxing stroll, while voting for their favorite scarecrow, our downtown businesses to garner attention, and a great opportunity for the community to come together.

For more information, please contact Doug Wise at 352-473-9991, dcwise@AOL.com; or Deirdre Murphy at 352-281-3026, deirdremurphy@watsonrealtycorp.com.

Gold Head Branch State Park

Are you looking for a fun educational family experience that doesn't cost a fortune? The Keystone Heights Library, the Melrose Public Library, and Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park have joined forces to bring you an afternoon of family literacy fun. Pack the family and a picnic and join us for the Read With Trees event at the Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park on Saturday, Oct. 11 from 2-3:30 pm. Entrance to the park is free when you show your library card or library book, or bring a donation of a new or gently used family-friendly book!

We will be "camping in the park," there will be nature stories, crafts, activities, and snacks. Read with Miss Chris of the Keystone Heights Library and Ranger Earl. Create a

camping craft and s'mores in a bag with Miss Sheree of the Melrose Public Library. The festivities will begin and end in the recreation building across the parking lot from the playground. Look for the Read With Trees signs.

Gold Head Branch State Park is located six miles north of Keystone Heights at 6239 State Road 21; this program is free and all are invited to attend. For information call the park at (352) 473-4701 or the Keystone Heights Public Library at (352) 473-4286, or the Melrose Public Library at (352) 475-1237. Read With Trees is sponsored by the Clay County Library System, the Putnam County Library System and Gold Head Branch State Park, Williamsons Food Store, the Chili Cook-Off held at Chiappini's Gas Station and Store, and Gator Office Products, Inc. The refreshments are provided by the Melrose Library Association.

Wreaths Across America

On Dec. 13, at noon, volunteers will place wreaths at over 850 locations worldwide to honor veterans for the holidays.

This is the second year the Keystone Heights Cemetery will be among the sites placing wreaths to remember fallen heroes.

If you know of a deceased veteran interred at the Keystone Heights Cemetery and would like to purchase a \$15 wreath, you may obtain an order form at the Keystone Heights City Hall, AMVETS Post 86, Mallards, M&S Bank, Johnny's Restaurant and other businesses.

The deadline for purchasing a wreath is Oct. 1.

Call Kevin at 904-477-3352 or Joan at 904-894-8411 for more information.

Veterans Day bricks

A brick engraved in honor of

Editorial

Give your Lake Region merchants a chance

Last week, the City of Keystone Heights hosted a town hall meeting to explain its proposed sign ordinance to local businesses. While covering that meeting, our reporter heard several business owners complain to city officials that Keystone Heights residents don't shop in their home town, and choose instead to buy in Gainesville or northern Clay County.

We think that is a legitimate complaint and recommend Lake Region residents carefully consider how their purchasing decisions affect their local community.

When you buy mulch from Bryan's Ace Hardware instead of Home Depot in Gainesville, you are not just supporting Bryan's. You are also supporting Clay Electric, the City of Keystone Heights, and dozens of other local vendors the hardware store uses.

When you buy groceries from Williamson's, Havrey's or Hitchcock's, or you call Keystone Plumbing or W.D. Beck State Farm Insurance, you are also supporting dozens of local families who have members employed at those enterprises.

If you have any doubt that shopping locally makes a difference in your community, ask Lake Area Ministries, The Kiwanis Club of the Lakes or the organizers of Our Country Day how they would get along without the support of Keystone Building Center, Roberts Insurance, Clay Electric or Attorney VeRonica Ownes. Or ask the dozens of school clubs, civic groups and charities how they would manage without the generosity of John Mason at Johnny's Barbecue.

Earlier this year, when administrators at Keystone Heights High School were trying to organize a summer program for students, over two dozen Lake Region organizations donated facilities, goods and services or cash to make the program possible.

It matters where you buy that dinner, that mulch or that homeowner's policy.

We are not suggesting you blindly patronize noncompetitive businesses just because they are located in your home town. We are asking you to give your local merchants a shot at the business. If they are not competitive with the out-of-town option, fine. Buy it in Gainesville.

But we think that in most cases, Lake Region businesses offer quality products and services at a fair price. We also suspect that many Lake Region residents, especially those who work out of town, give no thought about buying in Melrose or Keystone, but simply pick up purchases on the way home or during a trip to the movies. We are suggesting you reconsider those buys.

Vibrant, healthy communities, the places in which you want your children or grandchildren to grow up, don't happen by accident. They develop from planning and deliberate decision making. Do your part. Shop at home.

a veteran makes a wonderful, forever gift for any service member who has passed on, retired or is still in service.

From now through Oct. 15, engraved bricks may be ordered in time for the Nov. 11 Veterans Day service at the Veterans' Memorial Pathway at the Keystone Heights Cemetery.

Each engraved brick may be obtained for a \$35 donation.

Three to four lines on each

brick are available for engraving with 18 to 21 characters per line.

Order forms may be picked up at the Keystone Heights City Hall, Mallards or the Clay County Tax Collector's branch office at the Keystone Village Square.

For more information or to obtain an order form call Joan at 904-894-8411 or Ursula at 727-207-1657.

Why Shop Locally?

Everyone Benefits!

When you shop with your Keystone Heights merchant you help out a lot of activities in your community. Your community merchants support High School Activities to include: Band, Football, Baseball, Tennis, FFA, KRA, Pop Warner, 4-H, Clubs, Veterans Organizations,

Seniors, Churches, Scouts, and a lot more...

These organizations make our community a better place to live and add value to our lives. Your local merchant is glad to help out but they need your support. When you have a need that you can fulfill in the Lake area, your patronage will be appreciated...

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REGIONAL NEWS

NEWS FROM BRADFORD COUNTY, UNION COUNTY AND THE LAKE REGION

FEATURES
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EDITORIAL

Gilligan: interesting pet, star of children's books



"I so want to get on the other side of this fence." Gilligan the goat did indeed always want to be on the other side and in the backyard. He was unlike any goat Donna Harris' family had and inspired her to write children's books about him.

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Just sit right back, and you'll hear a tale—not a tale of a fateful trip, but one of a curious, interesting goat.

This tale is about Gilligan, but not the first mate aboard the Minnow that TV audiences came to know so well. This Gilligan is a "crazy goat" that inspired Union County resident Donna Harris—with inspiration from children Ashley and Lake—to write a series of children's books about his adventures.

"He just got pretty popular, so stories began that way," Harris said. "We just wrote down things here and there about him."

Whether it's to a hospital,

library, daycare or "Nana's" house, Gilligan's adventures are chronicled in a series of 10 books, which are available for download as e-books through the Lulu.com self-publishing Website. Links to the books, which are \$2.99 each, can be found on Gilligan's Facebook page ([facebook.com/gilliganthegoat4president](https://www.facebook.com/gilliganthegoat4president)).

As of Sept. 23, Gilligan's Facebook page had 1,062 "likes," which was a 31-percent increase from the previous week's total.

Think it's odd for a goat to have a Facebook page? Gilligan, who is now deceased, proved to be one unique goat in a lot of aspects, including how he interacted with Harris' children.

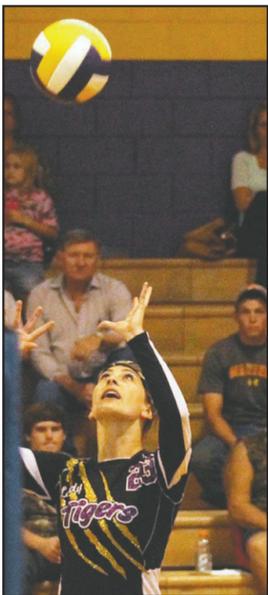
"If they went down the slide, he went down the slide," Harris

said. "If they ran around the backyard, he chased them, or they chased him. He waited on them to get off the school bus, and he waited on them at the gate when they came home. He would holler at them when they came down the driveway here until they opened the gate and let him out. He just wanted to go in the backyard and be with them."

The Harris family is always buying and selling goats. Ashley and Lake, who are 13 and 11, respectively, and involved in 4-H and FFA, participate in goat shows.

However, the family never had a goat like Gilligan, who stood out during a trip to a market

See GILLIGAN, 11B



Tigers treat home crowd to exciting win

Lilly Combs sets up one of her teammates in the Union County High School volleyball team's 3-2 District 7-1A win over Dixie County on Sept. 18. See page 12B for more.

Bradford-Union Great Strides is Sept. 27

Whether you walk or run, your efforts equate to "great strides" in the fight against cystic fibrosis at the sixth annual Bradford-Union Great Strides event on Saturday, Sept. 27, in Starke.

The 3-mile walk—a fundraiser for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation—will commence at Shands Starke Regional Medical Center at 9 a.m. Registration is on site at 8 a.m. or prior to the event via the cff.org Website.

Lawtey native Katelyn Sims, who was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis at the age of 4, helped start the event. Funds raised have increased each successive year for the most part, which leaves Sims grateful for the support of her home community.

"Every year, it raises more awareness," Sims said following

See STRIDES, 2B

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STRIDES

Continued from 1B

the 2012 event. "It helps everybody learn what (cystic fibrosis) is."

Last year's rainy weather did not prevent approximately 175 people from participating and helping to raise more than \$16,000. Following the event, Sims said, "To see them standing out here in the rain, with the wet heads and the wet T-shirts, and still going anyway—that blows me away. It really does. We live in such a great community."

So why not show up and help out a good cause. As the Great Strides motto states: "Walk today. Add tomorrows."

For more information about the event, or to learn more about cystic fibrosis, please visit cff.org.

Katelyn Sims is pictured at the end of a long, wet day of filming "Ax-Men" with her fellow Dreadknots: the Kraken (left) and Capt. Clint. They will join Sims at the Sept. 27 Bradford-Union Great Strides.



Restaurants to help

Great Strides effort
Two Starke restaurants have set aside days on which they

will donate 10 percent of their proceeds to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation/Great Strides in the fight to find a cure.

The Downtown Grill will donate proceeds from all-day sales on Thursday, Sept. 25, while Tony and Al's Deli will do so from 4 p.m. until closing on Wednesday, Oct. 1.

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BHS volleyball team to host fun tournament Sept. 27

The Bradford High School volleyball team will host a fun volleyball tournament Saturday, Sept. 27, beginning at 9 a.m. at the school's gym. This is a round-robin tournament.

Teams are co-ed, with no set minimum of males to females on the court.

Registration is \$100 per team. Admission for spectators is \$3.

If interested in playing on a team or registering a team, contact Robbie Best (352-745-1593) or any of the varsity volleyball players.

Learn DAR's 'little-known' facts at Oct. 6 meeting

The Col. Samuel Elbert Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution begins its 2014-15 schedule with a Monday, Oct. 6, meeting at 10:30 a.m. at IHOP in Starke. The program is "Little-Known Facts of the DAR."

Visitors are welcome.

Any woman 18 or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, and who can prove direct descent from a person who aided in achieving American independence between April 19, 1775, and Nov. 26, 1783, is eligible for membership.

We can help you search for a patriot ancestor.

Please contact Konnie Beauregard at 352-475-1865 or copnurse1999@windstream.net for more information.

Northside Christian hosts Power in Pink volleyball tourney Oct. 4

Northside Christian Academy in Starke will host the second annual Power in Pink breast-cancer awareness volleyball tournament on Saturday, Oct. 4, at 9 a.m.

Teams are co-ed and must have three females on the court at all times. There is an eight-member minimum per team.

Players must be 12 years or older.

The entry fee is \$10 per player.

For more information, please contact Dede Hill at hillddb777@gmail.com or 904-263-2560.

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Adam Shetler holds the cross he plans to carry all the way to California.

Taking steps in faith

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Staff Writer

Demonstrations of faith can come in all shapes and sizes. For many it can be as simple as attending church every Sunday or reading the Bible daily – for others it takes a more public form, designed not only to demonstrate faith but also to encourage it in others.

Adam Shetler, 34, of Starke said he was called by God to make a pilgrimage of sorts back in 2005, but that his “faith was small then and he chose to live for himself.” On July 30, after reading a Christian book from the library, he was motivated back to his faith.

“I prayed about it and the very next day someone spoke the same words back to me that I had used in my prayer,” Shetler said in a telephone interview while walking between Live Oak and Greenville on U.S. 90. “I knew it was time.”

Shetler sold his sister Dawnya and the rest of his family that God had called him to walk across the country carrying a 10-foot cross. He found both his family and his co-workers at Western Steer Steakhouse to be supportive and encouraging.

The employee Bible study group at the steakhouse helped him out with some funds to get started, while Harry Hatcher IV provided him with a tent, sleeping bag and hikers backpack. His

employer, Harry Hatcher III said his job would be waiting for him when he gets back.

“The whole family is really proud of him,” Dawnya said. “He’s out there talking to people, spreading the word. HE says God will tell him to stop and talk to a specific person and he will. He’s very dedicated to this mission.”

Shetler plans on doing a lot of walking over the next few months, but he catches rides when he can. As long as his cross is visible in the back of a truck, he is happy. People also help him along the way with food and drinks, and many take time to talk with him about his quest.

“I want everyone to know that Jesus Christ is the son of God and all I want to do is serve him,” Shetler said. “I thought this would be a simple thing just for me to do, but God has already used it in so many ways. He has used the mission he gave me to spark conversations between parents and children and helped me to speak to people and rekindle their faith. I really feel that I’m doing what I am supposed to be doing.”

To follow Shetler’s progress, or to help him along the way, he may be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AdamwalkingwithGod or for donations at www.gofundme.com/AdamwalkingwithGod.

Arthur, Minnie Redding: enjoying each other’s company for more than 70 years

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Staff Writer

After 72 years of marriage Arthur and Minnie Redding seem just as content together as one can imagine them being all those years ago – obviously enjoying each other’s company and doing things together.

Both Arthur and Minnie were born in Lawtey, both within about 5 miles of where they live now.

Lonnie Arthur Redding was born in March of 1923 to Henry and Celia (Wilkerson) Redding – one of 10 boys. He said he is now the only one still surviving.

Minnie was born in October of 1925, but her family tree is a little more complicated. Her mother, Daisy, was a Rosier, who was first married to a Mosely. The couple had five children before he passed away. She then met Chalker Pringle, whose wife had died and left him with four children.

“He proposed to her by saying that if she would cook for his he would work for hers,” Minnie said with a smile.

The couple married and, besides their combined brood of nine children, they had five more, with Minnie being one of them. She is now the only survivor of the couples 14 children.

“This was all back during the Depression and right after,” Minnie remembered. “Times were difficult, but it didn’t seem that way then because it was the same for everyone we knew. It’s not nearly so bad when you don’t

know any different.”

The couple went to school together and, when Arthur was 19, he became the school bus driver. Sixteen-year-old Minnie was his childhood sweetheart and she rode on the toolbox while he drove. The couple started dating in high school, then married in 1942 after he dropped out.

“Both families were against our marriage,” Minnie said. “They said it wouldn’t last. We are still waiting to see if it will.”

They were married in April and he was drafted into the Army the following December. He left for three years in February of 1943 – first to Camp Swift in Texas for basic training and then on to England. Arthur participated in the D-Day plus one invasion and was present for the Battle of the Bulge, but was sent back behind the lines with frozen feet before the massacre.

His frozen feet saved his life – only 13 of his unit, of over 200 (the 2nd Infantry Division) survived the end of the battle. After hospital time in Belgium and Paris, Arthur returned to active duty and spent time serving in England and in Czechoslovakia.

When he had left home, Arthur had had a son, Lonnie Jr. When he returned he and Minnie had three more sons, Billy, Jerry and Roger, and a daughter, Barbara Joy.

The couple decided that since they were raising a family of boys that they should move to the country. They bought 40



Minnie and Arthur Redding with some of Minnie’s quilts on display at the Bradford County Fair.

acres and started truck farming vegetables.

“We taught the boys to work,” Arthur said. “They were raised on the farm and we kept them out of trouble. They all grew up good.”

Arthur went to barber school in Jacksonville on the GI Bill. He remembers practicing giving knick-free shaves on balloons and Minnie drilling him for his

written tests. Once he graduated with his barber’s license, Arthur embarked on a 62-year career as a barber.

Arthur’s first job was in Gainesville at the Alachua Barbershop in the uptown area. He then went to NAS-JAX for a while as a barber, then back

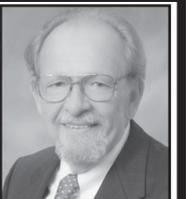
See REDDING, 9B

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— Henry Hodges
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WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 1 • BAKER COUNTY STUDENT DAY
Discount Ride Tickets \$15 Armbands 6pm – Closing!
General Gate Admission \$5 • 5 & under FREE
Includes Local Talent, Laser Tag, Petting Zoo, Professional Magician, Youth Swine Show

SATURDAY SEPT. 27 • FAIR QUEEN PAGEANT 7:30
\$10 armband Discount Matinee: 1pm – 5pm • \$20 Armband 6pm – 1am
Gate Admission 13 and up \$8 • 6 – 12 \$5 • 5 & under FREE
Includes Laser Tag, Petting Zoo, Blaire Hanks Band & Local Talent

THURSDAY OCTOBER 2 • DISCOUNT RIDE DAY
Discount Ride Tickets \$15 Armbands all Rides 6pm – Closing!
General Gate Admission \$5 • 5 & under FREE
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SUNDAY – SEPT. 28TH: GOSPEL MUSIC DAY
\$15 Armband Special 2pm – Closing • Unlimited Rides
General Gate Admission \$5 • 5 & under FREE
Featuring: Petting Zoo, Laser Tag, Local Gospel Groups

FRIDAY OCTOBER 3 • MIDNIGHT MADNESS
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Gate Admission 13 and up \$8 • 6 – 12 \$5 • 5 & under FREE
(Rodeo Admission additional \$5) Including Professional Rodeo, Professional Magician

MONDAY SEPT. 29 • YOUTH DAY
\$15 Armband Special: Ride all Rides OR Only \$13 with Coupon • 6pm – Closing
Gate Admission \$5 • 5 & under FREE
Featuring Laser Tag, Petting Zoo, Youth Rabbit & Poultry Shows

SATURDAY OCTOBER 4 • FAMILY DAY ON THE MIDWAY
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LETTERS

EDITOR@BCTELEGRAPH.COM

Everyone didn't know where the sidewalk was going

Dear Editor:

I reside on CR 18 at Hampton Lake and have property on both sides of the road. The sidewalk will be a benefit to the area. However, the statement reported in last week's edition that, "Everyone knew where the sidewalk was going..." is patently untrue. Although there are markers for underground utilities and the limit of right of way, that leaves often a large area where the sidewalk can be placed. I only found out where it was projected for my property by tracking down a construction foreman, getting him to my property, and having him show me the plans. With the planned 301 Bypass, there have been announced meetings at the Fairgrounds with plans laid out for all to see. The specifics of the CR18 project have not enjoyed the same openness. As far as the right of way belonging to the government, while that is technically true, the residents have been the ones who have largely maintained, mowed, and improved (plantings, flowers, etc.) this area. The residents are the reason for the right of way, not vice versa. Finally, Representative Van Zant has done what we want our elected officials to do -- get involved to ensure his constituents concerns are heard. How can anyone feel or say different? It is Florida DOT administering the project after all, and Mr. Van Zant is a Florida State Representative. Thank you for letting me have my say as a citizen.

Ben Bridgman
Hampton

We have moral responsibility in regard to climate change

Dear Editor:

The UN Summit on Climate Change is taking place this week and there has been a lot of debate about what should be done to limit the harmful effects of climate change. But what's not debatable is the moral imperative that we, the concerned residents of Bradford County and many others, must act.

Recent EPA efforts to reduce pollution from coal-fired power plants and improvements to water quality standards are a good start. But government actions alone are not enough. All of us can do more. Every year the United States generates approximately 230 million tons of trash, that's approximately 4.6 pounds per person per day.

This waste could be significantly limited and Planet Earth remain healthy and livable for our children and future generations if each person, the writer included, started consuming less, composting more, living sustainably and then teaching others to do the same.

Respectfully submitted,
John X. Linnehan
Hampton

No evidence of harmful climate-change effects

Dear Editor:

I am constantly amazed by the willingness of so many people, including supposedly educated Americans, to believe absolute nonsense. Take Global Warming (or Climate Change-or whatever new term is being applied today) for example. Millions of folks throughout the world actually think there is scientific evidence that increasing carbon dioxide levels are going to destroy the world. We even have our own Secretary of State claiming that this is the greatest threat to humanity facing the world.

If there is such evidence of a coming doom, I have yet to see it.

If rising carbon dioxide levels are causing an artificial, and dangerous, rise in the earth's temperature, how is it possible that for the past 18 years our planet's temperature has not risen even one degree? That's certainly not because of decreasing CO2 levels since China and India alone have cranked up their output of this gas by considerable percentages. Again, where is the evidence?

Instead of presenting real facts to back up their story, professional Global Warming Entrepreneurs, like Al--let's-jet-around-the-world-and-make-some-cash--Gore, make claims like this: Global warming is causing the drought in California, shrinking polar ice caps (which are actually expanding), terrible winter storms, increasing crime, the conflict in Syria, and NFL players to abuse half the population of the United States (naw, I made that last one up, for now). Does it matter that California has been suffering from droughts even worse than the current one--forever? Does it matter that "green things" such as (probably insignificant) trees and crops and such actually benefit from an increase in carbon dioxide? Does it matter that the earth is designed so that there is variation in all of its dimensions, like temperature, hurricane production, earthquake frequency, rainfall, etc., etc. Global Warming, as "Chicken Littled" by the Obama Regime, and others, is complete, absolute bunk.

It's enlightening to remember the fuss and shrieking done in the seventies by some of these same "informed" geniuses. At that time it was called--drum roll here please--The Next Ice Age. (Get out there and get your five pairs of long undies; you're gonna' need 'em.) Again; more bunk.

If anyone believes that God made this planet so poorly that it could be destroyed by puny mankind, you're barking up the wrong Creator. Yes, he expects us to take care of AND USE this beautiful home. We should be grateful for but never abuse this big blue marble of his. But, it was given us to use. And that includes fossil fuels.

P.S. Anyone out there is the market for some quality, unused long underwear?

Leonard C. Young
Keystone Heights

Lake Butler not following public-records statutes

Dear Editor:

On Sept. 1, 2014, I went to the Lake Butler City Hall and made a public records request. I was required to fill out a form giving my name, address, home, work and cell telephone number as well as my e-mail address. Of course I also had to write the specific documents I wanted. I bit my tongue and completed the form. On Sept. 8th, I went by City Hall, got the requested documents and paid the statutory fee. On Sept. 15, I delivered a typed letter to City Hall with another detailed list of records I required. I asked to speak to the Records Custodian. I was told all the office staff were records custodians and was again given the request form to complete, even though my letter identified me, my address and telephone number. I told the official I was dealing with that since some of the records should be readily available, please let me know when I could pick up some and get the rest later. On Sept. 22, I went by City Hall to see if any of my requested records were available. I was told the Records Custodian was out sick and had a death in the family, therefore nothing was ready. I thought that funny that last week they were all custodians but this week there was only one and she was off duty. How convenient. Apparently if the Records Custodian succumbs to her illness, no one will be able to get public records from City Hall ever more. I voiced my concern to one of my City Commissioners who assured me that according to the City Manager, City Attorney and the League of Cities, Lake Butler was in compliance with public records statutes.

They are in error! Florida Statute Chapter 119 does not authorize an agency to require that requests for records be in person or in writing. A custodian must provide records which are sufficiently identified and for which the fees are paid.

If the agency maintaining the records thinks it necessary for written documentation of the request, the agency may require the custodian to complete the appropriate form. A person requesting records cannot be required to disclose their name, address telephone number "or the like." Florida Statute provides for civil and legal penalties for violation of the public records laws. Notably, the statute mandates that actions brought under FS 119 are entitled to immediate hearing and take priority over other pending cases.

I wish City Hall took the provisions of the public records statutes as seriously as the legislature and courts apparently have. Anyone wishing to know the law can obtain a copy of "Public Records, A Guide For Law Enforcement Agencies", published by the Office of the Attorney General, which makes legal language digestible for simple folk like me.

On Aug. 22, the Lake Butler City Commission met and passed a budget with little public challenge except on the issue of funding the Recreation Department. In that respect the Commission appropriated \$5,000.00 for the 2014-2015 budget to go to recreation and none will be paid for the 2013-2014 budget year.

Another issue addressed during the meeting briefly was the Lake Butler Community Redevelopment Plan. Conceived

in the mid-90s, the redevelopment plan was to make Lake Butler a more desirable place to live and for business by improving its appearance, infrastructure and public facilities. Phase 1 was Courthouse Park, sidewalks, curb cuts and streetscape to be done between 1997 and 1999. Phase 2 was business facades and water lines to be done between 2000 and 2002. Phase 3 was sewer lines, fire hydrants, streetscape and Lake Shore Park between 2003 and 2005. Phase 4 was the Rails to Trails Park to be done between 2006 and 2008. Estimates were \$1,644,343.00 to complete. To date, \$604,514.41 has been spent. At the meeting between the City and County Commission last week, the County wanted to withhold the \$41,000.00 for redevelopment in their new budget. Tonight the city decided to let the county keep half of the obligation to redevelopment. We will see how that flies. On that note, I went to the Union County Tax Collector's Office and requested a copy of the redevelopment plan and the amounts contributed by the city and county to date. Without identifying myself or any other personal information I had the documents requested and was out of there in 20 minutes. Now that is service on a public records request. The city could learn from the tax collector.

Lastly, Mr. Mecusker challenged my comment last week on the cost of a city election and reiterated his position that it cost \$5,000.00, to have an election instead of my quoted \$2,709. My quote was taken straight out of Mecusker's 2013-2014 budget, a total of his numbers for election expense, legal election expense and postage for election. Mecusker stated the \$5,000.00 figure was more accurate because it reflected salary and other costs associated with the election. With that news, my humble opinion is Mr. Mecusker's budget as presented to the City Commission for their vote was not accurate because he knew it did not accurately reflect actual expenses associated with the election.

Question is, what else in his past and recently passed budget does not accurately reflect expenditures?

Jack Schenck
Lake Butler

Johnson graduates from basic at San Antonio-Lackland

Air Force Airman 1st Class Kyle J. Johnson graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the

Community College of the Air Force.

Johnson is the son of Vicki Johnson of Keystone Heights. He is a 2008 graduate of Keystone Heights Junior/Senior High School.

Starling family reunion is set for Oct. 4

Descendants of Alma and Joseph E. Starling will have a reunion on Saturday, Oct. 4th at the Community Center in Lake Butler. Signs will be posted. Come early to visit with family both young and old. Lunch will be served at 12:15 pm. Bring your favorite covered dish and drinks. Setup will begin at 10:00 am. Any help would be appreciated.



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NOTICE

The 2014 Bradford County Value Adjustment Board will be hearing petitions relating to assessments, on Thurs., October 9, 2014 beginning at 9:30 a.m., and again on Monday, October 13, 2014, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the County Commission Chambers located in the North Annex of the Courthouse at 945 N. Temple Avenue, Starke

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Durn breaks Spiller record, Tigers rout Rams 59-0

BY VINCENT ALEX BROWN
Times Editor

Being a young team, the Interlachen Rams didn't put up much of a fight against the Union County High School football team, which shut them out 59-0, but Antwan Durn did. The running back broke C.J. Spiller's record for number of touchdowns scored in a single game with seven.

The one that put him in the history books was a 74-yarder after working his way out of a tackle or two about halfway to the goal line. He's now in good company with Spiller, the famous running back who continues to have a successful career in the NFL with the Buffalo Bills. Just last week, the NFL announced that Spiller was named AFC Special Teams Player of the Week for his dynamic efforts in Week 2. (It was Spiller's second such honor, having also been named a Special Teams Player of the Week in 2010.)

The second-ranked Tigers (4-0) continued their strong play this season, while Interlachen made mistakes and little progress throughout the night, though it did gain a few first downs. Union County's defense shut down what gains the Rams did make, and

the offense put up 39 points in the first half, scoring 26 points in the first quarter alone.

The first touchdown came less than two minutes into the game when Darian Robinson intercepted the ball and easily ran it in for half a field length as fellow Tigers provided plenty of protection. With Tyler McDavid's extra point good, Union County was already up 7-0, setting the tone for the rest of the game.

After Interlachen's second set of downs, the Tigers took over and scored again when Durn made the first of his record-breaking seven touchdowns. Though the extra point was no good, Union County was up 13-0 halfway through the quarter.

The Rams (0-4) got the ball back and made a first down, but Union County's Alden McClellon recovered a fumble.

The Tigers had three first downs on the ensuing drive, with Durn taking it in from the 2-yard line for his second touchdown. The extra point was blocked, but the Tigers were up 19-0 with just over half a minute left in the quarter.

After a sack by Union County's Josh Smith, the Rams lined up to punt, but fumbled the ball on the snap, and the Tigers recovered. Durn took it in from 13 yards for his third touchdown. After the extra point, the Tigers were up 26-0 with 18 seconds left in the quarter.

To close out the quarter, Interlachen's quarterback ran around to make it to midfield. On the first play of the second

quarter, however, he fumbled the ball on the snap, and the Tigers recovered.

Union County quarterback Caleb Cox passed the ball to Zak Lee to get it down the field, and then tossed the ball to Franklin Williams for a touchdown. Though the extra point was no good, the Tigers were now up 32-0 less than two minutes into the quarter.

The Rams were probably experiencing some déjà vu at this point—and it was not a good feeling.

Interlachen got a first down, but Smith sacked the quarterback again during this set of downs. McClellon blocked the punt thanks to a wobbled snap.

The Tigers took over and, of course, scored again. After Cox completed a deep pass to Zak Lee, Durn ran it in again for his fourth touchdown, for those keeping count. With a successful extra point, that put the Tigers up 39-0 with just under eight minutes left in the first half.

On Interlachen's next set of downs, the Rams fumbled again, and the Tigers recovered again.

On this set of downs, with the scoreboard looking pretty secure already, the Tigers tried something different with their first attempted field goal of the season. McDavid, however, couldn't quite get it to go. It was the only time the Tigers didn't score on a possession, if you don't count the one-down set closing out the half.

With 5:36 to go in the half, the Rams worked the ball a while, but had difficulty as they simply moved it back-and-forth on their half of the field. That ended with a fumbled snap on the punt, though they recovered it.

With just 21 seconds left on the clock, Union County took a knee to close the half, with the Tigers up 39-0.

Mercifully for all involved, the officials let the clock run during the second half, which ended up being more about helping Durn set a record than winning, which the Tigers had well in hand at this point.

Union County got the ball to start the second half, and after two first downs, Durn took it in from the 6-yard line to rack up

his fifth touchdown. After the extra point, the Tigers were now up 46-0.

Interlachen then went three-and-out, with the Tigers getting the ball back on their own 47. After marching it down the field, Durn was set up to get his sixth touchdown after a 24-yard run. Casey Driggers attempted a two-point conversion during a fake extra-point kick. Nevertheless, the Tigers were now up 52-0 to close out the third quarter.

The Rams received the ball to start the fourth quarter and made a first down, but made little progress after that and had to punt.

With the ball on Union 27-yard line, Durn—on his second carry of the drive—made his record-breaking seventh touchdown of the night with a 74-yard run. The announcer then shared the news of his accomplishment. With a good extra point, the Tigers handily won the game 59-0.

While it was a big, though unexciting night, for Union County, it proved to be the biggest night ever for Durn, who was all smiles. He had 15 carries for 204 yards, averaging an impressive 13.6 yards per carry.

Alexander had two carries for 24 yards, averaging a respectable 12 yards each time.

Cox completed half of his attempts (6-of-12) for 131 yards, averaging 21.8 yards per completion, with one touchdown pass.

"I like how hard Antwan Durn ran the ball," Union head coach Ronny Pruitt said.

Pruitt also liked that his younger players stepped up and got in some quality playing time and plays. He is also pleased with what the defense is doing.

Next week, however, will be a different story for everyone. Pruitt warned his team that from what he's heard and seen, they're "fixin' to get into the fire, and it's going to start next week" against Hamilton County, whom the Tigers host on Friday, Sept. 26, at 7:30 p.m.

The Trojans (3-1) beat Maclay—a Class 3A team out of Tallahassee—51-17 last week and are third in the Class 1A rankings.

Hamilton also has a 20-14 win over Class 4A Fort White and a 33-7 win over Chiefland, one of Union's fellow District 7 members.

The Trojans' lone loss was 41-6 to Suwannee, a Class 5A team ranked seventh in the state.

Tornadoes drop district opener 28-0

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Drian Jenkins rushed for 100 yards on 10 carries, but the Bradford High School offense couldn't find the end zone in a 28-0 road loss to the Villages on Sept. 19.

It was the District 4-4A opener for the Tornadoes (0-4), who failed to capitalize on three drives inside the Villages' 35-yard line. That included a first-and-goal opportunity at the 3-yard line that Jenkins helped set up with a 61-yard run.

The Villages (3-1) got 179 rushing yards and two touchdowns from Jabari Jiles.

Only 67 yards separated the two offenses, but the Buffalo capitalized on an interception return and a blocked punt for two late scores.

It was a good start for the Tornadoes when Jenkins broke loose for his 61-yard run on the second play from scrimmage, setting Bradford up at the host team's 13-yard line. Quarterback Jacob Luke went over center for a 2-yard gain on fourth-and-2 to set up first down at the 3-yard line. What followed was a run for no gain, an illegal procedure penalty, two straight runs for a loss of yardage and a 5-yard pass completion on fourth down that left the Tornadoes 8 yards shy of the end zone.

The Buffalo threatened to score early in the second quarter. They drove from their own 14 to the Bradford 31, but Luke—playing linebacker—drilled running back Tyler County as soon as he received a handoff for a 5-yard loss. Counts was then held to no gain on second down before two straight incomplete passes led to a turnover on downs at the Bradford 36.

Bradford was forced to punt on the following series and committed a 15-yard facemask penalty on the return, giving the Buffalo the ball at the Bradford 42. Jiles was held to no gain on first down, but then had runs of 5 and 11 yards to set up first down at the 26. A 5-yard run by Jiles, along with a 5-yard facemask penalty, put the Buffalo at the 16. Jiles scored practically untouched on a run from there, with Gunnar Pettus' PAT putting the Villages up 7-0 with 4:52 left

in the first half.

A 15-yard run by Aundre Carter to the 50-yard line and a personal foul penalty on the Villages had the Tornadoes on the move with a first down at the 34. However, Jenkins was tackled for a 5-yard loss before Don Jeffers caught a pass for an 8-yard gain two plays later, setting up fourth-and-7. Luke was sacked for a 12-yard loss.

With 3:20 remaining before halftime, the Buffalo threatened to score again, thanks to a 42-yard run by Jiles to the Bradford 20. Quarterback Kole Harris later fumbled the ball on a run to the 10, with the Tornadoes' Jeffers recovering the loose ball in the end zone.

Bradford's defense forced the Villages to go three-and-out to start the second half. Toddreke Reed tackled Jiles for a loss of 2 yards, while Jeffers held Jiles to a 3-yard gain on second down. Defensive back Xavien Jenkins then broke up a pass to force the punt.

It was hard for the Tornadoes to build upon that momentum, though, when they were flagged for personal foul following a 39-yard punt. The result was a drive starting at their own 10-yard line.

Bradford did gain a first down, thanks to runs of 6 and 4 yards by Jenkins and Carter, respectively, but the Tornadoes couldn't overcome a loss of yardage on a fumble and eventually punted the ball back to the Buffalo.

Starting at the Bradford 41, the Villages marched downfield for its second score, with an offside penalty on Bradford on a fourth-down play keeping the drive alive. The Buffalo later faced another fourth-down play, but Harris went around left end on a keeper and found the end zone on a 19-yard run with 4:04 to play in the third quarter. The PAT put the Buffalo up 14-0.

A 23-yard run by Jenkins on a fake punt gave the Tornadoes a first down 3 yards past midfield. Dequan Blackshear then had a 22-yard run to the 25-yard line. A holding penalty, though, put Bradford in a long-yardage situation, and the Tornadoes eventually turned the ball over on downs on a fourth-down incomplete.

The Buffalo went up 21-0 with six minutes remaining in

See BHS, 11B

Frederick, Padgett lead BHS at Mt. Dew meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Sarah Frederick and Kristopher Padgett led Bradford High School at the Sept. 20 UF Mountain Dew Cross Country Invitational in Gainesville.

Frederick placed 279th in the 421-runner field with a time of 24:09. Padgett competed in a field of 456, placing 404th with a time of 21:45.47.

The following also competed for the boys' team: Lane Gillenwaters 22:10.29, Robert Martin 22:24.61, Brandon King 23:16.99 and Donald Seymour 23:29.99.

Bethany Bryan and Simran Patel had times of 26:39.03 and 26:44.55, respectively, in the girls' race.



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Turnovers hurt Indians in 41-14 district loss

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

Umatilla quarterback Justin Lewis passed for 215 yards and ran for 118 more, while the Keystone Heights High School football team lost two fumbles and tossed three interceptions, resulting in Umatilla busing out of Keystone with a 41-14 District 4-4A win on Sept. 19.

The Indians (0-3, 0-1) suffered another key injury when running back Ray Trimble went down in the first half with a knee injury. Trimble's third carry of the game resulted in a 76-yard touchdown, which put the Indians ahead 6-0 with 5:38 left in the first quarter. J.J. Schofield added the PAT.

Trimble, who ended the game with 84 yards on four carries, joined fellow running backs Anton Noble—who suffered an ankle injury in the Indians' first game—and Sam Anderson—who went down before the season began—on the team's injured list.

Following Trimble's score, Lewis brought his team right back, completing passes of 12, 7 and 10 yards, and rushing for 4, 10, 6 and 3 yards. The 6-0, 175-pound signal caller accounted for 52 of the 70 yards Umatilla chewed up on its first scoring drive. Edwardo Cosio kicked the extra point with 2:05 in the first quarter, tying the score at 7-all.

Cosio added two field goals in the second quarter—the first from 39 yards and the second from 29 as time expired, giving the visiting Bulldogs (2-2, 1-0) a

13-7 lead at halftime.

On Umatilla's first possession of the second half, Lewis marched his squad 71 yards in just under four minutes, running an option offense combined with an effective passing attack that kept the Indian defense off balance. Lewis hit Caleb Robinson on a 20-yard strike, then connected with Kyle Driver for 14 more during the nine-play drive. Lewis completed the effort with runs of 9 and 11 yards, the latter terminating in the end zone with 4:57 left in the third quarter. Mauricio Miranda added the extra point, giving the Bulldogs a 20-7 lead.

Two plays after the ensuing kickoff, Austin Bush intercepted an Indian pass, giving the visitors the ball on the Keystone 15. Two plays later, Lewis hit Ethan Madden for a 17-yard touchdown pass. Miranda added the extra point, giving the Bulldogs a 27-7 lead with 3:24 left in the third quarter.

As the third quarter wound down, the Bulldogs threatened again and appeared to open up a 26-point lead when Lewis hit Madden for a 16-yard pass. Just before Madden crossed the goal line, however, he lost the handle, and an Indian defender recovered the ball in the end zone.

On the very next play, though, Keystone returned the favor, with Umatilla's Quintin Davis yanking an Indian fumble out of mid-air and returning the miscue 20 yards for a touchdown. Miranda came on for the extra point, giving Umatilla a 34-7 lead with 10:45 left in the game.

Keystone offered Umatilla another gift on its next possession—this time an interception picked off by Lewis,

who was playing in the defensive backfield for the visitors. From the Keystone 23, Lewis followed his defensive highlight with a 15-yard pass to Madden and a 3-yard touchdown run with 8:38 left in the game. Miranda's PAT gave the Bulldogs a 41-7 lead.

With the game clock winding down, Keystone found a bright spot with the debut of running back Justin Raysin. The 10th-grader rushed for 24 yards on five consecutive carries until Keystone's drive petered out at the Indian 49.

After Dakota Hodge pounced on a muffed punt by the Bulldogs, the Indians took over on the Umatilla 13. Jacob White accounted for 6 of the 13 yards with one run, and Raysin took care of the rest, pounding out a 2-yard gain and then scoring on a 5-yard run with 3:50 left in the fourth quarter. Schofield added the extra point, taking the final score to 41-14.

After the game, Keystone head coach Chuck Dickinson first stated the obvious.

"We turned the ball over way too many times," he said.

Dickinson added that he thought his defense played well in the first half.

He also said that he knew coming into the game that Umatilla would likely contend for the district title this year because of its talented quarterback and because the team played a lot of young players last year.

"We've got things we've got to work on," Dickinson continued. "We've got to find a way to win."

Keystone travels to play Newberry Friday, Sept. 26, at 7:30 p.m. The Panthers (1-3) won their first game last week, defeating Chiefland 17-13. Two

of their losses have come against bigger schools—26-9 against Class 5A Santa Fe and 21-0 against Class 4A Fort White.

Newberry is in Class 1A.

Tuesday, Sept. 30.

Junior varsity match times are at 5 p.m., with varsity matches following at approximately 6 p.m.

Matches are scheduled for 6 p.m.

BHS wins 2 straight in volleyball

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Bradford High School swept host North Marion 3-0 (25-13, 27-25, 25-23) for its second straight win in volleyball on Sept. 18.

Lainie Rodgers had 15 kills, while Karen Clark and Kia Lane each had 12 assists to help the Tornados improve to 6-7. Nyasia Davis and Jaci Atkinson had eight and seven kills, respectively, with Davis also adding two blocks and three service aces. Clark also had three aces.

Prior to playing North Marion, the Tornados traveled to play Interlachen on Sept. 16, winning 3-1 (26-28, 25-15, 25-16, 26-24) to improve to 2-2 in District 5-4A. Rodgers had 14 kills and eight digs, while Hannah Jones had five kills, nine aces and 10 digs. Davis had six kills and three blocks, while Clark and Lane each had 13 assists. Atkinson had five aces.

Also of note, Bradford's junior varsity team competed in a tournament at Keystone Heights High School, finishing second in its pool and beating previously undefeated Union County. Zahriah Collins was named to the all-tournament team.

Bradford played Santa Fe this past Tuesday and will host Keystone Heights on Thursday, Sept. 25. The Tornados then travel to play Newberry on

KHHS goes 1-1 against Clay teams

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School suffered just its second loss of the season in volleyball as host Clay handed the Indians a 3-0 (25-16, 25-8, 25-15) defeat on Sept. 18.

Abi Loose had four kills and two aces for the Indians (4-2 prior to Sept. 23). Hanna Crane had 11 assists.

On Sept. 16, Keystone played at Oakleaf, winning 3-0 (25-11, 25-11, 25-7). Loose had six kills, while Crane had 12 assists. Jordan Jennings and Bailey Zinkel each had five service aces, while Shelby Skelly had two blocks.

Keystone played District 5-4A opponent Interlachen this past Tuesday and will travel to play district opponent Bradford on Thursday, Sept. 25, before returning home to face district opponent Santa Fe on Tuesday, Sept. 30.

Keystone girls take 3rd at Clay County meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Naomi Proctor and Moriah Combass earned top-20 finishes, helping the Keystone Heights girls' cross country team place third out of seven schools at the Clay County meet on Sept. 18 in Middleburg.

The Indians had a team score of 97, finishing behind champion Fleming Island (25) and runner-up Ridgeview (40).

Proctor and Combass finished 15th and 16th, respectively, with times of 25:04.69 and 25:07.10.

All five runners who earned points toward the team score placed in the top 50 of the 89-runner field. Jennie Getz was 32nd with a time of 26:23.07, while Riley Dingman and Caitlin Cumbs were 36th and 37th, respectively, with times of 26:41.78 and 26:51.97.

See KHHS, 12B

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UCT: 25 E. Main St., Lake Butler, or LRM: 7382 S.R. 21-N, Keystone Heights before 5 p.m. on Fridays. Fill in all the blanks with the name of the team you think will win. The person who picks the most games correctly will win \$50.00 cash.

4. In case of a tie, the total points scored in the JAGUARS game this week is the tie breaker. Please fill in the points you think will be scored by the JAGUARS and their opponent,

combined, in the tie breaker blank. (For instance, if the score of the JAGUARS game was JAGUARS 19, opponent 7, the correct score will be 26 points.)

5. Decision of the judges is final. A second tie breaker will be used, if necessary. Results will be tabulated on Tuesday and winners notified by telephone. Don't forget to list a phone number where you can be reached.

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CRIME

Recent arrests in Bradford, Clay and Union

The following individuals were arrested recently by local law enforcement officers in Bradford, Union and Clay (Keystone Heights area) counties:

Bradford

James Lee Aldridge, 30, of Starke was arrested Sept. 21 by Starke police for two charges of battery. According to the arrest report, Aldridge and his girlfriend got into an argument after he failed to pick her up from work, and she had to walk home. During the argument, the victim said she threw a pillow at Aldridge, causing him to become angry and grab her by the throat, making it difficult for her to breathe. He then shoved her against a dresser and then onto the bed, partially on top of their 1-year-old child, holding her there. He also eventually hit her in the mouth before the police arrived and arrested Aldridge. Bond was set at \$7,000 for the charges.

Shaunda Denise Allen, 46, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 18 by Starke police on an out-of-county warrant from Clay for failure to appear for original charge of petit theft and on a Bradford county warrant

for larceny. According to the warrant affidavit for Bradford, Allen and another person went into the In and Out Food Store at the corner of U.S. 301 and S.R. 16 in Starke in early August to purchase a beer. While they were at the counter, Allen was able to place a box of Swisher Sweet cigars and an unknown amount of Natural Wrapper cigarillos in her purse while the cashier was counting loose change for the beer. The owner was able to spot the theft when he reviewed surveillance video, leading to the warrant for Allen's arrest. Bond was set at \$10,002 for the Clay charge, while bond was set at \$30,000 for the Bradford charge.

Cedric Carter, 34, of Starke was arrested Sept. 22 by Starke police on a warrant for selling cocaine, possession of cocaine with intent to sell, public order crimes—keeping a public nuisance structure for drug activity and possession of drug equipment.

Telv Deltwan Coleman, 25, of Sanderson was arrested Sept. 21 by Bradford deputies for possession of marijuana. According to the arrest report, Coleman was trying to enter an event at the fairgrounds in Starke late Saturday night when a search by a security guard revealed a bag with marijuana in it in his front pocket. The security guard escorted Coleman to a deputy working the event, and he was arrested and transported to jail.

Christi Lynn Curtis, 43, of Brooker was arrested Sept. 21 by Bradford deputies on a warrant for felony larceny less than \$10,000 against a person 65 years of age or older. According to the warrant offense report, Curtis went to the 72-year-old victim's home in Brooker on Aug. 1 to wash her vehicle and vacuum her home. Curtis was paid for the work and left, but returned a short time later saying she had left her license at the home. Curtis and the victim looked in the vehicle first, then went in the home to look. While the victim looked in a bathroom, Curtis apparently grabbed her purse and ran out of the home. The victim saw her purse was gone when she returned to the living room and ran outside to see Curtis climbing over a fence and getting into a black SUV at the end of the driveway. The purse contained the victim's driver's license, Social Security card, a debit card, \$400 in cash and various other items. Law enforcement was called, with a warrant eventually issued for the arrest of Curtis. Bond was set at \$25,000 for the charge.

Derek A. Ely, 26, of Starke were arrested Sept. 20 by Starke police for kidnapping—false imprisonment. His girlfriend, Paige Huckabey, 25, of Starke was also arrested Sept. 20 by Starke police for kidnapping—false imprisonment and for battery during the same incident.

According to the arrest report, Ely and Huckabey were at the Dempsey Motel in Starke where Ely's mother was staying when they got into an argument with the mother about using her vehicle. Ely and Huckabey then turned the argument physical, with both pushing the mother into her room. Once in the room, Huckabey struck the victim several times in the face while Ely told her to do it, according to the report. The victim tried to leave several times, but was restrained from doing so, and finally consented to take Ely and Huckabey to their home in Starke after they attempted several times to take her car keys. When the victim returned to the motel, the owner spoke with her about the incident and then called law enforcement. EMS was also called to check the victim and advised her that a cut inside her lip would require stitches and that she would need to get an x-ray for a possible fracture to her orbital bone. Ely and Huckabey were arrested at their home and transported to the jail. Bond was set at \$15,000 for Ely's charge, while bond was set at \$20,000 for Huckabey's charges.

Micahel Monroe Green, 31, of Melrose was arrested Sept. 18 by Bradford deputies for shoplifting. According to the arrest report, Green was at the Harvey's Supermarket between Melrose and Keystone Heights and was observed by the store manager opening a package of scrub pads and stuffing one into his pants. When he passed all the cashiers, the manager asked his to stop, but he left in his vehicle and was arrested minutes later by a deputy.

Arthur Lemuel Hamlett, 20, of Starke was arrested Sept. 19 by Starke police for battery. According to the arrest report, an intoxicated Hamlett started yelling at his girlfriend at their apartment around 2 a.m. Friday morning. After she asked him to stop yelling several times in order to not wake up her 2-year-old child, Hamlett backed the victim up against a wall and placed his hands around her neck. He then started to break things in the apartment, including a bathroom window, before police arrived and arrested him.

Charles Henderson, 56, of Lawtey was arrested Sept.

21 by Bradford deputies for fleeing/eluding police—failure to obey law enforcement order to stop. According to the arrest report, Henderson was ordered to stop by a deputy who saw him driving without a seatbelt. Henderson told the deputy, "Hold on," but then continued driving. The deputy activated his lights and eventually his siren, but Henderson made several turns and continued driving until arriving at his home outside of Lawtey.

Thomas George Heyder, 62, of Tampa was arrested Sept. 17 by Lawtey police for driving while license suspended or revoked.

Gabriel L. Hicks, 33, of Starke was arrested Sept. 21 by Starke police for driving while license suspended or revoked.

Wade Anderson Meadows, 34, of Starke was arrested Sept. 21 by Bradford deputies for driving while license suspended or revoked.

Joshua Dean Padgett, 21, of Starke was arrested Sept. 17 by Bradford deputies for probation violation.

Amy Jean Pasternak, 24, of Lake City was arrested Sept. 20 by Bradford deputies for possession of cocaine and possession of drug equipment. According to the arrest report, Pasternak was trying to enter an event at the fairgrounds in Starke late Saturday night when a search by a security guard revealed a small bag with white powder and a straw in it. A field test by the deputy confirmed the powder was cocaine, and Pasternak was arrested and transported to the jail.

Chadly Derick Richey, 33, of Waldo was arrested Sept. 16 by Starke police for driving while license suspended or revoked. Bond was set at \$2,500 for the charge.

Wesley T. Robey, 25, of Middleburg was arrested Sept. 19 by Bradford deputies for probation violation. No bond was allowed for the charge.

Tonya Marie Starling, 29, of Hampton was arrested Sept. 22 by Starke police for driving while license suspended or revoked.

Ahmad Rashad Strong, 35, of Starke was arrested Sept. 17 by Starke police on an out-of-county warrant from Hillsborough on an original charge of failure to return hired/leased property. The warrant was issued Nov. 5, 2013. Bond was set at \$2,000 for the charge.

Rocky Clinton Thompson, 57, of Starke was arrested Sept. 19 by Starke police on a warrant for possession of opium or derivative with intent to sell and selling opium or derivative within 1,000 feet of a specified restricted area. Bond was set at \$150,000 for the charges.

Adrian Lane Varnum, 18, of Starke was arrested Sept. 20 by Bradford deputies for possession of drug equipment and operating a motor vehicle without a valid driver's license. According to the arrest report, Varnum was on a dirt bike in the Sampson City area of the county when a deputy observed him driving on a paved road around midnight without any lights on the bike. The deputy pulled him over and discovered he didn't have a driver's license. When asked if he had anything illegal on him, Varnum said he had a glass pipe and admitted to having just finished smoking marijuana with it shortly before the deputy pulled him over. In addition to the charges, Varnum was issued a citation for driving an all-terrain vehicle on a public highway.

Keystone/Melrose

Bradley Adkins, 32, of Keystone Heights was arrested Sept. 16 by Clay deputies for failure to appear.

Roy Clark, 38, of Keystone Heights was arrested Sept. 16 by Clay deputies for battery.

Brittany Fike, 23, of Keystone Heights was arrested Sept. 18 by Clay deputies for disorderly intoxication.

Erick Hagerhorst, 18, of Keystone Heights was arrested Sept. 21 by Clay deputies for burglary.

Jessica Hylton, 19, of Keystone Heights was arrested Sept. 22 by Clay deputies for driving without a valid license.

Brian Levelle, 42, of Keystone Heights was arrested Sept. 19 by

Clay deputies for conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

Allison Suzanne Lord, 37, of Melrose was arrested Sept. 17 by Putnam deputies for three probation violations.

Lisa Matthews, 36, of Keystone Heights was arrested Sept. 19 by Clay deputies for conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

Thomas Recard, 35, of Keystone Heights was arrested Sept. 16 by Clay deputies for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Dessa Stockman, 23, of Keystone Heights was arrested Sept. 19 by Clay deputies for conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

Union

Rhonda Truett Cone, 48, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 21 by Union deputies for driving under the influence and for driving while license suspended—habitual offender. Bond was set at \$2,000 for the charges.

Cassandra Pagan, 28, of Gainesville was arrested Sept. 18 by Union deputies for probation violation. No bond was allowed for the charge.

Eddie James Smith, 55, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 20 by Union deputies for disorderly intoxication. According to the arrest report, Smith was at a gathering and highly intoxicated, waving a knife around and threatening everyone with it. When the deputy arrived, Smith was standing in the street yelling and causing a disturbance. He was arrested and transported to the jail.

Riley Paul Thames, 43, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 17 by Union deputies for disturbing the peace and possession of marijuana. According to the arrest report, deputies were called to Thames' home several times the night of his arrest before finally arresting him on the third visit. Thames had been drinking and arguing with his wife, but had left the home when the deputy came by the first time after a neighbor called about a disturbance. The deputy came back again when Thames came home and the wife called law enforcement. After speaking with the deputy, Thames agreed to go to bed and not argue anymore. About 30 minutes after the deputy left, he was called back to the home after Thames started destroying things in one of his children's rooms and yelling in the home. Thames was arrested, and when he was searched at the jail, a small bag of marijuana was found in his pocket.

Ronald Austin Moore Jr., 32, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 19 by Union deputies for aggravated battery. According to the arrest report, Moore got into an argument with his mother and stepfather, then went outside their home on the front porch and started tearing up a radio. His mom and stepfather then locked the door, but Moore tried to break down the front door and go in through a window before finally prying the door open and entering the home. Once inside, he continued to argue, then picked up a pot of soup and hit his stepfather in the mouth, causing him to fall to the floor, hit his head and become unconscious for a moment. Moore's mom called law enforcement, and when they arrived, Moore fled out the back door, but he was caught in the woods behind the home by a deputy. Moore was arrested and transported to jail, while EMS came to check on the stepfather, who was OK by that time.

Joshua Oneal Perry, 19, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 16 by Union deputies for disturbing the peace, escape and two charges of failure to appear. According to the arrest report, Perry was at the Outpost Alternative School when he started causing a disturbance in a class. After the instructor asked him to leave the classroom and go to the hallway, Perry refused to do so and continued to curse and threaten another student. When the deputy arrived, he was speaking with the instructor and Perry when he received word from dispatch that there were two warrants for Perry's arrest for the failure-to-appear charges. When the deputy went to place handcuffs on Perry, he yelled that the deputy wasn't going to take him in and snatched loose and ran out of the building. Approximately 10 minutes later, Perry was apprehended outside of the Union County Library without any resistance and arrested.

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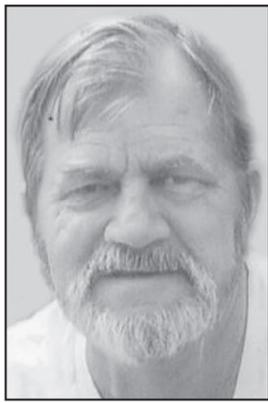
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OBITUARIES



Leon Cooper

Leon Cooper

BRADFORD COUNTY—Leon Cooper, age 58, a lifelong resident of Bradford County, went to be with our Lord on Friday, Sept. 19, 2014 with family by his side. He passed peacefully at the E.T. York Care Center in Gainesville from an extended illness. Leon was born in Starke on Feb. 24, 1956 to the late Robert Reynolds Cooper and Martha Ann Prescott Cooper. Leon was a very thankful man as he was blessed with the wonderful Gift of Life in the form of a lung transplant in 2004, which gave him an extra 10 years to enjoy his family and friends. He was an exceptional and very strong man who would do anything he could to help others. Leon was grateful for every person in his life and he never met a stranger. He retired after 35 years of dedicated service as a construction worker and master electrician. Leon enjoyed using his chainsaw to clear land, maintaining his yard, landscaping, and riding his John Deere tractor. He loved being outdoors and traveling to the mountains. Most of all, he was a loving husband and father and will be missed dearly by his family and friends. He was preceded in death by his mother, father, and step-father, Melvin Nettles.

Leon is survived by: his loving wife and soul mate of 23 years, Arlene A. Griffis Cooper of Starke; his son, Shane L. (Susan Leann Baker) Cooper of Starke; his sisters, Bea Strickland of Hampton, Audrey (Robert) Thornton of Starke, Katie Hardin and Betty (Lonnice) Kight, both of Plant City/Lakeland; his brothers, William Cooper of Starke and Henry (Tina) Cooper of Plant City/Lakeland; his in-laws, Shirley Bishop and Louis (Bonnie) Griffis of Keystone Heights, Lillian (Tim) Marsett of Lake City, Marilyn (Leon) Nehring of Reddick, and Vincent Griffis of Starke; numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends he loved very much.

Funeral services will be held on Sunday, Sept. 28, 2014 at 2:00 pm at Archie Tanner Funeral Services Chapel with Pastor Jason Crawford officiating. Interment will follow at Santa Fe Cemetery in Hampton. The family will receive friends on Saturday, Sept. 27, 2014 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at the funeral home. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archie Tanner Funeral Services, Starke. 904-964-5757. Visit archietannerfuneralservices.com to sign the family's guest book.

PAID OBITUARY



James Douglass

James Douglass

STARKE—James "Sonny" Edd Douglass, 69, of Starke died on Sept. 18, 2014 at the E.T. York Care Center in Gainesville with family by his side. He was born in Fort Meade on Feb. 18, 1945 to the late Edgar W. and Sarah L. McClure Douglass. He was a lifelong resident of Bradford County. He served in the United States Navy for many years serving in the Vietnam War. He retired from Clay Electric after 30 years of service. He was a member of the Evergreen Baptist Church. He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by: his wife, Jenny Gaskins Douglass of Starke; daughters, Kimberly (Matt) Stucky, Sunnie (Beau) Pearson, Shelley (Phil) Smith all of Starke; Brenda (Karey) Saunders of Keystone Heights, Melissa Gillenwaters of Starke; and Elizabeth Sheppard of Starke; five brothers; seven sisters; thirteen grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Sept. 21 in the chapel of Archie Tanner Funeral Services with Pastor Dwight Hersey officiating. Interment followed at Hope Baptist Church Cemetery with military honors. The arrangements are under the care and direction of Archie Tanner Funeral Services of Starke.

Roger Gibson

LAKE BUTLER—Roger "Wayne" Gibson, 66, of Lake Butler died Thursday, Sept. 18, 2014 at North Florida Regional Medical Center. He was born on Dec. 24, 1947 in Starke to the late Henry Gibson, Jr. and Lillie Ann Swofford Gibson. He lived most of his life in Lake Butler. He was preceded in death by: brothers, Bobby, Terry, Kenny, and Ricky Gibson.

He is survived by: son, Nicholas Miller of Lake Butler; one granddaughter; brother, John Gibson of Lake Butler; and sisters, Penny Smith of Newberry, Diane Cochran of Bonafay, and Belinda Ergle of Bell.

A memorial service was held Sept. 24 at Archer Funeral Home. The arrangements are under the care

of Archer Funeral Home of Lake Butler.



Charles Higgins

Charles Higgins

HUDSON—Charles E. Higgins of Hudson died at his home on Sunday, Aug. 24th after a lengthy illness. He was born in Jamestown, New York on July 9, 1927, the son of Harold H. Higgins and Blanche McKinney Higgins. He was a resident of the Youngsville-Pittsfield area for most of his life, moving to Lake Butler in 1999. Chuck was an artisan bricklayer/stonemason who learned the trade from the best, the late Roger Luvison, formerly of Youngsville, Pennsylvania. After working with him for many years, he and his cousin, Jack Wood, were craftsmen, and in addition to his work on many churches, schools, and banks in Northwestern Pennsylvania, he was best known for the beautiful stone work at Peak n' Peak Resort in Clymer, New York. Prior to his retirement, Chuck was active in his church, St. Francis of Assisi in Youngsville, serving several terms on the Vestry and coordinating the annual Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper, and he was a long term member of the Youngsville Recreation Commission.

As a young man he was an accomplished trumpeter and served as the unseen bugler for "Taps" at the burials of Youngsville area soldiers lost in the Battle of the Bulge. He attended Perkiomen Preparatory School in Pottsville, Pennsylvania where he lettered in basketball and track. Unsettled by the loss of his older sister's friends in the war, he secured his father's permission to join the Navy just after his 17th birthday. He served with honor on the USS Independence in WWII Pacific Theater, and returned to graduate from Youngsville High School with the Class of 1947.

He was preceded in death by his parents; father-in-law, Howard Becker; brother-in-law, Robert Gentz; sister, Beth Gantz; and mother-in-law, June Becker.

He is survived by: his wife, Judith Becker Higgins of Hudson; son, Charles "Chad" (Cynthia) of Palm Beach Gardens; daughter, Kathleen "Kate" (William) Smith of Lutz; grandsons, Colin Patrick and Kyle

Matthew Smith of Lutz; brother-in-law, George (Sherril) Becker of Newcastle, New Hampshire; sister-in-law, Lynn (Robert) Keiser of Edwards Colorado; niece, Joan "Jody" (William) Hanley of Bluffton, South Carolina; nephews, Thomas Gentz of Youngsville; Andrew (Krista) Keiser of Beaver Creek, Colorado; Zachery (Melissa) Becker of Phoenix, Arizona; Brian (Rebekah) Keiser of Kona, Hawaii; Bradley (Kristin) Becker of Chicago, Illinois; great nieces, Caitlin Higgins Hanley of Clemson South Carolina; Elizabeth June Keiser of Beaver Creek; Hannah Riley Becker of Phoenix and Sophia Lynn Keiser of Kona; great nephews, Drew Robert Keiser and Joshua Dwight Keiser of Beaver Creek; and Calvin Lee Keiser of Kona.

A private service will be conducted at Prevatt Funeral Home in Judson by Steve Simpson, after which Chuck will be cremated.

Burial with full military honors will be held at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell on Friday September 26th at 11:00 am with Bishop Ron Kuykendall of St. Andrews Anglican Church in Gainesville conducting the Rites of Burial.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wounded Warriors of Jacksonville or a charity of choice. Visit www.prevattfuneralhome.com to leave message of condolence.

PAID OBITUARY

Randy Johns

STARKE—Randy Johns passed away peacefully Saturday, Sept. 20th, 2014 at Shands at the University of Florida with his family beside him. He was born on Dec. 4, 1941, to the late S.R. Johns, Jr. and Dorothy Ritch Johns.

He graduated from Bradford High School in 1959, attended junior college while working for Clay Electric Cooperative, then attended the University of Florida where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration. He then worked as a certified public accountant. He was a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church where he led an adult Sunday school class, served as church treasurer, usher and vestry member.

Mr. Johns is survived by: his wife, Virginia Darby Johns of Starke; son, Rick (Gloria) Johns of Keystone Heights; daughter, Elise (Bruce) NesSmith of Starke; daughter, Jennifer (Anthony) Luke of Lawtey; two sisters, Linda Allen of Starke and Ann Crawford of Augusta Georgia, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; his mother-in-law, Virginia Darby of Starke, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. A memorial service will be held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 212 N. Church Street in Starke on Saturday, Sept. 27th at 11:00 am. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to St. Mark's, P.O. Box 487, Starke, FL 32091, or to the church or charity of your choice. Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Starke. 904-964-6200, www.jonesgallagherfh.com.

PAID OBITUARY



Effie Patrick

Effie Patrick

JACKSONVILLE—Effie Mae "Pat" Crawford Patrick, 91, entered into Heavens Gates on Sept. 19, 2014! Effie was born Nov. 1, 1922 in Lawtey to Robert Newton Crawford and Viola Chism Crawford. She was predeceased by her husband, Roy A. Patrick in March of 2001. She was also predeceased by all of her brothers and sisters (7). She retired from Carolina Casualty Insurance Company in 1988. Effie was an avid genealogist and never passed up an opportunity to discuss her family roots. Next to genealogy, her passion was working in her yard. That was a stress reliever for her. She was a loving and caring wife, mother, sister, grandmother and friend! She will be missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by: her daughter, Gail (Johnny) Grimes of Jacksonville;

and her granddaughter, Amanda Kathryn Grimes of Carrefour, Haiti. Visitation will be Thursday, Sept. 25 from 6-8 pm at Hardage-Giddens, Town and Country Funeral Home, 7242 Normandy Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32205 and services will be Friday, Sept. 26 at 11 am at Faith Memorial Baptist Church, 6731 Ramona Boulevard, Jacksonville, FL 32205. Burial immediately following at Riverside Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Gods Heart for Haiti at godsheartforhaiti.org

PAID OBITUARY

Vivian Patterson

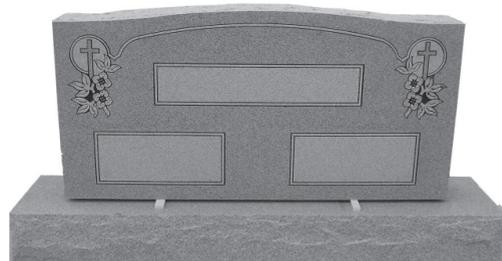
STARKE—Vivian Bertha Morris Patterson, 84, of Starke died Friday, Sept. 19, 2014 at Windsor Manor Nursing Home. She was born May 23, 1930 in Kankakee, Illinois to the late Edward and Charlotte (Beach) Morris and had been a longtime resident of the Starke area. She was a poultry farmer and attended Sampson City Church of God. She was preceded in death by her husband of over 60 years, James "Bennie" Patterson; and their son, Jimmie Patterson.

Survivors are: sons, Danny (Deborah) Patterson and Frank (Karen) Patterson all of Starke; sisters; Doris Kuebler of Cissna Park, Illinois and Ginie Chambers of Ft. Worth, Texas; five grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, Sept. 25 from 3:30 pm to 4:00 pm in the DeWitt C. Jones Chapel with funeral services beginning at 4 o'clock. Brother Johnny Frampton will officiate. A private burial will be at Crosby Lake Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Starke.

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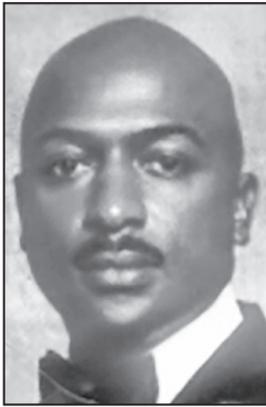
Billy Piper

MELROSE—Billy J. Piper, 59, died Saturday, Sept. 20, 2014 at his residence. He was born Feb. 20, 1955 in Micanopy to the late Billy Alton and Flora Mae (Smith) Piper and was a longtime resident of Melrose.

Survivors are: daughters, Amanda Hart, Jeannie Piper, and Sandy Michaux; siblings, Melvin Monk, Alan Monk, Irene Piper, Libby Withrow, Faye Ponds, and Richard Ponds; three grandchildren; and former wife, Patty Piper.

There are no services to be held at this time. Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Keystone Heights.

Elixson. Funeral services were held Sunday, Sept. 14 at Gateway-Forest Lawn Funeral Home in Lake City. Interment followed in Philippi Baptist Church Cemetery, South Columbia County.



Gerald Simmons

Gerald Simmons

KILLEEN, TEXAS—1st Sgt Gerald Jerome Simmons of Killeen, Texas died Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2014 at his residence. He was born in Starke on Sept. 25, 1958. He joined the US Army in 1976 and served for 26 years, retiring as 1st Sgt in 2002. After retirement, he worked as an engineer in St. Augustine and also as an armed security officer for the Department of the Army. Simmons

was a member of The Christian House of Prayer in Killeen.

He is survived by: his wife, Nicole D. Simmons of Killeen, Texas; son, Sean M. Simmons; daughters, Joyce N. Simmons and Iecena N. Simmons; brothers, Eddie Holmes of Starke, Ronald Strong of St. Augustine, Willie (Donny Ray) Strong of St. Johns, William Simmons Jr. of Miami, and Kevin Reddish of Tampa; sisters, Marjorie Richardson of Starke Sharon Simmons of Pembroke Pines, Marsha Sturup of Miami, mother-in-law, Gladys B. Simmons; father and mother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ferebee of Powell Point, North Carolina; and six grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 27 in the True Vine Outreach Ministries with Elder Ross Chandler conducting the services. Interment will be held in Clark Cemetery in Starke. Arrangements are under the direction of Haile Funeral Home Inc of Starke. Viewing will be held on Saturday, Sept. 27 at True Vine between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. The Cortege will form at the home of Eddie "Sonny" Holmes, 444 S.E. 146th Terrace, Starke at 10:30 a.m.

Angela (Wade) Overstreet of Franklin, Tennessee; a son, Justin (Paige) Williams of Melrose; brother, Buck Tiller of Melrose; four sisters, Anna Laura McEleven, Anne Tyner and Carolyn Newsom all of Hartsville, South Carolina and Connie Wise of Orlando; and four grandchildren, McKenzie Williams, Tyler Overstreet, Carson Williams and Will Overstreet.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Sept. 26 at 2:00 pm at Eliam Baptist Church in Melrose with Pastor Rick Ergle officiating. There will be a lunch and visitation from 12 noon till 2:00 pm at the church prior to the services. Burial will follow services at Eliam Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to E T York Roberts Haven Hospice Care Center in Palatka. Arrangements are under the care of Moring Funeral Home of Melrose.

PAID OBITUARY

Lorine Youngblood

HAMPTON—Lorine Youngblood, 86, of Hampton, died on Sunday, Sept. 21, 2014 at her

residence with family by her side. She was born in Taylor on Oct. 14, 1927 to the late Clifford Rhoden, Sr. and Thelma Davis Rhoden. She was raised in Waldo. She has been a resident of Bradford County since 1946. She retired after 20 years as a shift supervisor at Sunland and Tacachale. She attended the Church of Hampton. She was preceded in death by her husband of 51 years, Lawton Youngblood; brothers, Rudolph and Clifford "Junior" Rhoden, Jr.; and mother-in-law, Alta Youngblood.

She is survived by: children, Larry (Donna) Youngblood of Hampton, Elaine (Tony) Kennan of Waldo; Sandee (Mike) Hoover of Keystone Heights, and Darrell (Donna) Youngblood of Hampton; 11 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, Sept. 25 at 1:00 pm at The Church of Hampton with Pastor Aaron Morgan officiating. Interment will follow at Santa Fe Cemetery. The family will receive friends an hour prior to the service at the church. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archie Tanner Funeral Services of Starke.

In Memory

In loving memory of David M. Griffiths 9/24/68-8/27/13

It is hard to believe we have been without you for a little more than a year. We would be celebrating your 46th birthday on September 24. You are in our thoughts everyday. We wonder what you would think of how the world has changed. You may not be here with us, but you shine through all of your children. We miss you more than words could ever say!

Forever in our hearts, Your family

Bettye Richardson

HIGH SPRINGS—Bettye L. Richardson, 72, of High Springs, died in her home, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014, surrounded by her family, after a lengthy illness. She was born on April 8, 1942, in Worthington Springs. She was a member of Hague Baptist Church, and had worked for the Alachua County School Board and later was a C.N.A., doing private duty nursing. She is preceded in death by: brothers, Wilbur and Wallace Seay; and husband of 47 years, Cecil Richardson in 2007.

She is survived by: children, John Richardson of High Springs, Dennis Richardson of High Springs, Kim (Erfan) Raffii of Jacksonville, and Darryl (Kim) Richardson of High Springs; one grandson; two step-grandchildren; sisters, Anna (Dale) Bass, Thelmalee (Edward) Allen, Ethelene Woodard, and Lori



Reda Williams

Reda Williams

MELROSE—Reda Mae Williams, age 70, of Melrose passed away Sunday, Sept. 21, 2014 at E T York Roberts Haven Hospice Care Center in Palatka. Reda moved to Melrose where she has lived most of her life from Hartsville, South Carolina 56 years ago. She was a member of the Fightin' Gator Touchdown Club and a member of CrossPoint Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her husband Donald Williams.

She is survived by: her daughter,

REDDING

Continued from 3B

to Gainesville to the MacDavid Barber Shop across from the University of Florida. This was an eight-chair shop, which eventually closed in 1967, according to Arthur, due to the rise of the fashion of long hair for men.

Arthur came back to Starke to work at the City Barber Shop, which then belonged to Carlos Johnson. Later, his oldest son, Lonnie Jr., bought the barbershop when he retired from DuPont and had his father run it for him. Arthurs brother Louin was also a barber and worked there for a while. Louin passed away last year at the age of 99.

"I cut three generation of hair in that shop and gave a lot of the men in the county their first hair cut," Arthur remembered. "I don't know why children are scared of the barber, but they are. I can remember many times that the parents and myself had to actually hold the child in the chair to cut their hair."

Arthur has lots of everyday memories of cutting hair and long conversations with just about all the men in town, but one day sticks out in his mind as unique.

"One hot day we were working with the back door open, hoping to catch some breeze," Arthur said. "In walked a deer, which proceeded to panic when it realized where it was. It ran into the front window, breaking it, then spun around and ran back out the door it had come in by. A little later it was struck and killed on U.S. 301."

During his working years, Arthur spent his spare time gardening, hunting and fishing. Since his retirement, he still gardens a little, but spends most of his time traveling between his two recliners – one in the living room and one in the den – and taking care of numerous "honeydods" provided by Minnie.

The couple is, and has been, active in Madison Street Baptist Church, where Arthur was an usher for 10 years. Minnie still teaches quilting at the church, as she has for the last five years,

every Tuesday. Her class makes lap pads for nursing home residents, as well as projects of their own.

"We love Madison Street and everyone there," Minnie said. "It is our church home."

Minnie had been a homemaker for many years, but about 25 years ago she discovered her true vocation quite by accident.

"I was a member of Evergreen Baptist Church at the time and I decided that we needed some social activities for the members as well as the services, so I started a quilting club/class," Minnie remembers. "At the time I did not know the first thing about quilting, but about 20 older ladies joined and they taught me."

Minnie learned so well that she taught quilting at the Bradford-Union Technical Center for nine years, teaching about 400 people in Bradford County to quilt. Today, in addition to her classes at Madison Street, she quilts for herself and does machine quilting for others. When they travel, she lap quilts while Arthur drives.

"We love Bradford County," Minnie said. "It means a lot to us. We have our barbering friends, our quilting friends and our church friends all here. We have spent our whole life together here and our family is here. We are a blessed couple with five children, 13 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. That's what you call home."

LEGALS

PUBLIC MEETING
KEYSTONE AIRPORT AUTHORITY'S REGULAR SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE 1ST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 6:00 P.M. LOCATION IS: 7100 AIRPORT ROAD, STARKE, FL. AGENDAS AND NOTICE OF CANCELLATION WILL BE POSTED ON THE AUTHORITY'S WEBSITE AT www.keystoneairport.com NO LATER THAN 72 HOURS IN ADVANCE.
9/25 1tch-g-B-sect

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INDEX

40 Notices	51 Lost/Found	61 Scriptures
41 Auctions	52 Animals & Pets	62 Vacation/Travel
42 Motor Vehicles & Accessories	53A Yard Sales	63 Love Lines
43 RVs & Campers	53B Keystone Yard Sales	64 Business Opportunities
44 Boats & ATVs	53C Lake Butler Yard Sales	65 Help Wanted
45 Land for Sale	54 Produce	66 Investment Opportunities
46 Real Estate Out of Area	55 Wanted	67 Hunting Land for Rent
47 Commercial Property (Rent, Lease, Sale)	56 Antiques	68 Carpet Cleaning
48 Homes for Sale	57 For Sale	69 Food Supplements
49 Mobile Homes for Sale	58 Child/Adult Home Care	70 Money to Lend
50 For Rent	59 Personal Services	71 Farm Equipment
	60 Home Improvement	72 Computers & Accessories

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40 Notices
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY. All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, 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 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

45 Land for Sale
LAND APPROX. 3.5 ACRES. Existing 2 septic and 2 wells (may need to be updated). \$25,000. Outside Starke city limits, paved road. 352-260-2451

47 Commercial Property (Rent, Lease, Sale)
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FOR RENT PROFESSIONAL OFFICE, 1,500 sq.ft. - \$1,000/mo. - up to 3,000 sq.ft. Contiguous \$2,000/mo. Warehouse 3,000 sq. ft. \$800/mo. Smith & Smith Realty. 904-964-9222.

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3BR/2BA DW. Outside Starke city limits. \$650/month \$650/dep. Call 352-235-6319

53 A Yard Sales MULTI FAMILY SAT 8AM-12PM. Furniture, clothes, kids clothing. Subdivision across from Wal-Mart. Cancel if rain.

53 B Keystone Yard Sales MULTI FAMILY FRI. & SAT. 8AM. 598 SE 4th Ave., Melrose. House wares, furniture, children's items and other merchandise.

57 For Sale SPECIAL ON CLASSIFIED ADS: Bradford Telegraph, Lake Region Monitor & Union County Times: For September, FOR SALE by owners, cars, trucks, boats, animals, farm equipment etc. Run first week, if it doesn't sale we will run second week free. (Must call before 2nd week) Call Heather 904-964-6305

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59 Personal Services CLARK FOUNDATION REPAIRS, INC. - Correction of termite & water-damaged wood & sills. Leveling & raising Houses/Bldgs. Pier Replacement & alignment. We do all types of tractor work, excavation and small demolition jobs. Free Estimates: Danny (Buddy) Clark, 904-545-5241.

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LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME STAFF TO work with those w/intellectual disabilities in the Starke area. Must possess 1 yr. experience in pd childcare, healthcare or related field, high school diploma/GED, reliable transportation & ability to pass background screenings. Must have a positive attitude. Call 904-964-7767 or send resume to progressionservices@gmail.com

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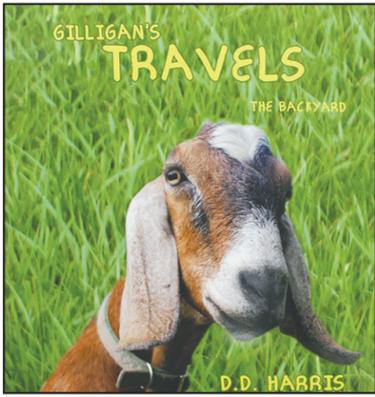
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This is the cover of Donna Harris' first book on Gilligan. "Gilligan's Travels: The Backyard" is one of 10 books available for download.

GILLIGAN
Continued from 1B

in Columbia County. Harris said her husband, David, "saw this one crazy goat that was just in everybody's business. Everybody would come by, and he would stick his head out and look at them or mess with them. "Ashley took a liking to him and just wanted that goat. (David) bought it and brought it

home. The kids just played with it like a dog." Harris said she is the one who comes up with the names of the family's animals. The goat's long ears and just its face made her think of the TV character Gilligan. Over time, Harris would hear the name "Gilligan" shouted out many times, just as the Skipper would holler at his first mate on the TV show. "It was just so fitting," Harris said.

Gilligan had quite the personality and became well-known by many people in the community. He was asked to accompany agriculture students and their animals on a trip to the hospital. He was asked to participate in a drive-through nativity scene during Christmastime.

People who attended the annual 4-H goat show at the Bradford County Fair became familiar with Gilligan, whom Ashley always insisted on entering in the show, though Gilligan wasn't quite show-worthy. (Ashley did always enter another goat, which she did quite well with.)

"He came in last every year, but it didn't matter to (Ashley)," Harris said, adding that Gilligan almost seemed like he would pout if he wasn't taken to the show.

The organizers of the goat show would always put Gilligan in stall number one in the barn. He always attracted a crowd.

"Everybody came by, and he would stick his head out, and they'd pet him and pet him," Harris said. "It was just like he was a meet-and-greet kind of goat."

Harris was no stranger to writing, making it a practice to record life events in a journal. Her children suggested she write about Gilligan, so she wrote the first story, solely for the enjoyment of her children.

That first book, "Gilligan's Travels: The Backyard," was written in 2008. Like the books that followed, it is composed of real pictures of Gilligan, as well as pictures of Ashley and Lake.

Harris said she did some research online as well as buy children's books to teach herself that style of writing. She even contacted some publishers to help her "pinpoint" her audience.

The first book remains Harris' favorite of the series. She will always associate Gilligan with the family's backyard.

"That was where he always wanted to be," Harris said. "I could go out into the backyard,

and he was always standing at the gate waiting for somebody to let him in. He was going to put his paws on the gate and baa at me until I let him in.

"Lots of times, I really thought he was just the most aggravating thing in the whole world," Harris said with a laugh.

Harris admitted she never thought of a series of books on Gilligan. She said it was hard to believe Gilligan had so many adventures until her children kept reminding her of all the different places he traveled.

The remaining nine books were written over a period of three years. They chronicled such adventures as Gilligan climbing into one of the dog boxes on the back of David's truck and Gilligan escaping and eating the flowers of the Harris' neighbors.

One of the books that really surprised her by how well it turned out was "Gilligan's Travels: The Gift," Harris said. It is about Gilligan's participation in the aforementioned drive-through nativity scene. Harris said her children had been told of the "gift" being the baby Jesus. When Lake saw an untethered Gilligan standing in place by the manger, he said, "I wonder if Gilligan thinks he's the gift everybody's coming to see."

Harris remembered how her son would pet Gilligan on the head and say, "You're not the gift, Gilligan."

That's what makes the books so special to Harris. They are a record of some of the things her children have said and done.

"I think sometimes we forget good memories," Harris said. "We may remember bits and pieces of them, but when you write them down and put them all together, that memory becomes larger."

Harris created the Facebook page, as well as a Twitter account, in an attempt to get Gilligan exposed to a bigger audience. As a mother who is immersed in all of her children's busy activities, it is hard for her to devote time

RIGHT: Donna Harris pictured with her children, Ashley and Lake. BELOW: Gilligan, always wanting to be let out.



to taking a more active role in marketing the book. As Harris put it, the Facebook page "may get someone's attention, while I still go to all the (athletic) practices and all the field trips."

It would be neat if Facebook interest became so great that it caused someone to want to make a movie about Gilligan, Harris said, but she added, "I understand that it's a long shot, and I understand that it's wishful thinking, but the kids have encouraged me to do it. They see the validity in social media."

Gilligan may not be around anymore, but his memory lives on, and not just in the books. Harris has a photo of Gilligan superimposed onto a life-sized cardboard cutout and also has a supply of library tote bags adorned with Gilligan's photo. They are part of the materials she takes with her when she

participates in such events as library readings, self-publishing workshops, etc.

Her daughter, though, is always on the lookout for a living replacement.

"Yes, she has definitely talked many times about getting another goat that looks just like him," Harris said.

Another such goat could perhaps inspire more stories. As it stands now, Harris said she has given consideration to writing children's books based upon other animals on the family's farm, as well as writing a fictional pirate series and a book on her grandfather, Johnny Bates.

Maybe Harris could reimagine "Gilligan's Island" with the goat taking the place of Bob Denver. When asked what it would be like to be stranded on an island with Gilligan the goat, Harris laughed. She said anything you built on the island would most likely be destroyed. "He would eat your hut for sure," Harris said.

Aside from the links provided on Gilligan's Facebook page, books can be downloaded from iTunes at goo.gl/T298tB. Books are also available for the Barnes and Noble Nook, Amazon Kindle and Kobo.

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BHS
Continued from 5B

the game when Dylan Leiva intercepted a tipped pass and returned it more than 30 yards for a touchdown. A blocked punt later set Jiles up for a 7-yard touchdown run.

Bradford finished with 165 yards—137 of that on the ground. Don Jeffers caught all four of Jacob Luke's completions for 28 yards.

The Buffalo finished with 232 total yards.

The Tornadoes travel to play Class 5A Palatka on Friday, Sept. 26, at 7:30 p.m. The Panthers (1-2) are coming off of a 20-19 loss to Ridgeview.

Last year, Palatka defeated Bradford 38-12.

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Tigers avenge loss to Bears, improve to 3-2 in district

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Lilly Combs' eighth kill was the match winner for the Union County High School volleyball team, which defeated visiting Dixie County 3-2 (25-21, 17-25, 25-23, 15-25, 15-12) on Sept. 18, just three days after Dixie swept the Tigers in Cross City.

The Tigers improved to 3-2 in District 7-1A and became the first district team to hand Dixie (3-1) a loss.

Union (6-7 overall prior to Sept. 22) held a 16-15 lead in the first set before scoring three straight points with Kaylan Tucker serving. Kayla Andrews made a nice dive in keeping play alive during one part of the sequence and later recording one of her team-high 18 kills in the process.

It was 22-21 late in the set when the Tigers closed it out with Madelyn Kish serving.

The Bears led throughout the entire second set as Union failed to string consecutive points together.

Union fared much better in the third set, scoring seven straight points with Tucker serving to go up 10-4. Most of those points came off of Dixie errors, but Tucker had an ace, while Kish had a kill.

Dixie later took a 21-19 lead before a tip at the net by Kish and a kill by Andrews helped the Tigers score three straight with Combs serving. Combs closed the set out with a kill off of a Madison Adams assist for the 25-23 win.

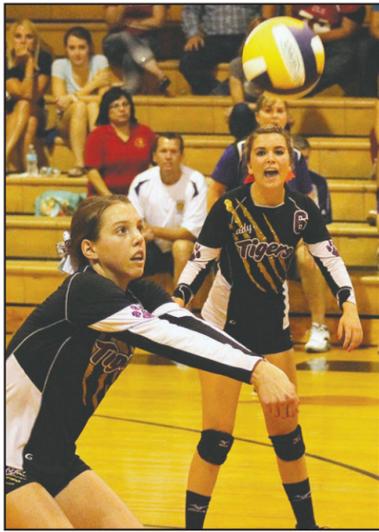
Eight straight points by the Bears in the fourth set gave Dixie a 20-9 lead. The Tigers made few plays late to help them get back into it, though Kish had a kill and Tucker a block.

The fifth set was a back-and-forth affair. With Dixie leading 11-10, the Tigers scored three straight with Adams serving. The Bears committed three attack errors during the sequence, but did recover from a block by Combs to eventually force side-out.

A play by Tucker, though, gave the serve back to the Tigers, with Combs making the play to give Union an important district win.

Tucker finished with 10 kills, while Combs and Kish each had eight. Tucker led the team with 12 service points, while she and Andrews each had four aces.

Tucker and Kish shared the team lead in blocks with three, while Combs had two. Besides leading the team in



Madelyn Kish (foreground) makes a play on the back row as teammate Kayla Andrews looks on. Kish shared the team lead in blocks (3) with Kaylan Tucker. She also had the second-most digs (15), shared with Madison Adams, and kills (8), shared with Lilly Combs.

kills, Andrews also recorded a team-high 37 digs, while Adams and Kish each had 15. Tucker and Devin Lewis each had 12 digs.

Combs and Adams had 15 and 14 assists, respectively.

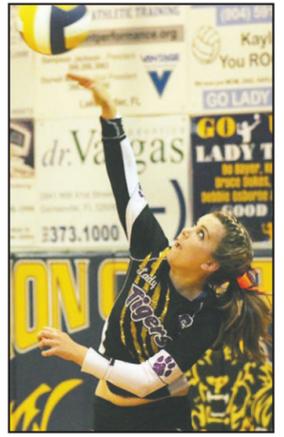
Prior to playing Dixie, the Tigers traveled to Williston on Sept. 16 and defeated the Red Devils 3-0 (25-12, 25-20, 25-23). Kish and Tucker each had eight kills, while Lewis and Combs had seven and six, respectively. Andrews and Adams had 13 and 11 digs, respectively, while Kish had 10. Andrews had eight aces, while Combs and Adams had 13 and 11 assists, respectively.

The Union County High School gym not only hosted the exciting varsity match between the Tigers and Dixie on Sept. 18, but also the Union junior varsity

team's 2-0 (25-23, 25-11) win over Dixie to remain undefeated on the season. Maddee Peeples and Madison Rimes each had five kills, while Lauren Britt and Alli Perez each had four. Peeples also had two blocks, while Rimes and Brooke Waters each had one.

Britt added eight assists, while Maggie Parrish had 11 digs. The junior varsity team also consists of Taylor Beatty, Lauren Eaton, Ashley Harris and Brittney Manning.

Union's varsity team will host Christ's Church on Thursday, Sept. 25, at 5:30 p.m. before hosting Crescent City on Monday, Sept. 29, at 6 p.m. On Tuesday, Sept. 30, beginning at 5 p.m., both teams will play at home against Chiefland during the annual "Dig Pink" breast cancer fundraising event.



Kayla Andrews serves for the Tigers. She had four aces to go along with a team-high 37 digs.

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KHHS

Continued from 6B

Caroline Dixon and Makenna Wylie also competed, finishing with times of 29:11.37 and 33:59.79, respectively. Dixon placed 52nd.

The boys' team finished in sixth place, but did get a 13th-place finish from Spenser Echevarria, who had a time of 19:14.02.

Three other individuals earned top-50 finishes in the 90-runner field: Luke Dennis, who was 30th with a time of 20:16.15, Jason Dillard, who was 40th with a time of 21:15.69, and Steven Rodriguez, who was 44th with a time of 21:33.73.

Zach Davis and William Crouch finished 53rd and 54th, respectively, with times of 22:21.04 and 22:22.67.

Also competing for Keystone were: Connor Getz 23:09.97, Logan Williams 23:23.16, Joseph Danella 23:57.92, Matt Echevarria 24:20.65 and Adrien Valentine 26:28.

KH competes in large Mountain Dew field

Spenser Echevarria finished in the top 50 percent, while Proctor and Combass weren't far from it in the Sept. 20 UF Mountain Dew Invitational in Gainesville.

Echevarria placed 187th out of 456 with a time of 18:19.59. Proctor and Combass were 229th and 230th, respectively, out of 421 with times of 23:16.72 and 23:17.98.

Also competing for the girls' team were: Cumbus 24:25.31, Dingman 24:40.63, Getz 25:04.57 and Dixon 29:08.92.

In the boys' race, the Indians were also represented by: Dennis 20:07.40, Dillard 20:26.43, Crouch 21:35.62, Matt Echevarria 21:54.03 and Getz 22:37.07.