

Lake Region Monitor

USPS 114-170 — Keystone Heights, Florida Thursday, Dec. 7, 2017

45th Year — 31st Issue — 75 CENTS

Worth Noting

Rotary Club Christmas Pecans

The Rotary Club of Keystone Heights Christmas Pecan sale is now underway. Fancy Mammoth Pecan Halves, Fancy Pecan Pieces, Milk Chocolate Covered Pecans and Deluxe Mixed Nuts (Roasted & Salted) are available from any Rotary Club member for \$10. All bags are 12 oz. Pecans are also on sale at Ameris Bank and Bryan's Ace Hardware.

Wreaths Across America

Thanks to everyone who donated to Wreaths Across America this year. We are now preparing for this year's ceremony which will take place at the Keystone Heights Cemetery, Saturday Dec. 16 at noon.

If you wish to help as a volunteer to unpack the boxes of wreaths, we begin will between 9 and 9:30 a.m. at the cemetery. We have over 650 fallen veterans' grave sites to be honored. Wreaths will be laid on these graves after the program is ended.

Lake Region Christmas parades set for Dec. 9

Melrose and Keystone Heights will hold their annual Christmas parades this Saturday.

The Merry Melrose Christmas parade will launch at 10 a.m. at the corner of Centre Street and S.R. 26.

In Keystone Heights, the Lake Region Kiwanis Club will again sponsor the 6 p.m. event, which will follow South Lawrence Boulevard north through downtown.

Faith Presbyterian Church 3rd Annual Christmas Gala

Sunday, Dec. 10 beginning at 2 p.m. This event features the Santa Fe Brass with sing-along carols and the Faith Choir performing "Go Sing it on the Mountain" by Pepper Choplin. Refreshments will be served after the performance. Also, view the Nativities-from-Around-the-World display. Faith Presbyterian Church is located at 2738 Southeast S.R. 21, Melrose.

Santa Fe Audubon Annual Meeting

The Santa Fe Audubon Society will host its annual Conservation Celebration and Chili Supper on Tuesday, December 12 beginning at 6 p.m. The evening includes live music, a silent auction and a program about Creative Birdscaping by Ron Robinson. Also, plans will be made about the 118th Christmas Bird Count, the world's oldest citizen-science project. For more information, contact Laura Berkelman at 352-475-2023 or lberkelman@windstream.net.

Lake Area Ministries honors outgoing president

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

During its annual meeting on Friday, Dec. 1, Lake Area Ministries thanked its volunteers and honored its long-serving president whom is leaving the ministry and Lake Region later this month.

James Peoples has served as the Lake Area Ministries president for the past 10 years. In August, the Senior Pastor at Trinity Baptist Church announced that he was resigning to become a missionary in South Florida.

Lake Area Ministries Co-Director Chip Wester told the crowd at the organization's annual meeting that the theme of the meeting was "You are angels" because the organization's volunteers are angels serving the Lake Region.

He added that the ministry



(L-r) Lake Area Ministries incoming President Tom Farmer, outgoing President James Peoples, Co-director Paula Buckner and Co-director Chip Wester.

operates now as it did at its founding, 28 years ago, with volunteers handling all the work. He said that 1,200

volunteers contributed 5,000 in 4,001 households, including 212 families not previously supported to 11,191 individuals

See LAM,2A

Lake appointed mayor



Karen Lake

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

The Keystone Heights City Council appointed Karen Lake as the town's mayor Monday night, bringing an end to Keystone's three-month search for a municipal leader.

When Lake walked into city hall Monday, she wasn't even an applicant for the job, declining to reapply after the council rejected her initial application in October.

When acting mayor Steve Hart gavelled the start of the meeting, the only applicant for the position was Bill Dixon, whom applied after a Nov. 3 deadline, but was nevertheless accepted by the council as a timely-filed applicant.

Lake started the meeting by accusing the council of creating a perception of gender discrimination.

During the meeting's public comment period, when anyone can address council members, Lake noted that while the council turned away herself and Catherine Southard, both of whom filed applications before the original Aug. 25 deadline, it accepted Dixon's application, which was filed after the second application period deadline of Nov. 3.

"Immediately rejecting two female applicants, but accepting a late-filed male application, speaks to me of gender discrimination," she said. "I've fielded several phone calls this week regarding this perception. Whether it was intentional or not, this council is responsible for that message."

Hart rejected Lake's assertion. "As far as gender

See LAKE,2A

Deputies shift focus in search for missing woman

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

The Clay County Sheriff's Office pulled its mobile command center out of Little Rain Lake Park this week and announced it was changing the focus of its search for 25-year-old Jordan Cooper from searching the area around the park to working leads and tips relating to the missing person case.

Cooper was last seen on Nov. 25 at her residence: 6259 Payne Road in Keystone Heights. Payne Road runs east off Brooklyn Bay Road.

According to a sheriff's office news release, Cooper has the mental capacity of a 13 to 14-year-old.

Deputies said they believe Cooper was around Little Rain Lake Park when she went missing.

Sheriff's Office Sgt. Keith Smith said the agency now wants to make sure investigators follow



Cooper

up completely on each and every tip. He said leads in the case continue to come in.

The sheriff's office took the same approach last year when searching for Hal Warth of Middleburg. The 79-year-old went missing from his 40-acre homestead adjacent to Jennings State Forest on Aug. 22, 2016.

See SEARCH,2A



A U.S. Border Patrol helicopter takes off from Little Rain Lake Park as part of the Clay County Sheriff's Office search for Jordan Cooper.

First Baptist Church members step back in time



The members of First Baptist Church produced their 17th edition of Walk through Bethlehem last weekend on the church campus. Members portrayed citizens of the Judean village, and also performed a musical and drama presentation depicting the life of Jesus. Pictured are clockwise from top left: Sloan Lybarger and Emily Horton as Joseph and Mary, Mark Maxwell and Mike Frazier as fish merchants, Rabbi Eric Smith and Scribe Gerry Horton, and Roman soldier Ryley DeWitt, Tax collector Curtis Frysinger, assistant Ethan Brown and soldier Hunter Story. More photos beginning on 3A.



Weekend Weather: Rain, then cold

Thursday - A 50 percent chance of showers. Cloudy, with a high near 57. North wind 7 to 9 mph.

Thursday Night - Showers likely. Cloudy, with a low around 43. North wind around 9 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

Friday - Showers. High near 51. Chance of precipitation is 80%.

Friday Night - Showers. Low around 37. Chance of precipitation is 80%.

Saturday - Mostly sunny, with a high near 56.

Saturday Night - Mostly clear, with a low around 35.

Sunday - Sunny, with a high near 58.

Sunday Night - Clear, with a low around 37.

Monday - Sunny, with a high near 63.

Monday Night - Mostly clear, with a low around 43.

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Lake Area Ministries board members: (standing l-r) Marien Cox, Peggy Prevost, Daniel Findley, Scott Stanland and Lyn Taylor.



The Keystone United Methodist Church String Band, led by David Golden performed "All Prayed Up," "Shall We Gather at the River," "How Great Thou Art," "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and the "Hallelujah Turnpike." Pictured are (l-r) David Golden, Don McNeal, John Sikes, Lynda Pepe, Ken Zipperer, Gene Conner and Nicole Wagner.

LAM

Continued from 1A

assisted by the ministry.

"We are very, very, very thankful to our heavenly father for each of you," Wester told the crowd at the Keystone United Methodist Church, "and for the service you render each and every day...Without you, LAM would not exist."

After lunch, the Keystone United Methodist Church String Band, led by David Golden performed "All Prayed Up," "Shall We Gather at the River," "How Great Thou Art," "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and the "Hallelujah Turnpike."

Wester said the ministry operates primarily through the support of 22 Lake Region churches, which in addition to providing financial support, also supplies volunteers to the ministry.

He described the food bank's volunteer roles, including church chairpersons, whom act as liaisons between LAM and the 22 congregations that support the ministry; and office coordinators, whom are in charge of the food bank's daily operations. Office coordinators meet with the ministry's clients, gather information from them and pray with them.

Wester also described food packagers, whom box provisions for clients to take home, and food unloaders, whom stock the ministry's pantries and freezers when deliveries arrive from vendors.

He also thanked food transporters whom drive to Harvey's and Hitchcock's Markets to pick up food and also travel to Orange Park every Saturday to pick up bread.

Wester also recognized the food bank's Facility Maintenance Volunteer: Tom Druher, Food Director: Lyn Taylor, Treasurer and Scheduler Marien Cox and Coordinators Trainer and

Statistician Peggy Prevost.

Wester also thanked the organization's board of directors for their leadership and volunteer Tom Frohlich for setting up a new food packaging system.

Wester reviewed some of the milestones the ministry saw in 2017. He said that over

She said Peoples had been a working president over the past 10 years and guided the ministry through the purchase and sale of one building and the purchase of its current home on Commercial Circle.

each of the past two years, the number of clients the food bank has served has declined slightly.

"It's going in the right direction," he said of the number of families served by the food bank. "The ideal, of course would be for none of us to be needed, but that's never going to happen. Jesus said we will always have poverty."

Wester told the crowd that through the third quarter, ended Oct. 31, the ministry recorded \$73,760 in revenue with \$92,443 in expenses.

He attributed \$15,500 of the year-to-date deficit to the purchase of a used van. He added that the Keystone Heights Senior Center contributed \$5,000 toward the purchase of the vehicle.

Wester also said the ministry typically runs a deficit through the third quarter and that strong giving in October, November and December always wipes out the deficit each year.

Wester said that for the second consecutive year, the Church of Jesus Christ, Latter Day Saints gave Lake Area Ministries a \$40,000 food grant.

He added that the Clay Electric Foundation gave the ministry a \$10,000 grant, with the food bank using it to assist 69 families with electricity bills and with transportation to medical appointments. The federal government, through the Clay County Board of County Commissioners also gave LAM \$3,885 to assist Clay County residents with electricity bills.

Wester said Marien Cox led a team that gave out school supplies to 300 students.

He added that the Rotary Club of Keystone Heights gave LAM money to purchase its fourth commercial freezer, adding to the food bank's two commercial refrigerators.

"It has been a very good year for LAM," he told the group's volunteers. "Our heavenly father continues to bless this ministry through inspiring you and others like you to put compassion into action."

Lake Area Ministries Co-director Paula Buckner spoke about outgoing President James Peoples.

She said Peoples had been a working president over the past 10 years and guided the ministry through the purchase and sale of one building and the purchase of its current home on Commercial Circle.

She added that Peoples helped the organization transition from co-directors Marylyn Finley and Pat Poppell to its current managers: Wester and Buckner.

Buckner also introduced the organization's board and officers for 2018: President Tom Farmer, Vice-president Steve Conner, Treasurer Marien Cox and directors Scott Stanland, Daniel Findley, Kathy Barrow, Lyn Taylor, Bill Jackson and Peggy Prevost, in addition to Wester and Buckner.

Rollins elected chair of county commission

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

Clay County Commissioners elected Keystone Heights resident Gavin Rollins as chairman of the commission for 2018. Rollins takes over for Wayne Bolla, who led the panel in 2017.

Rollins is a former Keystone Heights City Council member.

In March, he returned from a year-long deployment with the Florida National Guard, serving as the senior intelligence



Rollins

officer for Task Force Hurricane,

deployed to a combat zone in the Horn of Africa.

After his colleagues voted him to lead the commission in 2018, Rollins said he wanted to continue to improve communication between the council and the public. Under his leadership, the council changed its meeting time from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. to allow for more citizen participation. Rollins has also pushed for greater access to the commission by the public through social media.

LAKE

Continued from 1A

discrimination," he said, "there is absolutely nothing like that going on."

Later in the meeting, Dixon presented his case for the mayoral appointment, emphasizing his 31-year residency in the city and his 34-year career as a warrant officer in the Florida National Guard and U.S. Army, much of which he spent at Camp Blanding.

He also said he served on the Keystone Heights Planning and Zoning Board for 22 years.

"I love the city," he said. "I have three kids that graduated from high school here...This is a beautiful town. I love this place."

After Dixon answered a series of questions from council members — the same questions fielded by Lake and Southard in October — the council voted on whether to appoint Dixon as mayor. The motion to appoint Dixon failed on a 2-2 vote with Lewandowski and Brown supporting him.

The council also voted to allow Lake back in the process and on a separate vote, appointed her as the mayor 4-0.

City Manager Scott Kornegay swore Lake in and the new mayor adjourned the meeting.

Lake will serve until April, when voters will choose someone to serve out the remainder of former mayor Tony Brown's term.

In other business before the council during its Dec. 4 meeting:

Alcohol measure fails on second reading

By a 3-1 vote, the council failed to pass an ordinance that would have allowed the city to distribute or sell beer and wine during city events on city property.

During the council's November meeting, when the ordinance cleared a first reading, Hart said the intent of the measure was to allow city officials to serve alcohol during a Dec. 11 open house.

During that same November meeting, Council Member Steve Brown expressed concern that the ordinance could be the first step in allowing the Our Country Day Committee to hold a street dance and serve alcohol in the Keystone Beach parking lot.

The Our Country Day Committee made such a request

for the 2017 Independence Day weekend, but the council denied the request.

On Monday night, Brown repeated his concern and said he would oppose the measure based in part, on that worry.

Council member Marion Kelly said she agreed with Brown.

"I have no strong feeling one way or the other," said Hart. "This is a very tame ordinance that basically is something that would allow the city to do things as long as it was a city project and we had control over it and it's limited to beer and wine."

"But I also understand that it is a camel's nose under the tent," he continued. "While it's not intended that this might lead to something else, someone might perceive that it could...I sense that there is some hesitation in the community and on this council."

Council member Dan Lewandowski cast the lone vote supporting the ordinance.

SEARCH

Continued from 1A

Over 150 deputies, members of other agencies and volunteers scoured 1,000 acres in the forest for four days before the sheriff's office put all its resources into chasing down leads in the case.

The sheriff's office also said it has information about Cooper's

disappearance that it is not releasing to the public, but is sharing with Cooper's family.

Anyone with information on Jordan Cooper should contact Detective Wes Smith at 904-213-6671 or at bsmith@claysheriff.com. People with information may also call the Sheriff's Office directly at 904-264-6512 or call a tip line at 352-473-721

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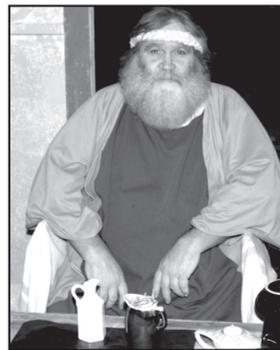
Walk through Bethlehem



In the bakery are (all photos l-r) Landon Spence, Callie Brown, Madisun Brady, Toni Brunt, Sarah Brady and Jennifer Brown.



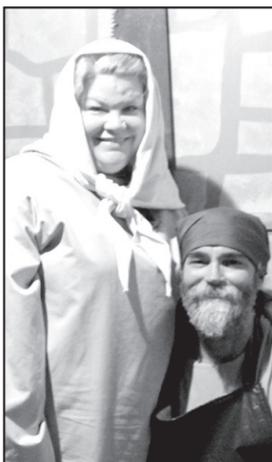
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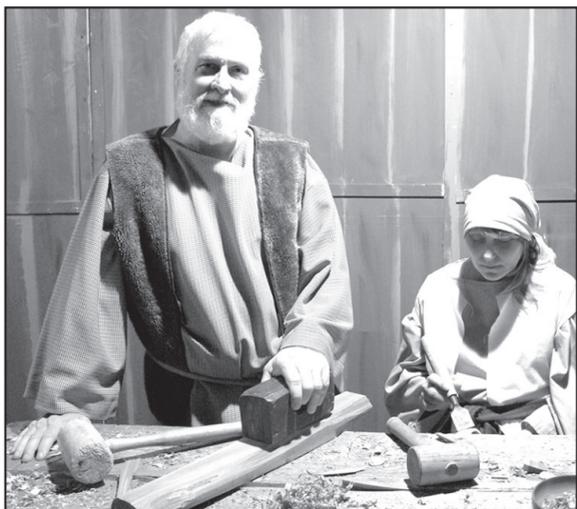
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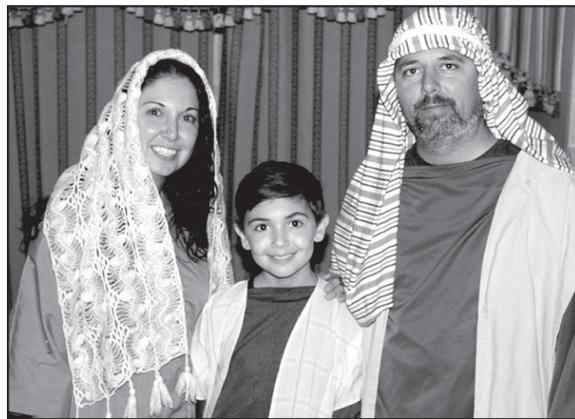
Cloth makers Laura Maxwell, Rosa Lee Rozier, Caitlyn Findley and Melissa Rozier.



Offering cookies to guests are Heather Davis and Martha Roberts.



Shepherds: Shepherd Rozier, Ben knight and Kyler Cole.



Bethlehem family: Toni Brunt, Luke Brunt and Nathan Brunt.



Caelynn Lewis, Makenna Brown and Andrea Brady.



Fruit merchant Darlene Evans and Server Brenda Pappas.



Inkeepers Lisa and Thomas Ferris.

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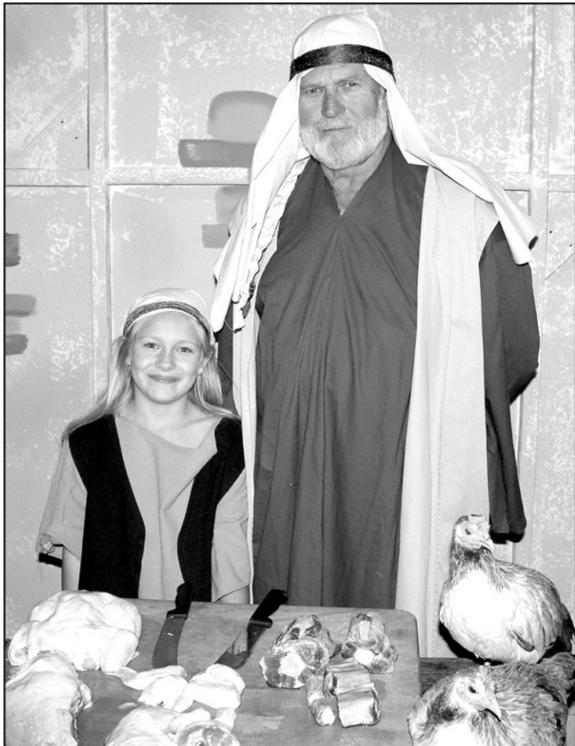
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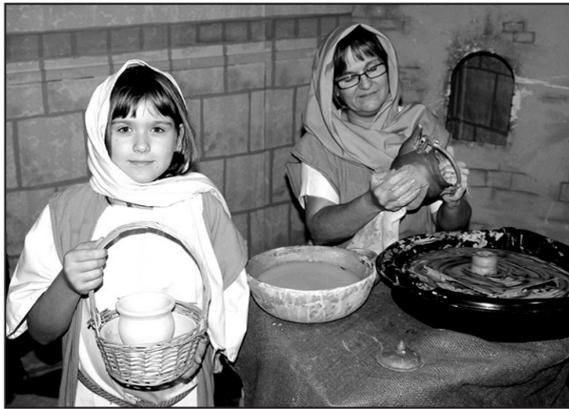
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Potters Carrie and Brenda Frysinger.



Salt Merchants Cliff and Myrt Mullins.



Woman at the well Kim Smith.



Wine merchants Sherwin and Barbara Carter.



Weary travelers Preston Williams and Cassidy Musselman.



Vegetable Merchant Dorothy Blackwell.



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David Cummings, MD
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Dr. David Cummings, General Surgeon, is a proud graduate of Palatka High School and St. Johns River Community College. Dr. Cummings earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Florida and his Doctorate of Medicine degree from the University of Miami. He graduated in June 2017 from a 5-year general surgery residency program at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, Texas.



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Our December is filled with wonderful activities for the entire family! Please join us!

- Saturday, December 9 from 8-11am. Come have Breakfast With Santa! Open to the entire community. Free!
- On Sunday, December 10 from 2:30-4:30pm will be a program, "Surviving the Holidays" for people who have lost a loved one and need help coping.
- "Blue Christmas" worship service is for anyone feeling loss this Christmas season. This service is to bring light into their life. This service is open to all. 6pm on December 17.
- On Christmas Eve morning we will have one worship service at 10:30am with our Choir presenting a cantata. Later that day a Children's/Family Christmas Service will be held at 5pm. immediately following will be a "Happy Birthday Jesus" party where Santa will be in attendance in the Multi Ministry Center. At 7pm will be our traditional Candlelight Service. All are invited.
- In New Year's Eve morning, one service at 10:30 am. A Watchnight Service will be held at 11pm. Communion will be served and is open to all. Come and start the New Year in God's House.

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NEWS FROM BRADFORD COUNTY, UNION COUNTY AND THE LAKE REGION

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Showcasing the Christmas spirit and life skills

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Bradford Transition Academy students don't get much of a rest when it comes to their annual Holiday Showcase. As soon as one is over, they begin almost immediately preparing for the next.

That's a good thing. The Holiday Showcase is more than just creating and selling seasonal decorations. It's part of the process of teaching individuals with developmental disabilities life skills, with the goal of enabling those individuals to become as self-sufficient as possible.

The second annual showcase, which was held Dec. 1, featured artwork in the form of wooden pallets painted with snowmen, reindeer and other items associated with

Christmas. Smaller pieces, such as candleholders and ornaments, were also available.

"We've been working almost a year on this," Transition Academy teacher Lisa Gault said. "As soon as our craft show was finished last year, we started again. This is a lot of work. This is a lot of time."

In making their decorative pieces, students have had to take measurements and use tools, such as screwdrivers and chop saws.

Then comes the creative process in decorating each piece. It's the highlight for some of the students. Curtis Knights, when asked what part of making the pieces he enjoyed the most, said, "Painting, that's for sure." Fellow student Brian Starling said his favorite part is seeing the completed painted images,



Showing off some of the items that were a part of the second annual Holiday Showcase are Transition Academy students (l-r) Noah Paul, Curtis Knights, Brian Starling, Travis Curtner, Navea Hall and Chris Chancey.

adding, "I like how they look on the boards."

The skills students have been using to construct and design their decorative pieces have not been limited to those of the manual labor and artistic varieties. Interpersonal skills play a role as well, with students learning how to purchase the wood used for their projects and asking businesses if they can have their discarded pallets.

The Holiday Showcase is a fundraiser that allows the students to take trips. The first-ever showcase helped them take a trip to Disney World.

It wasn't enough to simply raise money for the trip through the showcase, Gault said. Students were required to figure out how much the trip would cost. They researched Disney admission prices and looked into whether or not student discounts were available. They determined

transportation and food costs, having to think about how many meals they would have to eat during their trip.

Gault said she told the students, "We have to make a budget in order to make this trip. This is a big, expensive trip. Make it happen."

Make it happen, they did. "They figured it out," Gault said. "They met their goal. They raised enough money. They paid every penny of their Disney World trip."

This year, the students will take multiple trips of a smaller variety, such as visiting St. Augustine Alligator Farm and Zoological Park or the University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Tropical Aquaculture Laboratory.

"Disney was fun, but it was so crowded," Gault said, adding, "It was just so overwhelming — the lines and all. Even though the

kids were great, I told them, 'For the money we spent, we could've gone somewhere else and had

just as much fun.' They agreed."

See SKILLS, 10B



Beth Williams checks out what the Holiday Showcase has to offer.



Transition Academy student Casper Paul (left) assists Bradford County Assistant Superintendent of Schools David Harris with his purchase.

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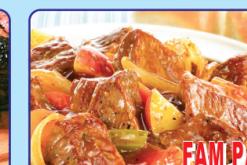
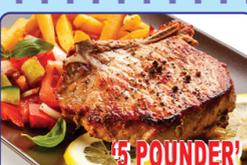
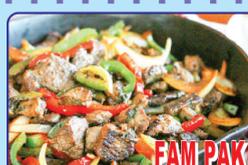
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Making cane syrup: a lost art in a modern world

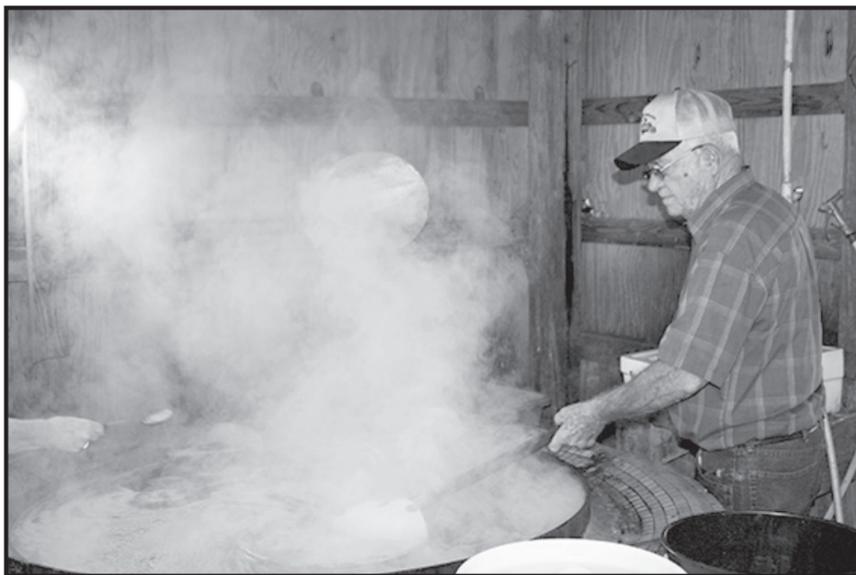
BY TRACY LEE TATE
UCT Editor

There was a time when people knew how to do things. They could feed themselves without the need for a grocery store on every corner and communities were made up of a group of people, each of whom had a specialty or two, which as a whole produced the majority of what was needed.

The making of cane syrup is one of the skills that made life a little “sweeter” for these self-sufficient folk, producing nectar that could be used in place of often-expensive sugar and allowing the concept of dessert to become a regular expectation.

Today there are a great many syrups on the market, including some types of cane syrup, but none of these has the taste of the original product, cooked in a huge kettle lovingly tended, by people who had mastered the art passed down to them by their parents. Hard to find these days, but in Bradford County, one man and his wife carry on the tradition that both of them learned at their parents’ knees.

Roy and Clifford Jackson, who have been married for 61 years, learned the art of making cane syrup from their parents in Madison County. Roy was from



Warm Work. Steam rises as Roy Jackson skims off the solid matter from the surface of the nearly boiling cane syrup.

the town of Lee and Clifford (a family name and one which she says was the name of several girls she knew) in the town of Madison. In Madison County, she worked at Western Union and a florists shop called “The Rosary.” Roy worked as a meat cutter in a meat market.

The couple came to Bradford County in 1960 when Roy was

offered a job by Suwannee Stores (a grocery company) managing their store in Starke, beside the current location of Denmark Furniture. The couple bought the store from Suwannee in 1973 and continued to run it. They built their own building on Call Street in 1983, behind American Paper and stayed there until 2006. The couple then sold out and intended to retire, but Roy said the customers would not leave them alone. It seems that he made a special sausage that no one wanted to do without, so Roy was aggravated into opening another store in April 2006, this one next to his home on Southeast 21st Avenue (Forsyth Road).

Through all of its incarnations and location changes, Roy’s Grocery has been a fixture in Bradford County for 58 years.

Roy’s Grocery sells meat, cut by Roy or one of the two additional butchers he employs. The store sells only heavy Western grain-fed beef and pork, in all the popular forms and, of course, Roy’s sausage.

“You won’t find any meat from Mexico or Argentina in here,” Clifford said. “We want to give our customers the best meat we can and we don’t know how meat from other countries was raised or handled before we get it.”

Although the idea at first was just to make and sell the sausage, their customers wanted more and suggested that they just sell “everything.” So now they also carry a few canned goods, cold drinks and dry staples like beans, rice and pasta. They carry some bread, but no milk and have never, or will ever, sell beer (or any other form of alcohol).

The couple has three children: Rodney, who works with his parents at the store, Kyle, who works at DuPont, and Karen Gaskins, who is an assistant administrator for Argyle Pediatrics in Starke and Jacksonville. The three children have given the couple seven grandchildren, who in turn have given them three great-grandchildren so far.

Roy and Clifford run the store, with help from the two additional butchers, Jacob

Hartley and Garrett Thornton, as well as cashier Sue Silcox. The couple keeps busy, especially on Mondays in the late fall, when it’s time to make the cane syrup.

The couple have been making the syrup for about 30 years and even though they both knew the process from helping their parents, Roy still laughs when he remembers their first batch.

“It was so thick it wouldn’t come out of the bottle the next day, when it had cooled,” he said.

The Jacksons grind cane, cook syrup and bottle it every Monday from the last of October until they run out of cane, usually sometime in December. The cane is ground in a special press and the liquid collected in buckets. The liquid is then poured into a large cast-iron pot set in concrete and heated from the bottom with propane. The pot holds 60 gallons of raw cane juice and has been passed down through Roy’s family. He said it must be at least 100 years old.

The juice must cook for about four hours to make the transition from juice to syrup. At first the solids from the grinding of the

cane rise to the top, but these will be skimmed off when the liquid reaches 180 degrees F. The syrup must reach a boil and thicken and then be ladled out, strained and bottled while still hot. The original 60 gallons of juice cooks down to only about 3.5 gallons of finished syrup. From four to five acres of sugar cane, the Jacksons produce between 20-30 gallons of syrup per year.

The syrup is bottled in clear glass bottles of a size known as a “fifth,” meaning four-fifths of a quart. One batch will produce about 35 fifths of syrup.

While Roy said he can tell when the syrup is ready for bottling by sight, he wants to be sure that every batch, from year to year, is of the same consistency and quality, so he uses an instrument called a hydrometer to measure the thickness of the syrup before he decides it has cooked long enough.

Once the cane has all been cut and the syrup cooked, it is time to replant the cane fields for the next year’s crop. Roy said cane is easy to grow. It is done using cuttings from the current crop, which has buds, known as “eyes,” at each joint, or node, on the cane. Sections of cane are stuck into the ground in November or December and the new crop will be ready in about a year.

“The sugar cane I am growing here is different from the type they grow down south to make

See SYRUP, 10B



Harrison wins Miss Largo pageant

Union County’s Kelsey Harrison won the Miss Largo Scholarship Pageant on Nov. 5, receiving the swimsuit and interview awards in the process. By winning, Harrison will compete in the Miss Florida Scholarship Pageant for the second consecutive year. “I am honored to hold this title and gain another ticket to Miss Florida 2018. I am looking forward to an eventful year. Thank you to everyone who supports me in my endeavors.” By qualifying for Miss Florida now, Harrison, a 2013 Union County High School graduate, has plenty of time to prepare for Miss Florida, which will be held in the summer of 2018, and focus on completing her degree at the University of Florida.



While Roy feeds sugar cane stalks into the grinder, his friend Glenn Morgan holds the bucket to catch the juice.



The boiling syrup has been cooked down and dipped out into a large part with white cloths used as final filters. Roy bottle the syrup while it is still hot, as the heat helps seal the bottle, which will not require refrigeration until after it has been opened.

Compassionate Friends candle lighting to be held Dec. 10

The Lake Area-Keystone Heights Chapter of The Compassionate Friends will participate in the organization’s worldwide candle-lighting event on Sunday, Dec. 12, at 7

p.m., with the overall program beginning at 6:30 p.m. at The Firehouse Building at First United Methodist Church of Starke.

The Compassionate Friends is

a support group for families who have experienced the death of a child.

All are welcome to attend.

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ARRESTS

Bradford

Martavious Antron Albritton, 24, was arrested Dec. 3 by Bradford deputies on a warrant for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$2,500.

Sarah Ann Benner, 27, of Lawtey was arrested Nov. 28 by Bradford deputies after a controlled narcotic purchase by the sheriff's office drug task force for selling drugs—methamphetamine, possession of drugs—with intent to sell and for a public-order crime—use a two-way communication device to facilitate a felony. At the jail, she was also charged on a warrant for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$84,000.

Jamaal Latrivas Brown, 31, of Starke was arrested Dec. 4 by Starke Police for disturbing the peace. According to the arrest report, Brown was intoxicated and arguing loudly with someone near Pecan Tree Apartments on S.R. 16. He refused a request by residents to go inside and stop disturbing everyone, so they called law enforcement. Bond was set at \$500.

Lawrence Mickel Brown, 31, of Palatka was arrested Dec. 2 by Bradford deputies during a traffic stop for driving while license suspended or revoked—third or subsequent offense. Bond was set at \$5,000.

Shane Francis Roy Carey, 25, of Jacksonville was arrested Nov. 28 by Starke Police at Whispering Oaks Apartments on an out-of-county warrant from Duval for burglary of dwelling with a dangerous weapon, possession of a firearm, weapon or ammunition by a convicted felon, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without intent to kill and possession of burglary tools. Bond was set at \$260,012.

Travis Dekon King Covington, 31, of Starke was arrested Nov. 28 by Bradford deputies for felony probation violation. No bond was allowed.

Ryan Christopher Demar, 35, of Starke was arrested Nov. 30 by Starke Police for fraud—illegal use of credit cards and possession of drugs—controlled

substance without a prescription. According to the offense report, Demar stole a credit card from his mother on Nov. 24 and used it to purchase a blender at Walmart. He then attempted to return the blender and get cash, but the store put a credit back on the card for the value of the item. Several days later, the victim discovered Demar had used the card and notified police. Video surveillance from Walmart confirmed he used the card. An officer, who went to Demar's residence to question him about the incident, arrested him for fraud. Once in handcuffs, Demar asked the officer if he could take him inside the house so he could put on a pair of shoes. In Demar's room, the officer observed four Alprazolam pills in a candleholder, leading to the additional possession charge. Bond was set at \$20,000.

Amin Subhi Fares, 58, of Starke was arrested Nov. 29 by Starke Police for battery. According to the arrest report, Fares was arguing with his wife and yelling at her when their teenage daughter came in and asked him to stop. He turned and slapped her twice across each cheek, causing headphones to fall off her head. Law enforcement was called. Fares was eventually arrested and transported to jail.

Jennifer Nicole Hazen, 32, of Alachua was arrested Dec. 4 by Bradford deputies for possession of drugs—methamphetamine and selling drugs, both within 1,000 feet of a specified area. According to the arrest report, two deputies went to Hazen's residence in Brooker to investigate a possible meth lab. In a laundry room of the home, they found numerous items used in making methamphetamine, including cut and stripped lithium batteries, empty boxes of generic Sudafed, a digital scale and two small bags with methamphetamine residue in them. Hazen's home is within 1,000 feet of Brooker Baptist Church, leading to the upgraded charges. Bond was set at \$50,000.

James Alexander Jetton, 53, of Lake Butler was arrested Nov. 28 by Bradford deputies on

a warrant for fraud—failure to re-deliver leased property \$300 or more. According to the offense report, Jetton failed to return a television and furniture to Rent-A-Center in Starke in August 2016 after he stopped paying rent on the items. The items were valued at more than \$2,800. Charges were filed against Jetton through the State Attorney's Office, leading to his eventual arrest.

Nicole Carrie Larkin, 27, of Raiford was arrested Nov. 29 by Bradford deputies on a Florida Highway Patrol warrant for driving under the influence, property damage while driving under the influence, possession of drugs—controlled substance without a prescription and child neglect—without great bodily harm. Bond was set at \$14,000.

Catherine Ann Lemay, 47, of Lake Butler was arrested Nov. 28 by Bradford deputies on a warrant for fraud—failure to re-deliver leased property \$300 or more. According to the offense report, Lemay failed to return a computer and washer/dryer to Rent-A-Center in Starke in August 2016 after she stopped paying rent on the items. The items were valued at more than \$3,800. Charges were filed against Lemay through the State Attorney's Office, leading to her eventual arrest.

Ellorandzro Powell, 37, of Starke was arrested Dec. 1 by Bradford deputies during a traffic stop for driving while license suspended or revoked—habitual offender.

Sabrina Nicole Presley, 34, of Starke was arrested Dec. 2

by Bradford deputies for two charges of aggravated stalking. According to the arrest report, Presley was parked in a driveway next to the victim's mother's home when the victim pulled in with his teenage daughter in a vehicle. The victim then pulled out and drove toward U.S. 301 on C.R. 230 as Presley followed in her vehicle. When they were both on U.S. 301, Presley started to pull even with him and then swerved at his vehicle several times. At the intersection with S.R. 16 in Starke, both stopped for the red light. Presley exited her car and started walking toward the victim and yelling at him, leading him to run the red light and go to the sheriff's office to file a report. Presley was arrested. It was noted in the arrest report that she has made accusations against the victim — a 33-year-old man — that are currently under investigation by the sheriff's office. Bond was set at \$20,000 for the charges.

Jacob Austin Rosenbaum, 20, of Melrose was arrested Dec. 3 by Bradford deputies for larceny—grand theft less than \$5,000, dealing in stolen property and public-order crime—using two-way communication device to facilitate a felony. According to the arrest report, Rosenbaum stole a set of wheels and tires from the back parking area of Triple S Plumbing on S.R. 100 near Keystone Heights. Rosenbaum had previously worked at the company and had inquired multiple times about purchasing them. The owner didn't want to sell them. Rosenbaum was let go from the company before the wheels were stolen. He was a suspect in the mind of the owner, who owner

checked Facebook Marketplace and found Rosenbaum had the wheels and tires listed for \$900. Deputies, who messaged Rosenbaum to meet at the Starke Walmart parking lot to buy the wheels, arrested him when he showed up with the stolen items at the arranged time. Bond was set at \$17,500.

Crystal Nicole Taylor, 34, of Gainesville was arrested Nov. 28 by Bradford deputies on a warrant for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$2,500.

Keystone/Melrose

Danny Ray Boree, 32, was arrested in Keystone Heights on Dec. 2 by Clay deputies for operating a motor vehicle without a valid driver's license.

James Barnard Johnson, 36, was arrested in Keystone Heights on Nov. 30 by Clay deputies for being a fugitive from justice.

Archie Willard Randall, 41, was arrested in Keystone Heights on Nov. 28 by Clay deputies for possession of not more than 20 grams of marijuana and driving with a suspended or revoked driver's license.

Union

Nicole Carrie Larkin, 27, of Raiford was arrested Nov. 29 by Union deputies on a warrant for felony probation violation. No bond was allowed.

Takoya Shantel Brown, 22, of Gainesville was arrested Dec. 1 by Union deputies for resisting an officer—obstruct without violence. According to the arrest report, Brown was a passenger in a vehicle fleeing from a deputy attempting to conduct a traffic stop. When the vehicle got stuck on a side road, Brown exited it and fled on foot until she was caught by a deputy and restrained.

Paul Lee Lewis, 34, of Lake Butler was arrested Nov. 27 by Union deputies on a warrant for felony probation violation. No bond was allowed.

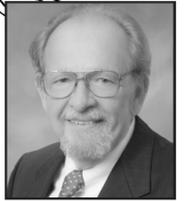
Theodore Gomez Young, 28, of Lake Butler was arrested Nov. 30 by Union deputies on a warrant for fleeing/eluding police, driving while license suspended or revoked, resisting an officer—obstruct without violence and for escape. Bond was set at \$45,000.

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**SPRING CLASS SCHEDULE
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Lynn Nobles - Director
Brad Bishop - Coordinator

DAY CLASSES

Course	Instructor	Registration	Course Dates	Day	Hours	Program Hours
Adult General Education, GED, and Applied Academics	Rudoi	Call Now	January 4th - May 25, 2018	M - F	9AM - 12PM	Vary
Automotive Maintenance and Light Repair Technician	Rensberger	Call Now	January 4th - May 25, 2018	M - F	9AM - 3:30PM	600
Automotive Service Technology (AST), AST 1, and AST 2	Rensberger	Closed	January 4th - May 25, 2018	M - F	9AM - 3:30PM	1800, 750, 1050
Commercial Foods and Culinary Arts	Crews	Call Now	January 4th - May 25, 2018	M - F	M,T,W,F: 9AM - 3:30PM R: 9AM - 7:30PM	1200
Commercial Vehicle Driving A & B	Abercrombie	Call Now	January 8th - March 1, 2018	M - R	7AM - 5PM	320 & 150
Commercial Vehicle Driving A & B	Abercrombie	Call Now	March 12 - May 3, 2018	M - R	7AM - 5PM	320 & 150
Computer Systems and Information Technology	Ledger	Call Now	January 4th - May 25, 2018	M - F	9AM - 3:30PM	900
Cosmetology	Kirkpatrick	Call Now	January 4th - May 25, 2018	M - F	M,T,W,F: 9AM - 3:30PM R: 9AM - 7:30PM	1200
Diesel Maintenance Technician	Rensberger	Call Now	January 4th - May 25, 2018	M - F	9AM - 3:30PM	600
Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN)	Pusateri	Course In Progress. Visit www.butc.edu for 2018 application.		M - R	M & T: 8AM - 4:30PM W & R: 7AM - 5PM	1350
Medical Assisting	Harvey	Course In Progress. Visit www.butc.edu for 2018 application.		M - R	8AM - 4:30PM	1300
Welding Technology	Geiger	Call Now	January 4th - May 25, 2018	M - F	9AM - 3:30PM	1050
Welding Technology, Advanced	Geiger	Call Now	January 4th - May 25, 2018	M - F	9AM - 3:30PM	750
EVENING CLASSES						
Adult General Education, GED, and Applied Academics	Rudoi	January 4, 2018	January 4th - May 25, 2018	M, T, R	6PM - 9PM	Vary
Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN)	Pusateri	Course In Progress. Visit www.butc.edu for 2018 application.		M - R	5PM - 10PM	1350
Nursing Assistant - Long Term Care	Harvey	January 8, 2018	January 8th - May 1, 2018	M & T	5PM - 9PM	120
COMMUNITY EDUCATION CLASSES						
Hunter Education Call Mr. Davidson at (904) 813-0008 with course questions.	Davidson	Open	Contact School	R	6PM - 9PM	3
Spinning (Indoor Cycling)	Miller	Open	January 4th - May 25, 2018	M & W	4PM - 5PM	Vary
Spinning (Indoor Cycling)	Bridgman	Open	January 4th - May 25, 2018	T & R	5PM - 6:20PM	Vary
Pilates/Yoga/Tai Chi Call Ben Bridgman at 904-509-2828 with questions.	Bridgman	Open	January 4th - May 25, 2018	T & R	6:30PM - 7:15PM	Vary

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LETTERS

EDITOR@BCTELEGRAPH.COM

Thanks to Union County High School for honoring veterans

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the American Legion Post 153, we thank Carlton Faulk, Union County School Board Superintendent, Mike Riplinger, Union County High School Principal, the award winning Tiger Band, the UCHS JROTC, and the students and faculty of the three Union County Schools for the tribute to our County's Veterans and their families on Friday, Nov. 10, 2017. The 2017 Veteran's Day Ceremony was a fantastic honor to all the military men and women who have or are serving our state and nation in the Army, Navy, Air force, Marines, Coast Guard (Active, Reserve and National Guard).

This year's Veteran's Day Ceremony was conceived by Mr. Riplinger as a possible answer to many issues regarding the students not the least of which was the back to back homecoming and Veteran's Day Parades in November of each year. The Homecoming Parade was normally preceding the Veteran's Day Parade. These back to back parades placed a burden on the schools that was partially relieved with the consolidated ceremony and the elimination of the Veteran's Day Parade. The honoring of all veterans was accomplished by placing them at the lead of the Homecoming Parade.

The annual Memorial Day Ceremony honoring the men and women that gave the ultimate sacrifices while serving our Country in uniform, normally happens when the students are in summer recess and there is no planned parade. Student involvement for Memorial Day Ceremonies is on a voluntary basis.

The Lake Butler American

Legion Post No. 153 meets quarterly (Jan. 18, April 19, July 19 and Oct. 18, 2018). We have a covered dish supper in the Lake Butler Lodge No. 52 Dining Room and conduct our business following the supper. We support the Memorial Day and Veteran's Day Activities, the UCHS JROTC and the American Legion Baseball League. Spouses and friends are encouraged to attend with our members. The annual cost for membership is nominal and can be accomplished on line or through our Adjutant, Thomas Fortner. God Bless Our Veterans,
*Ted M. Barber
Post Commander*

Lake Area continues strong support of Operation Christmas Child

Dear Editor:

Generosity is a hallmark of our Lake Area Region. I witness this each year through Operation Christmas Child, an evangelistic ministry of Samaritan's Purse, as the Team Leader for the Keystone Heights Drop-off Location at Trinity Baptist Church. The 2017 global goal is 12 million shoeboxes filled with school supplies, hygiene items and small toys. The astounding number of 4913 shoeboxes poured to bless poor children around the world! After inspection at the Atlanta Processing Center, these gift boxes will be delivered to many countries: Angola, Belize, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Jamaica, Mali, and Tanzania. Several volunteers from our area served at the Atlanta Processing Center this year. It definitely requires an army of volunteers to pack, collect, inspect and deliver shoeboxes to delighted children, most of whom have never received any gift before.

I am thankful for every hand involved in this worldwide ministry. I am always delighted to see the donors come in with their beaming faces and precious gift boxes. Our community always rises to the occasion. Stores and restaurants advertised with colorful posters. The Lake Region Monitor encouraged participation through articles and photos. Payless Shoe Stores and Beall's Outlet Store donated countless numbers of empty shoeboxes to wrap and pack. Red and green decorative OCC shoeboxes (known as Gospel Opportunities or GO boxes) were offered at Bonnie's Pizza, Johnny's Bar-B-Q, Mallard's Dollarama, and Shear Creations.

McDonald's once again donated Happy Meal toys as fillers. Ladies crocheted hats, purses and dolls. Handmade embroidered outfits as well as beautiful quilt squares found their way into the shoeboxes. Johnny's Bar-B-Q graciously advertised Trinity Baptist Church as the Drop-off for shoeboxes on its famous sign. Bryan's Ace Hardware and Elixson Wood Products helped to transport 246 heavy cartons of shoeboxes to the Gainesville Central Drop-off Location. Forty-eight volunteers served to collect, count and cartonize the shoeboxes over eight days. Deserving recognition are the 35 churches, 5 civic and school groups and 6 families who joyfully packed the 4913 shoeboxes. Boxes came from Brooker, Florahome, Graham, Grandin, Green Cove Springs, Hampton, Hawthorne, Hollister, Keystone Heights, La Crosse, Lawtey, Melrose, Middleburg,

Starke, and Waldo.

Moments of reflection occurred throughout the week as individuals shared interesting shoebox testimonies. The oldest project leader at 92, Charleyene Brantley from Paran Baptist Church, shared her connection with famous evangelist Billy Graham. The oldest donor, 110 year-old Hermia of Starke, led us in her favorite life song again, "Thank you Lord." A Lake Area Bible Church participant shared her recollection of receiving similar shoebox gifts every Christmas in war torn Germany when her family was extremely poor. "That box meant the world to me and gave me hope as a little girl. This is why I pack these boxes every year."

Selfless donors, you did another stupendous job! You are helping to change the lives of 4913 boys and girls, ages 2-14. Our global world has allowed us to touch the lives of these children in desperate need of hope. Many emails and letters were received this year from recipients of shoeboxes. Musu in Namibia, Africa could hardly understand how the clothes in his box fit him perfectly just in time for winter. "Thank you for picking me out of a million."

Words of thanks are hardly enough to the Lake Area Region for your continued sacrificial giving of shoeboxes. We are the hands and feet of Jesus when we give these wonderful gifts. Pray for the children who will receive our shoeboxes. Imagine the looks of wonder as the children open their special gifts! Whenever the shoeboxes arrive, it is Christmas! We celebrate each beautiful

shoebox packed in this region with caring hearts. From the bottom of my own heart, thank you and thank you again. Merry Christmas!

Preparing already for our next Shoebox Season in 2018,

*Diane Michel
Team Leader*

*Keystone Heights
Drop-off Location
Operation Christmas Child*

Is destruction caused by mining worth it?

Dear Editor:

Life proves that those who go against nature always lose.

By allowing phosphate mining our county destroys wildlife habitat, depletes & pollutes its underground and surface waters, degrades the local communities, and increases traffic pressure and accidents. The list of negative impacts goes on.

And what happens after phosphate is extracted, are all of those sacrifices worth it? When phosphorus fertilizer reaches the ground in tilled agricultural fields or in highly manicured lawns, only a fraction of it goes to the plants, and most of it leaches out and creates pollution in rivers

and streams.

I have a large productive garden and have never used any chemical fertilizers. Nature is very wise, and one does not have to mine deep to find nutrients. A simple and yet powerful way to bypass chemical fertilizers is compost. It is rich in phosphorus, as well as other essential nutrients. Phosphorus contained in compost is slow-release and less likely to leach. Compost also adds organic matter to the soil, helping to retain moisture.

There are various ways to produce and apply compost depending on the scale and site specifications. It can be done in small or large quantities, applied by layering or as a fine mist. Yet, it takes care of waste, serves as a versatile and effective fertilizer, creating no destruction, nor pollution.

No doubt that large-scale agriculture will need to change in order to be abundant without chemical fertilizers. Different farming methods that enrich and preserve soil fertility exist and should be widely applied: no-till agriculture, polyculture, interplanting, and permaculture.

So, before destroying the beauty of our county's lands, let's ask ourselves, why mine in the first place?

*Sofya Tairova
Lawtey*

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Grigsby talks faith, fishing at Crosshorn meeting

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Pro fisherman Shaw Grigsby did talk about his craft, but what he most enjoyed during his visit to Crosshorn Ministries' Nov. 16 meeting at the Starke Golf and Country Club was discussing his faith and the ways God has proven his presence in his daily life.

"Now I get to talk about the good stuff," Grigsby said, following a brief talk about fishing and a time to enjoy snacks.

He said he was at a tournament when he accepted a cassette tape

of Hank Parker's testimony from a man who was handing them out for free along with Bibles. Grigsby admitted he didn't even know what a testimony was. On his drive home at night, his father, who had accompanied him, fell asleep.

"I said, 'You know? I've got that tape.' This is how things work," Grigsby said. "You know how God works things."

Grigsby was able to reach back and feel around in his suitcase until he found the tape.

"I listen to Hank Parker tell about his life and how he accepted Jesus Christ and what a major difference it made in

his life," Grigsby said. "I was thinking about that because when I was doing good, I was good, but I still wasn't real happy, and when I was doing bad, I was really bad."

Grigsby said he realized what he needed to do to make his life better, but he resisted until he met the same man he received the tape from at a tournament in Okeechobee. The man asked him if he'd like to have dinner. They went to a Chinese restaurant. The date was Jan. 22, 1990.

"He explained the gospel of Jesus Christ to me," Grigsby said, adding, "I prayed over a bowl of hot and sour soup. I prayed to accept Jesus Christ."

Since then, Grigsby said God has opened his eyes over and over again. He shared one incident in which he, his wife, mother and grandfather were in Germany, driving on The Autobahn.

"I don't know about you, but if you take a country boy and put him on a highway with no speed limits? Yeah, it was awesome, man," Grigsby said. "I'm cutting it loose."

At some point, Grigsby said he just got the sense that someone was telling him to slow down, so he took his foot off the gas. As he rounded a corner, there was a pile-up. Grigsby said he began to do what he's done in similar situations — he put his foot on the brake pedal and just waited for the crash to happen. Again, he seemed to sense a voice telling him to pump the brakes, which resulted in the avoidance of a crash.

"What they teach you in school," Grigsby said of stopping without skidding, "but I had never done it."

Another incident occurred at a fishing tournament when an elderly gentleman approached Grigsby at the weigh-in and asked him how he did. As the words were leaving his mouth, the man interrupted, said, "I'm feeling great," and proceeded to describe how he had aches and pains in his shoulder and leg, but stopped taking Lipitor and now felt better.

Grigsby, too, had similar aches and pains and was taking Lipitor. As he related the incident to his wife as they were driving home, he declared he was going to stop taking his medication to see if he felt better. His wife, who is a nurse, told him not to do that.

"Well, how many of us listen to our wives? I try to, but in that situation I didn't," Grigsby said.

The story, though, got his wife to thinking. She eventually



Professional angler Shaw Grigsby breaks out one of his rods to talk about one of the lures he likes to use at the Nov. 16 Crosshorn Ministries meeting. The outdoors-themed ministry was perfect for Grigsby, who talked about fishing and how God has worked in his life.



Walter Frick (left) of Starke chats with Shaw Grigsby. Frick said his first cousin fishes with Grigsby, so he attended the Crosshorn Ministries meeting when he heard Grigsby would be there.

scheduled a doctor's appointment for him approximately a month later, just to see if everything was OK with his health.

A stress test seemed to indicate that everything was fine for the most part, but doctors said there appeared to be an area of his heart that was struggling. Grigsby underwent a cardiac catheterization, which revealed 100-percent blockage in both his right and left coronary arteries and 65-70-percent blockage in his circumflex artery. He was scheduled for surgery the next day.

If not for odd encounter at the fishing tournament, Grigsby never would've gone to the doctor. He saw that as God giving him a warning. Therefore, he was confident he would come out of surgery OK. It was God's will for him to live.

"That's how awesome God is," Grigsby said. "That's how awesome Jesus Christ is. He literally put things in place to where I'd be alive."

Grigsby said if you've accepted Jesus Christ as your savior, then he is part of your daily life.

"Just keep your faith," Grigsby said. "He's there."

Another special guest was musician Jack Gafford, who played several inspirational songs from his album, "Sinner to Sinner." Gafford, who has played with the likes of Kenny Chesney and Alabama, admitted he was wrapped up in the party lifestyle of musicians and that "for 36 years, I kept walking away from Jesus Christ. I wouldn't accept him."

When he did, he discovered music would still be part of his life — just in a different way.

"Now, as of Dec. 16, 2013, it's not about the party. It's a purpose," Gafford said. "I love country music. God is so awesome because when I turned my life over to him, he said, 'You can still do country music, but the message is going to be a little bit different.'"

Of course, if a professional

angler is the featured guest at an outdoors-themed ministry, he's going to talk about fishing. Grigsby described some of the jigs he uses and how they work, starting with what's called a swim jig.

"A swim jig is just like a normal jig, but it's got kind of a needle point on it where it can come through the water easy," Grigsby said.

As with a normal jig, you can flip a swim jig into cover and let it drop, but you can also make long casts with it and make it swim, Grigsby said, explaining, "It's like a little bluegill or little bait fish coming through the water."

Grigsby said he uses Hack Attack jigs in two colors mostly: black/blue and white. He uses a 7-7.5-foot rod and either 40-pound braided line or 17-20-pound fluorocarbon line.

If he wants to really have fun, Grigsby said he uses a floating-frog lure.

"This is my fun time," he said. "When they're exploding on this — oh, my gosh. There is nothing like top water. I'd give up a whole bunch of fish to catch one on top water."

Grigsby compared a floating frog to a four-wheel drive vehicle — it can go anywhere (trees, bushes, grass and other vegetation).



Musician Jack Gafford provided musical and inspirational entertainment, singing songs of faith and sharing his testimony.

"You're going to throw it out there in the nasty slop, and then you do just light little twitches," Grigsby said.

For a floating frog, he uses 65-pound braided line on a stiff rod "because we want to jerk them and get them out of there."

Grigsby also discussed using a swim bait, which is basically a swim jig that looks like a fish.

"You don't have to have the blade, and you don't have to have the weight," Grigsby said. "You just put a hook (in it) and throw it and reel it. The fish think it's a little minnow."

Anglers using a swim bait can twitch it every so often, Grigsby said. That causes the lure to change direction and increases the speed. He said bass tend to "jump on it when it does something different."

Grigsby said the greatest thing about bass is they're inquisitive. When they see something, they want to check it out.

"They're going to grab it in their mouth. Even if they don't like it," Grigsby said, adding, "Then you jack them up."

The same holds true for noises, Grigsby said, which is why he gets a chuckle out of companies promoting a lure that supposedly sounds just like a crawfish, for example.

"It doesn't have to sound like that," Grigsby said. "All it has to do is make a noise. They're curious. They're going to come look at it."

Grigsby was asked several questions, including one by a man who asked for the best way for his 6-year-old grandson to catch fish. The answer was to use drop-shot rig, which Grigsby described as the easiest way to catch fish. He recommended using 20-pound braided line, though said 10-15-pound line could also be used.

"It's microscopically thin and has no stretch," Grigsby said. "When one bites, you pull. You've got him hooked up. You don't have to have a big hook set."

Crosshorn Ministries invites you to celebrate a Camo Christmas

Crosshorn Outdoor Ministries will once again host a Camo Christmas, featuring keynote speaker Tom Farmer (associate pastor at Keystone United Methodist Church) and music by The Backwood Boys, on Thursday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m. at

the Starke Golf and Country Club.

Wear your favorite camo, fishing, cowboy/cowgirl or outdoors clothing and get ready for lots of laughs, fellowship and a ton of fun.

Dinner will be catered by The

Steakhouse in Starke.

Cost is \$10 for ages 13-adult and \$5 for 12 and under.

If interested, you are asked to pre-register by Tuesday, Dec. 19. Contact John Whitfield at huntfishwriter@aol.com or 352-468-3595.

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KHHS boys get 1st win by 51-17 score

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Eddie Thomas almost outscored the opposing team himself as the Keystone Heights High School boys basketball team picked up its first win, defeating visiting First Coast Christian 51-17 on Dec. 1.

Thomas had 16 points, while Ray Kirtley and Sawyer Maxwell each had eight. Josh Hughes, Ben Miller and Josh Pendergrast each had four points, while Marco Flores had three. Adrien Ciena and Jarien Woodard each had two points.

The Indians opened the season with a 55-40 loss to Oak Hall on Nov. 27 in Gainesville. Thomas had 21 points, while Kirtley had six. Ciena and Flores each had four points, while Woodard had three. Hughes added two points.

On Nov. 30, Keystone traveled to Interlachen for its District 4-5A opener, losing 65-52. Thomas had 20 points, while Ciena, Flores and Maxwell each had nine. Garrett Stanley had three points, while Kirtley and Woodard each added one.

Keystone played district

opponent Bradford this past Tuesday and will host Middleburg on Friday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. The Indians travel to play Trenton on Saturday, Dec. 9, at 7 p.m. before returning home to play district opponent Newberry on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m. Keystone then travels to play district opponent Fort White on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m.

BHS boys drop opener to Bolles

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Taz Curry recorded a double-double, but the Bradford High School boys basketball team dropped its regular-season opener, losing 68-57 to visiting Bolles on Dec. 1.

Curry had 24 points and 10 rebounds, while also coming away with five steals. Chris Cummings scored 15 points and six steals.

D.J. Mackey and Matthew Crawford scored six and five points, respectively, while Tavi'en Young had three points. J'cobi Harris and Jordan Hill each had two points.

Mackey finished with nine

rebounds, while Jordan Lee had six assists.

BHS girls come up short of 3 in a row

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

After an 0-2 start, the Bradford High School girls basketball team won two in a row, but host Middleburg prevented them from improving to 3-2 as the Tornadoes lost 54-44 on Dec. 4.

The Tornadoes (2-3) were led by Olyvia Griffin and Jah'mya Henderson, who had 13 and 12 points, respectively. Chloe Raab and Jade Baker had six and five points, respectively, while Raynisha Hunter and Regina Roberts each had four.

Hunter grabbed 11 rebounds, while Griffin had four steals.

Bradford travels to play District 4-5A opponent Interlachen on Thursday, Dec. 7, at 6 p.m. before returning home to play Williston on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m., following a junior varsity game at 6 p.m.

Prior to playing Middleburg, Bradford opened district play with two wins, the first of which came against visiting Fort White on Nov. 28 by a score of 51-41.

Griffin and Raab scored 11 and 10 points, respectively, while Baker, Henderson and Sara Foster each scored seven. Hunter had five points, while Roberts and Dezirae Tabet each added two.

Hunter and Raab had eight and seven rebounds, respectively, while Foster had six. Griffin had seven steals and dished out three assists.

On Dec. 1, Henderson's 20 points were all Bradford needed in a 60-9 win over host Pierson Taylor.

Griffin and Hunter each scored 12 points, while Roberts had four. Foster and Raab each had two.

Foster grabbed 10 rebounds, while Griffin and Raab each had four steals. Henderson added three assists.

KHHS girls soccer team is 3-1 in district

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

A 4-1 win over visiting Newberry on Dec. 4 gave the Keystone Heights High School girls soccer team a 3-1 record in District 5-2A.

Keystone (5-5) opened the

season with an 8-1 district win over Williston on Nov. 7 before losing 5-1 to Columbia on Nov. 8 and 6-3 to Suwannee on Nov. 10. The Indians recorded an 8-0 win over St. Francis on Nov. 13 and a 9-1 win over Trinity Christian on Nov. 16 before losing 9-3 to West Nassau on Nov. 20.

Santa Fe handed the Indians a 5-1 district loss on Nov. 28 in Alachua, but Keystone rebounded with a home district win over Crescent City on Nov. 30 by a score of 3-2. The Indians then lost 8-0 to visiting Clay on Dec. 1.

Head coach Roger Laurent has not responded to email requests for player stats.

The Indians played district opponent Interlachen this past Tuesday and will host district opponent Fort White on Friday, Dec. 8, at 5 p.m. Keystone then travels to play Crescent City on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 6 p.m.

KHHS boys soccer team is 0-3 in district

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Visiting Newberry shut out the Keystone Heights High School

boys soccer team 1-0 on Dec. 4, handing the Indians their fourth loss in six matches and keeping them winless in District 5-2A.

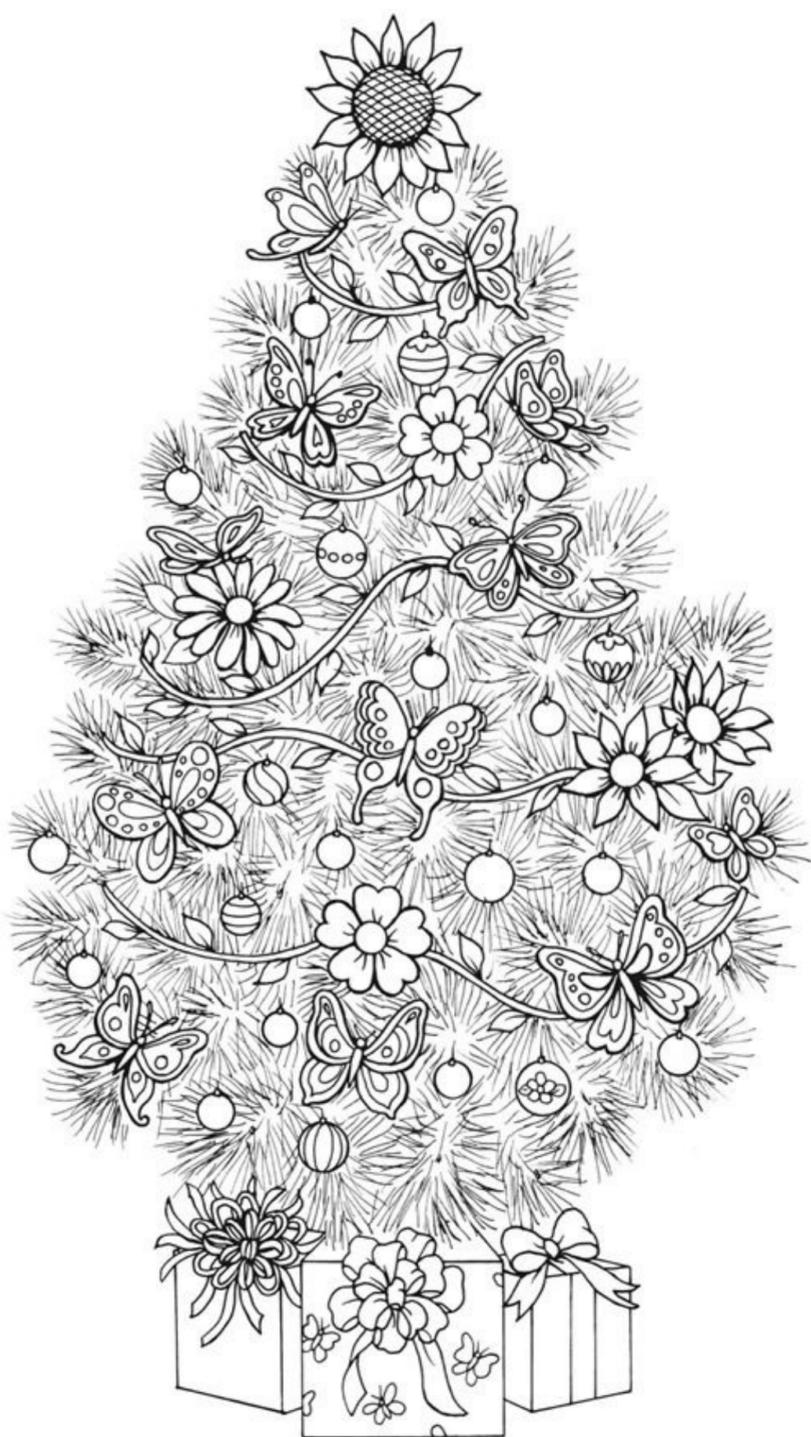
Keystone (5-4-1, 0-3) played its first two district matches on Nov. 28 and Nov. 30, losing 5-0 to visiting Santa Fe and 5-0 to host Crescent City.

The Indians did pick up a win against non-district opponent Orange Park, defeating the host Raiders 2-1 on Dec. 1. Alex Cruz and Ryan Turner each scored a goal, with Cruz assisting on Turner's goal.

Keystone's junior varsity team, which was also shut out by Santa Fe and Crescent City, lost 5-1 to Orange Park, with Christopher Anderson scoring the lone goal.

The varsity team played district opponent Interlachen this past Tuesday and will host district opponent Fort White on Friday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. Keystone travels to play district opponent P.K. Yonge on Monday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m. before returning home to play Crescent City on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m.

Keystone's JV team plays prior to the Dec. 12 Crescent City match at 5:30 p.m.



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JV girls win, varsity goes 0-2 in KHHS Turkey Shootout

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

With the way the Keystone Heights High School girls basketball program's third annual Turkey Shootout played out, the junior varsity team was probably left wanting a second helping.

The JV Indians played one of the tournament's four games and provided the lone positive result for Keystone, defeating Orange Park 32-17 on Dec. 2.

Keystone's varsity team went 0-2, losing 58-23 to Orange Park and 38-29 to Menendez. The Orange Park and Mendez varsity teams also played each other, with Orange Park winning 46-31.

An eight-player all-tournament team was selected and included one player each from the Keystone and Orange Park JV teams. Keystone's JV member was Kiley Channell, who scored all nine of her points in a first half that saw the Indians build a 16-8 lead over the Raiders.

The Indians (2-0) shut out Orange Park in the first quarter. Channell had a steal that led to the game's first basket by Nyasia McGruder. Channell then knocked down a jumper for a 4-0 lead. Dezaray Bright scored off a rebound and drew a foul, making the free throw for a 7-0 lead. Channell then closed the quarter with a three-pointer.

Orange Park scored the first six points of the second quarter, but Keystone answered with a 6-2 run, which included two straight baskets by Channell

that helped the Indians go into halftime leading by eight.

Kloey Pressley increased the Indians' lead when she made a three-pointer to start the second half scoring. She scored six points in all in the second half as Keystone went on to win by 15.

Bright finished with seven points, while McGruder and Pressley each had six. Maddy Barnhart and Trisha Woodell each added two points.

The Keystone varsity team spent much of its time in its two games playing catch-up, though the Indians (0-4) did lead after the first quarter of their first tournament game, which was the 58-23 loss to Orange Park. Haley Julius scored 10 of her team-high 16 points in the opening quarter, as Keystone held a 12-9 lead, but a couple of three-pointers to start the second quarter gave the Raiders a lead they would never relinquish.

Keystone struggled with turnovers cold shooting throughout the game. The Indians went 1-of-8 from the field in the second quarter, with the only basket — a jumper by Julius following her own rebound — not occurring until the 2:40 mark. Still, that left Keystone trailing by only five. However, the Raiders got a basket and a free throw with 14 seconds left until halftime to increase their lead by eight. Dyshaundra Harris then made a steal with seven seconds left and was fouled on a drive to the basket. She made both free throws with three seconds



The third annual Turkey Shootout All-Tournament Team (l-r): Orange Park's Tori Cole and Dyronna Harris, Orange Park JV player Shameka Moore, Keystone JV player Kylie Channell, Menendez's Darnisha Varnes and Aryelle Wagner (MVP), and Keystone's Haley Julius and Victoria Snider.

remaining to give Orange Park a 24-14 lead.

The Raiders outscored Keystone 9-2 to start the third quarter, getting two of its two of its four field goals off backcourt turnovers by Keystone. A rebound putback by Destiny Bright and a baseline jumper by Julius provided the only points of the quarter for the Indians, who committed more than 10 turnovers as the Raiders built a 36-18 lead.

Bright and Savannah Channell finished with four and two points, respectively, while Victoria Snider added one point.

In the 38-29 loss to Menendez, the Indians were held scoreless for more than five minutes, but Snider's rebound putback tied the score at 2-2 late in the first quarter. Aryelle Wagner scored two straight baskets for Menendez, which then got a three-pointer from Darnisha Varnes. Snider had a basket down low to send the Indians into the second quarter trailing 9-4.

Anteria Evans had two three-pointers early in the second quarter for Menendez, but a two-point field goal by Channell and a three-pointer by Julius helped Keystone keep the Falcons'

lead at single digits. Two free throws by Bright made it a 19-11 game with 1:32 remaining until halftime. With 1.5 seconds left, Varnes made 1-of-2 technical free throws to give Menendez a nine-point halftime lead.

Keystone scored six straight to open the second half. Snider, who finished with a team-high 10 points, scored the first two baskets, while a jumper by Emily Pressley pulled the Indians within 20-17. Menendez then scored the next eight points before Julius ended the drought with a pull-up jumper, which made the score 28-19 entering the fourth quarter.

The Indians' Victoria Bannon scored on a drive to the basket to open the fourth. She also grabbed a couple of defensive rebounds before teammate Madison Heskett had a layup off a drive by Channell to make the score 28-23. Snider later banked in a foul-line jumper to keep Keystone within five points, but the Indians missed their next five field-goal attempts. The Falcons increased their lead to 36-25, giving them a cushion with which to close out the win.

Julius finished with nine

points. She and Snider were named to the all-tournament team, which also consisted of Menendez's Varnes and Wagner, Orange Park's Tori Cole and Dyronna Harris and Orange Park JV player Shameka Moore. Wagner was named tournament MVP.

Bannon, Bright, Channell, Heskett and Pressley each scored two points for Keystone in the loss to Menendez.

The tournament also featured a three-point competition. Keystone JV player McGruder shared the lead with several other players, making seven in one minute. However, Orange Park's Harris eventually won by making 10.

Keystone varsity head coach Jessica Carter wished to express her thanks to the tournament sponsors: UF Health ORTHOcare, Vulcan Materials Company, Roberts Insurance, Karts and Robbers, Northway Roofing, Scott Bannon Life and Health Insurance, Handi House Inc., Skipper Property Solutions, Shear Creation, Fancy Nails and Spa, Legacy Homecare Inc. and the Julius and Teemley families.

KHHS girls are 0-2 in district after loss to Rams

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

The Keystone Heights High School girls basketball team won the District 4-5A championship the last two seasons, but the Indians are currently in an 0-2 hole after opening the season with two straight district losses.

On Nov. 28, visiting Newberry outscored the Indians 43-18 in handing Keystone a 67-52 loss.

Savannah Channell, who scored eight of Keystone's first-half points, finished with a team-high 23, while Haley Julius scored nine in the third quarter to finish with 14. Victoria Snider added nine points, while Victoria Bannon, Madison Heskett and Skylar Rollins each had two.

It was another big first half for the opponent when Keystone traveled to Interlachen for a 39-

37 loss on Nov. 30.

The Rams led 30-11 at the half, but the Indians surged back in the second half before coming up short.

Channell and Julius scored nine and six points, respectively, in the second half, with Channell finishing with a team-high 12. Julius had 10 points, while Bright had six. Snider, Lexie Northway and Emily Pressley each had two

points, while Heskett had one.

Keystone (0-4) dropped another two games at its third annual Turkey Shootout on Dec. 2 (see related story).

The Indians host district opponent Fort White on Thursday, Dec. 7, before traveling to play Newberry on Monday, Dec. 11. Both games tip off at 7 p.m. following 5:30 p.m. junior varsity games.

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LEGALS

NOTICE
The New River Community Health Center Board of Directors will meet Wednesday, December 13 at 395 West Main Street, Lake Butler, FL 32054 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. 12/7 1tchg-B-sect

NOTICE OF ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a proposed ordinance, which title hereinafter appears, will be considered for enactment by the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida at a public hearing on December 21, 2017 at 6:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, at the County Commission Chambers in the North Wing of the Bradford County Courthouse, located at 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida. Copies of said ordinance may be inspected by any member of the public at the Office of the County Clerk, located at 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida, during regular business hours. On the date, time and place first above mentioned, all interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA AMENDING ARTICLE IV OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY CODE TO REVISE THE BRADFORD COUNTY PURCHASING PROCEDURES; PROVIDING DIRECTION TO STAFF; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING DIRECTION TO THE CODIFIER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published.

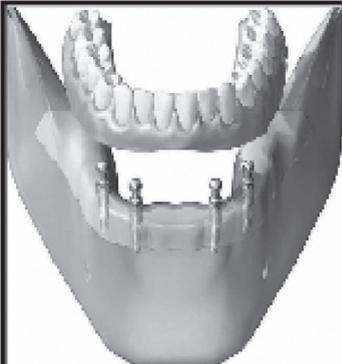
All persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at the public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in the meeting are requested to notify the Clerk of the Court, Bradford County Courthouse, Starke, Florida, 904-966-6280 at least two business days in advance; if you are hearing or voice impaired call 1-800-955-8771. 12/7 1tchg-B-sect

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James 4:12 — There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save.

OBITUARIES



Robert Baker

Robert Baker

LAWTEY— Robert Lafayette Baker, age 89, of Lawtey passed away on Monday, Nov. 27, 2017 at North Florida Regional Medical Center. He was born in Plant City, Florida on Sept. 13, 1928 to the late James Quill Baker and Eunice Stafford Baker. Robert graduated from Plant City High School and shortly after started his longtime career in the Agricultural Fertilizing field. He served as a Crew Member for 17 years at C.F. Industries until retiring in 1991. Robert was an amazing husband who loved taking care of his wife and he enjoyed fishing and farming in his spare time. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife of many years, Ann O'Neal Baker; his sisters, Mary Esther Thomas and Aquilla Kennedy; and daughter, Kathy Fawcett.

Robert is survived by: his loving children, James Baker, Barry (Kathryn) Baker, Timothy Baker, Susan Baker (Doug) Williamson, and Teresa Baker Creamer; his sister, Althea Cannon; six grandchildren, eighteen great-grandchildren, and seven great great-grandchildren.

A Celebration Service will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 3:00 pm at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel with Pastor Johnnie T. Hobbs officiating. Arrangements are under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel, Starke. 904-964-5757. Visit www.ferreirafuneralservices.com to sign the family's guest book.

PAID OBITUARY

Richard Baldree

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS— Richard Dean Baldree, 64, of Keystone Heights died at his home, surrounded by his family on Sunday, Dec. 3, 2017 after a brief illness. He was born on Jan. 9, 1953 in Orange Park to Bobby Baldree and Emma (Frisbee) Baldree. He was a member of Lake Hill Baptist Church. He was a lifelong resident of Clay County and retired from E.I. DuPont. He was preceded in death by: father, Bobby Baldree; and son, Chris Payton.

He is survived by: his daughter, Pamela Baldree of Worthington Springs; mother, Emma Baldree of Keystone Heights; brother, Joey (Linda) Baldree of Starke; sisters, Barbara Bradley of Keystone Heights, and Donna (Dave) Lawson of Green Cove Springs; four grandchildren; and many other family members.

Graveside services were held Dec. 6 at Hall-Gadara Cemetery in Keystone Heights. Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Keystone Heights.

Sandra Bostick

LAKE BUTLER— Sandra Holzhauser Bostick, 68, of Lake Butler died on Sunday, Dec. 3, 2017. She is the daughter of the late Frank Holzhauser and Janet Sheriffe.

She is survived by: her husband of 22 years, William Bostick; daughter, Stefanie Combs; step daughter, Nadia Renoll; sister, Norma Laerty; half-sister, Lynn Holzhauser-Rosa; four grandchildren; and many other family members.

Services will be held at a later date. Arrangements are under the care of Archer Funeral Home, Lake Butler.



Thomas Crosby

Thomas Crosby

HAWTHORNE— Thomas "Tom" Andrew Crosby, age 53, of Hawthorne passed away on Monday, Nov. 27, 2017. He was born in Warwick, RI on Aug. 11, 1964 to the late Stanley W. Crosby, Jr. and Dorothy Marie Henchy Crosby.

Tom grew up in Rhode Island and graduated from Warwick High School. Shortly after graduation, Tom joined the United States Navy where he proudly served this country for many years as an Operation Specialist. In March of 2004, Tom retired from the military and relocated to Starke. He pursued his second career at Florida State Prison where he was currently serving as a Sergeant. On Dec. 14, 2006, Tom married the love of his life, Constance Ramsey. Tom was a motorcycle enthusiast who loved attending all Bike Fests and riding his Honda motorcycle. He also enjoyed collecting guns and target practicing. Most of all, Tom loved his family and enjoyed spending time with them. He was preceded in death by: his parents; his sister, Joan O'Loone; and his step son-in-law, Marvin Dunn.

Tom is survived by: his loving wife of 10 years, Constance Goins of Portsmouth, VA; his step-children, Robert Stone of Hampton, Michael (Jules) Stone, Jennifer Dunn, and Tommy Joe Goins, III all of Portsmouth, VA; his sister, Claudia (Edward) Read of Warwick, RI; his niece, Danielle Greenberg; and his nephew, Mark (Rachel) Read; his great niece, Jessica Greenberg; nine grandchildren and one great-grandson on the way.

A Celebration of Tom's Life was held on Dec. 4 at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel with Dr. Robert Stone officiating. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the American Diabetes's Associations P.O. Box 15829, Arlington, VA 22215 in honor of Tom's life. Arrangements are under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel, Starke. Visit www.ferreirafuneralservices.com to sign the family's guest book. 904-964-5757.

PAID OBITUARY

Steven Fautt

JACKSONVILLE— Steven Michael Fautt, 31, of Jacksonville died on Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2017.

He is survived by: his mother and father, Steven C. Fautt and Faith Fautt; step mother, Jackie Fautt; grandmother, Velma Griffiths; brother, Eddie Foley; and sister, Ciara Kearns.

A funeral service was held on Dec. 6 at Archer Funeral Home Memorial Chapel. Arrangements are under the care of Archer Funeral Home, Lake Butler.

Daniel Harden

PROVIDENCE— Daniel A. "Dannie" Harden, 74, of Providence, died Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2017 at the Haven-Suwannee Valley Hospice Care Center with his family by his side. He was born in High Springs on Feb. 5, 1943 to the late William Dan and Eula Bryan Harden. He graduated from Union County High School and was a retired mechanic from the Army/National Guard. He was a member of the Hopeful Baptist Church in Lake City and is preceded in death by his son, John Daniel Harden; and his brother, Perry Harden.

He is survived by: his wife of 49 years, Emily Harden of Providence; son, Robert (Kari) Harden of Providence; three grandchildren; and many other family members.

Funeral services will be conducted on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel of Gateway-Forest Lawn Funeral Home with Rev. Zeb Cook and Rev. Kenneth Edenfield officiating. Interment will follow in Old Providence Baptist Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Friday evening, from 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider donations to the Hopeful Baptist Church Building Fund or The Cross Church Building Fund. Arrangements are under the direction and care of Gateway-Forest Lawn Funeral Home, Lake City.

Louis LaFache Jr.

STARKE— Louis Francis LaFache Jr., 81, of Starke died Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2017 at his home. He was born March 21, 1936 in Utica, NY to the late Louis Francis LaFache, Sr. and Dorothy Robinson LaFache. He graduated with a Master's Degree in Mathematics. After retiring from teaching he worked in the real estate industry as a sales agent. He is preceded in death by: his parents; and son-in-law, Richard D. Moskal.

He is survived by: children, Deborah Giffune, Diana Moskal, and Louis F. LaFache III all of Utica; brothers, Paul E. LaFache, and Anthony J. LaFache Esq.; sisters, Theresa Tripolone, and Elizabeth Sacco; and three grandchildren.

A Memorial Mass will be held on Friday, Dec. 8 in Utica, officiated by his cousin, Reverend Anthony P. LaFache. Arrangements are under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel, Starke.



Annie Mann

Annie Mann

LAKE BUTLER— Annie Melody (Hollingsworth) Mann passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2017. She lived most of her life in Lake Butler up until three months ago. She loved working her word find and word search books as well as watching TV. She was also known for loving the color pink. She was known by everyone for the unconditional and deep love she had for her son. He was her whole life on this earth. She took great joy in growing beautiful flowers. She loved butterflies and their beauty. She is preceded in death by: her parents, Jesse Earl (Red) Hollingsworth, Letha Mae (Banks) Hollingsworth; two brothers, James Lee (Jimmy) Hollingsworth, and Stanley J. Hollingsworth.

Annie Leaves her memory to be cherished by her family and friends. Annie was loved by many and will be missed.

She is survived by: her beloved

son, Marvin Perry (Brenda) Mann Jr. of Colorado; sister, Frances Earline (Albert) Green of Lacrosse; and brother, Joseph Paul Hollingsworth of Winter Park.

A Graveside service was held for Annie on Friday, Dec. 1, at Dekle Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care of Archer Funeral Home, Lake Butler.

PAID OBITUARY

Robert Montana

MELROSE— Robert B. Montana, 90, of Melrose died on Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017 at Haven Hospice E. T. York Care Center in Gainesville. He was born on Aug. 19, 1927 in Miami to Anthony Barreca and Margaret Giacotti. He was a WWII veteran in the U. S. Marine Corps and a Police Officer with the City of Miami for 22 years before retiring. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Keystone Heights. He is preceded in death by: his parents; and his sister, Mary Ann Trevisani.

He is survived by: his wife of 62 years, Phyllis B. Montana of Melrose; daughter, Robyn Montana of Gainesville; brothers, Frank Barreca of Dunnellon and Tony (Jacque) Barreca of Ocala; two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and many other family members.

Funeral services were held Dec. 5 with Pastor Daniel Finley officiating. Burial followed in Keystone Heights Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First Baptist Church of Keystone Heights Youth Group or to the American Cancer Society. Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Keystone Heights.



Sylvia Tillman

Sylvia Tillman

JACKSONVILLE— Sylvia Grace Tillman, 80, of Jacksonville died Monday, Dec. 4, 2017 at St. Vincent's Medical Center Southside in Jacksonville. She was born April 25, 1937 in Rosehill, NC. She is predeceased by her parents, Harry Gibbons Fussell and Grace Cavanaugh; brothers, David and Harry Fussell; father of her sons, Herbert Leroy McAnnally.

She is survived by: sons, Stephen

David McAnnally of Jacksonville, Paul William (Lori) McAnnally of Virginia, Patrick Gibbons (Heather) McAnnally of Middleburg; and four grandchildren.

A Celebration of life will be held on Sunday, Dec. 10 at 2:00 p.m. at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel

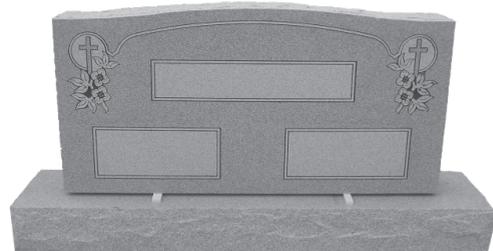
with Pastor Robert M. Griner officiating. Interment will follow at New River Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel, Starke.

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The Weekly Paw Print:

One of the best things about being a pet parent is how much they love to play, and choosing the best toys is an important part of your relationship. Whether you are playing a game of fetch or watching him roll around to entertain himself, toys are an important part of your pet's well-being. What should you consider when choosing the best ones? You will want to consider the age and size of your pet when making a selection. Most toys have age and weight recommendations on the package. It is good to remember No dog toy is indestructible! If they were truly indestructible they would probably be way too hard and could damage your pet's teeth. Durable toys are a much safer and appropriate choice than shoes, cell phones, and other valuables! I highly recommend a chew toy with food/treat dispensing or ones that require your pet to solve a puzzle. Toys that encourage pets to interact with the toy will keep them busy and appropriately engage them for extended playtime. A high quality pet toy can also be used to feed a dog's regular daily portion of food by making them work longer to obtain the food rather than scarfing their food from a bowl in less than 5 seconds. Having to work a bit to gain a meal also promotes appropriate activity, which our pets often don't get enough of, and can aid in weight loss. They also help to keep them thinking and learning, which promotes better cognitive health. Always supervise your pet with a new toy to determine how it holds up to regular play. If the toy becomes damaged replace it with a new toy. I know we want these toys to last forever but your pet's teeth are designed to rip, tear and crush. The best you can do is provide appropriately made toys for this fun activity and replace them when necessary!

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53 A Yard Sales

3-FAMILY yard sale across street from vo-tech.

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GARAGE SALE Fri. & Sat. 8-1. X-mas, collectibles, furniture, house wares, books, puzzles, luggage, TV's, clothes, outdoor and handyman items along with some free stuff and a cup of coffee and cookies while you look. Morgan Road (CR 233). Look for signs.

53 B Keystone Yard Sales

YARD SALE; INSIDE. Theresa Community Center. Friday and Saturday 8am-4pm. Tools, trailers, plus much more.

GARAGE SALE at 5154 SE 7th Ave., Keystone. Fri. and Sat. from 8:30 to 4:00. Many Christmas decorations, audio books, antiques household items, weed eaters, cookers, craft supplies, cub cadet riding lawn mower (need repairs)

Yard Sale Saturday 8am-12pm. Lots of stuff. 105 Valley Road, Starke

53 C Lake Butler Yard Sales

WORTHINGTON SPRINGS; 5057 119th Loop (little springs rd) off 121. Large men and women's clothing, Christmas items and much more. Fri.-Sun. after 9am-7

65 Help Wanted

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HELP WANTED UNION COUNTY POSITION: Director, Union County Emergency Medical Services

JOB DUTIES/DESCRIPTION: As the UCEMS Director he/she must oversee and manage an advanced life support (ALS) EMS Service that treats a population

of over 15,500 citizens, utilizes 4 ALS equipped ambulances, and employees twenty-five plus EMT's and paramedics on a 24 hour basis. He/She will be responsible and accountable for a 1.8 million dollar budget, patient billing, in-house budgeting, fleet management, state records organization, medical direction updates, progressive ALS and BLS training, employee scheduling, with emphasis on supervisory oversight on all administrative and operational details pertaining to all pre-hospital care of patients both non-emergent and emergent. QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum of 4 years of field experience as a Certified EMT-B or Certified EMT-P. Must be proficient in all EMS operations to include: Staff scheduling, budget preparation, EMS supervisory skills, Florida Administration Code 64J, Incident Command Structure (ICS), National Incident Management System, Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), grant writing skills, and strong communication skills. Applications must be submitted to the Union County Board of County Commissioners. The office is located at 15 NE 1st Street, Lake Butler, Florida 32054. Union County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Veteran Preference. Deadline for submitting applications will be December 13, 2017

EXPERIENCED APARTMENT CLEANER as needed. Apply at The Heritage Villas Apartment Office 607 Bradford Court, Starke FL 32091.

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TEMPORARY Farm Labor: Clark & Co., Shelby, MS, has 8 positions, 3 mo. assisting cultivating, insecticide & fertilizer application, planting, harvesting of cotton, soybeans, rice crops, transporting cotton & oilseed crops; clean & maintain building, equip & vehicles; long periods of standing, bending & able to lift 75#; must be able to obtain driver's license with clean MVR within 30 days; once hired, workers may be required to take employer paid random drug tests; testing positive/failure to comply may result in immediate termination from employment; employer provides free tools, equipment,

housing and daily trans; trans & subsistence expenses reimb.; \$10.38/hr, increase based on experience, may work nights, weekends, holidays & asked but not required to work Sabbath; 75% work period guaranteed from 2/1/18 - 12/1/18. Review ETA790 requirements and apply with Job Order MS238899 at nearest FL Workforce Office or call 850-245-7105.

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LEFT: Sylvia Reddish (far right) and Sylvia Tatum find some gifts to their liking at a table manned by Transition Academy student Navea Hall (far left). BELOW LEFT: Bradford County Sheriff Gordon Smith purchases his items from Transition Academy teacher Lisa Gault.



truck and get it all in for the ladies, so they can start putting it on the shelves," Gault said. "They really like our guys."

Starling and Noah Paul are examples of students who have paid jobs. Starling works at Walmart, while Paul works at Popeye's.

"It wasn't the original job I was aiming for," Paul said, "but it pays, so it's fine."

Starling, who wrangles carts at Walmart, said he, too, doesn't have the type of job he'd want to do on a long-term basis. That's OK, though. Employment Specialist Kim Paige said she tells the students it's all about getting that initial experience. She tells them she hated her first job, which was in fast food.

"There's nothing like getting your foot in the door and getting that first job and getting your first paycheck," Paige said.

Starling admitted he'd be OK staying at Walmart and moving up, adding that the chance to work there in any capacity right now is "pretty cool."

Paul may not want to work at Popeye's forever, but he sounded as if he's enjoying learning new skills.

"I've never actually worked at a fast-food restaurant before," Paul said, adding, "I guess you

learn new ways of how to cook food."

Long-term jobs or not, Transition Academy students relish the idea of having work to do and are eager in doing it, Paige said. She added that the hope is that employers and others in the community see just what the students have to offer, which can lead to more job opportunities.

"They like working hard. That's the big thing," Paige said. "Once they get that opportunity to get in there, people see what they can do."

Learning life skills and getting the opportunity to have a job — those are the kinds of things that instill confidence in an individual. With that confidence sometimes comes a change in personality. Gault said people have told her they've seen Starling at Walmart and that he's talked to them.

After Gault recounted this story, Starling said, "I always do that." Gault told him, "No, you were a little quiet there for a while."

The same can be said of student Greer Gibson.

"I wish I had videoed him from day one because he came to me so quiet," Gault said. "Now, he talks to everybody. People say, 'Wow. He's really come out of his shell.' I'm like, 'Yeah, you can't hang out with us in the BTA and not come out of your shell.'"

Working at the Transition Academy has been rewarding for Gault, who is in her fourth year at the academy and in her 34th year of teaching overall. It wasn't something she envisioned herself doing, but she's glad she got the opportunity.

"I enjoy the kids," Gault said. "Every day, I leave laughing about something."

Gault also likes to always have something to do, so teaching in the academy is good in that regard. After all, she and the students have next year's Holiday Showcase to get ready for.



ABOVE: Transition Academy student Navea Hall (center) is pictured with Kiersten French (left) and Nya Sylvester. RIGHT: Customer Robert Hankerson picks out some items to his liking.



SKILLS

Continued from 1B

The Transition Academy, which currently consists of 11 students, is a program that provides, as its name indicates, transition services to special-needs students (ages 18-22) after high school. Students receive continuing education and vocational training and opportunities.

"Our goal is to get them employed and to give them life skills," Gault said.

Students learn how to put together résumés and fill out job applications. They learn how to go shopping. They learn how to cook. The day before this past Holiday Showcase, for example,

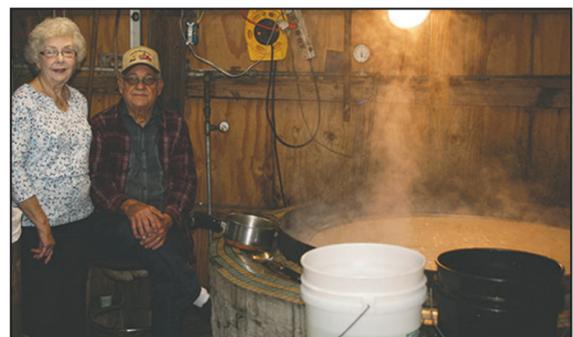
the smell of pancakes wafted through the air of the Transition Academy classroom.

"We just want them to be self-sufficient as much as possible," Gault said. "We're going to take them to whatever level they can get to. It might not be much in some people's eyes, but to us, sometimes it's a really big deal how far they go."

Some students are volunteers at job sites in order to gain work experience. Travis Curtner, for example, works as a volunteer at Save-A-Lot.

Transition Academy students volunteer at the Bradford Food Pantry, where you can find them on Tuesdays unloading bread deliveries.

"It takes the boys a good 30 to 45 minutes to unload the bread



Clifford and Roy Jackson next to the large pot filled with cane juice just beginning to heat up at the start of the cooking process.

SYRUP

Continued from 2B

sugar," Roy noted. "A fellow gave me some to try, but it won't grow here. It needs a boggy soil. But that's OK. The kind I grow would not work for making sugar."

While the store, and sugar cane, keep them busy, the Jackson both have other things they enjoy when they have the time.

"Roy likes to fish for pan fish in the Ocklawaha River with his fishing buddy, Glenn Morgan," Clifford said. "Glenn's wife, Betty, is my good friend and we ride along and shop in Ocala while they are out fishing. Besides that, I do enjoy making and decorating cakes for my family and doing flowers for our church, Bayless Highway Baptist, where we have been members since 1999."

"We have always been small business people," Roy is quick to point out. "We never wanted to get into big business."

"We could probably sell the sausage on the Internet, but at this stage in our lives it seems like that would just be too much hard work," Clifford added. "As it is, I believe we have sold sausage to people from just about every state in the union and Roy's sausage is well known in many places."

The syrup seems to take longer to make than to sell, as two cases of fifths headed out the door

before the bottling was even done on a batch. It is good and a taste that cannot be found in today's overly processed foods.

Roy's Grocery is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. It is located at 12876 S.E. 21st Ave. about a mile and a half off S.R. 100 (traveling toward Keystone Heights) in Bradford County.

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