

Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 – STARKE, FLORIDA

THURSDAY, SEPT. 11, 2014

135TH YEAR – 7TH ISSUE – 75 CENTS

INSIDE: SANTA FE COLLEGE AMONG TOP TEN • WOMEN BEHIND BARS

The results are in Hampton has a (mostly) new council

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

The town that wanted to save itself from abolishment now has new leadership, although turnout for the election in Hampton was less than enthusiastic.

Incumbent Councilman Bill Goodge received the most love from the voters. He won the highest number of votes among the council candidates, 53. Dan Williams and Frank Bryant were just one vote behind, receiving 52 each.

These three candidates will be awarded seats one, three and

five and serve until November 2018 per the terms of Charter Amendment 5, which passed 67 to 11.

Winning seats two and four were Crystal Turner, with 51 votes, and Michael David Armes, with 45 votes. They will serve through November 2016.

Freddie Johnston, who received 38 votes, was not elected to the council.

Based on the results of Charter Amendment 3, Gene Brannock will serve as Hampton's mayor. He was the only candidate to qualify to run as mayor and the

amendment to eliminate the

mayor as a separately elected office was defeated by a vote of 46-32.

In voting this way, Hampton may have created something of a charter crisis for itself, as Amendment 5, which also passed, reduces the number of seats on the council from six to five. The language presumed passage of Amendment 3 and the elimination of the mayor.

The elected position axed by a vote of 51-27 was that of town marshal.

Amendments 1 and 2 were also passed by voters. By a vote of 63-15, voters moved the date

Hampton's New Council

Bill Goodge Dan Williams Frank Bryant
Crystal Turner Michael Armes Gene Brannock

Hampton's New Charter

Move Election Hire Elections Supervisor
Keep Mayor Eliminate Town Marshal
Cut Council Positions/Set Terms of Office

of future elections to November to coincide with other general elections. By a vote of 62-16, the supervisor of elections was put in charge of conducting those

elections. Judging by the turnout, the election didn't set voters in the city on fire. Fewer voted in the city council election than

voted for Starke's tax abatement referendum last week. Only 33.3 percent of Hampton's voters participated. A total of only 79 ballots were cast.

Middle school PBS team up to the challenge

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

Before they are Tornados, they are Hurricanes. Like the elementary grades before them, the middle school grades are a training ground for what comes next, but the growing pains associated with students in that age range mean the faculty, staff and administrators at Bradford Middle School really do have their work cut out for them.

It is with that in mind that they are embracing the concept of positive behavior support, helping students transition by focusing on what they do well so they have an exceptional opinion of themselves and an extraordinary amount of school spirit.

Fortunately they have a sizeable team up to the task who are as excited as the students are excited. The PBS team is Cassie Melvin, Nikki Snyder, Sheila Evans, Veronica Gaskins, James Kovar, Michael Loffredo, Stacy Crawford and Stephanie Nelson. Melvin said they reach out to other teachers as well to attend meetings and lend their ideas and support.

"This year, we have really tried to put more school spirit back into the middle school by decorating the front office with school colors and making it more welcoming for parents, students and faculty," Melvin said. "We also bought backpacks filled with school supplies and did a raffle on parent night, and drew tickets for four students who attended from each grade level to win."

The team came up with its own inventive take on the now infamous ice bucket challenge to benefit the ALS Association and other ALS charities in their fight against amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. In this version, students were helping their school, casting votes for a quarter each during their lunch times to decide which of their teachers would take the chilly challenge.



Bradford Middle School teacher Eric Verunac was one of five adults students voted to take the ice bucket challenge to benefit ALS and the school's positive behavior support program. Everyone gathered after a pep rally on Tuesday to watch the teachers and assistant principal get drenched. Students raised \$200 and the BMS PBS team called out the PBS team at the high school to take the challenge next.

It wasn't just the dousing that was inspired by the ALS challenge. During the middle school PBS challenge, the middle school team nominated the PBS team at the high school to take the challenge next.

Melvin said the challenge is about promoting positive relationships between students and adults and bringing some fun to the campus. And because it was inspired by the ALS challenge, the will be donating a portion of the funds raised for the PBS program to an ALS charity.

Ways in which the PBS team is rewarding students for achieving positive goals include a schoolwide grade level challenge. The grade that accumulates the fewest absences will be listening to the music of their choice during lunchtime.

"We also have some other big rewards in the making," she said.

Also involved in the effort, of course, is the middle school's top administrators. Mallory McConnell was promoted to principal this year, while Ray Schaefer moved into her former role as assistant principal.

"I am incredibly excited and honored to be the new principal," McConnell said. "I am extremely passionate about the students and staff at Bradford Middle School. I love this community and am eager to make sure everyone has positive experiences with our school."

According to the principal, those positive experiences will stem from the culture of excellence they are continuing to build at BMS.

"I believe we have what it takes to create challenging, yet rewarding academic and social experiences for our students," she said.

McConnell said working together with parents, the staff at Bradford Middle School can create real-life experiences for students that will help prepare them to be successful and productive members of society.

See BMS, 3A

Starke leaders overpaid themselves And other discoveries in the state audit

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

It looks like Starke will withstand the release of its audit by the state without the apocalyptic fervor that surrounded Hampton's probe.

The state posted the audit report last week, and while there was no shortage of inadequate procedures and improper practices uncovered by auditors — at total of 35 — they do not include same degree of abuses and mismanagement of funds and records that have led to a criminal investigation of Hampton officials.

But for anyone keeping score, Starke accumulated 35 audit criticisms to Hampton's 31.

Auditors discovered a lot of opportunities for malfeasance, but no strong evidence that any existed. Sometimes the city was being downright wasteful or inefficient. Many the problems noted seem to be the result of poor practices or ignorance of what the rules were or should be.

That includes the commissioners awarding themselves and other elected officials raises when their salaries are set by an ordinance

that doesn't specify they should get pay raises anytime raises were funded for their employees. The city also paid out a staggering amount of overtime to some employees, sometimes as much as 71 percent of the employee's base salary.

Other issues included failure to pursue overdue utility accounts and business license fees, a failure to always follow the city's purchasing policies, and a lack of evidence to show that some credit card purchases served a public purpose. There were also issues with contractual services, including the payment of a former annual auditor for services that were not covered by contract.

The audit primarily covers the period from October 2010 to September 2013 during which Linda Johns was serving as clerk and Ricky Thompson and Marc Oody served as operations managers. Commissioners were Tommy Chastain, Danny Nugent, Carolyn Spooner, Wilbur Waters and Travis Woods.

The 35 findings are separated into several categories.

General Management Controls and Oversight
1. Organizational Structure

Auditors first call out the city for its failure to follow its code and hire a city manager. Though the city had reasons for hiring an operations manager instead, including budgetary reasons and the inability to find a fully qualified candidate who also had experience with electric utilities, the result was a breakdown in the organizational structure of the city. Duties assigned by code to the city manager were performed by the city clerk while the operations manager focused on utilities. Those responsibilities included: administering personnel matters, supervising expenditures to ensure budgeted appropriations were not exceeded, advising the commission as to the financial condition and future needs of the city, administering the competitive procurement process, signing contracts, and preparing and presenting the annual budget.

The result was that the clerk was over duties that should have been separate, including budget preparation, revenue collection, expenditure approval, disbursements, accounting records and the preparation of meeting minutes. That combination of duties

See AUDIT, 8A

Starke cuts budget going into hearings

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

Starke's second budget workshop was an exercise in cost cutting, as spending requests for the police and fire departments were put on hold.

Finance employee John Thieman pointed out that while the proposed budget balanced at \$16.9 million was higher than the budget approved this time last year, it is actually less than 2014's amended budget. The addition of unanticipated expenses like police cars and projects like street paving has pushed this year's budget higher, although year-to-date figures were not available during the Sept. 4 workshop.

Thieman said, as proposed, the budget for 2015 was actually down by more than 2 percent. It was reduced further during the workshop.

Commissioner Tommy Chastain pointed out that proposed budget requests had increased general fund expenditures nearly \$300,000 above what was originally targeted in 2014.

Thieman said a \$55,000 increase in what was budgeted for police patrolmen along with an \$18,500 reduction in part-time patrolmen was based on the department's actual "run rate" and was more reflective of how the 13 full-time officers and seven part-timers were being used.

Slightly more was also budgeted for officer overtime.

See BUDGET, 2A



September Garden of the Month

The Alligator Creek Garden Club is glad to recognize Arnold Messer for his hard work and pride in his home to establish it as one of the beautiful gardens in the city of Starke. Arnold along with his wife, Glenda, live off Wilson Road just a little east of Shands hospital. Arnold keeps the winter stock in the backyard nursery when the summer plants are at the best, and rotates the winter plants to the front yard when the cooler weather comes. He also enjoys his horses and travels the countryside playing bluegrass on his banjo at festivals and concerts in the spring and summer. Arnold inherited his love for the blues and bluegrass from his fiddle-playing father, Don Messer, as in The Don Messer Jubilee and Don Messer and His Islanders on CBC in the 1940s and 1960s. The club finds the yard to be a feast for the eyes.



Helping send kids to college

Rotary Club of Starke President John Smith recently presented a \$1,000 check for the Santa Fe Foundation to Santa Fe College Andrews Center Director Cheryl Canova. The Rotary Club's scholarship endowment fund has been providing scholarships to local Bradford graduates for many years.

BUDGET

Continued from 1A

Thieman said that was also based on what was actually happening with this year's budget.

"Every month you're given the financials for the city, and he (Police Chief Jeff Johnson) is running well over what we budgeted for him last year," said Thieman. It's up to the commission to reign that in by telling him make the cuts necessary to save money, he said.

"Well, he has to stay within his budget," Mayor Carolyn Spooner said. Commissioner Danny Nugent agreed. "Whatever you've got to do, you've got to adjust to meet your budget," Nugent said, although the police chief was not present to hear it. Commissioners instructed Thieman to take out the additional money for patrolmen and overtime. If the need arises during the year, they will address it with a budget amendment, they said.

Thieman agreed with that strategy based on what he said he's seen over the past year.

"What I've seen is that basically people just overspend their budgets. They don't come back to you as a commission and ask for additional monies. They just blow right through it," he said.

"If as a board, we don't address the overspending of the budget," Spooner said, "then it encourages the department head to just go ahead and overspend."

Commissioners also cut an \$84,000 request for additional police cars, simultaneously cutting the amount for debt repayment since the cars would have been purchased with loan proceeds. The city is still paying for the cars purchased earlier this year.

"Ten new cars in less than six months seems pretty drastic," said Chastain, adding the request for four more to the six already acquired. Commissioner Travis Woods said the board had been gracious so far.

"I just don't see buying the cars right now," Nugent added, saying he wanted to keep the budget as "narrow" as possible and revisit the request if there is an emergency need.

While these rejected requests may be revisited in the future, commissioners considered one request entirely out of bounds. The commission has managed

to include a 3-percent across-the-board raise for all employees in the budget, but the police chief wanted 10 percent more for his department, according to City Clerk Ricky Thompson. He told the commission about the request, but Thieman said it was never actually built into the budget.

Woods said a 3-percent cost-of-living adjustment was included for other employees and everyone should be treated equally.

"Everybody in the city would love to have a 10-percent pay raise," Woods said, but they can't afford to do that, so they are sticking by the 3-percent COLA.

Another postponement was the \$200,000 request for a new fire truck. The fire department was aiming to get a used truck and use proceeds from the sale of two outdated models to offset the cost. The department will still

attempt to market those vehicles to find out how much they will bring in, and the commission will then revisit the purchase of a newer truck. Once they are sold, however, Fire Chief Tom Rowe said the department would need to replace them without much delay.

Capital outlay in the amount of \$82,000 was left in the budget to make upgrades at the fire station that had already been put off.

The fire department is still

using a part-timer per shift to lower the cost of full-time salaries, but the inconsistent availability of part-timers means that the full-time firefighters are working more overtime. Rowe said he has added some additional part-timers to his list, and he is also looking at applying for a grant to fund another full-time position.

In the meantime, money for part-time positions and overtime is up, balanced by lowering the

request for full-time salaries.

Chastain pointed out that the cuts recommended to the 2015 budget could make it possible to lower the amount of the transfer of revenue from the utility fund to the general fund. Utility revenue has declined because sales are down, according to the finance department.

Starke's first budget hearing was scheduled for Sept. 9. The final hearing will take place at 7 p.m. on Sept. 23.

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Assistant Principal Ray Schaefer was praised for being a good sport, filling in for the chosen coach who wasn't there to take on the challenge.



Science teacher Sheila Evans fears the cold her son, Easton, and Dalton Patrick are about to inflict.



Easton Evans and Dalton Patrick have a laugh at science teacher Sheila Evans (also Easton's mom) after drenching her in ice water.

Bradford NAACP calls meeting

The Bradford County NAACP will be hosting a call meeting on Thursday, Sept. 18, at 6 p.m. at the Bradford County Public Library, 456 W. Pratt St. in Starke. This meeting is requested by George Young, director for Area 5. The chairperson for the meeting will be pastor Dr. James Jones, 904-263-8713. The public is invited.

www.facebook.com/BradfordTelegraph



Coach William Brewington mid pour.



Dylan Snyder, Rachel Roper and Nikki Snyder give it to band teacher Mike Loffredo — fancy tie, sunglasses and all.

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Tornado Touchdown Club

Invites YOU to Join Our Team!

We are a booster club made up of volunteers striving to raise the standard of excellence for our student athletes and to continue the tradition of supporting our **Tornado Football Program**.

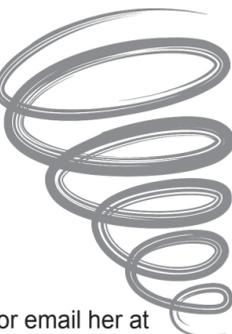
We need new Volunteers & Members

The Membership Fee is only \$20 for an entire family!

Please call Linda Cubbedge at (904)796-1063 or email her at cubbedge4@yahoo.com OR attend our next meeting on

Monday, September 15 • 6:30 pm
at the BHS Library

"We Are Tornadoes"



"GO BIG RED!"

BMS

Continued from 1A

"I am confident our students will leave our campus academically, socially and emotionally ready for not only high school but also the real world," said McConnell. "Our positive behavior support team has worked very hard this summer to create a vision for what our students should strive

to exhibit. CANES exemplify CharaCter, MotivAtion, DiscipliNe, RespEcT, and ResponSibility."

Parent and community involvement is no less important

to the middle school than it is the high school. McConnell would like to see everyone get behind the BMS Hurricane football, volleyball and cross-country teams.

"Please make an effort to join us at any of our home or away BMS Hurricane football or volleyball games as well as our cross-county meets," McConnell said.

She also touched on the school district's emphasis on school attendance. Classes who avoid excessive absences will be rewarded, but they will also do better academically, she said.

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PUBLIC AWARENESS SAFETY FIRST

1. Damage Prevention Awareness: Florida State Law, Chapter 556 in the Florida State Statue requires calling a one call center before you dig.

This does not necessarily mean only businesses. Homeowners putting in pools, clotheslines, mail boxes and playground equipment need to also consider that there could possibly be underground lines that could be tapped into. Anytime you dig for any reason a call needs to be placed to the city. The city requires a city excavation form be filled out prior to any excavation work to be done. (904-964-5322)

Sunshine State One Call of Florida, Inc. can be contacted at 811. The law requires you call two days prior to digging. This will ensure that you do not cut any buried lines. There is no cost for this service. If you need any additional information you can contact www.callsunshine.com or call the City of Starke at 904-964-5027 to have a Gas Representative come and speak with you and locate any gas lines.

LEAK RECOGNITION AND RESPONSE

What to do if you smell gas in your home or building?

- Leave immediately and tell others to leave too.
- From a safe distance call 911.
- Never try to repair a gas leak yourself! Do not turn any lights on or

off, smoke or use any phones or any equipment that could cause sparks.

Any questions call City of Starke 964-5027

Thank You!

I would like to thank all of the citizens of District 1 for their vote of confidence in electing me to represent you on the Bradford County School Board. I am both humbled and honored to assume this role and I will do my best to represent you well as we work to provide a better education for all students in Bradford County. It is my desire to be available and welcome your participation to create a learning environment that is beneficial for our students, parents, and staff. I believe that, working together, we can become a School District that everyone is proud of.

My sincerest thanks for trusting me to represent you on the Bradford County School Board.

Sheila Cummings

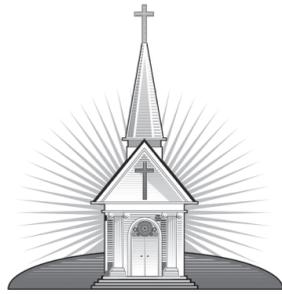


CHURCH

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church will be celebrating its ushers' anniversary on Sunday, Sept. 14, at 3 p.m. Guest church will be Greater Bethel A.M.E. of Gainesville. The Rev. Karl Smith is the speaker. Everyone is invited.

Love Grows Pentecostal Temple, located at 6947 NW C.R. 229, will be having a Family and Friends Day service on Sunday, Sept. 14, at 5 p.m. The pastor and congregation welcome you to come.

Starke Church of God by Faith, in partnership with Grace Community Fellowship Church, will present "The Art of Marriage," a six-session video event, Friday and Saturday, Sept. 12 and 13. There is a cost to attend. Visit <http://september2014aom.eventbrite.com> to register, or contact Glenda White at 904-383-9496 or glendawhite1955@gmail.com



for more information.

Mr. Pisgah A.M.E. Church will celebrate its pastor and family anniversary at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 14, with guest speaker the Rev. Cynthia Bailey of New Greater A.M.E. Church of Starke and guest choir The Bradford Gospel Ensemble. Everyone is invited.

Greater Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church will be celebrating its pastor's anniversary on Sunday, Sept. 21, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

You are invited to attend this special occasion.

Mt. Moriah Community Church will hold its first Woman's Day program, "Let's Talk Woman to Woman," with guest speaker Minister Rebecca F. Buttler of Gainesville on Sunday, Sept. 28, at 3 p.m.

Madison Street Baptist Church, 900 W. Madison St. in Starke, invites you to join the congregation Oct. 5 - 8 for nights of celebration praise and worship during its revival with guest evangelist Bro. Rick Coram and soloist Bro. Daniel Crews. Services are Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., and Monday through Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Email the details of your congregation's upcoming special events to editor@bctelegraph.com. **DEADLINE IS MONDAY AT 5 P.M.**

Hula-Hoop for health

Recognizing September as National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month, the Department of Children and Families' Office of Child Care Regulation and Background Screening has kicked off a special Hula-Hoop challenge to child care providers across Florida.

"Our department is teaming up with child care providers across the state to encourage children to be active, get moving and support healthy lifestyles at an early age," DCF Interim Secretary Mike Carroll said.

This year's theme, Healthy Options for Obesity Prevention (HOOP), challenges child care providers to be creative with Hula-Hoops — jump through hoops, roll hoops, run through hoops, make an obstacle course out of hoops, relay race and hand off hoops, yoga with hoops, dance with hoops, toss hoops, and more.

Videos, recipes, tips and photos submitted to the department will be posted on DCF's social media websites.

With obesity-related problems affecting the health and future of Florida's children, the department started a program in 2012 to provide resources and training to child care providers and families across the state to help prevent childhood obesity. The PREVENT Obesity initiative Provides Resources, Evidence, Valuable Education and Training to reach child care providers throughout Florida.

The PREVENT Obesity initiative seeks to be a catalyst in the fight against childhood obesity by ensuring child care providers are equipped with quality education, best practices and tools in the three proven areas directly linked to obesity prevention: nutrition, physical activity and limiting screen time. Tips include portion and

nutritional information, sample menus and alternative activities to screen time.

DCF's Office of Child Care Regulation and Background Screening regulates licensed child care facilities, licensed and registered family day care homes, and licensed large family child care homes in 62 of the 67 counties in Florida.

Learn to quit smoking through Suwannee River AHEC

Do you smoke? Do you dip? Do you want to quit or quit again?

"I Quit with AHEC," in partnership with Tobacco Free Florida, is a free program created by ex-smokers and led by trained facilitators who will guide you through the quitting process. Suwannee River Area Health Education Center holds free group counseling classes that meet once a week for six weeks.

In addition, Suwannee River AHEC offers a one-time, two-hour class.

The program covers all forms of tobacco including cigarettes, cigars and smokeless tobacco. Participants in the class receive support, guidance and a free one-month supply of nicotine replacement therapy, such as patches, lozenges and gum.

Research shows that tobacco users who receive counseling and use medication during their attempt to quit have twice the rate of success.

To learn more about the "I Quit with AHEC" program or to find a class in your area, call toll-free 1-866-341-2730 or visit www.ahectobacco.com. Direct any questions to Suwannee River AHEC Tobacco Program Manager Sarah Catalanotto at 386-462-1551, ext. 103, or sarahc@srahec.org.

Suwannee River AHEC serves a 12-county area including Union and Bradford. To learn more about its other services visit www.srahec.org.

ACROSS THE GARDEN FENCE

Across the Garden Fence is a column sponsored by the Bradford County Extension Service. Readers who wish to pose gardening questions should forward them to Mary Bridgman at jtd@ufl.edu.

One of my landscape trees has a shelf-like growth attached to its trunk. Should I be concerned? If so, what should I do?

Gary Hardesty, Starke

The growth you describe is a manifestation of bracket fungi, or shelf fungi, which characteristically produce shelf or bracket-shaped fruiting bodies called conks that lie in groupings of separate or connected horizontal rows. They are mainly found on living or dead trees and coarse woody debris. Sometimes, they look like mushrooms.

Bracket fungi are usually tough and sturdy, producing spores within the pores of their undersides.

A University of Pennsylvania publication I found online described the progression of this type of fungus in trees as follows:

1. A wound occurs through pruning, wind damage, lawn mower injury, excavation for buildings, curbs, or sidewalks, trenching for water and gas lines, or other similar activities.
2. The fungus enters the wound and causes a discoloration of the wood. Or, a fungus begins to rot roots directly with no wound required for entry.
3. Enzymes produced by the fungus decay the wood to release nutrients for the fungus, greatly weakening the wood fibers.
4. Wood of the internal portions of the trunk

or limbs loses strength. Or, the root structure is so weakened that physical support is greatly reduced. Limbs die giving the crown of the tree an asymmetrical shape. Small twigs and branches may litter the ground under the tree.

5. The fungus begins to reproduce by forming a mushroom, conk or shelf-like structure (fruiting structure in which spores are formed) directly on the limbs, trunk, butt, root flares or on roots at some distance from the base of the tree.

6. Larger limbs die and may fall. In the case of root rot, the entire tree may topple in a windstorm.

By the time the conk has appeared on the trunk of a tree it is a strong indication that the tree is suffering from dead wood. It is important to inspect the tree to ensure that it is structurally sound and that it is not dangerous. If the tree or major branches have rotted to the extent that they represent a physical danger, they should be immediately removed.

I found one commercial source that recommended removing the conk and spraying the area beneath with a fungicide—a product the source happened to sell. As a result, I'm a bit skeptical of that advice. If your tree appears sound, keep an eye on it and call in a qualified arborist or tree surgeon if you begin to see signs of significant decay.



Mary W. Bridgman



Help Clear The Air in Bradford County!

Join us for a meeting of **The Tobacco-Free Partnership of Bradford County.**

The partnership will be discussing upcoming projects and initiatives to reduce secondhand smoke exposure and youth access to tobacco products.

September 18, 2014 / 12:30 PM
Western Steer Family Steakhouse
1100 S. Walnut St., Starke, FL 32091

Please RSVP by September 16, 2014
via email at info@tftp-bradford.org

Visit www.tftp-bradford.org for more information.

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners has tentatively adopted a budget for fiscal year 2014-2015. A public hearing to make a FINAL DECISION on the budget AND TAXES will be held on:

Monday, September 15, 2014

at

5:30 p.m.

in the

County Commission Chambers

Bradford County Courthouse (North Wing)

945 N. Temple Avenue

Starke, Florida

BUDGET SUMMARY

Bradford County Board of County Commissioners Fiscal Year 2014-2015

*** THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES OF BRADFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE 1.5% MORE THAN LAST YEAR'S TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES.**

GENERAL FUND	6.8400				
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2.2704				
ESTIMATED REVENUES:					
Taxes:	Millage Per \$1000	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE	CAPITAL PROJECTS	TOTAL ALL FUNDS
Ad Valorem Taxes	9.1104	5,665,797.00	1,880,647.00	-	7,546,444.00
Sales & Use Taxes			2,326,000.00	-	2,326,000.00
Licenses & Permits		136,000.00	-	-	136,000.00
Intergovernmental Revenue		2,750,550.00	5,089,005.00	600,000.00	8,439,555.00
Charges for Services		21,200.00	2,548,300.00	-	2,569,500.00
Miscellaneous Revenues		78,474.00	675,375.00	-	753,849.00
Fines & Forfeitures		96,800.00	17,400.00	-	114,200.00
Other Sources		41,500.00	-	-	41,500.00
Less Reduction		(490,850.00)	(348,178.00)	(30,000.00)	(869,028.00)
TOTAL SOURCES		\$ 8,299,471.00	\$ 12,188,549.00	\$ 570,000.00	\$ 21,058,020.00
Transfers In		-	7,954,209.00	-	7,954,209.00
Fund Balances/Reserves/Net Assets		4,819,844.00	3,614,074.00	3,237,120.00	11,671,038.00
TOTAL REVENUES, TRANSFERS & BALANCES		\$ 13,119,315.00	\$ 23,756,832.00	\$ 3,807,120.00	\$ 40,683,267.00
EXPENDITURES					
General Government		5,679,728.00	225,787.00	-	5,905,515.00
Public Safety		763,336.00	10,267,434.00	-	11,030,770.00
Physical Environment		297,998.00	1,705,031.00	-	2,003,029.00
Transportation		-	6,180,871.00	2,617,995.00	8,798,866.00
Economic Environment		86,317.00	925,387.00	-	1,011,704.00
Culture/Recreation		124,394.00	2,376,798.00	-	2,501,192.00
Human Services		885,859.00	83,177.00	-	969,036.00
Other		-	-	-	-
Court Related		36,931.00	472,015.00	-	508,946.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$ 7,874,563.00	\$ 22,236,500.00	\$ 2,617,995.00	\$ 32,729,058.00
Transfers Out		5,244,752.00	1,520,332.00	1,189,125.00	7,954,209.00
Fund Balances/Reserves/Net Assets		-	-	-	-
TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES		\$ 13,119,315.00	\$ 23,756,832.00	\$ 3,807,120.00	\$ 40,683,267.00

THE TENTATIVE, ADOPTED, AND/OR FINAL BUDGETS ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED TAXING AUTHORITY AS A PUBLIC RECORD.

Lice can be a head-scratcher **LIBRARY**

With the start of another school year, a University of Florida expert warns of a head-scratching problem — lice.

September is Head Lice Prevention Month, and Rebecca Baldwin, a University of Florida entomology assistant professor, says opportunities abound for head lice to spread from person to person, but parents and children can do plenty to prevent or get rid of the bugs.

Schools check for head lice check when students return in the fall, said Baldwin, a faculty member with UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

Over the summer, many children attend camp, where they share equipment or have sleepovers at which there is head-to-head contact. Children who have picked up lice at summer camp or from sleepovers will begin exhibiting symptoms of an

infestation, which include head- and neck-scratching, nits on the hair shafts and seeing live lice.

Head lice are specific to humans, so they cannot be picked up from, or transmitted, to pets. They don't jump or fly, but can crawl.

In fact, their legs are equipped with small claws that grasp onto hair shafts, Baldwin said. They can release their grip and fall to grasp another hair. This is why girls with long hair are more susceptible.

"They can also hitch a ride on caps, headphones or batting helmets, but they most commonly are transmitted through head-to-head contact," she said. "The first sign of head lice is usually noticing the eggs that are glued to the hair shaft. We call those eggs nits. That is where the term 'nitpicker' comes from."

Parents should inspect scalps

and hair regularly to identify a head lice infestation before it spreads, she said. Hair should be inspected in sections and can be twisted and pinned out of the way once a section is complete.

If one member of a family has head lice, all immediate family members and close friends should be inspected. To inspect, find an area with a bright or natural light. When you part the hair, the live lice will crawl away from the light, so you can look for that movement and comb out the louse. Lice can only live about 24 hours without a human host, so there is no need to make a pesticide application to the home, classroom or environment.

For more information on head lice prevention, visit www.headlice.org or go to <http://bit.ly/1tmnQ5X>.

Minimizing snake encounters

Due to popularity of the class and because there have been a lot of snake encounters this year, the Bradford County Extension Service is partnering with the Bradford County Library and Senior Center to host another free workshops on dealing with snakes.

The workshop will be held at the Bradford County Senior Center on Thursday, Sept. 18, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Master Gardener Tom Sutton will teach you how to identify common snakes, minimize negative encounters, snake-

proof your landscape and home, and safely deal with snake encounters.

The University of Florida IFAS Extension is an equal opportunity institution.

Free line dancing and dance classes

If you enjoy dancing, the Bradford County Senior Center is the place for you. Beginning Monday, Sept. 15, line dancing in the evening hours will return. Kick up your heels every other Monday from 6:30 until 8 p.m.

Have you always wanted to learn the country two-step, foxtrot or the waltz? The senior

center will be offering free dance classes every Wednesday evening. Bring a partner Sept. 17 and learn these favorite styles of dance from dance instructors Bill and Dee. Class times are 7-9 p.m.

If you are looking for a little more fitness out of your dance class, stop in for free Zumba classes taught by a certified instructor. Class times are every Monday at 1:30 p.m., and Tuesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m.

The Bradford County Senior Center is located at 1805 N. Temple Ave. in Starke. For more information on activities or events, please call 904-368-3955. A calendar of events can be found at www.bradfordcountyfl.gov.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF LAWTEY

Notice is hereby given that proposed resolution #14-05 whose title appears below, will be considered for enactment by the City Council of Lawtey, on September 16, 2014, at 6:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter that may be heard at City Hall, Lawtey, Florida. A copy of the proposed resolution may be inspected by any member of the public at City Hall, Lawtey, Florida.

Anyone wishing to be heard should attend the meeting.

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX LEVY FOR THE CITY OF LAWTEY, OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF LAWTEY

Notice is hereby given that proposed resolution #14-06 whose title appears below, will be considered for enactment by the City Council of Lawtey, on September 16, 2014, at 6:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter that may be heard at City Hall, Lawtey, Florida. A copy of the proposed resolution may be inspected by any member of the public at City Hall, Lawtey, Florida.

Anyone wishing to be heard should attend the meeting.

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BUDGET OF THE CITY OF LAWTEY, OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015.

The Bradford County Public Library is located at 456 W. Pratt St. in Starke. For a full schedule of events, pick up a calendar from the front desk today. You can also get the latest BCPL news and event notifications on Facebook at www.facebook.com/bradfordlibrary. For more information on these programs or other services, please call 904-368-3911 or visit www.bcplibrary.com.

Decorate to win

Bradford County Public Library is hosting a Decorated Pumpkin Contest that is open to the public. Bring in a decorated craft pumpkin (not real) by Sept. 31. Pumpkins will be on display from Oct. 1 - 29 for judging by the public. A \$25 prize will be awarded in each of the four categories: scariest, funniest, most creative and best of show. The contest is open to all ages. The contest is sponsored by the Friends of the Bradford County Public Library.

Computer classes

Classes designed to teach basic computer skills are being offered at the Bradford County Public Library in September. The classes are free and open to the public. Monday's morning class is at 10 a.m. on Sept. 15. Tuesday's evening class begins at 6 p.m. on Sept. 16. Classes focused on Microsoft Excel, Word and PowerPoint are being offered later in the month. Register for the classes in person at the circulation desk or by calling 904-368-3911.

Baby, preschool programs return

On Sept. 10 and 17, Preschool Storytime will return at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Baby Rhymetime will be back at 11 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 12 and 19.

Movie day

The library is showing a fantasy film that takes viewers on an adventure to another world. Ages 8 to 16 are invited to "set sail" with us and enjoy an unforgettable experience. Details on the movie, which is based on a book, can be found on www.facebook.com/bradfordlibrary. Showtime is at 2:30 p.m. on Sept. 17, which is an early release day

for Bradford County students.

Masters of art

Each month attendees will be introduced to famous artistic styles, then use various tools and some imagination to create their own inspired works of art. Supplies will be provided. The program designed for children ages 4 to 8 years is at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 22. The program for young adults ages 9 to 19 will begin at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 23.

Fairy glow lanterns

Stop by the library after school on Wednesday, Sept. 24, for a fun craft. We will be decorating mason jars with embellishments and making glowing designs on the inside to make it look like "captured fairies" are emitting light. The craft begins at 3:30 p.m., and all supplies are free.

Quilt Show

Applications for Bradford County Public Library's Quilt Show are available at the library during normal business hours. To have an application emailed contact Kathy at 904-368-3921. There is no charge for the display space.

Quilts will be on exhibit at the library Oct. 1 through Oct. 3. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, noon to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday.

Howl-ween fun for four-legged friends

Dress up your lovable furry pet for a photo shoot on Oct. 6 at the Bradford County Public Library. Sittings are by appointment only and all pets must be on a leash or in a carrier. Each photo costs three cans of food. All photos will be edited, printed at a local retailer and made available for pickup at the library on a later date. Call 904-368-3921 to make an appointment.

Book sale

Find DVDs, books and audiobooks at bargain prices during the Friends of the Bradford County Public Library Book Sale in October. Shop early for the best selection. The sale will be open to the public for three days: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 9; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 10; and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 11.

Chills and thrills

Children ages 5 to 12 are invited to dress up in their Halloween costume and come to the Bradford County Public Library to participate in spooky Chill-O-Ween activities. The

program, which includes a fun craft, spine tingling ghost stories and scrumptious snacks, begins at 6 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 17, and is free for all attendees.

A black and white and red affair

Adult patrons: Get ready for a visual treat when you enter a black and white world where the only bold color allowed is red. The event is inspired by the novel and soon-to-be movie "Night Circus," a phantasmagorical tale of a traveling circus that moves through Victorian England and only opens at night.

Given that it is a popular party theme, there are plenty of costume ideas on Google images. Whether you choose to release your inner child and let your creative mind go wild or dress in conservative fashion, the dress code is the same: Wear black and white, and accessorize with red. Refreshments will be provided.

The fun begins at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 16.

Medieval craft for kids

Children ages 8 to 16 will be making two hand-crafted items at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 22, that can be brought to the Knight Fest party on Oct. 27. Attend the craft program to learn how to make a fun Elfin Mini Bow and Arrow out of Popsicle sticks and Q-Tips. Then transform ordinary plastic cups into extraordinary Gilded Goblets.

A knight to remember cometh

Lads and lasses ages 8 to 16 are invited to Bradford County Public Library's Knight Fest at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 27. 'Tis' promised to be a most splendid affair. There will be games, music and light refreshments for all to enjoy. Attendees are encouraged to dress up in medieval style clothing.

Call for vendors

The Friends of the Bradford County Public Library is hosting the Third Annual Holiday Craft Show and Flea Market on Saturday, Nov. 22. Outdoor spaces are available at a cost of \$10. There are fewer than five covered outdoor spaces that have a rental cost of \$25. A quick response will be necessary to reserve a covered space.

Applications will be available at the Bradford County Public Library up until the Oct. 17 deadline. To request an application to be emailed to you, call 904-368-3911.

What can I eat?

Are you living with diabetes and often ask yourself what you can eat? Do you find it difficult to balance your meals and thing your choices are too limited? Do you feel supermarkets just don't offer you need?

If you answered yes to any of those questions, then join

extension agent Samara Deary for a workshop on Living Healthy with Diabetes Friday, Sept. 19, at 1:30 p.m. at the Bradford County Senior Center.

Deary says eating healthy doesn't have to be difficult or boring, and she offers tips and recipes to help you enjoy eating while managing diabetes.

For more information, contact Deary at 904-966-6224. The Bradford County Senior Center is located at 1805 N. Temple Ave. in Starke.

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Cowboys fall in rainy game

In a wet and soggy game on Sept. 6, Union County Tigers Mighty Mite Pop Warner defeated the Bradford County Cowboys. Pictured at right: UC Tigers' Landon Klein breaks out on a quarterback draw and is brought down by BC Cowboys' Gavin Cook. Pictured below: In return favor, quarterback Cook is taken down by the Tigers. Photos by Patricia Cook.



Democrats holding open house

On Saturday, Sept. 27, the Bradford County Democrats Executive Committee will be

hosting an open house from 3 to 6 p.m. at the RJE Alumni Tiger's Place, formerly known as the Reno Recreation Center at the corner of Keller and Pine streets in Starke.

Meet and greet candidates running for office in November's general election, get information

about restoration of voter rights, and meet and share ideas with other Democrats. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact Paul or Kathy Still at 904-368-0291.

Play volleyball for the cure

Northside Christian Academy is accepting team entries for the second annual Power in Pink Volleyball Tournament, to raise awareness and money in the fight against breast cancer.

Teams are coed, with a minimum of eight members and at least three female members on the court at all times. Players must be 12 years old and older.

The cost to signup is \$10 per team member. Sept. 26 is the registration deadline. The event will take place on Saturday, Oct. 4, beginning at 9 a.m.

The spectator entry fee is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students, but players and public servants in uniform (police, fire, etc.) enter for free. The Northside gym is located at 7415 NW C.R. 225.

Contact Dede Hill at 904-263-2560 or hillddb777@gmail.com to register your team. Proceeds benefit the American Cancer

Society.

Library co-op meeting

The governing board of the New River Library Cooperative will hold its regular meeting on Thursday, Sept. 11, at 2:45 p.m. at the New River Regional Landfill facility on S.R. 121 north of Raiford. The meeting is open to the public.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED TAX INCREASE

The City of Lawtey has tentatively adopted a measure to increase its property tax levy.

Last year's property tax levy:

A. Initially proposed tax levy	\$ 24,154
B. Less tax reductions due to Value Adjustment Board and other assessment changes	\$ 339
C. Actual property tax levy.....	\$ 24,493

This year's proposed tax levy.....\$ 24,872

All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on the tax increase to be held on:

- DATE: September 16, 2014**
- TIME: 6:00 P.M.**
- PLACE: Lawtey City Hall**
- TOWN: LAWTEY, FL**

A **FINAL DECISION** on the proposed tax increase and the budget will be made at this hearing.

NOTICE OF FINAL BUDGET HEARING

The City of Lawtey has tentatively adopted a budget for fiscal year October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015. A public hearing to make a **FINAL DECISION** on the **MILLAGE AND BUDGET** will be held on Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, City Commissioners meeting room, Lawtey, Florida.

BUDGET SUMMARY

CITY OF LAWTEY
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2014 THRU SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

ESTIMATED REVENUES:	GENERAL FUND	WATER/SEWER REVENUE FUND	TOTAL
TAXES: MILLAGE			
AD VALOREM 1.6786	\$24,872	0	\$24,872
Franchise Fees	\$34,000	0	\$34,000
Licenses and Permits	0	0	0
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$183,250	0	\$183,250
Charges for Services	0	\$195,250	\$195,250
Fines & Forfeitures	\$288,000	0	\$288,000
Misc. Funds	0	\$3,678,900	\$3,678,900
Fund Balance	\$36,173	\$1,031,106	\$1,067,279
Total Estimated Revenues And Balances	\$566,295	\$4,905,256	\$5,471,551
EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES			
General Governmental Services	\$111,038	0	\$111,038
Public Safety	\$341,061	0	\$341,061
Physical Environment	0	\$2,021,959	\$4,848,965
Transportation	\$104,196	0	\$104,196
Culture & Recreation	\$10,000	0	\$10,000
Debt Services	0	\$56,291	\$56,291
Economic Environment	0	0	0
Total Expenditures/ Expenses	\$566,295	\$4,905,256	\$5,471,551
Total Appropriated Expenditures & Reserves	\$566,295	\$4,905,256	\$5,471,551

THE TENTATIVE ADOPTED, AND /OR FINAL BUDGETS ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED TAXING AUTHORITY AS A PUBLIC RECORD.

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UF researchers evaluating weight management programs for rural residents

The University of Florida has received a \$3.7 million grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute to test the effectiveness of long-term weight management programs geared to people living in rural areas.

"We're trying to find ways to tackle the serious problem of obesity and sedentary lifestyle in rural areas, which typically have little access to programs that promote physical fitness and proper nutrition," said principal investigator Michael G. Perri, dean of the UF College of Public Health and Health Professions.

The occurrence of obesity in rural areas of the United States is significantly higher than in urban areas. In a 2012 study conducted by Perri and co-investigators at the University of Kansas Medical Center, the researchers found that almost 40 percent of rural adults were obese compared with just over 33 percent of urban adults.

Several lifestyle differences may contribute to higher obesity rates in rural areas, including a traditional farm diet of high-fat, high-calorie foods, and increased mechanization of rural occupations such as farming and logging.

Perri has argued for the concept of obesity as a chronic condition requiring continuous care, and in three previous National Institutes of Health-funded trials, he and his team have evaluated treatment approaches for helping rural residents achieve long-term success in weight management following an intervention program.

"We are taking the best research we have from efficacy studies conducted in academic research centers with middle-class, urban and suburban participants and attempting to translate it into a format that matches the needs of rural

residents who typically have fewer economic resources," said Perri, the Robert G. Frank endowed professor of clinical and health psychology.

In a prior study, the researchers found that telephone counseling is just as effective as in-person counseling at helping participants keep weight off. Phone counseling offers a cost-effective and convenient option for rural residents, who may have to travel long distances for care.

In the new five-year study, Rural Lifestyle Eating and Activity Program, or Rural LEAP, researchers will compare three strategies for long-term weight management: individual phone counseling, group phone counseling and counseling via email or U.S. mail. If effective, group phone counseling could represent a more cost-effective

See WEIGHT, 9A



Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District board members Donald Harris (left) and Ray Horne (right) join County Forester Andy Lamborn in recognizing fellow conservation board member Paul Still for his forest stewardship efforts.

Sign up for Girl Scouts

Girl Scout signups will be held Monday, Sept. 15, at 6:30 p.m. at the Bradford County Public Library. For more information, please call Barbara Fischer at 904-263-0647.

4-H looking for leaders

Bradford County 4-H has sent out the call for volunteers to lead local clubs, in particular in the areas of livestock and shooting sports. If you're interested, contact 904-966-6224 or nistlerd@ufl.edu.

Training offered in food safety

The University of Florida's Food Safety and Quality Program is dedicated to providing training which enables food managers and staff to offer Florida consumers food that is prepared in a clean and safe environment. This training is offered through IFAS Cooperative Extension county offices throughout the state of Florida.

The training will be offered at the Bradford County Extension Office, 2266 N. Temple Ave. in Starke, on Monday, Sept. 30,

from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information or to register, please call toll free 1-888-232-8723, or email shannonjackson@ufl.edu.

Classes planning group reunion

The Bradford High School Class of 1970 has invited the 1969 and 1971 graduates to join them in planning a group reunion for 2015. A planning meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 15, at 6 p.m. at the home of Cindy Futch, 403 S. Cherry St. in Starke, 904-966-8109. Come help plan this exciting event.

County forester recognizes forestry steward

County Forester Andy Lamborn, on behalf of the Florida Forest Service, recognized Paul and Kathy Still for their water conserving land management efforts at the Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District meeting on Sept. 2 at the Bradford County Extension Office.

Florida's forest provide many benefits to its citizens such as habitat for fish and wildlife, clean air and water, a variety of wood products, recreational opportunities, and aesthetic beauty. Unfortunately, Florida's population increases by approximately 900 new residents per day, causing us to lose about 130 square miles of forestland each year. Therefore, every remaining acre of forestland needs to be actively managed in order to maintain these benefits for future generations.

Forest Stewardship is designed to encourage the state's private non-industrial forest landowners to practice stewardship. Specifically, the program objectives are to encourage non-industrial landowners to manage

their properties according to the multiple-use concept, increase awareness among the general public of the important amenities that Florida's forestlands, and improve coordination among natural resource agencies and groups, both public and private, to better serve the state's landowners and achieve common goals.

Private land owners manage almost half of Florida's forestland. Since many of these landowners could use land management advice from a professional forester or wildlife biologist, the state of Florida implements the Forest Stewardship Program. Florida's Forest Stewardship Program gives private forest landowners the opportunity to receive technical assistance, written management plans and recognition for their efforts through certification. Certification is the award reserved for landowners that have consistently practiced good management on their land, and followed the recommendations within their stewardship plan.

The Stills own 117 acres of forestland on the west side of Lake Sampson. Their primary management goal is protecting soil and water. They have proven their commitment to protecting soil and water resources by planting cypress trees on 18 acres in an area that was part of Lake Sampson until it was drained in 1887 to allow the cultivation of rice and other plants. They also installed ditch plugs in many of the old drainage ditches that drained isolated wetlands. Planting cypress and retaining more water on their property is helping to restore the wetland forest community surrounding Lake Sampson.

Paul Still said, "Seeing new wetland plants like purple and yellow bladderwort thriving in the re-flooded wetlands has been very rewarding."

Bradford County's isolated wetlands provide biological diversity and beauty in addition to helping recharge groundwater aquifers.

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The City of Hampton tentatively adopted a budget for fiscal year 2014-2015. A public hearing to make a **FINAL DECISION** will be held on

Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at 7:00 pm
at Hampton City Hall
5784 Navarre Avenue, Hampton, Florida

All citizens are urged to attend

BUDGET SUMMARY CITY OF HAMPTON FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015			
ESTIMATED REVENUES	GENERAL FUND	WATER FUND	TOTAL
TAXES MILLAGE RATE AD VALOREM @ .3457	\$ 2,400.00	\$	\$ 2,400.00
FEES FINES AND FORFEITURES	\$ 300.00	\$	\$ 300.00
QUALIFYING FEES	\$ 150.00	\$	\$ 150.00
FRANCHISE FEES	\$ 14,000.00	\$	\$ 14,000.00
FPL UTILITY TAX	\$ 18,000.00	\$	\$ 18,000.00
COMMUNICATION FEES	\$ 1,497.00	\$	\$ 1,497.00
GAS UTILITY TAX	\$ 500.00	\$	\$ 500.00
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	\$	\$ 63,000.00	\$ 63,000.00
CITY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PERMIT	\$ 100.00	\$	\$ 100.00
CITY OCCUPATIONAL FEES	\$ 400.00	\$	\$ 400.00
CASH CARRYOVER	\$ 18,800.00	\$	\$ 18,800.00
SRWMD TANK REVITALIZATION GRANT	\$	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	\$ 85,500.00	\$	\$ 85,500.00
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME/SALE OF PROPERTY	\$ 2,000.00	\$	\$ 2,000.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	\$ 143,647.00	\$ 93,000.00	\$ 236,647.00
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 91,146.00	\$	\$ 91,146.00
PUBLIC SAFETY	\$ 1.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,001.00
TRANSPORTATION	\$ 47,000.00	\$	\$ 47,000.00
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 63,000.00	\$ 64,000.00
CULTURAL & RECREATION	\$ 4,500.00	\$	\$ 4,500.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 143,647.00	\$ 93,000.00	\$ 236,647.00

THE TENTATIVE ADOPTED, AND/OR FINAL BUDGET ARE AT THE TAXING AUTHORITY AS A PUBLIC RECORD

Republicans meet Sept. 11

The Bradford County Republican Executive Committee will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 11, in the Capital City Bank boardroom located at 350 N. Temple Ave. (U.S. 301) in Starke.

Local Republican candidates for Bradford County Commission and Bradford County School Board will be speaking about their campaigns. If you are a registered voter in Bradford County, come meet them and hear why they want to represent you.

The Bradford County Republican Executive Committee represents the Republican voters of Bradford County. Registered Republicans in Bradford County are invited to join. New members are welcome, and there are openings for chairmen in some precincts. Volunteers are needed to help with upcoming events.

Also, if you are interested in helping to pioneer a Republican Women's Club or a Young Republican Club, please contact State Committeewoman Donna Solze at 904-964-5803.

For more information about becoming a precinct chairman or a volunteer, please contact Chairman David Dodge at 352-222-8609 or join the Republican Party of Bradford County Facebook page for updates.

See 'Freedom Summer' at the library

The Friends of the Library will be showing "Freedom Summer: Mississippi 1964" on Sept. 22 and 23 starting at 6 p.m. in the Bradford County Library. This is a two-hour program that was shown on PBS this summer. They will watch one hour of the program each evening and then discuss the film.

The Friends of the Library received a grant to show the Created Equal series and is looking for churches or other organizations who would like to host a film showing. The grant provides the film(s), suggested discussion guides and funding for some of the costs of the hosts. The other films in the series include "The Abolitionists," "Slavery by Another Name," "The Loving Story" and "The Freedom Riders."

The Created Equal film set was made possible through a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities as part of its Bridging Cultures initiative, in partnership with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

Contact Paul Still at 904-368-0291 or stillpe@aol.com for more information or to schedule a showing of one or all of the films in the series.

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AUDIT

Continued from 1A

opens the city up to errors, intentional or unintentional, and fraud, according to the auditors, and it would be difficult to detect.

They also note that this work environment may have contributed to many of the other deficiencies listed in the audit as well as confusion among elected officials and employees about responsibilities and accountability.

Recommendation: *The city should hire individuals to fill employee positions in accordance with city ordinances or revise its ordinances establishing an organizational structure based on the intent of the commission. Should the city commission establish a new structure, it should ensure a proper separation of duties and assignment of responsibilities and accountability.*

2. Separation of Duties

Inadequate separation of duties also took place in the finance office. For example, auditors noted that one employee was responsible for recording payroll data, posting changes in rates of pay, adding and removing employees in and out the system, recording overtime and other adjustments, and preparing the payroll checks. Although the clerk reviewed the checks, changes could have been made to payroll data or pay rates without timely detection.

One employee was responsible for utility fee collections and recording those receipts leaving room for money to be diverted before deposit without detection. Similarly, the finance director was in charge of maintaining accounting records as well as completing bank account reconciliations. The employee who could initiate electronic funds transfers to pay certain bills could also record entries in the accounting system.

Having a small staff isn't an excuse. According to the auditors, "some risks related to inadequate separation of duties can be mitigated through the implementation of compensating controls, such as independent verifications of payrolls and bank account reconciliations, comparisons of amounts that should have been collected to actual amounts collected and deposited, and automated email notifications to an employee independent of the EFT process."

Recommendation: *The city should ensure that adequate compensating controls are implemented to help mitigate circumstances in which adequate separation of duties is not practical.*

3. Written Policies and Procedures

In a number of cases, the city was seen to have inadequate written policies and procedures. For example, the code requires the clerk present to the commission for approval procedures for purchasing and billing. The city has a purchasing policy that auditors say was not approved by commissioners. There is also a personnel rules and regulations manual, but it does not include written policies and procedures for the city's accounting and business-related functions. According to the auditors, "written procedures were not available to document controls over commission minutes, budgets, revenues and cash receipts, cash management, credit cards and charge accounts, utility account adjustments, capital assets, and contract administration."

Recommendation: *The clerk should provide procedural rules for purchasing to the commission for its approval as required by the code. In addition, the city should establish comprehensive, written policies and procedures that are consistent with applicable laws and other guidelines. In doing so, the city should ensure that the written policies and procedures address the instances of noncompliance and internal control deficiencies discussed in this report.*

4. City Commission Minutes

As noted, there aren't any written policies on the timely recording, reviewing or approving minutes from city commission meetings. Auditors reviewed the minute books and found that since October 2010 minutes for 43 workshops were not included in those books. In some cases minutes from those workshops were presented to the

commission for approval and in some cases they were not. None of the minutes made it into the books. In one case, there were minutes from a meeting included in the books that were not submitted for approval.

Recommendation: *The city should develop guidelines for review and approval of commission minutes, and enhance its procedures to ensure that minutes for all commission meetings are recorded, approved and available for public inspection.*

5. Petty Cash and Change Funds

Auditors found a lack of oversight and consistent procedures in handling petty cash and change funds. In reviewing those funds, they were unable to reconcile the actual amounts present with the accounting records. There was \$225 less than was supposed to be there. City personnel said the funds had not been reconciled for years and could not explain the differences.

Petty cash and change funds were used to reimburse personnel for small purchases like postage, gas and office supplies, but receipts were not always submitted for reimbursement on a timely basis. In some cases they were submitted months after the purchase.

Auditors also questioned the public purpose of \$675 worth of reimbursements, including \$426 for party decorations and food, \$95 for a custom picture frame, and \$90 for raffle tickets.

Then there were three petty cash funds that were not recorded in the accounting records, and there was no record of their approval by the commission. These were in the purchasing, police and fire departments.

Purchasing had a \$50 fund for office supplies.

The fire department receives a \$325 check each month from the city to be used to purchase food and supplies for the fire station, and a ledger accounting for those purchases is maintained at the station. Amounts in the ledger were rounded to the nearest dollar, there were multiple disbursements recorded to city employees, and there were entries of \$5 and \$8 listed as "missing money." Receipts submitted did not match the amounts reimbursed, sometimes exceeding and sometimes falling short of the monthly reimbursement.

The police department cash fund to purchase office supplies and bottled water was funded by fees from accident reports and fingerprinting. The total of the receipts for reimbursements exceeded the amount of fees collected during the same period by \$99.

According to the auditors, "petty cash and change funds are more susceptible to misappropriation and theft when balances are not recorded in the accounting records and periodically reconciled to amounts on hand, and the location, amount, and purpose of these funds is not approved and periodically monitored."

Recommendation: *The city should establish procedures to ensure that all petty cash and change fund balances are recorded in the accounting records and periodically reconciled to amounts on hand. The city should also strengthen its procedures to require documentation that expenditures serve an authorized public purpose, are reasonable and necessary, and benefit the city. Such documentation should be present in the city's records prior to payment. Finally, the city should ensure that the location, amount, and purpose of each petty cash and change fund is approved by the commission.*

6. Bank Accounts and Reconciliations

The city had too many bank accounts — 44 in total — in an attempt to segregate money based on its use or source, but auditors advised that separate accountability can be achieved by using account codes. Having too many accounts creates additional responsibilities and increases the risk of accounting errors. Auditors reported the city has taken action to close some of those accounts.

Unreconciled differences were discovered in reviewing bank account reconciliations because personnel omitted or recorded incorrect amounts. In one instance, the unreconciled difference was more than

\$32,000.

Recommendation: *The city should enhance its procedures to ensure accurate independent reconciliations of bank accounts to the general ledger including supervisory review and the date the reconciliations were completed. The city should also continue its efforts to reduce the number of bank accounts.*

7. Banking Agreements and Signature Cards

Records of agreements with the three banks the city does business with could not be found, and the city was out of step with its charter by not officially designating depositories for the city's funds. At the time auditors asked, the city did not have signature cards for the former clerk and mayor on hand for the various bank accounts. (New cards were prepared following the election of a new clerk.) Only the clerk was signing payroll warrants, which was also contrary to the charter.

Recommendation: *The city should maintain current banking agreements for all banks and signature cards for all bank accounts, ensure annual approval by the commission of public depositories, and require that the city clerk and mayor sign all payroll warrants.*

8. Control Over Electronic Funds Transfers

The city had not developed written procedures regarding the authorization and processing of electronic funds transfers and written agreements with the bank did not cover most of the transactions taking place. The same agreement allowed authorized users designated by the city to electronically initiate transfers without the prior approval of another employee. The agreement did not restrict the locations where city funds could be transferred and allowed unlimited dollar amounts to be transferred.

There were no transfers for unauthorized purposes detected, but the circumstances left the city open to increased risk that it would happen.

Recommendation: *The city should establish written policies and procedures for authorizing and processing of electronic funds transfers pursuant to Section 668.006, Florida Statutes. The city should also ensure that its transfer agreements addresses all accounts from which electronic funds transfers are made, requires approval of a city employee other than the employee initiating the transfer, specifies the locations where city funds can be transferred and specifies the dollar limits for transferred funds.*

Collections, Receivables and Utility Funds

9. Cash Collections

Cash collection practices weren't as secure as they should be. Mail collection at both city hall and the police department were not logged at the initial point of collection, and checks were not restrictively endorsed upon receipt. Receipt forms prepared for the police department were not prenumbered, which would help document amounts collected by employees, fix responsibility for such amounts and determine that amounts collected are subsequently recorded to the accounting records and deposited in the bank.

Recommendation: *The city should establish procedures that require the use of prenumbered receipts for payments made in person and require that all mail collections be recorded at the initial point of collection and checks restrictively endorsed immediately upon receipt.*

10. Uncollected Local Business Taxes

The city licenses businesses at an annual cost of \$25 to \$1,500, depending on business type. Auditors found dozens of businesses over the past couple of years with delinquent renewals and a lack of effort on the city's part to pursue collection or enforce the \$250 late penalty. The result was a loss of nearly \$32,000 in revenue from late penalties alone. The former clerk did not follow the code in reporting business license receipts to the commission for the years audited.

Recommendation: *The city should implement procedures to ensure compliance with the code and collection of revenues due to the city for business tax receipts.*

11. Utility Deposits

The city did not periodically reconcile its customer deposits

payable account records with the subsidiary ledger it was keeping to track individual deposits or the amount reported on the bank account statement. This resulted in discrepancies between the three.

Recommendation: *The city should implement procedures to ensure that customer deposit liability accounts are periodically reconciled to the customer deposits subsidiary ledger and the customer deposits bank account balance.*

12. Electricity Billing True-Up Calculations

The city regularly adjusts customers' electricity bills to make up for the difference between the estimated and actual cost of electricity from its power provider. Auditors found problems with the true-up worksheets, however, including incorrect amounts carried forward from the prior quarter's worksheets and incorrect amounts transferred from supporting worksheets during the same quarter. For the period from November 2012 to January 2013, errors found affected the tax credit calculation and amount deposited to or drawn from the rate stabilization fund.

Auditors did not believe that the errors significantly affected customers' bills, but the number and frequency of such errors could cause customers to be over- or undercharged or the rate stabilization fund to be over- or underfunded.

Recommendation: *The city should enhance its true-up calculation and review procedures to ensure that errors are timely detected and corrected, and actual costs of producing electricity are correctly charged to customers.*

13. Utility Cutoff, Adjustment, and Water and Sewer Extension Cost Procedures

Starke's code requires the city clerk to prepare a list of utility accounts to cutoff by the 21st of each month, and the utility director must effect collection or discontinue utility service by the end of the month unless the customer has requested an extension, which they can do twice a year.

Auditors looked at February 2013 and found that the cutoff list was not generated until 12 days after the deadline. When it was, 266 accounts were subject to disconnection. Only 27 were. Eighty-nine paid up, including the late fee. Twenty more were awaiting utility payment assistance. Extensions were granted to 120. The status of 10 more is unknown because pages were missing from city records.

Of the 120 accounts receiving extensions, 72 were residential accounts and 48 were businesses. Eight (five residential, three business) accounts were 43 days behind and on their second consecutive extension. Ten more (two residential, eight business) accounts had exceeded their second extension but remained connected.

City personnel told auditors they did not have a procedure for tracking the number of extensions granted and also said the city was reluctant to cut off business customers.

The former clerk would occasionally make adjustments to utility accounts for reasons that included billing errors or water leaks, but the city had no procedures in place to authorize adjustments or determine the appropriate amount. One such adjustment for more than \$1,100 was applied to the bill of a relative of an (unnamed) city commissioner.

City code outlines the extension of water and sewer lines to property owners who request them and agree to incur the cost of the extension. One such extension occurred in May 2007, with the customer paying the full cost. The capacity of the line allowed for additional customers to tie into the system, and each time that happened, the city refunded the original customer \$800 of the project cost, for a total of \$2,400, even though there was no provision in the code for doing so. The records do not show the city commission approved those refunds.

Recommendation: *The city should enforce its procedures for providing limited payment extensions and disconnecting electric service as required by city ordinance and resolution. In addition, the city should ensure that all disconnection report records are retained and*

that a procedure is developed for tracking the number of payment extensions provided. The city should also develop formal procedures for the review and approval of utility account adjustments, and ensure that the city ordinance is followed for water and sewer extensions, including refunds of extension costs, if any.

14. Enterprise Fund Financial Condition

Starke reported its electric, gas, water and sewer utility activities in a single enterprise fund and did not separately account for each utility's assets, liabilities, and net position in its accounting records, although the revenues and expenses of each activity were separately reported.

An outside auditor employed by the city reported the trend of declining utility revenues in the 2012 audit, and while rate studies have been performed for most of the utilities, the recommendations of those studies have not been fully followed. Instead, the commission took partial measures such as passing along the full cost of the gross receipts tax to customers and implementing increases in water and sewer base rates over time.

A rate study for the gas utility had not been performed, although declining revenue was reported there as well.

Recommendation: *The city should maintain separate accountability for each utility in its accounting records, consider implementing the rate-related recommendations from the electric system rate study and obtain a rate study for its gas utility.*

15. Enterprise Fund Working Capital

The city has no policy establishing minimum targets for maintaining working capital funding for its enterprise (utility) fund. According to the audit, establishing minimum working capital requirements and taking actions to reach those levels would help ensure that the city has sufficient funds to operate the fund, assist in determining appropriate utility rates and provide a basis for determining available funds for other purposes.

Recommendation: *The commission should, by formal resolution, establish a policy indicating minimum target levels of working capital funds that should be maintained for its enterprise fund and continue efforts to increase working capital on hand.*

Budgetary Controls

16. Budget Preparation

Looking at the budgets for 2012 and 2013, auditors found they were not presented in sufficient detail as required by Florida law, and the city did not show balances for the prior year that should have been brought forward, such as \$1.1 million in the general fund and nearly \$4 million in the enterprise fund that should have been brought forward from 2012 to 2013.

Auditors said not considering balances brought forward in the budget diminishes the budget's usefulness as a financial management tool and limits the city's ability to determine appropriate increases and decreases in revenues or expenditures. Not considering the balances brought forward could also result in taxes or other revenue sources being increased beyond the amounts necessary.

Recommendation: *The city should ensure that future annual budgets are adopted at the proper level of detail and include all balances brought forward from prior fiscal years.*

17. Budget Amendments

Contrary to Florida law, the city has been approving budget amendments by motion. Because the amendments increased revenues and expenditures, they were required to be approved in the same manner as the original budget, which would require commission approval by resolution.

For the 2011 and 2012 fiscal years, budget amendments were approved more than 60 days after the end of the fiscal year, also contrary to state law. The amendments did not always address overexpenditures either, as the general fund was overspent in both 2011 and 2013.

Failure to create a budget for the impact fee trust fund meant those funds were spent without budget authority.

Recommendation: *The city should ensure that budget amendments are approved*

through resolution when needed, but no later than 60 days following the end of the fiscal year, to ensure that expenditures are limited to budgeted amounts as required by law.

Transparency Requirements

18. Annual Financial Report and Budget Transparency

This criticism dealt with the failure to post tentative and adopted budgets to its website in a timely manner or provide a link to the Florida Department of Financial Services website where the submitted budget could be viewed. In addition, the audited financial statements were not posted annually.

Recommendation: *The city should enhance procedures to ensure that tentative and final adopted budgets, and budget amendments, are timely posted on its website, and include a link to the department's website to view the city's annual financial report. In addition, to improve financial transparency, the city should also consider including other financial information on its website, such as its audit reports.*

Personnel and Payroll Administration

19. Compensation for Elected Officials and Employee Bonuses

Starke's charter requires the salaries of city officers to be set by ordinance, and the most recent such ordinance was adopted in 2006. However, the salaries for city commissioners, the clerk and the police chief were increased by 3 percent in 2006, 2007 and 2008 and by 1 percent in 2013, but the 2006 ordinance was never amended and did not allow for increases when raises were awarded to city employees.

The commission fixed that just this week, adopting a new ordinance that allows for percentage increases for elected officials if and when city employees' salaries are likewise adjusted.

The city was also written up for providing safety pay bonuses to employees other than firefighters when there was no policy in place to award those bonuses and they were not approved by the commission.

Recommendation: *The city should amend or adopt its ordinances to ratify the salary increases provided to the elected officials from October 2006 through February 2013, or return the salaries to their previous levels. The city should also ensure that compensation for city elected officials is in accordance with applicable ordinances and that the authority for safety pay bonuses for city employees is properly documented, or the practice should be discontinued. In addition, the commission should consult with legal counsel regarding salaries paid in excess of that authorized by ordinances.*

20. Hiring Practices

Based on a test of 10 employees hired from 2010 to 2013, auditors discovered position descriptions specifying education and experience requirements were not used in the hiring process. In two cases, employment applications were not kept on file. Personnel files for two did not include forms indicating when the employee was hired or the starting salary.

Recommendation: *The commission should adopt position descriptions that specify minimum education and experience requirements. Also, to provide for effective and efficient personnel administration, the city should ensure that employment applications, position descriptions, and personnel action forms are utilized during the hiring process and maintained in the personnel files.*

21. Employee Classification and Pay Plans

The employee manual indicates the city would adopt a separate job classification and pay plan to ensure equal pay for jobs of equal value. Instead, department heads have been using personnel action forms to document starting salaries and promotions. Pay adjustments were not made with the guidance of a classification of pay plan. Auditors noted a \$4 an hour raise given to an employee after completing a professional certification. The raise was awarded at the operation manager's discretion.

The new clerk was able to locate an employee classification plan developed in the mid 2000s

MORE

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that was never adopted by the commission.

Recommendation: *The commission should adopt a classification plan and a pay plan to ensure that personnel administration and payroll costs are properly managed.*

22. Performance Evaluations

Though it has been a topic of late, auditors found that department heads had not been completing the performance evaluations required in the personnel manual. The manual prohibits wage increases in the absence of a performance evaluation during the prior 12-month period, and supervisors aren't eligible for raises if they have not evaluated their subordinates. City personnel told auditors that administration and finance employees had not been evaluated for 16 years and police employees had not been evaluated for 10 years.

Recommendation: *The city should continue its efforts to ensure that employee performance evaluations are timely completed and maintained in personnel files as required by the manual.*

23. Overtime payment monitoring

Auditors noted overtime payments totaling \$171,712 for 2011 and \$208,942 for 2012. In 2011, six employees received overtime ranging from 26 to 45 percent of their base salaries, including a billing clerk who logged more than 638 hours of overtime and was paid an additional \$11,321, for a total salary of \$38,132. An electric lineman took home \$60,763 that year after earning \$15,107 for 507 hours of overtime.

In 2012, auditors found that seven employees earned overtime ranging from 26 to 71 percent of their salaries, including the wastewater plant operator and superintendent, who each logged close to 1,000 hours of overtime. Each earned more than \$20,000 in overtime, taking home salaries of \$53,445 and \$50,637 respectively.

In response to auditors' questions, city personnel said procedures had not been established for monitoring or determining the reasonableness of overtime wages paid. Some of this overtime was paid to employees who were "on call" but not on the premises and therefore not actually working, according to federal overtime standards.

Recommendation: *The city should enhance management controls by performing overtime and staffing analyses to ensure the most cost efficient and effective use of human resources. Also, the city should evaluate whether its practices are consistent with the commission's intent and United States Department of Labor on-call guidelines, and amend the manual as necessary.*

Procurement and Expenditures

24. Credit Cards

Credit card purchases from October 2010 through March 2013 totaled \$3,240 using a Visa credit card and \$4,718 using Home Depot and Sears store credit cards, yet there was no record of the commission approving the issuance of credit cards, nor were their policies in place regarding their use. The Visa card was only used by the city clerk, and the store cards were assigned to the purchasing director and used by two city

employees.

A review of 25 transactions totaling \$6,121 disclosed that original receipts were not available to support eight Visa credit card purchases totaling \$1,301 and two store card purchases totaling \$130. The Visa billing statements included notations for those purchases, but those notes were not sufficient to support the purchases. Without supporting receipts for charges incurred and paid on those credit cards, auditors said the records did not demonstrate these were reasonable charges or served a public purpose.

Auditors also found a total of \$277 in late fees and finance charges for the Visa card because balances were not paid in full on time.

Though there are still no procedures in place, the city continues to use credit cards. The new clerk obtained Visa cards for himself, the police and fire chiefs, and the operations manager, and he began using a Home Depot card retained from his prior position as operations manager.

Recommendation: *The commission should determine whether and by whom credit cards should be used and, if so, establish written policies and procedures governing their control and use. Such policies and procedures should require all employees utilizing credit card privileges to sign a written agreement evidencing their understanding of, and agreement with, the city's credit card policies and procedures. Additionally, the city should enhance its controls to provide for the retention of detailed billing statements and receipts for all charges on city-issued credit cards, and to provide for timely payments in full to avoid incurring additional fees and charges.*

25. Purchasing and Disbursement Processing

An examination of 32 expenditure transactions totaling \$384,881 for the period October 2010 through April 2013 disclosed deficiencies in the city's purchasing and disbursement processing procedures, including 16 expenditures totaling \$137,303 not supported by a requisition, purchase order or other documentation evidencing preapproval. The expenditures included \$64,471 for a truck chassis, \$33,649 for attorney services to defend an ethics complaint, \$15,266 for ballistic vests, \$6,036 for signal maintenance fees and \$2,000 for a summer camp program. An expenditure of \$215 for athletic awards was not supported by a vendor invoice.

Auditors found two expenditures totaling \$11,866 that weren't supported by evidence of receipt, such as a signature and date of the employee that received, inspected, and approved that goods and services were received. The expenditures were comprised of \$6,827 for police vehicle lights and related equipment and \$5,039 for baseball uniforms.

An additional expenditure of \$5,181 for police vehicle lights was not supported by informal bids from at least three vendors.

Recommendation: *City personnel should ensure that requisitions and purchase orders are used to document the approval of purchases, and a competitive selection process used, as required by the city's purchasing policies. The city should also ensure that all expenditures are supported by vendor invoices, documentation*

of receipt, and evidence of review and approval for accuracy and completeness prior to payment.

Contractual Services

26. Auditing Services

The term of the city's contract with its prior auditor, DDF CPA Group, was up after the 2010 audit, but the commission approved a new contract in 2011 without following the selection process outlined in state law. State auditors also found that the city paid its auditor an additional \$64,822 over two years under the direction of the former clerk for services not covered in the contract and more than \$2,500 more than the contractual amounts for the cost of the audits.

While Florida law requires detailed invoices, the city's contract with the auditor did not, and state auditors said invoices submitted totaling \$256,724 were not in sufficient detail to show the charges complied with the contract since they did not indicate the staff members, dates, hours or hourly rates for each service invoiced.

State auditors did not find that the city negotiated new fee estimates for the additional contract-related audit services totaling \$30,300 or noncontract services totaling \$64,822.

Recommendation: *The city should ensure compliance with the auditor selection and contract requirements prescribed in Section 218.391, Florida Statutes. The city should also either document the necessity for the \$2,567 paid in excess of the contract for the 2008-09 and 2009-10 fiscal years or request a refund from the audit firm. Additionally, the city should establish contract monitoring procedures to ensure that payments do not exceed contract amounts.*

27. Engineering Services

The city hired Stone Engineering in 2008, which served as the city's engineer of record until this year, although auditors found that the city wasn't under contract with the firm for the entire period. From October 2010 to December 2013, the city paid Stone Engineering \$552,528. Individual project costs ranged from \$1,123 to \$194,713, but auditors could not find record that written contract amendments were entered into providing for the scope of work, completion dates, fee amounts, etc. City personnel said projects were verbally negotiated.

The city renegotiated a \$5,000 monthly retainer agreement that began in October 2012, but while there were letters outlining services, there was no written agreement, which was said to be an oversight.

Also, the 2008 agreement did not prohibit contingent fees as required by Florida law, opening the city up to legal claims from outside parties.

Recommendation: *The city should ensure that engineering agreements are written and that each project authorized utilizing engineering services has, in writing, a mutually agreed upon scope of work, completion date, fee amount and method of payment. The city should also include the prohibition against contingent fees clause in its agreements for engineering services, as required by law.*

28. Legal Services

In 2008, the commission once again chose a local law firm run by attorney Terry Brown to represent the city. The agreement included a \$5,000 monthly fee for all legal services. From October 2010 to March 2013, the city paid Brown's firm \$150,160 for legal services, but the city did

not have an executed copy of the agreement on hand. The option to renew the agreement after the initial term was not approved for more than six months after that term had ended. The renewal periods expired in January 2012, but the city continued using the firm through July 2013.

Recommendation: *The city should ensure that signed copies of agreements are obtained and maintained in the city's records, and ensure timely commission approval of agreement renewals and new agreements upon expiration.*

29. Insurance Services

Starke has been using a broker to obtain health insurance for its employees. In 2011 and 2012, the selection was based on a survey of the market. In 2013, based on the commission's request, the broker presented plans from three different insurance providers and the city selected one of those plans. This was in violation of Florida law requiring the city to obtain competitive bids from those providers.

The city also obtained property, liability and automobile coverage from a local broker without obtaining bids from other providers or brokers.

There was no agreement to pay a fixed fee to the brokers for their services, who instead received a commission on the premiums paid.

Recommendation: *The city should enter into fixed-price agreements for future insurance broker services and periodically competitively procure its insurance products to ensure that necessary coverage is obtained at the lowest cost consistent with acceptable quality.*

30. Other Professional Services

When Thompson retired as operations manager, he remained on as a consultant. At \$20 an hour, he was paid \$28,519 from January 2012 through September 2013. Auditors said monthly invoices submitted were not adequately reviewed. Two invoices contained errors that may have resulted in Thompson being underpaid by \$300.

Thompson also acknowledged that there wasn't a signed contract with the city until August 2013, about 20 months after consulting services began. Auditors had requested a copy of the contract, which Thompson said was "inadvertently" dated Jan. 3, 2012. Auditors found that odd since the commission held a workshop on Jan. 12, 2012, to discuss making changes in the proposed contract, changes that had already been made in the contract dated Jan. 3.

Invoices from a code enforcement officer the city contracted with in October 2010 did not indicate specific duties performed, and invoice review by a city employee was not evidenced. The contract was to be renewed annually, but there was no record of renewal.

Recommendation: *The city should strengthen its procurement procedures for other professional services to ensure contracts are properly approved and specify a contract period, and vendor invoices are complete, in accordance with contract terms and conditions, and properly reviewed and approved prior to payment.*

31. Employee/Independent Contractor Status

Internal Revenue Service regulations spell out the differences between employees and independent contractors, and different laws apply based on those classifications. Auditors said four workers the city

had classified as independent contractors should have been classified as employees, including:

- Thompson, who retired from employment with the city on Jan. 2, 2012, and was paid as an independent contractor for consultant work performed from Jan. 3, 2012, through Sept. 30, 2013.

- An independent contractor was paid \$21,275 from May 20, 2013, to Dec. 10, 2013, to provide accounting services as interim finance director until a permanent finance director was hired.

- The code enforcement worker who was paid a total of \$19,763 from October 2010 through March 2013. The city had contracted for these services from the same individual since October 2008.

- A part-time firefighter paid \$38,281 to provide maintenance and repair services on city vehicles from October 2010 through March 2013. The employee was paid by the hour with no employment withholding taxes although there was no written contract with the city.

While classified as "independent contractors," the city provided office or work space and related equipment, including city vehicles, tools, and supplies, for the workers to use in performing the contracted services — things contractors who are in business for themselves typically provide.

Recommendation: *The city should establish procedures to document the relevant facts and circumstances upon which workers are classified as independent contractors rather than employees. The city should also contact the IRS to determine whether these four individuals should be classified as employees rather than independent contractors, and, if appropriate, amend its payroll reporting and remit any required payroll taxes and retirement contributions for the employees to the appropriate federal and state agencies.*

Vehicle Usage

32. Vehicle Taxable Fringe Benefit

Eighteen police officers were assigned take-home vehicles that policy allowed them to use for personal business within the city limits. Seven were unmarked cars. City policy did not limit the personal use of those seven unmarked vehicles to uses incidental to law enforcement, such as reporting directly from home to a crime scene. Auditors pointed out that restriction was necessary to qualify the use of those vehicles as a "working condition fringe benefit" as opposed to a fringe benefit subject to taxation.

Auditors further noted that while the city is small, records disclosed that 12,720 gallons of fuel were used for the unmarked vehicles over 18 months, ranging from 1,146 to 2,826 gallons for each of the seven unmarked vehicles, or about 64 to 157 gallons per month.

Recommendation: *The city should enhance its written policies and procedures to ensure compliance with applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.*

Public Water System

33. Diesel Generator Usage Records

The city maintains diesel operated generators as an alternative power source to operate the water system when primary power is lost. While city employees detailed the test schedule for the generators,

auditors found that generator test and maintenance reports were not consistently completed. Periods were noted where no generator activity was reported at all. Preventative maintenance reports were similarly bare.

Recommendation: *The city should enhance its procedures to ensure that diesel generator tests are conducted as required and that test and maintenance reports are timely and accurately prepared and maintained to evidence that proper preventative maintenance is performed and diesel generators are periodically tested at required intervals.*

Capital Assets

34. Tangible Personal Property Inventory

The physical inventory completed for 2012 was not reconciled with capital asset records, and there were differences between what the city actually had and what was recorded. For example, numerous vehicles that had been disposed of were still reported in the capital asset records.

Auditors couldn't find evidence that the city adequately investigated when items were missing from the annual physical inventory or that the commission approved disposing of those items before they were removed from the capital asset record.

A property disposal report indicating that 20 furniture, machinery, and equipment items costing \$47,381, nine vehicles costing \$49,963 and two trailers costing \$13,500 not located in the annual inventory were removed from property records as of Sept. 30, 2012. There was no record of efforts to locate these items or commission approval to remove them from the property records.

Recommendation: *The city should ensure that the results of physical inventories of tangible personal property are promptly reconciled to the city's property records.*

35. Motor Vehicles

The city has not been maintaining adequate records of its vehicles and it doesn't have comprehensive policies governing the acquisition, assignment, control, use and disposition of motor vehicles.

City records did not reveal how or when seven vehicles acquired for approximately \$45,000 were disposed of, and the commission did not approve their disposal.

In a list of vehicles provided to auditors, many were incorrectly categorized. Some vehicles, for example, were classified as machinery. In other cases, machinery was classified as transportation.

Other problems included the recording of seven used police vehicles acquired in 2012 as a single asset. Several vehicles used by one department were listed as assigned to another department. The police department had two vehicles acquired for \$24,094 that were not recorded in the property records although the city had registered and obtained insurance for them. Four vehicles assigned to police officers had expired registrations although they were still being driven.

Recommendation: *The city should develop comprehensive written policies and procedures over the use of and accounting for city-owned motor vehicles to ensure adequate accountability for those assets. The city should also develop procedures to provide for the timely renewals of vehicle registrations.*

WEIGHT

Continued from 7A

treatment option that could reach larger numbers of patients.

"A key aspect of translational research, which is at once the most difficult and yet has the highest impact, is to disseminate the findings at the academic center into the communities it serves," said David S. Guzick, UF senior vice president for health affairs and president, UF Health. "The work of Dr. Perri and his colleagues is a stellar example of translating research results into improved health, which is at the heart of our mission at UF Health."

The UF study will include 540 men and women ages 21 to 75 with a body mass index of 30 to 45 living in 10 rural counties in

north Florida. All participants will participate in a four-month lifestyle program with face-to-face group sessions led by local providers at UF/IFAS Extension county offices. During the sessions, trained extension agents will use cognitive-behavioral strategies to help participants modify eating and exercise habits. Program content has been tailored to address concerns voiced by rural residents in previous studies, such as strategies for coping with stress and a lack of social support for weight loss, techniques for eating away from home, and cooking demonstrations of low-fat, low-calorie versions of traditional Southern dishes. Participants also will be instructed to exercise at a moderate intensity for 210 minutes per week, equivalent to 30 minutes of walking a day.

Following the intervention program, participants will be randomized to one of the three 12-month follow-up treatment programs. Counselors will focus on helping participants sustain the eating and physical activity changes they made during the initial four months of treatment.

At the conclusion of 22 months of participation, researchers will evaluate the program's cost-effectiveness, as well as its effect on participants' weight, physical activity, nutrition, blood pressure, lipid profiles and blood sugar levels.

"The driving impetus for this research is the development of a scalable, low-cost, yet highly effective treatment for weight management," Perri said.

UF co-investigators include Marian Limacher of the College of Medicine, Linda Bobroff,

from the Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences, and David Janicke, Danny Martin, and Kristina von Castel-Roberts of the College of Public Health and Health Professions.

Rural LEAP is supported by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health under award number R18HL112720.

Call before you dig

Florida law requires calling a one-call center before you dig.

This does not apply to businesses alone. Homeowners putting in pools, clotheslines, mail boxes and playground equipment need to also consider that there could be underground lines that could be damaged

when they dig.

Sunshine State One Call of Florida Inc. can be contacted at 811. The law requires you call two days prior to digging. There is no cost for this service. If you need any additional information, you can visit www.call.sunshine.com or call the city of Starke at 904-964-5027 to have a gas representative come and speak with you and locate any gas lines.

Leak recognition and response
What to do if you smell gas in your home or building?

- Leave immediately and tell others to leave, too.
- From a safe distance call 911.
- Never try to repair a gas leak yourself. Do not turn any lights on or off, smoke or use any phones or any equipment that could cause sparks.

Domestic violence is never OK

Three Rivers Legal Services Inc. provides legal services to the survivors of domestic, repeat, sexual and dating violence.

Domestic violence takes many forms. It can be physical, mental or sexual conduct that places you in fear of immediate violence. Three Rivers Legal Services represents clients regarding injunctions for protection or restraining orders, and assists with other family law matters, including divorce, custody and temporary relative custody. Safety comes first!

For more information, please contact the legal helpline at 1-866-256-8091.

LEGALS

NOTICE
Ron Denmark Mini Storage will hold a Public Auction on September 12, 2014 @ 10:00 AM at 2117 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, FL on the following storage units containing personal items.
#100 — Belonging to T. Hilliard
#16 — Belonging to J. James
#42 — Belonging to B. Mack
#107 — Belonging to L. Madison
#103 — Belonging to M. Rodriguez
#105 — Belonging to S. Solana
9/4 2tchg 9/11-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION:
CASE NO.: 2013-CA-0311
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO BANK OF AMERICA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CERTIFICATE-HOLDERS OF BEAR STEARNS ASSET BACKED SECURITIES I LLC, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-HE9, Plaintiff,
vs.
ELLERY D. CAVE, SR. A/K/A ELLERY CAVE, SR AKA ELLERY CAVE; et. al.
Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Resetting Foreclosure Sale dated the 18 day of August, 2014, and entered in Case No. 2013-CA-0311, of the Circuit Court for the 8th Judicial Circuit in and for Bradford County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO BANK OF AMERICA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CERTIFICATE-HOLDERS OF BEAR STEARNS ASSET BACKED SECURITIES I LLC, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-HE9 is the Plaintiff and ELLERY D. CAVE, SR. A/K/A ELLERY CAVE, SR AKA ELLERY CAVE STATE OF FLORIDA; and UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION

OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY are defendants. The Clerk of this Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the, east front door of the Bradford County courthouse, 945 North Temple Ave, Starke, FL., 11:00 AM on the 23rd day of October, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
EXHIBIT "A"
A parcel of land lying in the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 28, Township 6 South, Range 22 East in the City of Starke, Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Northwest corner of the intersection of the rights of way of Center Street and Broad Street and run North 89°24'00" West, along the Northerly boundary of the right of way of said Center Street, 58.64 feet to an iron rod set at an intersection with a Southerly prolongation of an existing fence line for the Point of Beginning. From Point of Beginning thus described continue North 89°24'00" West, along said Northerly boundary, 91.36 feet to the Southeast corner of a parcel described in Official Records Book 297, Page 88, of the Public Record of said county; thence North 04°17'30" East along the Easterly boundary of said parcel 85.0 feet to the Northeast corner thereof; thence South 89°24'00" East, parallel with said Northerly boundary, 87.92 feet to an intersection with an existing fence line; thence run Southerly along said fence line and along said Southerly prolongation 85 feet more or less to the Point of Beginning.
A/K/A: 509 Center St. Starke, FL 32091
ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.
Under the American with Disabilities Act, if you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at (352) 337-6237, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance. If you are hearing or voice impaired, please call 711. If you are deaf or hard of hearing and require an ASL

interpreter or an assisted listening device to participate in a proceeding, please contact Court Interpreting at interpreter@circuits.org
Dated this 26 day of August, 2014.
Choice Legal Group, P.A.
P.O. Box 9908
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310-0908
Telephone: (954) 453-0365
Facsimile: (954) 771-6052
Toll Free: 1-800-441-2438
DESIGNATED PRIMARY E-MAIL FOR SERVICE PURSUANT TO FLA. R. JUD. ADMIN 2.516
eservice@clegalgroup.com
RAY NORMAN
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
By: Lisa Brannon
Deputy Clerk
9/4 2tchg 9/11-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
Case No. 14000354CAAXMX
CitiFinancial Servicing LLC

Plaintiff,
vs.
The Unknown Spouse, Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, Assignees, Lienors, Creditors, Trustees and all other parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the Estate of Marian M. Moore a/k/a Marian Moore, Deceased.
NOTICE OF ACTION - CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE
TO: The Unknown Spouse, Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, Assignees, Lienors, Creditors, Trustees and all other parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the Estate of Marian M. Moore a/k/a Marian Moore, Deceased
Last Known Address: "Unknown"
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Bradford County, Florida:
BEGINNING AT A POINT 25 FEET EAST AND 25 FEET SOUTH OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF NORTHEAST 1/4 OF NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 30, TOWNSHIP 7 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST, RUNNING EAST 100 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 110 FEET; THENCE WEST 100 FEET; THENCE NORTH 110 FEET TO POINT OF BEGINNING.

KNOWN AS LOTS 1 AND 2 OF MC-CALLS ADDITION TO TOWN OF HAMPTON, FLORIDA.
has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Nicole Alvarez, Esquire, Brock & Scott, PLLC., the Plaintiffs attorney, whose address is 1501 N.W. 49th Street, Suite 200, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. 33309, within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication on or before October 11, 2014, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.
DATED on September 2, 2014.
Ray Norman
As Clerk of the Court
By Lisa Brannon
As Deputy Clerk
9/11 2tchg 9/18-BCT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:
Reynaldo A. Aviles
Last known address of:
8973 SW County Road 18
Hampton FL 32044
You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.
Terry L. Vaughan
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections
P.O. Box 58
945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C
Starke, FL 32091
9/11 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:
Shanekia Y. Peppers
Last known address of:
17775 NW 50th Pl
Starke FL 32091
You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.

Terry L. Vaughan
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections
P.O. Box 58
945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C
Starke, FL 32091
9/11 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:
Jeremy Q. West
Last known address of:
1951 SE 81st St
Starke FL 32091
You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Starke, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.
Terry L. Vaughan
Bradford County Supervisor of Elections
P.O. Box 58
945 N. Temple Ave., Suite C
Starke, FL 32091
9/11 1tchg-BCT

LEGAL NOTICE
The Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. Board of Directors will hold a meeting of the Board of Directors on Monday, September 29, 2014, 7:00 P.M. at the Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc., Senior Center located at 1171 Nobles Ferry Rd NW in Live Oak, Florida.
9/11 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION
JENNINGS W. BUNN,
Case No: 201300523
A Notice of Suspension to suspend your license and eligibility for licensure has been filed against you. You have the right to request a hearing pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, by mailing a request for same to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Licensing, Post Office Box 3168, Tallahassee, Florida 32315-3168. If a request for hearing is not received by 21 days from the date of the last publication, the right to hearing in this matter will be waived and the Department will dispose of this cause in accordance with law. Florida Statutes, by mailing a request for same to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Con-

sumer Services, Division of Licensing, Post Office Box 3168, Tallahassee, Florida 32315-3168. If a request for hearing is not received by 21 days from the date of the last publication, the right to hearing in this matter will be waived and the Department will dispose of this cause in accordance with law.
9/11 4tchg 10/2-BCT

Get computing at the senior center

The Bradford County Senior Center is going to begin a series of free computer classes for seniors. If you are 50 years of age or older and want to learn the how to use a computer or brush up on your computer skills, then these classes are for you.
The classes will be held every Wednesday this month from 2-4 p.m. Next in the series will be Internet for Beginners on Sept. 10. The following week will be about email. On Wednesday, Sept. 24, learn how to make greeting cards, banners, awards and much more with Microsoft Word.
Seating is limited so please call 904-368-3955 to sign up.
The Bradford County Senior Center is located at 1805 N. Temple Ave. in Starke. For more information on activities or events, please call 904-368-3955. A calendar of events can be found at www.bradfordcountyfl.gov.

PLAY OUR FOOTBALL CONTEST

Win \$50.00!

Submit by Fri. Sept. 12 5 p.m.

Submit by Fri. Sept. 12 5 p.m.

Last Week's Winner!



PEGGY GRIFFIS of Starke missed 3, won w/tiebreaker

RULES OF THE GAME

1. Anyone, except *Telegraph* employees and their immediate family members, are welcome to enter. One entry per person per week please. **Persons winning one week are not eligible to win again for at least three weeks.**
2. When picking up winnings, the winner will have his or her photograph taken for the paper.
3. Entry must be on an official form from the *Telegraph* and submitted to one of our offices: BCT: 131 W. Call St., Starke; UCT: 25 E. Main St., Lake Butler, or LRM: 7382 S.R. 21-N, Keystone Heights before 5 p.m. on Fridays. Fill in all the blanks with the name of the team you think will win. The person who picks the most games correctly will win \$50.00 cash.
4. In case of a tie, the total points scored in the GATORS game this week is the tie breaker. Please fill in the points you think will be scored by the GATORS and their opponent, combined, in the tie breaker blank. (For instance, if the score of the GATORS game was GATORS 19, opponent 7, the correct score will be 26 points.)
5. Decision of the judges is final. A second tie breaker will be used, if necessary. Results will be tabulated on Tuesday and winners notified by telephone. Don't forget to list a phone number where you can be reached.

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GATORS are this week's TIEBREAKER SCORE: _____
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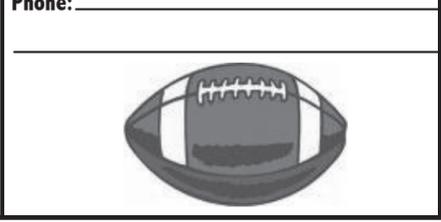
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REGIONAL NEWS

NEWS FROM BRADFORD COUNTY, UNION COUNTY AND THE LAKE REGION

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EDITORIAL

Santa Fe College president talks to BC about top 10, other positives

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

"In sports, you simply aren't considered a real champion until you have defended your title."

Jackson Sasser, the president of Santa Fe College, used that quote from tennis player Althea Gibson in summing up just what it means for the school to have been named a top-10 school yet again by the Aspen Institute, which names top-10 schools every two years.

Sasser said Santa Fe College has defended its title, saying, "For four years running, we will be in the top 10 in the country."

During a state-of-the-college address held Sept. 9 at the Gov. Charley E. Johns Conference Center in Starke, Sasser said Bradford County played a role in helping the college achieve that ranking.

"That is your award also," he said.

Sasser talked about how Starke Andrews Center—the first educational center opened by the college in an outlying area—was preparing to celebrate its 30th year. He credited Guy Andrews—the center's namesake—and all others involved in taking the risk to make the center a reality.

"Next to a house of worship, what is more important than an institution of higher learning in a community? It enables growth," Sasser said.

Sasser talked about the dual-enrollment program that exists for Bradford County students, allowing high school students to earn college credits without having to pay for textbooks, tuition and other fees.

"It enables students to get a head start," he said.

The school president touched on other ways in which the college has served Bradford County, from its annual College for Kids and Jr. College for Kids programs—which were held for the 12th and fourth years, respectively, this past summer—to its hosting of the Bradford Fest Talent Showdown, which generated \$8,000 this year to fund Bradford County-specific scholarships.

Also, in partnership with the Bradford County Education Foundation, \$40,000 was raised to install a new sound system in the Bradford High School auditorium.

In general, Sasser said four factors really helped the college achieve the Aspen Institute's top-10 ranking. One is the school's successful rate of student transfers to the University of Florida or other four-year universities.

"Think of the classes offered at the Andrews Center," Sasser said. "(There are) two really important factors—small classes and faculty who've committed their lives to teaching, not research. Their obsession is the transfer of information."

Sasser said the strong success/transfer rates of the school's ethnic minorities, which make up 20 percent of the school's population, played a part in the top-10 ranking, as well, along with the use of technology to better assist students. He specifically mentioned the degree-audit program.

"Let's say you're majoring in engineering, and all of a sudden you want to change it to biotechnology," Sasser said. "You just push a button, and it takes the courses you had and says, 'This is what you need.'"

Another factor in earning the top-10 ranking is the success of students earning degrees and then getting good-paying jobs.

Sasser stressed the desire of the college to make an impact on Bradford County, citing its involvement in Envision 2023—a series of meetings

the college has been hosting at which community members have been identifying the critical issues the county faces and identifying 24 specific

needs in eight topic areas that are vital to Bradford's future. "Bradford County is a gem,"

See COLLEGE, 4B

Santa Fe College President Jackson Sasser presents his annual state-of-the-college address.



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Starke boy proves to be parents' 'miracle' blessing

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Dalton Ballinger loves his cartoons. He'll tell you about "Dinosaur Train" before giving you a demonstration, walking around the room in circles and imitating a train whistle.

He also wants to grow up to be a train engineer, he said, but he has also wanted to be a doctor and an auto mechanic. Basically, it's whatever interests him at that particular moment.

Therefore, Dalton's really no different from most 5-year-olds. Doctors, though, never envisioned Dalton walking, talking or doing any of those things we take for granted.

"(Doctors) always tell me he's amazing," said Amber Ballinger, Dalton's mother. "Looking at him and looking at where he came from—all of the doctors tell me that he's very amazing and that we were blessed to have a miracle happen."

Dalton had the first of four brain surgeries five days after his birth as the result of being born with hydrocephalus, a condition in which there is an excessive accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid on the brain.

Amber said doctors never told her and her husband, David, that Dalton wouldn't survive, but they did say Dalton would be confined to a wheelchair and pretty much exist as a "vegetable."

That diagnosis is a far cry from reality. Dalton is mobile and quite talkative. Plus, how many 5-year-olds can give you the gist of the Discovery Channel

show "Fast and Loud," which he watches with his father.

"They build all kinds of cars: Thunderbirds, Camaros, Cadillacs. They built a Model A. That's a bad car," Dalton said.

Amber was going to love her son no matter what, but to witness what he is able to do makes her grateful.

"I told myself I was going to just turn it over to God, and it was going to be what it was," Amber said. "If he was meant to be healthy and rambunctious like he is now, then that's what it would be, but if it was to be any other way, I was going to love him regardless."

Amber Ballinger is pictured with her 5-year-old, "always-on-the-go" son, Dalton. Dalton lives an active, relatively normal life—something doctors never would've believed shortly after his birth.



"Thank God it came to be the

See DALTON, 3B

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Katelyn Sims, who is the reigning Miss Tri County, has cystic fibrosis and encourages the community to get involved in the Sept. 27 Bradford-Union Great Strides event in Starke.

Great Strides fundraiser to fight CF to take place Sept. 27

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

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

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

"Every year, it raises more awareness," Sims said following the 2012 event. "It helps everybody learn what (cystic fibrosis) is."

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

Prior to this year's event, there will be a clearance sale at It's Your Day Bridal and Formal Boutique in downtown Starke from Thursday, Sept. 18, through Saturday, Sept. 20, with 75 percent of the clearance-item sales going toward the Bradford-Union Great Strides event.

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

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THIS IS FORD COUNTRY

Preparation leads to ease in housing female inmates

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Special to the Telegraph-Times-Monitor

Housing female inmates in a jail whose population in roughly 80 percent male is not as big an issue as one might expect, at least at the Bradford County Jail.

Capt. Carol Starling is the chief of corrections at the jail, in charge of the day-to-day operation of the facility. She said females present no special issues as inmates, largely because their residence was planned for when the jail was built and also because of the facilities

adherence to the Florida Model Jail Standards.

Rules are at the heart of a successfully run facility – both for the inmates and the jail staff as well.

For the inmates, rules include the requirement that they be fully dressed at all times when in the common dayroom of their pod. This applies to both male and female inmates. They are allowed to dress and undress in the shower area, which is equipped with both a privacy wall and shower curtain.

The jail is fully compliant with the guidelines established by

the Americans with Disabilities Act in both shower and toilet facilities provided.

“We have showers which are large enough to enter in a large wheelchair and have shower chairs for inmates to use if needed,” Starling said. “All of the grab rails are in place to help with movement and stability.”

The pods are arranged in a ring around a central control area, where the deputies on shift stay unless required in a pod. At Bradford County Jail, there are two pods dedicated to female prisoners, while there are eight pods for the men.

The Florida Model Jail Standards mandate that a female deputy be on duty at all times when female prisoners are in residence. There is always at least one female deputy on each shift – sometimes more – and they handle all issues related to female prisoners, except in cases of extreme emergency. The female deputies handle all body searches and any other close-quarter control issues with the female prisoners.

Female prisoners eat the same food as the men, wear the same

See JAIL, 12B

Capt. Carol Starling in her office, where she oversees Bradford County Jail operations. She said there are no special problems with female inmates in the facility as their presence was planned for when the jail was built.



This picture of Dalton was taken by a nurse 24 hours after his birth and given to Amber. “I didn’t know what he looked like,” she said.

DALTON

Continued from 2B

best of situations. He’s definitely shown the doctors that they don’t know everything.”

Nothing seemed to be out of the ordinary in regard to Amber’s pregnancy. In fact, she described it as “wonderful,” noting that she was able to keep working. It was actually at work that Amber’s water broke earlier than expected.

“He was supposed to be a Christmas baby,” Amber said.

Instead, Dalton arrived six weeks ahead of schedule and, in fact, shares his father’s November birthday.

Dalton’s head was large for a newborn baby that arrived on time, let alone one that was born six weeks early. He underwent surgery to have a tube called a shunt implanted into his brain. The shunt drains the fluid off of Dalton’s brain and into his abdomen.

Doctors gave Amber and David a grim prognosis as Dalton spent 34 days in the neonatal intensive care unit at Shands UF. Dalton would be confined to a wheelchair. He would never be able to speak or swallow. He would require 24-hour care.

“It was very nerve-racking and heartbreaking,” Amber said. “He was two weeks old before I actually ever got to hold him for the first time.”

Dalton was connected to various tubes and machines. Doctors didn’t want anyone touching him so as not to over-stimulate him following brain surgery.

“It was like having him all over again the very first time I got to hold him,” Amber said. “It was a very heart-felt moment.”

Doctors stated that 65 percent of Dalton’s brain was damaged. Yet doctors look at him now and “kind of laugh because of how far he has come with his development,” Amber said.

Dalton began undergoing physical therapy at 3 months of age. Because of the effects of hydrocephalus, there were delays and will most likely continue to be delays in Dalton’s motor-skills development. It took him nine months before he learned how to roll over. He was almost 3 before he took his first step. That was with the assistance of a walker.

Approximately five months, later, the walker was no longer needed.

“He eventually got to where the walker wasn’t fast enough for him, and he couldn’t get around doorways, so he began to walk out of the walker,” Amber said, adding, “Again, we reached another milestone we were told he wasn’t going to do.”

Dalton does walk with a limp due to hemiparesis, or weakness on one side of the body.

“He’s got more brain damage on the left side, so it affects more of the right side of his body,” Amber said. “He doesn’t use his right hand as much as he does his left hand. He walks on his tippy toes on the right foot. We’re actually talking to a surgeon now about doing surgery on his ankle and on his foot to try to correct that process to see if he can be

flat-footed.”

Amber added that Dalton has a balance issue, which affects his movement, especially the ability to run. Taking his cue, Dalton gets out of his chair and begins to demonstrate how he can run.

It is just one such example of how Dalton likes to engage people, no matter who they are. Being surrounded by people he didn’t know at the office of the Bradford County Telegraph while his mother was being interviewed did nothing to dampen Dalton’s enthusiasm for talking. When Amber mentioned the cartoons Dalton enjoys watching, such as “Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood,” “Paw Patrol” and “Wallykazam,” Dalton interjected, “Let me tell you something about a toboggan.”

He then enthusiastically began describing the plot of a “Wallykazam” cartoon in which Rockelle—a rock brought to life by Wally’s magic wand—needs to get up a mountain. A toboggan was the answer.

“As you can see, he’s really outgoing,” Amber said.

The only problem doctors now foresee with Dalton is the continued development of motor skills. He’ll always have issues with the use of his right hand or right foot, Amber said. Plus, he’ll continue to have problems with his vision and focusing, though at shortly after his birth, doctors predicted Dalton would be blind.

As long as the shunt in his brain continues to work, Dalton is fine. If there’s some malfunction, it requires a trip to the hospital.

“That’s the scary part about dealing with him,” Amber said. “He can be perfectly fine one minute, and an hour later be rushed to the emergency room because the fluid built up in his head, and it starts putting pressure on parts of the brain.”

There are really no signs that fluid is accumulating on his brain until he reaches a critical stage, Amber said. At that time, Dalton will display such symptoms as lethargy, irritability or vomiting.

The family had a scary moment when Dalton was 2. He was taken to the emergency room at one hospital with a high fever, with a diagnosis of pneumonia being made. Amber believed there was something else wrong with her son, which proved to be true. He had gone to sleep, and Amber couldn’t wake him. Dalton was rushed to a different hospital, with doctors there needing just 20 minutes

to realize that his shunt was malfunctioning.

It was the first time a doctor had ever told Amber she almost lost her son.

“From then on, we’ve had a lot of trips to the emergency room—simple bronchitis, ear infections or just a viral infection,” Amber said. “Anything like that, we go to the emergency room for precautionary, better-safe-than-sorry measures because with him, you never know.”

Brain damage? Brain surgeries? They haven’t prevented Dalton from becoming a bright, little boy. Amber said it is amazing just how smart her son is.

“He catches onto something really, really quick,” Amber said. “You only have to show him one or two times how to do something, and he’s got it.”

Of course, it helps to be a little inquisitive, too. Amber said Dalton and his father sit and watch mechanic shows on TV together, with Dalton asking, “What’s that? Why are they doing that?”

“When the show’s over, he can tell you how to do it,” Amber said.

Dalton is currently a kindergarten student at Southside Elementary School, and he is adjusting very well to the school atmosphere.

David and Amber Ballinger are pictured with Dalton during his first birthday party.



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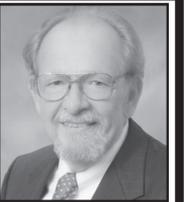
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To our readers:
The BCT has gladly given space to acquaint you with the candidates running for office. We have interviewed each, run profiles and will cover them in any public speaking engagements. Any candidate is welcome to buy advertisements to make sure voters know their qualifications. We will not be running support letters to the editor for local, regional or state candidates. For information to advertise please call 964-6305.

Voter turnout is disappointing

Dear Editor:
The voter turnout in Northeast Florida for an important primary election was indeed disappointing. Bradford County enjoyed a better turnout than many of our neighbors, but still about 75% of the registered voters in our county were happy to allow the other 25% of us to make their choices for them. It seems rather out of balance because I talk politics with a lot of people and find that at least 90% of them find plenty to complain about. The problem with that is that thousands of complaints won't come close to equaling one vote.
I am, however, an optimist. In an election as important as the one coming up in November, I refuse to believe that folks won't turn out and voice their

opinion at the polls where it will be counted. You really don't want your non vote to give tacit approval to whatever happens whether you approve of it or not, do you?

Sincerely,
David L. Dodge

Fortunate to live in Bradford

Dear Editor:
My husband and I recently returned from a road trip that took us west on a southerly route to California, north to Oregon and east along the northern states.

Among all the great sights we experienced were observation of towns, cities, and many rural areas along the 18 states we traveled. We saw boarded up and abandoned businesses, abandoned homes, mostly abandoned towns, and sadly in repair infrastructures everywhere.

We returned home to Bradford County and realized that even though there are empty buildings and homes in our area we are actually much more fortunate than many places in the country. We have more activity and positivity than in most areas we saw.

Our hope is that we can continue and progress. There is always a lot of room for improvement, and we will see it if we keep trying.

Edythe Hill
Morgan Road

U.S. riding lies to world dominance

Dear Editor:

Back by popular demand: the U.S. foreign policy managers who self-righteously lied us into Iraq, Vietnam, and a slew of coups in the third world in the interval, are at it again--mass media news, get up and take a bow too!

Barack Obama, Mr. 'Hope and Change' and Nobel Peace Prize recipient understands his job duties well: be a good steward of the empire and do all that's necessary to see that it continues its march toward total global hegemony.

Here's the latest script: Putin's a Hitler who has invaded another country in Russia's insatiable quest for world dominion. Yes its tanks and soldiers have taken Crimea, much like the Nazis took Poland--and then they forced these poor Crimean people, prodded by barrels of guns, to vote to join Russia--now, watch the dominoes fall.

One slight problem with this scenario--it just ain't so!

But this inconvenient fact does not stop our president, State Department, or "diplomatic" UN contingent from hyping the story--again major thanks to our servile "liberal" media for presenting fiction as fact in its designated role of PR Men for Empire.

Arnie Harris
Lawtey

SOCIALS



Charles and Judy Goodowns



Kristin Reddish and Jerry Holland

Charles, Judy Goodowns celebrate 50th anniversary

Charles and Judy Goodowns celebrated their 50th anniversary on Sept. 6, 2014. The family and friends of Charles and

Judy Goodowns would like to congratulate them on 50 years of marriage.

Reddish, Holland to wed on Oct. 18

Kristin Ashley Reddish of Starke and Jerry "Adam" Holland of Sanderson announce their engagement.

Kristin is the daughter of William and Carolyn Reddish of Starke. She is a graduate of Bradford High School, is employed by Shands Starke, Salon Soleil and attends Sampson City Church of God.

Jerry is the son of Jerry and Tracy Holland of Sanderson. He is a graduate of Baker County High School, is employed by JEA and attends Taylor Church.

The wedding is planned for Oct. 18, 2014 at Taylor Church with reception to follow. Invitations will be sent out.

Douglas(s) family reunion is Sept. 21

Douglas(s) Family Reunion will be held on Sept. 21 at the Lake Butler Community Center at 11:00 (12:30 lunch). Bring a covered dish and come enjoy family.

Mann-Parrish reunion set for Sept. 20

There will be a reunion for the Mann and Parrish families on Saturday, Sept. 20th, at 11:00 am at the Lake Butler Church of Christ fellowship hall. Please bring covered dishes. Come and enjoy fellowship with family and friends. If you have any questions, call Carol Roberts at 386-496-2854 or contact her on Facebook.

Hines celebrates 20 years in the ministry

Elderess Ophelia Bright Hines is celebrating 20 years of service to the building of God's kingdom. Hines is the daughter of the late Bishop Daniel and Mrs. Gussie Bright of Lawtey. Ordained on Sept. 17, 1994, she was the first female minister at Salem Missionary Baptist Church, near Atlanta, Georgia. Since Aug. 2008, Hines has served as the assistant pastor of Bethel Freewill Baptist Church in Lake City. She serves the United American Freewill Baptist Church Conference Association in various capacities, including seminar presenter and youth director.

StarkeJournal.com

COLLEGE

Continued from 1B

Sasser said. "It has assets." He talked about keys for Bradford's future, such as the availability of broadband Internet and taking advantage of the resources the Plum Creek Timber Company is promising in the way of jobs.

Sasser said a grant that has been applied for will, if approved, help the county develop a community asset inventory.

Some other positive things Sasser said were occurring in Bradford County were the consideration of tax-exemption referendums for businesses that will create new jobs in the area (recent elections grant the Starke and Bradford County commissions to negotiate such exemptions), as well as the success of the Bradford County Incubator program. Sasser said more than 100 people have taken advantage of the training offered through that program to create their own businesses.

A recent community meeting with Congressman Ted Yoho went well, Sasser said, adding that it's important to build relationships with those who represent the area in Washington.



Victoria Denmark, a dual-enrolled Bradford County student, performs the national anthem. Afterward, Santa Fe College President Jackson Sasser said, "You know why we're in the top 10. That was one of our students who just sang."

The talk had Sasser already looking forward to next year's state-of-the-college address.

"I hope to have a lot of new prospects and new businesses to talk about," he said.

Aside from the Aspen Institute ranking, Sasser shared other exciting news in regard to Santa Fe College:

- Approximately \$8 million of Florida's budget was approved by Gov. Rick Scott for

the expansion of the college's Gainesville Kirkpatrick Center, which houses its aviation program and Institute of Public Safety (fire science, EMT, police and criminal justice programs). Enrollment at the center currently has to be capped due to a lack of space.

Sasser said Sen. Rob Bradley was instrumental in the process. "If you see him, stop him and thank him," Sasser said.

- In the spring, the first students in the school's bachelor's-degree nursing program graduated.

"They can go and work at any hospital--certainly in Florida and around the country," Sasser said. "We had the first graduates. Let me tell you, you talk about a celebration? That was a huge day for them."

- Former Santa Fe student Christian Keen, who is now at UF, was named to the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society's All-USA Community College Academic Team, which is made up of the top 20 two-year college students out of approximately 12.8 million students in the nation.

Keen was the first-ever Santa Fe student to receive the honor.

"It doesn't get better than that," Sasser said. "It's about student success."



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Tornadoes suffer another big loss to Class 5A opponent

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Bradford High School's football team scored its first points of the season, but visiting Baker County took advantage of three turnovers and several big plays in the second half in handing the Tornadoes a 43-7 defeat on Sept. 5.

The Tornadoes (0-2) made it an 8-7 game in the second quarter after putting together an 18-play, 72-yard drive that consumed approximately 11 minutes. However, that drive totaled more yards than Bradford had the rest of the game.

Baker County (1-1) led by 15 points at the half and extended that lead by scoring three touchdowns in an approximate three-minute span in the third quarter.

It was the second straight week the Class 4A Tornadoes faced a Class 5A opponent.

"Right now, this program is not at the level of the teams we've played the past couple of weeks in a lot of ways," Bradford head coach Corey Green said, "but these kid and this coaching staff have a goal to make sure we end up (at that level)."

After forcing the Wildcats to punt on the game's opening possession, Bradford promptly gave the ball back on a fumble on its first play from scrimmage. That set Baker County up at the Bradford 14, with Vic Givens eventually scoring a touchdown on a 10-yard run. Jacob Carter's

pass to Brody Crews on a two-point conversion attempt put the Wildcats up 8-0 at the 8:57 mark of the opening quarter.

Bradford converted on three third-down plays as it put together a methodical drive on the ensuing series. Quarterback Jacob Luke scrambled for 4 yards on a third-and-4 play and later had a 19-yard run on third-and-12. Runs of 10 and 6 yards by Jameze McNeal and Luke, respectively, netted first downs, while running back Alvin James slipped out of a potential backfield tackle to convert a third-and-1 play and set up a

first-and-goal at the Baker 9.

Then, it seemed to be a competition of which team could hurt itself worst with penalties. Consecutive delay of game and illegal procedure penalties pushed the Tornadoes back to the 17, but Baker County, after sacking Luke on third-and-goal from there, was flagged for a personal foul. That gave Bradford a first down at the 12-yard line. A 6-yard run by Luke, coupled with an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty on Baker set up first-and-goal at the 3.

Luke scored on a run from there, capping the lengthy drive

approximately two minutes into the second quarter. Jud Hicks' PAT made it a one-point game.

It only took the Wildcats five plays to extend their lead. Carter had a 38-yard run to the Bradford 29, while also completing an 18-yard pass to the 3-yard line. That set up former Bradford player Jarvis DeSue for a touchdown run.

Baker put together a nine-play, 76-yard drive to go up 22-7. Givens had five carries on the drive for 23 yards, while also catching a pass for 12 yards. DeSue's 11-yard run led to Givens' 1-yard touchdown with 1:39 left in the first half.

A long punt return to the Bradford 34 gave the Wildcats a chance to add another score before halftime, but the Tornadoes' Xavien Jenkins had an interception with less than a minute left on the clock.

The game totally got away from Bradford in the third quarter, despite the fact the Wildcats ran only six plays in the quarter. After Bradford went three-and-out to start the second half, Baker quarterback Carter scored on a 55-yard run at the 8:31 mark. After recovering a fumble on the Tornadoes' ensuing possession, the Wildcats found the end zone again on Carter's 28-yard touchdown pass to Zach Rafuse.

Carter finished the game with 115 yards rushing on five carries, while completing seven passes for 85 yards.

Baker made it three scores



Jameze McNeal carries the ball for a big gain on Bradford's scoring drive.



Carlton Hankerson returns a kickoff for the Tornadoes.

in approximately three minutes as Junior Higdon intercepted a tipped pass and returned it for a touchdown with 5:41 to play in the third quarter.

The Tornadoes finished the game with approximately 120 yards of offense after being held to approximately 30 yards in the second half. All of those yards came on the ground, with Luke and Aundre Carter each rushing

for approximately 40 yards.

As he addressed his team after the game, Green said Bradford would not face the same level of competition over the next couple of weeks.

"That doesn't mean you play down," Green said. "If you play the way you did on that one (offensive) drive and a few drives on defense—like I told you all week—you'll get to where you

See BHS, 7B

Indians back on the field Sept. 12

Keystone Heights High School's home football game against Wildwood, which was scheduled to be played Sept. 5, was canceled due to unplayable field conditions.

The Indians will be back in action Friday, Sept. 12, in a home matchup against Union County. Union (2-0) is coming off of a 56-7 win over West Nassau and has outscored its two opponents by a combined score of 116-13.

Union is currently ranked second in Class 1A.

BHS goes 1-4 in volleyball tournament

Bradford High School salvaged a win over St. Augustine and earned one of the pools' third-place finishes in the Gator Town Classic Volleyball Tournament, held Sept. 5-6 in Gainesville.

The Tornadoes (3-5) dropped best-of-two matches on the opening day to Fletcher, Gainesville and Trinity Catholic. In best-of-three play on Sept. 6, Bradford lost 3-0 (25-14, 25-15, 25-16) to Oak Hall before ending with a 3-0 (25-18, 25-17, 25-21) in the consolation match of the Copper Division.

Complete stats were not available, but Nyasia Davis and Lainie Rodgers did tally at least 26 and 25 kills, respectively, for the tournament, while Hannah Jones had at least seven. Kia Lane and Zahriah Collins had at least 23 and 10 assists, respectively, while Lane and Davis had at least four and three aces, respectively.

Davis had at least five blocks, while Rodgers and Jones had at least seven and six digs, respectively.

Prior to the tournament, Bradford played its first District 5-4A match, losing 3-0 (25-12, 25-7, 25-4) to visiting P.K. Yonge

on Sept. 4. Davis had two blocks and four service aces, while Lane and Karen Clark had six and five aces, respectively.

The Tornadoes played district opponent Fort White this past Tuesday and will travel to play district opponent Keystone Heights on Thursday, Sept. 11, at 6 p.m. On Monday, Sept. 15, Bradford travels to play West Nassau at 6:30 p.m. before traveling to play district opponent Interlachen on Tuesday, Sept. 16, at 6 p.m.

Newberry hands KH 1st volleyball loss

Keystone Heights played its first home volleyball match of the season on Sept. 8, but lost 3-0 (25-12, 25-16, 25-14) to Newberry.

Jordan Jennings had four digs and three service aces, while Hanna Crane had four assists.

The Indians (2-1) opened the season with a 3-0 (25-16, 26-24, 25-22) win over Union County. Crane had 14 assists, while Abi Loose and Miriah Maxwell each had six aces. Loose also had eight kills, while Shelby Skelly and Bailey Zinkel each had two blocks.

On Sept. 2, Keystone defeated District 5-4A opponent Fort White 3-0 (25-17, 25-16, 25-17). Crane had seven assists and six kills, while Loose had seven kills. Zinkel had seven aces.

Keystone will attempt to improve to 2-0 in district play when it hosts Bradford on

Thursday, Sept. 11, at 6 p.m. On Tuesday, Sept. 16, the Indians travel to play Oakleaf at 6:30 p.m.

UCHS falls 3-0 to Bell in volleyball

Union County High School traveled to Bell for a Sept. 4 volleyball match, losing 3-0 (25-22, 25-22, 25-12).

Kayla Andrews and Kaylan Tucker had seven kills each for the Tigers, with Andrews adding 25 digs and Tucker adding 13. Madelyn Kish had 11 digs to go along with two blocks, while Madison Adams and Lilly Combs had eight and seven assists, respectively.

On Sept. 2, the Tigers were defeated 3-1 (23-25, 25-17, 25-17, 25-22) by Baker County in Glen St. Mary. Devin Lewis had 12 points and five aces, while Combs and Tucker had seven and six points, respectively. Four of Tucker's points were aces. (The Telegraph-Times-Monitor only had access to serving stats as of press time.)

Union defeated Branford 3-0 (25-20, 25-15, 25-23) this past Monday, but stats were unavailable at press time.

The Tigers played District 7-1A opponent Newberry this past Tuesday and will host district opponent Williston on Friday, Sept. 12, at 6:30 p.m. On Monday, Sept. 15, Union travels to play district opponent Dixie County at 6:30 p.m. before traveling to play Williston on

Tuesday, Sept. 16, at 6:30 p.m.

UCHS, BHS place 2nd, 4th in golf

Bradford High School hosted a boys' golf match on Sept. 4, with P.K. Yonge placing first ahead of Union County, Williston and Bradford.

Union earned a score of 202 to finish behind P.K. Yonge (178). Brandon Ames shot a 48 to lead the Tigers, while Ethan Box shot a 50. Case Emerson and Josh Starling each shot a 52, while Tyler Lewis and Kyle Davis finished with scores of 58 and 61, respectively.

Bradford, with a team score of 209, finished just behind Williston (207). Baker County transfer Nicholas Ruise Jr. shot a 45 in his first competitive, nine-hole match, to lead the

Tornadoes, while Timothy Craig, Bradford's lone returner from 2013, shot a 48. Tristen Brown and Chase Wilson each shot a 58, while Ryan Fishburn and Dalton Hart had scores of 66 and 70, respectively.

In other golf news, Union senior Savannah Woodall competed in a Sept. 2 girls' match featuring Newberry and Trenton. She was the medalist with a score of 46.

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Tigers record 2nd blowout, beat West Nassau 56-7

BY VINCENT ALEX BROWN
Times Editor

Quarterback Caleb Cox rushed for one touchdown and threw two more, while eight players in all found the end zone as the Union County High School football team delivered its second consecutive blowout win, this time defeating visiting West Nassau 56-7 on Sept. 5.

The Tigers, who opened the season with a 60-6 win over Potter's House, improved to 2-0 and moved up to number two in the Class 1A poll.

Union's first score was set up when Casey Driggers scooped up a blocked punt and returned the ball to the West Nassau 11-yard line. Antwan Durn rushed for 2 yards before Cox used a quarterback sneak to take the ball in all the way, while getting a bath in a puddle next to the goal line after being tackled. The extra point put Union County up

7-0. The Class 4A Warriors (1-1) answered in kind, with quarterback Brandon Jackson completing a field-spanning 76-yard touchdown pass to Garrett Delano with 9:06 left in the first quarter. The extra point tied it at 7-7.

Union then controlled the ball for the next 6.5 minutes to finally score their second touchdown after Franklin Williams pulled Cox's pass down out of the air. The extra point was wide left, leaving the score at 13-7.

The Tigers blocked another punt, which Williams ran in for the touchdown, but it was called back after the Tigers were penalized for their second block in the back. That put the ball on Union County's 38-yard line. They got a touchdown that counted one play later when Cox connected with Dairon Alexander for a 62-yard pass. The extra point put the Tigers up



Darian Robinson fends of a team of Warriors on his way to the goal line. Photo by Lola Lacy.

20-7.

The second quarter opened with the first of a half-dozen fumbles throughout the game. Josh Hedman recovered a fumble by West Nassau. After Alexander made a solid gain on the ensuing first-down play, which was extended by a dead personal foul penalty against the Warriors, Isaiah Johnson basically walked the ball in from the Warriors' 7-yard line to put the Tigers up 27-7 just 30 seconds into the second quarter.

Things were not looking good for West Nassau and would continue to get worse.

For the rest of the half, the two teams battled it out with three fumbles and a couple of penalties. Union's Driggers and Alden McClellon provided defensive tackles, with Jacquez Warren taking down some Warriors and Hedman sacking their quarterback. James Ford then took another blocked punt in for a touchdown. The extra point put the Tigers up 34-7 with 2:31 left in the first half.

On the next play, Joshua Smith was injured when the Tigers recovered a fumble on the kickoff. He later had his right

knee iced down and stayed out the rest of the game.

To get West Nassau's pain over with, the officials got agreement from both sides to let the clock run, resulting in a quick second half.

The Warriors opened it up with an onside kick, but Hedman recovered it. A few first downs

later, Alexander took a punishing tackle while grabbing a pass out of the air, with a collective groan heard throughout the stadium. Not surprisingly, pass interference was called against the Warriors, but the Tigers declined it. Down at West Nassau's 2-yard line, Durn ran it in for the Tigers' first score of the second half. Adding insult to injury, Cox threw an easy pass to Williams in the corner to complete a two-point conversion.

At this point it seemed like the Warriors simply provided scrimmage practice for the Tigers, who were now up 42-7.

Hedman recovered a fumble after the Warriors tried a double reverse. Several plays later, Darian Robinson ran it in for another Tigers touchdown. The extra point put them up 49-7 with 3:46 left in the third quarter.

Junior varsity Tiger Marice Strong joined Warren and McClellon in keepin up the pressure against West Nassau well into the fourth quarter.

Then, junior varsity Tiger Ty Cook came in as quarterback, while Cox relaxed and smiled on the sideline. Three plays later, Cook had a 69-yard rushing

touchdown to cap off another blowout at home. The extra point secured the final score at 56-7 with less than four minutes left in the game.

This time around, the Tigers seemed to rely more on the run, rather than focusing on the new spread offense they showcased the week before.

"We took what they were going to give us and just stuck with that," Union head coach Ronny Pruitt said.

In regard to this high-turnover game, Pruitt remarked, "Some of them fumbled when nobody was touching them. We've got to fix that most definitely."

Cox had a 75-percent completion rate, (9-of-12), averaging nearly 16 yards per completion. His quarterback rating is 153.5.

Cook's 68-yard touchdown run made him the game's leading rusher. Johnson had 55 yards, averaging nearly 8 yards on each of his seven carries. Durn had 11 carries, averaging 3.5 yards per carry for a total of 38 yards.

Williams had four receptions for 33 yards. Alexander had three for 107 yards.

McClellon led in tackles with 10, followed by Hedman with six and Treyce Hersey with five.

Hedman, Smith, Ford and Clay Halle each had a sack.

On Friday, Sept. 12, Union travels to face the Class 4A Keystone Heights Indians for a 7:30 p.m. game. Keystone (0-1) opened the season with a 35-14 loss to West Nassau and had its Sept. 5 game against Wildwood canceled due to unplayable field conditions.

In last year's matchup, the Tigers defeated Keystone 21-7.



Casey Driggers pulls a ball out of the air launched by quarterback Caleb Cox. Photo by Lola Lacy.

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BHS

Continued from 6B

want to go. "I know it's easy for me to sit here and keep talking about it, but you've got to believe in yourself, you've got to believe in what we're doing and you've got to believe in what we're telling you."

Green added: "It's not easy. Keep believing. It'll happen."

Bradford travels to play fellow Class 4A team Fort White on Friday, Sept. 12, at 7:30 p.m. The Indians (1-1) are coming off of a 21-0 win over Class 1A Newberry after opening the season with a 20-14 loss to Class 1A Hamilton County.

Fort White went 7-2 last year, winning the District 2 championship and falling in the first round of the playoffs to East Gadsden. One of the Indians' wins was against Bradford by a score of 37-27.

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OBITUARIES



Kenneth Clyatt
Kenneth Clyatt

LAKE BUTLER— Kenneth Mobley Clyatt, 95, of Lake Butler, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, Sept. 4, 2014, at Baya Pointe Nursing and Rehab Center in Lake City. Mr. Clyatt was born on Feb. 10, 1919, the fourth son of the late Dudley and Ada (Reaves) Clyatt. He was a lifelong resident of Union County. He married the love of his life, Alethea (Dukes) Clyatt on May 21, 1937. They were blessed with 77 years of marriage and four children. Mr. Clyatt was a part of Harmony Free Will Baptist Church his entire life, becoming a member, together with his wife, in 1938. He served the church he loved, and faithfully attended, as Clerk, Member of the Board of Trustees, Building Committee Member, Member of the Board of Deacons, and Deacon Emeritus over the years. He was employed by, and retired from, Clay Electric Cooperation, Inc. after 31 years. He served on the Union County School Board from 1963-1967, representing district three, having been elected in Nov. of 1962. He served his country in the United States Army from 1943 to 1946. During WW II he was stationed in Guadalcanal of the South Pacific. Mr. Clyatt was a member of the Lake Butler Masonic Lodge #52, Free and Accepted Mason, for 67 years. As a Mason he served as Worshipful Master and District Deputy Grand Master. He enjoyed fishing, gardening, and traveling, with his wife, especially during their retirement years. Family and friends enjoyed the generous gifts of sweet corn, peas, peanuts and other vegetables from his garden. He enjoyed spending time with, and showing his love for, his grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Robert, Raymond, Lindsey, and Harold; daughter, Verrell Clyatt Martin; son, Elmo Kerwin Clyatt; and grandson, Charles "Chuck" William Martin.

He is survived by: his wife, Alethea (Dukes) Clyatt; two sons, Kenneth "Red" Melaine (Irma) Clyatt and Larry Dukes (Peggy) Clyatt both of Lake Butler; eleven grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren, and twelve great-great-grandchildren.

A celebration of his life was conducted on Sept. 7th at Harmony Free Will Baptist Church in Lake Butler. The service was officiated by son, Larry Clyatt, and nephew, Bobby Clyatt. In lieu of flowers memorial gifts may be given to Harmony Free Will Baptist Church. Arrangements are through Archer Funeral Home of Lake Butler. 386-496-2008.

PAID OBITUARY



Virginia Forsyth
Virginia Forsyth

RAIFORD—Virginia Faulkner Forsyth, 82, of Raiford passed away suddenly Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2014 at North Florida Regional Medical Center in Gainesville. She was born on Dec. 22, 1931 to the late George and Linnie Faulkner. She was a life long resident of Raiford. Mrs. Forsyth retired from the Reception Medical Center as a Correctional Officer. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Raiford. She is preceded in death by: her daughter, Janet L. Forsyth; four brothers, Raymond, George, Gerald and Bill Faulkner; two sisters, Mary Lee Faulkner and Alice Brown.

She is survived by: her loving husband of 63 years, T.J. Forsyth of Raiford; son, Tommy (Betty Ann) Forsyth of Raiford; grandson, Zachary Forsyth; brothers, John (Frances) Faulkner of Jacksonville, Drexel (Geri) Faulkner of Middleburg, and Roy (Barbara) Faulkner of Hilliard; sisters, Vera (Barry) Hendrix of Madison, Alabama, and Carrie Clark of Bradenton.

Funeral service for Mrs. Forsyth was held Sept. 6 at the First Baptist

Church of Raiford with Rev. Tommy Smith officiating. Burial took place at Sapp Cemetery following the service. The arrangements are under the care of Archer Funeral Home, Lake Butler 386-496-2008.

PAID OBITUARY



Barbara Horne
Barbara Horne

STARKE—Barbara Jean Horne, age 77, of Starke went to be with the Lord at home on Sunday, Sept. 7, 2014 at 10:45 am. She was born on Nov. 17, 1936 to the late John Cowart and Lilly Mae Clark Cowart. Barbara was born and raised in Starke and was a former resident of Sebastian. She was a member of the Eastern Star, the Women's Club, and Dedan Baptist Church. Barbara married Alfred B. Horne on Sept. 15, 1982 in Folkston, Georgia. She worked as a certified nursing assistant, a buyer for Gibsons and for Woolworths. Barbara loved her family, enjoyed cooking, and lived life to the fullest. Everyone who knew her loved her; she could bring a smile to anyone's face, and lit up the room. She was preceded in death by: her parents, John Cowart and Lilly Mae McGill; her son, Terry Horne; her granddaughter, Brandy Pollock; and her brother, Frank McGill.

Barbara is survived by: her loving husband of 32 years, Alfred Horne of Starke; her children, Laquita (Steven) Wildering of Tribune, Kansas, Tammy (Dean) Ervin of Holopaw, Richard Horne of St. Cloud, Debra (Stephen) Herrick of Sebastian, and Billy (Patricia Williams) Horne of Starke; her brother, Dan McGill; her ten grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers please make donations to Dedan Baptist Church, P.O. Box 67, Brookier, FL 32622 or Haven Hospice Development Department, 4200 NW 90th Blvd., Gainesville, FL 32606. The arrangements are under the care and direction of Archie Tanner Funeral Services, Starke. 904-964-5757. Visit www.archietannerfuneralservices.com to sign the family's guest book.

PAID OBITUARY

Kenneth Kincade

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS— Kenneth Eugene Kincade, 47, of Keystone Heights died on Monday, Sept. 1, 2014 at his residence. He was born in Jacksonville and moved to Keystone Heights 17 years ago. He was a land surveyor.

He is survived by: his wife of 22 years, Laura Triplett Kincade; sons, Luke Ryan and Kyle Eugene Kincade all of Keystone Heights; mother, Earline Kincade of Jacksonville; brothers, James Kincade of Alabama and William Daniel Kincade of Jacksonville; and sister, Lisa Kincade of Georgia.

Memorial services were held Sept. 8 at Community Christian Church in Keystone Heights with Pastor William Kincade officiating. Arrangements are under the care of Moring Funeral Home of Melrose.

Warren Johns

JACKSONVILLE— Warren Gary Johns, 77, of Jacksonville died at his home, Monday, Sept. 8, 2014. He was born in Lawtey to the late Ernie C. and Mary (McCormick) Johns. He served in the United States Army and retired from Ford Motor Company. He was a member of Jones Road Baptist Church in Jacksonville. He was preceded in death by his siblings, Clyde Johns,

Morris Johns, Lucille Johns Mosley, Mary Lois Johns Bowen, and Clifford Johns.

Survivors are: his wife, Vivian (Redding); children, Kevin A. Johns of Jacksonville and Brenda Johns (Greg) Dean of Orange Park; two grandchildren; along with many cousins, nephews, nieces, and extended family.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 11 in the DeWitt C. Jones Chapel with Pastor Ron Kimbrell officiating. The family will receive friends prior to the services. Interment will be at Evergreen cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a Hospice of your choice. Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Starke.

Barbara Moody

RAIFORD—Barbara Kitts Moody, 68, of Raiford died Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2014 at her residence.

A memorial service will be held Friday, Sept. 12 at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel of Archer Funeral Home in Lake Butler.



Delores Nail
Delores Nail

STARKE—Delores Ann Nail, age 48, of Starke passed away on Friday, Aug. 29, 2014 at her residence. She was born in Jacksonville on Jan. 16, 1966 to Nena Nail Hurst and the late Herbert Austin Smith. Delores was raised by her mother and step father in Jacksonville along with many other locations because her step father was in the military. In 2006, Delores moved to Starke where she became a member of the First United Pentecostal Church. She was a homemaker for most of her life, which she really enjoyed because she was able to care for her family and raise her son, Joseph. Delores was a very creative woman. She was the founder of Dee's Creation Company which sold art designs, pictures, and hand crafted bead jewelry. She loved being creative, traveling, and riding in the truck with her best friend, Jeff, around the United States.

Delores is survived by: her mother and step father, Nena and Donald Hurst of Crestview; her son, Joseph M. Bowser of Starke; her brothers, Chuck Smith of Texas and Ronnie Brackett of Alabama; her sister, Tammy (Robert) Vanmeter of Louisiana; her best friend, Jeff Bowser of Starke; and her granddaughters, Emma and Riley Bowser.

A memorial visitation was held on Sept. 6 at Archie Tanner

Funeral Services. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archie Tanner Funeral Services, Starke. 904-964-5757. Visit www.archietannerfuneralservices.com to sign the family's guest book.

PAID OBITUARY

Carl Toombs

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—Carl Toombs, 79, of Keystone Heights died Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2014 at Riverwood Health & Rehab in Starke. He was born on Dec. 3, 1934 in Wallkill, New York to the late Alva and Dorothy (Lake) Toombs and moved to Keystone Heights in 1989 from New York. Prior to retirement he worked as a correctional officer for the State of New York and drove a school bus. He served in the United States Army and was a member of the Church of Christ in Keystone Heights.

Survivors are: his wife of 50 years, Darlene Lent Toombs; children, Nancy Scofield of Margaretville, New York, Karen (Bruce) Swart of Saugerties, New York, Keith (Anna) Toombs of Accord, New York, Robert (Mary Ellen) Toombs of Keystone Heights, and Randy (Dawn) Toombs of Starke; brother, John (Marie) Toombs of Keystone Heights; fourteen grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 13 in the Church of Christ with Mr. Robert Bell officiating. Interment will follow at the Keystone Heights Cemetery. Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Keystone Heights.



William Underwood
William Underwood

HAMPTON— William "Bill" James Underwood, age 85, of Hampton passed away on Friday, Sept. 5, 2014 at the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center in Gainesville with family by his side. He was born in Wilkinson, Georgia on Jan. 14, 1929 to the late Oscar K. Underwood and Dahlia Gordy Underwood. Bill was raised in Statesboro, Georgia where he lived until he joined the Army in 1953. He served his country proudly from 1953-1958 in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict. Bill has been a resident of Hampton since 1952 where he met the love of his life, Ruth Norcross, and married her on Nov. 24, 1969. Bill and Ruth attended Sampson City Church of God for many years. Bill was a very talented man who could fix anything. He was a carpenter, painter,

cabinetmaker, and repair man. He enjoyed hunting, farming, and eating good cooking. Bill was preceded in death by: his loving wife of 44 years, Ruth Caroline Underwood; and his brothers, Edward Daryl, Earl King, Calvin, Robert, and Junior Cecil Underwood.

Bill is survived by: his loving children, Ruth (Larry) Feltner of Raiford, Sarah Underwood of Worthington Springs, John (Wanda Gail) Simmons of Crestview, Chanda (Mark) Griggs of Dover, and Wayne (Guillermina) Simmons of Lutz; his brothers, Johnnie George Underwood, Richard Underwood, Hubert Russell Underwood, and Ernest Carl Underwood; his sisters, Dahlia Oree Wright, Shirley Barbara Williams, and Jeanette Manning; his ten grandchildren, Ashley Feltner, James Feltner, Christy Watts, Joshua Griggs, Dustin Griggs, Jack Griggs, Jesse Adams, Daniela Geisler, Krystal Adams, and Lance Seay; and five great-grandchildren, Maddie Feltner, Westley Watts, Rayne and Easton Geisler, and Nicholas Adams.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, Sept. 13 at 11:00 am at Sampson City Church of God with Reverend Gene Bass officiating. Interment will follow at Santa Fe Cemetery with military honors. The family will receive friends on Friday, Sept. 12 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at the Archie Tanner Funeral Services Chapel. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archie Tanner Funeral Services, Starke. 904-964-5757. Visit www.archietannerfuneralservices.com to sign the family's guest book.

PAID OBITUARY

Joshua Williams

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS— Our family is deeply saddened to announce the passing of our beloved son and brother, Joshua Mathew Williams went to be with our Lord on Saturday, Sept. 6th, 2014. Josh was born in Gainesville on May 9, 1992 and spent much of his life in Keystone Heights. Josh loved sports, movies, spending time on the water and making memories with friends and family. He had a deep soul, compassionate heart, infectious smile and was fiercely loved by his family and friends. He was taken from us too soon and will be missed forever.

Josh is survived by: his parents, Gloria Lovano and Craig Williams; siblings, Tysee Williams, Jason (Beth) Lovano, Kristen (Gary) Bryant; paternal grandmother, Dee Williams; and a multitude of loving aunts, uncles and cousins.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held Saturday, Sept. 13 in Keystone Heights. More details will be available on the Williams-Thomas Funeral Homes website at www.williamsthorasfuneralhome.com. In lieu of flowers, please make a memorial contribution in Josh Williams name to The Reichert House (1704 SE 2nd Avenue, Gainesville, Florida 32641). For further information contact Williams-Thomas Downtown (352) 376-7556.

PAID OBITUARY

In Memory



Robert C. Davies, Jr.
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Son Alex
Daughter Amy
Daughter Cindy
Son Kenny
Daughter Linda
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CRIME

Recent arrests in Bradford, Clay and Union

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

Bradford

Jerry Taylor Atteberry, 18, of Lawtey was arrested Sept. 4 by Starke police for fraud—illegal use of credit cards, possession of drugs—controlled substance without a prescription and possession of marijuana. According to the arrest report, a resident on Alton Road in Starke had a wallet with several credit cards inside it stolen from his vehicle during the night. By the time he reported it to the police, several charges had been put on one of the cards at Walmart, Kangaroo and Redbox in the Starke area. After viewing surveillance video at Walmart and Kangaroo, the police were able to see what type of clothing the person using the card had on and what type of vehicle they were driving. Later that

afternoon, police spotted the vehicle at the public library in Starke with Atteberry inside of it. After questioning, Atteberry claimed a friend had provided the card to him to use to make the purchases. A search of Atteberry's truck turned up the controlled substance and the marijuana, and he was arrested and transported to jail. According to the arrest report, Atteberry is still under investigation for burglary of the vehicle, theft of the credit card and theft of the controlled substances. Bond was set at \$6,000 for the three charges he was arrested on.

Robert Kyle Benton, 20, of Lawtey was arrested Sept. 6 by Lawtey police during a traffic stop for possession of marijuana.

Daryl Ray Butler, 28, of Jacksonville was arrested Sept. 7 by Bradford deputies during a traffic stop for possession of marijuana. Bond was set at \$1,000 for the charge.

Christian Enrique Claudio, 20, of Jacksonville was arrested Sept. 3 by Lawtey police for driving while license suspended or revoked. Bond was set at \$1,000 for the charge.

Candace Lea Driggers, 31, of Jacksonville was arrested Sept. 5 by Bradford deputies for driving under the influence and fleeing/eluding a police officer at a high speed. According to the arrest report, a deputy spotted Driggers speeding on S.R. 100 West by the Keystone Airport. When he got behind the vehicle and clocked the speed with his radar, she was traveling close to 100 mph. Driggers kept going, so the deputy activated his siren, but she continued to speed around 100 mph and crossed into the other lane at one point. Driggers finally pulled over at Starke Landscape and said she was speeding to get home because her boyfriend was mad at her. The deputy smelled alcohol on her breath, and Driggers admitted to drinking earlier in the night. She failed the field sobriety exercises, and was arrested and transported to the jail. Bond was set at \$4,000 for the charges.

Robert Joseph Gacioch, 25, of Starke was arrested Sept. 1 by Bradford deputies for larceny. According to the arrest report, Gacioch stole his roommate's 55-inch, flat-screen TV while the roommate was out of the house. The roommate called law enforcement when he discovered his TV missing, and they interviewed Gacioch and others about the incident. Gacioch claimed he knew nothing about the missing TV. While the deputy was speaking with neighbors about the incident, Gacioch left, and the roommate then discovered that the remote to the TV and a HDMI cord were missing from a coffee table, where they had been several minutes before. He called the officer, who went to find Gacioch at another address. When the officer arrived, Gacioch was closing the back part of his truck. The officer ordered him to open it, and the stolen TV was there. Gacioch was arrested and

transported to jail.

Dianne Elizabeth Gill, 50, of Starke was arrested Sept. 2 by Bradford deputies for two charges of larceny—grand theft more than \$300 and less than \$5,000, burglary and two charges of dealing in stolen property. According to the arrest report, Gill was living at a residence in Starke with another person when she took items from the boyfriend of her roommate and sold them at a pawn shop in Keystone Heights. When the roommate discovered the first theft, she also realized that much of her gold jewelry was missing. Further investigation by BCSO revealed the jewelry had been pawned at the same place in Keystone, with the pawn tickets confirming that Gill sold the items. She was arrested, and bond was set at \$30,000 for the charges.

Stephanie Lashonda Goodman, 26, of Starke was arrested Sept. 2 by Starke police for battery. According to the arrest report, Goodman went to an ex-boyfriend's home to see a child they have together, and a verbal argument ensued. The argument then turned physical, with Goodman throwing something at the ex-boyfriend and cutting him in the face. Goodman claimed the ex-boyfriend started the physical incident by grabbing her by the arms and attempting to drag her out of the house. She said she resisted and only threw a phone at him after he tried to punch her. As there were no witnesses to the incident, police decided both should be charged, with charges against the ex-boyfriend to go through the State Attorney's Office since he had to be transported to Shands Starke for his facial injury. Bond was set at \$10,000 for the charge against Goodman.

Kelvin Grigger, 25, of Fort

White was arrested Sept. 6 by Bradford deputies for driving while license suspended or revoked. Bond was set at \$500 for the charge.

Kelli Nicole Haight, 31, of Brooker was arrested Sept. 3 by Bradford deputies for possession of opium or derivative. According to the arrest report, the Bradford County Drug Task Force went to a home on Northwest 185th Street off of C.R. 225 in the county after receiving information that there was an active marijuana grow located there. No marijuana was found, but Haight was inside the residence when the task force knocked on the door. When asked if she had any illegal contraband on her, Haight said she had two pills on her: a Roxy 30 and a Roxy 15. She had a prescription for the Oxycodone 30 mg pill, but said the prescription for the other 15 mg pill was at her residence in Brooker. She then said she had the 15 mg pill for a sick brother who was out of medicine, and that a friend had really gave her the pill. She was arrested and transported to jail.

Matthew Clifton Harris, 31, of Jacksonville was arrested Sept. 7 by Bradford deputies for driving while license suspended or revoked.

Lavance Maurice Ivory, 18, of Jacksonville was arrested Sept. 6 by Starke police for larceny. According to the arrest report, Ivory was in Walmart in Starke when he was observed removing an electronic game from its packaging and placing it in his pocket. Once he left the store without paying, Walmart employees confronted Ivory about the game. Ivory took off running, going back in the store and then outside. He was running south on the shoulder of U.S. 301 when police pulled up and detained him. He was arrested and transported to jail.

Cornelius Saint James, 34, of Starke was arrested Sept. 2 by Starke police for aggravated battery against a known pregnant victim. According to the arrest report, James got into an argument with his girlfriend, who is 37 weeks' pregnant. He threw the victim across the bed and then hit her in the face. When police arrived, the victim was sitting on the floor crying and coughing up blood, and said

James has been abusive before in their relationship. The victim was transported to North Florida Regional Medical by EMS, and James was arrested and transported to the jail. Bond was set at \$100,000 for the charge.

Autumn Lafferty, 33, of Starke was arrested Sept. 2 by Bradford deputies for failure to appear.

Jimmy Lauramore, 35, of Glen St. Mary was arrested Sept. 7 by Bradford deputies for driving while license suspended or revoked and possession of cocaine. According to the arrest report, Lauramore was parked at the Kangaroo store on S.R. 16 and Morgan Road, asleep at the wheel with the vehicle engine running when a deputy pulled in conducting a property check. After waking Lauramore and running a license check, a search turned up a small bag of cocaine in his pocket. He was arrested with bond set at \$6,000 for the charges.

William G. Manning, 21, of Starke was arrested Sept. 8 by Bradford deputies for probation violation. No bond was allowed for the charge.

Jimmy Neal Morgan, 45, of Jacksonville was arrested Sept. 3 by Bradford deputies on a warrant for lewd and lascivious behavior—inappropriate touching of a person under 16 years of age. According to the arrest report, Morgan's victim was a 12-year-old family member, and he faces allegations of more severe offenses that may have occurred out of the state. Morgan is a truck driver and had the victim with him for several trips to the northeast part of the country. BCSO and the state attorney's office are working with other law-enforcement agencies from the northeast on the allegations made against Morgan. Bond was set at \$500,000 for the current charge.

Matthew Wayne Rumbley, 23, of Jacksonville was arrested Sept. 7 by Lawtey police during a traffic stop for possession of marijuana.

Daniel James Spivey, 25, of Keystone Heights was arrested Sept. 4 by Bradford deputies driving while license suspended or revoked.

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CRIME

Recent arrests in Bradford, Clay and Union

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

Bradford

Leigh Phillip Pinckney, 20, of Lawtey was arrested Sept. 2 by Starke police for burglary, trespassing and loitering. According to the arrest report, Pinckney entered a home several times after being told not to come to the residence and after being Baker Acted for psychological evaluation for similar actions at the end of August. On Sept. 2, the occupants of the residence awoke to find Pinckney sitting at their kitchen table holding a small bottle of alcohol. The victims yelled at her to leave, which she finally did, only to stay in the carport until leaving before law enforcement arrived. Several hours later, she returned to the home and frightened several children inside by staring at them through the window. The police located her later in the morning and arrested her and transported her to jail. Bond was set at \$15,000 for the charges.

Brandy Erin Taylor, 32, of Starke was arrested Sept. 8 by Starke police for three charges of fraud—obtain controlled substance by fraud and distribution of opium or derivative. According to the arrest report, Taylor or an acquaintance called in a false prescription to CVS in Starke three times in August for Hydrocodone. When she tried the same with Walgreens on Sept. 8, Walgreens called the police about a possible fraud prescription. After checking with the doctor on the fake prescription, and after further investigation, police discovered the three fake prescriptions at CVS. Taylor was interviewed and said she was using some of the pills and giving some away to other people. She was arrested and bond was set at \$45,000 for the charges.

Wesley Dylan White, 22, of Lawtey was arrested Sept. 5 by Lawtey police for driving while license suspended or revoked. Bond was set at \$500 for the charge.

Jonathan Bernard Wimmers, 25, of Ocala was arrested Sept. 3 by Bradford deputies for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$75,000 for the charge.

Keystone/Melrose

David Bednar, 35, of Lawtey was arrested Sept. 7 by Clay deputies for battery.

John Bennett, 25, of Keystone Heights was arrested on Sept. 4 by Clay deputies for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

James Timothy Ivey, 30, of Melrose was arrested on Sept. 8 by Putnam deputies for resisting an officer, possession of cocaine and possession of drug equipment.

Demetric Johnson, 37, of Starke was arrested Sept. 3 by Clay deputies for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Justen Kelley, 25, of Melrose was arrested Sept. 7 by Clay deputies for failure to appear.

Danyelle Lee Pitchford, 28, of Melrose was arrested by Putnam deputies for three probation violations.

Bobby Reffitt, 29, of Keystone Heights was arrested Sept. 6 by Clay deputies for battery.

Stephanie Ann Slate, 47, of Melrose was arrested Sept. 6 by Putnam deputies for larceny.

Jeremy Allen Zoch, 33, of Melrose was arrested Sept. 3 by Clay deputies for aggravated battery and robbery.

Union

Raymond Graham, 52, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 7 by Union deputies for felony domestic battery and driving while license suspended or

revoked. According to the arrest report, Graham went to a home the victim was sleeping at and attacked her, choking her and scratching her across the face. He then left in the victim's vehicle, but was stopped by a deputy a short while later and arrested.

Page Hannah Lewis, 27, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 6 by Union deputies for battery. According to the arrest report, she and the father of her daughter got into an argument, and Lewis jabbed at him in the stomach with scissors before biting him on his arm and hitting him on the back of his head and in the face with a shoe multiple times. Lewis

was arrested and transported to the jail.

Ethan Etienne Anderson, 34, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 2 by Union deputies on a warrant for possession of drugs—controlled substance without prescription and distribution of cocaine—within 1,000 feet of a public park. Bond was set at \$80,000 for the charges.

Edwin V. Asher, 67, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 2 by Union deputies on a warrant for possession of drugs—controlled substance without prescription and selling opium or derivative—within 1,000 feet of public

housing or a school. Bond was set at \$60,000 for the charges.

Nicholas Jordan Barefoot, 18, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 2 by Union deputies on a warrant for possession of drugs—controlled substance without prescription, selling opium or derivative—within 1,000 feet of public housing or a school and trafficking in opium or derivative—4 grams to under 30 kilograms. Bond was set at \$110,000 for the charges.

Thomas Michael Bly, 41, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 5 by Union deputies on a warrant for failure to appear for

misdemeanor offense. Bond was set at \$5,000 for the charge.

Miguel Angel Hernandez Rios, 44, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 2 by Union deputies on a warrant for failure to appear for misdemeanor offense.

Jerry Ryan Jones, 41, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 2 by Union deputies on three warrants for three charges of possession of drugs—controlled substance without prescription, two charges of selling opium or derivative—within 1,000 feet of public housing or a school, trafficking in opium or derivative—4 grams to under 30 kilograms and

distribution of cocaine—within 1,000 feet of a school or place of worship. Bond was set at \$250,000 for the charges.

Heather Renee Poole, 36, of Fort White was arrested Sept. 3 by Union deputies on a warrant for failure to appear for misdemeanor offense and contempt of court—non payment of child support. Bond was set at \$6,160 for the charges.

Tina Marie Sharp, 43, of Lake Butler was arrested Sept. 5 by Union deputies for failure to appear for misdemeanor offense. Bond was set at \$10,000 for the charge.

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JAIL

Continued from 3B

type clothing (except the women get panties instead of boxers and sports bras if on a work detail) and follow the same behavioral and visitation guidelines.

"The only real difference is in some of the hygiene products," Starling said. "The women get what they need that the men don't."

The same is true when it comes to medical care at the

jail. All inmates' health is monitored by the medical staff, with medical records obtained from their physicians if they have medical conditions that warrant it. Inmates are transported to medical appointments as necessary. All inmates are handled with universal precautions for HIV, since privacy mandates prohibit letting anyone other than the medical staff know a patient's status.

Female inmates who are pregnant are taken to any

necessary pre-natal visits and are provided with appropriate pre-natal vitamins as ordered by their caregiver.

"We have been really lucky here," Starling said. "We haven't had anyone give birth here. I hope we can keep things that way."

Starling said the ratio of male to female inmates has remained basically the same since the facility was built in 1994-95 - running at about 80 percent male to 20 percent female. She said the jail is rarely filled to

capacity, but that the facility has a "gentleman's agreement" with other jails in the area to house prisoners in the short term free of charge. Bradford also handles all the female inmates for the Union County Sheriff's Office, as they do not have a separate area in their jail to house female prisoners.

"In the seven years I have been here, we have never had to send out inmates because of overcrowding," Starling said. "We have sent prisoners out because we needed them separated from

others housed in the facility. Right now, Baker County has one of ours and we have one of theirs, both for the same reason.

"If we start getting really full, we have portable beds we can set up in the prisoner's rooms, which raises the capacity of each room to three. That's our limit. If things are still tight, we might want to look at letting some people close to their release date go a day or two early, but we rarely resort to this measure."

Starling said the inmates are very lucky in that for such a

small county, Bradford has an active volunteer program, as well as a very active chaplain.

"We are a part of the community here and we know many of the people we handle," Starling said. "We not only know them, but very often we know their parents, grandparents and siblings. Sometimes this makes things hard, but we just always try to do the right thing, in the right way and do the best job we can for everyone concerned."

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