

# Bradford County Telegraph

USPS 062-700 — STARKE, FLORIDA

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2018

138<sup>TH</sup> YEAR — 24<sup>TH</sup> ISSUE — 75 CENTS



## Veterans dance for Valentine's

American Legion Post 56 is hosting at Valentine's Dance for veterans and their spouses on Saturday, Feb. 10, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the post home, 715 Edwards Road in Starke. Entry is \$5 for couples and \$2.50 for singles. Finger foods will be provided and covered dishes are welcome. Door prizes will be awarded. RSVP to 904-769-1221.

## Rights restoration group meets

The local chapter of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition will be having a meeting on Thursday, Jan. 25, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Bradford County Public Library, 456 W. Pratt St. in Starke.

The group is looking for directly impacted community members to help create momentum to change policies that benefit Floridians with felony convictions to help them successfully rebuild their lives after incarceration and to provide ongoing support for them and their families.

Directly and indirectly impacted community members and their families are welcome. The group will share light refreshments.

Florida Rights Restoration Coalition's mission is to promote fair practices for Floridians with felony convictions and help restore a sense of community for returning citizens and their families.

## Workshop for candidates

Interested in running for local office in 2018? Bradford County Supervisor of Elections Terry Vaughan will be hosting a candidate workshop to answer questions on Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 6 p.m. in the commission boardroom at the Bradford County Courthouse.

RSVP by calling the elections office at 904-966-6266.

## Bradford Fest seeks contestants

The eighth annual Miss Bradford Fest Pageant to raise money for scholarships to Santa Fe College will be held Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. at the Bradford High School auditorium.

Contestants will compete in the Western wear, evening wear, photogenic categories in the following age divisions: Little Miss for ages 4-7, Junior Miss for ages 8-12, Teen Miss for ages 13-17 and Miss for graduating high school seniors through 22 years of age. Teen and Miss contestants also compete in interview.

The entry fee is \$125. Applications are available at Santa Fe College Andrews Center, or email ltatum1007@yahoo.com.

The deadline to enter is Jan. 23. For more information, please call Lisa at 904-966-1514.

## 'We will rebuild.'

BY DAN HILDEBRAN  
Managing Editor

The owners of Tatum Brothers Sawmill said Tuesday they intend to rebuild the part of their facility that was destroyed by fire Monday.

Charles and Sylvia Tatum said that the day following the fire, the mill was open with all employees back on the job.

"They are still here and they will have a job as long as they want one," said Sylvia Tatum.

The blaze destroyed a key structure at the facility, about a mile and a half south of Lawtey.

Shortly after noon, employee Albert Baugess said he was eating a packed lunch, 20 feet away from the saw house.

"I heard a pop, looked around and didn't see anything," recalled Baugess. "Then I looked around again and all I saw was black smoke."

Baugess said he then shouted to co-

## Tatum Brothers owners vow to continue business



The fire destroyed the mill's saw house which is the first destination for timber arriving at the facility.

See FIRE, 6A



Sawmill workers, while walking around the burned saw house, find a hot spot, pick up a hose and douse it with water.



Bradford County Sheriff's Office Lt. Ray Shuford and Sylvia Tatum make sure all employees are accounted for.



## Holding and advancing the dream: Bradford County remembers King

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

The walls of the RJE gymnasium echoed Jan. 15 with the words of a dream once dreamt, a dream still being fulfilled.

Dr. Naima Brown, chosen to speak at Monday's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day service, said 50 years after his passing, King is still the most influential African-American on the planet and continues to be acknowledged as the world's greatest civil rights leader.

Brown is Santa Fe College's vice president of student affairs where she has been an advocate for social justice and equal access. In honor of King's legacy, she asked the crowd to make three commitments, the first being to hold on to his dream.

"Dr. King dreamed of the day when we would not be judged by the



Guest speaker Dr. Naima Brown

color of our skin but by the content of our character," she said. "In

See KING, 2A



Once notified of the overturned car, responders came to remove it and its occupants from the water.

## Car submerged in retention pond, 2 dead

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

Rescuers spent the early daylight hours of Jan. 14 fishing a wrecked car from a retention pond off of State Road 100 and Lakewood Subdivision, west of Starke.

Both occupants of the vehicle died in the crash, and there are no known witnesses to what happened.

From its preliminary investigation, Florida Highway Patrol was able to surmise that the Chevrolet Malibu

driven by 33-year-old Heather Dawn Jordan of Lawtey was traveling in a northerly direction on Lakewood Drive approaching the S.R. 100 intersection. The car crossed the highway onto the northern shoulder and became airborne, landing upside down in a storm water retention pond. Investigators don't know when that happened, but the crash was fatal for Jordan and her passenger, 19-year-old Ciara Nicole Kearns of Lawtey.

FHP is continuing its investigation.



# KING

Continued from 1A

the dream, blacks and whites are equal in income, equal in education and equal in life expectancy. In the dream, there are no racial differences in home ownership, no racial differences in unemployment and no racial differences in contacts with the criminal justice system.”

“Lately, we have been reminded over and over again that there are many in this nation who want us to give up on Dr. King’s dream, and that can be discouraging, but giving up on the dream is not acceptable, it’s not tolerable and it is simply not an option. We must not allow discriminating prejudices, disparaging comments and disparate statistics discourage us into believing that the dream is unobtainable, unrealistic and unimportant.”

King was insulted, threatened, arrested and beaten, Brown said. He saw men, both black and white, killed for standing with him. Women were raped. Churches were bombed. Crowds of American citizens standing up for what was right were attacked. People lost their jobs, their homes, because they held on to the dream.

“How could we not follow that example?” Brown asked. “Too much has been accomplished, and too much has been lost for us to give up on the hope of a better future.”

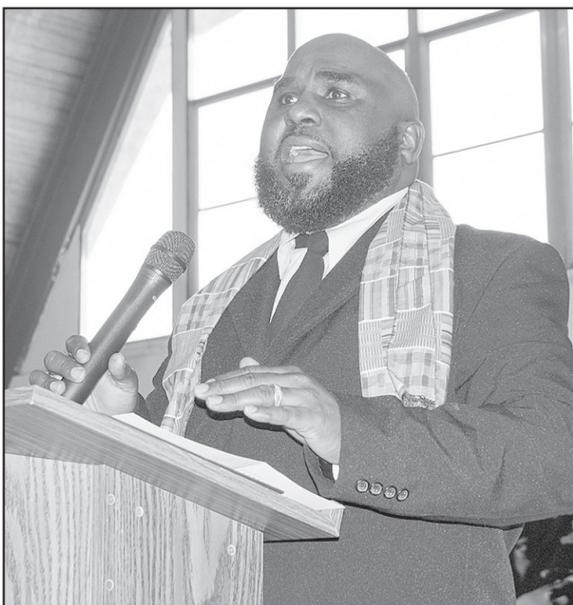
Respond to injustice by holding to the dream, she said.

“More specifically, when we turn on the news and we hear that the person occupying the highest position in the land has made racist comments, we must encourage ourselves that these current conditions are only temporary and hold on to the dream. When we hear that some of our own neighbors in the local community support the hatred stoked by the likes of Richard Spencers in the world, we must assure ourselves that there are more with us than against us and hold on to the dream. And when we see the atrocity of the achievement gaps in our school and the justice gaps in our jails, we must remind ourselves that the best is yet to come and hold fast to the dream.”

Huge strides and changes in the law took place because of



Bradford County Initiative members (l-r) Tony Mangol, Sheila Cummings and (on the far right) Glenda Ruise with Upward Bound students Isaac Williams, Jayla Eiland, Juanita Allen, Jimtaz Curry, Kayla Daniel, Kamren Hankerson, Jordan Lee and Jeremiah Vaughn. Not pictured: Taina Brown, Carissa Coleman, J’cobi Harris, Jordan Hill, Ja’quez Mosley, Amya Hill, Tarrin Jackson, Ja’Brianna Reed, Shantez Sewell, Dasaray Steele and Tavi’en Young.



Minister Erick Baker

the civil rights movement King led, laying the foundation for the dream, but there is much work left to do, Brown said.

“It is not enough to hold on to the dream; we must also move the dream forward,” she said, grabbing the baton and running with it. Moving the dream forward requires four things, including studying. King was a lifelong learner who excelled in school, studied the ministry,

engaged in politics and traveled to India to learn about nonviolent change.

“If he could do all of that during the Jim Crow era, students, you have no excuse today! Young people, there is no excuse! You must study! Seasoned adults, you have no excuse today! Study! In order to do our part to make the dream come to pass, we must be purposeful, lifelong learners living to our fullest potential to gain the knowledge that we need to come up with strategies to make a positive impact.”

Moving the dream forward requires voting, as well.

“Every single vote matters, and every single election matters,” Brown said. “Now more than ever, we see the importance of being involved in the political process to push forward what is right and to hold elected officials accountable.”

“Think of every white and black American that was murdered as they fought for our right to vote. Think about all the blood and tears that were shed. When we don’t vote, those deaths were in vain.”

Moving the dream forward also requires mentors, because “to whom much is given, much is required,” Brown said.

“Every person in this room



Beatrice Awoniyi presents the Shooting Star Award to Glenda Ruise.

has the responsibility to take a younger person under their wing and nurture the hope of Dr. King’s dream.”

The young need to know their history as well as what the future expects of them. Passing that knowledge along and preparing the next generation of leaders is a moral obligation, according to Brown.

“We need to mentor our young people so that they know about what’s going on, so that they care about what’s going on, so that they talk about what’s going on and so they shape what is going on.”

The fourth requirement is collaboration. We must follow King’s example in building partnerships with people from a wide variety of races, religions and backgrounds.

“There are millions of people in the world and thousands of people in this community who have been inspired by the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, and they’re committed to his dream. Find ways to connect to them, to cooperate with them and to create new pathways to the dream with them.”

The final commitment Brown discussed is remembering that God is the author of the dream. From Joseph of the Bible to Martin Luther King, God is the author of dreams, she said, and

in office! He is God! He is all powerful! He has all power in his hand. He has the heart of every man in his hand. God’s thoughts toward us are for peace and not for evil. He will complete every good work he has started, and he has a set time for his promise to be fulfilled.”

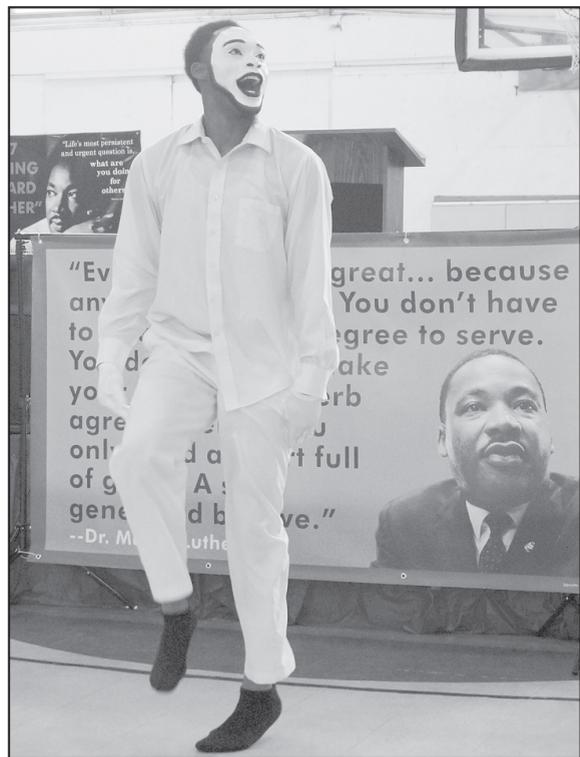
“The same God that parted the Red Sea, that rained manna from heaven, that brought water from a rock and raised the dead, can and will deliver his people. The same God that kept us through the Atlantic Crossing, brought us out of slavery, delivered us from Jim Crow and is preserving our families today has an appointed time for Dr. King’s legacy, for Dr. King’s dream to come to pass.”

Brown, with the help of members of the Bradford County Initiative, recognized juniors and seniors from Bradford High School who are involved in Upward Bound, a program to help them succeed in high school and prepare for success in college through tutoring, test preparation, mentoring, summer day camps, paid internships, and college application and scholarship assistance.

Pastor Erick Baker served as emcee for the program and — focusing on King’s ministry — shared excerpts from his sermons throughout the service. Alica McMillian, president of Concerned Citizens of Bradford County and chairwoman of the MLK program committee, highlighted the event’s theme, “Everybody can be great because anybody can serve.” A number of young people were included in the program, as was a musical ensemble with members of the Masonic Lodge.

Other committee members included Sherry Williams, Edna Allen, Robert Banks Sr., Margaret DeSue, Loretha Hankerson, Jimmy Hankerson, Shaketha Hankerson, David McMillian Sr., Norma Robinson, and members of the Concerned Citizens of Bradford County and RJE Alumni.

he is also the finisher. Nothing is too big for him. “I pray that God increases our faith so that ... we recognize that nothing is too hard for God. It does not matter what it looks like! It does not matter who is



Soldchylid, aka Jimmy Hankerson, with a praise dance for the occasion.

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**Bradford County Telegraph**  
USPS 062-700  
Published each Thursday and entered as Periodical Postage Paid at Starke, Florida under Act of March 3, 1879.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to:  
**Bradford County Telegraph**  
131 West Call Street • Starke, Florida 32091  
Phone: 964-6305 • P.O. Drawer A • Starke, FL 32091

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\$20.00 six months  
Outside Trade Area:  
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## Starke signs three-year contract with Milner

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

Bob Milner's future with the city of Starke has been up for discussion for the third time in less than a year.

While he has served as the city manager for nearly a year, it has technically been in an interim capacity. The agreement signed at the end of last February was extended a few months in September as the board had not decided to either commit long-term to Milner or readvertise the position.

Last week, the commission was again at the crossroads, postponing a decision to Jan. 16 when a split vote finally awarded Milner a three-year contract.

Commissioner Tommy Chastain had previously discussed replacing the city manager with an operations manager whose primary responsibility would be as a utility director, while Milner wants to remain manager and hire a director for utilities. Chastain and Commissioner Travis Woods have both said the city cannot afford the two positions.

Prior to the end of the last fiscal year, however, Milner convinced

the board to give him three more months to share his vision and address some of the issues facing the city. He then proposed the contract approved Tuesday night.

Milner's starting salary will be \$72,000 (an automatic increase of \$12,000), and his annual evaluations could make him eligible for up to a 5 percent increase each year. Benefits include a city vehicle or a \$300 stipend to use his own, a \$60 per month telephone allowance, and the same health benefits provided to other employees. He will accrue two days of paid leave a month. The agreement also requires the city to budget \$3,500 a year for travel expenses.

Milner will not participate in the city retirement system. Instead, the agreement calls for the city to contribute an amount equal to 10 percent of his salary to a "deferred contribution plan."

The agreement covers the period through Dec. 31, 2020, and goes month to month after that. Should Milner be terminated before that time, he will be guaranteed two months' salary.

Commissioners Wilbur Waters and Danny Nugent were fine with the contract when it was

presented Jan. 9. Woods said he had questions about a contract employee asking for health and retirement benefits. In addition to the pension fund, he mentioned the 20 percent pay increase and the \$300 vehicle stipend, saying the city owns vehicles the manager could be using.

Aside from the contract questions, Woods asked if the board wanted to continue with Milner or advertise for someone else.

Chastain also brought up the annual raises and potential severance pay before asking about seeking new applicants.

"I mean this like a real city manager's contract. Would it not behoove just to go out and readvertise and look — and let you apply if you would like to — and see what we can stir up for city managers?" he asked.

Responding to some of what was discussed, Milner said he hasn't found a reliable vehicle in the fleet that wouldn't better be used by another employee. The same stipend was contained in the prior two managers' contracts, he said.

"I'm trying to keep our employees in the only vehicles that are dependable. I've got one

truck that we finally got repaired that had been sitting for many, many months, and it is my intent to have that available for the director of operations (utilities)," said Milner.

Milner said past managers were also allowed to participate in the health and retirement systems. Not only is he asking for less money than past managers were paid, Milner said the city is saving a great deal (57 percent of his salary) because he is not entering the retirement system.

Given the increased costs included in the contract, Chastain asked that consideration of the contract be postponed until the commission has seen a copy of its budget. (See related story on charitable donations.)

Waters said he could wait another week but was not in favor of readvertising.

"We've got one that's doing a fine job," he said.

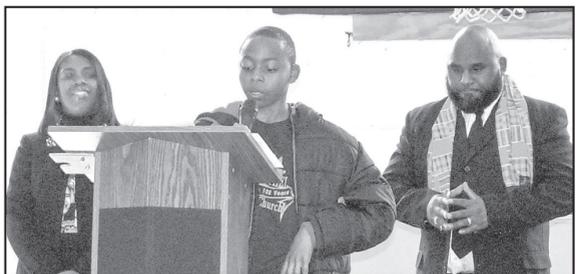
When the commission met Tuesday, the vote to sign Milner for three years as city manager was 3-2, with Mayor Janice Mortimer joining Waters and Nugent.



Soloist Gloria Martin with Bradford County Manager Brad Carter.



Soloist Ashanti Williams



Jaquez Mitchell reads scripture on stage with speaker Naima Brown and emcee Erick Baker.



Alica McMillian and Sherry Williams expressed appreciation for those who organized and those who participated.

## Despite policy, Starke still confused over charitable giving

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

Concerned Citizens of Bradford County approached the city of Starke hoping to correct an "oversight" which left the organization out of the city's budget.

They were still waiting at the end of the city's Jan. 9 meeting.

Esther Kelly said \$1,000 a year amounted to less than \$3 a day to operate a facility the size of the RJE Complex and provide enrichment activities to the children who attend their programs. They have requested additional funding to help carry out activities that include after-school and summer programs with academic, athletic and character-building components.

"Anything we can do, we keep them out of the streets," Kelly said. "Five thousand is really not a lot of money when you talk about what we're doing for our kids."

She invited commissioners to come see the work for themselves, including some who volunteer their entire summer so the kids will have somewhere to go. If commissioners took the time to visit, they would see that even \$5,000 is not enough, she said.

In 2015, the city commission established a policy to govern how it would deal with donations. While support for business, community and educational groups was not unheard of, some commissioners were concerned they were not doing the right thing by pledging public money to private groups, and also cautious that giving to one group meant they would be expected to give to all.

The resolution sets up a time frame for charities to request funding prior to the finalization of the city budget for the following year. The deadline is June 15. The maximum amount available was \$1,000 per group,

and each group was restricted to applying only every other year. Only non-religious organizations providing services to people and families that are physically or financially unable to provide for themselves were eligible.

The two exceptions written into the resolution were Communities in Schools of Bradford County, which provides mentorship and scholarships to at-risk students, and Concerned Citizens of Bradford County, which took on the after-school and summer programs that had been provided by the city's recreation department until that department was defunded.

Kelly said if the commissioners did not grant their request for \$5,000, the Concerned Citizens group doesn't know what it will do.

"During budget time, we came and asked, but now I'm coming back begging you to give us the \$5,000 so we can complete this year," she said. "Deep down in your hearts, I know you know what's right."

Mayor Janice Mortimer, having spoken with the city clerk and CPA, said \$5,000 was budgeted for contributions that went unrequested, and based on the timing requirements, no one else would be allowed to request those funds at this time. She wanted to see those dollars committed to the Concerned Citizens.

"I totally agree," said Commissioner Wilbur Waters. "If you put your heart where it needs to be and look out for these kids, you would take that line item ... and give it to the Concerned Citizens with all the good work that they do."

Commissioner Tommy Chastain said the city's auditors had said it was "not correct" to give away taxpayers' money to organizations, and that is why the resolution was created.

A look at the city's audits for past five years, including an

operational audit by the state of Florida, found several repeated issues, but none of them related to charitable giving. The audit from 2010 did not discourage contributions but said the city should do a better job documenting the public purpose of those donations. When such donations subsequently disappeared from the budget, it had more to do with the spending cuts like those that ended the recreation department than the appropriateness of those donations.

Not all of the funding was removed from the city's budget, and the commission continued to receive requests for support. The city's auditors were asked about a request from Kelly in 2015 for the city to pay Concerned Citizens' utility bills, and auditors did advise against doing that. The city attorney said the group should not be given a blank check, but a set contribution to support its programs was not out of bounds.

The resulting 2015 resolution was meant to govern how the city would deal with contributions moving forward.

When it appeared other commissioners were not thinking along the same lines as Mortimer and Waters, Kelly returned

to protest, saying Concerned Citizens shouldn't have to go through all this to receive \$5,000 that benefits the city's children.

"We shouldn't have to go through all of this. We have the same status as (Communities in Schools)," she said.

Chastain complained the commission had been left completely in the dark and hasn't seen an updated budget showing commissioners how much they have to spend, even after multiple requests. Until they get that, Chastain didn't want to commit money the city might not have.

Hearing that Waters appealed to the Concerned Citizens to wait until its Jan. 16 meeting when commissioners have been promised a line item look at spending levels.

Illness was among the reasons given for the commission not receiving the budget update that has been requested. Neither the city's CPA nor City Clerk Ricky Thompson were present Jan. 9.

Mortimer said the clerk is an elected official who doesn't work for the board, but if the commission cannot obtain the information requested, then commissioners may make a change in who is responsible for managing the city's budget.

## Landfill may keep Alachua a little while longer

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD  
Telegraph Editor

Alachua County is willing to continue disposing of its waste at the New River Regional Landfill, at least in the short term.

At her board's request, Alachua County Interim County Manager Michele Lieberman accepted New River Regional Landfill's invitation to extend the current contract in order to allow both sides time to negotiate a new interlocal agreement for the disposal of Alachua's waste.

Lieberman proposed a six-month extension to June 30, 2019, asking the county be spared a \$2.35 per ton surcharge during that additional six-month period. The surcharge is set aside to cover landfill expansion costs, which Alachua agreed to pay through the end of 2018 as part of a prior contract amendment.

NRSA offered to waive that surcharge while both sides negotiated a contract extension as an incentive to continue working with the landfill instead of opening garbage disposal up to bids. Disposal was bid, however, and New River came out on top, but there were questions about how the proposals were evaluated and whether the Sunshine Law had been violated.

Rather than go through the bidding process again, which New River believes would put it at a disadvantage, the landfill and Alachua County can negotiate as two governments with an existing interlocal agreement. However, the county did not have a formal extension agreement ready for the landfill board to vote on in time for its Jan. 11 meeting.

Executive Director Darrell

O'Neal said once that new amendment is received, he will bring it to the board for consideration. He said rather than a new contract, it seems like Alachua could simply looking for a temporary contract extension.

Lieberman's letter indicted interest in developing a new interlocal agreement for "2019 and beyond" that includes

cost savings the landfill had previously committed to and partnership in future gas-to-energy projects.

O'Neal is hoping for serious negotiations that consider the county's disposal rate and contract length, but any

See LANDFILL, 5A



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# LEGALS

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Commence at a found 1/2" rebar located at the Southwest corner of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 35 and run North 00 degrees 55 minutes 21 seconds West along the West boundary thereof for a distance of 329.43 feet to a found 1/2" rebar for the Point of Beginning. From the Point of Beginning thus described run North 89 degrees 40 minutes 38 seconds East for a distance of 222.41 feet to a set 1/2" rebar; thence run South 00 degrees 55 minutes 21 seconds East for a distance of 329.45 feet to set 1/2" rebar; thence run South 89 degrees 40 minutes 59 seconds West for a distance of 222.41 feet to a found 1/2" rebar; thence run North 00 degrees 55 minutes 21 seconds West for a distance of 329.43 feet to the Point of Beginning. Subject to any covenants, restrictions and/or easements of record. Easements: Also, together with and subject to an easement for ingress, egress, utilities and general road purposes across the following described lands: The South 30 feet of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 35 Township 5 South Range 22 East, Bradford County, Florida. Together with the South 30 feet of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 35 lying West of a County Graded Road known as 12<sup>th</sup> Street (formerly known as Old Lawley Road) (granted by Rebecca Hamilton). Also together with the East 30 feet of the South 30 feet of the NW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 35 (granted by Edward Hamilton). Also together with an easement for ingress, egress, utilities and general road purposes across the following described lands: Commence at a found 1/2" rebar located at the Southwest corner of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 35 and run North 00 degrees 55 minutes 21 seconds West along the West boundary thereof for a distance of 299.43 feet to a set 1/2" rebar and the Point of Beginning of said easement. From Point of Beginning thus described continue North 00 degrees 55 minutes 21 seconds West for a distance of 30.00 feet to a found 1/2" rebar; thence run North 89 degrees 40 minutes 38 seconds East for a distance of 303.81 feet to a set 1/2" rebar; thence run North 01 degrees 01 minutes 54 seconds West for a distance of 661.25 feet to a set 1/2" rebar; thence run North 89 degrees 44 minutes 42 seconds East for a distance of 30.00 feet to a found 4" x 4" concrete monument; thence

run South 01 degrees 01 minutes 54 seconds East for a distance of 661.20 feet to a set 1/2" rebar; thence run North 89 degrees 40 minutes 38 seconds East for a distance of 111.40 feet to a set 1/2" rebar; thence run South 00 degrees 55 minutes 21 seconds East for a distance of 30.00 feet to a set 1/2" rebar; thence run South 89 degrees 40 minutes 38 seconds West for a distance of 445.20 feet to the Point of Beginning (granted by Hamilton Heirs). Description Verified ejn/eml. Assessed To: HERMER THOMAS, HERMER THOMAS NKA HERMER WILLIAMS All of the above property is located in Bradford County, In the State of Florida.

Unless such certificate(s) shall be redeemed according to Law, the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the Highest Bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL, on the 14th day of March, 2018, at 11:00 a.m.

RAY NORMAN  
BRADFORD COUNTY  
CLERK OF COURT  
BY Lisa BRANNON  
DEPUTY CLERK

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, Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 East University Avenue, Room 410, Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That CAPITAL ONE, N.A. AS COLLATERAL ASSIGNEE OF TLGFY, LLC The holder of the following certificate(s) has filed said certificate(s) for the tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number(s) and year of issuance, the description of property, and name(s) in which it is assessed are as follows: File Number: 2017-0019 Certificate Number: 934 Parcel Number: 03739-0-00000 Year of Issuance: 2015 Description of Property: Legal Description: 03739-0-00000 A parcel of land lying in the Northwest 1/4 of Southwest 1/4 of Section 28, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, being also a part of J.G. Alvarez Addition to Starke according to Map or Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 25, public records of Bradford County, Florida, and being more particularly described as follows:

All of Lots Five (5), Six (6), Seven (7) and Eight (8), of Block Four (4), of said J.G. Alvarez Addition to the City of Starke and Commence at the Southwest corner of the intersection of Bay and Madison Streets in the City of Starke, and run Southerly along the Westerly boundary of Bay Street 508 feet to the Southerly boundary of Lafayette Street and Point of Beginning. From Point of Beginning thus described run thence South 25 degrees 56 minutes 19 seconds West 171 feet; run thence Easterly

and parallel with the Southerly right of way line of Lafayette Street to the Southwest corner of said Lot Seven (7) of J.G. Alvarez Addition to Starke; run thence North and along the Westerly boundary of said Lots Six (6) and Seven (7) of Block Four (4) of J.G. Alvarez Addition to Starke a distance of 160.60 feet, more or less, to the Southerly right of way line of Lafayette Street; run thence Westerly and along the Southerly right of way line of Lafayette Street to the Point of Beginning.

Less and Except: A parcel of land lying in lot 5, 6, 7, and 8, Block 4 of J.G. Alvarez Addition to Starke, as per Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, page 25 of the public records of Bradford County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at an iron pipe found at the Northeast corner of said Lot 5 and being on the Southerly boundary of the right of way of Lafayette Street for the Point of Beginning and run South 18 degrees 51 minutes 10 seconds West, along the Easterly boundary of said Lot 5 and 8, a distance of 168.34 feet of an iron pipe found at the Southeast corner of said Lot 8, also being the Southerly boundary of said Block 4; thence North 67 degrees 30 minutes 34 seconds West, along said Southerly boundary, 86.98 feet to a set iron rod; thence North 22 degrees 19 minutes 37 seconds East, 163.12 feet to an iron rod set on the Southerly boundary of the right of way of said Lafayette Street; thence South 71 degrees 07 minutes 41 seconds East, along last said Southerly boundary, 76.92 feet to the Point of Beginning, Description Verified ejn/eml.

Assessed To: RAYMOND A WILLIAMS JR, PATRICIA D WILLIAMS, PATRICIA WILLIAMS

All of the above property is located in Bradford County, In the State of Florida.

Unless such certificate(s) shall be redeemed according to Law, the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the Highest Bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE 14th day of March, 2018, at 11:00 a.m.

RAY NORMAN  
BRADFORD COUNTY  
CLERK OF COURT  
BY Lisa BRANNON  
DEPUTY CLERK

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, Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 East University Avenue, Room 410, Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

1/11 4tchg 2/1-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROBATE DIVISION  
File Number: 04-2017-CP-00037

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF KIMBERLY EVELYN SMITH, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
The administration of the estate of Kimberly Evelyn Smith, deceased, whose date of death was December 28, 2016, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth

below.  
All creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
All other creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
The date of first publication of this notice is January 11, 2018.  
Personal Representative THE HINSON LAW FIRM, P.A. Matthew H. Hinson, Esq. Florida Bar No. 94017 300 West Adams St., Suite 500 Jacksonville, Florida 32202 Telephone: 904-679-5671 Facsimile: 904-355-8088 Matt@HinsonLawPA.com Attorney for Personal Representative Garrett Smith 1816 NW 93rd Drive Gainesville, Florida 32606 1/11 2tchg 1/18-BCT

## Paul Sanders, P.A. Attorney at Law



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eservice@iohnscooperpa.com  
Personal Representative  
Harold Mitchell  
Hampton, Florida 32044  
1/11 2tchg 1/18-BCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO: 04-2017-CP-137  
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF ISLEE MITCHELL, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
The administration of the Estate of ISLEE MITCHELL, deceased, whose date of death was December 18, 1999, Case No: 04-2017-CP-137 is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Bradford County Courthouse, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091. The name and address of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims, on whom a copy of this notice is served must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims, must file their claims with the Court WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is January 11, 2018.  
Personal Representative CHARLES H. MITCHELL, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
The administration of the Estate of CHARLES H. MITCHELL, deceased, whose date of death was December 18, 1999, Case No: 04-2017-CP-136 is pending in the Circuit Court for Bradford County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Bradford County Courthouse, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida 32091. The name and address of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims, on whom a copy of this notice is served must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims, must file their claims with the Court WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is January 11, 2018.

Personal Representative Claranel Hudson 4439 S.E. 143rd Terrace Starke, Florida 32091 Attorney for Personal Representative John S. Cooper, Esquire 704 North Lake Street, Suite A Starke, Florida 32091 (904) 964-4701 Florida Bar No: 0910340 eservice@iohnscooperpa.com 1/11 2tchg 1/18-BCT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That STEVEN GOODMAN The holder of the following certificate(s) has filed said certificate(s) for the tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number(s) and year of issuance, the description of property, and name(s) in which it is assessed are as follows: File Number: 2017-0023 Certificate Number: 771 Parcel Number: 02731-0-00000 Year of Issuance: 2011 Description of Property: Legal Description: 02731-0-00000 Commence at the NE corner of the S 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 22 East, thence run West 367.5 feet for a point of beginning, thence continue West 179.5 feet, thence run South 163.65 feet, thence run East 179.5 feet, thence run North 162.45 feet to the point of beginning, Description Verified ejn/eml. Assessed To: MATTIE DENNARD All of the above property is located in Bradford County, In the State of Florida. Unless such certificate(s) shall be redeemed according to Law, the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the Highest Bidder at the BRADFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, STARKE, FL on the 14th day of March, 2018, at 11:00 a.m.

RAY NORMAN  
BRADFORD COUNTY  
CLERK OF COURT  
BY Lisa BRANNON,  
DEPUTY CLERK

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, Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 East University Avenue, Room 410, Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

1/18 4tchg 2/8-BCT

NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-01  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF STARKE, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF ADULT ARCADE AMUSEMENT CENTERS; PROVIDING AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; PROHIBITING GAMBLING; PROHIBITING THE PAYMENT OF CASH OR CASH-LIKE PRIZES IN ADULT ARCADE AMUSEMENT CENTERS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF

ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT WITH THIS ARTICLE; PROVIDING DIRECTIONS TO THE CODIFIER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

1/18 2tchg 1/25-BCT

NOTICE  
Invitation for Bids  
IFB #18-01  
New River Regional Landfill  
Installation of Landfill Gas Extraction Wells

The New River Solid Waste Association (NRSWA) is extending an Invitation For Bids for the installation of landfill gas extraction wells. The successful Bidder will be responsible for furnishing all labor, materials, equipment, tools, transportation, services, and incidentals required for boring and installing vertical gas extraction wells. All work shall be completed in accordance with the specifications, drawings, and contract requirements included as part of the contract documents.

NRRL is located approximately 2.5 miles north of Raiford, Florida, on the east side of State Road 121 in Union County. Bid packages and other information are available for pickup at the NRSWA Administrative Office at, 24276 NE 157th Street, Raiford, Florida, 32083. All bids must be submitted on the Bid Form provided. Completed bids are to be mailed to NRSWA, PO Box 647, Raiford, Florida, 32083 or delivered to the NRSWA Administrative Office. After the bid opening, the bids will be examined for completeness and preserved in the custody of the NRSWA Executive Director. NRSWA Purchasing Policy will be ensued. All bids received after the specified time and date will not be considered. Contact the NRSWA office at 386-431-1000 for questions concerning the bid package. The DEADLINE for submittal is February 7, 2018, 4:00 pm (local time).

1/18 1tchg-BCT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:  
SPRATLIN TOWING & RECOVERY, INC. gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 03/01/2018, 9:00 am at 10875 US Hwy 301 HAMPTON, FL 32044, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. SPRATLIN TOWING & RECOVERY, INC. reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

1C4NJPBA9GD700376  
2016 JEEP

1/18 1tchg-BCT

## Grow shiitake mushrooms

Growing your own delicious mushrooms is easier than you may think. Shiitake mushrooms are the topic of this month's meeting of the Alligator Creek Garden Club. Paul Still will give you information on where to get mushroom spores, demonstrate how to inoculate logs and tell you how to care for them until the edible mushrooms are ready for harvest.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, Jan. 18, at 2 p.m. at the Bradford County Senior Center, located at 1805 N. Temple Ave. (North 301) in front of the health department. Everyone is invited. At every meeting, there are refreshments and a plant exchange. If you like, bring a snack to share and any plants you wish to pass on to good homes.

For more information, call Pat Caren at 352-485-2666.

## Luncheon for DCF employees

All former and current Department of Children and Family employees will have their annual luncheon on Wednesday, Jan. 24, at 11 a.m. at Beef O'Brady, 502 N. Temple Ave. in Starke. Anyone from any branch of DCF is welcome. You may RSVP to Linda Hampton at 904-964-8156.

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PROGRAM

# Library

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. You can also get the latest news on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bradfordlibrary](http://www.facebook.com/bradfordlibrary). For more information on these programs or other services, please call 904-368-3911 or visit [www.bcplibrary.com](http://www.bcplibrary.com).



## Writers meetup — New day

Writers, both professional and amateur, meet at the library on the first and third Wednesday of every month to discuss, edit, critique and encourage. Whether you are working on a book, blogging on the internet or writing as a hobby, review sessions with other writers can be beneficial. The next meeting is at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 17. Walk-ins are welcome.

## Preschool story time

The hour-long early literacy program, Preschool Story Time, includes entertaining stories, children's songs, and engaging activities. It's the perfect mix of fun and encouragement for preschool-aged children. Preschool Story Time is scheduled for Jan. 17, 24 and 31. The fun begins at 10 a.m.

## Toddler Time

The library's Toddler Time is an early literacy program designed for developing minds. Stimulating activities begin at 11 a.m. on Jan. 12, 19 and 26.

## Books & Brunch — Jan. 25

Start the year with two tales that other readers have found irresistible. Check out the light-hearted story titled "My Italian Bulldozer" to discuss with us at Books & Brunch on Thursday, Jan. 25. We will meet in the library at 11:30 a.m. and proceed to a local restaurant to talk about how we feel about the overseas adventure. "My Italian Bulldozer" will be followed by a historical fiction that has been labeled as delicious and satisfying: "The Girl You Left Behind" by Jojo Moyes. Find out if you fall for the spellbinding love story and meet with us on Thursday, Feb. 15.

## Stress-free painting — Jan. 30

Relieve stress with art therapy at the library. Listen to the soothing sounds of musical legends, find inspiration in the artwork of others, and let the brushstrokes bring comfort to your soul. The evening program

starts at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 30. Paper and paints are supplied at no cost. Canvas prices begin at \$1. Registration is recommended, but walk-ins are welcome. Children will not be admitted.

## Zumba — Jan. 22

Make a resolution to add Zumba to your schedule. It's fitness that feels more like a party than a workout. You don't need dance experience. Join us at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 22, and discover how Zumba can add some zest to your life. Instructor Mackenzie Hallahan will guide you through the steps. We will meet again at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 19.

## Sports Camp — Jan. 17, 24, 31

For children and teens between the ages of 7 and 17, the library has a fun afterschool program that encourages an active lifestyle. From 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 17, 24 and 31, youths can participate in a Sports Camp, which is a high-energy activity that teaches character building techniques and promotes the importance of teamwork. The experienced trainers, Stefan Nichols and Christopher Latain, jam pack the hour with fun and instruction. Attendance is free! Parents will need to sign a medical release form for each child who participates.

## Crazy Cake Art Competition — Jan. 26

Have you ever watched someone try to decorate a cake they could not see? A fun cake decorating competition for children, teens and adults is happening at the library on Friday, Jan. 26. Doors open at 5 p.m. Competition begins at 5:30 p.m. Contestants will be selected randomly from the audience. Decorating skills are not required for this activity.

## Inspire Your Heart with Art Day — Jan. 31

Bring some joy to others or

create art to keep for yourself. The library is hosting two programs to celebrate National Inspire Your Heart with Art Day. A heart-themed painting activity for adults begins a 10 a.m. Canvas prices start at \$1. Then, at 3:30 p.m., participates of any age can make pop art Valentine's Day cards to give to someone special. Supplies are free. Sign up at the library or leave a message for Kathy at 904-368-3921.

## Women's Expo — Feb. 2

To help people connect, the library is hosting a Women's Expo on Friday, Feb. 2, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Space is available for organizations, vendors and demonstrators. To apply for a space, stop by the front desk of the library and request a form. Contact Kathy at 904-368-3921 for more information.

## Bottle craft — Feb. 9

Forget about the winter blues and get ready for spring. Repurpose an empty wine bottle by turning it into seasonal décor during the Spring Bottle Craft at 9 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 9. The library is furnishing all the supplies for free. Class size is limited. Sign up at the library's front desk or leave a message at 904-368-3921.

## Bunny wreath class — Feb. 16

Learn how to make a pretty burlap bunny wreath for your home décor. Join us on Friday, Feb. 16, at 9 a.m. Supplies cost \$14. Class size is limited. Register and pay for materials by Feb. 1.

## Classical Guitarist — Feb. 16

New York based classical guitarist Peter Fletcher is stopping at the Bradford County Public Library during his national tour. Fletcher's guitar skills are amazing as well as entertaining. The not-to-be-missed performance will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 16. Attendance is free thanks to a sponsorship by the Friends of the Library. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

## Women's Expo — Feb. 2

To help people connect, the library is hosting a Women's Expo on Friday, Feb. 2, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Space is available for organizations, vendors and demonstrators. To apply for a space, stop by the front desk of the library and request a form. Contact Kathy at 904-368-3921 for more information.

## Democrats meet Monday

The monthly meeting of the Bradford County Democrats will be held on Monday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. in the Capital City Bank community meeting room. The bank is located at 350 N. Temple Ave. (U.S. 301) in Starke. All Democrats are invited.

# Church

**Ebenezer Baptist Church** will be having a benefit program in honor of Sis. Jeanette Wilcox and Sis. Lisa Brown on Saturday, Jan. 20, at 5 p.m. All are welcome.

**Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church** of Lawtey and Pastor Tracy Lockley will hold a Unity Day Worship Experience on Sunday, Jan. 28, at 3:30 p.m. Special guest speaker will be the Rev. Wendell Webster, pastor of the New Fountain A.M.E. Church in Jacksonville. This is sure to be a blessing for all. Please come and bring a friend and/or a loved one so we can have a Hallelujah good time together.

**Bible Baptist Church**, 150 S. Cherry St. in Starke, will hold revival services on Sunday, Jan. 21, at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. and Monday-Friday, Jan. 22-26, at 7 p.m. Evangelist Noah Frye from North Carolina will be preaching with the Suttons from Tennessee singing. For more information,



please contact Pastor Roger Worten at 904-964-4775 or 904-964-7745. All are welcome.

**St. John Missionary Baptist Church** on County Road 200B in Lawtey will celebrate Pastor James Rackley's 13th Appreciation Program on Friday, Jan. 19, at 7 p.m. with New Bethel Baptist Church in charge of the service. The celebration continues on Sunday, Jan. 21, at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Theodor Kelly of Jacksonville speaking and at 4 p.m. with Elder Johnnie Burns of Mayport, Florida.

Come help us celebrate.

**Greater Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church** of Starke will hold its annual homecoming program on Jan. 21 at 11 a.m. with guest speaker Minister Johnny Boswell of Gainesville, but a native of Starke. The church's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary and pastor's fifth anniversary will follow on Thursday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m. with Bethel Missionary Baptist Church of Starke's Rev. Abie Williams; Friday, Jan. 26, at 7 p.m. with Ebenezer Baptist Church of Starke's Minister James Wilcox; and Sunday, Jan. 28, at 11 a.m. with Minister Loyal Aldridge, assistant pastor of Greater Bethlehem and 3 p.m. with Minister Vickie Givens of True Cannon Holiness Church of Starke.

Email the details of your congregation's upcoming special events to [editor@bctelegraph.com](mailto:editor@bctelegraph.com). DEADLINE IS MONDAY AT 5 P.M.

# Garden

The Garden column is sponsored by the University of Florida IFAS Extension Service in Bradford County. Readers who wish to pose gardening questions should forward them to [Jim DeValerio at jtd@ufl.edu](mailto:JimDeValerio@jtd@ufl.edu).

## Growing pecan trees in north Florida

Pecan trees are native to the rich flood plains of the Central United States in the Mississippi Valley. They are in the same family of nuts as the English walnut, black walnut and hickory. Pecans love warm summer day and night temperatures to successfully ripen the nuts. They are deciduous, meaning they lose their leaves in the winter. Pecan trees can be grown in just about any part of Florida, but the commercial production in Florida is located in the western and northern parts of the state.

## Soil & site requirements

Pecans need deep, fertile and well-drained, slightly acidic soil with substantial water-holding capacity. They need at least 3 feet of well-drained soil above the water table in order to develop a strong root system. They like lots of water but not standing water.

Peat moss is a good additive to help amend our sandy soils and provide moisture retention without changing the pH of the soil. But only if you have no clay

underneath. If you have clay a few feet down, skip the peat moss, as the clay should provide adequate water retention.

The planting site should be in full sun at least 30 feet from any buildings, other big trees or powerlines. Pecan trees should be planted 40-50 feet apart and should be 15 feet from driveways or roads to allow moisture and air to reach the roots.

## Choosing your tree

Pecans have been cultivated as grafted trees for about 150 years. Seedling trees can take 20 years to produce and usually don't produce quality nuts, compared to grafted cultivars. Be sure to purchase containerized trees that are not root bound with a healthy tap root. Look for trees in "grow sleeves", tall slender fabric pots, that provide space for the tap root to stretch out, or simply taller/skinny nursery pots.

A cramped taproot needs to be gently untangled as you plant the tree to avoid either growth issues or wind damage issues in the mature tree.

A 5-gallon tree is typically 5-6 feet tall with a ½-inch diameter. A 7-gallon tree is typically 6-7 feet tall with a ¾-inch diameter. Typically a 5-gallon tree size will start bearing nuts in five to seven years. Trees that are 4-8 feet tall have the highest success rate for transplanting and experience the least shock.

## Planting more than one pecan tree?

The pattern of stigma receptivity and pollen shedding when selecting a pecan cultivar is important. For pollination to occur, pollen must be shed at a time when the stigmas are receptive. Since there is

often little overlap in stigma receptivity and pollen shedding within a given cultivar, cultivars with complementary pollination characteristics should be planted together. Read HS 106 (<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/hs106>) or check with the extension office to get more information on cultivar selection.

## Planting your tree

Dig the hole about the same depth as the taproot and root system and no deeper. Dig the hole about 3-5 feet wide to leave room for filling in with loamy soil amendments. Pecans love rich, fertile humus so amending your soil with good composted top soil is excellent. But remember to only add peat to retain moisture if your site has sandy soil underneath.

Pack the soil around the roots as you re-fill the hole to eliminate any air pockets around the roots. This is most easily done by watering in the dirt as you fill the hole. Thoroughly water the trees after planting with at least 5 gallons of water.

It is also helpful to build a saucer of dirt around the trees approximately 3-5 feet in diameter to help with holding the water near the tree as it soaks into the ground.

Looking forward to my next slice of pecan pie!

Master Gardener Donna Solze  
The University of Florida is an equal opportunity institution.



## LANDFILL

Continued from 3A

participation on landfill projects like compressed natural gas would require a separate contract.

Alachua is not short of alternatives based on conversation during a special meeting held last November — from going with another disposal site to opening its own landfill or developing a regional solid waste association with other interested counties.

Based on the its staff's analysis, Alachua could reduce its solid waste costs by developing its own landfill, and could earn a profit by developing its own gas-to-energy program.

Alachua Commissioner Mike Byerly acknowledged that the idea of a local landfill would be unpopular, but he added, "There's something to be said for taking care of your own mess."

Potential sites include reopening the old landfill in Archer or siting a new one in Balu Forest in Orange Heights.

Commissioner Robert Hutchinson said no one is going to want a landfill in their backyard. Commissioner Ken Cornell said the liability of landfill ownership had not been considered in the analysis. Plus, the millions of dollars in capital investment have already been made by New River and its competitors.

Cornell also acknowledged how important the continuing success of New River Regional Landfill is to the county commissions in Bradford and Union counties — just as their

decision about phosphate mining will be to Alachua County.

Cornell said he could be interested in a new long-term agreement with New River, depending on what could be offered in terms of energy project partnership.

He said he wanted staff to begin negotiating with the landfill. Hutchinson made that motion, supported by Commissioner Lee Pinkoson. Their instruction was for staff to negotiate the best deal possible. Concern for Bradford and Union aside, they should be most concerned with getting the best deal for Alachua County citizens.

Byerly said the board was making a decision without all of the information. In order to avoid considering an Alachua County site, he said they were choosing to dispose of garbage with neighbors who were less organized to oppose them and maintaining a larger carbon footprint in order to do it.

"Trucking our junk somewhere else is not good policy," he said.

He wanted to conclude the analysis and not rule out options in advance. That's not a good way to make decisions, he said.

In other business:

—The landfill's engineers have prepared a draft request for proposals from companies to develop gas-to-energy projects at the landfill. The projects could include turning methane from the landfill into compressed natural gas for vehicles or cleaning it up further and placing it in a pipeline where a utility would use it to generate electricity.

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County Judge Tatum Davis, along with other Tatum family members.



Lawtey Assistant Fire Chief Alex Hatch walks along the remains of the structure destroyed by the blaze.

**FIRE**  
Continued from 1A

worker Eric Thompson to get out of the structure.

Thompson and his brother Buck Thompson were greasing the debarker in the saw house. Both heard the same pop that Baugess heard, and then found a small fire building at the saw house's air compressor. Eric grabbed a fire extinguisher, and pointed it toward the base of the flames.

"Just as I hit it, it went swoosh," Thompson said, describing a rapid ignition of the area around the flames, at the same time he sprayed the extinguisher.

Lawtey Fire Chief Michael Heeder said that Thompson could have witnessed a flashover: a sudden ignition of an entire area caused when materials reach ignition temperature at the same time.

Bradford County Fire Coordinator Chip Ware said the rapid spread of the flames was due to saw dust, pitch, bark and other materials in the saw house that "have large rates of heat release."

Lawtey Assistant Chief Alex



Lawtey Fire Chief Michael Heeder talks to Assistant Chief Alex Hatch.

Hatch said he was in Starke when he heard the alarm for the sawmill fire. Hatch drove to Lawtey's fire station in his vehicle, then drove Lawtey's engine to the scene. Heeder arrived after Hatch in the company's tanker.

Hatch said that as he left Starke, he saw a large billow of black smoke rising from the direction of Lawtey.

Starke firefighters were first on the scene.

Also responding were units from Theressa, New River, Heilbronn Springs and Clay County.

Ware said firefighters first stopped the blaze from spreading, then isolated the fire and trained resources on hot spots. He added that 25 firefighters were on scene

and that they left around 7:30 p.m.

Sylvia Tatum said the firefighters' quick action averted an even larger potential disaster. "We have an above-ground fuel depot about 75 yards away from where the fire was," she explained. "That was always in the back of my mind."

The building destroyed by the fire is the first destination for timber arriving at the mill. It contains a cut deck, debarker and a metal detector, which detects nails and other metal in trees

before they are sorted and moved to other areas of the mill.

After moving through the saw house, lumber is stored in the facility's yard for three months before planing or shipment to a treatment plant. During the three-month storage, the wood dries from water and resin.

Ware said the fire marshal's office is investigating the cause of the blaze. He added however, that at this time, he believes the fire was accidental.

The company employs between 55 and 60 people.

Sylvia Tatum said it will take a few months to replace the damaged equipment. Meanwhile, the facility will operate a second planing mill, used to convert rough boards into finished products. Tatum said the facility usually operates only one planing mill, but will now open a second line and work through a stockpile of drying lumber in the mill's yard.

In 2011 a fire destroyed the facility's shavings house. Last month another blaze took out a drying shed.



Linda Tatum (center) talks to mill workers.

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## God's path for Graham man leads to Middle East and other locales

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Business or pleasure? When it comes to describing Chuck Slater's travels, there's another option: spiritual. Slater, who lives in Graham, has been all over the world, due in large part to his job as a consultant who assists engineering companies with the start-up of steel mills. Some recent travels, though, have been of a different nature as Slater has put turmoil in his life in the past and turned his life over to God.

"All of a sudden, my pathway has just exploded with all these different opportunities to do things," Slater said.

One opportunity had Slater in the Golan Heights, in the demilitarized zone on the border between Israel and Syria, as a volunteer with Friend Ships United, a nonprofit based in Lake Charles, Louisiana, that participates in humanitarian efforts based upon biblical principles. Friend Ships has established a medical field clinic at a compound known as Camp Ichay to provide care for Syrian war victims. Slater said the clinic is part of a "good-neighbor effort" by the Israeli government and that the compound the clinic is located on is monitored and operated by the United Nations.

"We were surrounded by barbed wire...and a minefield," Slater said. "Really, I spent 65 days inside that compound and never left."

Slater said he had various responsibilities at the compound, where people would come to receive medical care as well as receive bags of food to take with them when they left. He did anything from coordinating the distribution of food to keeping the portable toilets clean.

"I was just kind of the utility man for the triage center," Slater said.

His technical expertise was also useful in such things as making the hot-water systems were in working order.

"I was able to bring that skill

**Chuck Slater holds a child, whose family was visiting the compound he volunteered at. It was often chaos as families were gathering to leave the compound, and Slater would sometimes comfort crying children. "It was always fun. It was kind of counter to their culture," he said, explaining how men left the handling of children to their wives.**



set to the mission and help out," Slater said. "I assembled a portable x-ray station. I just did all those types of things."

One of the more interesting aspects of his time at the compound was conversing with the men who showed up for care for themselves and their families.

It made an impression on him to talk to young adults who showed him pictures of themselves carrying weapons and talked of their fight against the government of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

"We were able to talk politics, religion and just social-type of

things," Slater said. "I just found that to be very interesting."

He said he wasn't sure how much truth there was in some of the things he heard, but Slater said in his talks, which were aided by an online translator,

See SLATER, 5B

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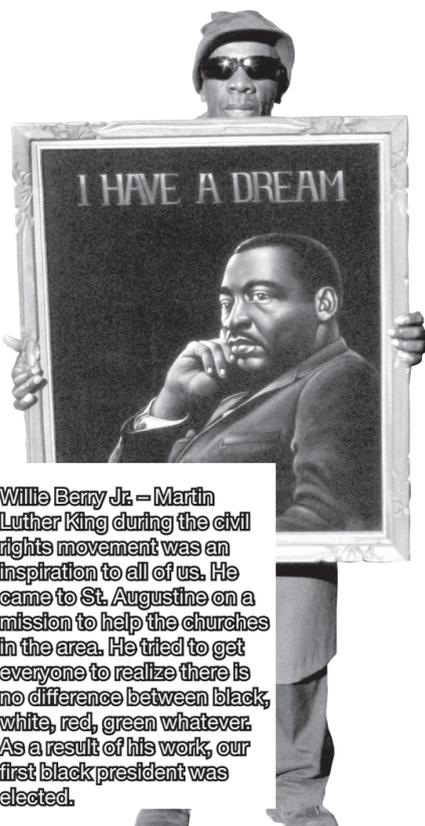
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## What does Martin Luther King Jr. mean to you?



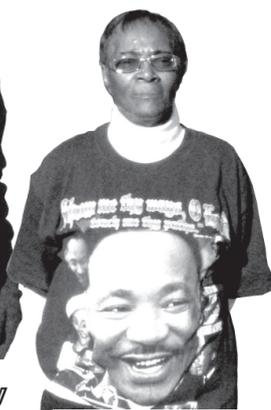
**Willie Berry Jr.** – Martin Luther King during the civil rights movement was an inspiration to all of us. He came to St. Augustine on a mission to help the churches in the area. He tried to get everyone to realize there is no difference between black, white, red, green whatever. As a result of his work, our first black president was elected.



**Kate Ellison**– My mother took me to a small demonstration when I was in high school when those four girls lost their lives in the Birmingham church. Ever since then, I've been following Martin Luther King's life and death and the civil rights movement that he sparked. I believe in justice for everyone. As long as someone is being oppressed, we are not living up to our founding father's ideals.



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**Edna Allen**– We've come a long way from the 60s and he opened a lot of doors for us. He opened the doors for our kids. Without him, we would still be going to separate schools and wouldn't be able to go into these restaurants that we can today.

## Starke native named an Outstanding Airman of the Year

**BY AIRMAN 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS CALEB WORPEL**  
56<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Tech. Sgt. Kyle Wilson, 56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron aerospace ground equipment support NCO in charge, has been awarded as one of the Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year and attributes his success to his rigorous fitness routine and family.

"I was overwhelmed with emotion and gratitude when I found out I was selected for this award," said Wilson, who is currently stationed at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona. "You don't wake up every day and think you will have an opportunity as great as this."

The Starke native, who is the son of the deceased Wayne Wilson and Christine Ritch and her husband, Shaun, is approaching his 10-year anniversary in his Air Force career. From a command chief executive to an Airman Leadership School instructor, Wilson explains he has utilized every opportunity the Air Force has brought his way.

"I have always tried to surround myself with people who push me to change, become better and step outside of my comfort zone," Wilson explained. "My mentors and leaders who presented me with opportunities are without a doubt part of the reason why I have been selected for this award."

Wilson's contributions to the Air Force chief of staff's second focus area of strengthening joint leaders and teams was a pivotal reason for his selection. During his four years at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, Wilson was an Airman Leadership School instructor and found innovative ways to not only train Airmen, but also incorporate U.S. Army Soldiers into enlisted professional military education programs.

Wilson also helped advise and build the first NCO course for the International European Air Force Academy, among many other accomplishments.

On June 30 — just six days prior to his scheduled arrival at Luke Air Force Base — Wilson received a phone call notifying him that he had won the award. He was working out in the gym when Brig. Gen. Richard Moore, 86th Airlift Wing Commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Aaron Bennett, 86th Airlift Wing Command Chief, called to notify him.

"There wasn't a better place to learn that I had won the award than the gym," said Wilson. "I was overcome with emotion. I had to take a moment and reflect. It was an amazing feeling."



**Tech. Sgt. Kyle Wilson** poses for a portrait at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. Wilson attributes much of his success to his dedication to fitness and staying healthy. Photo by U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Caleb Worpel.

Wilson has returned to his original career field in AGE at Luke.

"Stepping into a new role here is exciting," explained Wilson. "There is opportunity to meet, teach and learn from a whole new group of people. I am thrilled to be a part of building the future of Airpower within the F-35A Lightning II program and I am driven to keep pushing our team forward to enhance the future success of Luke."

Wilson explains that a consistent fitness routine is what keeps him grounded and focused to be the best Airman possible.

"Working-out allows me to step away from my daily life and put myself into a different mind space," said Wilson. "I like to be up early and get a start to my day before most people even open their eyes. I can burn off any stress I might be carrying with me before the day starts allowing me to better focus myself at work to get the job done. It keeps me healthy, physically and mentally."

Wilson's wife, Master Sgt. Nalani Wilson, 56th Medical Support Squadron logistics flight chief, has played a vital role in supporting Wilson through his career. They share a passion for working out and contributing to Air Force culture.

Along with his step-daughter Aziya, son Cameron and daughter Kylie, Wilson explained that together with fitness, his family is a major contributor to his success.

"I actually met my wife doing my favorite thing — working out in the gym," Wilson said. "She is a huge supporter in my life and our children's. She has been there for all of us during every step we have taken forward in our lives. Family always comes first and they motivate me to become better every day."

Approximately 290,000 enlisted total force Airmen were eligible to become an Outstanding Airman of the Year. Entries are selected from a board formed of command chief master sergeants from each major command and reviewed by the Air Force chief of staff.



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# Union County grad experiences special freshman season at Limestone College

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

It was an exciting first taste of college athletics for 2016 Union County High School graduate Jordan Howe, who was part of a Limestone College softball team that reached unprecedented heights.

"It was a great, new experience I would love for anyone to experience," the daughter of Kevin and Donna Howe said.

The Gaffney,

**Jordan Howe bats for Limestone College. She hit a home run in her first game, drove in three runs in her first two games and hit a three-run homer later in the season. Photo by Stacey Wylie and courtesy of Limestone Athletics.**

South Carolina program finished 2017 with the most wins in school history, compiling a 45-13 record as well as setting a new high mark for team home runs in a season at 36. That beat the old home-run mark by three, so the two Howe hit during her freshman year were important. Limestone also qualified for the NCAA Division II playoffs for the second time ever and earned its first-ever regional win by defeating Lenoir-Rhyne 5-3. The Saints then defeated North Greenville 4-1 before losing

twice to North Georgia and missing out on advancing to the super regionals.

The expectations are high for Howe and her teammates entering this season.

"I think we're going to have a really good season," Howe said. "Last year, we were really good, and we went farther than people expected us to. This year, I think we're going to go even farther because our girls are just so talented. We just have a really strong team this year. I can't wait to see what all plays out."

Howe, a catcher who helped Union County advance to the state semifinals her senior year, played in 22 games last season, sometimes as a designated player or pinch-hitter. She batted .224 with two doubles, two home runs and eight RBI. One of her home runs occurred in her first-ever game, while the season, she hit a three-run home run as part of an eight-inning 11-4 win over Anderson.

One of Howe's best offensive performances was in the second game she played. She went 2-for-3 with a double and two RBI in a 7-3 win over St. Andrews.

"There were some bumps in the road," Howe said of her freshman year, "but in the end, everything worked out as I wanted it to. There were some things I could've done better here and there, but for the most

part, (the season) was better than expected."

Howe admitted that some of those "bumps in the road" were having to deal with athletics and academics at the collegiate level.

"The schooling was definitely more difficult than high school was, but once you adjusted to studying more or doing your work early, it got easier. Schooling was definitely a bump in the road."

In regard to the athletics side of being a student-athlete, Howe said, "You had to fight every day for your position. Every day you showed up was pretty much a war. Everyone's just so good there. You want to be the best,

life," Howe said. Her preparations for the 2017 season began with "Earn It Week," so named, Howe said, because everyone, in essence, is trying to earn their spot on the team.

Basically, Earn It Week is a lot of running. "You just wanted it to end," Howe said, "but it made you better. I'm grateful for it."

Running during Earn It Week began at 6 a.m., so that was hard for Howe, who didn't like waking up to lift weights at 7 a.m.

Then there was the weather that early in the morning. "It was freezing," Howe said. "You wore sweatpants, but then

you had to take them off to wear shorts because you got so hot from all the running. Your chest was hurting because it was so cold, but at the same time, you were burning up."

The weather in Gaffney, South Carolina is different from the weather down here, which had Howe shopping for a new wardrobe.

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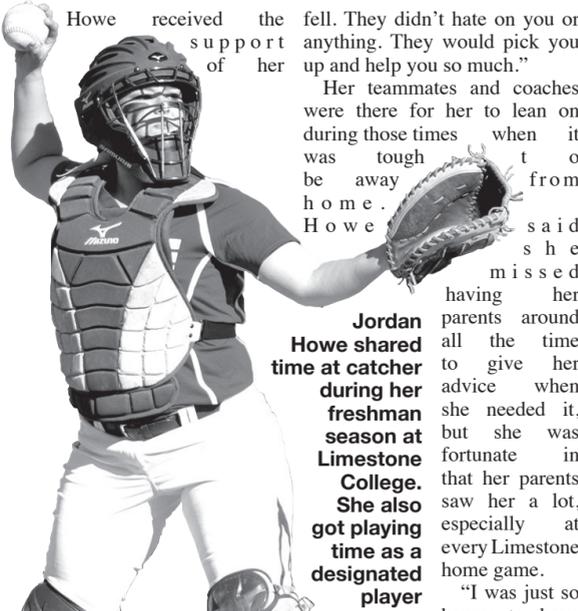
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Howe received the support of her teammates. "They were like the sisters I never had," Howe said. "They were just always there for you when you

fell. They didn't hate on you or anything. They would pick you up and help you so much."

Her teammates and coaches were there for her to lean on during those times when it was tough to be away from home. Howe said she missed having her parents around all the time to give her advice when she needed it, but she was fortunate in that her parents saw her a lot, especially at every Limestone home game.

"I was just so happy to have their support," Howe said. "It made me feel

**Jordan Howe shared time at catcher during her freshman season at Limestone College. She also got playing time as a designated player and pinch hitter.**

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See HOWE, 5B



Jordan Howe

"You had to fight every day for your position. Every day you showed up was pretty much a war. Everyone's just so good there."

but you also want the best for your team."

A typical day for Howe starts early, with weight training at 7 a.m. — another tough adjustment during her first year.

"That was hard getting up that early," she said.

Then it's off to classes from 8 a.m. until noon. Lunch follows, with homework and perhaps a nap until practice begins at 2 p.m. Howe eats dinner after practice and then does more homework before "hopefully" going to sleep by midnight.

"You don't have much social

— Christian, non-denominational college in Gaffney, South Carolina.

— Established in 1845 as the first women's college in South Carolina. Became co-educational in the late 1960s.

— Enrolls more than 1,000 traditional-day students and 2,500 extended campus students at eight sites and on the internet.

— Ten buildings on campus, in addition to nearby Limestone Spring and a limestone quarry are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

— Men's lacrosse team won the NCAA Division II championship in 2000, 2002, 2014, 2015 and 2017.

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# Letters

## Opposes mining

Dear Editor:  
This week, the Union County Commission will likely have passed yet another year's moratorium on mining, while they continue to update their Land Development Regulations (LDRs) and Comprehensive Plan (CP). They are in a bit of a legal battle with HPSII, the company proposing phosphate mining in Bradford and Union counties, which is mad that Union won't accept a draft application that would let them avoid the new plans. Kudos to Union commissioners for not folding under pressure.

Union County residents can have open discussions with their commissioners about any and all topics relevant to their county. It is a wonderfully healthy relationship for citizens to have with their representatives who are there to serve both immediate and long-term interests of the county.

The Bradford County Commission, on the other hand, failed to heed the advice of the North Florida Regional Planning Council that a moratorium was necessary in order to bring our very minimal LDRs and Comprehensive Plan up to today's standards. That faulty action allowed HPS, despite assurances that they would not, to submit a very incomplete Master Mining Plan that blocked the county from open dialogue with the citizens and left us without updating OUR LDRs and CP. This has gone on for two years now!

Meanwhile, HPS is FAR from satisfying the Requests for Additional Information presented by the Department of Environmental Protection, let alone the other agencies involved. How long can the Bradford County Commission

and the citizens of our county be held hostage, all because our BCC failed to adopt ANY period of mining moratorium, instead believing the promise that HPS would not do exactly what they then did, submit an application that blocked BCC's action?

Now, as a means of doing SOMETHING, the BCC wants to pay \$53,000 to an environmental firm to evaluate the hurriedly submitted "plan" of HPS. And, HPS will give the money to our broke county to cover the costs of the consultants. Will the BCC hire consultants again when HPS submits a completed ACTUAL application?

The quick fix out of the current mess would be to deny the plan, overturn the no vote and then immediately vote to enact a moratorium. Then we can update our LDRs and get on with our lives and future planning for the kind of county we hope to have in the future.

Bradford County's website has just been updated and shows a beautiful lake and the beauty that represents our county's natural assets. We are working on a new logo. We are trying to re-brand ourselves as an appealing place to come and live and start a business.

Phosphate mining is antithetical to the new way Bradford wants to depict itself. It does not represent the future that we envision for our county. It would be a step backward, not forward thinking.

Carol Mosley

## Thanks from food pantry

Dear Editor:  
The volunteers at the Bradford Ministries Food Pantry (Bradford Food Pantry) would like to thank every individual, business and organization that contributed to us being able to distribute

311 holiday food bags during November and December and serve 9,000 adults and children in 2017. We served 650 families during these two months.

My thought was "the Grinch DID NOT STEAL CHRISTMAS in Bradford County." From the 10-year-old child who saw something on TV about a child donating food and insisted to her mother that she wanted to do a basket for us; to the elderly gentleman who is reported to be not so turned on by Christmas, but who bought out of his pocket hygiene items for the homeless bags; to the lady who bought the supplies and donated 47 Christmas goodies, which were a sled made out of candy canes and candy bars with decorations on top. With small decorations, we decided to give them to our clients over 70. I wish she could have seen their smiles; to the business which donated holiday food bags donated by their employees and others in the small shopping center, already made up and decorated.

When Salvation Army says local donations stay here, they do. They buy our holiday meat every year. When you help our service organizations, you help the food pantry because they, in turn, make a donation. The Shop at Home campaign tells the truth when they say that our businesses donate to our local causes. We couldn't do what we do without their generosity. Our churches have always been supportive with food drives and money donations. Every person, business, church or organization who donated helped us feed 9,000 people last year, some just one time when an emergency came up, some on a bi-monthly basis. Just know, we pinch pennies (1,800 packs of hot dogs purchased at 18 cents each), and pay no salaries. Every cent goes to purchasing food and operating expenses.

I have always thought Bradford County was a loving community. Now I am convinced of it. You enabled us to move into a building more than twice as big as we had operated in for 28 years, with the help of our local state representatives and the Department of Agriculture. Our clients can now get in out of the heat and cold and rain and have a seat. We purchased two commercial freezers and are hoping to purchase two commercial coolers to enable us to have fresh vegetables on hand.

We have a big need for younger men (our youngest is over 70) to help with pickups of food and unloading at our pantry. God Bless you all.

Betty Warren

# CRIME

## Recent arrests in Bradford, Clay and Union

The following individuals were arrested recently by local law enforcement officers in Bradford, Union or Clay (Keystone Heights and Melrose areas) counties.

### BRADFORD



Brannen

Kristy Lynn Brannen, 33, of Orange Park was arrested Jan. 12 by Bradford deputies for a probation violation.



Chamberlain

Dylan James Chamberlain, 21, of Hampton was arrested Jan. 9 by Bradford deputies for two probation violations.



Davis

Jason Odell Davis, 31, of Glen St. Mary was arrested Jan. 12 by probation officers for an out-of-county warrant.



Fore

Charles Aaron Fore, 37, of Starke was arrested Jan. 14 by Starke police for driving with a suspended or revoked license.



Fraser

Luke Benjamin Fraser, 18, of Weston was arrested Jan. 12 by Lawtey police for possession of marijuana and possession of drug equipment.



Fritz

Mary Liane Fritz, 28, of High Springs was arrested Jan. 9 by Bradford deputies for an out-of-county warrant.



Hankerson

Tray Markis Hankerson, 23, of Lawtey was arrested Jan. 10 by Bradford deputies for a probation violation.



Hendrix

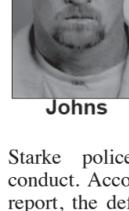
Micah Elijah Hendrix, 21, of Maysville, North Carolina was arrested Jan. 11 by Starke police for

disorderly conduct. According to an arrest report, the defendant got into a fight with Thomas C. Johns in the parking lot of Whiskey River Saloon.



Jepson

David Edward Jepson, 33, of Lake City was arrested Jan. 13 by Lawtey police as a habitual offender for driving with a suspended or revoked license.



Johns

Thomas C. Johns, 38, of Richlands, North Carolina was arrested Jan. 10 by Starke police for disorderly conduct. According to an arrest report, the defendant got into a fight with Micah Elijah Hendrix in the parking lot of Whiskey River Saloon.



Lott

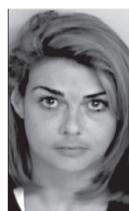
Jose Luis Julian-Rulfo, 38, was arrested Jan. 12 by state troopers for DUI.

Antonio Antwan Lott, 24, of Starke was arrested Jan. 11 by Starke police for fraudulent use of credit cards. According to an arrest report, the victim said he gave the defendant a ride and believes the defendant saw his credit cards in the vehicle during the trip. Video surveillance from Walmart and Dollar General showed the defendant using the credit cards to buy merchandise and then returning the goods for refunds.



Martinez

Jose Martinez, 51, of Hampton was arrested Jan. 9 by Starke police for battery. According to an arrest report, the victim told police the defendant came into her bedroom while she was asleep and woke her up. After an argument started, the defendant slapped the victim in the face.



McClellan

Jamie Diane McClellan, 33, of Starke was arrested Jan. 12 by Bradford deputies for a probation violation.



Okam

Hillary Obinna Okam, 43, of Jacksonville was arrested Jan. 9 by Starke police for resisting

an officer, possession of marijuana, possession of drug equipment, destroying evidence and carrying a concealed firearm while committing a felony. According to an arrest report, the defendant passed a Starke police officer on U.S. 301 in the area of Noegel's Auto Sales. The officer determined the car was travelling 41 in a 30-mph zone. After stopping the car, the officer detected a strong odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. The defendant then attempted to eat a green leafy substance that was in the car. The substance later tested positive for marijuana. When the defendant attempted to exit the vehicle contrary to commands by the lawman, the officer tased the defendant. The officer also found a black, Beretta 9mm semi-automatic handgun in the vehicle, in addition to a marijuana grinder with residue.



Powell

Shoun Christopher Powell, 18, of Jacksonville was arrested Jan. 10 by Bradford deputies for failure to appear.



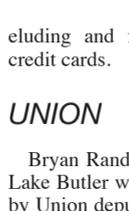
Saha

Reinaldo Rodriguez, 48, of Starke was arrested Jan. 12 by Starke police for an out-of-county warrant.



Sheldon

Robert Todd Sheldon, 53, of Lake Butler was arrested Jan. 11 by Starke police for DUI.



Turner

Jerome Terry Turner, 63, of Lawtey was arrested Jan. 8 by Lawtey police for fleeing and eluding and fraudulent use of credit cards.

### UNION

Bryan Randall Elixson, 35, of Lake Butler was arrested Jan. 11 by Union deputies for an out-of-county warrant.



Jones

Landras Jones, 40, of Lake Butler was arrested Jan. 9 by Union deputies for burglary, larceny, criminal mischief and possession of a weapon by a felon. According to an arrest report, on Nov. 13, 2017 a Lake Butler couple discovered that their home had been broken into and a handgun had been stolen. In December, Baker deputies recovered the stolen weapon and Union investigators traced the gun to the defendant, using interviews and anonymous tips.

Brandon Wayne McDonald, 20, of Lake Butler was arrested Jan. 15 by Union deputies for contempt of court. According to an arrest report, the defendant violated a restraining order.

Alvere Devaon Parker, 27, of Jacksonville was arrested by Union deputies for failure to appear.

Tanga Peretta Smith, 47, of Jacksonville was arrested by Union deputies for failure to appear.

Marcus Waugh, 27, was arrested by Union deputies for disorderly intoxication.

Corinthian Eli Williams, 21,

See CRIME, 5B

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This is a view Chuck Slater had from Camp Ichay, with the Syrian border not far away.



On New Year's Eve morning, Chuck Slater was part of a cross walk at the corner of S.R. 100 and U.S. 301. Pictured (l-r) are Slater, Mike Lowe, Thomas Sparks, Larry Lowe and God's Rescue House Pastor Gordon Davis.

## SLATER

Continued from 1B

he learned how different regions of the country have "warlords," whom he described as "politically motivated leaders that aren't associated with the central government."

Slater also talked with those at the compound about such things as Russia supporting the Syrian government and the Sunni-Shia conflict.

"I'm trying to piece together these politics and what's happening," Slater said. "I am getting little bits and pieces of information."

As a Christian, Slater was interested in learning more about those of the Islamic faith since they, as he sees it, outnumber those of his own faith, meaning "Christians are losing this battle for souls."

"I'm not well-schooled in Islam," Slater said, "but after doing this mission, guess what? I bought myself a Quran. I'm starting to read it. I want to know what these people are looking at and where it's coming from."

In the midst of such serious discussions with men visiting the compound, Slater got to witness a little bit of fun as well. A play area featuring bounce houses and trampolines was set up for children of the visiting families.

"It wasn't an amusement park per se," Slater said, "but it was a safe place for these kids to just hang out for couple of hours because these people would come in groups of 30 to 50 every day, and they'd be here for four to five hours while they waited in line to see the doctor."

Still, there was an underlying sadness to the fun.

"None of these kids went to school," Slater said. "The education system has collapsed."

It's just one aspect of an area that has suffered because of conflict.

"The infrastructure's bad," Slater said. "The water systems don't work. The doctors and the hospital system — it's just a total mess."

After spending 65 days on the compound, Slater had the chance to go to Jerusalem. He walked through the Old City and visited the Church of the

Holy Sepulchre, which believed to contain the sites of Jesus' crucifixion and burial.

Slater also visited Bethlehem and the Sea of Galilee. He went to the Jordan River and Dead Sea, wading into each.

If he had a bucket list, those sightseeing trips would've been on it. Volunteering with Friend Ships United made those trips possible.

He became aware of Friend Ships approximately a year ago after hearing one of their advertisements on the radio, Slater said. However, he had to put off contacting them due to other trips he made abroad. He accompanied a Middleburg pastor on a missions trip to Africa, which put Slater in contact with those involved with Gina's Blessings, a ministry of First United Methodist Church of Starke. He did the preliminary investigation of a water system that was being installed through Gina's Blessings.

After that trip, Slater went to Thailand for five weeks to do work as part of his business, CS Tech Inc.

"I kept putting off the introduction with Friend Ships until finally in August (2017), I got over to Lake Charles," Slater said.

His work with CS Tech Inc. — a company in which he's the sole member — has taken him throughout the U.S. and throughout the world to such places as China, India, Mexico and Brazil.

"I assist engineering companies in starting up steel mills," said Slater, who is

originally from Pittsburgh. "I get a call, and I'll go to a site where they're putting a mill together. I'll work out the bugs with a team of commissioning engineers."

Slater, 67, said he was raised Catholic, but admitted he put "all that away" in the 1970s when he was in his 20s.

"I was a sales engineer," he said. "I entertained people. Drinking became a daily routine for me."

That was Slater's life, but he has not had a drink since Nov. 28, 1995. Becoming a Christian is what has helped him stay sober all these years.

"One of the things that will assure your sobriety is picking up a spiritual path," Slater said.

Though he put alcohol behind him, Slater experienced some recent turmoil when his wife left him for another man. Again, he turned to God and asked for direction in his life.

As a result, he's had chances to travel and participate in ventures such as the Friend Ships United humanitarian efforts.

"All of a sudden, my pathway has just exploded or blossomed with all these different opportunities to do things," Slater said. "I'm like, 'Well, I guess I am kind of an adrenaline junkie.' I just say, 'Give me more.'"

Besides taking various missions trips, Slater takes opportunities to talk about his background and share his testimony at churches throughout the area. He also accompanies pastors who go into prisons.

Sometimes, you may see him on the corner of S.R. 100 and U.S. 301 with other members of

## HOWE

Continued from 3B

good while they were there. It was like, 'I can do this.' Having my dad sit there watching me — it was like old times."

Kevin Howe said he was there to tell his daughter what she was doing wrong at the plate and to tell the umpire when he blew a call.

"Definitely my biggest fan," Howe said of her father.

Her father always kept her updated on how the Union County softball team was doing, Howe said. She was happy the Tigers won the state title last season — something she and her three fellow seniors fell short of in 2016.

"I was incredibly proud of them," Howe said. "Coming from Union County, I can say,

Graham church God's Rescue House — a church he attends regularly — participating in a "cross walk," where he and others actually hold crosses as well as signs bearing such phrases as, "Jesus is the way, the truth and the life."

Slater also supports Alcoholics Anonymous groups, helping those struggling with sobriety.

It's all a way for Slater to help others, which he believes is his calling.

"What I've learned to do is give back what I've been given," Slater said.

Slater said he may go on a missions trip to Nicaragua in June, while an industrial job in Mexico will have him away from home for a month this summer. The Middleburg pastor he accompanied to Africa is planning to visit refugee camps along the China-North Korea border, but Slater said he's not sure he'll make that trip since it's in February, which means it's cold there.

Of course, Slater will be looking for other opportunities that God places in his path. It's what he's meant to do and what he wants to do.

"I've got a lot of life left in me," he said.

'Hey, the girls that I played with won it.' I think (the 2016 seniors) set a standard, and I just knew they would want to beat it. I'm glad they did."

Fortunately, Howe has three more years at Limestone as she hopes to surpass what last year's team did. In the midst of the players' hard work, they have an eye toward winning their conference. The Saints went 17-3 in Conference Carolinas in 2017 and finished in second place during the regular season, advancing to the conference championship game as the second seed before falling 5-4 to Pfeiffer.

"It would be such an excitement for all of us," Howe said if her team could win the Conference Carolinas crown this year. "We would definitely have to celebrate after it. It would feel like all that work we put in was worth it."

As she looks forward to another season, Howe said she'd give the following advice to anyone who gets an opportunity to be a student-athlete in college: "Even when your hopes are down, and you think it's not working for you, just keep pushing, because in the end, it'll all work out. You might not be the starter, but next year, they might want you. You just have to keep pushing."

"With your school, it gets hard, especially with finals, but you'll have support there, and you can get it done. Don't ever just doubt yourself. Keep believing."

## Socials



Nancy Powell and Randel Bivens

## Powell, Bivens to Wed

Jan. 20, 4:30 pm at the Fellowship Hall of the Lake Butler Church of Christ is the date chosen by Randel Bivens of Midway and Nancy Powell of Lake Butler to celebrate their marriage.

Nancy is the daughter of Martha Powell of Lake Butler and Ray Powell of Ocala.

Randel is the son of the Late Hazel and Leonard Bivens of Midway. No invitations are being sent.

## CRIME

Continued from 4B

of Raiford was arrested Jan. 10 by Union deputies for an out-of-county warrant and a probation violation.

## KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — MELROSE

Raymond Jerome Ardely, 28, of Keystone Heights was arrested Jan. 12 by Clay deputies for an out-of-county warrant.

Russell Franklin Beck, 57, of Keystone Heights was arrested Jan. 11 by Clay deputies for an out-of-county warrant.

Danny Richard Dustin, 35, of Keystone Heights was arrested Jan. 10 by Clay deputies for battery.

Dylan Craig Hurt, 18, was arrested Jan. 9 by Clay deputies for child neglect without great bodily harm, vandalism, aggravated battery and throwing a missile into a vehicle or structure.

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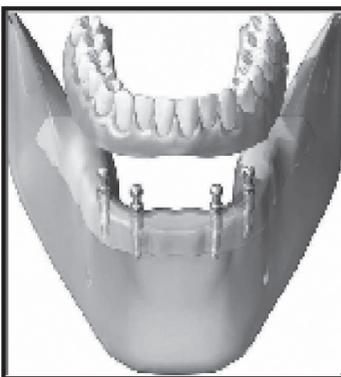
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## BHS boys roll to win over Baker County

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Chris Cummings scored 11 of his 22 points in the first quarter as the Bradford High School boys' basketball team built a 26-12 lead en route to defeating

visiting Baker County 72-54 on Jan. 13.

Jordan Lee also reached double figures with 10 points, while dishing out 11 assists.

Matthew Crawford and D.J. Mackey had nine and eight points, respectively, with Mackey grabbing 10 rebounds.

Taz Curry and J'cobi Harris each scored seven points, while Tavi'en Young had four. Tally Chandler and Dequan Hankerson added three and two points, respectively.

Bradford entered the game off a 55-53 loss to Gainesville on

Jan. 9 in Starke.

The Tornadoes lost to Gainesville by 20 points in the championship game of the Lake Area McDonald's-Kiwanis of Starke Holiday Tournament in December, but were in position to win or tie in the closing seconds of this most recent matchup. Curry missed on a shot in the paint, but the ball was knocked out to Lee for a long rebound. Lee then passed the ball to Young, who knocked down a three-pointer, which had the crowd going wild, thinking it was the game winner. However, head coach Adrian Chandler had called a timeout before the shot with four seconds remaining. When Bradford inbounded the ball, Young was forced to take a long three-pointer that was off the mark.

Two three-pointers by Cummings, another long-distance shot by Young and six points by Curry helped the Tornadoes go into halftime leading 31-24.

Gainesville's Christian Cardwell-Miller scored 11 points in the third quarter as the Hurricanes took a lead they would never relinquish.

Mackey and Curry finished with 15 and 14 points, respectively, with Curry also grabbing 13 rebounds. Cummings had nine points and seven assists, while Young and Lee had six and five points, respectively. Crawford added four points.

The Tornadoes host District 4-5A opponent Interlachen on Thursday, Jan. 18, 7:30 p.m. following a junior varsity game at 4:30 p.m. and a girls' varsity game at 6 p.m. Bradford hosts Eastside on Saturday, Jan. 20, at 7:30 p.m. before hosting district opponent Newberry on Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m. The JV team will play at 6 p.m. prior to each of those games.

Bradford is currently 5-0 in District 4.

## 4 BHS lifters advancing to Region 2-1A finals

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bradford High School's Khalia Donley successfully defended her championship, while three of her teammates also earned regional berths after their performances at the District 4-1A girls' weightlifting finals on Jan. 9 in Fort White.

The top six lifters in each class qualified for the Region 2 finals, which will be held at

Wewahitchka High School on Wednesday, Jan. 17.

Donley repeated as District 4 champ in the 110 class with a 255 total that was 25 pounds more than the second-place finisher. Donley had a bench press of 130 and a clean and jerk of 125.

Auriyanna Hankerson actually had the best total (305) in the 183 class, but she finished tied with Union County's Breyonce Cummings. Cummings was

awarded the championship due to the weigh-in tiebreaker (she weighed two-tenths of a pound less than Hankerson), so Hankerson, who had a bench of 175 and a clean and jerk of 130, officially placed second.

Samantha Hopkins placed fourth in the 119 class with a 180 total (85 bench press, 95 clean and jerk), while Kayla Daniel placed fifth in the unlimited class with a 235 total (125, 110).



Earning the right to compete in the Region 2-1A weightlifting finals for Bradford were (l-r) Kayla Daniel, Auriyanna Hankerson, Samantha Hopkins and Khalia Donley. Photo by Shelley Rodgers.

## The Weekly Paw Print:

Is your dog's bowl half full or half empty?

Dogs face stress in their lives like people. Also just like humans, some are more optimistic about their situations than others. As it turns out, a Kong toy helped determine which dogs would be optimistic and which would be less so.

The study conducted by researchers at Queen's University in Belfast, Northern Ireland, used a simple Kong test to assess dogs for paw preference and how it might relate to their tendency toward optimism or pessimism. The Kong was placed on the floor in front of them. Researchers recorded their actions as the dogs tried to stabilize the Kong to acquire the food inside. Paw preference was determined by which paw the dog placed on top to stabilize the toy.

For the second part of the test, empty and food-filled bowls were placed around the room at random. The right "pawed" dogs were more likely to explore the bowls for food and found food more quickly. The lefties were less likely to search for the food. These results helped researchers to conclude that the lefties were more "pessimistic" about finding food.

Brain research in dogs has demonstrated each side of the body is controlled by the opposite hemisphere of the brain, just like humans. The left side of the brain, which also controls the right side of the body, inhibits fear, so it's more likely to encourage exploration of the world and new experiences. The right side of the brain, which also controls the left side of the body, is more likely to process fearful information, and promote avoidance of new experiences. Hence, why right pawed dogs were more explorative than the left pawed dogs. From the results of this study researchers further concluded that left-pawed dogs are at greater risk of struggling emotionally in challenging situations.

This could explain why some dogs are more fearful or nervous than other happy go lucky pups. Next time your dog is chewing on a bone or toy see which foot is on top. If it's the right you might just have an optimist in your midst.

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## KHHS hosts girls' district soccer tournament starting Jan. 22

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School will be the host of this year's District 5-2A girls' soccer tournament, which starts Monday, Jan. 22, and runs through Friday, Jan. 26.

Keystone is the third seed and will not be in action until Tuesday, Jan. 23.

Play begins at 5 p.m. on Jan. 22 with top seed P.K. Yonge playing eighth seed Williston. Second seed Santa Fe and seventh seed Interlachen play following that match at 7 p.m.

Fourth seed Fort White and fifth seed Newberry start the action at 5 p.m. on Jan. 23, with Keystone playing sixth seed Crescent City at 7 p.m.

On Wednesday, Jan. 24, the P.K. Yonge-Williston winner will play the Fort White-Newberry winner at 5 p.m., while the Keystone-Crescent City winner plays the Santa Fe-Interlachen winner at 7 p.m.

The Jan. 24 winners advance to the championship match at 7 p.m. on Jan. 26.

Both championship participants will advance to the Region 2 quarterfinals, which will be played Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m.

## Indians lose to Rams despite Thomas' double-double

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Eddie Thomas posted his fourth straight double-double in points and rebounds, but the Keystone Heights High School boys' basketball team lost 46-35 to District 4-5A opponent Interlachen on Jan. 12 in Keystone.

Thomas scored 20 points and had 14 rebounds as the Indians (8-9) fell to 1-6 in district play. Sawyer Maxwell had three steals.

Prior to playing Interlachen, Keystone defeated visiting St. Johns Country Day 58-41 on Jan. 5 before then losing 58-47 on the road against district opponent Newberry on Jan. 9.

Thomas had 19 points and 12 rebounds against St. Johns Country Day, while Marco Flores had eight assists. Flores and Ben Miller each had four steals.

Against Newberry, Thomas had 15 points and 11 rebounds, with Maxwell adding eight rebounds.

46-35 loss to Interlachen Jan. 12.

Thomas 20 points, 14 rebounds Maxwell three points, three steals

The Indians played St. Johns Country Day this past Tuesday and will host district opponent Fort White on Friday, Jan. 19, at 7 p.m. following a junior varsity game at 5:30 p.m.

## KHHS takes 4-1 district boys' soccer victory over Interlachen

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Four players scored one goal each for the Keystone Heights High School boys' soccer team, which won for the fifth in time in six matches, defeating District 5-2A opponent Interlachen 4-1 on Jan. 11 in Interlachen.

The Indians (10-7-2) got goals from Alex Cruz, Caleb Cushman,

See SOCCER, 7B

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# Obituaries

# Card of Thanks

## Herbert Adams

**KEYSTONE HEIGHTS**—Herbert “Clif” Adams, 75, of Keystone Heights passed away suddenly Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018, at Shands Hospital in Starke. He was born in Jacksonville on May 24, 1942, to the late Roy and Mattie (Roberts) Adams and had served his country in the United States Navy. Mr. Adams was a retired engineer from Southern Bell and was a member of Freedom Baptist Church. He also enjoyed woodworking and loved fishing. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Chris Adams.

Survivors are: his wife of 10 years, Brigitte (Cox) Adams, and a brother, Malcolm (Thea) Adams, both of Keystone Heights; and three stepchildren Derek Greene of Fayetteville, Georgia, Bill Staus of Woodland Park, Colorado, and Cheryl Penny of Sharpsburg, Georgia. Also left behind are two nieces, Joy Sapp and Sandy Hammond, and one nephew, Mal Adams, all of Keystone Heights, along with two great nieces, Cori Aretino of Lake City and Sutherlyn Adams of Keystone Heights, and four great-nephews, Jarrod Hammond, Steven Sapp, Ethan Sapp and Rease Sapp, all of Keystone Heights, and four great-grand-nieces.

Funeral services for Mr. Adams will be held at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 20, at Freedom Baptist Church, with Pastor Jason Stephens officiating. The family will receive friends beginning at 1:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Freedom Baptist Church, 7207 S.R. 21, Keystone Heights, FL 32656. Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Keystone Heights (352-473-3176; www.jonesgallagherfh.com).

PAID OBITUARY

## Herman Crews

**LAWTEY**—Herman Floyd Crews, 67, of Lawtey died on Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018. He was born in Blackshear, Georgia, to the late John and Bertha Crews. He served his country in the United States Army and in the Vietnam War. He had been a Union County resident since 1954. He retired from Florida State Prison after 25 years.

Herman is survived by: his wife of 45 years, Sandra Adkins Crews; son, Herman S. Crews; daughters, Gretchin Dianna Crews (Cord McKellips) and Sandra Jane Crews; brother, Asbury Crews; sisters, Vera Jaco and Louise Hill; and three grandchildren.

Arrangements are under the care of Archer Funeral Home, Lake Butler.

## James Fletcher

**PALM COAST**—Deacon James Russell Fletcher, 85, of Palm Coast died Friday, Jan. 12, 2018, at his residence. A native of Jacksonville, Georgia, he attended the local schools. He was employed with the Pantry Pride Division and retired as a longshoreman with the Port of Miami.

He is survived by: his wife, Thelma Campbell Fletcher of Palm Coast; children; grandchildren; sisters; brothers; and many other family members.

Funeral services will be held at noon on Saturday, Jan. 20, at New Bethel Baptist Church in Starke, with Rev. Abie Williams conducting the services. Interment will be held at Oddfellow Cemetery in Starke. Arrangements are under the direction of Haile Funeral Home Inc. of Starke. Visitation will be held on Friday, Jan. 19, at New Bethel Baptist Church from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. and from 10 a.m. until the hour of service on Saturday.

## Edith Hathaway

**KEYSTONE HEIGHTS**—Edith Hathaway, 97, of Keystone Heights died Friday, Jan. 12, 2018, in Tennessee. She was born in Mechanicville, New York, on April 15, 1920, to the late Joseph and Carolina (Castaldo) Laurenzo. Prior to her retirement, she had been a supervisor for an assisted living facility in Keystone Heights. She was a member of Park of the Palms Church and was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond Hathaway; one brother; and two sisters.

Her survivors are: children, Anne Vitale of Cloverdale, Virginia, Ruth Tashjian of Sharps Chapel, Tennessee, and Frank E. Vitale of Canaan, New Hampshire; brother, Abraham Laurenzo of New York; five sisters, Connie Carota, Marian Laurenzo, Mary Capuano and Elsie Palmer, all of New York, and Helen Marinello of Clearwater; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Keystone Heights.

## Thomas Hurley Sr.

**GAINESVILLE**—Thomas Lee Hurley Sr., 64, of Gainesville, died on Monday, Jan. 8, 2018. He was born to the late Carl and Billy Jo Hurley in Washington, D.C. He lived most of his adult life in Gainesville and worked as an automotive mechanic.

He is survived by: his wife, Vicky T. Hurley; and son, Thomas Lee Hurley Jr.

A graveside service was held at Dekle Cemetery on Jan. 16. Arrangements were under the care of Archer Funeral Home, Lake Butler.



## Jack Leigh

**STARKE**—Jack Lawrence Leigh, 90, of Starke passed away Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018, at the VA Medical Center in Gainesville. Jack was born in Camp Hill, Alabama, on Oct. 22, 1927, to the late Grady E. Leigh and Catherine Heard Leigh. Jack enlisted in the United States Navy during World War II after graduating from Pasco High School. He was a radio man in the submarine service for four years. Jack worked at and retired from CSX Railroad after 47 years of dedicated service. Jack loved God and his family. He enjoyed traveling, camping, scuba diving and watching the Boston Red Sox and New England Patriots. The world has lost one of the best. His beloved wife, Kim, will love him always and forever. Jack is predeceased by his parents; and brother, Louis Leigh.

Jack is survived by the love of his life, Kim Viocck Graham of Starke; best friend and brother, Gerald M. Leigh of Atlanta; children, Pete (Mary Lou) Leigh of Pennsylvania, Pat Leigh, Paul (Mary) Leigh, both of Washington state, Beth Ann (Greg) Geoghagan, Mary (Steve) Myers, Jack Leigh Jr., Justin (Tammy) Graham, Ashley (Adam) Levine, all of Florida; and several grandchildren

and great-grandchildren. There are also two very special grandchildren who he spent most of his days with, and who he adored dearly: Brooklyn and Bennett Levine, who were always there to put a smile on his face.

A Celebration of Jack's Life will be held Sunday, Jan. 21, at 2 p.m. at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel, with Pastor Johnnie T. Hobbs officiating. A reception with refreshments will follow the service at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the funeral home to assist with expenses. Arrangements are under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel, Starke (904-964-5757). Visit www.ferreirafuneralservices.com to sign the family's guest book.

PAID OBITUARY

## Richard Mayben Jr.

**BROOKER**—Richard Allen Mayben Jr., AKA “The Supervisor,” of Brooker died on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2018, at North Florida Regional in Gainesville. He was born on Aug. 20, 1965, in Gainesville to Richard Allen Mayben Sr. and Mary Ella Green Mayben.

He is survived by: brothers, Gregory (Kammie), Russell (Sheri) and Harold Mayben; sister, Mattie Foster May; stepchildren, Marrisa Jones, Amberlyn Squires, Krystal Geraghty, Kenndal Dickson and Kyler Thorton; and girlfriend, Vickie Starling.

A service was held Jan. 8 at Archer Funeral Home. Arrangements were under the care of Archer Funeral Home, Lake Butler.

PAID OBITUARY



## Anne Thomson

**MELROSE**—Anne Elizabeth



## John Weaver Jr.

**KEYSTONE HEIGHTS**—John Luke Weaver Jr., 85, of Keystone

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Heights passed away Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018, at Haven Hospice in Gainesville. He was born in Jacksonville March 9, 1932, to the late John L. and Elizabeth (Donaldson) Weaver Sr. and was in the graduating class of 1950 at Robert E. Lee High School. Following graduation, he joined the United States Air Force, served in the Korean War and received several military awards. Mr. Weaver was a member of Trinity Baptist Church and was an avid hunter and fisherman. He also enjoyed camping and traveling. His granddaughter, Shannon Renee Alvers, and brother, James C. Thomas, preceded him in death.

Survivors are: his wife of 68 years, Anna (Cregg) Weaver of Keystone Heights and their two daughters, April (Ken) Alvers of Keystone Heights and Cheryl Eisenacher of Orlando. Also left behind are two grandsons and their wives, Daniel (Kim) Alvers and Ben (Shelly) Alvers, along with four great-grandchildren, Caleb, Gunner, Connor and Eliza. Funeral services for Mr. Weaver were Saturday, Jan. 13, at Trinity Baptist Church, with Pastor Scott Stanland and Rev. Daniel Alvers officiating. Interment was at Gadara Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Haven Hospice, 4200 S.W. 90th Blvd., Gainesville, FL 32606. Arrangements were under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Keystone Heights (352-473-3176; www.jonesgallagherfh.com).

PAID OBITUARY



## Denton Devoe II

3-18-77—  
12-24-17  
The family of Denny Devoe would like to thank our family and friends for all their prayers, visits, food, phone calls and support during this difficult time. We extend a special thanks to Ronald Kimbrell for officiating the service and to Archer Funeral Home for all they did. We will forever be grateful for the compassion and care that has been shown to our family.

The Denny Devoe Family

## SOCCER

Continued from 6B

Dean Hogg and Jacob Hopkins. Cushman, the team's goalie, scored on a penalty kick, while in the net, he made five saves.

Cruz had two assists, while Peyton Box had one.

Keystone entered the game off an 8-0 loss to district opponent

Santa Fe on Jan. 9 and is now 5-5-1 in district play.

The Indians played St. Francis Catholic this past Tuesday and district opponent Newberry on Wednesday, Jan. 17. Keystone hosts Palatka on Thursday, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m. before traveling to play Columbia on Monday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. The junior varsity team plays prior to each match at 5 p.m.

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# Tornadoes top Indians in turnover-filled game

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Olyvia Griffin scored six points during a 7-2 run to close the game, giving the Bradford High School girls' basketball team a 39-33 District 5-2A win over Keystone Heights on Jan. 12 in Starke.

Bradford (6-8) improved to 4-3 in the district and is in third place behind Newberry and Interlachen. Keystone (5-10) is 2-6 in the district and in fifth place in the six-team district.

In the end, the game came down to who could take advantage of turnovers, which were prevalent as the teams combined for more than 70. All of the Tornadoes' last seven points came following turnovers.

Griffin, who led all scorers with 12 points, scored eight points in all off fourth-quarter turnovers.

The game got off to an incredibly sloppy start as the teams combined to turn the ball over more than 10 times before the first points, which were a pair of free throws by Bradford's Jah'mya Henderson with 3:38 remaining in the first quarter. The first field goal didn't occur until the Indians' Savannah Channell scored on a drive to the basket at



**Bradford's Raynisha Hunter (left) puts up a shot against Keystone's Madison Heskett.**

the 2:33 mark.

It wasn't quite as slow of a start to the second quarter, but the teams combined to score only seven points in the first five minutes. A Haley Julius drive resulted in Keystone taking an 11-10 lead with two minutes remaining in the half. Brittnee Smiley's free throw for the Tornadoes tied the score. Talia Brown then knocked down a jumper to put Bradford ahead 13-11. Keystone's Karyn Teemely hit a jumper off a Channell assist to tie the score before halftime.

The Indians opened the second



**Keystone's Victoria Snider (foreground, left) tries to beat Bradford's Chloe Raab to a rebound.**



**Bradford's Jade Baker (left) drives past Keystone's Skylar Rollins.**

Keystone's Savannah Channell scored on a drive to the basket and later added another score off her own offensive rebound. Julius then sank two straight jump shots for a 21-14 lead.

Bradford responded by outscoring Keystone 13-3 the rest of the quarter. Jade Baker



**Bradford's Olyvia Griffin (left) goes in for a layup against Keystone's Savannah Channell.**



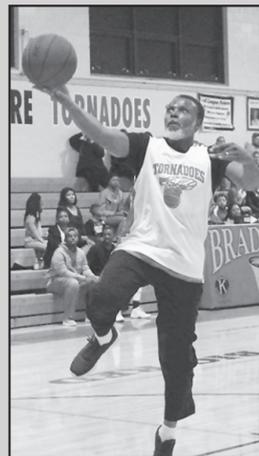
**Channell (left) handles the ball against defensive pressure by Bradford's Jah'mya Henderson.**

grabbed an offensive rebound and promptly made a jumper. Brown had a field goal before Smiley made a three-pointer, which tied the score. Henderson grabbed a defensive rebound and threw a pass downcourt to Smiley for a basket. Griffin then scored off a turnover to make the score 25-21 in favor of the Tornadoes before Keystone's Julius made two free throws.

Raynisha Hunter and Regina Roberts each made a free throw for Bradford, while Teemely added a free throw for Keystone, making the score 27-24 in favor of the Tornadoes entering the fourth quarter.

Keystone's Madison Heskett tied the score on an old-fashioned

## Past Tornadoes can still play



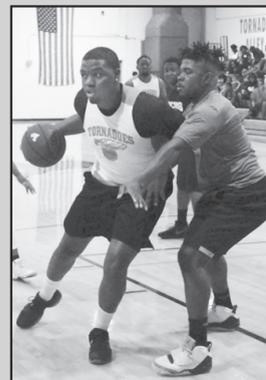
**Warren Bright gets a basket for Bradford.**



**Keearis Ardley (right) goes up strong for a basket.**



**Deantre Burch (right) goes in for a layup as he and fellow Bradford High School alumni teamed up to defeat Baker County High School alumni 73-55 on Jan. 12, preceding the schools' boys' basketball game on Jan. 13, which the current Tornadoes also won by a score of 72-54.**



**Ya'keem Griner (left) works while being closely guarded.**

three-point play to start the final quarter, but a pair of Henderson free throws gave Bradford the lead for good.

Free throws by Julius and Victoria Snider pulled the Indians within one point later in the quarter, but Griffin had a layup off a turnover to put the Tornadoes ahead 34-31. A steal by Sara Foster led to another

Griffin layup, while Baker, who had a steal, was fouled in the act of shooting, making one free throw to increase the Bradford lead by six. Griffin then scored off her own backcourt steal, giving the Tornadoes their final points.

See GIRLS, 9B

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# GIRLS

Continued from 8B

Griffin and Henderson finished with eight steals apiece.

The Indians, which got a rebound putback from Snider for their final points, turned the ball over four times in the final two minutes.

Henderson and Smiley each finished with eight points for Bradford, which also got four points from Brown. Baker and Hunter had three and two points, respectively, with Foster and Roberts each adding one.

Hunter had eight rebounds, while Griffin had seven. Henderson had five assists.

Julius and Channell led Keystone with nine and eight

points, respectively, while Heskett and Snider each had five. Teemely and Destiny Bright had three and two points, respectively, with Skylar Rollins adding one.

The Tornadoes entered the game off a 46-42 district win over host Fort White on Jan. 11. Griffin had 16 points and eight steals, while Roberts had 10 points and 15 rebounds. Henderson, who

had nine rebounds, added nine points, while Foster had seven points. Baker had three points, with Brown adding one.

Prior to playing Bradford, Keystone hosted district opponent Interlachen, losing 38-37 on Jan. 9. Julius had 17 points and 12 rebounds, while Snider and Heskett had 13 and 11 rebounds, respectively. Channell and Snider scored seven and

six points, respectively, while Heskett had four. Lexi Northway added three points.

Bradford played Middleburg this past Tuesday and will host three straight district games: Interlachen on Thursday, Jan. 18, at 6 p.m., Pierson Taylor on Friday, Jan. 19, at 6:30 p.m. and Newberry on Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 6 p.m. Bradford's junior varsity team plays at 5 p.m. prior to the

Taylor game.

Keystone played Pierson Taylor this past Tuesday and will host Bishop Snyder on Thursday, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m. The Indians then travel to play district opponent Fort White on Monday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. The JV team plays prior to each game at 5:30 p.m.

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### 53 A Yard Sales

INDOOR FLEA MARKET @ Bradford Fair Grounds. 01/20. 8-? Collectibles, crafts, woodworks, plants, & more. Great prices! Booth rental fees go to the FFA scholarship program.

### 61 Scriptures

NOVENA TO ST. JUDE Oh Holy St. Jude, apostle and martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all

who invoke your special patronage in times of need, to you I have recourse from the depths of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent petition, in return, I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked, say three Our Fathers, three Hail Mary's and Glories for nine consecutive days. Publication must be promised, DMB.

### 65 Help Wanted

HELP WANTED UNION COUNTY SOLID WASTE/ROAD DEPARTMENT Clerical position. Must have experience and proficiency in Excel, Microsoft Word, Email, etc. Ability to operate computer and office equipment. Ability to multi-task, show proficiency in mathematical calculations. Ability to create and maintain records and complete payroll in a timely fashion. Must show professionalism through oral, written and typed communication. Ability to work under little or no supervision, must be self-motivated to complete tasks and meet deadlines. Minimum of 2 years experience in a secretarial position. Apply at Union County Solid Waste. Position closes at 3:00 p.m. on January 24, 2017. Union County Board of County Commissioners is an equal opportunity employer and gives Veterans Preference.

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## Tornadoes top Tigers 95-49

Bradford's Taz Curry (left) drives against Union County's Agelu Nunu in the Tornadoes' 95-49 win on Jan. 16 in Lake Butler. Bradford (11-6) was led by Jalen Williams' 21 points, while also getting double figures in points from Chris Cummings (16), Jordan Lee (12) and Curry (11). Union's Cody Hill (pictured in the background) led the Tigers (4-16) with 23 points, while Keyshawn Young had 11.



The District 4-1A champion Union County girls' weightlifting team: (front, l-r) Kurston Bakken, Abby Davis, Breyonce Cummings, (middle, l-r) Sydney Personette, Erica Roseke, Caitlyn Gainey, Cora Johnston, Josie Godwin, Mia Jackson, Katie Tomlinson, Madelyn Whitehead, Brandy McCoy, Tyler Herndon, Taylor Gainey and (back, l-r) coaches Bryan Griffis and Kepa Sarduy. Not pictured: Reah Jones. Photo by Shelley Rodgers.

## UCHS girls' weightlifters win first-ever district title

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

Led by seven first-place finishers, the Union County High School girls' weightlifting team won its first-ever district championship, topping Bradford, Fort White, Santa Fe, Suwannee and Taylor County at the Jan. 9 District 4-1A finals in Fort White.

In all, Union will send 12 lifters to the Wednesday, Jan. 17, Region 2 finals in Wewahitchka. The top six lifters in each class earned the right to advance.

"They went crazy," Union coach Bryan Griffis said of his lifters. "They jumped, and they hollered. They cried. The most important thing they did? They wanted to pray and thank God."

It was business as usual for Brandy McCoy, who competes in the 199 class. The junior has now won a third straight district title as she eyes winning a third straight state championship. Her 360 total (225 bench press, 135 clean and jerk) was nowhere near what she's capable of (she had a 480 total in winning state last year), but Griffis simply had her do what it took to win. As it was, she still won comfortably.

"There was nobody in her class close to (360)," Griffis said.

Mia Jackson won her second straight title by winning the 169 class with a 340 total (185, 155).

Breyonce Cummings battled it out with Bradford's Auriyanna Hankerson in the 183 class. Each lifter finished with a 305 total, but Cummings was awarded the championship due to the weigh-in tiebreaker (she weighed two-tenths of a pound less than Hankerson). She had a 155 bench press and a 150 clean and jerk.

Kurston Bakken was the unlimited runner-up last year when she was a student at Bradford High School. This year, she won the class with a 495 total (290, 205). Her bench press and clean and jerk were both personal records and school records.

Also winning championships were: Katie Tomlinson with a 145 total (70, 75) in the 101 class, Josie Godwin with a 325 total (170, 155) in the 139 class and Taylor Gainey with a 280 total (135, 145) in the 154 class. Godwin's bench press was a personal record.

Erica Roseke was the runner-up in the 119 class with a 195 total (100, 95), while the following each placed third: Madelyn Whitehead with a 215 total (110, 105) in the 129 class, Reah Jones with a 225 total (115, 110) in the 139 class and Cora Johnston with a 220 total (110, 110) in the 154 class.

Sydney Personette will also advance to the Region 2 finals after posting a 175 total (90, 85) in the 110 class.

Griffis and the lifters had said their goal this season was to win the state championship as a team. Winning the District 4 championship was the first step.

"I'm praying for two more (championships)," Griffis said.

## KHHS sending 8 lifters to Region 4-1A meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY  
Telegraph Staff Writer

After sending six girls' weightlifters to regional competition in each of the last two years, Keystone Heights High School is sending eight this year, as determined by their performances at the Jan. 12 District 7-1A in Interlachen.

The top six lifters in each class earned the right to advance to the Region 4 finals, which were held Jan. 17 in St. Augustine after press time.

Hannah Forshee was the runner-up in the 110 class with a 160 total. Placing third behind her was teammate Kamrey Dowdy, who had a 115 total. This is the second time in three years each lifter has earned the right to move on.

Also taking third was Isabella Hanna, who had a 200 total in the 129 class, and Isabel Woodell, who had a 240 total in the 169 class.

Three lifters earned fourth-place finishes: Zoe Dearborn with a 205 total in the 119 class, Kayle Daily with a 175 total in the 154 class and Kayla Goodin with a 195 total in the 199 class. Dearborn advanced for the second time in three years.

Makayla Smith also earned a regional berth for the second time in three years, placing fifth with a 180 total in the 199 class.

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THIS WEEK ONLY!

# NEW YEAR'S CLEARANCE BLOWOUT OVERSTOCK SALE

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

Save now on remaining 2017 models and never-before-worn top brand hearing aids during this once-a-year overstock reduction sale!

**HOT BUY!**

AMP for \$750  
(Fits Up to 40db Loss)



Must present coupon.

**FREE**

HEARING EVALUATION

\$150 Value  
Must present coupon.

**BONUS**

12 MONTHS SAME AS CASH

(Qualifying Buyers)  
Must present coupon.

**FREE**

SERVICE FOR LIFE

(Life of Device)  
Must present coupon.



U.S. HEARING SOLUTIONS

powered by AUDIBEL

**STARKE**

1107 S. Walnut Street

904-263-5335

USHearingSolutions.com

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Your BluCross BlueShield and United Healthcare insurance may now cover up to \$2,500 in hearing aids. Other insurances may have a hearing aid benefit as well. Call us today for details!



FINANCING AVAILABLE



\*\*For qualifying patients

WWW.USHEARINGSOLUTIONS.COM



Proudly donating a portion of every hearing aid sold in January to the Wounded Warrior Project.

