

Bradford County Telegraph

BHS graduation,
See Regional News



USPS 062-700 – STARKE, FLORIDA

THURSDAY, MAY 31, 2018

138TH YEAR, 43RD ISSUE

Starke commissioners make tough attorney decision

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

Starke city commissioners were placed in an awkward position when their former attorney returned from a military assignment and announced he wanted the position back.

Commissioners had questioned what to do about Dan Sikes' contract when it expired during his military deployment.

After the contract expired in January, Mayor Janice Mortimer asked commissioners how they wanted to proceed, noting that John Cooper had done an excellent job serving the board in Sikes' absence. Commissioners agreed with that, but also with Mortimer's desire to give Sikes an opportunity to reapply for the position instead of giving the job to someone else while he was still on duty.

That was in February. In March, Commissioner Tommy Chastain asked the board what was going to happen when Sikes returns. Commissioner Travis Woods asked if the city was required to give Sikes his job back. Cooper, who is also a veteran, said no. Rules that protect veterans' jobs do not apply to contract employees, he said. Sikes had expressed a desire to return to Mortimer and City Manager Bob Milner and was expected to return in May.

Commissioner Wilbur Waters said he was happy with Cooper's advice, knowledge and quick response. He wanted to see the board stick with Cooper, who had been working on a month-to-month contract, unless the law required the board to go through the formal selection process.

"I would like for him to stay on if any way possible," he said.

Mortimer said it wasn't just a matter of what the law said. She, too, was happy with Cooper's performance. However, because Sikes was called away to serve his country, she believed it was fair to give him a chance to apply again. Woods agreed but said it was ultimately up to the board who would serve as attorney, and stopped just short of saying their preference was obvious.

Chastain said commissioners should think about advertising for qualifications for attorneys in June. Sikes returned by May as expected. At the commission's first meeting of the month, he appeared and had a different interpretation of the law when it came to his right to be reappointed to the position. According to him, the length of the contract matters, and because he was under contract for two years, he should be reinstated.

Sikes said he would like to be reinstated as of June 1. He recommended the board advertise for qualifications from attorneys if that's what commissioners want, but reappointing him would satisfy the spirit and the letter of the law in the meantime.

On May 14, the commission finalized its direction. The city manager consulted with two labor attorneys in Tallahassee who pointed to court rulings that the Uniformed Service Employment and Reemployment Act did not apply to independent

See LAW, 2A

Alert wrecker operator prevents chemical spill



Above: "When they began to lift the tanker up, it started to buckle," said Shuford, "so they alertly stopped."

Right: Both the truck driver: Garrett Wier and a passenger: Jessica Hutto of Kingsland were transported to UF Health Shands Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Managing Editor

Bradford County's emergency management director said the operator of a wrecker prevented a chemical spill Saturday morning, after a semi-truck tanker overturned on U.S. 301 north of Lawley.

EMS Director Ray Shuford said that firefighters and law enforcement responding to the 1:15 a.m. single-vehicle traffic crash were first notified that

the tanker was empty and called Miracle Towing and Recovery of Macclenny to lift the trailer. However, soon after the wrecker operator began to upright the tanker, he saw a problem.

"When they began to lift the tanker up, it started to buckle," said Shuford, "so they alertly stopped."

A second call revealed that the tanker was carrying aluminum sulfate, a chemical used in paper manufacturing. According to the chemical's material data safety



sheet, aluminum sulfate is a non-flammable skin irritant.

A second tanker was brought in to take on the chemical before Miracle Towing and Recovery put the tanker back on its wheels.

The Florida Highway Patrol re-opened all lanes of traffic around 3:30 p.m.

According to FHP, the traffic crash occurred when the driver of

the rig: 48-year-old Garrett Wier of Kingsland, Georgia veered off the roadway and overcorrected, causing the tanker to overturn. Both Wier and a passenger: Jessica Hutto of Kingsland were transported to UF Health Shands Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

FHP ticketed Wier with careless driving.

Communities in Schools awards scholarships

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Managing Editor

Communities in Schools of Bradford County awarded scholarships to high school seniors during its annual banquet May 10 at Starke's Charley E. Johns Conference Center. The organization also thanked former board members, recognized its Mentor of the Year and said goodbye to its executive director.

Board Chair Cheryl Canova said that outgoing executive director Shannon Rowe has been on the group's board for five years and took over the executive director's job after the illness and subsequent passing of Kathy Hobbs.

Departing executive director

Canova described Rowe as a go-getter who dedicated herself to making Bradford County better.

"Great leaders don't set out to become leaders, they set out to make a difference. It's never about the role, it's about the goal," said Canova. "(Shannon) made some great business decisions for CIS and she continued to make our sponsorship program, that Kathy started, stronger. And she's been an excellent advocate for us in our community and in

Tallahassee."

Canova said that after a death in her husband's family, Rowe's husband Jonathan moved north to help with his grandparents' business.

"At first Shannon said she was not going. ... But after a month or two of commuting, and Jonathan's a really good cook, she said, 'I've got to go.'"

"Shannon, I just want to say along with your talents and your giving spirit, you will be greatly missed," added Canova, "but we are happy for you to take on this new life challenge. Our loss will be someone else's gain."

Rowe told the audience that her replacement: Blythe Byrd was the executive director for United Way in Putnam County until that organization dissolved and was absorbed into United Way of St. Johns County.

"She knows nonprofit and used to be a teacher, and had CIS in her classroom in Putnam County," said Rowe of Byrd, "so, she is a great fit."

Mentor of the Year

Rowe announced Linda Bennett as the Take Stock in Children Mentor of the Year.

She said that in addition to serving as the program's mentor recruiter and college success coach, Bennett fills additional



Cheryl Canova (left) and Shannon Rowe.

rolls. "If a mentor moves away or is unable to continue mentoring their student, Linda jumps right in and meets with that student until she can find the next mentor," Rowe said. "She genuinely loves each student and

encourages Cheryl Canova (left) and Shannon Rowe.

them daily to do their best. Her compassion is contagious, and her energy is infectious. We are

See CIS, 2A



COMMUNITY NEWS

Food Pantry has more food more often

The Bradford Ecumenical Food Pantry is now receiving deliveries of fresh produce and dairy three times, meaning clients can pick up these items more often.

Full orders are still available to clients once every two months, but every two weeks clients are welcome to pick up fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy products, and bread and pastries ever two weeks.

Gospel Fest seeks vendors

RJE Alumni have announced the third annual Gospel Fest will take place Saturday, June 9, at the RJE Tiger's Den Complex from noon to 5 p.m.

Vendors should contact Sandra Demps or Sherry Williams to rent a \$50 booth space. Deadline for rental is June 2.

Assistance for small businesses

Michael Chung from America's Small Business Development Center will be at the North Florida Regional Chamber of Commerce Office in Starke on the second Wednesday of the month ready to assist any small business with planning, financial review, succession plans and much more.

If you would like to schedule an appointment, please call the chamber office Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 904-964-5278.

Church food pantry open bimonthly

Starke Church of God by Faith has a food pantry open every first and third Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon with a variety of food items available to give away.

Traffic shift on S.R. 100 near Starke Truck Route scheduled for next week

Shift to take place while crews set beams for bridge construction

A temporary traffic shift on State Road 100 is scheduled to take place next Wednesday, weather permitting, as crews place beams for continued bridge construction at the Starke Truck Route.

The shift, which will take place just west of Starke near Pine Forest Apartments, will move eastbound and westbound traffic onto the newly constructed on and off ramps of the Starke Truck Route (State Road 223). This is expected to begin Wednesday morning and continue through Friday.

During this time, motorists should expect delays and periodic stops as travel on State Road 100 will be treated like a one-lane road as the traffic shift moves motorists onto the new ramp. A flagging operation will be active during this time.

Once the beams are placed,

See ROAD, 5A

CIS

Continued from 1A

very, very lucky to have her on our team."

Former board members

Rowe thanked former board members Mary Powell and Kevin Miller for their past contributions to the organization.

Powell, an administrative assistant at Community State Bank, was a CIS board member for eight years and served as treasurer and on the board's governance and fundraising committees.

Miller is the former assistant publisher at the Bradford County Telegraph. He is now a sales engineer with Voigt-Abernathy Company. Rowe said Miller served as vice president of CIS and assisted the group with advertising and fundraising.

Tribute to Farnsworth

Scott Roberts gave a tribute to Pat Farnsworth, who was instrumental in bringing Communities in Schools to Bradford County.

"If you knew Pat, you knew he was very passionate about Bradford County," Roberts said.

"Think of all the kids that have been helped by this program," Roberts added. "All this would not have been possible without Pat Farnsworth."

Success story

Former Take Stock in Children student Dominic Cummings delivered the keynote for the banquet.

Cummings joined the program while a student at Mandarin High School in Jacksonville. He graduated from the University of North Florida with the help of a Communities in Schools scholarship, and now works as a mortgage underwriter for J.P. Morgan Chase Bank.

Cummings was recently appointed to the Communities in Schools of Florida Board of Directors, and he serves on the Take Stock in Children Alumni Leadership Advisory Committee.

Cummings said that when he was in the program, Take Stock in Children was an after-school activity that provided time for completing homework in addition to a dinner meal.

He met his mentor, Kurt Lightbody, during the ninth grade.

"I didn't really know what we would share in common," recalled Cummings. "I'm thinking, 'I'm a young, black male and maybe he's a rich white guy.' I didn't know what to expect."

"Because of the struggles in my life, I shared those with him," Cummings continued, "but I noticed that he never chastised me on how I said things or the way I said it and he never looked down on me. He took the time to listen to every word I had to say."

Cummings said one obstacle he had to overcome was the anger he harbored against his father, who left the family when Cummings was young.

He said Lightbody always encouraged him to give his relationship with his father time, and the student's patience paid off, as he was eventually able to reconcile with his father.

"A few years ago, my father passed away and I'm so happy I did get the opportunity to spend time with him," Cummings said, "to hear his story and where I came from."

Cummings also advised the seniors in the audience to appreciate the Communities in Schools scholarships they had been awarded.



Dominic Cummings.

"Getting my college degree has changed my life forever and my family gets to benefit from that every single day," he said. "I work for J.P. Morgan Chase, one of the largest banks in the country and that is because of the relationship that was born from Communities in Schools, my degree and the things I've learned along the way."

Scholarship recipients

Before awarding this year's scholarship recipients, Rowe thanked their mentors for providing guidance to the students.

She said mentors dedicate their time to meet with students weekly during the school year, either before or after school or during lunch.

"Without them volunteering their time, knowledge and caring, our program would not be as successful as it is," said Rowe.

Rowe said that in order to receive a scholarship, Take Stock in Children seniors must stay in school, maintain good grades, attend regular meetings with their mentors, stay crime-free and exhibit good citizenship. This year's scholarship recipients are:

Tarrin Jackson

Jackson plans to attend Florida A&M University in Tallahassee and major in elementary education. He stated in the banquet's program that Take Stock in Children has motivated him to prepare for his future.

Jackson had two mentors throughout the program. Rick Still helped him begin his journey and then when Still could no longer participate, Adrian Chandler stepped in to complete the job.

Chandler said it was a joy to mentor Jackson, whom he called an intelligent young man.

"I believe (he) will achieve all of his life goals and aspirations in life after high school," Chandler stated in the program. "He has a good sense of what life is about, how to treat others, what's expected of him and a plan of action to get to his level of success."

Ja'brianna Reed

Reed will graduate with her associate of arts degree in May and has been accepted into Florida State University where she will begin going to school this summer. She plans to pursue a degree in physical therapy.

Her mentor, Melissa Gillenwaters, said in the banquet's program, "Ja'brianna is an amazing young lady. She is focused, hard-working and most of all determined to be the best she can be. She is a future leader and role model for others in this program."

LAW

Continued from 1A

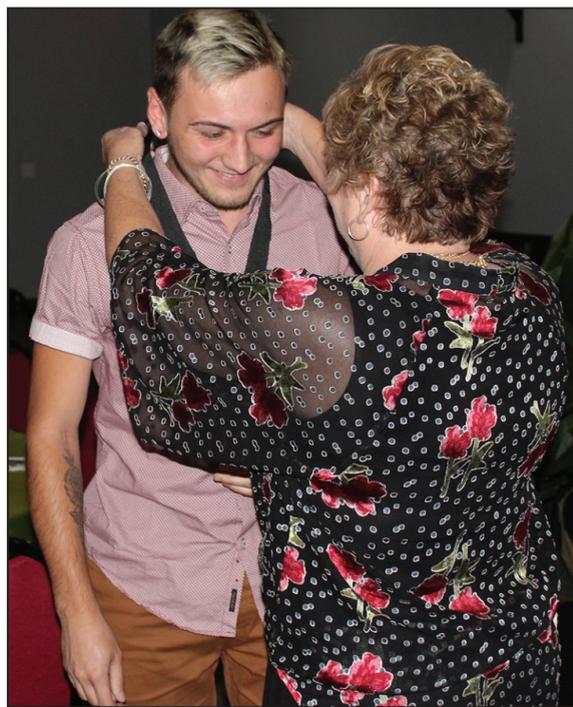
contractors. Out of deference to his military service, it was recommended Sikes serve as co-counsel to Cooper until the board advertised and awarded a new contract.

Commissioners couldn't agree to pay two attorneys, however, and reluctantly let Cooper go, at least for the time being.

"Because (Sikes) is a soldier, I would think that my responsibility as a citizen would be to return him and make him whole in the position he served in," Mortimer said.

At the close of the meeting, Mortimer expressed her appreciation to Cooper, saying, "I do look forward to working with you in the near future in the capacity as the city attorney."

Sikes will resume his position as attorney June 1. The decision was not unanimous. While Waters said he respected Sikes' military service, he said, choosing his words carefully, there had been "issues" before that he did not want to see return.



Kyle Caraway and Linda Bennett.

Kyle Caraway

Caraway plans to pursue a degree in cardiovascular technology at Santa Fe College.

His mentor, Ben Carter, described Caraway as one of a kind.

"He has a strong desire to succeed in whatever he does," said Carter in the program. "He is incredibly loyal to his family and friends."

Khalia Donley

Donley said she plans to use her Take Stock in Children two-year scholarship to obtain an associate's degree and then transfer to a four-year school.

Her mentor, Shirley Mangol, called Donley a smart and focused young lady.

"She is also athletic, a cheerleader and a weight lifter," Mangol said. "Don't let the small size fool you! Khalia is kind, respectful and driven. She has a positive attitude and attacks every problem or obstacle with a goal of success in the end."

Montana Erwin

Erwin plans to enroll in nursing school at the University of North Florida and later specialize in pediatric oncology.

Her mentor, Joan Whitehead, said she and Erwin hit it off from their first meeting together.

"At the get-together at the library she mentioned that her favorite sandwich from Subway was the same as mine and from that day on we never had a problem communicating," said Whitehead. "She has always had her eyes on her goals for her future, been involved with school activities, and caring for her family and friends. I look forward to continuing hearing about the great life she will have."

Hannah Jackson

Jackson plans to study nursing



Hannah Jackson (left) and Mentor of the Year: Linda Bennett.



Ja'brianna Reed (right) and Melissa Gillenwaters.

at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee with an eye on becoming a registered midwife.

Linda Bennett, who along with Jasmine DeSue and Debbie Lawrence mentored Jackson,

said Jackson "has much potential to succeed in whatever she chooses to do."



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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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Subscription Rate in Trade Area
\$39.00 per year;
\$20.00 six months
Outside Trade Area:
\$39.00 per year;
\$20.00 six months



Shirley Mangol (left) and Khalia Donley.



(L-r) Rick Still, Tarrin Jackson and Adrian Chandler.



Montana Erwin (right) and Joan Whitehead.

Northside Christian Academy graduates first 13-year student



Valedictorian Carolyn Stallings talked about her grandparents who left Cuba in 1965 with only their wedding bands and the clothes they were wearing.

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Managing Editor

Northside Christian Academy graduated its first student whom attended the school from Kindergarten all the way through high school Saturday night.

Amberlyn Pilcher is also the Class of 2018's salutatorian and was one of 12 seniors participating in a commencement ceremony at Northside Baptist Church.

In her salutatorian address, Pilcher singled out each one of her classmates, recalling traits that set them apart and her memories of each.

Valedictorian honors grandparents

In her valedictorian address, Carolyn Stallings honored her grandparents, who left Cuba in 1965.

"My grandfather was a dentist and my grandmother a school teacher," Stallings said of the couple fleeing Fidel Castro's communist dictatorship. "When the government finally allowed them to leave, they could only bring their wedding bands and the clothes that they were wearing, nothing else. No money, no items of value or heirlooms and most importantly, they could not bring documentation of their education and employment history."

Without that paperwork, Stallings' grandfather took jobs washing dishes and mopping floors, while his wife worked in the serving line of a cafeteria. They shared a small two-bedroom home with seven other family members.

"Two years later my grandfather was accepted into a program at the University of Alabama that assisted political refugees in going back to dental school," Stallings said. "After three years of working side jobs and learning English, my grandfather completed dental school for the second time and began a successful dental practice in Orlando."

Stallings' grandmother also returned to school, graduating valedictorian in her class and becoming a dental hygienist.

Stallings said her grandparents



Members of Northside Christian Academy's Class of 2018 turn their tassels: (L-r) front row: Morgan Elixson, Kayla Moss, Amberlyn Pilcher, Savanna Sefcik, Carolyn Stallings, Desiree Thornton and Sonja Warren. Back row: Colton Elixson, Jacob Manning, Joshua Merritt, Samantha Turner and Jarrett Underhill.

always emphasized the importance of an education and insisted that family members did their best when taking on any project.

"There were no shortcuts, no excuses, no substitutes for hard work," she said of her grandparents. "They were consistent, they sacrificed much and most importantly they never gave up."

Stallings told her classmates they too will encounter seemingly insurmountable difficulties in life.

"You will have trials," she said. "You will have troubles, you will feel alone on occasion and things will at times seem hopeless."

"Make up your mind that no matter what comes your way, no matter how difficult the obstacles, no matter how unfair life seems, you will do more than simply survive, you will

choose to thrive," she continued. "We know that the sun comes up every day whether or not we can see it and we know that the Lord is in our midst and he promises to never leave us or forsake us. Remember to persevere."

Congressman: Dream big

Guest speaker: U.S. Representative Ted Yoho told the graduates that everyone encounters naysayers and difficulties throughout their lives, and he was no exception.

He said he came from a broken home, out on his own at 18, while his future wife was out on her own at 16.

He told the seniors that when he was in the ninth grade, the school librarian told him he wasn't smart enough to get through veterinarian school.

"I think I went to vet school just to show her I could," he said. "You ever feel that way?"

He added that even when climbing the ladder of success, life is a process of achievement followed by starting over at the bottom.

Yoho said his only regret was not dreaming big enough, soon enough.

He also recommended some books for the graduates: The Bible, "Balcony People" by Joyce Landorf Heatherly and "How to Win Friends and Influence People" by Dale



Northside Christian Academy Principal Tyler Hildebran hands Amberlyn Pilcher a certificate recognizing her as the first student to attend the school for all 13 years of her primary and secondary education. Pilcher also graduated as the Class of 2018's salutatorian.

Carnegie.

"One of the reasons I wanted to be a veterinarian is I didn't like people," he said. "I liked animals, obviously, so I wanted to be a veterinarian. About my junior year, I realized all the animals had an owner."

Yoho said Carnegie's book helped him overcome his discomfort with people and build lasting relationships.

He also said that making sacrifices is essential in succeeding at anything. Yoho recalled saying "no" to offers of

beer and pizza with his friends so he could stay home and study physics.

"I wanted to go, but I'm thinking: 'Yeah, I can do that. It'll be fun for a moment, but it's not going to get me close to my goal.'"

Success is built on inconvenience," he added. "If not, everybody would be successful."

2018 Election Info

GO MOBILE
★ Where's my precinct?
★ What's on the Ballot

The most current election information is always available online. Now you can view it on your mobile phone or tablet: www.bradfordelections.com

View Election Info On Your Smartphone

2018 Election Dates:
August 28, 2018 - Primary Election
November 6, 2018 - General Election

Candidates must turn in all qualifying documents by noon on June 22nd, 2018.

Polls will be open from 7:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M. on Election Day. Find your precinct online:
www.bradfordelections.com

Have You Moved?

Change your address with the Elections Office prior to Election Day to avoid delays at the polls. It's easy to change your address, just call us at (904) 966-6266

Local Offices Up For Election In 2018

Board of County Commissioners - Districts 2 & 4
School Board - Districts 1, 2 & 5
Soil & Water Conservation District - Seats 1, 2, 3 & 4

Has your Signature Changed?

Signature updates can be made any time! A voter's signature on file is used to verify Vote-By-Mail (absentee) ballots and petitions for candidates or initiative issues. If you believe your signature has changed, please send an update to your voter registration this can be done online, through the mail or come see us.

Changing Political Party?

The deadline to change your political party affiliation is 29 days prior to the election. (This is also the deadline for new registrations) In 2018, the deadlines are:
Primary Election - July 30, 2018
General Election - October 9, 2018

Voting in Bradford County

Vote By Mail

Voting by mail is easy! Call the Elections Office at (904) 966-6266 or click the Vote-By-Mail button on our website (www.bradfordelections.com) to request a Vote-By-Mail ballot. Vote-By-Mail ballots are NOT forwarded by the US postal service. It is the voter's responsibility to provide an accurate mailing address. Ballots can be mailed worldwide.

The deadlines to request a Vote-By-Mail ballot are:
Primary - August 22, 2018
General - October 31, 2018

Vote Early

Any registered and eligible voter in the county may vote early. Early Voting is held in the County Commission Room in the North wing of the Bradford County Courthouse.

- ★ Primary Election: August 13th - 26th, 2018 from 9:00am - 6:00pm
- ★ General Election: Oct. 22nd - Nov 4th, 2018 from 9:00am - 6:00pm

Vote On Election Day

You must vote at your assigned precinct on Election Day. See the dates above if you have not voted early or by mail. Please change your address if you have moved by calling the Elections Office before visiting your polling location (904) 966-6266.

POISON

It's In Every Package.

Smokeless tobacco's direct and repeated contact with the gums causes the gums to recede and become diseased, leading to loose teeth.

Cancer of the mouth (including the lip, tongue, and cheek) and throat cancer occur most often at the spot in the mouth where the tobacco is held. Surgical removal of cancer is often needed, and parts of the face, tongue, cheek, or lip must often be removed too.

Smokeless Tobacco is not Harmless Tobacco!

263 N. Temple Ave., Starke, FL 32091
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Bradford High School Class of 2018 achievers



Graduating Bradford High School seniors receiving the Golden B Award were Rebecca Baier, Dakota Betterson-Smith, Hayleigh Blankenship, Trent Bryant, Shianne Cassels, Chelsea Creighton, Kenedy Elder, Montana Erwin, Joe Nate Gorden, Bailey Griffis, Simone Hudson, Grace Johns, Emmett Knights, Kevin Melvin, Steven Mikell, Harli Phillips, Jardin Simmons, Dezirae Tabet, Taylor Trollinger and Destiny Wilson. They are pictured with Superintendent Stacey Creighton, Principal Vinnie Blye and Assistant Principal Chris Coffey. Photos by Shelley Rodgers.

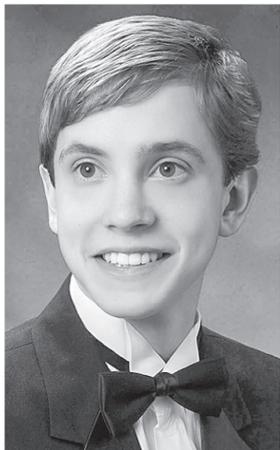
Soil and Water Conservation District awards poster winners



The Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District recently presented awards for its annual Poster Contest to students at Starke Christian School. Paul Still presented the awards to the student winners. The theme for this year's poster contest was "Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home." Winners in each category received a Walmart gift card. Still is pictured with winners Bryce King (2nd place, 4th-6th grade), Lorelai Walker (1st place, 4th-6th grade), Contessa Walker (1st place, 7th-9th grade), Amaria Glover (2nd place, 7th-9th grade) and Caterina Walker (3rd place, 7th-9th grade). Not pictured: Wyatt Crews (3rd place, 4th-6th grade).

Paul Still is pictured with winners Jayden Jonas (1st place, K-1st grade), Jaydin Williams (3rd place, 2nd-3rd grade), Bailey Grace Smith (1st place, 2nd-3rd grade), Ella Stephens (2nd place, 2nd-3rd grade), and Ethan Kerce (2nd place, K-1st grade). Not pictured: Mia Ortega (3rd place, K-1st grade).

HCA alum selected for Presidential Scholarship



Disbrow

Damien Disbrow, a 2016 graduate of Hope Christian Academy near Starke, has been selected to receive a \$35,000 Trinity College Presidential Ambassador Scholarship. The scholarship was based on character, the ability to succeed in college, and upon recommendation from a Christian leader.

Disbrow graduated with honors from Hope Christian Academy and also achieved a score of 31 on his ACT, which is the top 5 percent of all ACT testers. Since graduating from HCA, he has been attending Santa Fe College studying science.

Following a recent church service, Disbrow felt the Lord was calling him into ministry but didn't know what that would exactly mean. Within a few weeks, Damien learned HCA had been selected to nominate one student for a Presidential Ambassador Scholarship, instituted to celebrate Trinity College's 85th anniversary, and Billy Graham's alma mater.

According to TC Admissions Director Rachel Nobel, Disbrow is the only scholarship recipient in Bradford and Clay counties.

Associate Dean for Adult Education Dr. John E. Zuch said, "Regardless of their chosen field of study, we desire students whose lives clearly demonstrate their love and commitment to Jesus Christ."

Trinity College states in their handbook that all students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree will graduate with a double major in Bible and Theology in addition to their major of choice. The college is located on 40 acres in Trinity, Florida, and offers dorm life and an NCAA DII athletic program. Trinity is accredited with ABHE and ECFA. Hope Christian Academy is accredited with FLOCS and LOCS through AdVancEd.

Starke Christian Academy hands out awards

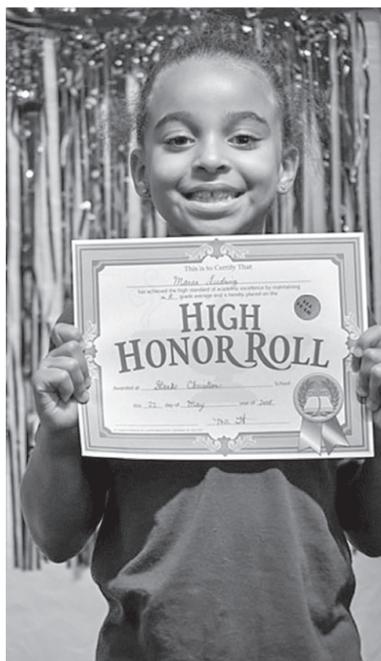


(L-R) Bryce King, Corey King and Kate Sickenberger were recognized for having perfect attendance all school year.



(L-R) Contessa Walker and Mia Ortega graduated from eighth grade and kindergarten.

At Starke Christian School's recently conducted graduation and awards ceremonies, Marea Ludwig was recognized for having straight A's all year long.



Hampton straight-A students



HAMPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS MAKING STRAIGHT A HONOR ROLL FOR THE THIRD NINE WEEKS: (front row, l-r) Zachary Boulris, Alex Mauldin, Charlie Zink, Axel Markwich, Brandon Plum, (back row) Emily Dowling, Emerald Powell, Victoria, Halle Swan, Cailey Cowart, Jasmine Hoyer and and Violet Tinney. Not pictured: Lilly Maust.

Private Gallery
24064 Grove Street
Lawtey, Florida 32058

ART EXHIBIT

Featuring this exhibit:

Solo Artist - Kuno

Showing June 23, 2018

Gallery 3-7pm Artist reception 6-7pm

Check us out on instagram @therealkunoart

For a private showing and/or for commissioning a painting
contact us at: kunoart55@gmail.com

Disclaimer: Exhibition is open to the public, must be 18 years old to attend.

Church

St. John Missionary Baptist and Philadelphia Missionary Baptist churches are joining for a "God Squad" themed vacation Bible school welcoming all ages. The program will take place Jun 6-8 at 6 p.m. at St. John Missionary Baptist Church of Lawtey. For more information, please call Emma Strong at 904-782-3130 or Shirley Johnson at 904-782-3448.

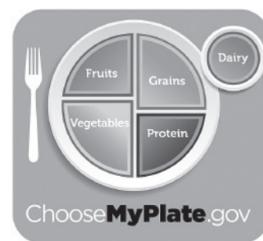


Starke Church of God by Faith, 730 Old Lawtey Road, has a food pantry open every first and third Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon with a variety of food items available to give away.

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

Health

THE MELTING POT



Feeding your body: Being mindful about nurturing your body with fruits and vegetables

BY SAMARA DEARY
UF/IFAS Bradford Extension

Today is a wonderful day! Every morning when I walk out my front door I take a moment to observe the beauty of the day. Whether the sun is shining or its gloomy and raining, I see the benefit in it all.

Taking the time to just reflect on the good things in is life important. Just like with eating, reflecting helps to bring about awareness. When you reflected on your food habits what did you learn? Did you discover good practices? Did you notice instances that caused you to indulge more? Did you learn more about yourself?

The answers to these questions encourage us to be mindful about our everyday habits. One of the first steps to mindful eating is to deliberately pay attention to what you are eating but in a non-judgmental way. How does this play into how we plan our meals?

We as humans have unique eating experiences. Meaning that we all differ somewhat

in our likes and dislikes as well as eating ways. You may know someone who is vegan, vegetarian or someone who eats meat. People define their diets based on their likes, health, and even social and ethical reasons. No matter how you choose you want to choose foods that you enjoy but are nurturing to your body. To nurture your body is simple, you are giving your body the vitamins and minerals it needs to grow, repair and keep you healthy and functioning.

Everyone eats on a circular plate. When you look at that plate it can be broken into sections — half for fruits and vegetables, a quarter for grains and a quarter for proteins as well as a section for low fat dairy. The biggest section of the plate is the one that gives us the most nutrients to nurture our bodies.

Think about ways you can increase your nutrients with fruits and vegetables at every meal. Whether it is a salad, a piece of fruit or simply sliced cucumbers and carrots. Think

about what fruits and vegetables you enjoy eating. Everyone's likes are different; focus on what you like.

Create a list to attach to your refrigerator of the fruits and vegetables you like, make these a part of your staples list. Practice deliberately paying attention to half your plate being filled with nutrients.

If you would like more information on creating a balanced plate visit, www.choosemyplate.gov. I hope this series on mindful eating is helping to shape healthier habits in your life please feel free to share with me your experiences. sdeary@ufl.edu.

Orange and Apple Salad

Ingredients

- 1 can Mandarin oranges
- 3 tablespoons honey
- 2 teaspoons ginger
- 1 Granny Smith (or tart) apple, thinly sliced
- 1 Red Delicious (or sweet) apple, thinly sliced

Directions

Drain oranges; reserve 1 cup of juice place in a bowl and set aside. Place juice, honey and ginger in small saucepan on medium-low. Cook and stir 8-10 minutes or until consistency of syrup. Remove from heat; let stand to cool. Slice apples and add to oranges; toss with syrup until coated.

ROAD

Continued from 2A

motorists will be able to return to the normal traffic pattern on State Road 100. Beam placement is scheduled to take place between 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. beginning Wednesday, but may extend into the evening hours. If so, the shift

can also be in place between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m.

Work could be delayed due to current weather forecasts through Memorial Day weekend and early next week. If so, the temporary traffic shift will be rescheduled.

The \$90 million, 7.3-mile Florida Department of Transportation project, designed to relieve congestion on the busy

U.S. 301 corridor through Starke, began in the summer of 2016 and is expected to be completed early next year. Work on this section of the Starke Truck Route is being completed by Superior Construction Inc.

More information about the project can be found by visiting www.us301northflorida.com.

Dog hit by golf cart defeats death three times after treatment at UF



Members of the UF Small Animal Hospital emergency and critical care team stand with Jamie McAllister of Ocala, her daughter, Ella, and Rupert, their dog, on the day of his discharge.

BY SARAH CAREY
University of Florida

A young dachshund named Rupert, run over by a golf cart in Ocala on Feb. 19, is now living a charmed life after being resuscitated three times by University of Florida veterinarians.

Rupert was discharged Feb. 27 from UF's Small Animal Hospital after being treated for eight days in the hospital's intensive care unit. His owner, Jamie McAllister, who lives in Michigan but travels back and forth to Ocala during the winter months, could not be happier.

"To say Rupert is a miracle is an understatement," McAllister said. "If it weren't for the doctors and staff at UF, I don't know where we would be."

McAllister said Rupert had jumped off a friend's golf cart while she was driving and rolled under one of the vehicle's tires. She immediately took him to her veterinarian, who advised her that Rupert should be taken to the UF Small Animal Hospital due to the severity of his injuries.

"His veterinarian called me in Gainesville to say Rupert's

family wanted to bring him to UF for treatment of severe pulmonary contusions, but he was not stable enough for transport," said Ashley Allen, D.V.M., a clinical assistant professor of emergency and critical care at the UF College of Veterinary Medicine.

"So we teamed up: Dr. Gareth Buckley took over the intensive care unit, and Dr. Jennifer Martinez, student Denae Campane and I loaded up the van we use to transport patients on oxygen, and drove to Ocala to get Rupert," she explained.

The group stopped at the UF Pet Emergency Treatment Services clinic in Ocala to pick up a ventilator and additional supplies. They then headed to the Town and Country Animal Hospital, where Rupert went into cardiac arrest soon after they arrived. His heart had stopped beating due to internal bleeding and depletion of oxygen, the doctors said.

"We performed CPR and got him back, but he proceeded to code two more times in the hour we spent there trying to get him stable enough for transport," Allen said. "We

brought him to UF by using the transport ventilator, as he was unable to maintain oxygenation on his own, and he stayed on a ventilator for five days."

Initially, Rupert had a severe lung injury, but he gradually

improved and was taken off the ventilator on Feb. 24.

"He died three times, and the second and third time, the veterinarians called me to tell me he wasn't going to make it," said McAllister. "Then, they called right back to say he was alive and had a strong heartbeat."

The veterinarians asked McAllister if she wanted them to continue to work on Rupert, she said.

McAllister, an equestrian competitor, said she was not ready to give up on the dog she got at a horse show in her home state of Michigan. A rescue group was trying to find homes for a litter of dachshund puppies and McAllister's daughter Ella told her about them.

"I thought he was fighting so hard, we needed to give him every chance possible," she said.

McAllister was told Rupert had a 20 percent chance of survival once he was taken off the ventilator. She was able to visit him once he was removed from the machine.

"When I put my head next to him, he actually stood up and started licking my face," she said. "It was amazing. Every day thereafter, he just got stronger and stronger until I could finally take him home."

Allen said several of UF's

intensive care technicians and many different doctors were involved in Rupert's extensive care.

"All in all, Rupert spent a little over a week in the hospital and was discharged, wagging his tail, to a family that loves him unconditionally," Allen said. "His story is a great reminder to all of us who work daily with the sickest of emergency pets that the collaborative team effort and excellent patient care these animals require can sometimes have an excellent outcome."



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REGIONAL NEWS

NEWS FROM BRADFORD COUNTY, UNION COUNTY AND THE LAKE REGION

FEATURES
CRIME
SOCIALS
OBITUARIES
EDITORIAL

A day to remember true heroes and role models

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Katrina Bell-Johnson.
Joshua Bernard.
Robert Davison.
Brothers David and Norman Evans.
Annie Graham.
James Graham.
Melvin Hill.
Sharon Lane.
Douglas Munro.
Donn Porter.
Those are just a few of the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in serving this country. They are what Memorial Day is all about.
George Cressman, president of the Camp Blanding Museum, discussed each of those individuals as well as one of

his own family members as the keynote speaker at Camp Blanding's Memorial Day ceremony on May 28.

"While some of our fellow countrymen see this as the start of summer, we — you and I — see this day very differently," Cressman told a crowd of more than 60. "On the last Monday of May every year, we take this opportunity to honor those men and those women who have risked life and limb in the face of great danger. We pay tribute to all who

have left the comforts of home to fight for the preservation of our freedom, but today we especially honor those who never returned to exchange the title of soldier, sailor, airman or Coast Guardsman for the title of veteran."

Cressman talked of his uncle, David Stutzman, who was inducted at Blanding and served as a staff sergeant in the 125th

Field Artillery, 34th Infantry Division. Stutzman was killed in Italy while acting as a forward artillery observer.

"He was buried in the Florence-American Cemetery along with his gallant comrades," Cressman said. "The grief of that loss has never left our family."

Some of those who gave their lives received the



George Cressman

Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously, such as Capt. James Graham of the Marines. Cressman said though Graham was mortally wounded, his actions helped save his entire platoon. Graham died in June 1967.

"In his last radio transmission, Capt. Graham reported that he was under assault by a force of enemy soldiers," Cressman said. "He died protecting his fellow Marines."

Army Sgt. Donn Porter faced intense artillery fire in Korea when fixing his bayonet and engaging in close combat. Porter died in September 1952.

"His actions thwarted a surprise attack and forced the enemy to break off that attack," Cressman said. Signalman 1st Class

Douglas Munro is the only member of the Coast Guard to receive a Medal of Honor. He was killed Sept. 27, 1942.

"Munro led a group of Higgins boats in rescuing Marines who were

See CAMP, 2B



Florida Youth Challenge Academy cadet Yulissa Ramos escorts Jim Bloodworth of Starke to the seating at Camp Blanding's Memorial Day ceremony.



Russ Bradshaw of Middleburg and his son, Beau, stand during the national anthem.



Jeff Vochatzeo of Middleburg salutes during the presentation of the colors.

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Playing the game the right way **CAMP**

Continued from 1B

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

The old saying is, "It's not whether you win or lose; it's how you play the game."

Sometimes it seems as if that's not really the case, especially when you get into collegiate and professional athletics, but a group of Bradford County youth recently demonstrated they take that saying to heart.

Bradford High School's track was the site of the May 16 Special Olympics Field Day, which consisted of students from

all of the county's elementary schools, Bradford Middle School, Bradford High School and the Bradford Transition Academy. Smiles were seen all around as the youth enjoyed the sole act of competing, regardless of the outcome.

In grand Olympic style, the event began with an opening parade as participants carried decorated banners representing their schools. Bradford High School JROTC cadets presented the colors during the pledge of allegiance. Then, before the

competition began, participants were asked to repeat the following: "I'm going to do my best and have a good time."

Activities included running races, tossing bean bags and lawn darts and dribbling soccer balls through hoops. One event even had participants getting wet as they stood in lines and passed wet sponges over their heads from front to back, seeing who could fill a pail the quickest.

In the end, all were winners,

See **GAME, 3B**



You thought Michael Jordan had hang time? Navea Hall shows she can get up high during the jump competition. Bradford Middle School paraprofessional Jimmy Hankerson looks on.



Catching a water-soaked, sponge-like ball is no easy task, but Wyatt Canipe comes close.



Angel Burchfield prepares to throw a water-soaked ball to the next person in line.



Evon Mauldin tosses a bean bag as Joshua Beaty looks on.



Todd Dean (right) closes his eyes as he prepares to get wet while receiving a water-soaked sponge from Travis Curtner.



It's a race to the finish line, with Xavier Dickenson (far right) out in front of Peyton Johns (far left) and Owen Thornton.



That's "eggs-actly" how you do it! Ariella Hawkins (left) and Travis Curtner keep plastic eggs balanced on spoons during this particular race.



Chris Norman (left) passes a wet sponge over his head to Owen Thornton.



Kara Spyros sings the national anthem.



Florida Youth Challenge Academy cadets, including Marynthia Czarowitz (left) and Asia Asberry, presented the colors.

Army as a nurse in 1942.

"Col. Graham served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam," Cressman said. "She was serving as the chief nurse at the 91st Evacuation Hospital in Vietnam. She was 52 years old when she died."

Cressman talked about Sgt. Robert Davison, who somehow enlisted with the Marines at the age of 14. He was killed Dec. 17, 1966, which was one day shy of his 19th birthday.

David Evans and Norman Evans were brothers who were both killed in action in Vietnam: David on Oct. 24, 1969, and Norman on Nov. 24, 1970. Norman's body was never recovered.

"The men and women who have given their lives in service to our country are both our heroes and our role models," Cressman said. "When our country called, they answered. Each took it upon himself or herself to serve

faithfully and to their fullest."

When it comes to properly remembering those who died in service, Cressman referred to a John F. Kennedy quote: "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

"As long as we honor these heroes and role models with our actions, their sacrifice will never be forgotten," Cressman said.



NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Annual Dinner Meeting of your Bradford County Fair Association, Inc. will be held Tuesday, June 5th at 6:30 pm
Fairgrounds Building #1
This year's dinner is being catered by Call Street Café.

Call 904-964-5252 and let us know how many will be attending. As usual, ladies are asked to bring a dessert of their choice!

Dues are only \$15 per person. Remember, with your paid dues card you receive FREE daily admission to your 2019 Fair!
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"My Lord"

*We are of a family big and bright,
Because we know a Savior right.
A present friend in time of need,
Him only do we heed.
He loves me much this I know,
Through His word He tells me so.
When I am wayward He is near,
He comforts me in my fear.
I need Him always in everything,
He is the theme when I sing.
Oh the sorrows in life I face,
I can meet them by His grace.*

— Henry Hodges Lawtey, FL

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Southside Elementary students wrap up year with water day



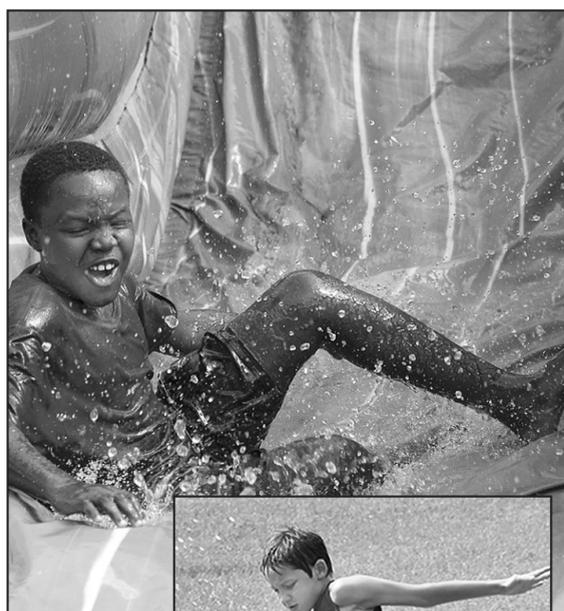
Jayshawn Alston makes quite a splash at the end of this slide.



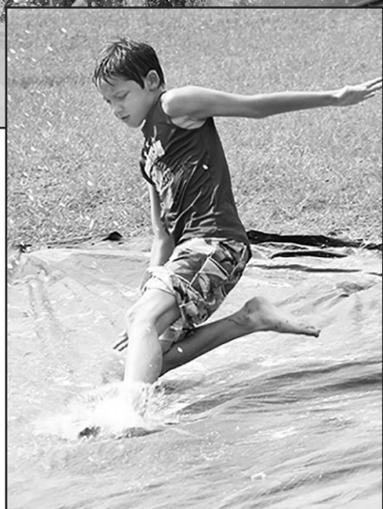
Rachelle Breaux (foreground) passes a wet sponge to Kyndell Bowers.



Sydney Todd prepares to take a plunge down a slide.



Top: Da'marion Stokes splashes down at the bottom of a slide.



Right: Jimmy Fredenburg gets a running start on this slide attempt.



Elijah Hodge (right) tries to avoid getting squirted by Hayden Dickerson.

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This race could be a photo finish for (l-r) Ellis Wood, Chris Norman, Brandon Williams and Travis Curtner.

GAME

Continued from 2B

as the Special Olympics is all about celebrating the abilities that everyone has. The Special Olympics' mission is to provide sports training and competition for people with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other athletes and the community.

If it's all about how you play the game, then the field day participants did Bradford County proud.

Jonathon Armstrong attempts to toss a bean bag close to the target.



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BHS grads get several pieces of advice for success in life

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Katelyn Massey and Chelsea Creighton, the valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, for the Bradford High School Class of 2018, shared some advice with their fellow graduates during their speeches at the May 25 commencement, and in so doing, probably get a lot of mouths watering at the thought of eating at Olive Garden.

It would seem the restaurant is quite popular with the top BHS grads, who both mentioned it during their speeches. In talking about the things that helped her get to where she is today, Massey said one was Olive Garden.

"I would not be here without the unlimited soup, salad and breadsticks," she said.

Creighton's first piece of advice to the graduates was, "Make sure your family takes you to a nice dinner tonight. You just worked your tail off for 13 years to take, what, 20 steps and receive a piece of paper. You deserve a great dinner at Olive Garden. You should binge on breadsticks."

Breadsticks aside, Creighton also encouraged her classmates to make their dreams reality by saying, "Keep your dreams close to your heart. If you want to become an astronaut or the first female president, then go do it. The only person stopping you is yourself."

Her last piece of advice to the graduating class was to not get so caught up in life that you ignore the ones you care about.

"Make time for the people that love you," Creighton said. "The vast majority of us will end up working a full-time job, so make time for your family and friends. Take a trip to the beach. Do a weekly poker night. Just make the most of the time you have left."

Massey said four things impacted her life, adding, "As we take our steps to our next great adventure, we should keep these in mind. First, pray. Remember to pray often and thank God for each moment."

After touting the menu at Olive Garden as her second point of emphasis, Massey encouraged her classmates to breathe.

"Take a deep breath in all situations and enjoy the moment because moments like this and every other moment may pass far too quickly. Just a few short years ago, we thought this day would never come, so breathe. Remember the good times, the OK times and the not-even-so-great times. Always live in the moment."

Lastly, Massey told her fellow graduates to be thankful. She quoted the New King James Version of 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

"In each moment, be thankful," Massey said. "Continue to thank others."

BHS Principal Vinnie Blye and Superintendent of Schools Stacey Creighton offered their words of advice as well, with Blye telling the Class of 2018 members to take action in their lives.

"Create opportunities and live them," Blye said. "Life will happen to you whether you guide it or not, so you might as well try to influence the outcome. You need to know what you want, and you have to be willing to go after it."

Blye cautioned graduates to not get so wrapped up in the future that they forget to live in the moment.

"Live in the present and make it so beautiful it'll be worth remembering," he said.

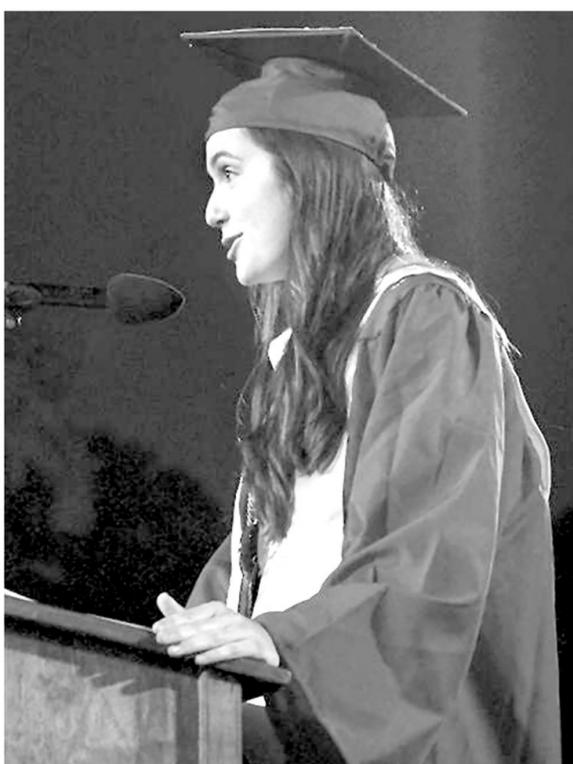
In closing his remarks, Blye said, "I hope your dreams take you to the corners of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities and to the most special places your heart has ever known."

The superintendent said she knows that students have given thought to and made plans for their futures. As students continue to do so, she asked them to consider this question: Is what you want to achieve a dream or a goal?

"There is a difference," Creighton said. "You see, a dream is only an ideal, something you fantasize about that looks



Valedictorian Kaitlyn Massey



Salutatorian Chelsea Creighton

wonderful and perfect. Most of the time, it is something in the distant future that will probably never happen, but a goal is something real that you set a plan for, work toward and achieve. Our dreams help determine our goals, but no one succeeds on dreams alone."

Creighton urged students to take opportunities to leave their comfort zones in achieving those goals.

"This is where true growth occurs," she said. "Stepping outside your comfort zone is vital to your advancement. You cannot become a bigger and better version of yourself unless you are willing to stretch beyond what you already know."

As they move into the future, members of the Class of 2018 will experience failure,

Creighton said. Failure, though, is simply part of that journey of growth.

"Failure can even bring opportunities you may have never had otherwise," Creighton said. "A wise quote says that in life, the things that go wrong very often lead to other things that are going right."

Creighton closed her speech by reminding the students that Bradford County will always be home and always be supportive.

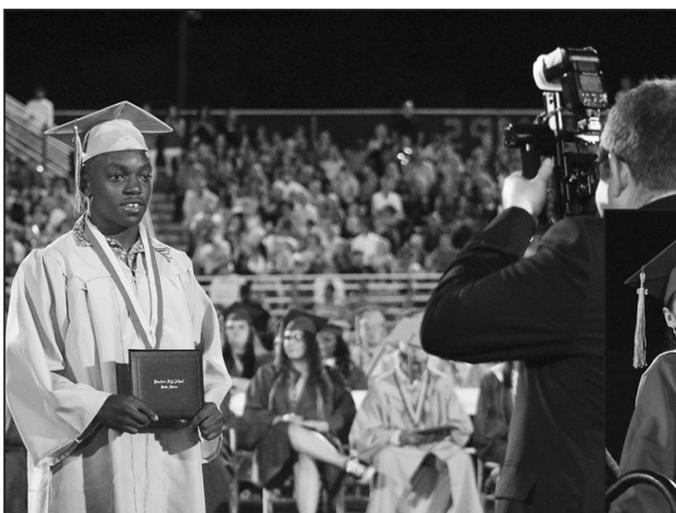
"If you ever need to come home, catch your breath, and get your feet back underneath you, you know we will be here for you, to catch you and support you," Creighton said. "When you have rested, we will push you toward your next goal."



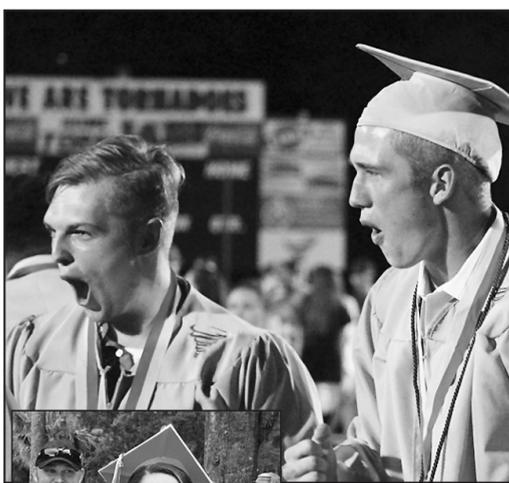
Brandon Anders (left) and David Andrews participate in the pledge of allegiance.



Nicklaus Bailes (left) and Rebecca Baier receive hugs onstage from Superintendent Stacey Creighton and BHS assistant principal Lindley Adkins.



Tally Chandler gets his photo taken with his diploma.



A happy Bethany Bryan waits for her turn to walk across the stage.

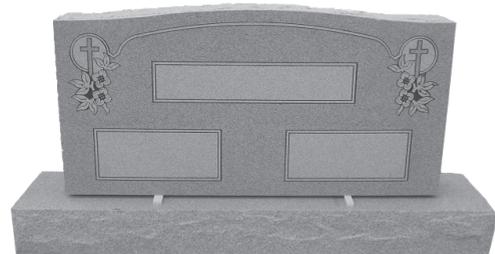
Ryan Fishburn (left) and Peyton Welch are pumped. They're now BHS graduates.



Markayla Sanford waves to someone she knows as she walks out onto the field.

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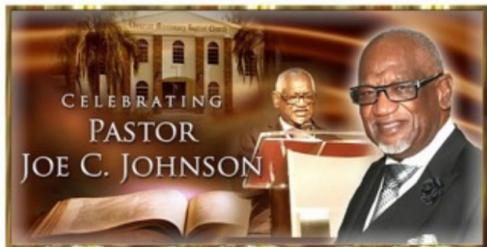
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Rev. Joe Cephus Johnson formerly of Lawtey, pastor of the Greater Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church 816 N. W. 1st Ave. Hallandale Beach, FL 33009 passed away on May 25th. Pastor Johnson will rest in the church sanctuary from 12 PM until 8 PM on June 2nd. A memorial service will be held at 5PM on the 2nd.

Celebration of life services will be held on Sunday June 3rd at New Birth Baptist Church 2300 N. W. 135 Street Miami Florida 33167

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. 2Timothy 4:7 (KJV)

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BHS graduation speaker: past and present go hand in hand in creating future

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

What will members of Bradford High School's Class of 2018 need to propel themselves into a bright future? A car with a working engine and the fuel to run it.

Austin J. Franklin, the CEO of Good-Natured Life, which motivates people through positive lifestyle messages, was the keynote speaker at the May 25 BHS graduation ceremony. He told the graduates they all have the potential to be even greater than they are now and stated his belief that each of them was destined to do something positive or make a difference.

Franklin compared the journey each graduate will now take to that of a driving car. The past is the fuel; the present is the engine. Those two components will allow the graduates to drive into the future.

First, Franklin discussed the importance of understanding one's past. He said his all-time favorite super hero was born in 1957.

"No, I'm not referring to Batman, Superman, Spider-Man or other DC or Marvel fictional characters," Franklin said. "Although I liked those characters growing up, I'm referring to someone different. I'm referring to a real-life human being. This was a humble man, who happened to be a dentist."

The man was Franklin's father, Anthony, who was a BHS graduate. The elder Franklin passed away in April.

"Although my father's not with



Austin J. Franklin

us here today, I carry his legacy," Franklin said. "The lessons, the teachings, the experiences he displayed in his life will be with me forever."

Franklin said the world would be better off if people spent more time thinking about those who



Jah'mya Henderson (left) and Garrison Norman walk from the gym to the field for the start of graduation.

came before them.

"We just need to remember to never let the sacrifices people made for us be in vain and to adopt

a heart of gratitude as we traverse on our quest of excellence," Franklin said.

In talking about the present — the car engine — Franklin said every person has what he calls hidden credentials.

"Hidden credentials are the

qualities we innately possess that bridge the gap between our weaknesses and our strengths," Franklin said. "Hidden credentials are our engine and allow us to make it through as we continue to grow."

Franklin said people tend to measure others by what they see with the naked eye, but it is ultimately those hidden credentials that define us. He said some of his hidden credentials are the character traits of kindness and friendliness, but as he got older, others developed, such as a



Derek Harden celebrates following the May 25 BHS graduation.

strong will and determination — "a will and determination to push myself past my comfort zone, to continue to try to achieve no matter how I felt and a will to not stop until the job was done."

The third point Franklin stressed was the future — the drive one takes in the car of life. Franklin said we have to take detours sometimes when we're driving. Life is the same. You may have planned out how you want to achieve your goals, but it doesn't always work as planned.

"There will be some doors in our lives that we just cannot open," Franklin said. "Situations that are inevitable. Situations that might alter the direction of our dream or vision. Meaning sometimes in life we might hear the word 'no.'"

Franklin said hearing the word "no" can make many of us feel defeated, but he shared the story of investigative journalist Lee Strobel, whose story is depicted in the movie, "The Case for Christ." Strobel was an atheist and used his investigative skills to try to disprove his wife Leslie's Christian faith. Eventually, Strobel became a believer.

Strobel wanted to write a news story about his journey to becoming a Christian, but his idea was nixed by his boss. Instead, Strobel wrote a book, which went on to sell millions of copies worldwide, reaching far more people than he would've reached with a newspaper story.

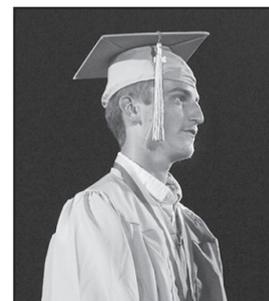
In other words, Strobel turned a "no" into a huge positive in his life. Franklin said therefore, one should not fear the word "no" as he or she drives into their future. Realize instead that a "no" can eventually turn into a "yes."

"All we have to do is trust in the process," Franklin said.

In closing, Franklin said, "In summary, if we use the fuel from our past to ignite our engine in the present, as we drive forward in our future, then we will have all the keys we need to become successful, not only as a student, but in life. I say to everybody today — and especially to our graduates — drive, my brothers and sisters. Drive."



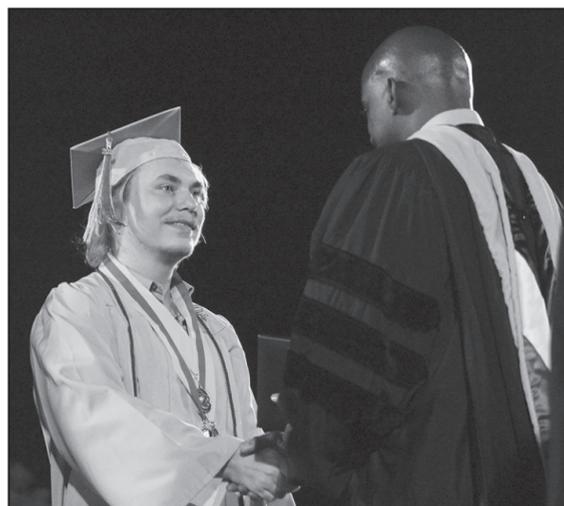
Joe Gorden takes a selfie.



Triston Brown waits to take the stage and receive his diploma.



Sylvia Brown
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John Kersey shakes hands with BHS Principal Vinnie Blye after receiving his diploma.



Posing for a picture in the gym prior to the start of graduation are (l-r) Bailey Griffis, Jade Hines, Gracie Blankenship, Jacey Woods and Paxton Wise.



Martina Latham (left) and Sommer Lane eagerly await to take the stage.



Morgan Bradley (foreground) and Michaela Bradley make their way onto the field.

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This publication was made possible by the Rape Crisis Trust Fund administered by the State of Florida, Department of Health (DOH) and the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence (FCASV).

Obituaries

John Bradley, Sr.

STARKE—A private graveside Memorial Service, followed by Interment was held at Kingsley Lake Cemetery on Saturday, May 26th. John Leslie Bradley, Sr. passed away on Wednesday, April 18, 2018, at the age of 89 years old at Windsor Health and Rehabilitation Center with family by his side. A prior Funeral Service was held on Saturday, April 21st at Kingsley Lake Baptist Church officiated by Pastor, Jonathan Rodriguez.

Bradley is survived by, his wife of 65 years, Evelyn Warren Bradley of Starke; son, John L. (Nancy) Bradley, Jr. of Greensboro, Georgia; daughter, Melanie Bradley (Mike) Waters of Middleburg; three grandchildren, Steve (Angie) Bradley of Jasper, Georgia, Tisa (Rob) Pritchard of Tampa, and Amy (Chris) Simmons of Middleburg; six great-grandchildren, Jack and James Bradley, Emma and Maddie Pritchard, and Mikayla and Caleb Simmons; sister, Carolyn O'Guinn of Lake City; and sister-in-law, Martha Warren of Jacksonville.

Following retirement from Dupont Mining Company as a Mechanical Supervisor and MSHA Instructor in 1985, he and Evelyn enjoyed traveling. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed camping, hunting, and fishing. His greatest joy was spending time with his family and friends.

Mr. Bradley was a longtime member of Kingsley Lake Baptist Church where he taught Sunday School for more than 50 years and served as a former Music Director. He loved spending time with his Church Family. When called upon, he was always ready to help others.

While residing at Kingsley Lake, Mr. Bradley was instrumental in establishing the Kingsley Lake Volunteer Fire Department where he served as chief for 13 years. He attended Fire College in Ocala receiving extended training to continually improve and update the Fire Department.

Following retirement, he and wife, Evelyn built a home near Theresa where they resided for many wonderful years. While living there, he continued to serve his community as a Volunteer Fireman for several years.

Mr. Bradley was a quiet, kind, and gentle man who readily smiled and met every challenge with love and faith. He lived a life of purpose while leaving his family a Legacy of Love.



Gwendolyn Moxley

BROOKER— Gwendolyn (Gwen) Netherland Moxley of Brooker, passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 27, 2018 at E.T. York Haven Hospice in Gainesville. She was born Sept. 26, 1929 in Augusta, Georgia to Olin C. Netherland Sr., and Erma Davis Netherland. She graduated from Waynesboro High School and attended Georgia Teachers College (Georgia Southern University) in Statesboro, Georgia.

She married Ben L. Moxley, Jr. in 1950. They moved to Starke in 1955. She worked as a substitute teacher for many years. She began her career with the Bradford County School District as one of the first paraprofessionals at Starke Elementary School. She held many jobs in the district throughout the years and retired as secretary for the transportation department in 2003, serving 37 years with the BCSD. Gwen had been a Youth (girls) Sunday School Teacher; a member of Shands Hospital Auxiliary; and was a member of the Starke United Methodist Women - Group 4. Gwen enjoyed playing canasta with close friends and was a founding member of her canasta card group, which met monthly for over 45 years. She also enjoyed traveling, shopping, reading, watching SEC sports and game shows. Most of all, she enjoyed spending time with her family and friends. Gwen was a member of Brooker Baptist Church and a former member of First United Methodist Church of Starke. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by: her husband of 65 years, Ben L. Moxley, Jr.

She is survived by her loving family: Ben L. Moxley III of Daytona Beach Shores; Lynn and Gene Melvin of Brooker; Brian and Cassie Melvin and Brilee of Brooker; Brad and Jaren Melvin and Paislee of Saint Augustine; Olin and Sally Ree Netherland, Jr. of Louisville, Georgia; extended family and cherished friends.

Funeral services will be held at the DeWitt C. Jones Chapel of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Starke at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 31. Visitation will be from 2:00-4:00 p.m. prior to the service. Interment will be at the Midville City Cemetery in Midville, Georgia on Saturday, June 2 at 11:00 a.m. Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Starke www.jonesgallagherfh.com. 904-964-6200 In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Brooker Baptist Church, P. O. Box 96, Brooker, FL 32622



Ida Starling

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—Ida Starling, 91, a resident of Keystone Heights/Melrose area died at St. Vincent Clay on Thursday, May 24, 2018. She was born March 15, 1927 to Charles and Rose Staier in Louisville, Kentucky where she attended the local Catholic school. She worked in several restaurants. She is preceded in death by: her parents Charles and Rose; nine sisters and brothers; her children's father, John Christian; son, Dana Christian; granddaughter, Emily Christian; stepdaughter, Sharon Starling; and her husband, Jack Starling.

She is survived by: son, Jerry (Cloette) Christian; stepchildren, Mike (Ruby) Starling, Robert (Caroline) Starling and Robin Carter; thirteen grandchildren; fourteen great grandchildren; and and many other family members.

A Rosary will be held 5-6:00 p.m. with viewing 6-8:00 p.m., Thursday, May 31 at the funeral home. Funeral Mass will be held at 1:00 p.m. Fri. June 1 at St. William Catholic Church. Interment will follow at the Keystone Heights Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Keystone Heights.

Lois Tyler

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—Lois Jean Tyler, 93, of Keystone Heights died Thursday, May 25, 2018 at Haven Hospice Roberts Care Center in Palatka. She was born Aug. 29, 1924 in Shepherd, Michigan to James C. and Agnes (Myers) Deardorff. She was a homemaker. Her husband Carl W. Tyler, sons Michael T. Tyler and David Tyler and her long-time companion, George Ragsdale, preceded her in death.

She is survived by: her brother, Jack (Shirley) Deardorff; one granddaughter; husband, Brent, and one great-granddaughter. There are no scheduled services at this time. Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Keystone Heights.

Lemuel Williams

MIDDLE TORCH KEY— Lemuel Sellers Williams died at home, surrounded by his family on Monday, May 28th in Middle Torch Key. He was 84. Lemuel was born Dec. 21, 1933 in Braganza, Georgia. Upon graduation from Bradford High School in 1952 he served in the infantry of the United States Army during the Korean War. After returning home he attended the University of Florida before joining the Merchant Marines. Later he worked for the Florida State Prison system and the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Georgia, California, Connecticut and Miami, Florida. After retiring from Corrections he worked at the Turkey Point Nuclear plant. He and Jackie loved to fish so much they made their final retirement to Middle Torch Key where he became a commercial fisherman. He was preceded in death by: his son, Darryl Williams; his parents, the Rev. Lemuel S. and Carrie Williams; and his brothers, James Williams and Roger Williams.

Lemuel is survived by: his wife of 58 years, Jackie Prevatt Williams; daughters, Kathy (Jed) Simon and Patti (Brian) Boylan; three grandchildren, Kaci (Paul) Pope, Kady Boylan and Tyler Boylan; and sisters, Jean (Ken) Martin and Sue Winkler.

Funeral services are scheduled for Saturday June 2 at 9:00 a.m. in the DeWitt C. Jones Chapel at Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home in Starke. Interment will follow at Prevatt Cemetery. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, PO Box 97372 Washington, DC 20090-7372. WWW.65ROSES.CFF.ORG

PAID OBITUARY

Joe Byrd

STARKE—Joe A. Byrd, 60, of Starke died Sunday, May 20, 2018 at Community Hospice in Jacksonville. He was born Aug. 5, 1957 in Starke. He was preceded in death by: his mother, Clara (Degraf) Byrd and his brother, Johnny Byrd.

Survivors are: his father, Carl Byrd; brother, William Byrd; and sister, Darlene F. Geiger all of Starke.

There are no scheduled services at this time. Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Starke.

PAID OBITUARY

PAID OBITUARY

Katherine Crawford

STARKE— Katherine Sue Crawford, age 63, passed away on Saturday, May 26, 2018 at North Florida Regional Medical Center in Gainesville. Katherine was born on Sept. 12, 1954 in San Antonio, Texas. She worked as a Medical Coder for Century Ambulance Service for many years. During her spare time she enjoyed crafts, photographing animals, and was a member of First Christian Church in Starke.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, Stanley L. Crawford; and her sister, Karen VandeKrol.

Survivors include: her sons, Donald (Sara) Crawford and Daniel Crawford; mother, Katherine (Alfred-deceased) Thompson; mother-in-law, Ruby Crawford; sister-in-law, Irita Kirkland; and many other family members.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, June 2 in the DeWitt C. Jones Chapel with Pastor Brad Bromling officiating. Interment will follow at Crosby Lake Cemetery. After services and following a light meal, the family will be receiving guests at First Christian Church of Starke.

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

PAID OBITUARY

Laverne Edwards

GAINESVILLE— Laverne Edwards, 83, of Gainesville, died on Sunday, May 27, 2018 at E.T. York Care Center in Gainesville. She was born in Brooker on June 14, 1934 to the late Evan W. Hodges, Sr. and Ruby Green Hodges. She was a resident of Bradford County most of her life. She attended Bradford High School. She was a homemaker for many years until she went to work for Alachua County School Board as a secretary. She was preceded in death by: husbands, Carl Theodore Edwards and Leon Odom; brother, E.W. Hodges, Jr.; sisters, Doris Rowe and Veleeta Lovelice; grandson, Scott Bennett; and son-in-law, Joey Bennett.

She is survived by: daughters, Linda Bennett of Brooker, and Sandra Hazen of Jacksonville; sister, Bobbie (Dan) Kiner of Georgia; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life was held on May 29 at Brooker Baptist Church with Pastor Terry Cranford and Pastor Ken Weaver officiating. A private interment was held at Dedan Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel, Starke.



Mary Olson

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—Mary Lucille Olson, age 81, of Keystone Heights passed away in Gainesville Saturday, May 26, 2018. She was born June 5, 1936 in Hixton, Wisconsin to Arthur P. and Myrtle (Hegge) Steig. Mrs. Olson has been a resident of Keystone Heights since 1972 and was a homemaker. She was a member of the AMVETS Post #86 in Keystone Heights and enjoyed cooking, being at the lake but most of all she loved spending time with her family and especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by: her husband of 30 years, Leland "Ole" in 1986 and four brothers Rodney, Frederick, Kenneth and Harold.

Her survivors are: her daughter, Susan (Doug) Sullivan of Keystone Heights; a sister, Dorothy Larson of Hixton, Wisconsin; and two brothers, William (Karen) Steig of Eau Claire, Wisconsin and David (Betty) Steig of Pigeon Falls, Wisconsin. She was also "Granny" to two grandchildren, Douglas Sullivan and Natalie Sullivan both of Theresa along with four great-grandchildren, Jake Markham, Kendyl Brannen, Audrey and Hannah Sullivan.

Funeral services for Mrs. Olson will be held Thursday, May 31 at 11:00 a.m. in the Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Larry Strickland officiating. Interment will follow at the Keystone Heights Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Keystone Heights. 352-473-3176. www.jonesgallagherfh.com

PAID OBITUARY



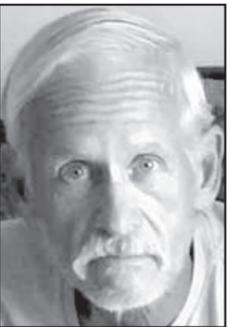
George Sapp

LAWTEY— George Ronald "Ronnie" Sapp, age 64, of Lawtey passed away on Wednesday, May 23, 2018 at Custead Care Center at Haven Hospice in Orange Park. Mr. Sapp was born July 10, 1953 in Starke to parents, George "G.W." and Hazel (Starling) Sapp. He was a lifelong resident of Lawtey and enjoyed wood working and farming. He especially loved his grandchildren. Ronnie was preceded in death by his father.

He is survived by: his devoted wife of 45 years, Wanda S. Sapp of Lawtey; daughter, L. Michelle Waters of Starke; son, Jamie R. (Renae) Sapp of Hampton; mother, Hazel S. Sapp of Lawtey; and sister, Dianne Hickman of New York. Also surviving are his grandchildren, Hailey Waters, Madison Sapp, Ashlyn Waters, and Kaylan Waters.

Services were held May 26 in the DeWitt C. Jones Chapel with Pastor Brian Tillman officiating. Burial was at Lawtey Cemetery. Arrangements were under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Starke. www.jonesgallagherfh.com 904-964-6200

PAID OBITUARY



Sandra Snay

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—Sandra R. "Sandy" Snay, 63, of Keystone Heights died Friday, May 25, 2018 at Haven Hospice Roberts Care Center following an extended illness. She was born July 21, 1954 in Dearborn, Michigan to the late Raymond and Joyce (Stark) Wieland. She was a resident of Keystone Heights for the past 36 years. She was of the Catholic faith.

She is survived by: her husband of 39 years, Maurice Snay of Keystone Heights; children, Michelle (Shawn) Mason of East Bloomfield, Michigan and Bear (Brittany) Snay of Lake Panasoffkee; siblings, Edward, Nancy, Janet, Dawn, Ray, Kristen and Kitty; and two grandsons.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, June 2 from 2-5:00 p.m. at the home of Julie Ogden, 6433 Baker Road, Keystone Heights. Interment of her cremated remains will follow at the Michigan Memorial Park Cemetery in Flat Rock, Michigan at a later date. Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Keystone Heights.

Socials



50th wedding anniversary

Sharon and Amos Beutke of Alachua will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 1, 2018 at a dinner with their family. They were married at the First Baptist Church of Brooker and honeymooned in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. They are the proud parents of Allyson (Beutke) and David DeVito of Lexington, Kentucky and Jason and Kristen Beutke of Brooker. They love being Mimmy and Bapa to their grandchildren, Judson, Adley and Haddon Beutke.

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CRIME

Recent arrests in Bradford, Clay or Union

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

BRADFORD --

James Ivan Brintley, 49, of Tampa was arrested May 26 by Lawtey officers for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Leonard Boyd Carr, 57, of Keystone Heights was arrested May 24 by Bradford deputies on a hold from Putnam County for violation of probation.

Susan Elizabeth Cavender, 40, of Starke was arrested May 25 by Starke officers

for driving with a revoked or suspended license.

Christopher Chittester, 43, of Natrona, PA, was arrested May 25 by Starke officers for disorderly intoxication.

William Kent Dail, 55, of Starke was arrested May 28 by Bradford deputies on a hold from Colorado.

John Joseph Danella, 30, of Keystone Heights was arrested May 25 by Bradford deputies for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without the intent to kill and possession of a weapon or ammunition by a convicted felon.

Bradford Deputy Justin Hanson and another officer responded to Lost Valley Campground in Starke in reference to a disturbance. According to the report, when they arrived, the officers encountered Danella and the victim walking toward the rear road in the campground. A knife was reported to have been involved in the incident and it was located in the possession of Danella. Danella told deputies that he had gotten into an argument with three individuals in the campground and that he had gotten scared due to being surrounded by the three men. According to the arrest report, he admitted to taking out his pocket knife and holding it in his hand. After being read his rights, Danella told the deputies the location of the knife and they took it into evidence.

According to the report, one of the men told deputies that his mother's dog had gotten loose and ran over to where Danella's father lived. He said when he got close, Danella started an argument with him, pulled the knife out of his pocket and flipped it open. He told the deputy that he feared for his life and asked his brother of call the sheriff's office.

There were no witnesses to corroborate Danella's story about three subjects who were about to jump him. He was arrested and charged with the above-mentioned charges and transported to the Bradford County Jail.

Jack Andrew Dority, 50, of Ocala was arrested May 24 by Starke officers for possession of marijuana.

Kade Payton Haug, 20, of Lake City was arrested May 22 by Starke officers on an out-of-county warrant.

Arlora Ann Jenkins, 55, of Starke was arrested May 22 by Starke officers for battery.

Bradford Deputy Courtney Personette was dispatched to and address in Market Rd. in reference to a disturbance. According to the arrest report, when she arrived at the scene she made contact with Jenkins, who was standing alone in her front yard. Jenkins told the deputy that she had just been in a physical altercation with her neighbor over the neighbor crossing the fence into her (Jenkins') yard.

She stated that the neighbor had crossed the fence line with a lawn mower and tried to ram her with it. Jenkins stated that he then sprayed her with a water hose and hit her in the face with his fist, grabbed her with his arm around her neck and pushed her to the ground. The report states that the deputy notice a mark in Jenkins' left cheek and that her clothing was soaked and covered with grass.

The deputy made contact with the neighbor, who was standing in his front yard. He reported that he had just finished mowing his lawn and was spraying out his lawn mower when Jenkins came charging at him, onto his property, with a shovel, accusing him of crossing her property line. He said he sprayed her with the hose to try and keep her away. He said she came at him again and he grabbed her in self-defense. Both went to the ground and he said she began scratching at his neck. The deputy noted in the report that the neighbor had scratch marks on his neck and blood on his shirt, as well as several other cuts and scrapes from the shovel. It is also noted in the report that the deputy noticed marks in the yard showing where the incident had taken place.

Also noted in the arrest report were the lack of witnesses to the physical altercation except for the girlfriend of the neighbor and Jenkins'

See CRIME, 8B



Hall-Beckham Wedding

Danielle Nichole Hall, daughter of Richard and Lorene Hall, Starke and Brennan David Beckham, son of Joel and Melanie Beckham, Femandina Beach, wed March 17, 2018 at 3:00 pm at the Camp Blanding Joint Training Site Chapel, Starke. Officiating was Rev. David Beckham, grandfather of the groom.

The Bride, a vision of loveliness, wore a French ivory lace ball gown, with a shimmering lace underlay and a sweetheart neckline designed by Sophia Tolli. She carried a bouquet of antique blue and pink hydrangeas, interspersed with cabbage rose shell pink roses and Baby's Breath flowers. The stems were wrapped in Irish lace and she carried an Irish lace handkerchief that belonged to the groom's great-grandmother, Julia Brennan Rampacek. Pinned to it were mementos that honored each of the bride and groom's grandparents.

Her chapel length veil, white tulle with a scalloped lace edging, was held in place by an antique silver comb. The veil, loaned to her by sister, Tiffany, was worn by her sister at her wedding. It was handmade by her sister's future grandmother-in-law.

The Matrons of Honor, Romanita Mobley, Palm Coast and Amber Romania, Starke, wore empire v-neck floor-length chiffon dresses in dusk lavender. The bridesmaids, Stephanie Reed, sister of the bride, Tiffany Rhoden, sister of the bride, Kirstin Riddick, all of Starke, and Brittany Namwises, MacClenny, were dressed like the Matrons of Honor, with the exception of the colors, which were steel blue and dusty rose. They all carried a bouquet of antique white, blue and pink hydrangeas with the stems wrapped in an Irish linen handkerchief.

The flower girl, Sopia Mobley, was adorable in a matching chiffon pink dress with matching accessories. A little shy about walking down the aisle and scattering rose petals, she was encouraged by her daddy, Rodney, and her mother, Romanita.

The groom and his groomsmen all wore dove grey tuxedos by Joseph Abboud. The groom's tuxedo was accented with a steel blue tie and a grey vest. The groomsmen's tuxedos had a tie and vest in steel blue or dusty rose. The Bestmen were Nicolas Dickinson, Port St. Joe and Noah Beckham, brother of the groom, Fernandina Beach. The groomsmen were Drew Bowman, Femandina Beach, Preston Rhoden, Starke, Christian Thomton, Femandina Beach, and Michael Lee, Yulee.

The pages (ring bearers) Brayden Riddick and Curtis Reed were attired in grey tuxedos. In lieu of the traditional satin pillows and rings, they carried signs. Braydon's sign read: "Hurry up! I want cake" and Curtis' sign read, "Uncle Brennan, Here Comes Your Bride." Curtis Reed is the Bride's nephew.

The chapel was beautifully decorated, with ivory curtains hanging across the back wall, accented by a full candelabrum decorated with flowers and lace, behind the choir rail. The choir rails were similarly decorated with antique hydrangeas and lace. The trellis was in front of the choir rails and was beautifully decorated with the same flowers and lace. Candles and candelabra were dispersed throughout the chapel. The pews were all decorated with the antique white hydrangeas and lace.

Richard Hall, father of the bride, escorted his daughter down the aisle while "Love me tender" by Norah Jones played softly in the background. After the exchange of vows and rings, the bride and groom combined sand from St. Augustine Beach and Fernandina Beach in a bottle, thereby uniting them as one, never to be separated again. The Recessional music was "Once Upon a Dream" by Yvonne and Peter Holland.

Maternal Grandparents of the bride are Mariorie Gilliam, Starke, and the late Jerry Gilliam. Paternal Grandparents are Rodney and Janice Hall, Starke. The groom is the grandson of Brian and Suellen Rampacek, Ponte Vedra Beach, and David and Ginny Beckham, Beverly Hills, and the late Mary Beckham.

A reception, including dinner and dancing, was held at the Service Club, Camp Blanding Joint Training Center. The wedding cake was four-layered, decorated with a heart-shaped vine wreath on top of the buttercream icing and cascading antique hydrangeas and roses decorating the side of the layers. The flavors were strawberry, chocolate and vanilla.

The couple's first dance was to "Running Home to You" by Grant Gustin. The father and grandfather of the Bride claimed their dances to "I Can't Help Falling in Love with You" by Elvis Presley. After a honeymoon to Gatlinburg, Tennessee, the couple are residing in Starke.

Card of Thanks

On behalf of the Mary Lee Family, we would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to those who ministered to our family during the recent loss of our mother.

To those who may have said a prayer, placed a phone call, sent a card, provided food or gave a donation

to the Church Building Fund in her memory, you only reminded us that we are a family BLESSED beyond measure.

A very special Thank You to Brother Danny Boyd, Tom Williams and Sondra Hunt who assisted in the service; in addition to Joe Gallagher and Kelli Parks Moreland of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home; and Sheila Barnes of Julia's Florist. To her church family and friends who so graciously provided a family meal following the service, we will be eternally grateful.

Mike & Darlene Lee Ray and Nancy Norman

NesSmith family reunion

It's time again for the annual NesSmith family reunion:

Date: Sunday, June 3rd. Time: 1 -3:00 pm. Place: Providence Village Community Center; Providence Village, Florida (South of SR 238 on SW 45th Ct and SW 86th Street.

Bring your favorite potluck food dishes and desserts and enjoy fellowship with kinfolks and guests.

Bring a friend and expect some blessings. Like we said last year, Don't make us come lookin' for ya!

Letters

Dear Editor,
I wanted to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you to the community of Starke. On May 12th, the Bradford County Master Gardeners sponsored their annual Spring Fling at the Extension office. The weather was cooperative and so many friends and neighbors came out to support us. The funds raised through our plant and tree sales will go directly into community gardening projects such as school gardens, student initiatives, workshops on various agricultural and horticultural topics, and landscape beautification at various Bradford locales. Did you realize that all of the Master Gardeners are simply volunteers? We don't consider ourselves "masters", but we simply enjoy discovering more about the wonderful natural world around us. If you have an interest in joining our group, a new training class will begin this fall.

On behalf of our group, let me thank the following local vendors for their contribution in making

our event successful: The owners and workers of Philly's Best Cheesesteak, Snowie Gator Shaved Ice, Healing Hands Massage, Sacred Roots Massage, Cherrie Gnnann Soaps, April Dykes' Candles, Starke Landscape, Jarmon's Concrete, Blue Star Nursery in Hawthorne, Bradford County Sheriff's Office, and former Sheriff's office secretary, Rose Sansing.

There are a few plants still left at the Extension office and discounts are available for larger quantities. While you're there, please congratulate our agent, Jim DeValerio, who is retiring in mid-June after 37 years in his position. Our Master Gardener group is especially thankful for his support and leadership and for making our activities so informative.

Contact Miranda Sellers 904-966-6299 for more information about sale plants or the upcoming Master Gardener class.

Lynn Bryan,
Master Gardener volunteer

Dear Editor:
On behalf of the teachers and staff at Bradford Middle School, we wish to thank the following businesses and individuals for their generous donations to assist us with Teacher Appreciation Week. We are grateful to you for your enthusiasm and support towards our school. Thank you again for your kindness.

Parents of BMS students, BMS Student Government, Norman's Country Market, Dick's Wings, The Steakhouse, Ron and JoAnn Denmark of Pipeline Contractors, Wal-Mart, Call Street Cafe, James Eison with Community State Bank, Cheryl Canova, Vivian Chappell, Stacy Creighton, Caroline Vickers, & Erica Reddish.

Sincerely,
Bradford Middle School

LEGALS

B-sect Legals 5/31/18

KEYSTONE AIRPARK MEETING
Keystone Airpark Authority's regular scheduled board meetings will be held on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6:00 P.M. Location is: 7100 Airport Road, Starke, FL. Agendas and notice of cancellation will be posted on the authority's website at www.keystoneairport.com no later than 72 hours in advance.
5/31 1tchg-B-sect=

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CRIME

Continued from 7B

granddaughter who did not see the initial physical altercation, but did hear the verbal one. She did say that both she and her brother saw the spraying of their grandmother with the hose. The deputy also noted that there was damage to a flower bed which was claimed to have been committed by Jenkins.

Kiara Lashawn Jones, 28, of Jacksonville was arrested May 25 by Bradford deputies for violation of probation and driving with a revoked or suspended license.

Barbara Danielle Jostock, 27, of Hortense GA. Was arrested May 23 by Starke officers for larceny/petit theft.

Officer Jerry Edward Feltner responded to a call at Walmart in Starke in reference to a theft investigation. Upon arrival, he met with store security who stated that a woman identified as Barbara Jostock had entered the store, gone to the dog food aisle and picked up a bag of Ol Roy Dog Food and a wobble ball, then taken the items to customer service and exchanged them for a gift card in the amount of \$33.03, using a receipt from the Walmart store in MacClenny dated June 21, 2018.

According to the report, after being read her rights, she said she had taken the items because she and her boyfriend needed gas money to get back to Georgia.

Warren Kelly, 84, of Keystone Heights was arrested May 28 by officers from the Department of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms for two counts of possession of liquor and a weapons offense.

Donald Vernon Lavery, 46, of Hampton was arrested May 22 by Bradford deputies for trespassing.

Misty Koehler Lawson, 45, of Hampton was arrested May 25 by Starke officers for larceny and an out-of-county warrant.

Charles Thomas Ledbetter, 59, of Lawtey was arrested May 26 by Lawtey officers for driving with a revoked or suspended license.

Jeremy Allyn Ledogar, 24, of Lake City was arrested May 22 by Starke officers for possession of drug equipment.

James Rodney Lucas, 37, of Starke was arrested May 23 by Florida Highway Patrol troopers for possession of cocaine, possession of drugs, cocaine trafficking, possession of marijuana and five counts of possession of drug equipment.

Leaton Dakota Mathews, 19, of Starke was arrested May 25 by Bradford deputies for disorderly intoxication.

Jonathan Lawrence Demont Mattson, 20, of Lake City was arrested May 22 by Starke officers for possession of drugs.

Gregory Bernard Merricks, 29, of Starke was arrested May 22 by Bradford deputies for violation of probation.

Melinda R. Page, 24, of Auburndale was arrested May 25 by Bradford deputies for an active warrant for smuggling contraband into a prison/cell phone portable communication device.

Michael William Perez Castillo, 28, of Brandon was arrested May 26 by Bradford deputies on two counts as an out-of-state fugitive from the state of Kentucky.

Lenritha Pyles, 64, of Cottondale was arrested May 27 for smuggling contraband into a prison/cell phone portable communications device.

Bradford deputy Joseph Silverstein responded to Florida State Prison in reference to a visitor attempting to enter the prison with a cell phone. According to the report, Pyles had passed several security checkpoints before FSP officers found a cell phone in her bra after being alerted to its presence by a metal detector.

According to the arrest report, Pyles was read her rights and then volunteered that she had not remembered that she was carrying her cell phone in her bra and that she had had no intention of entering the prison with the phone. She denied seeing three signs posted along the path she had traveled warning visitors not to come in with cell phones.

Markesh Tarvell Tyson, 28, of Starke was arrested May 24 by Starke officers for two counts of battery, robbery and resisting an officer.

Mary-Margret Theresa White, 28, of Orange Park was arrested May 29 by Bradford deputies for driving with a revoked or suspended license.

UNION COUNTY –

Melissa Jane Coleman, 35, of Glen St. Mary was arrested May 28 by Union deputies for disorderly conduct.

Erick Lamar Durant, 43, of Lake Butler was arrested May 24 for manufacturing opium or a derivative, trafficking in opium or a derivative and on four Union County warrants, all for similar charges.

Mitchell Terry Durrance, 31, of Brooker was arrested May 21 by Union deputies for fraud-insufficient funds check/obtaining goods or services worth \$150 or more.

Tony Hershell Jenkins, 35, of Lake Butler was arrested by Union deputies on May 24 for two Union County warrants

for possession of cocaine and selling cocaine.

Megan Nicole Muncy, 29, was arrested May 26 by Union deputies for a Union County warrant for two counts of failure to appear for a felony offense.

Kevin Dwight Nichols, 27, of Lake Butler was arrested May 23 by Union deputies for a Union County warrant for felony violation of probation.

Kevin Michael Parker, 39, of Lake Butler was arrested May 28 by Union Deputies for possession of marijuana less than 20 grams and possession of narcotic equipment.

Matthew Nelson Perez Hinson, 24, was arrested May 28 by Union deputies on an out-of-county warrant for failure to appear from Baker County.

Abigail Rudine Rowe, 33, of Lake Butler was arrested May 24 by Union deputies for driving while license suspended or revoked - habitual offender, possession of marijuana less than 20 grams and possession of narcotic equipment.

Savannah Dawn Southerland, 19, of Lake Butler was arrested May 26 by Union deputies for vehicle theft-grand third degree.

Mary Robin Thornton, 38, of Lake Butler was arrested May 28 by Union deputies for an out-of-county warrant for possession of alprazolam and less than 20 grams of marijuana from Broward County.

Marcus Waugh, 28, was arrested May 26 by Union deputies for vehicle theft-grand third degree (see related case, Savannah Dawn Southerland, above).

Andrew William Webb, 34, of Lake Butler was arrested May 24 by Union deputies for a Union County warrant for possession of opium or a derivative and selling opium or a derivative within 1,000 feet of a college or public park.

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS AND LAKE REGION –

Lowen Willard Randall, 25, was arrested May 28 by Clay deputies in Keystone Heights for driving while intoxicated, blood alcohol .15 or higher or with a person under 18.

UCHS grad Dukes, Argonauts ready to win a title

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

It's been quite the journey for 2014 Union County High School graduate Austin Dukes, who went from not knowing if he'd ever play football again to being a part of making history with the University of West Florida.

Dukes, who is the son of Bruce and Kelly Dukes, plays defensive end for the Pensacola university, which is preparing to enter just its third season of football. The Argonauts, who play at the Division II level, set a record by reaching the playoffs last year. The previous best for a new program reaching the playoffs was three years.

West Florida did more than just reach the playoffs, though. The team won four postseason games — all against ranked opponents — in reaching the national championship game, which it lost 37-27 to Texas A&M-Commerce.

"We definitely set the mark for the next start-up team," Dukes said.

Dukes, a redshirt junior, played in all 15 games last season, starting three. He was second among defensive linemen in tackles (42) and had a memorable play in the national championship game, returning a fumble 16 yards to give his offense a first-and-goal opportunity.

"I almost had a touchdown," Dukes said. "I picked it up at the 22, and I got tackled at the 6. I actually had four blockers in front of me. None of them turned back to block the guy that chased me down."

The road to being a significant contributor for the Argonauts and getting the chance to play at all has been a bit bumpy at times, but Dukes never gave up on the idea of getting a chance to excel as a college player.

"If you want it bad enough, you just work your tail off and got get it," he said.

1 door closes, another opens

Dukes said he didn't receive any offers from big-time colleges, so he went to Atlanta Sports Academy, a prep school, after graduating from UCHS. However, the school shut down within approximately three months of his arrival.

"I thought I was done with football," Dukes said.

However, Dukes received a surprise call from West Florida Head Coach Pete Shinnick. The coach became aware of Dukes when talking to coaches who had seen Dukes play in high school.

Dukes was unsure about committing to play for West



Austin Dukes (center) is pictured before the snap during a West Florida game. Dukes and the Argonauts played for the Division II championship last season — West Florida's second season of existence. Photo provided courtesy of University of West Florida Athletic Communications.

Florida. The football program was just getting started. Dukes and every other incoming player would redshirt a year prior to the Argonauts beginning their inaugural season in 2016.

A visit to the school made up Dukes' mind. He liked the school and liked the city of Pensacola.

"It was the best decision of my life," he said. "It's almost like God had a plan by shutting down the prep school and sending me to Pensacola."

The fall of 2015 was tough, Dukes said. While other teams were playing games, the Argonauts scrimmaged against each themselves for 3.5 months.

"It wasn't fun not being able to play in games," Dukes said.

As you can imagine, Dukes was ready for 2016. He'd finally get the chance to play again. However, he tore an ACL, which left the coaches wanting Dukes to take a medical redshirt.

Dukes wasn't going to wait another full year for a chance to play. He told his coaches he was going to play in 2016, which he did, approximately halfway through the season.

"I actually got cleared 5.5 months after my ACL surgery, which is ridiculous," Dukes said. "Usually, it takes like eight months or longer."

A special season

Though he wanted so badly to get onto the field, Dukes admitted he was not in the best football condition when he returned from his injury. He saw action in seven games, finishing that season with 10 tackles.

Even if West Florida hadn't played for the national

championship in 2017, that season would've been memorable for Dukes in that he played a full season.

Of course, a full season wound up being a total of 15 games, thanks to a postseason run that no one saw coming. When the Argonauts, who were 7-3 entering the postseason, beat 16th-ranked Wingate 31-0 in the first round of the playoffs, Dukes said the team's mindset was, "Hey, maybe we can win another one."

They did, defeating 25th-ranked West Georgia 17-14 in the second round.

"Every game that we played, we gained more and more confidence," Dukes said.

West Florida then defeated 17th-ranked West Alabama 28-21 before clinching its sport in the national championship game by defeating top-ranked Indiana (Pa.) 27-17 in the national semifinals.

"It was one of the best experiences I've ever gone through, without a doubt," Dukes said.

The Argonauts feels good about putting together another special season after graduating just three starters from last season. Dukes said he'd hate to say the 2018 season would be a failure if the Argonauts aren't hoisting a championship trophy at the end, but that's what the goal is.

"We were so close last year," he said.

See DUKES, 9B

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DUKES

Continued from 8B

Still developing as a defensive lineman

Dukes played linebacker in high school and was quite good, being named the Class 1A Defensive Player of the Year his senior year. West Florida, though, had a lot of incoming linebackers as the program was getting off the ground. The team was thin at along the defensive line, so Dukes was asked if he'd play there. His response? "Coach, you can put me at O-line." Dukes was just grateful for the opportunity to play college ball.

One of the biggest differences playing on the line as opposed to linebacker is that Dukes plays at a lower pad level in order to get underneath offensive linemen. He's really undersized (6-2, 235) as a defensive end and said returning to linebacker is always in the back of his mind. However, Dukes also enjoys his new role and sees that as his best opportunity to contribute. He entered this past spring as a starter.

"I don't want to ask them to move me to linebacker because I'm already sitting pretty good right now at D-end," Dukes said.

A part of his game he's focused on improving is his pass rushing. He stayed after practice every day in the spring to work on his pass-rushing technique.

One of his best friends on the team is also a help. Defensive end John Wesley Williamson broke the Gulf South Conference record for sacks this past season with 14.5.

The friendship is of mutual benefit. Dukes said he's better as a run stopper, so he helps Williamson in that area.

Plus, like Dukes, Williamson is from a small town — Stockton, Alabama. Dukes said perhaps that's why they get along so well.

"We're small-town boys just trying to make it in football," Dukes said.

Dukes is looking to have an even bigger impact on the team this year. He wants to finish the 2018 season with more than 60 tackles.

"I'm trying to lead the D-line in tackles," he said. "I'm trying to get more sacks, too."

Dukes is trying to get better. His team is trying to get better. Could it result in reaching the pinnacle of college football? Dukes can envision what that would feel like.

"To be able to be on ESPN2 holding a national championship trophy would be awesome," he said.



Austin Dukes has his helmet off during a break in the action. Dukes, at defensive end, recorded 42 tackles — second among defensive linemen. Photo provided courtesy of University of West Florida Athletic Communications.



Austin Dukes

Fox: looking to affect positive change in BHS students



Kiley Powell discusses her grades with Michelle Fox, the CIS site coordinator at Bradford High School.

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

In her role as Communities in Schools site coordinator at Bradford High School, Michelle Fox attempts to help as many students as she can experience success so they can start moving toward a bright future.

A number of BHS students face challenges, which Fox talked about as the guest speaker at the Kiwanis Club of Starke's Jan. 9 meeting.

Fox began her talk by citing some statistics, such as more than 24 percent of students live below the poverty level, with 61 percent being considered economically challenged. Approximately 24 percent of students are considered learning disabled, but Fox said ESE teachers believe a large number of those students were not born learning disabled.

"They have become learning disabled because of the environment that they live in," Fox said.

Fox said more than 25 percent of students are chronically absent.

"What that means is that at least one out of four students miss more than 15 days per year," she said.

Only 19 percent of graduating seniors will take the ACT or SAT, Fox said, adding, "What that shows me is that only 19 percent even have a hope that they might go to college. That means most of our students don't see a future where they can do anything like that."

In looking at adults in Bradford County, Fox said 24 percent did not graduate from high school, while only 11 percent have at least a college bachelor's degree.

Children whose parents didn't graduate from high school have a higher chance of not graduating themselves, Fox said. Expectations can play a role in that. Parents who graduated from high school fully expect their children to graduate, Fox said, adding that parents who went to college expect their children to go to college.

"Well, for the kids whose parents dropped out in 10th grade, it's not in their mind that graduating high school is an important thing," Fox said. "For some of the parents, they feel like it's even out of reach for their kids to graduate."

Striving for change to benefit students, community

Realizing what a dire picture she was painting for Kiwanis members, Fox said, "I don't tell you all these statistics to bore you or make you feel like we live in a bad community. We don't. This community has more support from businesses and individuals than any place I've seen. It's amazing what the businesses do and what you guys do."

"I tell you this because Communities in Schools is in the high school and in the middle school to affect a change in those numbers and those statistics."

For example, Fox said getting 6 percent more students taking the ACT or

SAT will "significantly change the lives of 50 students over a period of four years."

"Over time, this small percentage of progress makes a huge difference in our county," Fox said. "It changes the economy. It changes the tax base. It changes the crime rate. It helps businesses because people have more money in their pockets. Less of our money is going to support people who don't have jobs. It changes everything."

Fox said going to college is not the ultimate success for every student. Those who don't go to college, though, should at least from high school with some kind of career training or at least some idea in mind of training to pursue after high school. Fox talked of one student who was behind in school and considering dropping out. His only career aspiration was to maybe work at Dollar General.

"There is nothing wrong with having a job at Dollar General," Fox said. "I don't want you to think that I'm looking down on that. A job is a job is a job. Nobody's too good for a job, but that's all he had in mind. Now he's working really hard to recover credits and he has plans to either go to fire school or the police academy. He knows it's going to be hard work, but now he's got this idea, 'You know what? If I work really hard, I can do it.'"

A friendly face determining students' needs

Fox said her site coordinator position is like that of a case manager. She finds out what students' needs are and assists them, with the end goal of helping CIS meet its accomplishments of improving attendance, behavior and course performance. She said CIS also works to change the school climate. In other words, try to get parents more involved in their children when it comes to school.

"We have a very low rate of parent involvement in Bradford County," Fox said. "We have to get a parent consent form

signed for me to be able to work with the students. I have right now about 10 referrals from teachers for students that need help, but I can't get the parents to sign that paper, so we're working on changing that. The parents we do get to work with, we encourage them to come in to the school and have conferences. I call them on the phone and give them what's going on with their kids and things like that."

"In order to work on all these things — the attendance, behavior, the course performance, the school climate — we have site coordinators in the school."

As a self-described "friendly face" at the school, Fox hopes to gain students' trust and find out what's preventing them from doing their best.

"The thing about these kids is there are usually underlying reasons why they aren't succeeding," Fox said.

She doesn't have the solution to every problem, but she does have an ear. Sometimes all a child needs is for someone to talk to. In fact, Fox said one student was thrilled to show her his report card. The grades weren't particularly good, but it meant a lot to him that his grades meant something to somebody else.

"He was so happy to give it to me because he said it was the first time in his life that he's ever had anybody ask to see his report card," Fox said. "He's 17 years old."

Now, that student has worked to bring his grades up, thanks to the tutoring that CIS makes available.

There's no one solution in addressing students' needs, because their needs are varied. However, there is one goal. Fox wants to counter students' ideas that they aren't capable of achieving anything in life. She wants students to "dream big."

"Showing students that there's a different way to live will affect them throughout their lives," Fox said. "In the long run, it will affect our community in a positive way."

ACORN receives grant for veteran dental health

ACORN Clinic is pleased to announce it has received a \$30,000 grant from the Disabled American Veterans Charitable Service Trust. These funds will be used to provide preventive and restorative oral health care for low-income disabled veterans with substantial dental needs and who do not have veterans' benefits for dental needs.

With this grant, ACORN Clinic expects to provide dental care for nine to 15 disabled veterans. Care provided will include annual exams and treatment planning, bi-annual cleanings, and restorative care as needed, including fillings, extractions, dentures and partial dentures. ACORN Clinic intends that after initial treatment these veterans will be able to sustain their dental health with ongoing preventive oral healthcare and avoid dental emergencies in the future.

"Serving the underserved is an important part of ACORN's mission. Our disabled veterans deserve a spotlight on supporting

their health care, including their oral health," said Candice King, ACORN Clinic executive director.

The Disabled American Veterans Charitable Service Trust has awarded the ACORN Clinic with over \$75,000 in funding from 2011 to present. Over the years these funds have been used to provide dental care services for veterans in the community. With the trust's continued funding, the ACORN Clinic is able to better serve this special group of veterans.

ACORN Clinic (Alachua County Organization for Rural Needs) is a nonprofit organization located in rural northern Alachua County that provides affordable medical, dental and social services care for residents of north central Florida.

If you or someone you know can benefit from this grant, contact ACORN Dental Clinic at 352-485-2772 or visit <http://acornclinic.org> for more information.

Avoid gas pump card skimmers

Here are some simple tips to avoid identity-stealing card skimmers placed on gas pumps:

1. Pay in cash inside the store to ensure credit card information stays safe.
2. Check to make sure the gas pump dispenser cabinet is closed and has not been tampered with.
3. Use a gas pump closer to the front of the store. Thieves often place skimmer at the gas pumps farther away from the store so they are not noticed as quickly.
4. Use a credit card instead of a debit card. Credit cards have better fraud protection, and the money is not deducted immediately from an account.
5. If using a debit card at the

pump, choose to run it as a credit card instead of putting a PIN number in. That way, the PIN number is safe.

6. Monitor bank accounts regularly to spot any unauthorized charges.
7. Consumers who suspect their credit card number has been compromised should report it immediately to authorities and their credit card company.

Consumers who suspect that a gas pump has been tampered with should contact the gas station manager, local law enforcement or the state consumer protection and information hotline at 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) or, for Spanish speakers, 1-800-FL-AYUDA (352-9832).

Forest service to help landowners combat southern pine beetle

To help combat the invasive southern pine beetle, which is currently present in 52 infestation sites throughout six Florida counties, the Florida Forest Service is accepting applications for the 2018 Southern Pine Beetle Assistance and Prevention Program from non-industrial, private forest landowners through June 29, 2018. The program is limited to 44 northern Florida counties, the known range of the southern pine beetle.

The southern pine beetle is one of the most economically devastating forest pests of the southeast, with periodic outbreaks leading to deaths of millions of pine trees. In 2017, 260 infestations were reported in Florida, killing trees on 1,768 acres. This pales in comparison to the last major outbreaks between 1999 and 2002, which caused an estimated \$59 million in timber losses. Since it was first offered in 2005, the program has been implemented on more

than 183,000 acres and helped thousands of landowners.

"These small infestations average less than an acre now, but they have the ability to expand rapidly this time of year," said Jim Karels, state forester and director of the Florida Forest Service. "It's imperative that we remain vigilant to keep this invasive pest at bay."

The Southern Pine Beetle Assistance and Prevention Program, supported through a grant by the United States Forest Service, provides incentive payments for landowners who conduct a first pulpwood thinning and offers partial cost reimbursement for activities, such as prescribed burning, mechanical underbrush treatments, and the planting of longleaf or slash pine rather than the loblolly pine, the beetle's preferred species. Qualified landowners can apply for up to

See PINE, 11B

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Indians fall 4-1 in state semifinals

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights batters had little success against West Nassau pitcher Skylar Whitty, who gave up three hits and struck out 10 as the ninth-ranked Warriors defeated the 10th-ranked Indians 4-1 in a Class 5A state semifinal game on May 22 at Historic Dodgertown in Vero Beach.

Like they did in two of their three regional playoff games, the Indians (20-11) got off to a fast start, taking a 1-0 lead in the top of the first. However, three walks and an error helped West Nassau score four runs on just two hits in the bottom of the second.

With the way Whitty was pitching, that was enough to send the Warriors to the championship game, where they lost 4-1 to number-one-ranked Coral Springs Charter to finish with a 23-7 record. It was Coral Springs Charter's fourth straight state title.

"It didn't go our way," Keystone Head Coach Jessica Marquart said. "Our 10 (previous) losses have all been like that, really — errors and walks, and we can't finish the game on top."

The game was postponed three times over the course of four days due to weather. Keystone's players and coaches woke up at 5 a.m. for what was originally scheduled to be an 8:35 start on May 22, but the first pitch didn't take place until approximately 5.5 hours later.

A steady rain continued to fall throughout the day. Ground crews worked on the infield twice between innings, while one of the umpires had to be carted off the field in the bottom of the third after he appeared to have sustained a knee injury after planting his foot and slipping.

State officials considered calling the game because of field conditions after five innings before deciding to play the remainder of the game on an adjacent field. The conversation and subsequent preparation of the other field resulted in an almost hour delay.

"It was tough conditions," Marquart said, "but everybody had to deal with that."

Keystone's leadoff batter Ashleigh Jennings reached on a bunt single to start the game and advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by Ashton Ludwig. Jennings then scored on a single by Bailey Story.

Story's hit would be the Indians' last until Lexi Northway hit an infield single in the top of the fifth.

West Nassau's bats didn't produce much, either, as pitchers Megan Moncrief and Daelynn Eatmon held the Warriors to four hits. The Warriors, though, took advantage of free passes and a miscue in the bottom of the second. Bre Hickox led off the inning by drawing a walk, moved to second on Courtney Hengerer's sacrifice and scored on Regan Lee's single into

right field. Bailey Studt drew a walk, with both Studt and Lee advancing on Mykhala Moore's ground out. Emily Dixon drew a walk to load the bases before Hope Epps' single into left field scored two runs.

The Warriors added one more run when an errant throw in an attempt to catch Dixon stealing third allowed Dixon to score.

West Nassau would put six more runners on base following the second inning, but couldn't manufacture any more runs as Eatmon gave up two hits and had five strikeouts in four innings of relief.

Keystone, meanwhile, put only two runners on in the final five innings, with both of those reaching with two outs.

Marquart said she was proud of the leadership her eight seniors — Jennings, Moncrief, Northway, Story, Molly Crawford, Emily Pressley, Skylar Rollins and Makayla Smith — provided this season and proud of what her team accomplished. The Indians, as the District 5 runner-up, went on the road for all three of its regional playoff games and had to defeat such teams as third-ranked Hernando and fourth-ranked Eustis.

"Not very many teams get here," Marquart said. "For us to lose districts and do that in regionals and be here — that's an accomplishment in itself. I'm proud of them for doing that. They never gave up."



Third baseman Savannah Channell (right) fields a ground ball hit by West Nassau's Regan Lee.



Pitcher Daelynn Eatmon throws to first after fielding a ground ball.



Leadoff hitter Ashleigh Jennings prepares to take a lead at second prior to scoring on a Bailey Story single in the top of the first.



Second baseman Ashton Ludwig chases after a ball hit just fair inside the first-base line.



Lexi Northway corrals a ball hit into left field for a single that scored two of West Nassau's four second-inning runs.



Makayla Smith makes contact on a pitch in the second inning.



West Nassau's Mykhala Moore gets tagged out by first baseman Cami Worley (far left) after getting caught in a rundown between Worley and second baseman Ashton Ludwig (far right).



Cami Worley takes a pitch for a ball in the second inning.



Bailey Story (left) runs to first after hitting a ball that would eventually be ruled foul in the sixth inning.



Keystone Head Coach Jessica Marquart (third from right) stands in the rain with West Nassau assistant coach Mike Kelly and umpires as they discuss the status of the game and field conditions.

PINE

Continued from 9B

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Bradford High School graduation photos



Brandon Sanford hugs Jacey Woods following graduation.



Posing for a picture in the gym prior to the start of graduation are (l-r) Bailey Griffis, Jade Hines, Gracie Blankenship, Jacey Woods and Paxon Wise.



Clayton Rhoden (left) and Jardin Simmons take part in the processional.



Roddy Reynolds is all smiles as he shakes hands with Superintendent Stacey Creighton.

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