

UNION COUNTY TIMES

USPS 648-200 — Lake Butler, Florida

Thursday, March 22, 2018

105th Year — 48th Issue — 75 CENTS

etc.

GCFBC to Hold Easter Egg Hunt

Grace Christian Fellowship Baptist Church of Worthington Springs will be having an Easter egg hunt on Saturday, March 31 from 2-4 p.m. There will be food, fun and fellowship. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please call 386-496-2859.

Easter Egg Hunt at VFW Post 10082

VFW Post 10082 will hold its annual Easter egg hunt on Saturday, March 31 at 11 a.m. This is open to the community and all are welcome to attend. Lunch will be served to all attending parents and children and will include hot dogs/chips/ drink and cookies. For more information call Annie Pittman at 386-496-1140.

Farm Share Distribution Set for April 14

A Farm Share food distribution event will be held on Saturday, April 14 from 9-11 a.m. at the big pavilion at Lakeside Park. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 7:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome. The program is not income dependent. First come will be first served.

UC Historical Society to Meet

The Union County Historical Society will meet on Monday, March 26 at 7 p.m. in the Union County Historical Museum located at 410 W. Main Street in Lake Butler. The speaker will be Bert Brooks, a longtime Union County native and author. He will speak about his youth growing up in the county and the historic church he attended. Everyone is invited to attend.

Woman's Club to Sponsor Scholarship

The Lake Butler Woman's Club is offering a \$500 scholarship for a female resident of Union County to attend an accredited college or university in the state of Florida. Scholarship applications may be picked up at Union County High School in the Guidance Counselor's office from Amy Addison. All applications should be received by or on Friday, April 27, 2018. Late applications will not be accepted. For questions contact Bobby Morgan at 386-867-0781.

Family Movie Night in City March 24

The city of Lake Butler will host a family movie night on Saturday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lake Butler Fire Department Building. The featured movie will be "Coco." Please bring a blanket

See ETC., 4B

Driver jumps in back seat to fool deputy

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Managing Editor

A Jacksonville man caught speeding on S.R. 121 south of Lake Butler jumped from the driver's seat to the back seat of his moving vehicle, in an attempt to fool the deputy that was pursuing them.

Kristoff Lyndbergh Jones, 24, was arrested March 17 for driving with a revoked or suspended license, reckless driving, possession of marijuana, possession of drug equipment and being a fugitive from justice.

According to an arrest report, Deputy James Jankowski was observing traffic on S.R. 121 when he clocked a northbound KIA SUV at 60 mph in a 40-mph zone.

Jankowski wrote that after he got behind the KIA and activated his lights, the driver refused to stop.

"While passing the Lake Butler Apartments," he wrote, "the vehicle ran off onto the shoulder and kicked up some dirt and dust. The vehicle then drifted into the southbound lane, headed towards an oncoming vehicle."

He added that the KIA quickly swerved back into its own lane and continued north. The driver then drove through and intersection, into a Circle K convenience store and up to a gas pump.

In the driver's seat of the KIA was Paul Thornton.

"Paul appeared nervous and hesitant to answer my questions about his driving pattern," Jankowski wrote.

Thornton admitted not having a valid license.

The defendant was in the back seat.

"I asked Paul to exit the vehicle," the deputy wrote, "and when he did, I could see in plain view, a green, leafy substance with a stem along with a plastic



K. Jones

bag in the door handle pocket."

Jankowski said the substance looked like marijuana and later tested

positive.

The deputy asked Thornton if the marijuana was his. The man replied that he does not smoke, since he is on probation for a prior DUI.

Jankowski then asked Thornton if he was the only one driving that night.

"Paul paused and shook his head before answering," the deputy wrote. "Paul said he had not been driving at all...Paul had been in the passenger seat up until I attempted to pull over the vehicle and that Kristoff was driving."

Thornton added that when Jones realized he was being pulled over, he asked Thornton to switch seats, and the passenger refused.

Thornton said the defendant then climbed into the back seat, leaving the driver's seat vacant, and Thornton then grabbed the steering wheel and got into the driver's seat.

Thornton added that this is when the KIA swerved into the southbound lane, nearly striking a vehicle head on.

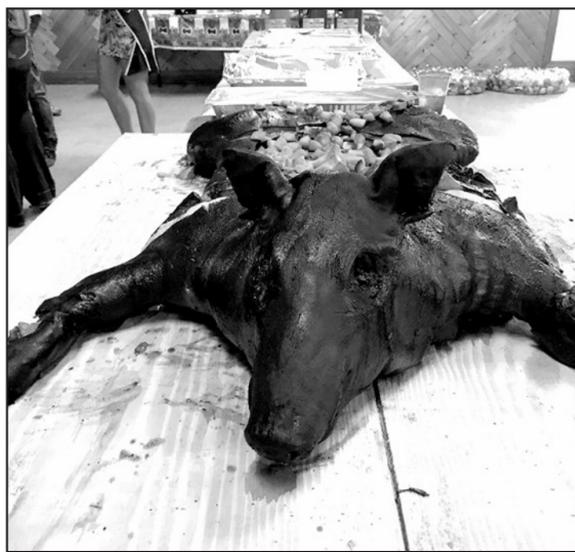
Deputies searched the KIA after arresting Jones and found two pistols and a bag of .40-caliber ammunition, along with a butane lighter and a glass smoking device.

Jones is also wanted in Washington State for failure to appear.

In other Union County arrests:

Frederick Lythell Williams Jr., 19, was arrested March 16 by Union deputies for an out-of-county warrant.

LB Rotary Luau a Tropical Success



The center point of the feast was a pig, roasted whole and cut up and served to order.

BY TED BARBER
Special to the Times

The Ninth Annual Rotarian Hawaiian Luau, with the luck of the Irish and some good planning and execution, made the record books!

Saturday evening, March 17, was a great night for Union County and the Lake Butler Rotarians. With the motto "Service Above Self," the Rotarians were able to provide the entertainment and delicious food while raising the highest amount of donations in Luau history (over \$2,500) for our community and for our international projects. "The Luck of the Irish" was with us!

The event began with the feeding of about 150 people. The "whole hog" was hand

selected, slaughtered and dressed by Lake Harris. Chefs Brian Barton, Mark Williams and Michael Dukes, who have cooked the feast for the past several years, were on site at 3 a.m. to start the fire, and the meat was started cooking about an hour later. Along with meat from the hog, there was pulled pork, sausages, barbecued beans, fresh slaw and macaroni and cheese. The dessert table features banana pudding, a tropical whip and a variety of cupcakes.

Helping to serve the meal were some of the member of the Lake Butler Interact Club. On hand were: John Michael Manning, Alex Perez, Jonathan Schmidt, Sidney

See LUAU, 2B

County Judge quits

Resignation Will Stop Election of New Judge

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Editor

In a surprise announcement, County Court Judge Robert Bo Bayer has submitted his notice of resignation from the position of County Court Judge to be effective Dec. 31.

Bayer, who cannot seek reelection due to state age limits for judges, has set a resignation date less than a month from when a newly elected judge would take office should an election for the position be held. According to Florida statutes, however, if a judge resigns before the term expires when the seat is up for election and the Governor accepts the resignation before the qualifying period begins, a vacancy occurs on the date of



Bayer

acceptance of the resignation and the seat is to be filled by appointment.

Since Florida law precludes allowing an election for the

county judge seat to occur, the governor will appoint a judge to the position of county judge who will remain in office for the full six-year term of the position. Although the stated date of resignation/retirement is not until after the election and, in fact, within about a month of when a newly elected judge would take office, it is tendered before qualifying for the election is required.

Qualifying for a judicial race is slated between Noon on April 30 and Noon on May 4. In essence, Bayer's actions have deprived the voters of Union County the right to elect the judge of their choice.

See JUDGE, 4B

UCHS SREY Southern Loves Her Job and Working Around Young People

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Editor

Robin Southern moved to Lake Butler from the Tampa area in 1991 because she wanted to live and raise her children in a small town with really good schools.

"I had a good friend who was born and raised here and she told me that this was just what I was looking for," Southern said. "She was right."

Southern is in her second year working for the Union County School District as a custodian at Union County High School. She started as a substitute custodian last year, but was in a permanent position within the first three months. Since moving to Florida, this single mom has also worked as a CNA, as a secretary at the State Hospital in MacClenny, in medical records for DOC, cleaning the post office in Lake Butler and in the deli at Spires. She said she has loved all

her jobs, but said the one she has now, at the high school, in her favorite.

"I really like it here at the high school and I love my job," Southern said. "I really enjoy all of the teacher and the kids. I was surprised and honored when they told me I had been nominated for School Related Employee of the Year and then really shocked when they told me I had won. It didn't seem real."

Southern spends her days at the high school and, during football season, works the reserved seating area for football games. She has become quite a Tiger's fan. When not working at the school, Southern enjoys spending time working with her aquariums — a tropical tank and also a large tank devoted to African cichlids. She also enjoys NASCAR racing (her favorite driver is Jimmy Johnson) and NFL football (her favorite team is the Green Bay Packers, although



Robin Southern

she does admit to being proud of the Jaguars this year). She also said she loves to fish.

Her children, Tiffany, 33, Chad, 27, and Allen, 24, are grown and already have provided her with five grandchildren, but she said she still has kids to look after, lots of them, all at Union County High School.

New LB City Manager Enjoying New Challenges

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Editor

New Lake Butler City Manager Dale Walker has had a couple of weeks to settle in and meet people in his new position and also to form a few opinions about the city and area, which is very different from what he is used to.

"I'm still in the honeymoon stage here," Walker said. "A small town is different. This is a quaint, unique little city that has tons of potential and I am looking at ways to use this potential to benefit the city and its residents."

Walker has already heard the citizen's mantra, of "We want a decent restaurant," from numerous people, and this is one of the areas which he is working toward, along with several local business leaders with whom he has met and discussed the matter. He hopes to work with them, and other citizens, to develop an idea of what the city should "look like" and be in the future. He readily admits that not everyone is open to change and he willingly listens to all points of view on the matter.

Walker is also working on bringing the city in line with modern best business practices by undertaking the updating and development of city personnel policies and other activities which will make city operations more efficient.

"Dave Mecusker left the city in good financial condition through his administration and his attention to quality internal control," Walker said. "The new audit will be in next month and I'm not worried about what I will see in it."

Walker wants to focus on creating or bringing in commercial entities and creating economic opportunity. He said that, after talking to citizens and seeing the value they place on the environmental assets of the county, he is not pursuing any industrial companies.

Walker said one of the things he wants to do is create a capital improvement program for the city. Such a program involves the creation of a five-year outlook at what projects the city would like to undertake and what equipment (or other purchases) it would like to make. With a program in place, the city can then work toward concrete goals and plan for expenditures ahead of critical need. He also hopes to create a comprehensive annual financial report, a document which is derived and expanded from the annual audits but put in a form which is more easily understood by non-financial, non-government people.

"A CAFR is a lot like a stock-holders report," Walker said. "A citizen can look at it and get a good idea of what is going on in the city's finances without needing a degree in accounting."

Walker has degrees in accounting and business

administration, as well as a wealth of experience in the management of large and medium cities.

He has had a long and varied career in public service. With all he brings to the job in the way of expertise, the question has been asked numerous times in the community, "Why did he apply here?"

"I have worked in several large- and medium-sized cities over the years, but never in a small town," Walker said. "Small towns are unique and it is like going back to the roots of public service. In the large and medium city, much of the work is delegated to others and I miss the experience and flavor of doing it myself. In a small city, I am it, the job is mine and most cannot be delegated. It seems like a good way to round out a career."

Walker said he has always been good with numbers, and math has always been easy for him.

"When I was growing up my interests were business, baseball and statistics," Walker said. "When I got older, I knew I wanted a career in either architecture, accounting, art, as an attorney or an actuary. I ended up in accounting and business and I have not regretted my choice."

Walker serves as a national budget reviewer through his membership in the Government Financial Officers Association. He said he enjoys reading, although he tends toward work-related subjects and non-fiction. He said he has been known to play golf, but it has been a while. He said he was one of those people who did not want to think about retirement as work was a pleasure for him.

"I hope to get the city cleaned and spruced up and find ways to bring in businesses which will benefit the residents," Walker said. "I like it here and eventually hope to live here. So far, I am 'homeless,' but hopefully that will change soon. We have a wonderful little city here, with a beautiful lake and great schools — in other words a great deal of potential to offer. I want to help to make the most of it."



Walker

Deputies: Man fired weapon during dispute

Union County

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Managing Editor

A Lake Butler man was arrested after witnesses said he fired a weapon from his vehicle after a man complained about the defendant leaving a vehicle in the victim's yard.



A. Edwards

Antonio Woodrow Edwards, 24, was arrested for aggravated assault and discharging a firearm from a vehicle.

Witnesses said they were not sure if the gun was fired at them or in the air. Deputies found .25-caliber casings near the alleged incident.

The victim told deputies he had been complaining to the defendant for four months about the defendant leaving his vehicle in the victim's yard.

The witnesses told deputies that they saw a silver sedan drive toward their direction, on Southwest S.R. 238, west of Lake Butler. They then heard someone yelling from the front, passenger seat of the vehicle and heard the words, "come get it," just before several shots rang out.

They added that the person in the front passenger seat had his arm extended out of the window when the gunshots occurred.

Deputies: National Guard Sgt. sexually assaulted 11-year old boy

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Managing Editor

Clay County deputies arrested a National Guard sergeant at Camp Blanding on Wednesday, March 14 after an 11-year-old Clay County boy told law enforcement officials the man sexually assaulted him.

According to court papers, James Edward Bowman, 28, was arrested for three counts of sexual battery on a victim under 12 years of age.

Two victims, one eight and the other 11, both described two encounters Bowman had with the older child. Although the 8-year-old is described as a victim in the reports, court papers sent by the sheriff's office do not specify the defendant's interactions with the younger child.

The 11-year-old told DCF workers and detectives that on President's Day, 2018, the victim accompanied Bowman and his family on a camping trip to Camp Blanding and that during the trip the defendant penetrated him without a condom.

The following month, the victim said that while taking a shower in the defendant's home, he noticed that Bowman was watching him.

He added that the defendant then walked over to him, grabbed him by the hips, and sexually touched him.

When Clay County Sheriff's Detective Marvin Page and a DCF worker interviewed Bowman at Camp Blanding, the defendant refused to answer questions.

In other Clay County arrests within the Lake Region:

Gary Edward Boyd, 37, of Keystone Heights was arrested March 14 by Clay deputies for selling methamphetamine.

Alysha Jay Kapp, 27, of Keystone Heights was arrested March 15 for grand theft.

According to an arrest report, the victim told deputies that in January, she showed some of her jewelry to the defendant so that the defendant might repair it. Soon after the inspection, the victim discovered a necklace and pendant missing. The victim said she found the missing jewelry at a Gainesville pawn shop. Deputies traced the pawn transaction to the defendant's boyfriend of 10 years.

Burglary victim finds stolen property at pawn shop

Bradford County

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Managing Editor

Daniel James Drake, 48, of Keystone Heights was arrested March 13 by Bradford deputies for fraud and burglary.

According to an arrest report, Bradford deputies investigated a January 2016 daytime burglary on Southeast C.R. 21B. Deputies noted that the front door of the home had been kicked in, and a window was broken as if someone had tried to gain entry through the window. Deputies also collected a blood sample from the scene that appeared to have been left by the burglar.

In June of that same year, the victim spotted some of the stolen items at a local pawn shop. Detective Hannah Hass traced the items to the defendant and discovered he was incarcerated in the Bradford county Jail for unrelated charges.

When interviewing the defendant, Drake claimed he acquired the jewelry by trading knives out of his car at the Waldo Flea Market.

Hass also sent the blood sample to an FDLE lab, which indicated the DNA in the sample matched the profile of the defendant.

Drake is currently serving one-year sentences in Florida State Prison's West Unit for Bradford and Clay county charges for possession of cocaine,



D. Drake

aggravated assault and criminal mischief with property damage. He is also serving five-year sentences from Collier County for possession of a controlled substance, aggravated assault, grand theft, grand theft of a firearm and committing a felony while in possession of a firearm. His current release date is April 6, 2022.

Police: man leased Xbox, then pawned it

Bradford County

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Managing Editor

Howard Jermaine Jonas, 29, of Starke was arrested March 15 by Starke police for fraud and by Bradford deputies for possession of cocaine and selling cocaine.

According to a Starke police report, Sergeant Paul King responded to a May 8, 2017 complaint from Rent-A-Center that the defendant failed to return a leased television, soundbar and Xbox.

Store personnel told King that Jonas was 33 days past due, and that they visited his home, left phone messages and sent certified mail in order to retrieve the property.

"I conducted a check...and found that the suspect pawned an Xbox belonging to Rent-A-Center on 05-11-17 for \$50," King wrote in the report.

The television and soundbar was valued at \$2,509.20.

Crash victim runs from lawman

Bradford County

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Managing Editor

Michael Joseph Meng, 35, of Hampton was arrested by Bradford deputies for leaving the scene of a crash with property damage and resisting an officer without violence.

According to an arrest report, Deputy Dalton Sumner was responding to a single-vehicle, roll-over traffic crash on U.S. Highway 301 near Lazenby Equipment Sales when he made contact with the defendant.

"Michael was very disoriented," Sumner wrote. "I instructed Michael to have a seat in the rear of my patrol vehicle until medical personnel arrived."

Instead, the defendant ran away, north along the road. Sumner caught the man after a short foot pursuit. Meng refused medical treatment.

In other Bradford County arrests:

Cody Kent Barnett, 21, of Starke was arrested March 18 by Starke police for a probation violation.

Glenn Andrew Griffis, 32, of Lake Butler was arrested March 19 by Bradford deputies for battery.

Dontavius Breon Hampton, 25, of Jasper was arrested March 16 by Bradford deputies for driving with a revoked or suspended license.

Mikari Deon Harrison, 21, of Wildwood was arrested March 19 by Bradford deputies for larceny.

E a r l Johnson, 25, of Lawtey was

See CRIME, 3B



J. Bowman



H. Jonas



M. Meng

Stegall seeking Lake Butler seat

Hi, my name is David B Stegall, and I am announcing my intent to run for Lake Butler City Commission, Seat 4.

I was born in Ohio, and my family moved to Union County in the early 1980's at which time I attended Lake Butler Elementary School through the 3rd grade. Afterwards, my family relocated to Starke where I attended Starke Elementary, Bradford Middle, and then graduated from Bradford High in 1994. In 1996, I began my career with Draw-Tite trailer hitch Company, now known as Horizon Global, as a Customer Service Representative. In 2007, I became the Distribution Center Manager for our Starke facility, which covers the southeastern region of the United States.

In 2010, I had an opportunity to relocate back to Union County, in Lake Butler. Previously, I had been a resident of Lawtey, Florida, where I was involved in numerous community events. Additionally, I had created a social media community page for Lawtey. Prior to moving, I turned over the Lawtey Community Page to the City of Lawtey. In October 2010, after settling back in Lake Butler, I launched the Lake Butler Community Page because I found that such a page would be a benefit to our area.

Since launching the Lake Butler Community Page in 2010, I have felt great pride in our community and enjoy managing the page. In addition, I have worked with numerous



Stegall

individuals within our community to help keep everyone informed on events, news tidbits and more. The Lake Butler Community Page consists of the original Facebook page, with over 6,600 followers, as well as a website. I am also involved in various area events, such as our annual 4th of July Celebration, Farm Share and others. I work well with the City of Lake Butler, the Town of Worthington Springs and the Town of Raiford in helping to promote events held in each respective community. I am also an avid supporter of the Union County School District and assist in sharing school news, as well as recognize honor roll students through the Lake Butler Community Page.

I believe that my enthusiasm and commitment to the community would benefit me well and makes me a good fit to run for City Commissioner, Seat 4 of Lake Butler. As a citizen, I am active in promoting our community, helping to keep our citizens informed, and

have developed an excellent relationship with the leaders of Worthington Springs and Raiford.

If I am elected as your Lake Butler City Commissioner, I promise to continue to maintain my belief in open government and ensure the citizens are kept up to date on important issues. I will be a city commissioner that you can contact and talk to about your concerns. My phone number and email address will be made readily available. In addition, I will have a Facebook page specifically for this campaign and office, so anyone can reach out to me and discuss their issues. I believe in fiscal responsibility. I will work to ensure that our city budget is maintained, and your tax dollars are spent wisely. Unlike other commissioners, if elected I understand the importance of managing our city and will be happy to attend regular commissioner meetings as well as any special meetings we deem necessary for the proper function of the City of Lake Butler. As a proud resident of Lake Butler, and adamant supporter of our community, I can assure you that if elected, I will do my best to represent all the citizens and be your voice on the Lake Butler City Commission.

It is my hope that you will consider electing me as your City Commissioner for Seat 4.

Thank you,
David B Stegall



Miss Union County High School, Emily O'Neal, Junior Miss Lake Butler, Reagan Robinson and Miss Bradford-Union Strawberry Princess, Brooklyn Cunningham were on hand to help with the auction.

LUAU

Continued from 1B

Johnson, Matthew Beighley, Timber Underhill, Luke Harris and Shamar Highland. David Stegall and Brady Stevenson were on hand to help fetch and carry and Shane Collins helped out with the sound system. Miss Union County High School Emily O'Neil, Strawberry Princess Brooklyn Cunningham and Miss Lake Butler Princess Regan Robinson were on hand to help out with the 50/50 ticket sales and to display and carry the live auction items so they could be seen by all. David Harris started out the auction as auctioneer, and then his son Lake took over and handled the rest.

The Lake Butler Rotary Club wishes to express its heartfelt thanks to all the donors of items for the auction, as well as all of the generous buyers and those who simply came to eat and support their community.

There is an old Irish blessing, "May you never forget what is worth remembering or remember what is best forgotten." The Rotarians Ninth Annual Hawaiian Luau is worth remembering!



Lake Butler Rotary Club President Ted Barber takes a moment to consider doing the hula, but his partner was uncooperative.

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Spring is Here, Let's Clean Up Lake Butler!

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Editor

Spring is now here, having arrived March 20, and it is the time of year for Spring cleaning and a general rearranging to get ready for the outdoor lifestyle of the upcoming warmer months. As usual, the city of Lake Butler is willing to help residents show their pride in their community and keeping it clean by offering a little help to residents in the month of April.

April is Spring Beautification Month in the city and several services are being offered to residents that are not normally available. During the month of April, the city will offer removal of extra trash and debris at no additional cost to residents. This will allow residents to clean out accumulated clutter,

work in their yard and even work on their homes without worrying about what they will do with the pile of debris they will create.

Spring is also a great time to plant trees and flowers and even to paint the trim on your house, or the entire house for that matter. The city wishes to encourage all of its residents to show their pride in their city and work to beautify it.

In addition to the extra trash pick-up, the city will further assist residents by hauling off old, broken-down and junk cars from their property free of charge.

For more information, or to schedule these special services, please call Lake Butler City Hall at 386-496-3401. More information can be found on the city's website at www.cityoflakebutler.org.

LEGALS

UCT Legals 3/22/18

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO: 17000023CAAXMX FIRST FEDERAL BANK OF FLORIDA, Plaintiff,

vs. JOHN B. KENT; CHRISTINA M. KENT A/K/A CHRISTINA MICHELLE KENT A/K/A CHRISTINA MICHELLE RAULERSON; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF CHRISTINA M. KENT A/K/A CHRISTINA MICHELLE KENT A/K/A CHRISTINA MICHELLE RAULERSON; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION #1; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION #2, Defendant(s).

CLERK'S NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS GIVEN that, in accordance with the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on February 13, 2018 in the above-styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash on April 26, 2018 at 11:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time (EST) at the Front Lobby, Union County Courthouse, 55 W. Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida 32054.

LOT 43, HIDDEN OAKS SUBDIVISION, PHASE 2, AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 36 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF UNION COUNTY FLORIDA.

Property Address: 15266 SW 94TH CIRCLE, LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054 ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.

Dated: March 13, 2018.

KELLIE HENDRICKS CONNELL, CLERK UNION COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT By: Crystal Norman Deputy Clerk

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at (352) 337-6237, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance. If you are hearing or voice impaired, please call 711. If you are deaf or hard of hearing and require an ASL interpreter or an assisted listening device to participate in a proceeding, please contact Court Interpreting at interpreter@circuit8.org MICHELLE A. DELEON, ESQUIRE QUINTAIROS, PRIETO, WOOD & BOYER, P.A., 255 SOUTH ORANGE AVENUE, SUITE 900 ORLANDO, FL 32801 SERVICECOPIES@QPWBLAW.COM ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF 3/15 2tchg 3/22-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO: 02-2018-CP-0007 IN RE: The Estate of: JOHN NATHAN BURNSD, SR.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of JOHN NATHAN BURNSD, SR., deceased. File Number 02-2018-CP-0007, is pending in the Circuit Court for Union County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida 32054. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is March 15, 2018. LAUREN E. MALONEY FRANK E. MALONEY, JR., Esquire Attorney for Personal Representative 445 East Macclennay Avenue Macclennay, FL 32063 (904) 259-3155 Florida Bar No.: 142990

3/15 2tchg 3/22-UCT

NOTICE

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build a 260-foot self-support communications tower at the approx. vicinity of SW 150th Loop, Lake Butler, Union County, FL 32054. Public comments regarding

potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, Ana Rodriguez, 1051 Winderley Pl, Ste 201, Maitland, FL 32751, 407-660-7840 a.rodriguez@trileaf.com. 3/22 1tchg-UCT

NOTICE

PROJECT: County Road 199 Widening, Milling, and Resurfacing Union County, Florida Project No.: 21200-022-01 OWNER: Union County Board of County Commissioners 15 NE 1st Street Lake Butler, Florida 32054

ENGINEER: Jones Edmunds & Associates, Inc. 730 NE Waldo Road Gainesville, Florida 32641 Telephone: (352) 377-5821 bids@jonesedmunds.com

1.0 WORK DESCRIPTION

The Project is located in Lake Butler, Union County, Florida. The Work is generally described as furnishing all labor, materials, equipment, tools, transportation, services, and incidentals and performing all work necessary to provide the Owner with roadway improvements to County Road 199 from State Road 16 to County Road 125, approximately 4.1 miles. The roadway improvements include widening, milling, and resurfacing the existing roadway as shown on the Drawings; performing earthwork associated with the drainage improvements; placing reinforced concrete pipe; and providing pavement striping, signage, seeding, sodding, and maintenance of traffic. All work shall be in accordance with the Construction Drawings, Specifications, and Contract Documents.

2.0 RECEIPT OF BIDS

The project will advertise on Thursday, March 22, 2018, and Thursday March 29, 2018 in the Union County Times. Bidding and Contract Documents may be examined at the Union County Board of County Commissioners' office. To ensure that Bidders receive all addenda and or clarifications to the Bidding Documents in a timely manner, it is mandatory that all bidders obtain at least one set of Bidding Documents from the Engineer to be eligible to bid on this project. Addenda will be issued via email unless the Bidder requests otherwise. Copies of the documents may be obtained at the Engineer's office for \$100.00 per set, payable by check only, which constitutes the cost for reproduction and handling. Checks shall be payable to the Engineer. Payment is non-refundable. Email bids@jonesedmunds.com for further details to obtain a set of Contract Documents.

Bids shall be completed on the enclosed Bid Form as set forth in the Instructions to Bidders and otherwise be in compliance with the Bidding Documents. Sealed bids will be received at Union County Board of County Commissioners' office located at 15 NE 1st Street, Lake Butler, Florida 32054, until 10:00 am (local time) on Friday, April 6, 2018, at which time and place all bids will be opened. Any Bids received after the specified time and date will not be considered.

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on Monday, April 2, 2018 at 10:00 AM (local time) at the Union County Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room located at 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida 32054. Only prospective bidders on the Engineer's plan holders list may submit a bid. Contractors shall be pre-qualified with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the work associated with this project. For further information or clarification, email bids@jonesedmunds.com. 3/22 2tchg 3/29-UCT

LEGAL NOTICE

UNION COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD PUBLIC WORKSHOP

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council announces a public workshop to which all persons are invited. DATE AND TIME: April 10, 2018 at 1:15 p.m. PLACE: Union County Transportation Facility located at 255 SW 9th Avenue, Lake Butler, Florida. GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: To conduct a public workshop for the purpose of receiving public comment relating to the local transportation services provided under Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program in Union County. A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603. Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop is asked to advise the agency at least 2 business days

before the workshop by contacting 352.955.2200. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800. 955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800. 955.8770 (Voice). If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the workshop, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence from which the appeal is to be issued. 3/22 1tchg-UCT

LEGAL NOTICE

UNION COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council announces a business meeting to which all persons are invited. DATE AND TIME: April 10, 2018 at 1:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter PLACE: Union County Transportation Facility located at 255 SW 9th Avenue, Lake Butler, Florida. GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: To conduct the regular business of the Union County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603. Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting is asked to advise the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800. 955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800. 955.8770 (Voice). If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence from which the appeal is to be issued. 3/22 1tchg-UCT

NOTICE

Call for Request for Proposals (RFP) Landfill Gas-to-Energy Project RFP # 18-01

The New River Solid Waste Association (NRSWA) is issuing this Request for Proposal (RFP) for developing a landfill gas to compressed natural gas (LFG-to-CNG) project at the New River Regional Landfill (NRRL), an active municipal solid waste landfill in Union County, Florida. The Vendor shall be qualified to convert landfill gas to CNG. The selected Vendor shall be required to assume full responsibility for all services offered in their proposal. A pre-proposal meeting and site tour will be held on Wednesday, March 28, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) at the NRRL. Attendance is strongly encouraged but not mandatory. NRRL is located 2.5 miles north of Raiford, Florida on State Road 121 in Union County, Florida. RFP packages can be picked up at the NRRL Administration Office located at 24276 NE 157th Street, Raiford, Florida 32083 or can be distributed upon request via email. Completed RFP packages shall be mailed to the NRSWA, P.O. Box 647, Raiford, Florida 32083-0647 or delivered to the NRRL Administration Office. After the RFP opening, the packages will be examined for completeness and preserved in the custody of the Executive Director. The NRSWA reserves the right to reject any or all RFP responses or a portion thereof for any reason. Any RFP responses received after the specified time and date will not be considered. Contact the NRSWA office at 386-431-1000 for questions concerning the RFP submittal. The RFP submittal DEADLINE is Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. (Eastern Time). 3/22 1tchg-UCT

UNION COUNTY JUDGE'S RACE WILL NOT APPEAR ON BALLOT IN THE FALL

If a judge resigns before the term expires when the seat is up for election and the Governor accepts resignation before the qualifying period begins, vacancy occurs on date of acceptance of the resignation and seat is to be filled by appointment. Judge Bayer's resignation was accepted on Friday, March 16, 2018 and directed to the Eight Judicial Nominating Commission for the purpose of selecting and submitting to the Governor six names of qualified lawyers for this appointment. The Commission's deadline for completion of this undertaking is Tuesday, May 15, 2018. Anyone interested should submit an application for appointment to Governors Appointments Office. If you have any questions please contact me at 496-2236. Deborah Osborne Supervisor of Elections Union County, Florida. 3/22 1tchg-UCT

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CRIME

Continued from 2B

arrested March 19 by Bradford deputies for a probation violation.

Raymond Leon Jordan, 20, of Tampa was arrested March 15 by Lawtey police for possession of drug equipment, possession of marijuana and distributing marijuana.

Antonio Antwan Lott, 25, of Starke was arrested March 18 by Starke police for larceny.



D. Marchak

David Gilbert Marchak, 26, of Keystone Heights was arrested March 18 by Bradford deputies for battery, false imprisonment, criminal mischief and obstructing justice.

According to an arrest report by Deputy Dalton Sumner, the defendant pushed a Brooker woman to the ground, and held her against her will in her bedroom for two hours. The victim also said the defendant broke her mobile phone while she was trying to call law enforcement.

Joshua Bruce Norris, 29, of Lawtey was arrested March 15 by Starke police for driving with a revoked or suspended license and possession of marijuana.

Jessica Lynette Padelford, 29, of Lawtey was arrested March 14 by Bradford deputies for driving with a revoked or suspended license.

Teyona Cierra Lashay Powell, 51, of Waycross, Georgia was arrested March 13 by Bradford deputies for an out-of-county warrant.

Donnell Nathaniel Robinson, 45, of Starke was arrested March 18 by Starke police for disorderly intoxication.

Michael Raymond Slone, 57, was arrested March 17 by Bradford deputies for being an out-of-state fugitive.

Brandon A. Stanton, 28, of Starke was arrested March 15 by Bradford deputies for an out-of-county warrant.

James Adarius Strong, 28, of Lawtey was arrested March 14 by Bradford deputies for an out-of-county warrant.

Leland Carlie Watson, 63, of Starke was arrested March 12 by Bradford deputies for DUI.

Tonnie Lee Williams, 52, was arrested March 13 by Starke police for an out-of-county warrant.

Union County man awarded military service medal



Pictured is Pitmon (center) with the governor. Photo: Renai Pitmon - Pitmon Photography.

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Managing Editor

Carroll C. Pitmon II of Providence was one of 211 veterans awarded the medal on March 13 by Gov. Rick Scott.

During the ceremony at the National Guard Armory on Normandy Boulevard, Scott also signed two bills into law.

House Bill 29 reduces professional licensing fees and requirements for certain military members, veterans and their spouses, and House Bill 75 authorizes state colleges to waive student fees for active-duty military service members.

Pitmon joined the Army in 1967 and eventually ended up in Viet Nam in March 1968. He was assigned to the 1st Aviation, 121st Assault Helicopter Battalion, and was injured by an explosion in September 1968. He was sent to an Army hospital in Japan, and later transferred back to Fort Polk

in Louisiana where he served out the remainder of his three-year enlistment.

After leaving the Army, he worked for 12 years as a Deputy Sheriff in Saint Landry Parish in Opelousas, Louisiana.

He then moved to Gainesville, where most of his family lived, and then onto Lake Butler in early 1990.

Pitmon worked for The State of Florida in Gainesville and then for the Department of Corrections' Reception and Medical Center in Lake Butler where he completed 25 years as a correctional officer sergeant in 2008.

"I also worked as a correctional officer for then-Sheriff Jerry Whitehead for approximately four years," he said, "until my retirement from FDOC in 2008."

"I built a home in Providence," he added, "along with my wife: Renai, in 2004 and have enjoyed retirement from there ever since."

REVIVAL

Crossroads to Victory Church

J.C. Lauramore

March 25-28

6:00pm on 25th, 7:00pm on 26-28th

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School District honors outstanding performers



Union County Teachers of the Year. Pictured are: Superintendent Carlton Faulk, Lake Butler Elementary School Principal Marcie Tucker, LBES Teacher of the Year, Dodie Sapp, Lake Butler Middle School Principal Carolyn Parrish (who accepted the award for LBMS Teacher of the Year Robbie Best), Union County High School and Union School District Teacher of the Year Kenneth North and UCHS Principal Mike Ripplinger.



School Related Employees of the Year. Pictured are: Superintendent Carlton Faulk, Christie Whitehead, District Office SRE Brenda Croft, Lake Butler Middle School Principal Carolyn Parrish, Lake Butler Elementary School Principal Marcie Tucker, LBES and District SRE Huldah Webster, Union County High School SRE Robin Southern, USHS Principal Mike Ripplinger, Transportation SRE Tony Raish, Transportation Director Mike Pittman and Tiger's Den SRE Sherry Southwell. Not pictured: Maintenance SRE Blake Jones.



Union County High Impact Teachers – Superintendent Carlton Faulk, Lee Clark, Traci Stidham, Cristi Whitehead and Elise Worthington. Not Pictured: Mary Hughes.

Outstanding School Volunteers of the Year at Lake Butler Elementary School: Superintendent Carlton Faulk, Youth Volunteer of the Year, Kaylie Whitehead, Adult Volunteer of the Year, Debbie Asbury and Senior Volunteer of the Year, Daryl Brewer.



Union County High School Volunteers of the Year - Superintendent Carlton Faulk, UCHS Band Director Kellie Dorsey, Adult Volunteer of the Year, Joe Falk, Youth Volunteer of the Year, Kale Oden and UCHS Principal Mike Ripplinger.



Lake Butler Middle School Outstanding Volunteers of the Year - Superintendent Carlton Faulk, LBMS Adult and District Volunteer of the Year, Pepper Schiblehut, LBMS Principal Carolyn Parrish and LBMS Senior and District Volunteers of the Year, Alvin and Geraldine Griffis. Not pictured: LBMS Youth and District Volunteer of the Year, Brianna Griffis.

UNION COUNTY TIMES
Wishes you and your family a Happy Easter!

ETC. Continued from 1B

or chair for your comfort. Light refreshments will be provided. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

program on March 22 and Easter Egg-Citement on March 29. April programs will begin on April 5 with Opposed Opposites. For more information about these programs or other offerings at the library please call 386-496-3432 or visit the library's website at www.unioncountypubliclibrary.org.

More Fun at the Library

The Union County Public Library will be hosting Makerspace After-School Programs on the first and third Thursday of each month. Programs will feature STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) themes. Programs will run from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. each session. Adult programs are continuing in the new year, on the second Tuesday of each month. Preschool Storytime continues on Thursdays at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Super Senses will be the

VFW Post 10082 Offers Special Bingo Jackpot

The VFW Post 10082, located off S.R. 231 in Lake Butler, invites anyone who is 18 or older to come out and play Bingo on Thursdays at 7 p.m. at the post. The jackpot is \$100. For info please call Barbara Fischer at 904-263-0647. Everyone is encouraged to come on out and play.

JUDGE Continued from 1B

Bayer's resignation was accepted March 16 and now the Eighth Judicial Nominating Commission is charged with selecting and submitting six names of qualified lawyers to the governor for the position. Interested lawyers may submit an application to the Governors Appointments Office to place their name into consideration by the committee. The commission's deadline for compiling their list of six is May 15, 2018.

REGIONAL NEWS

NEWS FROM BRADFORD COUNTY, UNION COUNTY AND THE LAKE REGION

FEATURES
CRIME
SOCIALS
OBITUARIES
EDITORIAL

UF coach talks of soccer and success at Starke Rotary

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Your business may not seem like they have anything in common with a sports program at a major university, but the principles that equate to success can be the same.

That was a point of emphasis for University of Florida head soccer coach Becky Burleigh, who was the featured guest at the Feb. 28 Rotary Club of Starke luncheon. She told club members she was really no different from them.

"If you're in the people business, it doesn't matter if you're playing soccer or if you're selling cars," she said. "You're still managing people."

Like those in business, Burleigh is trying to reach a quota. It's just that hers is measured in number of wins. The real question is: What is the driving force behind achieving that quota? People.

Burleigh said there are only so many ways she can coach a 4-3-3 formation. It is what it is. People, though, are different, so the key is how well she and her staff coach players who are unique as individuals.

Even her players realize there is more to success than simply getting coached in X's and O's, which Burleigh said coaches probably spend 90 percent of their time on. Before every season, each UF player is asked

to write down three things that could prevent the team from maximizing its potential. None of the answers are things like not scoring enough goals or not being able to defend at a high level. Instead, players write things such as lack of focus, lack of commitment and selfishness.

"The stuff we're spending 90 percent of the time on is not something they think is going to hold us back from reaching our potential," Burleigh said.

Burleigh and her fellow coaches challenge themselves to figure out how to adapt their coaching to addressing what players say are the things that will prohibit success.

"That, to me, has been a real shift in my coaching and my focus in coaching," Burleigh said. "We spend a lot more time on things like resilience and honesty — being able to give honest feedback."

Today's players rely on text messaging as their main means of communicating, Burleigh said, explaining that because of that, players never have face-to-face dialogue with others in times of conflict.

"Well, sport is conflict," Burleigh said. "Every minute of the game, you are in conflict. How are you dealing with adverse situations with your own teammates? How are you dealing with adverse situations with the opposition?"

"If we don't practice things like resilience, we're not going to be very good at it."

Burleigh described a drill she has players participate in where they're asked to score a certain number of goals in a certain amount of time. It's set up so it's pretty much impossible for anyone to achieve the stated goal. Instead, coaches are watching how players react when they can't successfully meet the goal. "When they start getting

frustrated with the people who are serving balls in, or they start rushing things, or they get angry and their communication goes bad — how do we deal with those things? It's made a huge difference, I think, in our team's ability to perform under pressure," Burleigh said.

Spring season and leadership training

Though soccer is a fall sport, the Gators are currently in the midst of their spring season.

"What we use the spring season for is a chance to get

everybody playing time and to work on some fundamentals," Burleigh said. The Gators play other schools in the spring, making it unlike

See BURLEIGH, 2B



Starke Rotary President Mike Ricker (left) is pictured with University of Florida soccer coach Becky Burleigh. Burleigh spoke at the club's Feb. 28 meeting, discussing not only soccer and other UF athletics, but the keys to succeeding and managing people, whether they be players or employees.

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BHS senior Johns named a Woman of Promise

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

A lot of people's natural tendency is to ignore an incoming call when they don't recognize the number, but Bradford High School senior Grace Johns decided to answer such a call and got quite the pleasant surprise when Santa Fe College President Jackson Sasser told her she was to be honored this year as one of the school's Women of Promise.

Needless to say, Johns was taken aback, not knowing she had even been nominated for the award.

"I had no idea," she said. "I was totally surprised."

March is Women's History Month. Santa Fe College annually honors women in Bradford and Alachua counties as Women of Distinction in regard to their contributions to their communities. The school also recognizes Women of Promise, young women (ages 16-21) identified as following in the footsteps of the Women of Distinction.

Mary Powell of Starke and Community State Bank nominated Johns.

"I believe Grace is a young lady Bradford County can be proud to claim," Powell said. "Who knows? With her drive, she may even be president of the United States one day."

Maybe so, since Johns has been involved in student government her entire four years at BHS — she was class senator her freshman year and has been class president as a sophomore, junior and senior — but she is involved in a variety of activities, which she believes helped her be named a Woman of Promise.

Still, she admitted to feeling she's done nothing when she compared herself to those who are being honored this year as

Women of Distinction, including Beverly Hardy and Brandi Noegel of Starke and Bradford County native Stacy Scott. As she had the opportunity to attend a luncheon with those women and hear about their lives, Johns said her thought was, "Oh, I'm just a high school student that's involved."

However, she wants to one day be able to say she's done the things those women have done.

"That is what I want to do," Johns said. "I want to help people as much as they do."

Community involvement began at early age

Powell, who is friends with Johns' grandmother, Linda Johns, learned that Johns began helping people at an early age.

"I would listen to the fun stories about Grace working with her Granny at the Shands Hospital Auxiliary and helping push the cart when the cart was twice her size," Powell said.

As Johns grew older, Powell began having more direct interactions with her. Powell, who is a member of Altrusa International of Starke, has watched Johns assist the club with several of its events, such as its Kentucky Derby party.

"I really had more time to talk with Grace at this event," Powell said. "Grace then started coming into the bank, looking for a donation or seeking an interview, or setting up a picture for the BHS yearbook. I really began to realize how involved she was in so many things."

Besides student government, Johns has been active with the BHS yearbook staff and has been a member of the National Honor Society and Educational Talent

Search.

One of the things Johns is really passionate about is Students Working Against Tobacco. She has been a member of the organization throughout her time at BHS, although as a freshman, she didn't realize just how much she would come to love being a member. Her thinking at the time was, "Oh, I'll do it. It'll be good for my college application."

"Then I actually found that I really enjoyed it," Johns said. "I continued to do it. I'm actually secretary of our SWAT club right now."

Through SWAT, Johns was able to speak before the Florida Legislature as well as take a trip to Washington, D.C., recently to be a part of Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America's 28th National Leadership Forum. The forum provides participants opportunities to learn about strategies to combat substance abuse and hear from prevention experts, federal administrators and policymakers.

It's one thing to be one of 15 in SWAT at BHS, but quite another to be among thousands who share the goal of combatting tobacco, alcohol and drug abuse.

"It's very eye opening to see how many people are trying to prevent the same thing as you," Johns said.

Gaining confidence

Being part of such a crowd of people of all ages, like she was at the CADCA National Leadership Forum, would have been quite intimidating to Johns at one time, but another activity she's been involved in has helped her in that regard. She began competing in pageants her sophomore year and currently holds the titles of Miss BHS and Miss Bradford Fest.

Johns said she was "shy beyond

belief" and would talk to only her friends and family. Even though she would have normally balked at the idea of standing on stage in front of a crowd, she decided to compete in Teen Miss Bradford Fest in 2016. Participants weren't required to perform a talent, so Johns thought maybe it wouldn't be so bad.

"I actually won it," she said. "I was like, 'Wow. I think I actually like this.'"

Each pageant she participated in became easier. Johns said she's now better at public speaking and more comfortable interacting with others.

"I found that my confidence has soared," she said.

Honored by and educated by SFC

Johns' Woman of Promise honor comes from a school she's familiar with, having been dual enrolled at Santa Fe since her freshman year. The initial appeal of dual enrolling was to take college courses for free, Johns said, but the overall experience has been enjoyable, such as meeting fellow students of all ages and taking courses in areas that aren't offered at BHS, such as psychology.

"I think it's really great," Johns said of Santa Fe College having a branch in Starke. "I think it provides opportunities for kids, especially kids who didn't think they could go to college. It's a huge help. Even if you're just getting a year done that you didn't have to pay for, it's a huge help in getting even just an AA degree."

After graduating from BHS, Johns plans to continue attending Santa Fe to get her AA degree. She'd then like to transfer to the University of Florida, major in political science or psychology and then attend law school.



Grace Johns, a senior at Bradford High School, has been named a Santa Fe College Woman of Promise. She is the daughter of Kevin and Amie Johns. Photo by Matt Stamey, Santa Fe College.

Johns will be recognized at a luncheon on Tuesday, March 27, at the Hilton UF Conference Center along with fellow Woman of Promise Victoria Maggard and Women of Distinction Patsy Blount, Beverly Hardy, Brandi Noegel and Stacy Scott.

Powell will be in attendance, too, watching her successful nominee.

"She is active and ambitious, intelligent and self-motivated," Powell said. "I thought she would be the perfect candidate. Apparently, Dr. Sasser was impressed as well."

Johns likes the idea of Santa Fe honoring women every

March. Specifically, she likes the idea of honoring women who have forged their own paths in life. Johns said females face peer pressure in high school to act a certain way or to look a certain way, but she has discovered it's important to be yourself.

The Woman of Distinction honorees, she said, realized the same thing.

"By highlighting these women that have been absolutely themselves and have accomplished great things — I think it's something that definitely needs to continue," Johns said.

BURLEIGH Continued from 1B

the football team's spring, which concludes with the Orange and Blue intersquad game.

"I don't know how the football

team does that," Burleigh said. "I don't know how motivated our team would be to just play ourselves all the time."

Burleigh said her players this spring have been engaged, explaining how they've committed themselves to a leadership-training program

offered on Mondays at 7 a.m. Though voluntary, approximately 17 players have been attending.

"That's almost three-quarters of our team at this point that are involved in that," Burleigh said. "That's really exciting to see."

At a recent leadership event, Burleigh said players were asked what gets in the way of them holding each other accountable. Some of the responses centered on the unwillingness to ask of others what you yourself aren't doing.

"It generated a lot of really interesting conversation," Burleigh said, "but I think what came out of that conversation was if you want to be a leader — whether that's me as a coach, whether that's a player that's a captain — you have to be impeccable with modeling the standards of your particular organization. If you're not, it's pretty difficult. You will lose credibility as a leader by not modeling those things."

"Nobody's perfect. We're not expecting perfection, but when you don't meet those standards, are you willing to stand up and raise your hand and say, 'Today I didn't meet that standard, but I'm going to come back tomorrow and work at it?'"

Good time of year for the Gators

Burleigh talked about some



Becky Burleigh

"If you're in the people business, it doesn't matter if you're playing soccer or if you're selling cars. You're still managing people."

of the UF sports that are being played right now, saying, "It's just crazy how good they spring sports are. It seems like it's like this every year, too. You can just go down the line."

She mentioned the baseball team's number-one ranking coming off a national championship last year and the fact the softball team is always ranked at or near the top. Burleigh encouraged people to go to a softball game to watch pitcher Kelly Barnhill, who already has two no-hitters and one perfect game this season.

"This is a woman who is just preeminent in her sport," Burleigh said.

The gymnastics team is "ridiculous" this year, Burleigh said, adding that she thinks the team will continue to excel despite the loss of senior All-American Kennedy Baker to a season-ending Achilles injury.

"They are so deep they have a really good chance of making a run at the national championship this year," Burleigh said.

Some who follow the women's tennis team may have wondered what was going on after a couple of losses, but Burleigh said not to worry about Roland Thornqvist's defending national-championship squad.

"We've got like the best coach in the country," Burleigh said. "We start three freshmen in the starting six. He's coaching them up. They just beat Stanford last week. They are on their way."

Burleigh said the men's tennis team is good this year, but next year the program brings in an

amazing recruiting class. She also spoke highly of head coach Bryan Shelton, who she said would be a great speaker for the Rotary Club. Burleigh described him as a great human being and one of the best men she knows.

"I want to spend more time with Bryan because I think he'll make me a better person," she said. "He's just amazing."

Thankful for Rotary

The first thing Burleigh said when she was introduced was how Rotary holds a special place in her heart. Thanks to Rotary, she was able to follow through on her desire to go to college.

Burleigh said she applied for every scholarship she could while in high school in Tarpon Springs, which has a large population of Greek Americans. She interviewed for one of the scholarships she applied for,

with the woman conducting the interview asking her how long she'd been a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. When Burleigh replied she wasn't a member, she was told she wasn't eligible for the scholarship.

"I even applied for scholarships I didn't know I couldn't get," she said.

She could and did receive a Rotary scholarship, which was the largest one she received from her community, helping her get to Methodist College in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

"It was supposed to be a one-year scholarship, but they renewed for four years," Burleigh said. "Literally, I could not have gone away to college without the Rotary Club scholarship."

And if she hadn't gone to college and played soccer, she wouldn't be the coach at UF today.

"I know that people tell you all the time they appreciate how you invest in their communities, but that's just a real-life example for me," Burleigh said, adding, "The little things that you all do make a huge difference."

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

Becky Burleigh

- 23 seasons at UF
- Coached Berry (Georgia) College for five seasons (1989-93)
- Record: 407-110-32 at UF (489-133-38 overall)
- Won the national championship in her fourth year (1998) at UF
- Two NCAA College Cup appearances (1998, 2001)
- 21 NCAA Championships' berths (1996-2001; 2003-17)
- 14 SEC team titles (1996-2001; 2006-10; 2012-13; 2015)
- 12 SEC Tournament titles (1996-2001, 2004; 2007; 2010; 2012; 2015-16)
- Four-year letter winner at Methodist College in Fayetteville, North Carolina
- MVP as Methodist College goalkeeper her senior season
- Graduated Magna Cum Laude from Methodist College in 1989
- 1999 Methodist University Athletic Hall of Fame inductee
- 2015 USA South Hall of Fame inductee

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Florida's first highway built through Melrose

Former Monitor editor chronicles beginning of route

BY JAMES WILLIAMS
Special to the Telegraph

This article is an excerpt from a forthcoming book, "Four Florida Roads," by James Williams, a former Lake Region Monitor Editor. As the title suggests, the book covers the history and impact of Bellamy Road, The Tamiami Trail, U.S. 301 and I-95. Williams hopes to have the book available in print and/or digital by the end of this year.

The Pensacola-to-St.-Augustine Road was the first U.S. Federal highway across Florida and among the first 20 Federal roads built anywhere.

History divided it into two parts: Pensacola to the west bank of the Ocklockonee River, built by U.S. Army soldiers under the direction of Capt. Daniel E. Burch, with unsatisfactory help from two civilian contractors.

The second part stretched from the east bank of the Ocklockonee to St. Augustine. This was built by plantation owner John Jack Bellamy and his crew of slaves, also under the supervision of Capt. Burch. In some parts of Florida—but

through Alachua County, because so much of the first attempt went through marshy territory."

Burch

In 1823, 27-year-old Capt. Daniel E. Burch was an assistant quartermaster, and had been assigned to outposts in and around North Florida, an area he already knew well. He served the Quartermaster General of the U.S. Army, Thomas S. Jessup in Washington. Military post attendance records show he was sent to numerous posts in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, even Oklahoma within 5 years before or just after completing the Pensacola-St. Augustine Road.

Burch had just arrived at Cantonment Clinch in Pensacola around July, 1823, when Jessup began to ask him to estimate the cost of—and then to build—"military communications." These could be waterways or other modes, but were usually roads.

Burch built a number of them; one ran from Pensacola to Barrancas or Fort Barrancas, about 8.5 miles distance. Another

rudimentary bridges across marshy spots or creeks. An Cantonment Clinch attendance roster marks one private as "Died on the road." Alabama lore has it he was bitten by a rattlesnake.

While Burch was building those roads, Acting Military Territorial Governor, Gen. Walton wrote to Secretary of War John Calhoun, requesting an estimate of the cost of opening a cross-peninsula road from Pensacola to St. Augustine. Walton's request for an estimate worked its way down to Burch.

The captain replied that \$6,839 would be needed to pay soldiers \$.15 extra pay per day; and an additional \$924 was necessary for their "Do Gill of Whiskey;" \$4,000 would be necessary for teams to accompany the soldiers and \$7,000 for "other supplies to different points of deposit on the route." This totaled \$18,854, the first of several Pensacola-St. Augustine estimates Burch would make.

On June 3, 1823, Burch wrote to Jessup, that combat Cols. Fenwick and Brooke had declined to accept the order to complete a survey of the proposed cross-Florida road; saying it was a task for administrators of lower rank—such as Burch himself.

"I believe I could venture to engage to mark out the road as far as Ocheese in a very short time," Burch wrote to Jessup. "If I should receive your orders to do so, provided however, that my health and strength be fully re-established, which will certainly be the case, by October next or never. I am daily gaining strength and the dropsical symptoms which have so long afflicted me are fast disappearing." According to online medical sources, dropsy was an accumulation of fluids in parts of the body, sometimes leading to congestive heart failure. It was often a recovery side effect of malaria.

The Survey

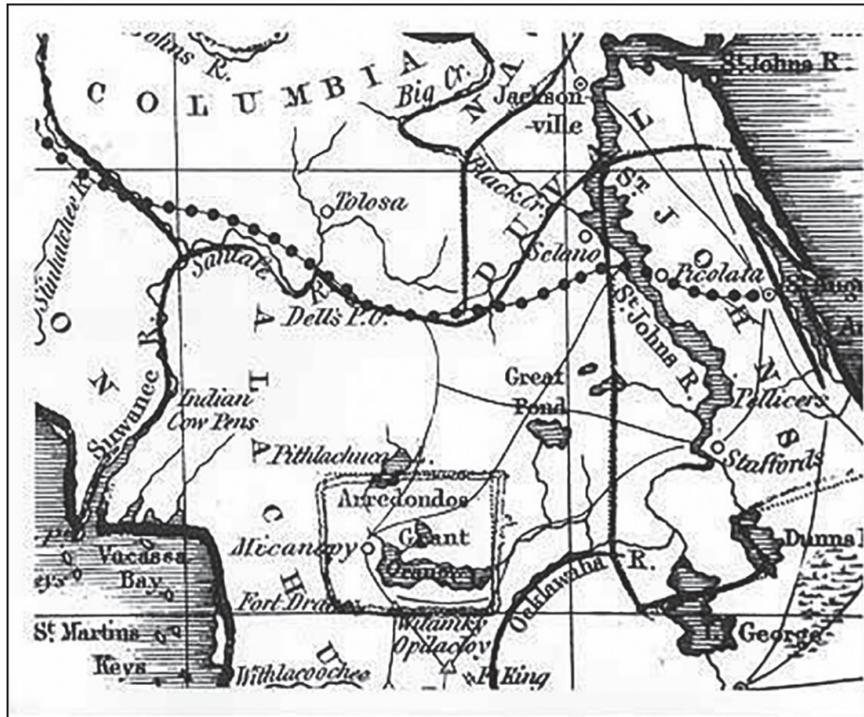
A Pensacola newspaper reported: "Captain Burch of the Quartermaster's Department accompanied by Lieuts. Allen and Triplett and about 20 privates of the 4th Reg. of the U.S. Infantry set out on Thursday last, Oct. 21 (1823) to explore and survey the contemplated road from this city to St. Augustine."

The detail got off to an embarrassing start. Burch hired an Indian guide in Pensacola who said he knew the territory. Once they got east of the Choctawhatchie River it was clear the guide had no idea where he was and Burch had to guide him to the Ocheese, where he dismissed the Indian to find his own way home.

Natives east of the Apalachicola River were unhappy with the recent treaty which required they give up their land and move to an area between present day Ocala and Orlando. They refused to guide anyone whose job, after all, was to help white men take their land. One candidate left town to avoid being asked. Capt. John Blount, who guided Andrew Jackson, was the best possible choice; but he begged off, saying if he served Burch the other Indians would kill him. Miccosukees pretended to know nothing about the path; Burch knew parts of the old trail had indeed overgrown.

He finally convinced Mr. Richards, a government interpreter to the tribes. Writing to Jessup from West Florida, Burch estimated the trip would be 380 miles.

He wrote to Jessup he would need only a military sextant, and he didn't expect to use that very often. An 1826 letter to Jessup reminded his superior of the land he had crossed during this survey. "The interior of Florida was at that time a wilderness, its particular localities unknown to the whites, and with but a few families settled in it, only one of them being on the line of road; hence the necessary information



Around the Lake Region, the road and its remnants form the county line between Putnam and Clay Counties from the St. Johns River to Santa Fe Lake.

was derived from Indians and Indian guides...From the Apalachicola to St. Augustine the road passes over not only the nearest route, but by far the best that can possibly be selected."

An 1823 St. Augustine newspaper would report: "Captain Daniel E. Burch, who had been ordered by the government to explore and survey the route for a public road from Pensacola...and reached St. Augustine on Tuesday last. (Nov. 25th) Captain Burch reports the distance to be three hundred and forty-five miles and the route generally susceptible of a good road. This road will probably cross at Picolata and the Suwannee about fifty miles above the Indian town on that River, pursuing the Old Spanish Trail to St. Louis (mission) north of St. Mark (also a mission.) Ferries will be necessary on the St. Johns, Suwannee, Ocklockony, Apalachicola, and Choctawhatchee Rivers. Captain Burch will return to Pensacola, marking the most practicable route for the road to follow."

From St. Augustine, Burch wrote to Jessup stating that he had marched 445 miles since Oct. 22nd. He told his superior that on the whole, Indians had been no problem and were even friendly.

"The route designated for the road is much better than I had reason to suppose from the information I had formerly received," he said. "The road does not pass through any of the Indian towns or settlements, and as all those that are now settled east of the Apalachicola are shortly to be concentrated in a district of country...more than 80 miles south of the road... The road or rather trail could be traveled very well at present by persons on horseback provided there were ferries over the large rivers."

Now that Burch had actually traversed the roadbed, his cost estimate went up considerably: \$51,316, probably because of the estimated number of causeways and bridges that might be required.

Burch told Jessup he would begin the march back to Pensacola on Dec. 5th, 1823.

The Military Trail

The U.S. Congress allotted \$23,000 to build the road, considerably less than Burch had estimated as its cost. Congress was no doubt expecting no-extra-cost military labor.

Jessup prodded Burch to start. Burch wrote back saying he and a woefully small detachment of sixty soldiers would begin to build the road, starting "as soon as practicable." He reminded Jessup that Pensacola troops had been sent to New Orleans or to watch Red Stick Creeks in Georgia and Alabama.

With few soldiers available to finish the road in a reasonable length of time, Burch knew the government had to outsource the job.

"Negroes will be employed by contractors on this work," he told Jessup, "...they do not require a tenth part of the transportation necessary for troops... it will cost less actual money to the government by spending that part from the seat of government (aka Tallahassee) to St. Augustine by contract than if soldiers were employed on it."

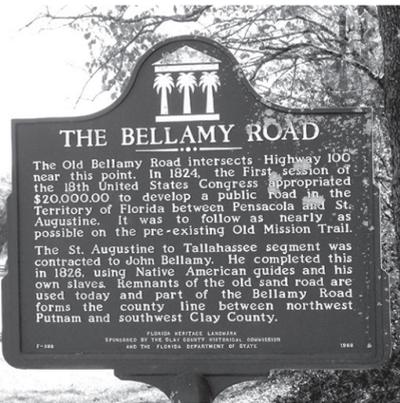
We do not know whether Burch was already aware of a Sept. 1, 1824 letter from Gov. William Pope DuVal to Calhoun.

"I have the honor to inform you," DuVal wrote, "that last evening John Bellamy, Esq. late a member of the (Florida Territorial) Legislative Council arrived at this place and has desired me to inform you that he will undertake to make a good road from Pensacola to St. Augustine under the direction of a person you may appoint for 23,000 dollars the sum appropriated by law...An advance only of \$5,000 will be required by him."

On Nov. 4, 1824, Jessup authorized Burch to solicit bids to build the road at his discretion. A month later Burch's request for bids went out through the venues like the St. Augustine Subscriber:

"Will receive proposal to open by contract the following named parts of the road laid out from Pensacola to St. Augustine, ... vis: No 1—from the landing at "Murray's Ferry" on the east bank of the Ocklockny river, to the landing on the West bank of the St. John's river, opposite to Picolata. No. 2--From the landing on the east bank of the St. John's River at Picolata to the city of St. Augustine."

See BELLAMY, 4B



A historic marker on S.R. 100 near the Putnam-Clay County line informs the public about Bellamy Road

not all—the road took Bellamy's name. Bellamy Road no longer exists as a complete entity. Parts of it are still with us, more or less as built, including those in Clay/Putnam and Alachua Counties. Several Alachua sections have been "preserved."

Local route

Around the Lake Region, the road and its remnants form the county line between Putnam and Clay Counties from the St. Johns River to Santa Fe Lake.

In the Melrose area, the precise route of the highway has been lost to history.

"There is some controversy about where it went," said retired cardiologist and local historian Dr. Mark Barrow. "There were a number of roads that were called Bellamy Road. It was first built in 1824, but they built another stretch of road around 1850

ran from Pensacola to Mobile, about 59 miles, and another to Mobile Point, 53 miles away.

Most were already well-traveled native or military trails; Burch and his men quickly turned them into roads. He had left undone a bridge over the Bayou Grande. There was no hurry, Burch wrote to Jessup, as there was no appreciable civilian population to use it. The military could ford the marsh at certain times each day.

The Three Notch Road north from Pensacola to Fort Mitchell, Alabama, would be about 231 miles long, however part of it too was already a well-used military road. We learn from Southern Alabama narratives that Burch rode along marking trees to indicate which trees which had to be removed. Soldiers followed behind, felling trees or clearing brush on the edges. They filled in or lay causeways or built



apt. Burch mentioned there was only one family on the line of road in 1823; he may have been referring to Reuben and Rebecca Charles at Charles Spring on the Suwannee. They heard the road was going through and set up a general store a ferry on the spot. The boat ramps are their spots where the ferry landed. Both were killed in unclear circumstances during the second Seminole War.



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Hardy: a 'natural leader' and now Woman of Distinction

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

A list of the Bradford County women who've been named Women of Distinction by Santa Fe College is a lot like a list of Beverly Hardy's friends. Now, Hardy joins that list, as she is one of four to be named this year's Women of Distinction.

"Every one of the past recipients is a good friend of mine," Hardy said. "I'm humbled to be included in that group."

This year's honorees include Pasty Blount and Stacy Scott of Alachua County (though Scott is a Bradford County native) and Bradford County resident Brandi Noegel.

"Brandi and I have been friends the whole time I've been in Starke," Hardy said.

The foursome, along with two Women of Promise (ages 16-21), Bradford High School senior Grace Johns and Alachua County's Victoria Maggard, will be recognized at a Tuesday, March 27, luncheon at the Hilton UF Conference Center.

Hardy said finding out she was named a Woman of Distinction was a shock.

"Actually, I sort of teared up," she said. "I just never imagined I would get that honor."

For Carole DeCelle, who nominated Hardy, it was easy to imagine.

"Beverly has participated with other leaders for many years to show to all that commitment and philanthropy have made a difference in the Bradford and Alachua communities," DeCelle said. "She has proven

her willingness to stand the test of getting involved, while steadfastly adhering to high moral principles and professional standards. Woman of Distinction is an honor of which she is truly deserving."

DeCelle and Hardy are members of Altrusa International of Starke. DeCelle, who has seen Hardy serve in positions locally and at the district and international levels in Altrusa, said the theme of Hardy's life is the willingness to see what needs to be changed in the community.

Yet it takes more than an idea. It takes hard work to bring about a change. DeCelle said Hardy excels in that regard.

"It takes people to step up and put the ideas into play," DeCelle said. "Beverly is a natural leader who has shown time and time again her ability to do this."

Making a difference as an Altrusan

Before moving to Starke from Ocala, Hardy worked as a teacher before then co-founding a family business, Harwood Brick Company. She seemed a natural fit for Altrusa, a club for professional women that was



Beverly Hardy is one of four to be honored this year by Santa Fe College as a Woman of Distinction. Photo by Matt Stamey, Santa Fe College.

started in 1917 to help women break through the "glass ceiling."

"That was just right up my alley because I did suffer discrimination in the workplace in construction as many women have in their work place," Hardy said.

However, she didn't join Altrusa until she moved to Starke, saying she never had time to join clubs. As someone new to Starke, Hardy said she knew nobody, but an Altrusa of Starke member suggested to her that the best way to get to know people was to join Altrusa.

Hardy has been in the Starke club for 24 years, holding every

office on the board. In District Three, which is composed of 26 clubs in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina, Hardy has served as financial consultant, treasurer, vice governor, governor-elect and governor. She served as international treasurer and is currently the international president-elect. Hardy will serve a two-year term as president beginning in 2019.

When Hardy became District Three governor, Altrusa International announced that its districts didn't have to do special projects, DeCelle said. However, Hardy decided District Three would have such a project, which was Altrusa SOS (Support Our Soldiers). Each club in the district participated in its own way, with the Starke club sending boxes of items such as food, sanitary products, snacks, games, socks, suntan lotion, books, magazines to 13 servicemen in Afghanistan.

Locally, DeCelle said Hardy was a major force in Altrusa creating an endowed scholarship for Bradford County women to attend Santa Fe College. Hardy said the effort, with some assistance in the beginning from Santa Fe in the form of matching funds, was a credit to 30-40 women over a 10-year period.

"Somehow, in our little town of 5,000, we were able to endow \$100,000 in scholarships for women in Bradford County," Hardy said.

The first Altrusa scholarship recipient was Amie Johns, the mother of Woman of Promise Grace Johns. She received that

scholarship when Santa Fe offered only two-year degrees.

"Now that Santa Fe is a four-year college, it makes our scholarships even better," Hardy said.

Beyond Altrusa

Hardy's service has not been confined to her involvement with Altrusa. She served as a member of the Eighth Judicial Circuit nominating commission, which recommends names to the governor for judge (county and circuit) appointments, and was a board member and finance chair for the Arc of Bradford County. Hardy is active in First United Methodist Church of Starke, serving as circle, program and membership chairs, and is chaplain of Florida Ladies of Elks.

Altrusa is a passion, Hardy said, but so is volunteering as a counselor for people addicted to opioids. She said she's had many people close to her affected by opioids and feels the need to help any way she can with an epidemic that knows no class or race.

"It's unfortunately mushroomed into the crisis we see today," Hardy said.

It can be frustrating at times, Hardy said, explaining how people may take one step forward, only to go two steps back. However, she wouldn't think of giving up her efforts.

"When you're trying to counsel people that have a substance abuse problem, if you can help just one person from

that dreaded addiction, or help them out of it, it's worth all the other failures."

Women of honor

Hardy didn't know who else was being honored as a Woman of Distinction until all honorees attended a meet-and-greet hosted by Santa Fe College. She was surprised to see her friend Noegel and enjoyed getting to know Blount and Scott.

"It was just kind of exciting, going around the table and sharing things about ourselves," Hardy said. "Patsy said, 'I don't know what I'm doing here with this group.' That's how I felt, too."

She can understand why Johns was picked as a Woman of Promise, Hardy said, describing Johns as a "trailblazer." Hardy likes the idea of honoring Women of Promise.

"Young people are some of the best contributors to helping people because people just gravitate to young people," Hardy said. "Young people energize older people."

She may have never envisioned herself as a Woman of Distinction, but Hardy is glad Santa Fe College takes the time to honor women and their accomplishments.

"I am totally impressed that Santa Fe offers this distinction to various women every year," Hardy said. "I don't know of another school that does that. It just makes it even more humbling to be a recipient."

Giving back is part of the job for Scott

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Some of the past Santa Fe College Women of Distinction were role models for Stacy Scott. Now Scott has joined their ranks.

Scott, who is the public defender for the Eighth Judicial Circuit and a native of Bradford County, is one of four to be honored this year by Santa Fe as a Woman of Distinction, joining Bradford County residents Beverly Hardy and Brandi Noegel, and Alachua County's Patsy Blount. They will be recognized, along with Women of Promise (ages 16-21) Grace Johns, a Bradford High School senior, and Victoria Maggard, during a luncheon at the Hilton UF Conference Center on Tuesday, March 27.

"It was a surprise," Scott said. "I was humbled. When

you look at the other folks who've received the award, I was like, "Wow, I'm not sure I'm in that group.""

Scott is a member of the Gainesville Rotary Club, serves on the board of directors of PACE Center for Girls and is a member of United Church of Gainesville. She mentors a high school student and volunteers with Prairie Creek Conservation Cemetery, a nonprofit organization that provides green burials. Scott also coaches the University of Florida Law School's trial practice team and assists the homeless and veterans in finding the answers to their legal questions.

Whether it's the legal profession or the community as a whole, Scott counts helping people as part of her job duties.

"I feel like a big part of my

job is to give back to others," she said.

Scott credits her mother for being her main role model. She said her mother loved unconditionally and was happy every day.

"Giving to others without expecting anything in return was her life," Scott said, adding, "She got joy from being kind and reaching out a hand to someone in need."

Following her mother's example, Scott is instilling the same outlook in her 8-year-old son. Her son has assisted her in such endeavors as serving food at a homeless shelter and helping to clean up Hogtown Creek. Scott said she and others picked up hundreds of pounds of trash around the creek this past Saturday morning.

"That's a great way to start a day," Scott said.

At a reception hosted by the

college, Scott enjoyed meeting her fellow honorees and hearing the different ways different people approach community service. She said she was impressed, for example, with Hardy's work through Altrusa International.

"They were really neat ladies," Scott said.

Her first thought upon hearing about the accomplishments of the other Women of Distinction was, "I don't know if I belong here."

As someone who mentors a high school student, Scott likes the fact that Santa Fe College recognizes Women of Promise. Women of Promise get to meet women who've been successful in life, giving them female role models she didn't really have growing up. Scott's mother was, of course, a role model, but when it came to people who were successful in business and

other endeavors, most of the people she was aware of were male. Still, all Scott did was become the first woman to be elected to the position of public defender in the Eighth Judicial Circuit.

She may not feel she deserves to be named a Woman of Distinction, but Scott said it would make her happy if she and other honorees can be the positive examples for the women of tomorrow. Girls growing up can follow whatever career paths they choose if they have successful women to look up to. Scott



Stacy Scott, who was raised in Bradford County, is one of Santa Fe College's Woman of Distinction honorees for 2018. Photo by Matt Stamey, Santa Fe College.

said, "When you see that, you say, 'Oh, I can do that. I can be that.'"

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BELLAMY

Continued from 3B

Bids had to be in Tallahassee by Dec. 20, to be accepted by Dec. 25. Work was to begin Jan. 1 or sooner.

Congress had called for a road 25 feet wide, the Florida request for bids read. "The road

is to be opened sixteen feet wide throughout... stumps are to be cut as low on the ground as possible."

The narrower width was traditional for Florida roads, proponents argued; nobody in Florida could afford a wagon or carriage, one commentator said; everybody walked or rode on horseback.

With Congress's paltry

budget, Burch told Jessup to hire a "...gang of Negroes and place them under charge of an efficient superintendent."

Initially, Burch received bids from John Bellamy for \$10,000 and Thomas Fisher of Tallahassee for \$9,000. After rethinking, on Dec. 18, Bellamy made a new

offer: "I will undertake to open the road from Ocklockony to the St. Johns' River as noted in your proposal for thirteen thousand five hundred dollars according to the terms and manner therein specified," Bellamy wrote.

His bid was accepted.



This 19th Century "Palatka Road" was also called Bellamy's Road, heading toward Melrose. Photo courtesy the Joe and Daurer Collection.

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Following in her father's footsteps

Helping people make sure of a secure future in an affordable way is what drives Cook Insurance Agency owner Debbie Thomas to work hard to see that her clients' needs are met.

Debbie's late father, H. Calvin Cook Jr., retired from State Farm in Delray Beach and moved his family north to a farm in Live Oak. He started a small insurance agency there and Debbie began helping him when she was in her early 20s. She earned her own insurance license and opened an office in Lake City, Cook and Associates Insurance, Inc.

In 1997, Debbie and her dad sold the agency, and she spent the next two years as a stay-at-home-mom. She then spent the next 11 years as a captive agent (one who could only write policies for one company) for Farm Bureau in Lake City. In 2011, Debbie resigned and launched Cook and Associates, an independent agency, in her hometown of Lake Butler. She started out of a bedroom

in her home in January of that year and then opened an office in May.

Debbie is married to Danny Thomas, a lifelong Union County resident, and the couple has four children and six grandchildren. She has lived in Lake Butler for 26 years.

Insuring a \$1 million submarine

Cook and Associates now services all lines of insurance as an independent, multi-line insurance professional. What this means is they can, and will, insure almost everything - such as a \$1 million submarine they found coverage for earlier this year, so it was insured for a trip from Florida to California. They can also provide insurance for older homes and mobile homes - a service that is often difficult to find.

"Our main objective at Cook and Associates is customer service," Debbie said. "We work for our customers, not the companies. An independent agent does not work for any insurance company; we

simply represent them. We are customer oriented and will spend as much time as necessary and search until we find what meets the client's needs."

Offering a wide range of insurance products

Debbie said she offers different levels of coverage, which can allow a client to find a policy that meets his or her financial situation. She also specializes in commercial and hard-to-place coverage.

Cook and Associates offers a wide range of insurance plans. Under the heading of personal insurance, they can meet a client's needs in the areas of auto, motorcycle, RV and boat insurance, as well as coverage for homes, mobile homes and rental properties. They can even find coverage for antique vehicles, stationary motor homes, park models and travel trailers.

In the area of commercial insurance, they offer insurance on buildings and property, vehicles (including logging

trucks and equipment), farms, storage units, bonds, event and commercial liability and workers compensation coverage.

For life and health insurance, Cook and Associates offers both group and individual insurance options, including insurance for cancer, long term care, Medicare supplements and health and wellness programs. Specially-trained associates will work with clients one on one to help determine their needs and find the right coverage for them. They also offer several types of life insurance.

Father knows best: it's the people, not the money

Quotes for coverage are always provided free of charge and associates always take the time needed to find the best fit to the customer for any policy they sell.

"When I opened Cook and Associates in Lake Butler, I did so because I wanted to work in my hometown,

helping to take care of my friends and neighbors," Debbie said. "I learned from my father that the right reason to be in this business is to help people. That integrity has always guided my decisions about the business."

"Sure, I could have made a lot more money if I had opened an agency in a larger populated area," she added, "but I would not have the personal satisfaction that I have here, taking care of people I care about. That's important to me."

Debbie and her agency are avid supporters of 4-H and FFA including sponsoring several awards for the Union-Bradford Swine Association. Debbie said she enjoys the chance to sponsor several youth organizations and church fundraising events, as it provides a way to pay back the community for its support



Debbie Thomas

of her business.

Next to Skip's Deli

Cook and Associates Insurance Agency is located at 127 SW Sixth Ave, Suite 101, in Lake Butler (in the same building as Skip's Deli). Their hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., or anytime by appointment. They may be reached by phone at 386-496-3058.

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Obituaries

Lewis Arrington

MELROSE— Lewis Merritt Arrington, 81, of Melrose died at his home Sunday, March 18, 2018. He was born Aug. 17, 1936 in Charlotte County, Virginia to the late Stencil and Amy (Hendren) Arrington. He moved to Melrose twelve years ago from Starke, where he lived for many years and owned and operated a garage where he made trailers and worked on automobiles. He was a member of Grace Baptist Church in Starke. His brother, David Arrington preceded him in death.

Survivors are: his wife of almost 51 years, Hazel (Manning) Arrington of Melrose; children, Douglas

“Rick” Arrington, Debbie Cornell, Sylvia Cole and Glenda Hester; siblings, Bobby Arrington, Herbert Arrington, Jack Arrington, Becky West and Gay Halette Fields, all of North Carolina; six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. The family will receive friends in the Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home Chapel in Keystone Heights on Thursday, March 22 from 3-5:00 p.m. Funeral services will begin at 5:00 p.m. with Brother Roger Wharton officiating. Interment will follow at a later date. Arrangements are under the care of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Keystone Heights. www.jonesgallagherfh.com 352-473-3176.

Ronnie Mundorff

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—Ronnie “Wayne” Mundorff, 78, of Keystone Heights died Monday, March 19, 2018 in Gainesville. He was born Aug. 18, 1939 in Boone City, North Carolina to the late Rollin Edward “R.E.” and Lulua Lucille (Bennett) Mundorff. He was employed as a building inspector until his retirement. He also retired from the United States Army following 30 years of service. His wife of 37 years, Diane Mundorff had preceded him in death as well as his brother Jon Mundorff and half-brother.

His survivors are: his children, Terry (Beth) Mundorff of Melrose, Pat (Brenda) Mundorff of Raiford, Luana Mundorff of Hawthorne, Richard (Susan) Stitt of Murphy, North Carolina, Thomas Stitt of Lake Butler, Lisa Vickery of Starke and Elizabeth (Johnny) Smith of Florahome. Also left behind



are 23 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and many other family members.

A memorial service will be held Monday, March 26 at 10:00 a.m. in the DeWitt C. Jones Chapel with Rev. Roman Alvarez officiating. The family will receive friends beginning at 9:30 a.m. Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, Starke.

Roger Waters Sr.

MIDDLEBURG—Roger David Waters Sr., 69, of Middleburg, passed away on Friday, March 16, 2018. Roger was born to the late Willie and Dorothy Waters. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, and farming. Roger especially loved spending time with his family. He adored his grandchildren and his great-grandchildren. Roger was a member of Black Pond Baptist, where he served as Brotherhood Director and a Deacon for many years. Roger is preceded in death by: his brother, Jack Waters; and one sister, Margie Stanley. Roger leaves his beloved family to cherish his memory.

Roger Waters Sr. is survived by: his loving wife of 49 years, Mary Waters; one son, Roger D. (Carrie) Waters Jr.; five brothers, Ed Waters (Mary), Roy Waters, Jack Waters, Billy Waters, and James Waters; two sisters, Shirley Roberson, Linda (Richard) Norman; a very special niece, Melinda Morgan; two grandchildren, Roger D. Waters III and Allyson Waters (Cody) Bowen; and two great-grandchildren, Zander



Bowen and Xyler Bowen. Roger was loved by many and will be missed.

A visitation and funeral service will be held in Roger's honor at Black Pond Baptist Church in Middleburg. Visitation will be on Thursday, March 22, from 6-8 p.m. Funeral service will be Friday, March 23 at 11 a.m. Arrangements are under the care of Archer Funeral Home located at 55 North Lake Avenue, Lake Butler. For more information, please call (386)496-2008.

PAID OBITUARY--

Rebecca Dampier

GAINESVILLE— Rebecca Marie Carmen Dampier, 31 years old, of Gainesville went to be with Jesus on Sunday, March 18, 2018. Becca was born in Norfolk, Virginia. She lived in Gainesville for 12 years and was employed by The University of Florida as a data processor. She loved her husband and their two children Hayden (10) and Adalynn (18 months). She loved spending time with her family. She enjoyed hunting and fishing and baking for others and she was an avid reader. She was a Christian. Becca was beautiful in every way. She was preceded in death by her paternal grandmother, Joy B. Carmen Weir.

She is survived by: her husband of 11 years, Travis D Dampier; children, Hayden and Adalynn; her best friend, Kelsey Bryan; her mother, Pamela D. (Mike) Smith; father, Paul J. (April) Carmen; brothers, Duran Carmen, Timothy Quackenbush; sister, Sarah Carmen; and maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Louise Covell.

Funeral services will be held



Saturday, March 24 at 11:00 am. Visitation will be held Friday, March 23 from 6-8 pm at Archer Funeral Home with Pastor Jason Dampier. Burial will be held at Antioch Cemetery under direction of Archer Funeral Home located at 55 North Lake Ave Lake Butler. For more information, please call (386)496-2008.

PAID OBITUARY

Donald Shadd

LAKE BUTLER—Donald Lee Shadd, a life-long resident of Lake Butler, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, March 15, at the age of 36 years. He graduated from Union County High School in 2001. Donald studied computer science at the Bradford County Vocational Center, in Starke. He was employed by John L. Shadd Trucking, LLC and was responsible for tracking asset maintenance, repairs and inventory. Donald is the beloved son of Craig and Diana Shadd of Lake Butler and the late Sherry Hohagen Shadd of Baldwin. Grandson of Bobbie Jean Bryant of Gainesville, Lowell and Paulette Shadd and the late Hazel Brannen Shadd of Lake Butler. Loving brother of Wendell and Amanda Rowan, Shara Shadd and the late David (Dave) Shadd. He will also be forever remembered by his numerous nieces, nephews and extended family and dear friends. Donald will be remembered as a loyal friend, son and brother. He loved backyard grilling out and watching the Gators play ball. He loved spending time outdoors. He enjoyed hunting and fishing especially with friends. At home,



he loved spending time in his yard. He was gifted in growing flowering plants and his favorite was a rose. He was an amazing uncle, he played with his nieces and nephews every day and enjoyed teaching them how to play sports, catch a fish and just to be a kid.

The funeral service was held at Archer Funeral Home in Lake Butler on March 19th with Pastor Jason Johns officiating. Burial followed at Dekle Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care of Archer Funeral Home located at 55 North Lake Avenue Lake Butler. For more information, please call (386)496-2008.

PAID OBITUARY

Kathleen Turnage

STARKE— Kathleen “Kathy” Turnage, age 88, of Starke passed away Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at Custead Care Center in Orange Park. She was born April 30, 1929 in Goldsboro, North Carolina to the late Luther Davis and Eula Talton Davis. Kathy moved to Starke from Keystone Heights in 1980. She loved all types of arts and crafts. She especially enjoyed painting with acrylics and crocheting. Kathy also enjoyed getting outdoors and working in her garden. She is predeceased by her loving husband of 58 years, Lee Turnage; daughters, Bonnie Shook and Yvonne Craven.

Kathy is survived by: her daughter, Linda Turnage Culpepper of Brunswick, Georgia; eight grandchildren, Cindy Foster, Valerie Ouellette, Kenneth Shook, Bonnie Esposito, Eddie Sirk, Donnie Sirk, Doug Sirk and Dale Sirk; 17 great-grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren; nieces, Beverly Whitner and Teressa Lacko; and nephews, James Davis, Charles



Davis. A Celebration of Kathy's life was held at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel on Saturday, March 17 with Pastor Timmy Thomas officiating. Interment followed at Crosby Lake Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel, Starke. Visit www.ferreirafuneralservices.com to sign the family's guest book. 904-964-5757.

PAID OBITUARY

Letters

Not happy with EPA Smart money with Bradley

To the Editor:

I just came from a “Public Meeting” with the EPA regarding a permit request from Skinner Farms wanting a biosolids facility in North Bradford County.

The gentlemen conducting this meeting were not interested in telling me what Skinner proposed, I had to get the information from some of the many very unhappy residents who attended. The EPA guys also were not interested in giving any information to the group “we’ll let you talk to us individually” was their position. I did manage to get one of them to admit Skinner had many, many violations.

So why do we even want to let them apply?

Edythe Hill
Morgan Road

Thanks for help with dog

Dear Editor:

On Tuesday, March 6th my little dog was killed on Raiford Road. There were young women and men that were so kind to stop and bring her out of the road, and then bring her across to me. There was one young man that prayed with us. They all stayed with me until I got to the house. I didn't know any of them, but I want to let them all know how much I appreciated each one, they were a Godsend. I want them to know they are welcome to stop by anytime and say hello. God Bless you all.

Adel Starling

To the Editor:

Senator Rob Bradley has for the second straight year gotten funding from the legislature for lake restoration in Southern Clay County and Eastern Bradford County, known as “the Lake Region.” When compared to Northern Clay and surrounding areas, the Lake Region has a modest population and correspondingly fewer voters. It has little financial clout and it certainly is not known for big campaign contributors. Given these facts, Senator Bradley's personal investment of time and energy in this part of the state is not likely to be rewarded by either of the two forces that can be counted on to motivate politicians--campaign contributions or large numbers of votes. One must wonder then, why the Senator chooses to bring attention and support to the lake region?

Senator Bradley has offered the explanation that he visited the lakes as a child, when they were full, and has fond memories of those times. That is undoubtedly true, and those fond memories probably sparked his initial interest in restoring the lakes. I grew up in the Lake Region and I can understand his interest in a way that those who have never seen the lakes in their full glory could ever appreciate. But, I now live in Tallahassee and I have spent most of my professional life working in and around government.

In my experience, politicians don't spend political capital on

See BRADLEY, 7B

Patricia Lee

JACKSONVILLE— Patricia Ann Lee, 53, of Jacksonville passed away on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at Shands Hospital in Gainesville. She was born on Oct. 17, 1964 to Rev. Izell and Zellouise Montgomery of Starke. She attended Bradford County Schools and Barbizon School of Modeling in Jacksonville. She later married the love of her life and worked briefly for Blue Cross/Blue Shield, but later served as secretary for her husband's business. She loved her family and was a mother figure to her siblings growing up. She accepted Jesus Christ at an early age and formed a gospel group called Joy and traveled throughout the country singing and ministering about the goodness of Jesus. Joy recorded a record and continued to travel. The group later disbanded, but she continued to serve faithfully in the music ministry at Titus Dome Spectrum Church under the late Pastor R.J. Washington where she served on the praise team and choir.

She is preceded in death by: her father, Rev. Izell Montgomery, Sr. and her grandparents, Elder Willie Mac Cohen Powell and Willis and Maggie Montgomery.

She leaves to cherish her memory: Her mother, Zellouise Montgomery; a loving husband of 35 years, Olin “Slim” Lee of Jacksonville; two beautiful daughters, Lori Irlene Lee of Jacksonville, and Paris Elise Lee of Nashville, Tennessee. Ten sisters, Mildred Brandon of Newark, NJ, Ellen Smith and Wilma Brown both of Perry, Ruby Oliver of St. Petersburg, Maggie, Annie, and Cynthia Montgomery all of



Gainesville, Angela (Eric) Williams of Tallahassee, Nicole Montgomery of Starke, and Danica Britt of Gainesville. Seven brothers, Charles (Addie) Montgomery of San Antonio, Texas, Izell (Lorraine) Montgomery, Jr. of Perry, Gregory (Barbara) Williams of Jacksonville, James (Roberta) Montgomery (Roberta) of Gainesville, Willis (Elaine) Montgomery of Jacksonville, North Carolina, Isaac (Lisa) Montgomery of Starke, Gavin (Keyonna) Britt of Gainesville, and a host of uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Celebration of life services will be held at Grace International Church 6611 Ramona, Blvd, Jacksonville on Saturday, March 17 at 11 am. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Lampkms Patterson Cremation and Funeral Service 6615 Arlington EXPY, Jacksonville.

PAID OBITUARY

Please join us during this HOLY WEEK

Monday, March 26th

Sermon Topic: “He Hath Prevailed”



Rev. DeWayne E. McBride, Pastor
St. Peter Baptist Church ~ Archer, FL

DeWayne accepted the call to ministry in 1991. In 1993 he was ordained as an Elder. He accepted the call to pastor St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church in 2010 where he is still serving. As a bi-vocational pastor, he is employed by the State of Florida as a Disabled Veteran's Outreach Coordinator. DeWayne has been married to La-Tanya McBride for 27 years. They have three sons Devon (Khandi), James (Mary) and Justin (Chelsea). Three grandsons: Donovan, Devon and Deron.

Tuesday, March 27th

Sermon Topic: "Saving Faith"

There is a right way and a wrong way for a sinful person to stand before a holy God. Jesus tells us a story to point us in the right direction.



Rev. Dale Tedder, Pastor
Southside UMC ~ Jacksonville, FL

I am an ordained Deacon in the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. Part of my calling is to proclaim the faith of the church, teach God's Word, lead others into Christian discipleship, and help those disciples understand their calling to serve others and bear witness to the world on behalf of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Wednesday, March 28th

Shannon Whitaker
FUMC Children's Ministry Director



Topic: "Walk With Jesus"

Join us for an inspiring interactive event for the entire family, both young and old. We will take a journey through Easter week. We will visit

Jerusalem for Palm Sunday, sit down for the last Supper in the Upper Room, discover the sacrifice of Good Friday, and celebrate the freedom from sin that was experienced at the empty tomb on that first Easter morning. Come and be reminded of the spiritual truth that Jesus loves you so much.



Thursday, March 29th

Topic: "How the leader for the Kings becomes a servant of the King of Kings"



Carmelo Cuascat
"Former Gang Leader"

At sixteen I became the leader of one of the most vicious and violent street gangs in New York City called the Kings. I was proud to wear the title and colors of gold and black, however, I found the title came with a price tag of either dying or going to jail. I was filled with hatred and fear. I was hated by my enemies and the police. I had to get high every day to live with this continuous hatred and fear. One day I was out on the streets without my protection and I found myself running for my life. I ran into a little church to hide. The leader of the Kings ran into the King of Kings— Jesus Christ. That night I heard how Jesus died for my sins. He took my place on the cross. For the first time in my life I saw hope. When I believed what I heard about Jesus was true— He set me free! The Bible says in John 8:36 "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."



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Tuesday's Menu:
Spaghetti, Tossed Salad, Breadsticks, Cheesecake & Tea

Wednesday's Menu:
Chicken Tenders, Mac N Cheese, Green Beans, Roll, Assorted Cookies & Tea

Thursday's Menu:
Meatballs, Rice w/gravy, Corn, Roll, Banana Pudding & Tea

Please call or email La-Tanya at the church office to reserve your meal.
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latanyamcbride@firstumc.cc

March 26th - 29th
5:45 p.m. - Dinner
6:30 p.m. - Service

Nursery and Children's Ministry activities provided nightly

BRADLEY

Continued from 6B

nostalgic memories. Perhaps Senator Bradley has done the math and come to the same conclusion that I have. Real estate values in Southern Clay and Eastern Bradford County have stagnated since the 1960's. A comparison of prices in other similar areas reveals that property values would be much higher if the lakes were restored—not just on the waterfront, but throughout the surrounding area. A lot of economic value is locked up in those low water levels, and a lot of government revenues too. This small investment in filling up the lakes will generate a stream of revenue both public and private in each year after the lakes are filled that far exceeds its total cost—a vast economic improvement for a tiny fraction of what the state spends on a modest local highway project. The economic benefits won't stop in the Lake Region. They will spread in the form of an improved tax base, new business, jobs and property values throughout a large portion of the Senator's district and into surrounding districts. Perhaps Senator Bradley sees that for the social and economic good of all his constituents, filling up the lakes is an investment that can't be passed up.

When dealing with other policy areas such as education and health care spending, Senator Bradley has focused on "fairness." Because it lacks a large population and because it has been in financial decline, the Lake Region has missed out on the modern era of politics in which government spending has spurred growth and development. It has not benefited from major highway, infrastructure or other economic development projects that fuel population and economic growth. In short, the Lake Region has not received its fair share of government attention or spending. Perhaps Senator Bradley sees that the Lake Region's decline is not of

its own making and that fair treatment will go a long way towards solving all the problems in that area.

Before you start thinking I'm a shill for Senator Bradley, I will tell you that my years of experience in Tallahassee have made me cynical about politicians and their motives, so when I learned about his interest in restoring the lakes, I reviewed Senator Bradley's handling of other legislative proposals and asked around in the lobbying community about him. The consensus opinion on Bradley at that time seemed to be that he was an effective Senator, a straight shooter but a relative newcomer and maybe a bit naïve in the positions he sometimes took. One friend told me that Bradley didn't always bet with the smart money—meaning he sometimes goes his own way if it seemed the right thing to do.

When the lake levels declined, economic activity declined and growth in the Lake Region ground to a halt. So, what happened to the water? There has been much speculation about that. Some blame decreased rainfall or the water management district, others blame mining to the north that has consumed large quantities of water, still others blame the leaders at Camp Blanding for refusing to release additional water from Blanding's lake reservoir, some blame overall increased consumption. There is some truth to all of these explanations, but they also miss the mark in one important respect. I am sure all these interested players, including local politicians, industrialists and the water management district would like to see the lakes restored. But individually they either do not hold lake restoration as a primary objective or they have lacked the individual power to achieve that goal. This looks like a complex problem with lots of moving parts, but Bradley has seen through all of that.

The lakes have not been drying up because of a lack of water. No part of the world has

a greater abundance of clean, fresh water than North Florida. The lakes have been allowed to dry up by a failure of political vision and lack of leadership. Until redistricting, political leadership in the Lake Region was completely fractured. There has been no strong leader who could pull all the people together to keep the lakes from going dry as there is now to see the lakes restored. Senator Bradley seems not too interested in placing blame. Instead he has found a rather simple and elegant solution to the problem and is focused on pulling people and resources together to solve it. He wants to pump excess water from where it's not needed and put it where it is needed. If that alone doesn't satisfy the objective, I suspect he will try something else. Pragmatism we used to call it. The essence of strong leadership.

Since I became interested in this issue, 20 percent of the members of the Florida Senate have been forced out of office by allegations of wrongdoing. One of those forced out was the Senate Appropriations Chair. At a time when he was in desperate need of a leader with integrity, the Senate President turned to Senator Bradley to fill the empty leadership slot. That leadership decision spoke volumes about Bradley. In his new role, the Senator stands for the proposition that the smart money doesn't always win and sometimes being known as a level-headed guy who does the right thing pays off. In addition to lake restoration funding, he has improved education and health care funding for all the counties in his district. Guess what, lately all the smart money lobbyists in Tallahassee has been betting on Senator Bradley. Like Bradley, I don't always bet with the smart money either, but I think Senator Bradley is a man who gets things done and he will be with us for a long time, in ever more prominent roles.

Don Bell
Tallahassee

KHHS pitcher Osteen to play at Santa Fe



With his parents, Donny and Stephanie Osteen, looking on, Keystone Heights High School senior Connor Osteen signs his letter of intent to play baseball at Santa Fe College.

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Keystone Heights High School senior baseball player Connor Osteen is ready to take his game to another level. That's why Santa Fe College was the obvious choice to make when deciding where to take his talents after high school.

Osteen signed a letter of intent to play for the Saints during a March 8 scholarship-signing ceremony in the KHHS media center.

"I'm excited for the opportunity," he said. "I can't wait to see what it has in store for me. I'm excited to go close to home, but then again, it's a really good college for pitching."

Osteen said he received interest from such schools as College of Central Florida, Daytona State College, Tallahassee Community College and LaGrange (Georgia) College, but he likes what Santa Fe has to offer in assistant coach Conrad Flynn. Flynn pitched three years in the minors for Arizona's organization after playing three seasons at Tulane University. He's also enjoyed his experiences on the Santa Fe campus.

"I picked Santa Fe because they have a really good pitching coach," Osteen said. "I've been there for showcases. I just fell in love with the place. I just like it there."

Keystone head coach Alan Mattox said Santa Fe is a good place for pitchers to continue to develop. Santa Fe head coach Johnny Wiggs pitched for Santa Fe and then for the University of Florida, helping the Gators get

When he gets to college, Osteen said he'll work on adding more velocity to his pitches and work on making his curveball tighter. Other than that, he said he'll take the mound with confidence as he always does.

Mattox said Osteen is confident and calm when he's in the game.

"He's confident in his abilities and certainly confident in his teammates," Mattox said. "He never gets too excited. He never gets too down on himself. He just goes and does his job."

Osteen has obviously learned things from his coaches, but Mattox said coaches learn something from him, too.

"He lives his testimony," Mattox said. "Obviously, he's very active in his church. He wears that. You see it as he goes around campus every day and on the ball field every day. I don't know that I've ever heard that kid speak an ill word in my life. He's such a great example, not just to players, but to coaches."

Osteen said the goal is to pitch two years at Santa Fe and then play another two years at a four-year school.

"Florida would be my dream school," he said. "That's one of the reasons I picked Santa Fe — it's close to there. That's where I want to go."

Before that, he looks forward to taking the mound for the Saints.

"I'm probably going to feel a little nervous," he said about playing in his first game for Santa Fe. "I'll be excited. Hopefully, my adrenaline doesn't get to me."

"He's confident in his abilities and certainly confident in his teammates. He never gets too excited. He never gets too down on himself. He just goes and does his job."



Alan Mattox

to the College World Series for their first time. Wiggs was All-SEC as a junior when UF made its first College World Series trip and played in the minor leagues for five years for the Seattle, Detroit and Boston organizations.

"Those guys know what they're doing," Mattox said of Wiggs and Flynn. "They're in the state tournament every year for a reason. They're good coaches."

Mattox said one of the things that stands out about Osteen is that the 6-2 player has a physical frame he can still grow into. The coach said Osteen can put on 20 pounds easy.

Pitching-wise, Osteen can throw strikes with multiple pitches, with each pitch being set up by the fastball.

"He can locate his fastball," Mattox said. "It's got good movement on it. Everything starts with that."

Osteen said, "My fastball is my go-to pitch. It has a lot of tail on it. I can usually hit my spot wherever

KHHS wins District 9-1A weightlifting title

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Having six individual champions and 18 in all who will advance to regional competition, the Keystone Heights High School boys' weightlifting team won the District 9-1A championship on March 9 in Keystone.

It was the third straight district title for the program.

"The kids competed," Lowery said. "When they had to make a lift, they made a lift. They were willing to scrap for a point or two. It made all the difference."

The top six in each weight class qualified for the Region 5 finals, which Keystone will host on Saturday, March 24, at 11 a.m.

Brandon Spivey successfully defended his district championship, winning the 139 class with a bench press of 250 and a clean and jerk of 240 for a 490 total. Also winning championships were: C.J. Parks with a 405 total (210 bench press, 195 clean and jerk) in the 129 class, Briar Smith with a 455 total (240, 215) in the 154 class, Alex Cruz with a 565 total (300, 265) in the 183 class, Carter Semione with a 575 total (295, 280) in the 219 class and Dan Dodd with a 630 total (330, 300) in the unlimited class.

Keystone took first and second in two weight classes, with Hunter Stitt finishing behind Smith in the 154 class with a 450 total (235, 215) and Cameron Musselman finishing behind Semione in the 219 class with a 515 total (290, 225).

Holden Knapp was also a runner-up with a 290 total (145, 145) in the 119 class.

Briar Schenck placed third behind Knapp in the 119 class with a 240 total (115, 125), while Tucker Kicklighter, Jesse Donahue and Mike Kirtley also placed third. Kicklighter had a 305 total (165, 140) in the 129 class, while Donahue had a 365 total (195, 170) in the 139 class. Kirtley had a 405 total (220, 185) in the 169 class.



The Keystone Heights High School boys' weightlifting team won its third straight district championship. Pictured (in alphabetical order) are all who competed at the meet: Alex Cruz, Dan Dodd, Jesse Donahue, Josh Hughes, Tucker Kicklighter, Trent Kirk, Mike Kirtley, Holden Knapp, Cameron Musselman, Jacob Morgan, C.J. Parks, Briar Schenck, Carter Semione, Briar Smith, Brandon Spivey, Hunter Stitt, Dylan Thompson, Colby Townsend and Kaleb Vojnovski.

Josh Hughes placed fourth in the 199 class with a 475 total (250, 225), while the following placed fifth: Dylan Thompson with a 375 total (200, 175) in the 169 class, Colby Townsend with a 460 total (265, 195) in the 199 class and Jacob Morgan with a 255 total (150, 105) in the 238 class.

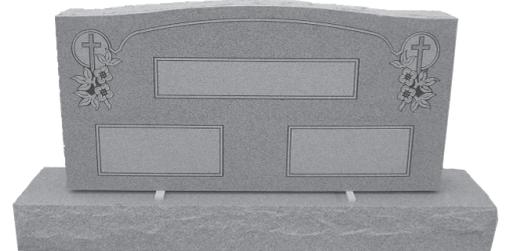
Kaleb Vojnovski earned sixth place in the 183 class with a 430 total (225, 205).

Lowery admitted he wasn't expecting the team to win its district this year. He said for the most part, the lifters did what they had to do, being successful on all of their bench press and clean and jerk attempts.

"We had to nail our six lifts. In most cases we did that," Lowery said, adding, "It took having a good day for us to have our best day."

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Spring basketball tips off in Starke

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

What's more unusual than hearing, "Official's timeout, shoelaces," during a basketball game? How about a coach tying those shoelaces for his player?

It was quite the norm, though, at the R.J.E. gym as 4-6-year-olds tipped off Concerned Citizens of Bradford County's spring league on March 17.

The league is made up of Cavaliers, Rockets, Spurs and

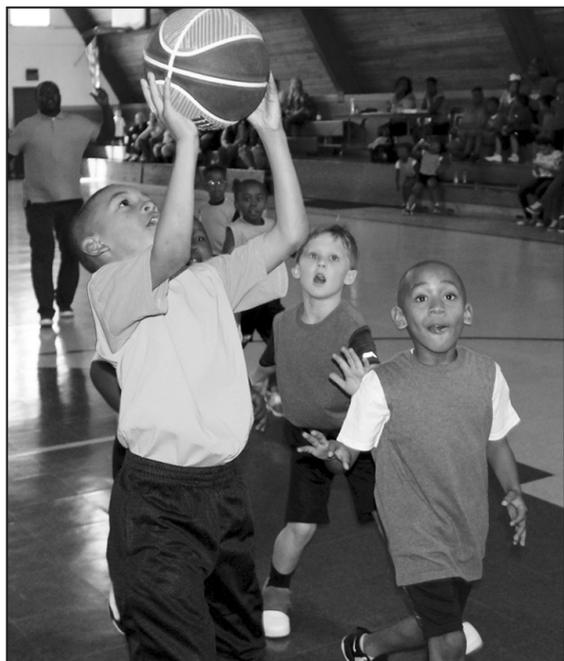
Warriors in three age groups: Kiddie (4-6), Minor (7-10) and Junior (11-up).

The Kiddie Rockets and Spurs played each other to start the day's action, with coaches Rick Barr and Frazier Bass on court to give the little ones instruction and other assistance. Some shots were wild, and dribbling wasn't necessarily a part of the game, but seeds were being sown for the love of the game. Perhaps some of the Kiddies will grow up to be our future middle school

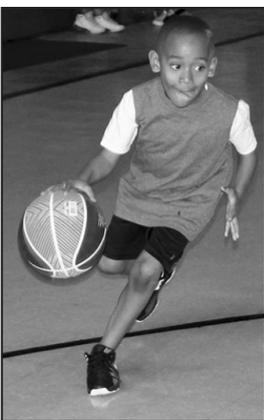
and high school stars. More than anything else, playing is about one thing, which was emphasized by Barr as he addressed all of the players prior to the first game tipping off.

"I need for you all to have some fun," he said.

The league will host a March Madness opening ceremony on Friday, March 30, at 5:30 p.m.



Rockets player Darrell Pressley puts up a shot as Spurs players Kenson Hankerson (right) and Wyatt Thornton (background) look on.



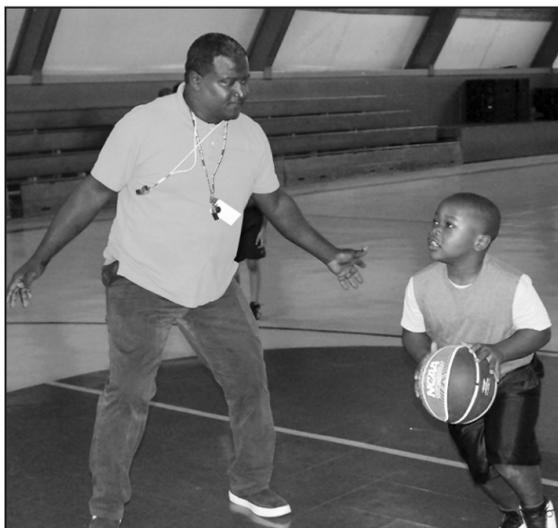
giving instructions in the background. The Spurs' Kenson Hankerson channels his



Spurs player Wyatt Thornton drives into the lane for a shot attempt.



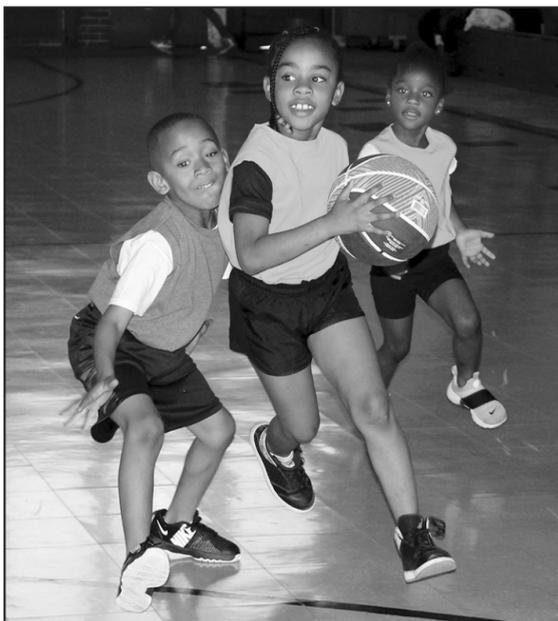
Kynley Turner is in the background. Jordan Brown handles the ball for the Rockets, with coach Frazier Bass



Bryant Malcolm (right) drives the ball past coach Rick Barr during warm-ups.



inner Michael Jordan with his tongue sticking out. Tamaya McCloud (far right) puts up a shot for the Spurs as (l-r) Rockets coach Frazier Bass and Rockets players Bella Hankerson and Darrell Pressley look on.



Jamila Hankerson pushes the ball upcourt for the Rockets against the Spurs' Kenson Hankerson (left). Rockets player

UCHS softball team drops first 1A game since 2016

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Kamaya Cohen's groundout to second tied the score in the top of the third, but host Wewahitchka added two runs to defeat the Union County High School softball team 4-2 on March 17.

Wewahitchka was the last Class 1A team to hand the Tigers (7-2) a loss, doing so in the 2016 state semifinals.

Kensley Hamilton, who hit an RBI triple, was the only Union batter with multiple hits, going 3-for-4.

Prior to the long road trip, the Tigers improved to 4-0 in District 6 with a 15-0, four-inning win over visiting Hawthorne on March 13.

Teala Howard drove in three runs, going 2-for-3 with a triple, while Cohen, Katie Caren, Tiffany Clark and Brooke Waters each drove in two runs. Clark and Waters went 2-for-2 and 2-for-3, respectively. Waters and Caren each hit a double.

Angela Shope went 2-for-2 with a double and an RBI, while Lexi Androlevich and Shelby Spratlin each had an RBI. Androlevich hit a double, as did Randa Godwin.

Starting pitcher Waters gave up two hits and no walks in two innings, striking out five. Howard threw the final two innings, giving up no hits and one walk, while striking out five.

The Tigers travel to play Hawthorne on Thursday, March 22, at 7 p.m. and then travel to play Fleming Island on Friday, March 23, at 4:30 p.m. On Monday, March 26, Union travels to play Trinity Christian at 7 p.m.

BHS softball team defeats West Port 6-3

Olive drives in 2, allows 5 hits

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Maggie Olive hit a two-run double in a five-run fourth and earned the win in the circle as the Bradford High School softball team defeated visiting West Port 6-3 on March 16.

Olive finished with the two RBI, while Krista Hildebran, Emily McCoy and Savana Shealey each drove in one run. Hildebran went 2-for-2, while McCoy went 3-for-4.

In the circle, Olive gave up five hits and two walks, with two strikeouts.

Bradford 12 PK Yonge 2

Wiggins 3 for 3, 5 RBI

Bradford (6-5, 4-2) entered the game off a 12-2, five-inning win over District 5-5A opponent P.K. Yonge on March 13 in Gainesville, with Brooklyn Wiggins going 3-for-3 with five RBI. Wiggins drove in the first two runs on a triple in the top of the first.

Shealey, who hit a double, and Macy Connor each had two RBI, while Olive, who also hit a double, and Shianne Cassels each had one RBI. McCoy and Harli Phillips went 3-for-4 and 2-for-3, respectively, with Phillips hitting a double. Gracie Blankenship went 2-for-4.

Olive gave up one hit and one walk, while striking out four.

The Tornadoes travel to play district opponent Newberry on Thursday, March 22, at 7 p.m. before returning home to play district opponent Keystone Heights on Friday, March 23, at 7 p.m. On Tuesday, March 27, Bradford travels to play district opponent Fort White at 6:30 p.m.



Right: Tamaya McCloud (right) of the Spurs attempts to take the ball into the paint against Rockets player Cayson Hampton.

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BHS qualifies 7 for Region 3-1A weightlifting finals



Bradford High School weightlifters qualifying for the Region 3-1A finals are (l-r): Taro Ward, Zion Barber, Jordan Luke, Ian McGowan, Tyrik Oliver, Maurice Hewitt and (not pictured) Jakob Alvarez.

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Coach Caleb Dukes looks forward to building the numbers back up in boys' weightlifting at Bradford High School, but for now, he'll gladly take what his team accomplished on March 9. Seven competed at the District 5-1A finals at Suwannee High School. All seven earned the right to advance to regional competition.

"Hey, we're batting 1,000," Dukes said.

Jakob Alvarez, Zion Barber and Tyrik Oliver led the way, winning their weight classes, while the four other lifters placed in the top six, punching their tickets to the Region 3 finals, which will be held Saturday, March 24, at Baker County High School, beginning at 11:45 a.m.

Dukes said the results stem

from the lifters' dedication, which has included working out early in the mornings and on days when there is no school, such as during the recent spring break.

"It's all the credit in the world to them," Dukes said.

Alvarez and Barber each won his second straight district championship. Alvarez had a bench press of 450 and a clean and jerk of 295 to win the unlimited class with a 745 total, which was 10 pounds better than runner-up Agelu Nunu of Union County. Barber had a bench press of 330 and a clean and jerk of 285 to win the 169 class with a 615 total, which was 65 pounds better than teammate Taro Ward.

Oliver had a bench press of 225 and a clean and jerk of 205 to win the 154 class with a 430 total, which was 10 pounds better

than teammate Ian McGowan. McGowan and Ward were Bradford's only district runners-up. McGowan had a bench press of 210 and a clean and jerk of 210, while Ward had a bench press of 300 and a clean and jerk of 250.

Jordan Luke placed third in the unlimited class with a 705 total (365 bench press, 340 clean and jerk), while Maurice Hewitt placed fifth in the 119 class with a 265 total (145, 120).

Alvarez, Barber, Luke and Ward are looking to earn return trips to the state finals, which will be held Friday, April 6, at Arnold High School in Panama City Beach. Winners at all of the state's regional meets receive automatic state berths, with the remaining field determined by comparing totals from all the regional meets.

7 UCHS weightlifters qualify for regionals



Seven Union County High School weightlifters qualified for the Region 3-1A finals. Pictured (l-r): Gage Hendricks, Jason Holton, Chase Crawford, Shamar Highland, Agelu Nunu, Blake Bass and coach Bryan Griffis. Not pictured: Maurice Strong.

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Seven Union County High School boys' weightlifters qualified for the Region 3-1A finals, including Chase Crawford and Agelu Nunu, who were runners-up in their respective classes at the March 9 District 5 finals at Suwannee High School.

"That's about what we expected," coach Bryan Griffis said, though he added coaches were hoping for two more. However, the fact that the meet was held during Union's spring break prevented two from lifting as they had planned family vacations.

"One of them would've qualified at second or third, and the other would've qualified at fourth," Griffis said.

The top six in each class at the

District 5 meet earned the right to compete in the Region 3 meet, which will begin at 11:45 a.m. on Saturday, March 24, at Baker County High School.

Winners at all of the state's regional meets receive automatic state berths, with the remaining field determined by comparing totals from all the regional meets.

"I think we could have three make it to state, maybe four," Griffis said.

Crawford had a 245 bench press and a 215 clean and jerk to finish with a second-place total of 460 in the 139 class. Nunu placed second in the unlimited class with a bench of 435 and a clean and jerk of 300 for a 735

total. Nunu placed fourth in last year's district meet.

Gage Hendricks and Shamar Highland each placed third. Hendricks had a 280 total (145 bench press, 135 clean and jerk) in the 119 class, while Highland had a 515 total (275, 240) in the 183 class.

Blake Bass placed fourth in the 129 class with a 330 total (190, 140), while Maurice Strong was fifth in the unlimited class with a 615 total (350, 265).

Jason Holton qualified for regionals as well with a sixth-place finish in the 119 class. He had a 255 total (145, 110).

LBMS Tigers bounce back from 1st loss with 13-3 win

Hancock: 5 RBI

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Ethan Hancock drove in four runs as the Lake Butler Middle School baseball team defeated visiting P.K. Yonge 13-3 in five innings on March 16.

The Tigers (6-1) got one RBI each from Kyler Cohen, Ayden Elixson, Clay Fulgham, Lucas Johns, Dylan Lovelace, Ethan Moody and Eli Rimes. Fulgham and Hancock went 2-for-3 and 2-for-4, respectively, with Fulgham hitting a double.

Starting pitcher Elixson gave up no hits in two innings, while striking out four. Lovelace and combined to allow two hits in three innings, with Lovelace striking out three in two innings and Agner striking out two in one inning.

Lake Butler 10 PK Yonge 0

Rawls, Lee, O'Steen, Lovelace combine for shutout

On Feb. 27, four pitchers combined to throw a shutout in the Tigers' 10-0, five-inning win at P.K. Yonge.

Starter Quinten Rawls gave up one hit and no walks in two innings, striking out five. Tre'Von Lee and Jake O'Steen gave up no hits in one inning of work each, while Lovelace gave up one hit in one inning.

Agner went 2-for-4 and drove in two runs, while Cohen, Moody, O'Steen and Trevor Holtzendorf each had one RBI. Rawls went 2-for-4.

Lake Butler 10 Williston 1

Elixson: 2 for 3 with a triple and 2 RBI

On March 14, Elixson went 2-for-3 with a double, a triple and two RBIs in Lake Butler's 10-1, five-inning win at Williston.

O'Steen, who hit a triple, and Rimes each went 2-for-3 with an RBI, while Hancock went 2-for-4 with an RBI. Lee had an RBI as well.

Starting pitcher Moody gave up three hits in 3.1 innings. Rimes and Rogers combined to allow no hits in 1.2 innings.

Baker County 13 Lake Butler 4

Lake Butler suffered its first loss on March 15, with host Baker County scoring 11 unanswered runs in a 13-4, five-inning loss.

Elixson, who hit a two-run double to put the Tigers up 4-2 in the top of the fourth, went 2-for-3 with three RBIs. Hancock had an RBI, while Lovelace went 2-for-2.

The Tigers played Hamilton

County this past Tuesday and will play at Ruth Rains on Tuesday, March 27, at 4 p.m.

UCHS baseball team evens district record with 7-5 win

Shatto: 2 RBI

Cox: Complete game

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Skyler Shatto drove in two runs in a three-run fourth inning to help the Union County High School baseball team defeat District 6-1A opponent Crescent City 7-5 on March 16 in Lake Butler.

Paden Clyatt, Caden Cox, Trace Croft, Tripp Davis and Garrett Mullins each had an RBI as the Tigers (7-3) evened their district record at 1-1.

Cox pitched a complete game, giving up five hits and one walk, while striking out eight.

Hamilton County 1 Union County 0

On March 13, host Hamilton County took advantage of a walk and two singles to score a run in the bottom of the eighth to defeat the Tigers 1-0.

Starting pitcher Davis gave up two hits before exiting in the eighth after giving up a two-out walk with no one on. He had 11 strikeouts.

At the plate, Whip Davis went 2-for-4.

Union County 15 Mt. Dora Christian 1

Croft: 4 RBI
Mullins: Complete game, 3-hitter, 7 strikeouts

Union bounced back, with Croft driving in four runs in the Tigers' 15-1, five-inning win over host Mount Dora Christian Academy on March 15.

Croft went 2-for-4 with a double and a triple, while Cox and Shatto each drove in two runs. Whip Davis and Tripp Davis went 3-for-4 and 2-for-4, respectively, with each driving in a run. Matthew Starling had an RBI as well.

Mullins pitched the entire way, giving up three hits and one walk. He had seven strikeouts.

The Tigers played Hamilton County this past Tuesday and will travel to play Crescent City on Friday, March 23, at 7 p.m. Union then hosts Bradford on Tuesday, March 27, at 7 p.m.

KHHS baseball team falls by 8 runs in district game

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

The Keystone Heights High School baseball team was held to four hits in a 9-1 District 5-5A loss to host Palatka on March 16.

Gary Searle had an RBI, while Nate Gagnon hit a double.

Keystone (4-5, 2-3) entered the game off a 14-2, five-inning win over host Bishop Snyder on March 15.

Will Yeldell drove in three of the Indians' nine runs in the third and fourth innings. Stevie Rodriguez, who went 2-for-3, also had three RBIs, while Gagnon and Connor Osteen each had two RBIs. Gagnon went 2-for-4, while Osteen hit a double.

Andrew Cox and Alex Kanos each had an RBI, while Searle went 2-for-3 with a double.

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Kaison Haarvey hit a double as well.

Osteen went the distance on the mound, giving up five hits and no walks, while striking out eight.

Keystone played Class 6A Ridgeview this past Tuesday and will host Class 8A Buchholz on Thursday, March 22, at 7 p.m. The Indians host district opponent Bradford on Friday, March 23, at 7 p.m. before traveling to play district opponent Fort White on Tuesday, March 27, at 7 p.m.

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Tue. • March 27 Pastor Brad Bromling, First Christian Church
Wed. • March 28 Pastor Justin Kirksey, Madison Street Baptist
Thur. • March 29 Pastor Dale Wiseman, Bayless Highway Baptist Church
Fri. • March 30 Rev. Jay Therrell, Florida Conference of United Methodist Church

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River of Life Church of God

An offering will be taken each day to support
Bradford County Food Pantry.

Lake Butler Rotary and Women's Club Receive Grants from Clay Electric

BY TRACY LEE TATE
Times Editor

The Lake Butler Rotary Club and the Lake Butler Women's Club have received grants from the Clay Electric Foundation which will allow them to finance some projects they have been thinking about or working on for some time.

John Henry Whitehead, the Clay Electric trustee for the district and Jordan Wade, public relations officer for Clay Electric in Lake City, visited both organizations Tuesday to present them with checks for the grants they have been awarded.

Wade explained to Rotarians that the funds for the grant came from Clay Electric Foundations Operation Round-Up, a program which allows Clay Electric customers to round up the amount of their bills to the next dollar and have the money be put into the foundations coffers to support the efforts of community service organizations in the community. Wade noted that 93 percent of Clay Electric's 185,000 accounts were signed up for the program. He also

noted that the two grants he was delivering were the first ever which were specific to the Lake Butler/Union County community.

All of the Rotarians attending the Tuesday meeting gather together to accept the ceremonial giant check, while club President Ted Barber accepted the real one. The grant to the Lake Butler Rotary Club was for \$9,500 and Barber and President-elect Donna Harris said plans were to use the money to help support efforts like Farm Share and to work to bring more programs like it to the community.

Whitehead and Wade then traveled to the Lake Butler Woman's Club, where they were met by several members, who accepted the check for \$10,500. The club plans to use the money to continue with the restorations of the historic clubhouse.

"We are flexible on how the money will be spent, but we are looking at several things still left to be done, such as the HVAC for the upstairs and the work on the outside of the building," said Ann Hendricks.



Members of the Lake Butler Women's Club accepting a check from the Clay Electric Foundation. Pictured are: Jordan Wade, Jean Waters, Betty Emerick, Jean Brannen, Monica Bayer, Ann Hendricks, Harriet Maines, John Henry Whitehead and Bobbie Morgan.



Members of the Lake Butler Rotary Club accepting a ceremonial check from the Clay Electric Foundation. Pictured are: Dale Walker, Tommy Spires, Bill McGill, Sara Owen, Art Peterson, Carlton Faulk, John Henry Whitehead, Steve Wellhausen, Joe Stephenson, Jordan Wade, Shane Collins, Ted Barber, Jennie Reed, Donna Harris, Russ Wade, Tricia Wylie and Nancy Griffis.



Clay Electric's Jordan Wade noted that 93 percent of Clay Electric's 185,000 accounts were signed up for the Operaton Round Up program.



Chase Williams and Kelsey Harrison, presenting the Celebration of Abilites prom concept to the Future Bueinss Leaders of America Convention on Orlando.

Entrepreneurs Work to Benefit Special Education Students

BY TAMMY HARRISON
Special to the Times

Two Union County entrepreneurs have started a non-profit organization that helps students with disabilities build self esteem.

Kelsey Harrison, the reigning Miss Largo and Chase Williams- Owner of Williams Technology have lunched Celebration of Abilities Inc.

Proms and other opportunities

The organization assists schools in the state of Florida in establishing Celebration of Abilities proms: the same event Harrison started while a student in Union County nine

years ago. In conjunction with the prom, schools will be able to coordinate special education days where students participate in baseball games or sporting events of their choice, participate in buddy programs with regular education students, participate in sporting management positions and learn school-to-work career skills. All of this will help to incorporate inclusion opportunities for schools and communities.

Future goals for this program are to develop a statewide curriculum where students have the opportunity in high school to learn about inclusion and how to be involved with students with exceptional needs.

More information

If you would like to receive more information about this non-profit business or donate please visit <http://celebrationofabilities.org/> to help in your local area.

Kelsey and Chase had the opportunity this past weekend to present their program to over 4,500 students at the Future Business Leaders of America student convention in Orlando. From this, they hope that their program will increase opportunities in schools throughout the entire state.

The Weekly Paw Print:

Going to the dentist is scary at times for people but it is much worse for pets. There has been an alarming rise in places offering pet dental cleanings without anesthesia. While on the surface this might be appealing, experts agree that what results is both inadequate treatment and needless trauma. Today we discuss why it is important to anesthetized pets during dental cleanings.

First, it is the best standard of care. The 2013 AAHA Dental Care Guidelines for Dogs and Cats clearly state "cleaning a companion animal's teeth without general anesthesia is considered unacceptable and below the standard of care." This means the pain and stress a pet faces, as well as the medical complications, during a non-anesthetic dental cleaning are so significant that it is considered an inhumane practice. When dogs and cats undergo a non-anesthetic dental cleaning, they can often be overwhelmed by the bright lights, loud equipment, and strange people restraining them. Even under sedation, an animal still experiences these fears. This can place your pet under significant stress and even cause lasting trauma.

Second, anesthesia seems scary, but when given the right attention it can be very safe and is a very important part of the dental procedure. The use of a personalized anesthesia and pain control plan can mitigate many of the risks associated with non-anesthetic procedures. Anesthesia also allows your veterinarian to properly evaluate your pet's teeth. Did you know that 60 percent of a dog or cat's tooth is hidden beneath the gum line? Dental X-rays obtained while the pet is under anesthesia allow the veterinarian to fully examine each tooth and identify problems that cannot be seen with the naked eye—and additional treatment can often be provided on the spot. Anesthesia also allows the veterinary team performs a thorough exam and cleaning without the risk of injury to himself or to your pet.

Lastly, most pets recover from anesthesia quickly. According to the American Veterinary Dental College (AVDC), many patients are fully recovered—meaning they are awake and standing—just 15–20 minutes after the procedure is completed. Anesthetized dental cleanings are an outpatient procedure, so your pet can go home with you the same day. Many pets that are suffering from severe dental disease show improvement with in days, sometimes, even the next day.

Treating your pets like family!



TOWN & COUNTRY
VETERINARY CLINIC
Dr. Joel Sailor



We are the ONLY AAHA accredited hospital in the Lake Region Area

904-964-6411

www.tncvet.net

1051 S. Water St. Starke, FL 32091

MONTH OF APRIL FREE NUTRITION CLASS!

Would you like to learn more about nutrition, positive choices, and improving your overall health in a supportive group environment? If so, this class is for you!



Provided by the Bradford County Health Department

Week 1: April 3rd
Eating healthy can taste great!

Week 2: April 10th
Eating healthy on a budget,
Nutrition facts & Portion size

Week 3: April 17th
Losing Weight & Maintaining
a healthy body weight

Week 4: April 24th
Physical Activity & Overall
Healthy Lifestyle

When?
Every Tuesday
5:30-6:30pm

Where?
Bradford County Health Dept.
1801 North Temple Ave.
Starke, Florida 32091

Space is limited,
so please call Tracy Toms at
904.964.7732
ext. 1116 to register!

Operation Barnabas to host free Easter event March 24

Operation Barnabas, a nonprofit organization that seeks to make a positive impact on the lives of veterans and first responders struggling

with post-traumatic stress disorder, is hosting an Easter Recon fundraiser, a free, family friendly event that will be held Saturday, March 24, from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. at the Fagan farm north of Keystone Heights (5821 S.R. 21).

The event will include an Easter-egg hunt, a barbecue lunch, the chance to win door prizes, live music and entertainment, local vendors,

a bounce house, face painting, hay rides and other activities. Also, a service dog will be presented to a veteran in need.

For more information, please call 850-814-4320, or visit the event's Facebook page (OperationBarnabasInc).

Col. Samuel Elbert DAR meeting set for April 2

The Col. Samuel Elbert Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution will hold its regular meeting beginning at 10:30 a.m. on

Monday, April 2, at IHOP in Starke.

Anne Smoak will be the hostess. Her program will be on Florida in the early 20th century.

Do you have a Revolutionary War-era Patriot in your family tree? If you would like to find out, we can help with DAR's amazing genealogical resources.

Any woman 18 years or

older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove direct descent from a person who aided in achieving American independence between April 19, 1775, and Nov. 26, 1783, is eligible for membership in DAR. Please contact Leslie Harper (352-475-5090) or June Keefe (386-431-1830) for more information.

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

Word Ad Classified Tuesday, 12:00 noon
Classified Display Tuesday, 12:00 noon

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED USE YOUR PHONE

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Classified Advertising should be paid in advance unless credit has already been established with the newspaper. A \$3.00 service charge will be added to all billing to cover postage and handling. All ads placed by phone are read back to the advertiser at the time of placement. However, the classified staff cannot be held responsible for mistakes in classified advertising taken by phone. The newspaper reserves the right to correctly classify and edit all copy or to reject or cancel any advertisements at any time. Only standard abbreviations will be accepted.

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Southern Villas of Starke

Ask about our

1&2 BR Apartments HC & non-HC Units. Central AC/Heat, on-site laundry, playground, private, quiet atmosphere.

Located on SR-16, 1001 Southern Villas Dr. Starke, FL
Call 904-964-7295
TDD/TTY 711
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\$460 - \$505

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We accept Section 8 Housing

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TDD 800-955-8771

OFFICE LOCATION next to Walgreen's. Suitable for retail or can be made into offices. \$500/mo. Call 904-364-9022.

OFFICE LOCATED by Starke Post Office. \$400/mo. Call 904-364-9022.

OFFICE BUILDING FOR RENT. Keystone Heights next to W.D. Beck Ins. 3 offices, large conference room, kitchen, 2/BA, parking. \$1000/per mo. on contract. For info call 904-364-9022.

48 Homes for Sale
3BR/2BA WITH GARPORT on Myrtle Street. New roof, new paint. Owner finance available with credit qualification and upfront payment required. Call 904-364-9022.

50 For Rent
2BR/1BA APT. CH/A. Electric range, refrig, hardwood floors, W/D hook-up, close to schools. \$650/mo. 1st mo. and sec. deposit. Senior & Milt. discount available. Service animals only, references. Call 904-966-1334.

WE HAVE 2 OR 3 bedroom MH, clean, close to prison. Call 352-468-

Help Wanted ~ Maintenance Man

Newly Renovated Rooms

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STARKE, FL
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40 Notices
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY. All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 in which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing

custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate in which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777, the toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275. For further information call Florida Commission on Human Relations, Lisa Sutherland 850-488-7082 ext #1005.

Motor Vehicles & Accessories
SCASHS FOR JUNK cars, up to \$500. Free pick up, running or not. Call 352-771-6191.

2006 MERCURY GRAND Marquis GS. 135,000 miles. Great condition, great price. \$3,000 by appointment. 352-215-5449.

47 Commercial Property (Rent, Lease, Sale)
DOWNTOWN STARKE Affordable Office Space for rent. 113 E. Call St. Call Freddie American Dream Realty at 904-509-9893.

BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

Union County School Board

SCHOOL BUS

Substitute & Full Time Drivers Needed
40 hour Training Class provided.
CDL NOT required to enroll.

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or Union County School Board:
386-496-2045

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FREE ESTIMATES

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Mowing & More!!

John Wood ~ 904-796-9311

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607 Bradford Court
Starke, FL

Call for more info
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Hearing Impaired Only
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Handicapped Accessible
This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

1323. NEWLY RENOVATED mobile homes. 3 BR/ 2 BA DW and 2 BR/ 2 BA. (One) 16x80 2 BR/2 BA. Lake Butler. 1-678-438-6828.

SW IN COUNTRY. 3BR/ 2BA, CH/A, freshly painted, new carpet, mini blinds throughout, wood deck, nice yard, quiet area. 11071 SE 49th Ave. 550/mo. plus deposit. Senior discount. 904-571-6561 or 352-468-1093.

2 HOUSES FOR LEASE/ FOR SALE/LEASE TO BUY. 3BR/2BA house for rent. Tile floor, granite counters, Jacuzzi tub, gas fireplace, 2-car garage. Lake access. Post Masters Village in Keystone Heights. \$1000/mo.- \$1050/mo. plus 1 month deposit. Call Dave 352-473-3560.

FOR RENT: ACRE LOT Melrose. 2BR/1 BA. MH. Wood floors, all electric kit. CH/A. Utility Bldg. W/D hookups. Quiet area. \$575/mo. Plus deposit. 904-707-6251.

53 A Yard Sales
RUMMAGE SALE!! Starke SDA Church rummage sale. Sunday 8am-2pm. Everything cheap, lots of great items. Contact Primrose Lewis 904-964-8766 for more information.

BIG YARD SALE. Saturday. 8419 NW CR 229 Starke. Boy & girl clothes & shoes. Men & women clothes, & Household items.

YARD SALE. 2375 NE 173rd St. Starke. 8am-? Friday & Saturday.

57 For Sale
SOLID OAK KITCHEN TABLE w/6 chairs, very good condition. \$200. 904-964-5180.

65 Help Wanted
LAKE BUTLER HOSPITAL PRN Day Shift Paramedic-12 Hour shifts. Please visit our website www.lakebutlerhospital.com for more information and to fill out an application. PH. 386.496.2323 Ext 9258, Fax 386.496.2105 Equal Employment Opportunity / Drug & Tobacco Free Workplace.

LAKE BUTLER HOSPITAL PTA & COTA-PRN Please visit our website www.lakebutlerhospital.com for more information and to fill out an application. PH. 386.496.2323 Ext 9258, Fax 386.496.2105 Equal Employment Opportunity / Drug & Tobacco Free Workplace.

SECRETARY NEEDED PT. Must know Quick-

books, be good on computer. LABORER NEEDED must have drivers license. Able to lift 50 lbs. Call 904-964-8596.

Director of Operations/Utilities THE CITY OF STARKE is seeking a highly responsible person to function as the Director of Operations/Utilities. The successful candidate will supervise all utility departments as well as Public Works and the warehouse. The Director will be responsible for the daily operations of all departments falling under his/her authority as well as the following: assisting contracted engineers with the planning, design and construction of a large number of municipal projects; develops staffing requirements for all departments and provides supervision and performance evaluations for appropriate supervisors; coordinates work activities and priorities for each department; reviews expenditures to ensure compliance with approved budgets to ensure fiscal responsibility, and other related duties. Complete position description can be found at Career Source or on the city's website www.cityofstarke.org

The successful candidate should have at least 15 years of experience in progressively responsible positions in utility and public works operations, with a minimum of 5 years of substantial supervisory experience. Graduation from an accredited four year college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Civil, Electrical or Environmental Engineering or related field may be substituted for 5 years of required experience. A comparable amount of training, education or experience can be substituted for the minimum

Orangewood Apartments
801 South Water Street
Starke, FL 32091
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TDD/TTY 711

Accepting Applications!
Rental Assistance!
1, 2, & 3 bedroom HC & Non-HC accessible apartments.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.
Equal Housing Opportunity

mum qualifications. The City of Starke is an Equal Opportunity Employer and provides, retirement, health insurance, ample paid time off and other benefits. This position is exempt from overtime and will require occasional callouts to supervise crews after normal working hours. Starting salary is in the \$65-75,000 range but is negotiable DOQ. Applications may be obtained through Career Source, as well as the City of Starke website. Deadline for submitting application, cover letter, and resume is April 20, 2018.

LAKE BUTLER HOSPITAL ARNP & PA-Part Time and PRN
Please visit our website www.lakebutlerhospital.com for more information and to fill out an application. PH. 386.496.2323 Ext 9258, Fax 386.496.2105 Equal Employment Opportunity / Drug & Tobacco Free Workplace.

THE BRADFORD COUNTY Solid Waste Department is accepting applications for a qualified, part-time Site Attendant and Relief Driver at a pay rate of \$10.00 per hour. Applicants must possess a High School Diploma or G.E.D. and a CDL Class B License. Applications along with a detailed job description may be obtained from the Solid Waste Department, located at 925 N. Temple Avenue, Suite E, Starke, Florida 32091 or from the county website at www.bradfordcountyfl.gov. The deadline for accepting applications is April 5, 2018, before the close of business. Bradford County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. For inquiries, please contact Solid Waste Director, Bennie Jackson at (904) 966-6212.

THE BRADFORD COUNTY Solid Waste Department is accepting applications for a full-time, qualified, Roll-Off Garbage Truck Driver at

Lake Butler Apartments 1, 2, 3 & 4 BEDROOM APARTMENTS
HC & Non-HC accessible. 1005 SW 6th St. Lake Butler, FL
386-496-3141
TDD/TTY 711.

Accepting Applications!
Rental Assistance!
This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.
Equal Housing Opportunity

a pay rate of \$14.00 per hour. Applicants must possess a High School Diploma or G.E.D. and a CDL Class B driver's license. Applications along with a detailed job description may be obtained from the Solid Waste Department, located at 925 N. Temple Avenue, Suite E, Starke, Florida 32091 or from the county website at www.bradfordcountyfl.gov. The deadline for accepting applications is April 5, 2018 before the close of business. Bradford County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. For inquiries, please contact Solid Waste Director, Bennie Jackson

at (904) 966-6212.

LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME STAFF to work with those w/ intellectual disabilities in the Starke area. \$9.50/hr to start. Must possess 1 yr. experience in pd childcare, healthcare or related field, high school diploma/GED, reliable transportation & ability to pass background screenings. Must have a positive attitude. Call 904-964-7767 or send resume to progression-services@gmail.com.

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\$601⁰⁰ and up

As low as \$87⁵⁰ security deposit!
\$13⁵⁰ Application Fee

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PETS WELCOME!

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TDD 711

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Starting at \$438/mo

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- All Apartments Ground Level

1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apartments!

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WALDO FARMERS & FLEA MARKET

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New & Used Tools, Air Compressors, Boots, Hats and Custom Leather Belts

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DURRANCE PUMP

Sheppard, Thompson show top steer, heifer at fair

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Telegraph Staff Writer

Bailee Sheppard and Josh Worten exhibited the top two steers at the Bradford-Union 4-H and FFA Steer and Breed Show at the Bradford County Fair, while Walker Thompson and Nathan Boone exhibited the top two heifers.

Sheppard's steer was also the reserve grand champion. She received a rosette and buckle for each award, plus \$300 for the homegrown grand championship, which was sponsored by Boone Septic.

Worten's steer was also the homegrown reserve grand champion. He received rosettes and plaques for both awards as well as \$150 for winning the homegrown reserve grand championship, which was sponsored by Union Power and Equipment.

The top five overall steer awards (in order) went to Sheppard, Worten, Chase Roberts, Walker Thompson and Karlie Hardee. Gordon Smith and Ward-Wiggins Farm sponsored the \$150 and \$125 first- and second-place prizes, respectively, while Sal Perez Club Calves sponsored the \$100 third-place prize. The Kiwanis Club of Starke sponsored the \$75 fourth-place prize, while 3RD cattle sponsored the \$50 fifth-place prizes.

The homegrown champion breeder (steers) was Rodney

Griffis, while J&G Williams Cattle was named homegrown reserve champion breeder (steers). Certificates were presented to both.

Walker Thompson showed the grand champion heifer, earning a rosette and belt buckle, while Nathan Boone showed the reserve grand champion heifer, earning a rosette and a plaque. Both animals were also the homegrown award winners, with Thompson receiving a rosette, buckle and \$200, sponsored by Robby Worrell Construction, and Boone receiving a rosette, plaque and \$100, sponsored by 3RD Cattle and Hulsey Hauling.

The top five overall heifer awards went to (in order) Thompson, Boone, Payton Thompson, Bailee Sheppard and Harley Seay. North Florida Cattlemen's Association sponsored the \$150, \$125, \$100 and \$75 first- through fourth-place prizes, while 3RD Cattle sponsored the \$50 fifth-place prize.

The homegrown champion breeder (breed) was Whitehead Family Cattle, while the homegrown reserve champion breeder (breed) was Boone Acres. Each received a certificate.

Overall performance, showmanship

The Zedra Hamilton family sponsored two overall-performance awards, with Josh Worten earning the steer award and Harley Seay earning the breed award.

Tanner Connell received the \$200 Citizenship Award, sponsored by the Harold E. Waters family in memory of Donna and Lynne Waters.

Kaylie Whitehead earned the Tough Girl Award and received a pocket knife.

In the Bradford-Union Cattlemen's Association showmanship contest, Nathan Boone placed first in the senior division, followed by Bailee Sheppard, Josh Worten, Madison Bennett and Tara Holtzendorf. Cash prizes were sponsored by Bradford County Farm Bureau (\$300), Joe Hendricks Farm (\$200), EC Cattle (\$150), Kellie Connell (\$100) and GL Cattle (\$75).

Harley Seay placed first in the intermediate division, followed by Walker Thompson, Maci Whitehead, Madison Brown and Brady Pearson. Prizes were sponsored by Badcock of Starke and Lake Butler (\$300), Emerson Nursery and Rental Plants (\$200), Bradford Soil and Water Conservation (\$150), Westside Feed II (\$100) and Patrick Hartley Welding (\$75).

Karlie Hardee was first in the junior division, followed by Sydney Box, Ryder

Thompson, Noah Williams and Karly Shatto. Prizes were sponsored by Teal Tile Carpet (\$300), Swift Creek Realty (\$200), Bradford Soil and Water Conservation (\$150), Westside Feed II (\$100) and Realtor Kayla Alvarez (\$75).

Herdsman, weight-gain awards

Bradford-Union Cattlemen's Association Herdsman Award winners were Tara Holtzendorf (senior), Katie Caren (intermediate) and Shayna Durrance (junior). Their \$125 prizes were sponsored by Suburban Carpet Cleaners (senior) and Thompson's Auto Sales (intermediate and junior).

Kaylie Whitehead and Madison Bennett placed second and third, respectively, in the senior division, with Suburban Carpet Cleaners sponsoring the \$100 second-place and \$75 third-place awards, respectively.

Kendal Stalnaker placed second in the intermediate division, followed by Hunter Williams. Their awards were sponsored by Whitehead Family Cattle.

In the junior division, Jordan Hamilton was second, followed by Kody Stalnaker. Bradford Soil and Water Conservation sponsored the second-place award, while Clyatt Well Drilling sponsored

the third-place award.

In the steer weight-gain contest, Garrison Ritch placed first, receiving \$100 from sponsor Gator II Farm Supply/Ken Mueller. Judd Connell and Jenna Ritch tied for second, with Kim Griffis and AAA Hay Farms sponsoring the \$62.50 prizes.

Record book

In the Bradford 4-H Intermediate record-book contest (steer), Jordan Hamilton and Walker Thompson placed first and second.

Grant Dicks and Ella Dicks placed first and second, respectively, in the Union Intermediate 4-H record-book contest.

In 4-H Junior record book, Garrison Ritch and Jacee Box placed first and second, respectively.

Bradford Septic and J&G Williams Cattle sponsored the \$50 first-place prizes in the intermediate division, while Gordon Smith and North Florida Custom Meats sponsored the \$30 second-place prizes. North Florida Custom Meats sponsored the junior division prizes.

Josh Worten and Jenna Ritch were first and second in the FFA Senior record-book contest (steer). The Kiwanis Club of Starke and North Florida Custom Meats sponsored the \$50 and \$30 first- and second-place prizes.

Macy Malphurs and Trevor

Holtzendorf placed first and second in the FFA Junior record-book contest. Randy Conner and Boone Acres Cattle sponsored the first- and second-place prizes, respectively.

In the 4-H record-book contest (breed), Tara Holtzendorf and Tatum Howard placed first and second in the senior division, while Walker Thompson and Noah Williams placed first and second in the intermediate division. Shayna Durrance placed first in the junior division, while Ryder Thompson and Addison Wright tied for second.

Bob and Janice Tyliczka and Bennett Farms sponsored the \$50 first-place and \$30 second-place awards in the senior division. Emerson Nursery and Rental Plants sponsored the intermediate awards, while Eric Crawford and Shatto Heating and Air sponsored the junior awards.

Katie Caren and Harley Seay placed first and second in the FFA Senior record-book contest (breed). EC Cattle and North Florida Custom Meats sponsored the \$50 first-place and \$30 second-place prizes, respectively.

Trevor Holtzendorf and Eli Rimes placed first and second, respectively, in the FFA Junior record-book contest. Malcolm Hill sponsored the prizes.

Bradford-Union Cattlemen's Association Herdsman Award winners were Tara Holtzendorf (senior), Katie Caren (intermediate) and Shayna Durrance (junior). Their \$125 prizes were sponsored by Suburban Carpet Cleaners (senior) and Thompson's Auto Sales (intermediate and junior).

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Strawberry Invitational set for April 14-15

The Starke Golf and Country Club will host the 51st Strawberry Invitational April 14-15.

Players will be placed in one of six flights based on their first-round scores.

The entry fee is \$135 per player. Meals are included in the cost.

To register, please call the Starke Golf and Country Club at 904-964-5441, or send email to jacksonville@amateurgolf.com.

Starke Kiwanis golf tournament is Good Friday

The Kiwanis Club of Starke is hosting its annual fundraising golf tournament on Friday, March 30, beginning with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. at the Starke Golf and Country Club.

The format is a four-man scramble with an entry fee of \$50 per person. The fee includes cart, lunch, goodie bag and prizes.

Cash prizes will be awarded for first, second and third places. A prize drawing will be held, with tickets for entry available for \$1 each or 25 for \$20.

For more information, please contact Cheryl Canova (904-964-5382), Pat Mundorff (352-274-8277), Jim Lewis (352-494-3296) or Paul Metivier (352-234-5066).

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more info at:

CarsonSpringsWildlife.org

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