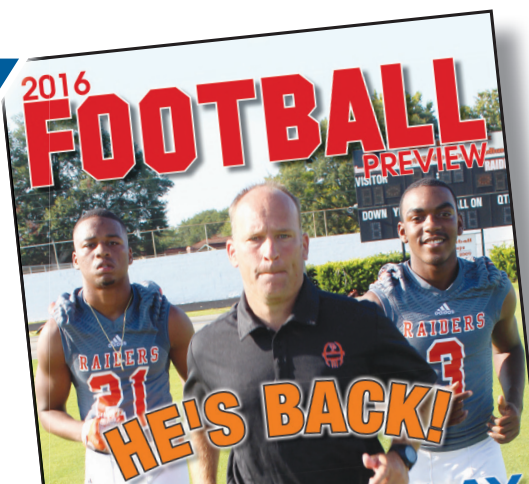


CLAY TODAY



FOOTBALL PREVIEW
Mac is back in Clay County

-INSERT



DRAGWAY
Readers react to dragway noise complaint

-Letters Page 4

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2016

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VOLUME 50, NO. 35 75¢

Documents released in fraud investigation

Former principal claims ESE fraud dates back at least to 2104

By Eric Cravey
Managing Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – When she first learned principals were placing students into Exceptional Student Education to avoid taking the rigorous state test required for graduation, Susan Sailor was principal of Keystone Heights Junior-Senior High School, according to documents released from the Florida Department of Education's Office of the Inspector General.



Susan Sailor

That was October 2014 when she was attending a principal's meeting at the Teacher Training Center at Fleming Island High.

"I inquired as to what they were doing and they were surprised I was not doing the same thing. They were telling me how to move them to ESE so they didn't count against them in their school grade or graduation rate and would actually increase the district's graduation rate," states the document.

The document is part of a packet of documents released after Oscar Restrepo, director of investigations with the Office of the Inspector General, met with Sailor on Aug. 15 at the Clay County Education Association's Middle-

SEE FRAUD, 17



Pouring the new bottom

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Work continues to move along on track on the Spring Park Pool restoration project in the heart of the city. Here, a worker is shown pouring concrete as part of the pool's foundation. The \$2.1 million project is being funded with city, county and state funds. When complete, the attraction will include a two-story pavilion and a splash water area and an enhanced outfall for the mineral spring that feeds 135,000-gallon swimming pool as it flows into the St. Johns River. It's on schedule for a January 2017 opening.



Switching parties & the Aug. 30 vote

By Jesse Hollett
Staff Writer

ORANGE PARK – Democrats, Independents and voters with No Party Affiliation have bombarded Northeast Florida supervisors of elections offices with Republican voter switch forms over the last three months.

For most who switched, the decision came from a simple conclusion – switch to the Republican Party or lose the right to vote.

Approximately 307,000 registered Republicans in the Fourth Judicial Circuit – made up of Clay, Duval and Nassau Counties – have the opportunity to vote for their preferred candidate in the primaries for three key races closed to voters of other parties. Republican votes will exclusively decide the results of the primaries for Clay County School Superintendent, public defender and state attorney. In the superintendent's race, incumbent Charlie Van Zant Jr. faces challenger Addison Davis and in the state attorney's race, incumbent Angela Corey faces challengers Wes White and Melissa Nelson, both former assistant state attorneys. In the public defender's race, incumbent Matt Shirk faces challenger Charlie Cofer, a former judge.

In less than a month, write-in candidates closed each primary and effectively disenfranchised 440,000 Democrats and Independents across the three-county area.

All legitimate candidates in each of the three races are Republican, so when the

SEE ELECTION, 6

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Inserts

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Kerekes Continues to Lead Commission Race

The Facts Speak for Themselves.

- **Fact:** Michael Kerekes is the only true Republican in this race. His opponent changed parties just before filing to run.
- **Fact:** Michael Kerekes is the only candidate in this race who opposes raising impact fees. His opponent wants to raise them.
- **Fact:** Michael Kerekes is the only candidate with any county-level experience having been appointed to the Charter Review Committee.
- **Fact:** After interviewing both candidates, Michael Kerekes is the only candidate in this race endorsed and supported by local Realtors and Builders.

“Having grown up in Clay County, it is important to me that we defend the values and beliefs that make our county a great place to work and live. Having served as an Assistant State Attorney I understand the damage crime can cause in a community. I am asking for your vote on August 30th and will always fight to maintain our quality of life.”

—Michael



Under the current leadership Clay County Schools have **dropped again to a “B” District.**

Addison Davis is the only qualified candidate in this race:

- ✓ Current Chief of Schools in DCPS (2nd in Command)
- ✓ Former Teacher, Principal, Regional Superintendent

Addison Davis is endorsed and supported by:

- ✓ Clay County Teachers
- ✓ Clay County Support Employees
- ✓ Northeast Florida Association of Realtors

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✓ **Vote Addison Davis on August 30th!**



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Paid by Addison Davis, Republican, for Superintendent of Schools.

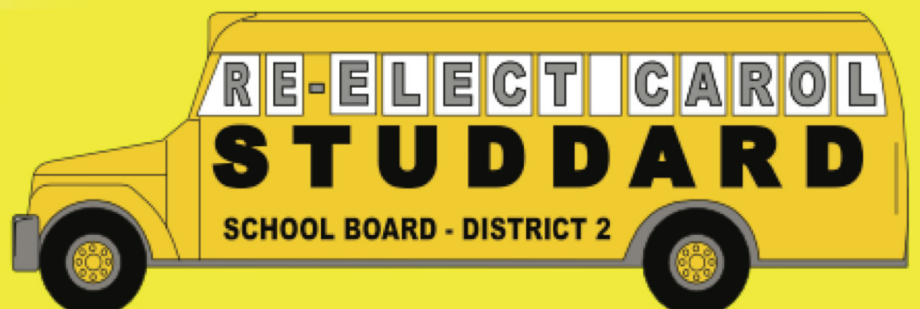
On Election Day Remember:

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Carol Studdard’s Record of Service:

- ✓ Former Chairman, Clay County School Board
- ✓ Clay County Citizen of the Year, 2016
- ✓ Endorsed and supported by Clay County teachers and support employees
- ✓ **Vote Carol Studdard August 30th!**



Paid by Carol Studdard for Clay County School Board District 2.

Debating debatable debates

By Steven Kurlander

In 21st century American politics, it's a given that if you are running for office, you should expect to debate your opponent(s) during the campaign — no matter whether you are running for school board or president.

Debating your opponent is part of proving your mettle for the job you're running for.

Normally, it's not a good move for a candidate not to show up to debate your opponent. Bob Greene wrote in 2012 "Today debates between the candidates — even when one of them is the incumbent — are all but mandatory. A candidate would be seen as chicken for not agreeing to debate."



Steven Kurlander

It appears that Donald Trump may think otherwise.

He set off a controversial debate about the presidential debates themselves when he first tweeted he was debating skipping the three upcoming presidential debates, which are set up by the "nonpartisan, nonprofit" Commission on Presidential Debates.

CNN's Rachel Sklar wrote: "Donald Trump is complaining. Of course, that's nothing new — the notoriously thin-skinned Republican nominee is an inveterate pouter, openly sulking about perceived injustices like lawsuits presided over by 'Mexican' judges, accurate press coverage and Megyn Kelly being mean to him. At 70, he may be the grumpiest old man on Twitter."

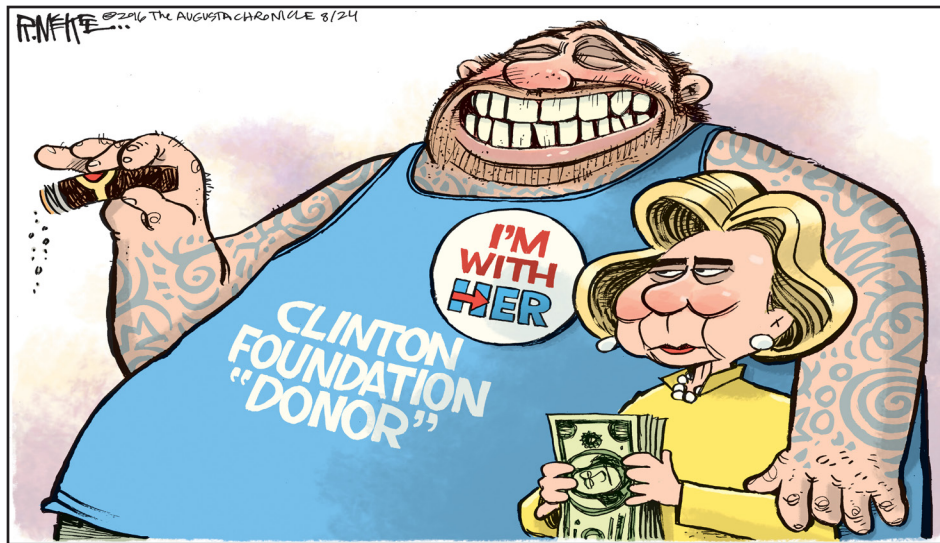
A visit to any American retirement community would confirm that grumpy, thin-skinned old men don't like to debate anything, let alone the political issues of the day.

But in this day and age of social media, a 24-hour news cycle, and an American electorate already inundated with instantaneous presidential election news, Trump may be right to question the antiquated formats of these debates — and particularly the moderators who nowadays show no semblance of neutrality at these events.

In 2016, if you ask Americans whether they'd rather tune into a presidential debate between Hillary and Donald or an NFL game being broadcast at the same time, it's easy to predict they'd rather eat their Doritos and wings watching football.

Political debates used to carry the aura of significance in terms of having great impact on elections and how voters decide who to vote for. Students of history were taught of the impact on American history of the infamous seven Lincoln-Douglas debates in the 1858 Illinois Senate cam-

SEE DEBATE, 11



Open records my foot

This year's heat makes me think back to my summers as a child.

Some days, Daddy would drive over to Rhine, Georgia where we'd go swimming in a spring-fed pond and on other days, we'd take a day trip to Jekyll Island. Either way, the idea was to stay cool and have fun. And then there was the summer of 1976 when we had a severe drought.

That year was so dry our ducks left the tiny pond Daddy had made them to go find water.



Eric Cravey

Daddy hopped in his car one morning to go to town to buy a copy of The Macon Telegraph and, much to his chagrin, he saw his White Pekins and Mallards splayed alongside Highway 165 on the two-mile drive to Flash Foods. Apparently, they had awakened near sunrise and left their pen and pond while a small touch of morning coolness lingered in the air.

What I remember most about that morning was what I call my parents' Depression-Era upbringing kicking in after he returned from town.

"Y'all come help me. The ducks is all been hit and they're laying on the side of the road. Come help me save them. We can eat 'em," perhaps he said. And then, I remember Mama yelling something about how undignified that would be, even though she'd admitted cooking an opossum for her father one time. It was one big mess.

We have our own big mess in Clay County right now, but it's not in the form of a splayed out duck. It is however, a mess of doubts and questionable actions bordering on extremely failed leadership.

By now, our readers are aware of the state fraud allegations investigation involving Clay County School Superintendent Charlie Van Zant Jr. Since those allegations were made public on Aug. 4, I have had to make two public records requests — one to the Clay County School District and the second to the Florida Department of Education. See, as it turns out, an investigator from the Office of the Inspector General of the

Florida Department of Education sat down on Aug. 15 and launched his own investigation into charges lodged by former Keystone Heights High Principal Susan Sailor after she first came public with the allegations on Aug. 4.

Shortly after receiving Sailor's email to the school board from a source, I made a public records request to the school district headquarters in Green Cove Springs to obtain and verify my own copy of her email. As it turns out now, Carl Hendrick, the assistant superintendent for information technology, handles public records requests.

After emailing my request to Mr. Hendrick, I received an acknowledgement from him on Aug. 8 stating that my request had been received and was under consideration. However, it wasn't until Aug. 18 that I received the school district's final determination that my request "cannot be granted at this time based on Florida Statute and Board Policy regarding confidential investigations."

That's where the state department of education comes in. And that's where I say, 'thank you.' Not only was I given the email from Dr. Sailor that I had requested from the Clay County School District, I was also provided documents relating to the investigation itself.

Florida's Open Records laws are often viewed as an example for the nation and to not follow them borders on failing to uphold the Florida Constitution. How is it that the state can provide the same documents that the local school district is refusing to provide?

I'm not convinced that this behavior is not a symptom of a larger problem and there is no transparency and no ownership regarding such poor decisions, only hiding behind Facebook videos. Throw in a dash of terribly bad legal advice from the school board attorney and it all smells like a cover up.

The voters of Clay County hold the future of our children in their hands when they head to the voting booth on Aug. 30. You decide whether you want to keep a "B" school district and one big mess.

You know what they say, "If it walks like a duck and talks like a duck, it must be a duck."

Letters to the Editor

Dragway is my 'home'

Having been born and raised in St Augustine, I got excited when I heard rumors that a dragstrip may be opening about 25 miles away. More than 50 years ago, my Dad raced at Thunderbolt raceway and I see a full trophy case with pictures of his '55 Chevy and the crowds from racing decades ago. I started racing as a teenager, we had to drive over 1½ hours to get to the nearest drag strip. We trekked to Gainesville or Orlando almost every weekend when I was a kid and I have been at the race track since I was born, I don't remember anything else. And when he got off early enough from work we made the trip to Jax Raceways.

Dad got meningitis several years ago before the track opened here and had to retire from work as a mechanic and drag racing. His Camaro I now race has been in the family as long as I have and we have no idea how many trips it has made down the strips in North Florida.

Dad and I came over here to watch the day the track opened and, while it had a long ways to go, it had a world of potential — a potential that it is still striving forward with the leadership of Pete, Tom and crew. We don't hesitate to call this our home track and while the traction here is as good as anywhere, the track personnel are more friendly and caring than any track crew we have ever raced at and the atmosphere is one of family — that is why this is our home track. It's an alcohol-free atmosphere that you can take your family to enjoy drag racing, an American past time.

As a kid, I traveled to different towns

SEE DRAGWAY, 5

Hands off the Dragway

As you know we are Green Cove Strong and for someone like myself that has been in Green Cove Springs for 53 years, we will not let this Peter Swanson try to shut down what so many love which is racing.

He knew of this track before moving here and now he needs to leave the families of the track alone. It stops illegal street racing and brings in revenue to our small town, we are all close knit family and the [expletive deleted] has now ruffled the feathers of many many people in this town. Now is the time for him to back down before things get worse. People like him can be run out of a town as small as we are.

We race, we have fun, we go home happy. No alcohol allowed, no fights, we hold functions for the children and now because of a small sound that can barely be heard, this trying to shut down our track is so appalling. Mr Swanson it's time to grow up and worry about your personal life and not others who can have a good time.

End it or move out of our town. Remember these words.

Green Cove Strong.....

Tracy A. Campbell
Green Cove Springs

Dragway

from page 4

playing sports and I get a feel for the towns. But other than knowing that the football and baseball teams here were almost always amazing I didn't have much of a feel for Green Cove, the little town on the other side of the river we'd pass through briefly on our way to Gainesville.

Then we started racing, meeting people here and, while Pete and Maree started this, it was the families at the track and the community that made this place our home. If I had the money, I would be here every time the gates open.

I am an outsider, a preacher and drag racer from elsewhere but I am treated like family here. People all across the board here reach out to me for prayer, pick me up when I hit a rough patch and ask about my kids. Alexa even started doing a little drag racing and it was embraced from day one. This is a hardworking, family-loving community and never has it been more apparent than when we lost Buddy and Valerie Short.

Green Cove Springs is an amazing community, full of hardworking family-loving citizens and this man Peter Swanson is attacking that. In my short time as a drag racer, I have watched race tracks be attacked and many times shut down and I have seen how it all affects local businesses. Every automotive business in Green Cove Springs can tell you they have more business because of the automotive interest that drag racing brings. Anyone in law enforcement can tell you a drag strip that embraces the gearheads and motor heads lessens the prospect of street racing. Green Cove Dragway has brought nothing but good to the community.

Jeff Gatlin

St. Augustine

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Green Cove Dragway is our home

Please don't make us homeless.

Seriously, every race day, while commuting to the IHRA, legal racetrack in beautiful Green Cove Springs, I see racers stopped at gas stations, sandwich shops, garages, etc. This track is so very good for the community.

From a young person's viewpoint, it definitely gives them an attainable goal to shoot for. You can see stock, four-cylinder cars racing against \$80,000 super class rides. The fact is this, you cannot waste your money on drugs and alcohol and such as that and save for new tires or a new engine.

I cannot begin to count how many people, men, women and children that I have let sit in my cars or on my bikes and get their pictures taken. Countless. If this track closes, I will still keep right on racing, as I have done for the past 26 years now.

Each time a pair of racers goes down the track, there is a winner and a loser. We will all be losing if the track is forced to shut down operations. The track loves family and they tirelessly do so much to show this.

Their Halloween race-safe trick or treat event is a fun night! And let's not forget the Christmas Parade, who won that?? I have put on and sponsored several races at Green Cove Dragway and I had friends from as far away as South Carolina come down. They all immediately fell in love with the entire set-up. They were overwhelmed at the small town atmosphere but legitimately ran track.

Just look at all of the many businesses that have sponsored this facility. None of these business owners are ashamed or embarrassed to have their names associated with this track. Why?? The answer is simple, come on out to the track and you can see for yourselves. Thank you for taking the time to read this statement.

Billy "The Wheelie" Barton
Keystone Heights

Reader takes issue with guest column on Dragway

I heard that Peter Swanson wants to close down Green Cove Dragway. I don't know who he is and he obviously doesn't know the hundreds of friends and families that meet up at Green Cove Dragway every Friday and Saturday nights enjoying the evening having a great time racing, BBQ's, and for some watching their favorite race cars go down the strip.

I meet new people every week. I drive to Green Cove every Saturday to go drag racing. I've been drag racing for almost 20 years now. The owners and staff are my second family. Green Cove Dragway is where we get to race at full throttle!

It's a great feeling pulling into Green Cove to know that win or lose the race, we are making memories and living life at the race track. I wouldn't have met so many great people had Green Cove never

opened. Thank you. Lotta' love for Green Cove Dragway

Lea Todaro, AX49 Chevy Van Racer
Gainesville, Florida

Reader says "Sleight of hand in Green Cove Springs" is wrong

First of all, your title and your first paragraph were incorrect, misleading and by your own admission, untrue. Basically, you caught the attention of your audience by implying that our city council was vindictive and self-serving. Completely untrue.

Every city council meeting is open to the public. I have attended several over the last two decades and each one was well-supported, some with standing room only. I have attended two city council meetings

SEE READER, 8

School News

Scott graduates from Clemson University

CLEMSON, S.C. – Thomas Richard Scott Jr. of Melrose graduated from Clemson University with a bachelor of science in electrical engineering.

Scott was among nearly 1,000 students who received degrees in the graduation ceremony at Bon Secours Wellness Arena in Greenville, South Carolina.

Lombardi graduates from Rhodes College

MEMPHIS – Andrea Lombardi of Orange Park recently began medical school at the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

Recently commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, Lombardi gradu-

ated from Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee in May with a degree in biochemistry and molecular biology.

The recipient of a health professions scholarship, upon completion of medical school and residency requirements, she will report to active duty as doctor and captain in the Army.



Andrea Lombardi

Daughter of Michael and Lee Lombardi of Orange Park, she graduated grammar school at St. Johns Country Day and attended high school at Bishop Snyder where she was a scholar-athlete in lacrosse and softball.

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WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Seeking all persons with information regarding the automobile accident that occurred on November 11, 2014 at approximately 2 a.m. in the right, Northbound lane on Blanding Boulevard in front of the Blanding Business Park. If you have any information regarding the accident, please immediately call 904-442-2588 or email blandingboulevardaccident@gmail.com.

Election

from page 1

write-in candidates qualified they counted as opposition and closed the primaries to an exclusively Republican vote, allowed by Florida law.

Without a voice in the primaries, many Democrats and Independents turned to a party switch as their only option to have any say in these races.

The Clay County Supervisor of Elections recorded more than 3,100 voter switches to the Republican Party between January and August, nearly 10 times what the number of party switches during the 2014 election cycle.

“If you are a Democrat, you are unable to vote for any of those candidates,” said Cheryl Owen, member of the Clay County Democratic Party. “The ones that I’ve talked to did not want to switch parties, they felt like they had to switch parties in order to express their dissatisfaction with the people that are currently in office...They feel like they’re left out of the decision making process, and I do too.”

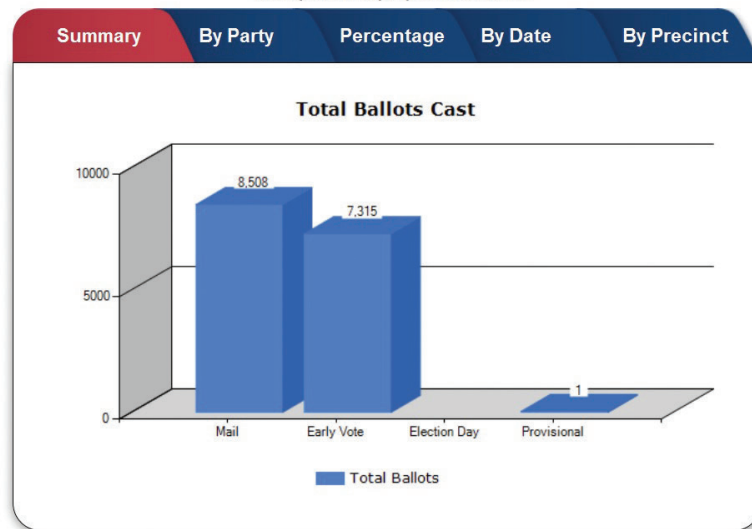
Owen said while Democratic Executive Committee meetings have been upbeat lately, there has been talk about opening Florida’s primary process so write-in candidates cannot close primaries.

Write-in candidates do not appear on the ballot, instead voters can write his name on a blank space provided next to the

17,436 Vote by mail ballots issued for the 2016 Primary Election, as of August 23, 2016 at 10:57 a.m.

2016 Primary Election 08/30/2016

Last Updated: 08/24/16 12:10:02 PM



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primary winner.

Write-ins also do not pay qualifying fees. The Florida Supreme Court ruled earlier this year that write-in candidates also do not need to be likely to win to count as valid opposition.

“Disenfranchised in a lot of ways is the right word to use because they’re unable to vote,” said Michael Binder, associate professor of political science at the University of North Florida. “The winner of this election is going to win in November, because these write-in candidates are essentially sham candidates. Whoever wins next week is going to be the next public defender and state attorney come November.”

Many of the voters who switched could just switch back after the primaries, Binder said. However, because Florida utilizes a closed primary process, Democrats and Independents who switched parties waived their rights to vote for their preferred party candidates in the U.S. Senate, Congressional District 5 and House Districts 13 and 15 primaries.

“I think a lot of people got disenfranchised with the Republican Party years ago,” said Leslie Dougher, former Republican Party of Florida chairwoman. “I think a lot of those people are coming back. They may have felt a little unhappy with the Republican Party, but now with [Republican Presidential Nominee] Donald Trump as their candidate, they’re happy with the Re-

publican Party and they want their votes to count.”

The rise in Republican voters is here to stay, Dougher said. Dougher expects the new Republicans in the electorate to stay after the primaries.

Part of the change can be attributed to “closet Republicans,” who already share similar ideology with the Republican Party.

Voter turnout among those who switched parties will be higher than those who didn’t, according to Binder. Even so, the party fluctuations are unlikely to alter the outcomes of the state attorney or public defender’s race. A July 6 poll found Nelson leading incumbent State Attorney Angela Corey by 10 percent, while Shirk trails behind Cofer by 18 percent.

In Clay County, approximately 64,000 Democrats and Independents were disenfranchised when write-in candidate Fred Gottshalk stepped into the superintendent primary. However, he pulled out right before qualifying ended and was replaced by school bus driver Marion “Keith” Nichols of Lake Asbury, therefore keeping the Aug. 30 primary for superintendent closed.

The winner in their respective primaries will go on to face their respective write-in candidates, while the winner of the superintendent’s race will face reading and journalism teacher Rebekah Shively in the general election. Shively is running under no party affiliation.

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BCC to take a bite out of blight

By Debra W. Buehn
Correspondent

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Hoping to put some “bite” into blight measures already on the books, Clay County commissioners voted Tuesday to approve a new blight ordinance they believe would be easier to enforce than what they have available to them now.

The vote was 4-1 in favor of the ordinance, with the dissenting vote coming from commission vice chairman Ronnie Robinson.

The new ordinance would give the commission a method to deal with buildings that might be boarded up, abandoned or considered derelict or unsafe. It would replace what is already on the books, said Mark Scruby, county attorney, adding that the biggest difference between what has been available to the commission and what the new ordinance creates is the ability for enforcement.

“You’ve always had this ordinance but not in a very good form – not in a usable form. That was the standard unsafe housing abatement code that was adopted years ago and never implemented,” Scruby said. “I don’t think it had adequate mechanisms for implementation.”

Essentially, the previous legislation dealing with blight, which was repealed when the commission voted to approve the new ordinance, did not provide for any method to fund dealing with buildings considered blighted.

Still, Scruby said, implementing the new ordinance will require further action by the commission to establish a funding mechanism if it is ever deemed necessary to deal with a derelict building. His recommendation, he said, would be to “start small” and meet with the county manager to create a fund with a “modest sum of money” and have the county manager come back to the commission with a list of the worst properties, those that have the most potential for blight.

“Then make a decision about how you would order those and give her [County Manager Stephannie Kopelousos] direction to go forward with them. So ultimately, you’d be in charge of when you would implement it,” he said.

Chairwoman Diane Hutchings said while she did not see herself as “ready to charge off and fund anything,” she did think it would be good to have some enforcement abilities available if needed.

“I think if we had a situation come up it’s better to have it on the books where you can actually do something versus what we’ve had in the past where you really

SEE BLIGHT, 23

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Reader

from page 5

in the last two years because the track was on the agenda for discussion. That's how I knew it was going to be discussed. I'm not sure how you missed that. Shame on you for misleading the public. Both times the room was full. Both times there was only one citizen present to complain about the noise. I respect their decision to do so even though we did not agree. The rest were there to either support the track or simply listen.

Both times the citizen that brought complaints about the noise claimed that there were others, too that were unhappy. While that may be true, I have little respect for someone who just complains. If it were that important, you should have been present. It's very easy to claim that there are others. It's also fair to say that many who support the track were unable to attend the meeting as well.

The track has brought more members of this town together than anything I've seen in years. It has families spending the weekends together. It has people in the 40-plus age bracket reuniting with classmates and colleagues. Business owners are networking as they enjoy their weekends here. There are 1,000 people there some nights. Our pre-teens and teenagers are coming to the races and not going to the Island

Back to the noise ordinance; if you had been at the meeting, you would know that the track's owner was very willing to do whatever was necessary to compromise. He already built barriers, offered to take measurements again and even close an hour earlier on Friday nights. He is, however trying to run a lucrative business. He also has a strong following of people that look forward to their weekends at the track.

If you had been at the meeting you would have understood that the track is not "above the law" as you say, but comes

under a different permit. It is exempt from the noise ordinance, the same as EverBank Field in Jacksonville. No one is "astounded" as you say. The council followed the law.

The track is only open at night for about six months out of the year. It also only runs two nights a week. And as far as 80 decibels; there is no way. We sit in the stands and have conversations. I'm sure you can hear the voices of your friends even if you're just a block away.

As a business owner myself, I do not always agree with our city council. However, I would never accuse them of being deceitful and putting their own agendas above that of the citizens. You definitely owe them an apology.

Just because they did not go your way on this matter does not mean you were disrespected. They obviously considered the wellbeing of all their citizens. Maybe if you came out to the track and saw how many families are there, and how many business owners are benefitting from the track, you might feel differently.

Larriane Stutts
Green Cove Springs

What the dragway means to me

I was going to write my own words to express what the dragstrip means to this community, local businesses, revenue for the City and an outlet that allows wholesome family entertainment. While we all have our opinions and able to share them openly, I've decided to let the good folks of the community speak for themselves, in their own words about what they have to say about Green Cove Dragway. These are all quotes from the Dragway's Facebook page:

We have been going about the past two years and they are very family oriented even my grandchildren love to go you could never meet nicer people and communities! THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

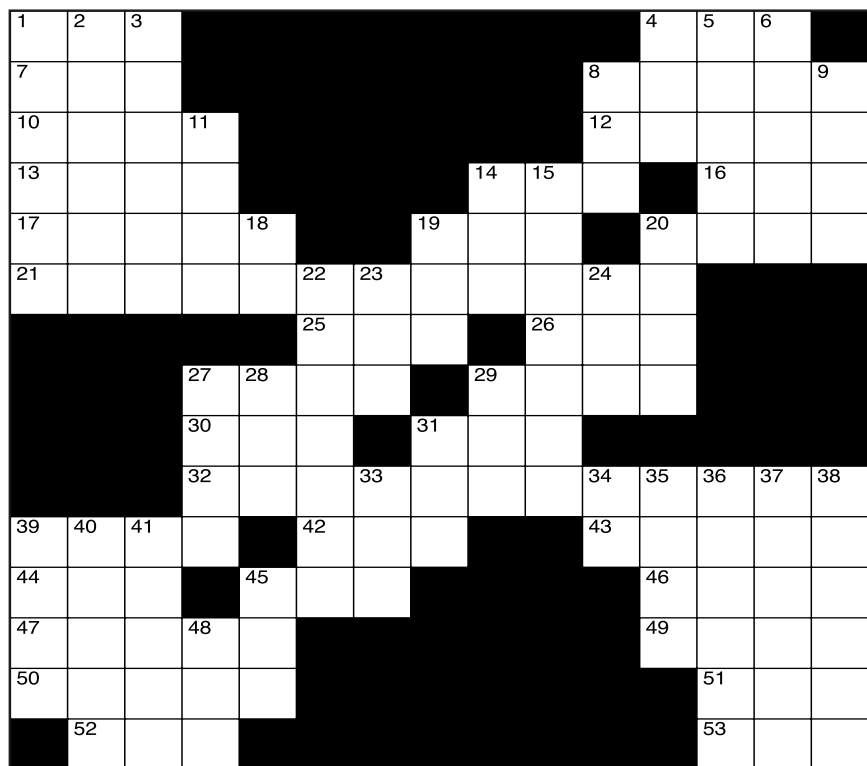
Love it been there a few times now but we make sure to go either Fri or Sat. It's a Family outing. lol

We came to watch my brother race here and had a great time. The grounds are clean, ladies' facilities are clean and wheelchair accessible. No drug or alcohol around. There was a food truck there. We paid extra to park in the pit area and it was worth it. I would put this at the top of the list for a family outing. Well done Green Cove Springs. I stand and applaud you.

Great atmosphere and place. The event

SEE DRAGWAY, 9

Weekly Crossword



CLUES ACROSS

1. Austrian river
4. Type of lunar crater
7. Taoism
8. German landscape painter
10. Big players do this
12. Nose cone
13. Islamic republic
14. Press against
16. Where you find corn
17. Battery cell
19. Score
20. Swiss river
21. The Babe's real name
25. Use it to clean
26. Supervises flying
27. Surfboard fin
29. Aggressive dogs
30. Makes computers
31. Buddy
32. Existing everywhere
39. Cheek
42. Comes in bags
43. British hip hop artist

CLUES DOWN

1. Incorporating
2. Piper __, actress
3. Principality
4. Famous bounty hunter
5. Chilean seaport
6. Relish
8. Throng
9. One point east of southeast
11. Knot in a tree
14. Revolutionary women (abbr.)
15. Containerfuls
18. Unit of weight

19. Al Bundy's wife
20. Genus of ducks
22. Christian hermit
23. Witch
24. Average accounting return
27. Type of chef
28. Barbie's pal
29. Ford makes this
31. Goes with carrot
33. 'Orange is the New Black' character
34. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord)
35. Unaccompanied
36. Wild goats
37. National capital
38. Freeholders
39. Smack
40. Expressed pleasure
41. Italian opera set
45. Gode Airport
48. Not or

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Dragway from page 8

was fun and tons of cars came out. The crew was amazing. The food was great. Definitely gonna' be coming back.

What a great venue and well run track! It's been years since I've been to a race somewhere but, I will certainly be back!

Only there a handful of times. Best atmosphere, quick to send people down the track. This isn't your typical track where you pay your \$25, spend hours upon hours in the pit lanes and run only once or twice most of the day! No this place just keeps going and going very very fun. Amazing staff, amazing people. They're really doing something for the car community in the Green cove area.

Tonight was my son's birthday and his first time racing and he had a great time. Everyone was patient and willing to help him. He has the bug- we will definitely be back. :-)

Great local people! Close by! Plus! It's FUN and actually LEGAL!!!

I am very pleased with the entire operation at Green Cove Drag Strip! Always have a great time with T and T. What a great addition to Clay County.

Great place to race and have fun nice kept up track and really nice people who run Green Cove Dragway. I've been to a lot of tracks this track ranks up there with the best of them

Had an amazing time last night... Really out did it for the kids thanks for the invite. Thank you mom Kimberly Frost Houston for taking us out to the first of many monster mash bashes a New yet great and successful way of bringing families together...

So, the City of Green Cove Springs has provided a wonderful place for generations of families to come and enjoy. Seeing old friends and making new ones...

I would dare to say there are times at 4 a.m. I wake up to the sound of a train going by and when I lived on Black Creek, well, some pretty loud boats came roaring by at all hours.

I believe there is enough going on in this world for us to be concerned about – having a safe environment for people to enjoy and have fun certainly should not be one of them.

Maree Moscati
Sarasota, Florida

Reader supports Addison Davis

When we decided to elect a candidate for the Superintendent of Education position instead of hiring one, I didn't think we would ever find the perfect candidate. We did.

His name is Addison Davis. He's an EDUCATOR.

Now we need to elect him to get us back to the op.

Let's do it!

Vote!

Bill Snyder
Orange Park

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, 11

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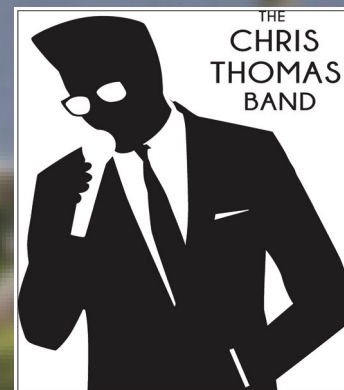
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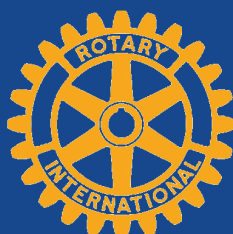
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Family Day gives parents peek into new potential

By **Jesse Hollett**
Staff Writer

CAMP BLANDING – Necks slick from sweat, cadets with the Florida Youth Challenge Academy march in measured lines sandwiched between sets of bleachers jammed with their parents who they haven't seen in nearly two months.

Parents wiped tears away last Saturday at FLYCA's family day, a day filled with music, food and hugs. Parents from around Florida travelled to Camp Blanding to get a one-day visit with their teen, just two months into the transformative program that helps troubled kids examine their lives and unlock their potential.

By her own admission, Madison Lemmon, 17, of Keystone Heights was undis-

ciplined and lazy when she lived at home. Now, nearly halfway through her five-and-a-half month residency at FLYCA, she's turned that all around.

"I feel like I'm actually going to be able to do something when I get out of here," Lemmon said. "Before, I was overwhelmed with 'oh well, I didn't do this right or that right,' 'oh what if I can't get a scholarship' and here they tell you it's life, you're going to be prepared for it when you leave."

Lemmon attended Keystone Heights Junior-Senior High before she registered for FLYCA Class No. 31. She said she despised the school because it bred drug use among the students.

Often, she'd stay out late at parties drinking with students who would experiment with opiates and psychedelic drugs.



Madison Lemmon, 17, of Keystone Heights, a cadet with Florida Youth Challenge Academy, hasn't seen her family and friends in about two months – it shows.



Platoons march in a drilling ceremony competition, displaying to their friends and family the discipline they've acquired in just two short months at the Florida Youth Challenge Academy.

Her neighbor, with whom Lemmon used to party, enrolled in the program and came back a "completely different" person.

FLYCA, Lemmon said, gives her a distraction-free environment where she can think about her future and work on her discipline. Now, even at ease, she starts and ends everyone sentence with sir.

FLYCA is a voluntary five-and-a-half month program that gears itself towards at-risk youth who have dropped out of high school, in danger of dropping out or may just be disrespectful and unmotivated.

Established in 2001, the program is a cooperative effort of the Clay County School District, Florida National Guard and state departments of Juvenile Justice and Children and Families.

Students, called cadets, serve their residency on the 73,000-acre Camp Blanding compound in an existing military complex renovated for the program's needs. Counselors maintain a highly-disciplined and structured environment that promotes academic achievement.

The program focuses on leadership, health, community service, life skills, job skills and physical fitness.

"These kids, they're coming here because they want a second chance," said Gwendolyn Boney-Harris lead counselor at FLYCA. "Young kids that just do not respect authority, no one can tell them anything, and then to see them walk away from here five-and-a-half months later saying yes ma'am and no ma'am."

Each cadet's five-month residency is immediately followed by 12 months of supervised mentorship from academy graduates and case managers who check in on them once a month to see what they've

done with what they learned from the academy.

"I got excited earlier when I saw a young man who came back as a former graduate who came back as a mentor, that's really the key point of our program, that student mentor relationship," said Ben Barksdale, special projects officer with FLYCA.

Cadets march everywhere in four separate platoons divided by gender. Their day starts at 4:45 a.m. They get three "chows" a day and complete basic hygiene tasks along with their daily studies and physical training.

Lemmon said there is an astounding difference from her general education diploma scores from when she entered and now, halfway through the program. An on campus Pearson testing center allows students to take the test before they leave.

As a sort of diversionary program, students have a chance to turn their lives around and become productive members of society, saving tax dollars – and perhaps lives – in the meantime.

Each of the 40 Challenge Academy programs nationwide receive 75 percent of their funding from the federal Department of Defense with the remainder coming from state sources, thus allowing the program to be tuition-free. The teachers are Clay County School District employees.

"I'm very glad this program's here, because it's good for any and all students who feel like they're lost," said Melanie Hartman, Lemmon's mother. "It gives them a sense of purpose."

Lemmon has goals now. She hopes to complete her GED and join the Army after she graduates from the academy this fall.

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Obituaries

Nova (Wilburn) Cason

Nova (Wilburn) Cason passed away August 16, 2016. She was born May 15, 1944 in Hobbs, New Mexico and resided in Orange Park, Fla.

Nova is heaven bound to be reunited with her parents Henry and Grace Wilburn, sister Whonda Kelly, oldest son Frank Hunt. She leaves behind a daughter Rebecca Green, two sons Jim and John Doyle, brother Henry Wilburn, grandchildren Amanda and Denise Jimmison, Alexis and Tyler Doyle, Brittany Doyle, Nathan Doyle, Lance Hunt and two great grandchildren Alex Crump and Aidan Hughes.

Nova will be dearly missed by her friends and family. Moma we love you our hearts are broken and we will be lost without you. Arrangement by Hardage-Giddens Holly Hill Funeral Home, 3601 Old Jennings Road Middleburg, FL. Please leave words of comfort at www.hollyhillfunerals.com.

Adrienne Marsh-Johnson

Adrienne Marsh-Johnson, 64 of Orange Park, Fla. passed away August 16, 2016. Russell Haven of Rest Cemetery, Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 2335 Sandridge Road, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. 904-284-7720. www.RHRFH.com



Toni Ann Lee

Toni Ann Lee, 66, of Palatka, Fla. passed away August 22, 2016. Please sign the family's online guestbook at www.broadusraines.com. Broadus-Raines Funeral Home, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, FL (904) 284-4000



Frank Murphy Gunn Jr.

Frank Murphy Gunn Jr., 89 of Jacksonville passed away August 18, 2016. Russell Haven of Rest Cemetery, Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 2335 Sandridge Road Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. 904-284-7720 www.RHRFH.com



David A. Justice

David A. Justice, 55, of Green Cove Springs, Fla. passed away August 16, 2016. Please sign the family's online guestbook at www.broadusraines.com. Broadus-Raines Funeral Home, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, FL (904) 284-4000



Thomas C. King

Thomas C. King passed away on Saturday, August 20, 2016. Aaron and Burney Bivens Funeral Home, 529 Kingsley Avenue, Orange Park, FL 32073, (904) 264-1233.



Letters to the Editor from page 9

Commending those who speak out

I am a resident of the Penney Retirement Community. Every year, we give scholarships to deserving students. As many of us are former teachers and professors, we and others here take a keen interest in education, and are watching the upcoming local elections with the same interest.

Real Men Wear Pink reveal event

ORANGE PARK – In its inaugural year in Clay County, eight area men will take a stand against breast cancer by supporting the American Cancer Society through participation in the Real Men Wear Pink campaign. Local male leaders who are participating in the campaign will be announced at this event, which will kick start their efforts to raise money and awareness for breast cancer by wearing pink throughout October.

The fun kicks off at 6 p.m. at The River

Debate

from page 4

campaign and the Nixon-Kennedy debates of the 1960s.

But since the Nixon-Kennedy debates, presidential debates have devolved in terms of their quality of political discourse, their fairness in how they are conducted and their true impact on voters.

The true question is not whether Trump should debate, but whether the upcoming presidential debates carry any significance at all.

At this point, most Americans are voting against, not for, either Clinton or Trump. They both carry big negatives among American voters. The debates, no matter what is said, won't matter in this regard.

Americans also have been already subjected to 13 GOP presidential primary debates and 10 Democratic presidential primary debates, and most of those debates, particularly the Republican ones, already proved trivial in dialogue and insignificant in terms of affecting how voters cast their ballots in the primaries.

Given all this, aside from being called a chicken by the mainstream press that despises him anyway, Trump has nothing to lose by refusing to debate Hillary Clinton.

There's only one way the upcoming

three presidential debates can change voters' minds, and that's if third party candidates can participate in them.

The Commission on Presidential Debates right now doesn't allow third party candidates to participate in the debates unless they reach a 15 percent polling threshold in five polls among voters.

If Gary Johnson of the Libertarian Party or Jill Stein of the Green Party were allowed to take the stage with Clinton and Trump, then there's no debating that these debates would suddenly become very significant in the 2016 race.

Allowing Johnson and Stein on the debate platform on three occasions would guarantee that Americans would hear some serious political discussion (that they crave at this point) – and that a third-party candidate could have a serious impact on the race, or even win the White House.

This is not debatable: If Johnson and/or Stein take the stage, a serious Donald Trump would definitely show up and the presidential debates for the first time in decades would be a truly historical event.

Steven Kurlander blogs at Kurly's Commentary. He is a communications strategist and an attorney in Monticello, New York and is a former columnist for the South Florida Sun-Sentinel. His column appears courtesy of FloridaPolitics.com.

PRC has been known as a faith-based, volunteer, or mission-oriented gathering of retired professionals, most of whom are still active in their churches. It is one of the ways we can reach out to our local community and the world.

It seems to me that there are some folks in the greater area who feel that church life somehow grants a sense of entitlement – that, as long as God's Name

or the Bible are invoked, He will look the other way when educational, fiscal or political responsibilities are ignored or manipulated. God may indeed be patient for a time, but eventually, the hammer comes down. I commend those who stand up for principle, and speak out.

*Nancy Moore
Penney Farms*

House at Club Continental, 2137 Astor St. in Orange Park.

It takes everyone to create a world free from the pain and suffering caused by breast cancer – both women and men alike. In an effort to create a unique platform to invite men to show support for this important cause, the American Cancer

Society is engaging and empowering male community leaders in the fight against breast cancer through the Real Men Wear Pink campaign. Each Real Men Wear Pink candidate is charged with a fundraising challenge and competes to be the top fundraiser among the other candidates by the end of the campaign.

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Introducing The Grill Guy

My name is Blake Moody and I was born right here in Jacksonville. I have two sisters, one brother and two very supportive parents. I never had any desire to learn to cook and my mom took great care in putting the food on the family table.

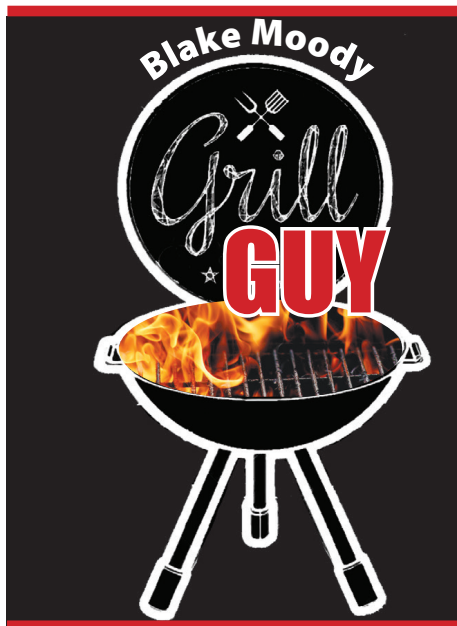
My earliest food memories consisted of cooking my dad and myself spaghetti – the noodles were gummy and the sauce was from a jar – and eating a bowl of peanut butter Cap n' Crunch in the morning. My dad could griddle up some pancakes with the best of them and specialized in making breakfast for dinner. A picture of my dad's small charcoal grill – which held a pyramid shape of charcoal briquettes right before their dousing with lighter fluid – is burned into my memory.



Blake Moody

I cook like I saw my mom cook. Feeding four kids on a limited budget, she cooked in a "cook with what ya got" style that I maintain and try to teach my own daughter. Realizing how important nutrition is in raising healthy and reasonably well-behaved children, she educated herself through self-study, nutritionists and holistic medicine. I remember her shopping at the Granary – the whole foods grocery store started in 1979 right here in Orange Park – and letting me tag along. I'll never forget the smell of that place.

Fast forward almost 30 years and I've got a family of my own. When my wife was pregnant with our first child, I got the overwhelming desire to cook, starting with grilling. I wanted to provide better options for our little girl than what we were used to making for ourselves as college students and young adults. I bought a small charcoal grill from the hardware store and got to work. My public library card served me well because I must have checked out every grilling book they had. I watched every cooking show I had access to, and prac-



ticed my own recipes at the house.

This journey led me to starting my competition barbecue team Tortoise Q and I have traveled all over the Southeast cooking professional barbecue competitions. Presently, I have a part-time job at what I believe is the best restaurant in the city – Moxie Kitchen and Cocktails – as I continue to follow my dreams of one day operating my own food truck.

The objective is to do something that I am passionate about and make a positive and lasting impact on my family and community. Feeding or attempting to feed my kid has been more challenging than any barbecue competition will ever be. There is so much more at stake when my daughter's mental, physical & spiritual well-being is being affected.

With this column, I hope to encourage present and future cooks to get in the kitchen and cook. It's not so much what you cook or how it turned out as it is the experience and adventure that came along with putting yourself out there.

Every time you fire up the grill or sift some flour into a batter, you are most certainly putting yourself out there. Hopefully, your fear will subside and we can share a laugh as I share stories about me falling on my culinary face. There have been some hits for sure, but I have had many more



Mary Moody holds Ryan Moody, two women in Blake Moody's life that involve food. Blake says his mom fed him well and now he attempts to feed his daughter Ryan in what has become an ongoing quest for culinary enjoyment. His new column will appear once a month.

With this column, I hope to encourage present and future cooks to get in the kitchen and cook. It's not so much what you cook or how it turned out as it is the experience and adventure that came along with putting yourself out there.

blunders and most importantly, lived to tell about it.

Cooking is all about eating together, sharing a special moment and quite possibly creating something brilliant. Have some fun, put on some good music, pour yourself something cold to drink and be up for some adventure.

Teach your kids the same way my mom taught me. You do not need fancy ingredients or equipment, but you do need to make an attempt to provide a better option. With a little practice, the best restaurant in town could be in your kitchen. The experience, fellowship and memories you receive will be worth it, I promise.

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Business



Clay County entrepreneurs can now access a co-work space much like the one shown here from Co-Work Jax in downtown Jacksonville. Being launched as a virtual office space first, the co-work space is in the Fleming Island Business Park on Town Center Boulevard.

Co-work space comes to Clay

By Jesse Hollett
Staff Writer

FLEMING ISLAND – Brian Knight seems like a stranger to failure after a number of profitable business ventures moved him from his garage to the owner of Fleming Island-based information technology company Pragmatic Works, but he's well aware of the hurdles startups face.

To remedy an underserved clientele base and increase entrepreneurial opportunities in Clay County, he's jump-started a trial run for the county's first "co-work space."

Knight will use a portion of his Pragmatic Works office space located in Fleming Island Business Park, and co-owned with Dynamic Corporate Solutions Inc., as the headquarters for a virtual office. A virtual office gives entrepreneurs the opportunity to have a physical mailing address without having to purchase or lease office space.

Dubbed the Fleming Island Conference Center, the virtual office will only be the starting point for Knight. If the trial run for the co-work space goes well during the first quarter, then he hopes to expand the operation into the vacant office next-door and transform it a fully fleshed

out headquarters for entrepreneurs and startup businesses.

"We want to grow these businesses in Clay County so they stay in Clay County," Knight said. "The goal of that is to help you grow your business to a point where you've passed a one-man shop, passed a first-tier business and onto a second-tier business. Our main goal is to get you up the ladder much faster."

Co-work spaces work give entrepreneurs all the essentials for a successful small business – a desk, a coffee pot and the ability to network with other entrepreneurs without fear of direct competition. Co-work spaces are at outgrowth of the tech industry where they have helped budding companies grow in such tech hubs as Austin, Texas, San Francisco and Atlanta.

Naturally, Knight wants to see his home town's business ecosystem thrive in the same way his business grew.

Knight began Pragmatic Works in a garage, but their next place was just as bad. His initial office was a dump, he said, located right next to a dog groomer. Like a puzzle, Knight had to arrange all of his business demonstrations around when the dogs would arrive so the customers wouldn't hear the barking.

Nine years later, Knight employs more than 100 employees in offices from Fleming Island to Minneapolis.

Knight was surprised to see familiar faces in the crowd of some of these Jacksonville based co-work spaces – people who live in Clay County. A fully realized co-work space in Clay would pull back entrepreneurs into the county by giving them a local desk.

"A lot of job growth comes from new business startups, so that's what this effort is all about, its looking to support all those new businesses that have great energy but maybe they don't have a great support system," said Bill Garrison, president of the Clay County Economic Development Corp.

Arguably, a co-work space's chief advantage over a home office is its ability to constantly introduce entrepreneurs to each other.

While a co-work facility is the overall goal, Knight also hopes to use the facility as a small business incubator and accelerator. Essentially, he would provide services and classes for pop-up entrepreneurs to learn the minutia of the business world, as well as gain access to capital.

"The majority of small businesses

SEE SPACE, 14

Navy veteran buys full-service salon

By Jesse Hollett
Staff Writer

FLEMING ISLAND – Michael Armbruster describes himself as a bit of an adrenaline junkie through his two decades of service in the United States Navy.

His adrenaline chasing days are far from over now that he's purchased his own salon, however.

Armbruster now owns the Bamboo Garden Salon, the only full service salon on Fleming Island. When he bought the salon from its previous owners, he ensured Fleming Island residents will have a "one stop shop" from everything to massage to medical injury muscle treatments to simple beautification.

"We never thought we would own a salon and spa it was the furthest from my mind," Armbruster said. "It's baby steps when you take over a business. Even though it was an established business, everyone has their own way of how they want to run something. Definitely I'm someone who likes to have all of there i's dotted and t's crossed."

The salon offers standard spa fare such as manicures, pedicures and facials, as well as multiple kinds and styles of massage therapy and neuromuscular therapy, in which Armbruster has specialized for the last nine years.

Armbruster said his acquisition of the salon is a great transition into civilian life, but it's been a busy two months for him and his wife. He finished in the middle of June, retired from the Navy on July 1 and became a civilian a month later.

The deal, however, was uncertain for a time. The previous owners, Armbruster said, wanted to leave to pursue a more lucrative business in real estate and encouraged

SEE DREAM, 14



Michael Armbruster, new owner of Bamboo Garden Salon on Fleming Island, sits comfortably knowing he's finally achieved his lifelong dream of owning a full-service salon.

Property owners to receive 2016 truth in millage notices

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Clay County property owners will soon be receiving their 2016 Truth in Millage, of TRIM, Notices.

Clay County Property Appraiser Roger A. Suggs said the notices will go out in the mail on Aug. 18. Florida law requires the TRIM notice to be prepared and mailed each year by the Property Appraiser on behalf of the taxing authorities.

Although the TRIM notice is not a tax bill, it is intended to notify property owners of possible changes that may appear on the November tax bill. Therefore, property owners are encouraged to review the information carefully.

When reviewing the information on the notice that relates to the actual tax calculations, the most important figures are displayed in columns 2 & 3 ("Your Final Tax Rate and Taxes Last Year") and columns 7 & 8 ("Your Tax Rate and Taxes This Year if Proposed Budget Change is Made"). A comparison of these columns will provide a good idea of the change in taxes property owners may realize on the actual tax bill.

The back of the TRIM notice displays public hearing dates and explanations of the various columns to assist property owners in understanding the notice. Additional information, including a TRIM Guide, property record cards, taxpayer's bill of rights, and answers to frequently asked questions are available on the Property Appraiser's website at www.ccpao.com.

Ad valorem property taxes are calculated as follows: Taxable Value x Millage (tax) Rate = Property Taxes. The taxable value is estimated by the Property Appraiser and

the millage rates are determined by the taxing authorities.

By law, each taxing authority such as the Board of County Commissioners, School Board, St. Johns River Water Management District, municipalities, and special voter-approved districts, must establish maximum millage rates necessary to fund their proposed budgets. The millage rates can be reduced prior to the mailing of the tax bills. Property owners who are concerned or have questions regarding proposed budgets, millage rates or resulting taxation levels, should contact the taxing authorities or attend the budget hearings listed on the notice.

The Property Appraiser administers exemptions and estimates the value of all property as of January 1 each year. The notice displays three values: market value, assessed value, and taxable value. The market value is the most probable sale price (on January 1, 2016), and may increase or decrease as the market dictates. Due to the upward direction of the real estate market in 2015, the majority of properties in Clay County experienced an increase in market value. The assessed value is the market value less any benefit for the Save-Our-Homes cap, or other assessment limitation. Although market values increased, the assessed values of properties with an existing homestead exemption will be capped at 0.7 percent and non-homestead residential and commercial properties will be capped at 10 percent - with the exception of properties with new construction, additions and/or renovations. It is important to remember

that while the assessed value of property may be capped, taxes are not. The taxable value is the assessed value minus any exemptions.

Property owners who have questions regarding an exemption status or a property's value are encouraged to contact the Property Appraiser's office for an informal

review. This informal review can be handled in person, by telephone, by email, or by mail.

A property owner also has the option to file a formal appeal via petition with the Value Adjustment Board by the deadline listed on the bottom of the TRIM notice, which is Sept. 12.

Space from page 13

because of a lack of small business skills," Garrison said. "He might not be a good business person, so these incubators and accelerators, they provide some of that assistance too."

The number of jobs created from start-up businesses outweigh any kind of charity necessary for their startup from local investors.

The Department of Economic Opportunity lists 78.9 percent of Clay County businesses as having fewer than 10 employees – making small business Clay County's business engine.

In 2009, Knight formed the Pragmatic Works Foundation to assist veterans with their often times turbulent transition to

the civilian workforce, as well as assisting unemployed and underemployed individuals gain skills to help evolve them into the technology business.

Clay has itched for a co-work space since the 90s, according to Knight. Only now, as part of the EDCs five-year plan to drive new business into Clay gains momentum, has the project gained traction.

Knight said the trial virtual office will probably cost more than \$60 a month. If the trial run does well, then Clay could see a much more expanded program.

"It's been a passion of mine for a long time to build an accelerator in Clay County," Knight said. "If you give [entrepreneurs] the right amount of mentoring, they could go from where they are now to much, much further in the next few months."

CLAY COUNTY VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY

Clay County Fairgrounds • Saturday, September 10th, 2016
9:00am- 3:00pm • FREE ADMISSION

- Congressman Ted Yoho appearance • VA Representatives and Informational Booths
- Clay County Cruisers Car Show & Legion Riders Motorcycle Display
- Universities/Colleges • Career Source Northeast Florida
- Navy Federal Credit Union and USAA Bank • Legal Services
- U.S. Small Business Administration • All Day Free Kids Activities
- Community Booths, Vendors and Food Trucks • Home and Healthcare Booths
- Military and Construction Vehicles on Display • Clay County High Schools JROTC's
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The salon's interior features a contemporary twist on traditional oriental decorations such as cherry blossom trees, ornate vases and wide tapestry style paintings.

Dream

from page 13

Armbruster to buy the salon from them.

Armbruster couldn't pass up the chance to be his own boss.

But he and his wife lived off scrap savings from Navy and teacher salaries, so they pursued financing through the U.S. Small Business Administration, knowing they had saved enough money to make a down payment if they could get a loan.

"Had a tough time getting a loan," Armbruster said.

Even with perfect credit, he said the SBA tightened its purse strings and made it more difficult for anyone to finance him.

Fortunately, a company in Maine financed him with a SBA 7(a) loan for \$300,000. SBA 7(a) loans are the most basic loan offered through the SBA and offer higher flexibility in payments and longer terms.

The SBA does not directly fund these loans, but instead gives a banks higher security in their lending options by guaranteeing if the business defaults on their loans the SBA will pay back a portion of the loan.

During his service in the Navy, Armbruster worked as a fleet marine force hospital corpsman and several positions, such as a critical care corpsman, all over the United States from Arizona to Puerto Rico and all over the specialty spectrum from oncology to pediatrics.

Armbruster honed his customer service skills while serving in the Navy and said great customer service is a vital piece of any small business.

The salon has five massage rooms with top of the line equipment such as a vichy spa, a machine with multiple spray heads at different temperatures and pressures that massage and relax the muscles and release tension.

"Massage effects the entire body," Armbruster said. "Everywhere from the neuro-

logical system to the circulatory system. There are times when a patient can have a certain medical condition or be on a certain medication and massage is contraindicated.

Armbruster hopes to expand the current use of the massage rooms in the future to provide a deeper salon and spa experience. Part of the experience already exists in the spa. A customer can exfoliate their skin with salt and lemon scrubs then continue to get their nails painted or get a body wax.

Owning a salon isn't a completely new experience for Armbruster. He owned a successful hair salon in Orange Park

from 2007 to 2009, however, his hair salon was 120 square feet – no more than a rented room. The Bamboo Garden Salon is 200 times its size.

The excitement of owning a small business again seems like it's there to stay for Armbruster.

"The job I had, especially in the last 12 years, I'd say it's the best job I ever had up till that point in my life," Armbruster said. "I think the job I have now is the best job I've ever had in my life up to this point. I'm already superseding what I did in the military, because I get to be in control of my own destiny."



Faith Walk

Dr. William P. Register
First Assembly Fleming Island

Creator Love

God's fabulous creation is beyond our human ability to totally comprehend. I have recently been reading again about the magnificence of God's universe. The galaxies that stretch on and on into the unending expanse of the creation, the "black holes" that are still not understood, all of this and much more declares that God has created an expansive universe of immeasurable proportions.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." (Psalm 19:1 NIV) That is the way the Psalmist described the unlimited creation in his own limited way.

Certainly there are some who look at the wonders of the universe and can only see a vast result created by reactions within nature over billions of years. I look at the universe and see a magnificent creation by the hand and the word of Almighty God.

The Scripture attributes the whole creation to Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with these words in Colossians 1:16-17:

For by him (Jesus Christ) all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

This point is extremely important. You are not lost in this vast expansive universe and you are not overlooked by the God who created it. You are not just a speck of dust in all of creation enormity. You the pinnacle of His creation.

The same Scriptures that declare the wonder of God's Creation tell us that He loves us supremely! Jesus came to earth and lived among men and then died the sacrificial death on the Cross to declare this fact. He loves us!

Years ago Stuart Hamblen put this fact in poetic words: How big is God, how big and wide is His domain; To try to tell these lips can only start. He's big enough to rule His mighty universe. Yet small enough to live within my heart.

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Masters Degree in Education Holds valid Teaching Certificate	Qualifications Teaching Certificate	Currently Under Investigation for Plagiarism.* None
No	Union Member	Yes, member of Liberal Union FADSS
Yes	Lawful Citizen	Family history of cheaters, tax fraud,** & income tax evasion; currently under investigation for fraud and plagiarism*
None	Lawsuit	2013 Filed vindictive lawsuit*** against Clay County School Board and withdrew suit after costing taxpayers thousands of dollars
Oppose	Common Core	Implemented Common Core into Clay County School Curriculum

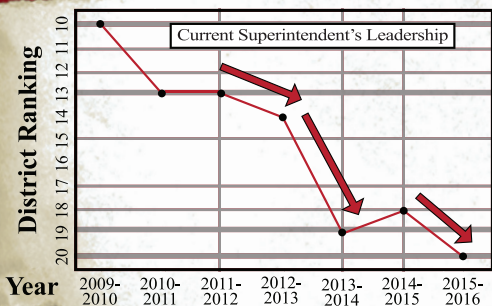


Addison, Natalie, Madisyn & Kaitlyn

Addison Gray Davis

- **Opposes Common Core**
- **Supports Local Control of Schools**
- **Strongly Opposes the Obama Transgender Bathroom Mandate**

*Florida Department of Education's Inspector General Investigating Van Zant Plagiarism Allegations - Clay Today August 18, 2016
 **Charles Van Zant Sr. Bradford County Homestead Tax Fraud July 2016 - Clay Today August 4, 2016.
 ***2013 Lawsuit filed - Clay Today April 18, 2013



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Fraud

from page 1

Middleburg headquarters. Now, an English teacher with Clay Virtual Academy, Sailor – who holds a doctorate in curriculum and instruction – rejoined the teacher’s union this past January.

After hearing that principals at Clay, Ridgeview and Oakleaf high schools were moving students to ESE simply to boost graduation rates, Sailor attempted to take action, although, not immediately.

“July 7, 2015 - My first meeting with Superintendent Charlie VanZant [Jr.] about what the principals were doing with their ESE students. I told him that it wasn’t right and something needed to be done. I requested a meeting. August 27, 2015 - 7 am breakfast at Monahan’s in Green Cove Springs- I met with Mr. VanZant again about what I knew principals were doing,” states Restrepo’s findings.

According to the investigation documents, it was another principal’s meeting, this time on October 15, 2015 where she learned the ESE fraud was taking place at more high schools.

“[Deborah] Segreto [Ridgeview High principal], was discussing how they would also have students labeled ESE so that they could be exempt for passing the state test or be transferred to Bannerman Learning Center (an alternative school whose school grade is excused [because] of such). They spoke in more detail stating that they would students labeled ‘Failure to Thrive,’” states Restrepo’s document.

Months would go by, yet Sailor tried to get Van Zant to take corrective action. She asked her husband, Joel Sailor, to meet with Van Zant on February 27, 2016 at Keystone Heights Elementary where he “asked him to investigate my claims as soon as possible.”

After months of trying to get Van Zant to conduct an investigation, Sailor moved up the administrative chain still seeking to be heard. On Aug. 4, she emailed a detailed letter to the five-member school board and within a day, the story was leaked to the press.

Criticized for the timing in which she sent her Aug. 4 email, Sailor said she had to come forward after learning the school district had dropped to a “B” grade and No.

More online

To view documents from the fraud investigation visit: <http://claytodayonline.com/stories/openrecords,3560?>

20 in the state when school grades were released in July.

After meeting with the state investigator during the day on Aug. 15, Sailor and her husband met with Van Zant after work that day, but this time they sought the guidance of their church pastor. In that meeting, they discussed an allegation Sailor made Aug. 4 in which she stated Van Zant had used a scholarly article she had written. She said he turned in the paper as his own work while completing a master’s degree, however, she has clarified that the paper she wrote was “research I conducted and wrote about for Mr. Van Zant was used in Summer Leadership training with district administrators.”

At the meeting with their pastor, both Van Zant and Sailor agreed to issue clarifying statements on Aug. 16. She did issue a statement, however, Van Zant did not. Instead, he taped an interview with a Jacksonville TV reporter in which he described her allegations as “gutter politics” and called her a disgruntled employee. He also blamed the teacher’s union and board members Carol Studdard and Janice Kerekes as being behind the allegations. He also claimed that Sailor had been offered “a high paying job” by his Republican opponent Addison Davis of Oakleaf.

“He agreed that it was my work and he had not attributed it to me. I suggested that Mr. Van Zant go public with this statement and his response was, ‘Not before the election,’” Sailor said in a press conference on Aug. 19 at the CCEA headquarters.

In the meantime, the Office of the Inspector General has written a letter to the Clay County School Board directing the board to conduct an investigation. At the Aug. 18 school board meeting, Chairman Johnna McKinnon opened the meeting by saying that the district has asked the Florida Association of District School Superintendents to conduct an investigation without getting an appropriate vote from the full school board.

While she stated that the issue and the allegations would not be discussed at the

meeting, she launched into a 10-minute discussion.

“I personally will not be part of any discussion that violates the due process rights of our employees and if any board member chooses to do so during their comment period, they can do so, they do so at their own risk,” McKinnon said.

Studdard asked McKinnon if the full board, as prescribed by policy, would have a chance to have input on how the investigation would be conducted, as ordered by the Office of the Inspector General.

“One board member doesn’t decide who is going to do the investigation. You should get the opinions from your fellow board members. This should be a discussion among the board members as to where we want to go, whether it be the superintendent’s association or the Inspector Gener-

al’s Office or an outside firm or whatever, but that should come to this board,” Studdard said.

Minutes after Studdard spoke, the audience erupted in laughter after board member Betsy Condon cited a school board policy that said such investigations should be conducted by the superintendent or deputy superintendent.

“You can’t do that when the superintendent is the one being investigated,” Studdard responded.

“Excuse me, Mrs. Studdard, I have the floor,” Condon said.

Board member Janice Kerekes attempted to speak, at which point, Condon responded with, “No! I’m speaking!”

“Mrs. Kerekes, we are going to save this for the end,” McKinnon responded minutes later with Kerekes attempted to comment again.

“Ms. McKinnon are you prepared to handle this as one individual board member taking action on behalf of the governing body of the Clay County School District,” Kerekes said.

Community Calendar

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN: The Democratic Women’s Club of the Lakes Area hosts guest speaker Ken McGurn, candidate for Florida’s 3rd Congressional District, Aug. 25, historic Melrose Homemaker’s Club, 25728 Park St., Melrose at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited. More info, Fran Rossano, club secretary, (352) 475-3012.

UNTAPPED: Aug. 25 from 5-8 p.m., Thrasher-Horne Conference Center, \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Taste foods from top local restaurants and caterers and pair them with craft and domestic beer and wine. Save \$5 by clicking the image below or by going to: http://events.claychamber.com/sbaweb/events/events.asp?details=true&cale_id=416&month=6/27/2016 Or call the Clay County Chamber at (904) 264-2651 to order tickets.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE: Meets, Sept. 1, Sept. 8, Sept. 15, Sept. 22 and Sept. 29 at 10 a.m. in the Zoning Department Conference Room, 3rd Floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs. The meeting is open to the public.

SPECIAL MAGISTRATE: Clay County Code Enforcement Special Magistrate Hearing, Sept. 1, beginning at 9:30 a.m., Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, 4th Floor, Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs. Open to the public.

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Clay business honored for boosting education

TALLAHASSEE – Pragmatic Works, a Fleming Island-based information technology company, was one of some 50 Florida business partners in education that were recently awarded the Florida Education Commissioner's Business Recognition Award. The awards were made in June during the Florida Chamber Foundation Education Summit in Orlando.

Brian Knight, shown here with Chereese Stewart, director of Career and Technical Education, was recognized for funding dual enrollment classes for Middleburg High students through St. Johns River State College, as well as, the high school's Visual, Information Technology and Leadership Academy. Knight recently hired two MHS graduates as full-time employees after completing internships with Pragmatic Works. He was recognized by the Clay County School Board on Aug. 18.



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(904) 495-1608
jruth1973@gmail.com**



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Arrests & Bookings

Tuesday, August 23

Dunigan, Michael, 28, Keystone Heights, CCSO, Simple Domestic Battery
Faison, Timothy, 20, Fleming Island, CCSO, Simple Domestic Battery
Flournoy, Henry, 24, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, Driving Without a Valid License
Hill, Stephen, 37, Jacksonville, CCSO, Possession of Not More Than 20 g. Cannabis, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
Joseph, Sue-Maree, 52, Orange Park, CCSO, Simple Battery
Knight, Gregory, 28, Jacksonville, CCSO, FTA - DWLSR
Martinez, Alberto, 35, Jacksonville, CCSO, Reckless Driving
McGettigan, Joseph, 19, Jacksonville, CCSO, Possession of Cocaine
Modeste, Ryandre, 18, Jacksonville, CCSO, Grand Theft Auto, Resisting an Officer
Searcy, Phillip, 26, Jacksonville, CCSO, Grand Theft Auto, Dealing Stolen Property, Making a False Statement to Obtain Credit
Zickefoose, Douglas, 29, Orange Park, CCSO, Retail Theft \$300 or More

Monday, August 22

Barnard, Flavis, 39, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, Violation of Probation
Carpenter, William, 68, Orange Park, OPPD, Lewd and Lascivious Battery on a Victim Age 12-16, Simple Domestic Battery
Carr, Joshua, 26, Jacksonville, CCSO, Petit Theft
Cirerol, Joe, 31, Daytona Beach, Fla., CCSO, Non-Support
Goodin, Noah, 34, Keystone Heights, CCSO, Criminal Mischief
Hartford, Randi, 29, Orange Park, CCSO, Failure to Appear for Court
Hayes, Tyrone, 35, N. Chesterfield. Va., CCSO, FTA - DWLSR
Huggins, Trent, 25, Middleburg, CCSO, Two Counts of Cocaine Distribution
Hughes, Pauline, 45, Middleburg, CCSO, Failure to Appear for Court
Lilly, Levern, 44, Thomasville, Ga., OPPD, VOP - Carrying Concealed Firearm
Mote, Kaylee, 21, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, VOP - Domestic Battery
Pacheco, Courtney, 36, Middleburg, CCSO, Simple Battery
Pearson, Valerie, 40, Rome, Ga., CCSO, Violate Probation - Community Control
Powell, David, 54, Orange Park, FHP, DUI, Possession of Not More Than 20 g. Cannabis, Possession of Drug Equipment, Assault On a Law Enforcement Officer or Firefighter
Santos, Miguel, 40, Middleburg, CCSO, Writ of Attachment
Sarges, Ian, 35, Jacksonville, CCSO, VOP - Attempted Burglary, VOP - Possession of Burglary Tools
Simmons, Tyrone, 31, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, Domestic Battery

Sunday, August 21

Bessette, Christopher, 57, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, Petit Theft
Bruce, Samantha, 20, Jacksonville, CCSO, Two Counts of Simple Domestic Battery
Carpenter, William, 70, Orange Park, OPPD, Lewd & Lascivious Behavior on a Victim 12 years of Age or Older But Less Than 16, Sexual Battery by a Person 18 or Older On A Person Between Age 12 and 18
Harris, Justin, 30, Middleburg, CCSO, FTA -

Uttering a False Bank Note, Possession of Drug Equipment
Martinez, Marcos, 32, Middleburg, CCSO, Possession of Not More Than 20 g. Cannabis, Possession of Drug Equipment
Montgomery, Adam, 29, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, Simple Battery
Reid, Heather, 25, Orange Park, CCSO, FTA - Possession of a Controlled Substance, FTA - Possession of Less Than 20 g. Cannabis, FTA - Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, FTA - Petit Theft
Thibaut, Samantha, 26, Orange Park, CCSO, Resisting an Officer, Disorderly Conduct
Torres, Yara, 35, Fleming Island, CCSO, Petit Theft
Troutman, Tony, 36, Green Cove Springs, GCSPD, Simple Domestic Battery

Saturday, August 20

Barnhill, Kristian, 42, Orange Park, CCSO, Violate Probation - Community Control
Britt, Petrios, 18, Jacksonville, CCSO, Three Counts of Burglary
Browder, Melissa, 39, Orange Park, CCSO, Simple Domestic Battery
Butler, Taurean, 28, Jacksonville, CCSO, Writ of Attachment
Caperton, Angela, 31, Middleburg, CCSO, Simple Battery
Caperton, Steven, 37, Middleburg, CCSO, Simple Battery
Carreon, Jaime, 36, Starke, Fla., CCSO, Driving Without a Valid License
Crum, Brandon, 31, Middleburg, CCSO, Two Counts of Writ of Attachment
Gibbs, Floyd, 22, Green Cove Springs, GCSPD, Driving Without a Valid License, Possession of Hydrocodone
Hollins, Jawan, 18, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, Possession of Not More Than 20 g. Cannabis, Fleeing and Eluding an Officer and Disregarding Safety, Possession of Cocaine
Huggins, Trent, 25, Middleburg, CCSO, Sale and Delivery of Crack Cocaine
Lester, Christopher, 26, Middleburg, CCSO, DWLSR
Letchworth, Alvin, 39, Middleburg, CCSO, Petit Theft
Mathis, Robert, 45, Florida City, Fla., CCSO, Simple Domestic Assault
Matthews, Brittany, 27, Jacksonville, CCSO, Petit Theft
Santos, Amanda, 31, Jacksonville, CCSO, Two Counts of FTA - DWLSR
Sarman, Jeremy, 36, Panama City, Fla., OPPD, Two Counts of Resisting an Officer
Starr, John, 39, Jacksonville, CCSO, VOP - Obtaining or Attempting to Obtain a Controlled Substance Through Fraud
Thurmond, Tiesha, 26, Orange Park, CCSO, FTA - DWLSR
Willoughby, Breanna, 18, Middleburg, CCSO, Two Counts of Simple Domestic Battery

Friday, August 19

Avery, Alyssa, 25, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, Violate Probation - Community Control, VOP - Petit Theft
Butler, Taurean, 28, Jacksonville, CCSO, Petit Theft
Depriest, Kyle, 24, Orange Park, CCSO, Two Counts of FTA - Petit Theft
Erlandson, Mark, 49, Orange Park, CCSO, Simple Domestic Battery
Gravelly, Scott, 56, Orange Park, OPPD, Two

Counts of DWLSR
Mills, Samuel, 20, Middleburg, CCSO, Reckless Driving, Grand Theft Auto, Two Counts of VOP - Burglary
Minton, Linda, 42, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, Two Counts of VOP - Petit Theft
Richardson, Shakia, 24, Jacksonville, CCSO, Two Counts of Petit Theft
Rutledge, Terri, 27, Orange Park, CCSO, Petit Theft
Sale, Nancy, 48, Jacksonville, CCSO, Possession of Oxycodone Without a Valid Prescription
Sewell, Stephen, 27, Green Cove Springs, GCSPD, Aggravated Battery With A Deadly Weapon
Sterling, Khali, 21, Gainesville, CCSO, Two Counts of FTA - Possession of Less Than 20 g. Cannabis, Two Counts of FTA - Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
Terrell, Lynzi, 24, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, Domestic Battery
Thacker, Ronald, 32, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, Domestic Battery
Thompson, Camille, 44, Orange Park, FHP, DWLSR, Leaving the Scene of a Crash Involving Damage, Fleeing and Eluding Law Enforcement With Lights Siren Active, Resisting an Officer, Reckless Driving
Vankirk, Mark, 49, Keystone Heights, CCSO, Domestic Battery

Thursday, August 18

Blankenship, Charlene, 40, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, DWLSR
Brown, Christopher, 30, Jacksonville, CCSO, DUI With Property Damage
Brown, Curtis, 43, Jacksonville, CCSO, Non-Support
Cheek, Sophia, 37, Jacksonville, CCSO, Retail Theft \$300 or More
Clancy, George, 45, Orange Park, CCSO, FTA - Petit Theft
Goins, Jeremy, 21, Jacksonville, OPPD, Possession of Drug Equipment, Possession of Not More Than 20 g. Cannabis

Hanson, Melissa, 39, Green Cove Springs, CCSO, VOP - Fraudulently Obtaining Goods or Services
Hernandez, Aida, 28, Middleburg, CCSO, Fugitive From Justice
Jefferson, Marcus, 26, Jacksonville, CCSO, VOP - Petit Theft
McKinney, Lori, 39, Orange Park, CCSO, Obstructing Execution of Search
Riley, David, 54, Orange Park, CCSO, Grand Theft \$300-4,999, Fraudulent Use of Credit Card
Smith, Cashaunda, 33, Jacksonville, CCSO, Grand Theft \$300-4,999
Teuton, Matthew, 32, Green Cove Springs, Judge, Contempt of Court - Child Support
Wright, Walter, 43, Jacksonville, CCSO, Violate Probation - Community Control

Wednesday, August 17

Becker, Darrin, 50, Fleming Island, CCSO, Simple Domestic Battery
Campbell, Robert, 25, Middleburg, CCSO, Criminal Mischief, Petit Theft
Cleary, James, 38, Jacksonville, CCSO, Violate Probation - Community Control
Coletti, Michael, 40, Keystone Heights, CCSO, Stalking Victim After No Contact Order
Furman, Bodhi, 21, Middleburg, CCSO, VOP - Sale, Manufacture, Or Deliver Drugs
Montague, Christalyn, 24, Orange Park, OPPD, DWLSR
Mott, Quelory, 22, Orange Park, CCSO, Resisting an Officer With Violence, Trespassing, Vandalism \$200-1000
Petrosky, Jarred, 36, Green Cove Springs, OPPD, Trespassing
Rice, Brandon, 40, Orange Park, CCSO, Possession of Not More Than 20 g. Cannabis
South, Tildon, 49, Middleburg, CCSO, Disorderly Intoxication
Ward, Jordan, 19, Orange Park, CCSO, Possession of Not More Than 20 g. Cannabis, Possession of Drug Equipment
Williams, Julian, 35, Jacksonville, CCSO, Failure to Appear for Court

CRIME WATCH

This is a weekly collection of crime reports from the Clay County Sheriff's Office Community Relations Unit meant to inform, educate and generate community feedback. To receive these alerts via email, go online to www.claysheriff.com, click on the Sharing Tree logo and follow the instructions.

CCSO Contact Numbers Main: 264-6512
Emergency: 911
Community Relations: 213-6114

Thefts

8/21 miscellaneous personal and electronics items were stolen from a home on Choctaw Trail in Ridaught Landing north of Middleburg.

8/21 an unattended cellphone was stolen from the football field at Little Rain Lake Road in Keystone Heights.

8/20 two vehicles were stolen from a home on Morning Meadow Lane in Argyle.

8/20 an unattended bicycle was stolen from the Walgreens on North Lawrence Boulevard in Keystone Heights.

8/20 an unattended wallet was stolen from the Panera Bread on County Road 220 on Fleming Island.

8/20 an unattended cellphone was stolen from the AMC Theaters on Wells Road near Orange Park.

8/18 a vehicle was stolen from a home on Cross Creek Drive in Lake Asbury.

8/18 a bicycle was stolen from the front of an apartment at St. Johns Apartments

on Jobyna Avenue west of Orange Park.

8/17 an unattended debit card was stolen at the Speedway gas station on Orange Avenue in Green Cove Springs.

8/17 unattended personal items were stolen from Isle Health and Rehabilitation on Fleming Island.

Burglary to Structures

8/23 the door to a detached shed was damaged at a home on Cactus Cut Road in Middleburg. Nothing was reported missing.

8/22 miscellaneous maintenance equipment was stolen from an unlocked storage shed on Oakleaf Plantation Parkway in Oakleaf Plantation.

8/22 an air conditioning unit was stolen from a home on Long Horn Road in Middleburg.

8/21 a firearm was stolen from a shed at a home on Redwing Court in Middleburg.

Police Briefs

Jacksonville man charged with grand theft auto and resisting arrest

ORANGE PARK – A Jacksonville man faces charges of grand theft auto and resisting arrest without violence after he ran from a traffic stop involving a vehicle previously reported stolen.

The Clay County Sheriff's Office arrested Ryandre Lajulian Modeste, 18, at 12:24 on Aug. 23 using a warrant police obtained for events alleged to have occurred on

June 9.

Deputies saw Modeste hanging out of his window on Wells Road yelling and attempted to pull him over. The suspect's vehicle began to accelerate slightly and turned into a business complex. The vehicle then came to an abrupt stop.



Ryandre Modeste

The report said Modeste then took off away from deputies as they ordered him to stop. An immediate search of the area was unsuccessful.

Passengers in the vehicle who stayed after the traffic stop identified Modeste. An investigation later revealed the car to be reported stolen, the report said.

Deputies transported Modeste to the Clay County Jail, where he remained on a \$40,006 bond.

was hauling to spill onto the roadway and block westbound traffic.

Authorities transported to University of Florida Health Shands Hospital in Gainesville with serious, but non-life threatening injuries.

Aggravated assault charges for Green Cove Springs man

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – A Green Cove Springs man faces charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon after a fight with his father-in-law resulted in an 8-inch laceration in the victim's arm, the report said.

The Green Cove Springs Police Department arrested Stephen Lawrence, Sewell, 27, on the night of Aug. 19 at his home in the 600 block of Houston Street.

The victim and his wife sat on the sofa in the living room, according to the police report. Sewell drank three to four beers earlier in the day, the report said, and had argued with the family throughout the night. The report



Stephen Sewell

SEE POLICE, 22

Crime from page 20

It is unknown when the item was stolen.

8/20 two dogs were stolen from an unlocked fenced-in yard at a home on Campo Drive in Keystone Heights.

8/20 a firearm and miscellaneous personal items were stolen from a home on Coronado Street in Keystone Heights. It is unknown when the items were stolen.

8/18 windows were damaged and items were stolen from a business on College Drive in Orange Park.

Burglary to Autos

8/23 accessory equipment was stolen off of a vehicle at a home on Beacon Rock Lane in Middleburg.

8/22 two vehicles were ransacked at a home at on Oakworth Court in Oakleaf Plantation. Nothing was reported missing.

8/22 miscellaneous personal items were stolen from a ransacked vehicle at a home on Wells Road near Orange Park.

8/21 glass was damaged and miscellaneous personal items were stolen from a vehicle at Metro Diner on Kingsley Avenue near Orange Park.

8/21 glass was damaged and miscellaneous personal items were stolen from a

vehicle at a home on Oakleaf Village Parkway in Oakleaf Plantation.

8/21 miscellaneous personal items were stolen from an unlocked vehicle at a home on Gilmore Lane in Oakleaf Plantation.

8/20 miscellaneous personal items were stolen from two unlocked ransacked vehicles at homes on English Meadows Court in Argyle.

8/20 miscellaneous personal items were stolen from an unlocked ransacked vehicle at a home on Fallen Timbers Drive in Argyle.

8/18 miscellaneous personal items were stolen from a vehicle at a home on Dora Street west of Orange Park.

8/17 miscellaneous carpentry equipment was stolen from a travel trailer at a home on Cosmos Avenue in Middleburg.

Criminal Mischief

8/23 exterior walls were damaged by eggs thrown at a home on Calming Water Drive on Fleming Island.

8/23 a door and windows were damaged at a home on Spoonbill Trail in Argyle.

8/19 the grass at a neighborhood park was damaged on Bay Harbor Drive on Fleming Island.

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For more information regarding Fair Housing or to file a complaint, please contact HUD at the phone number above or Sarah Campbell at (904) 278-3018.

Police

from page 21

said Sewell came into the living room and began to argue with the victim. The two began to push each other and Sewell cut the victim in the arm with the knife. The victim then wrestled Sewell to the ground in an attempt to take the knife away from him, the report said.

Sewell said the victim punched him in the face. He showed deputies a cut he had on the inside of his lip. Sewell then told deputies he already had the knife in his hand when the argument started and confirmed the he used the knife used in the altercation because he feared the victim, the report said.

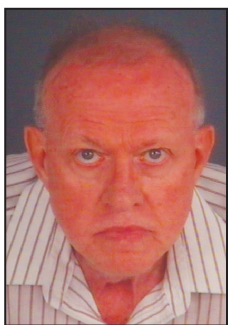
Deputies arrested Sewell for aggravated battery and transported him to the Clay County Jail where he remained on a \$100,003 bond.

Orange Park man charged in molestation cases

ORANGE PARK – A 70-year-old Orange Park man is charged with sexually molesting two male victims after an investigation by the Orange Park Police Department.

Police arrested William Frederick Carpenter on Aug. 21 after conducting an investigation with the victims and the OPPD Child Protection Team.

Police Chief Gary Goble said one of the victim was a juvenile male and one



William Carpenter

was apparently 16 when the molestation occurred, but only recently came forward about the abuse, some of which dates back to 2012.

Carpenter is charged with one count of committing a lewd and lascivious act on a person under age 16 and one count of lewd or lascivious molestation against a victim 12 years of age or older but less than 16 years of age by a person 18 or older.

At present time, Carpenter remained in the Clay County Jail where his bond is set at \$205,011.

Tuten, wife awaiting sentencing

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – A husband and wife remain held in the Clay County Jail awaiting sentencing for sexually abusing their children.

A circuit court judge convicted Troy Mitchell Tuten, 45, of Green Cove Springs, on three counts of sexual battery, one count of attempted capital sexual battery, one count of lewd and lascivious molestation, one count of lewd and lascivious conduct and two counts of lewd or lascivious exhibition on Aug. 17. His wife Melissa Jean Tuten, 42, pled guilty the week of Aug. 8 on charges of lewd molestation, lewd exhibition, lewd conduct and child neglect. Both will be sentenced the week of Sept. 6.

The abuse was uncovered after Clay County Sheriff's Office deputies went to the couple's Green Cove Springs home on April



Troy Tuten

1, 2015 after the victim told a friend about the abuse. During the investigation, police found the abuse had been going on for years and involved sexual intercourse.

The investigation revealed that Troy Tuten touched and forced the female victim to perform inappropriate sexual acts with him on multiple occasions starting at the age



Melissa Tuten

of 10. Tuten also exposed himself to the male child victim on more than one occasion.

Troy Tuten now faces life in prison. With eight prior felony convictions, he also awaits sentencing on one count of possession of ammunition by a felon as deputies uncovered a firearm and ammunition from his home.

Assistant State Attorneys Anna Hixon and Khary Gaynor prosecuted this case.

Community Calendar

PLANNING COMMISSION: Meets Sept. 6 at 7 p.m., Board of County Commissioners meeting room, fourth floor, Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs. Open to the public.

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL: Meets Sept. 7 at 3 p.m. in the BCC Meeting Room, 4th Floor Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs. The meeting is open to the public.

VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY: Sept. 10 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Clay County Fairgrounds, 2497 State Rd. 16, Green Cove Springs, free admission. Includes Clay Cruzers car show, American Legion riders motorcycle show, activities for kids, food trucks, community services info booths, military vehicles on display, NJROTC groups, military and VA reps, sponsored by the Clay County Department of Veterans Services.

MEET AND GREET: Kathleen Lopez, self-published author of "Prodigal Son" and "Between the Shades of Light and Dark" will also be representing Florida Sisters in Crime, Sept. 10 from 10 a.m.-noon, at the Fleming Island Book Discussion, Fleming Island Library, 1895 Town Center Blvd. Newcomers welcomed. No registration required.

POKER RUN: The Fraternal Order of Eagles Black Creek Aerie No. 4530, Auxiliary Unit 4530, and Eagle Riders 4530 host the event Sept. 10. The Run registration begins at Black Creek Aerie No. 4530 beginning at 9:30 a.m. and will ride to American Legion Post 250 in Middleburg, Crackers Lounge in Orange Park, Whitey's Fish Camp on Fleming Island Park, Rehab Saloon in Green Cove Springs and then finally back to Black Creek Eagles at 4283 County Rd. 218, Suite 112 in Middleburg. Kick Stands Up will be 10 a.m. with last bike in at 5 p.m. \$15 per rider, \$10 per passenger. Dinner is included with cost of ride.

POT LUCK: To benefit Haiti Ministries at Orange Park United Methodist Church, Haiti Auction & Pot Luck, Sept. 10 at 5 p.m., Contact Mari Anne Peebles, (904) 591-6306 for more info.

Blight

from page 7

can't do anything," she said.

Potential cost was among the reasons Robinson objected to the ordinance.

"If we try to enforce this ordinance, we're talking about a lot of money," Robinson said, adding that Jacksonville was spending a "lot of money" trying to enforce its blight ordinance.

He also said that dealing with the ordinance could be tough.

"When you go and take out a house because it's got a hole in the roof or something, you'd better go out there with the police and everybody else even with this ordinance," he said.

Robinson said he didn't believe Clay County had very much blight – certainly not to the extent of a place like Jacksonville that had whole neighborhoods that were essentially abandoned and creating problems – and that the new ordinance seemed like a "power grab" to him.

Robinson also said he didn't like the way the subject had come up.

"I'm going to put everything in order

on this if it passes today, anyway, and I'll bring back the path that this took because this didn't take the right path to begin with," he said. "This board never officially gave that man [Scrubby] direction to work on this ordinance.

Much of the recent discussion on the new ordinance took place after Commissioner Wayne Bolla received complaints about a house in Oakleaf, which falls into his district, that had burned years ago and was still standing but in extremely poor condition. Bolla said he had to tell people, including a television crew, that under direction from the county attorney, he could not even set foot on the property, let alone try to deal with it.

With the new ordinance, the county at least has something it can use to fight blight, he said.

"This is a tool," he said, adding that even though it might not often be used, at least it was available and if the commission decided to fund an effort to fight a problem building, it could.

"The way it is now, everybody knows we can't do anything. They're laughing at us," Bolla said.

Commissioner Wendell Davis supported

having the new ordinance and said while he was originally concerned about the possibility of abusing it, he believed it had been structured with a "significant" system of checks and balances that would guard against any abuse. It was a tool in the tool box, he said, and much better than what was currently available to the county.

"The ordinance now...it's useless," he said.

Interim Commissioner Buck Burney originally asked to table the vote, saying he needed more insight into it. After listening to the commissioners' discussion, however, he voted for the ordinance.

In other business, the commission voted – happily – to approve the annual residential assessment rates required for both solid waste disposal and solid waste and recovered material collection services. Both fees showed a reduction from last year's rates, with the solid waste disposal dropping from \$84 to \$72 and the other rate dropping from \$146.40 to \$132.90.

Scrubby said staff recommended the rate reductions due to "efficiencies and cost savings" that had allowed for a "better rate."

Commissioners also voted unanimously

to send to the Planning Commission for discussion the idea of changing the required distance between churches and public and private schools and restaurants with on-site consumption of alcoholic beverages where food sales are at least 51 percent of total sales.

The item would return to the Board of County Commissioners for further discussion and two public hearings if the BCC voted to pursue the idea.

"This gives ample time for the community to participate," said Davis.

Commissioners also said their farewells and expressed their appreciation to Scrubby, who is retiring after nearly 30 years of service to the county as county attorney. Tuesday's commission meeting was his last, as his retirement date is Aug. 31. Since he began his duties on Oct. 1, 1989, Scrubby has served with 26 county commissioners, seven county managers and seven constitutional officers.

Scrubby made special note of his assistant, Fran Moss, for all of her support and said he didn't really know what he was going to do next, but added, "It's been a distinct honor and privilege to be of service all of these years."

Mulching to reduce water use and maintenance

By Wayne Hobbs
UF/IFAS Environmental Horticulture Agent, Clay County

Did you know that mulching can be one of the best actions you can take to make your yard and garden more environmentally friendly?



Wayne Hobbs

Mulch, which can be made out of any material that covers the ground to block weed growth and hold moisture, is an essential part of a Florida-Friendly Landscape and can also add visual appeal. Many mulches also give the benefit of adding nutrients to the soil as they rot.

To be effective, the University of Florida recommends that mulch is made of a recycled product such as melaleuca, leaves, pine needles or pine bark. These materials will break down over time, adding to the nutrition of the soil. When it comes to bark products the rule of thumb is that the smaller the pieces of mulch the faster they will decay. If you want a long lasting mulch, use a larger nugget, but if you want the soil to become richer use a more finely ground product.

You can even get some of these products for free if you have pine trees or deciduous trees in your yard. The dropped leaves and needles can form an excellent mulch and this will lower your amount of yard waste. In fact, if left directly under trees, some plants will self-mulch and block out weeds attempting to grow beneath them.

Artificial mulches, such as those made of rubber, will help to keep the soil moist and block weed growth, but do not give the benefit of adding nutrition to the soil. A layer of weed blocking material can also be added under the mulch such as landscape fabric or recycled cardboard or newspaper. Over time the paper products will also break down.

If you make the decision to mulch your yard, there are some easy rules to follow to decide where it should be applied. When mulching around trees, you should apply mulch to at least 12 inches out in each direction from the trunk. For smaller plants, three to four inches can be appropriate. Mulched and landscape beds should be considered everywhere that turf has trouble growing in your yard. It is important to make sure that mulch is not mounded around the tree or covering the base of the plant, this will cause disease.

If an area is to be mulched you should also consider planting groundcovers and plants in that area to give it more visual

appeal. Over time, the plants will grow in, provide some of the same benefits as the mulch and will reduce the need of replacement mulch.

One common question about mulch is in regards to it attracting termites and other pests. While mulch can attract some insects, it can be combated by leaving around 12 inches of bare ground around the foundation of your home to deter the movement of the creatures.

If you are interested in learning more about the concept of Right Plant, Right Place and other Florida Friendly Landscape Principles, there will be a free workshop on Oct. 6 from 6-8 p.m. at the UF/IFAS Clay County Extension Office located outside of Green Cove Springs, next to the fairgrounds. Registration information can be found on our website, www.clay.ifas.ufl.edu.

Artificial mulches, such as those made of rubber, will help to keep the soil moist and block weed growth, but do not give the benefit of adding nutrition to the soil.

Have any horticultural questions? Contact the University of Florida/IFAS Extension Office in Clay County. We are online at <http://clay.ifas.ufl.edu> and can be reached by phone at (904) 284-6355.

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Community Briefs

Labor Day trash pickup schedule announced

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Clay County solid waste department officials said it's business as usual for waste pickup on Labor Day.

On Sept. 5, Advanced Disposal Services will collect wastes and recyclables

using its regular schedule. Residents are reminded to place materials at the curb before 6 a.m. to ensure proper pickup.

Residents can also dispose of waste at the Rosemary Hill Solid Waste Management Facility, which will be open normal operating hours from 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

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Traffic shift scheduled for First Coast Expressway

JACKSONVILLE – Work on the First Coast Expressway – Branan Field Road and Cecil Commerce Center Parkway – experienced a major traffic shift on Aug. 22.

Both north and southbound traffic between 103rd Street and approximately one mile north of Argyle Forest Boulevard will be shifted onto the existing two Expressway northbound lanes to allow the construction of new roadway and shoulders.

The eastbound section of 103rd Street to the southbound Expressway ramp will be closed. Motorists will use the existing

intersection to make a right turn to head south on the Expressway. The traffic pattern will be in place through the end of October.

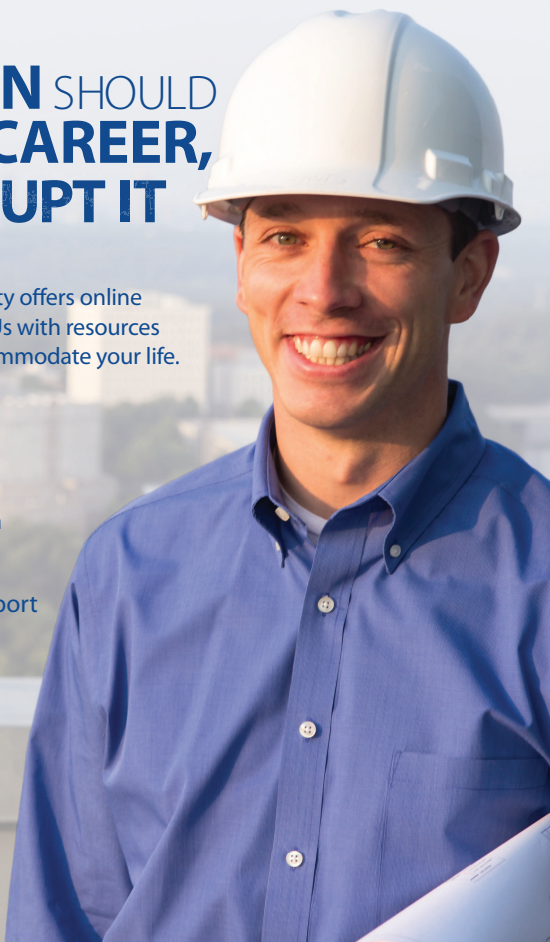
Work on the Expressway from Interstate 10 to Blanding Boulevard is on target for completion in the spring of 2017.

Safe Animal Shelter seeking 'adoption ambassadors'

DOCTORS INLET – The Safe Animal Shelter is launching a new program that takes pet fostering a step further.

SEE BRIEFS, 25

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Briefs

from page 24

The new Adoption Ambassadors program enlists volunteers who help their chosen dog find a new home by fostering, taking her out into the community and promoting her on social media and through networking.

The majority of animals at the shelter have been surrendered by families who can no longer care for them. Since the animals know what it's like to live in a nurturing home, some dogs and cats find it hard to adapt to animal shelter life and often become depressed.

In some cases, pets that have been surrendered also need extra help from caring volunteers to make them more adoptable.

Adoption Ambassadors will provide much needed support for homeless pets that need training, medical care, or socialization before finding their adopting family with their new loving companion.

As a further reward, the animals will know that as a result of the Ambassadors' efforts, the pet will not have to spend another day at the shelter.

Ambassador foster dogs go home with a supply kit of food, bowls, toys, bedding and a crate. They also get an "Adopt Me" harness and a leash.

The Ambassador foster dog should be walked, taken to dog parks, dog-friendly restaurants and cafes, dog beaches, adoption events – or any other place where people can meet the dog. Ambassador foster families will be involved in the adoption process as well.

Becoming a foster parent can be a wonderfully fulfilling experience. Ambassadors will be rewarded by knowing they have contributed to saving the life of an animal that otherwise may not have had a chance.

To become an Adoption Ambassador, contact Sherry Mansfield at sherry@saf-animalshelter.com. The shelter will be announcing its first orientation session in the coming weeks.

Dual Fundraiser

To benefit the Soul Food Festival and breast cancer, Sept. 4 at 6 p.m., Fleming Island Sleep Inn and Suites Banquet Hall.

This year's theme is party with a purpose, "Fifty Shades of Pink," honoring and celebrating those who have been affected by breast cancer and other cancer related illnesses.

Tickets are \$15 per person, \$25 per couple or you may sponsor a table of eight for \$100. Sponsors can elect to decorate their own tables to enter into a contest for \$100. There will be dancing, door prizes, entertainment and light hors d'oeuvres.



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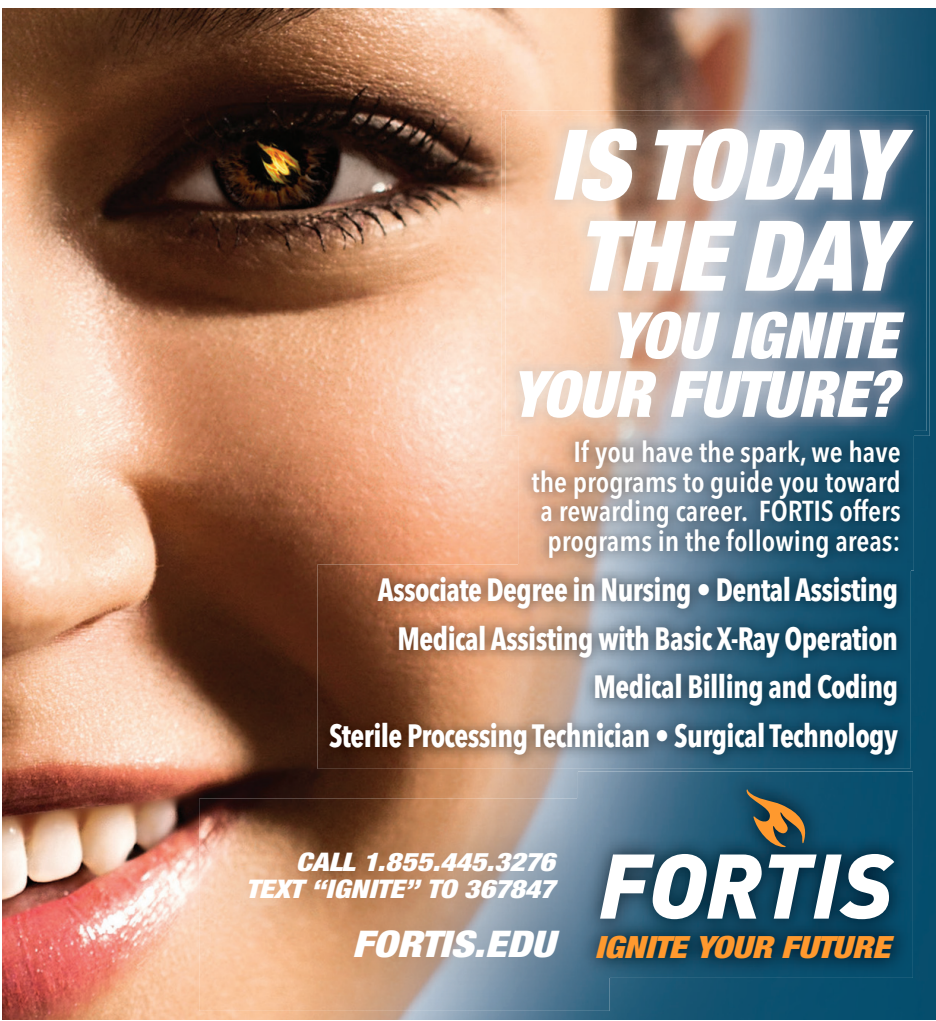
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STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Middleburg High football players, from left, Dylan Hanna, Allen Wimberly, Rashaan Swain, Antwain Stone and Robert Lowder get fired up for start of season as Broncos were prepping for pre-season opener against Wolfson on Friday. Area teams open regular season play Aug. 19.

Fleming Island 45, Westside 0

Freshman QB leads Golden Eagles to preseason blowout

By Mike Zima
Correspondent

FLEMING ISLAND – Put the shovels away. The notion of Fleming Island High School's football team qualifying for the District 3-7A playoffs is not dead yet.

Despite a summer exodus of players taking advantage of the Florida High School Athletic Association's new rule making

transfers eligible to play without any waiting period, the Golden Eagles looked ready for prime time Aug. 19, blasting visiting Westside 45-0 in a preseason game Friday night at Fleming Island High School. Fleming Island hosts 5A-Clay Friday in the season opener for both teams.

SEE EAGLES, 34



Fleming Island High quarterback Dean Hyams, a freshman, takes center snap to start play in first quarter action of Golden Eagles' 45-0 blowout of Westside High on Aug. 19. Fleming Island opens season with rivalry game against Clay High who visit on Friday.

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Blue Devils bludgeon Matanzas

Belanger has 31 Yd. TD pass

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – In typical Clay High fashion, the Blue Devils' offense took the opening kickoff of their preseason game against 6A-Matanzas High and rambled 60 yards in 14 plays to put up the first score on the way to a 21-7 half-time lead. The night would end with a 35-7 Clay win.

"Like every spring game or preseason game, they are good to get the wrinkles out and see things that can be corrected," said Joshua Hoekstra, Clay High coach. "We have one week to tweak things for Friday's game (against Fleming Island in season opener)."

Clay's offense was highlighted by wideout Ajay Belanger who connected with quarterback Jaylan Jenkins for three completions; one a key fourth and four conversion, and one a nifty 31 yard over the shoulder touchdown as the half ended, to give Friday's game against a high-flying Fleming Island offense that scored a 45-0 win over 5A-Westside in their preseason classic an interesting twist for the annual rivalry game.

"Ajay was a pretty good junior var-



STAFF PHOTO BY RANDY LEFKO
Clay High wideout Ajay Belanger takes 31 yard scoring pass to the end zone.

sity receiver last year and hit the weight room," said Hoekstra. "He gives us a nice target downfield if the defense gives us an opening."

With Jenkins mixing passes to Belanger and handoffs to senior running back Colin Wilson, the Blue Devils executed a near-flawless if not ho-hum scoring drive that set the tone to the visitors that Thursday night was not going to be flashy.

In the first scoring drive, Belanger con-

verted a fourth and four into a first down with a nifty hook pattern pass play for five yards to keep the drive alive. Wilson would end the drive with a pounding nine yard rumble over half dozen Matanzas tacklers. The drive ate nearly half the first quarter.

"That's Clay football, but we saw some things that need improving on the offensive line," said Hoekstra.

A strong kickoff by kicker Chris Hancher put Matanzas on the 10 yard line with gunner Tyler Lewis nailing the returnman with a superb open field tackle.

From there, Clay's defense, led by linebacker Rico Schnitzler and defensive tackle Angelo Dorsainvil forced a punt from the Matanzas 13. "I liked Abbott Taylor in the middle at tackle who made some great plays on defense," said Hoekstra. "Tobiah did his thing and Trent Coleman had a good game in his first varsity start."

Jenkins and the Clay offense bogged down on the ensuing drive as both teams went four downs and out to end the second quarter. Just before the end of the second quarter, Matanzas tried a fourth and inches, but Clay linebacker Trent Coleman snuffed out the play and gave the Blue Devils' first down at the Matanzas 35.

Jenkins and company wasted little

time in converting the defensive stand into paydirt with Orange Park transfer Tymious Goodman getting two reps and Wilson getting two with the final three yard scoring run and a 14-0 Clay lead at 10:53.

Matanzas would start at midfield with missed tackles keeping the drive alive to a Pirate touchdown on a 13 yard run to the left corner of the end zone at 6:28 to go in the half.

Clay kick returner Evan Turner would put the Blue Devil offense back on the field at the 26 yard line but a flag and incomplete passes forced a punt with three minutes left in the half. Matanzas would follow suit with two holding flags on their offensive line and a nine yard loss on a sack by cornerback Chris Swilley force a punt that was derailed with yet another penalty flag.

Jenkins would find Belanger on a fly pattern to the end zone from the Matanzas 31 yard line to score the half's third touchdown for Clay. Four penalty flags made the PAT attempt excruciatingly painful for Clay to end the half.

Clay travels to Fleming Island for their annual season opening rivalry game. Fleming Island defeated 5A-Westside 45-0 in their preseason game.

Knights shock Georgia power Camden County

Johnson: 2TDs
Clark: 2 INTs

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

OAKLEAF – With Camden County High coming to town for its first regular season game while Oakleaf High was flexing some preseason muscle, the Knights' were less than gracious to the perennial Georgia powerhouse as seniors Jordan Johnson and Kwame Clark controlled the result with bold play on their respective

sides of the scrimmage line. Oakleaf would send the Wildcats home with tails tucked to the tune of a 27-13 thrashing as Camden's scores came late in the fourth quarter.

Oakleaf opens regular season play at Westside High on Friday. Westside got beat 45-0 by Fleming Island in their preseason game.

Johnson, a fourth year quarterback for the Knights, seemed undaunted by the Camden County defensive size as he danced for two touchdowns; one a 22-yarder, the other a 14 yarder that gave the Knights a quick 14-0 lead, while Clark, the Knights

linebacker-sized free safety, stymied two offensive drives with timely interceptions from his centerfield post. Camden only had three first downs for the varsity first half.

"The entire team prepared the best they have ever for this game," said Oakleaf High coach Steve Reynolds. "We knew they wanted to go home with a win as much as we wanted to set the tone for our upcoming season. A lot of guys stepped up big."

Johnson and wideout Rontrez Morgan seemed to be on their own wavelength against the Wildcat defense with the surly passcatcher making play after play for the

Knights including a pair of punt returns that put the Knights in control of the field for scores.

In the backfield, Reynolds got production from Keshawn King who scored on a 14 yard scamper and later rifled through the Camden defense for a 57 yard score.

"Those guys are the senior leaders and they know what's at stake in a game like this," said Reynolds. "Come out and show the young guys what a big game looks like against a top-drawer opponent."

Camden did not score their two scores

SEE KNIGHTS, 36



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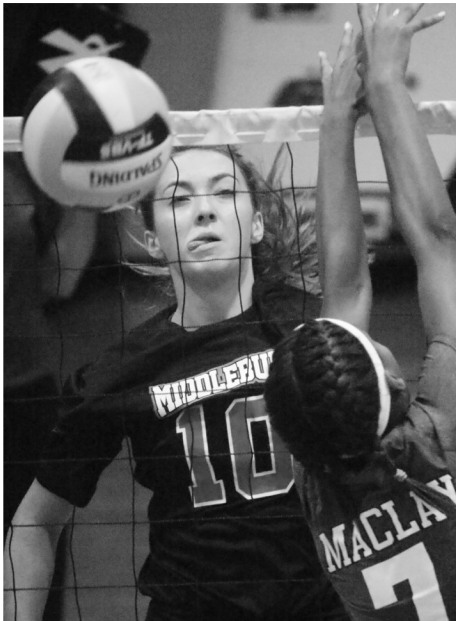


Volleyball teams open 2016 season

Area volleyball teams opened the 2016 season with preseason classics at Clay High and Bishop Kenny High School.

Clay featured matches with Clay, Orange Park, Keystone Heights and Ridgeview while Middleburg and Fleming Island visited Bishop Kenny.

Regular season games started August 23.



Middleburg outside hitter Mallory Roney showed good ups in match against Tallahassee Maclay at Bishop Kenny Classic.



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY DONNA J. CONVERSANO Clay High's Katie James reaches for high lob in match against Orange Park.

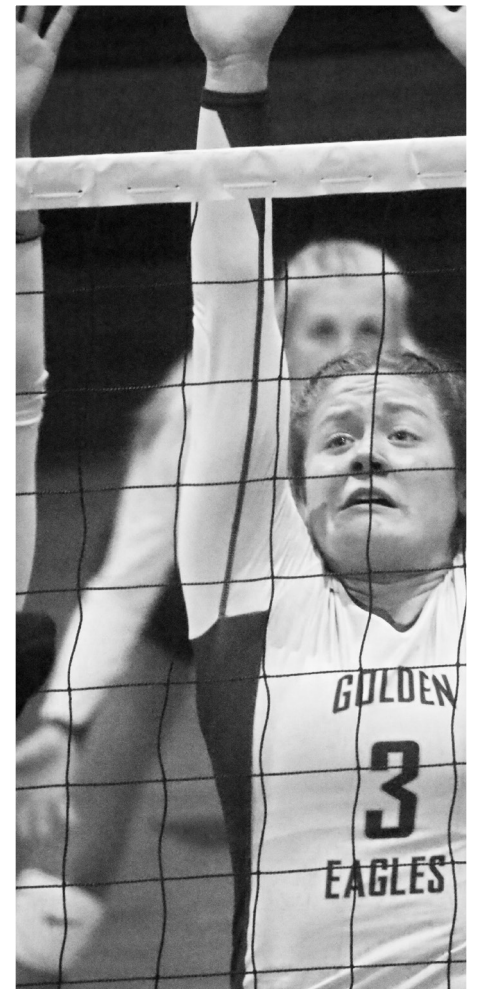


CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY DONNA J. CONVERSANO Orange Park sisters Dyronna and Dyrenna Harris are twin tower net blockers.



Top: Ridgeview High added a second threat at the net with sophomore Janae Sanders adding height while, center, Keystone Heights' defending 4A district champion team returned a good batch of seniors to put a close game on with Ridgeview, the defending 4-5A champion.

STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO



Fleming Island High took on Ponte Vedra Nease in a five-game bru-ha-ha that tested new faces, Emily Charbonneau here, against 4-6A champion Nease.

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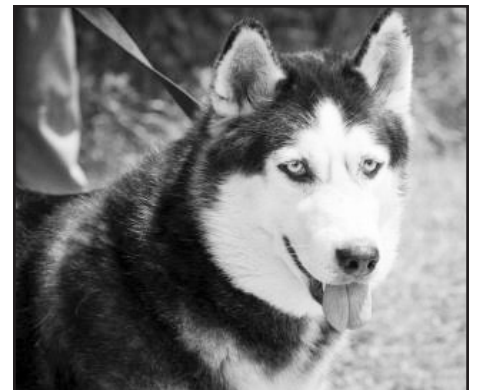
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Middleburg defense stumps Wolfson

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

MIDDLEBURG – With a handful of offensive weapons unable to get connected, the Middleburg High defense stepped up and created their own scoring opportunities to score a 9-6 halftime score against Wolfson in their preseason opener Aug. 19 on Bronco home turf.

“Too many mistakes in first half,” said Broncos coach Karl Smeltzer. “Penalties killed our drives and the one scoring drive they had we kept alive with 45 yards of penalties.”

The Broncos defense scored first after a Luke McMillan punt landed at the Wolfson five yard line. On Wolfson’s first snap, the Bronco defense, led by defensive ends Andrew Austin and Carvin Duverge smashed the line and got a two-point safety to open the night’s scoring. Austin scored the safety on Matanzas first series to put Middleburg up 2-0.

“Austin and Carvin both stood out,” said Smeltzer. “They each had a handful of sacks and quarterback hurries.”

On the second series, fullback Kody



STAFF PHOTO BY RANDY LEFKO
Defensive ends Carvin Duverge and Andrew Austin were menaces in Westfield backfield.

Carrington barreled in from six yards out for the Broncos.

For the night, Oakleaf High transfer Robert Lowder, a running back, led the ground gain effort with 73 yards on 12 carries with a score in the second half. Junior quarterback Garrett Blanchett finished with just six completions on 16 passes with one interception and one score.

Middleburg travels to Menendez for their season opener on Friday.



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY PATRICK CRAWFORD
Raider defenders Shawn Bizzell, No. 77, and Twain Newton smash Kenny ballcarrier.

Raiders fast start Bishop Kenny

QB Byrd, 70 Yd. TD run

By Dennis Bergin
Correspondent

ORANGE PARK – Going into the Aug. 19 preseason matchup Orange Park first year head coach Tom MacPherson was looking to see what his team could do on offense.

Instead, he found a defense that had a goal line stand and forced three fumbles and added three interceptions in a 15-14 loss at Hoyt B Cotney Field in Orange Park on Friday night.

“We are looking to see if we have someone who can throw the ball down field as well as build our offensive line,” said

MacPherson, who returns to Clay County after a two year stint at Baker County with more than a decade at Ridgeview High School.

On the teams second play from scrimmage quarterback Demarae Byrd ran down his right sideline 70 yards untouched for a score. The play was made possible on a beautiful lead block by full back DeVaughn Brooks that sprung Byrd.

The Raiders used Byrd, Brooks and Kevin Dean as primary ball carriers while the varsity players were in the game. Byrd, who is listed as an athlete on the roster, was able to make the mid range passes but struggled on the deep balls.

SEE RAIDERS, 32



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Ally competes for running back at UMass

By Matt Vautour

Daily Hampshire Gazette Staff Writer

AMHERST, Mass. — With less than two weeks until University of Massachusetts opens its season at Florida (Sept. 3, Ben Hill Griffin Stadium, 7:30 p.m.), there will be considerable competition to crack the travel roster until the plane leaves Sept. 2.

One spot where Massachusetts head football coach Mark Whipple could have some interesting decisions is running back, where true freshmen Bilal Ally, a Clay High graduate, and Peyton Pickett have played well in camp.

A year ago, five running backs carried the ball at least 10 times for the Minutemen. If Whipple wants or needs to dig that deep again, he'll be giving the ball to someone who has never carried it in college before.

UMass' ground game will be headlined by Marquis Young, who emerged as a standout at the end of the season, and Sekai Lindsay, who showed potential before getting injured. The sophomores are assured lots of carries as long as they're healthy.

But behind them is uncertain. Jamal Wilson graduated, and Lorenzo Woodley and Shadrach Abrokwah are no long with the program, leaving some carries avail-

able for inexperienced backs.

John Robinson-Woodget isn't inexperienced as a player, just at running back. The senior spent the first two years of his career at linebacker and split last season between defense and fullback. He's now a full-time fullback who will see considerable snaps as a blocker and a pass-catcher out of the backfield.

"He'd be our third right now. We'll give him some carries," Whipple said. "We'll have some things for him, especially early on. He's been catching the ball well. He's been a leader."

Ally is likely the leader among the freshmen.

"Bilal has done a good job out there," Whipple said.

Ally has shown quickness and vision in camp, making the Florida native at least a candidate to travel to his home state. Ally ran for almost 3,000 yards as a high school senior (340 carries for 2,909 yards).

He's trying to get acclimated to college play in a hurry.

"Just coming in I'm focused on the playbook. Coach stresses that every day. We just have to make sure we do our job," Ally said. "The first few days were a little rough. But once it got going, things have been good. I feel like I can be a guy that

can contribute and do my job. That's every player's dream, to get on that field and put in work. The young running backs, we want to get on the field and contribute to the team. That's our main goals to get wins."

Ally said he and Pickett have benefited from the players in front of them.

"Looking up to Marquis and Sekai is a privilege," Ally said. "To see how hard they run, how hard they work and how well they know the protections and the O-line has helped."

The freshmen have helped each other.

"We study every day and make sure we know our routes and our footsteps and our techniques," Ally said.

From a distance, Pickett is easy to mistake for Lindsay. After Lindsay switched from No. 35 to No. 4, Pickett took over 35. With similar long hair, comparable builds and low to the ground running style, for anyone not close enough to see their faces through their helmets, it almost looks like there are two Lindsays on the field.

Pickett, who rushed for 1,610 yards and 16 touchdowns as a high school senior in Arlington, Texas, missed the end of practice last week with a hamstring injury.



GAZETTE STAFF/JERREY ROBERTS PHOTOGRAPHY CREDIT

Clay High graduate Bilal Ally has thrown his hat into the mix to be in backfield rotation as true freshman.

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Carroll takes county golf title

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

OAKLEAF – Middleburg High's Cody Carroll shot a 2-under par 70 at the Eagle Landing Country Club course to defeat St. Johns Country Day School's Peyton Billings to win the Clay County boys golf championship individual title Monday in Orange Park.

Carroll edged Billings as the pair outdistanced the rest of the field as Clay's Arden Brake finished third at 74 ahead of Fleming Island High's R.J. Gross who hit into a three-way tie at 76 with teammate Tyler Broadus and Clay's Eric Poehlman.

Fleming Island won the team title at 309 with Clay second at 338 and St. Johns third at 355.

Team Scores:

Fleming Island 309
Clay 338
SJCDs 355
Keystone 356
Ridgeview 364
Middleburg 368



St. Johns Country Day School's Peyton Billings chased Carroll to a second place finish. Billings was a region 2-1A qualifier last year.



Middleburg High School's Cody Carroll takes a peek at his putt at the ninth hole at Eagle Landing Golf Club as he is halfway to a Clay County boys high school golf title at Monday's championship tournament. Carroll, sixth in Class 2A last year, returns as one of the top golfers in north Florida aiming for a return to the state tournament. Carroll shot a 2-under par 70 for his 18-hole round. Below: Fleming Island's Austin Morton tees off on hole one.



Ridgeview High's Nick Frascello rips a fairway shot on hole nine at Eagle Landing.

Oakleaf 370
Orange Park 429

All-County Team

Cody Carroll Mid 70
Peyton Billings SJ 71
Arden Brake Clay 74
Rjay Gross FIHS 76
Tyler Broadus FIHS 76
Eric Poehlman Clay 76

STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Raiders

from page 30

balls. Mandarin High transfer Tommy Moore played some snaps at quarterback as his arm seemed much more accurate on the deeper balls. This leaves the coaching staff with decisions going into the opener next week at Creekside.

"We want to spread the field on offense," said MacPherson, who is trying to capture the first team district title since 2010. "We need to see who can make plays."



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY PATRICK CRAWFORD

Orange Park quarterback Demarae Byrd struck fast with a 70 yard run on the second play of the game to jumpstart the Raider offense.

The most impressive moment of the night came late in the opening quarter when the "Grave Diggers" (OP's defensive line) held Bishop Kenny on three rushing attempts from the one-yard line. Giant-sized defensive tackler Shawn Bizzell stopped the carrier on second and third down and defensive end Norman Andara held the runner on fourth down to force a turnover on downs.

In the secondary, Donte Mitchell, Darius Porter and Deontrae Thomas each recorded interceptions while Kam Thomas had a fumble recovery for the Raiders.

The Raiders special teams missed an extra point and had a bad snap on a punt that resulted in a safety.

Orange Park plays the toughest schedule in the county by far. The Raiders, which will compete in District 5-5A, will play Clay, Oakleaf, Fleming Island.

"Our numbers are down in the program this year, said MacPherson. "The kids are working hard and we are looking forward to the challenge."

The Raider football program is in good hands for sure.

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SMITH



STAFF PHOTO BY RANDY LEFKO

Jacksonville Jaguars defensive back Dwayne Gratz celebrates a first quarter interception in Jaguars' preseason home opener against Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Aug. 20.

Jaguars offense shows sparks

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

JACKSONVILLE – Sparked by two touchdown passes from quarterback Blake Bortles and some tough running from Chris Ivory and T.J. Yeldon, the Jacksonville Jaguars pleased the near-capacity crowd at Everbank Field with a strong first half showing against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers Saturday night.

Tampa Bay would answer a Jags 7-0 first quarter lead with two touchdowns

and a field goal for a 17-14 halftime lead. The Jags return to Everbank Field on Sun., Aug. 28 to face the Cincinnati Bengals at 8 p.m.

Bortles, sharp with eight completions on 11 attempts, found five different receivers for gains with Allen Robinson snagging four passes to lead the Jags receiver corps.

"We were a little sloppy this week, but we hung in there pretty well," said Bortles. Yeldon scored off a 14 yard swing pass in the first half with Allen Hurns making a

splendid diving reach at 4:50 of the first quarter to give the Jags a 7-0 lead. Yeldon caught his pass and outran the Bucs defense to the front pylon for the score with kicker Jason Myers hitting the PAT.

In the ensuing defensive series, Jags defensive back Dwayne Gratz picked off a Jameis Winston pass that was deflected by middle linebacker Paul Posluszny that led to Yeldon's score.

Tampa Bay would scored in the second quarter with fullback Michael James pounding the ball in for a scored from five yards out to tie the game.

On the next Jags series, Bortles found Hurns behind the Bucs secondary and threw a strike that Hurns grabbed just near the back of the end zone before sliding

out of the end zone with the ball in his possession near the six minute mark. Wideout Allen Robinson made a stretched out 20 yard catch to put the Jags in position for Hurns' score.

Bucs quarterback Jameis Winston hit Micheal Evans with a four yard pass at 12:15 to go in the half. Bucs would take the halftime lead with a 28 yard field goal as time expired.

Highlights in the second half included a 79 yard interception returned for a touchdown from Josh Johnson for the Jags. Jags backup quarterback Chad Henne was intercepted in the second half. Third string quarterback Brandon Allen was also picked off in the second half.



Olympic gold at Clay High

Olympic gold medal swimmer Caeleb Dressel, a graduate of Clay High, waves to fans with family and friends as Dressel returned to Clay High after earning two swimming gold medals at the 2016 Rio Olympics. Dressel returns to the University of Florida as a junior.

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Spartans battle to 19-16 loss

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

ORANGE PARK – St. Johns Country Day School head football coach Bill Sellinger got a loss in his first official contest as the Spartans' new top guy, but the enthusiasm for the 2016 season was very much at a high volume.

St. Johns lost their preseason contest against 1A-Branford High out of Suwannee County, but the first-game jitters created more missed scores and opportunity for the Spartans. Branford, 2-7 in 2015, plays in the very tough district 7-1A with perennial powers Trenton High (14-0, 1 state champions) and Dixie County (8-4 in 2015).

"Last year, I think they beat us 54-0 and were all over us on both sides of the ball," said Sellinger, the defensive coordi-

nator for the Spartans the past four years. "I'm so psyched for the season because of tonight. The kids played hard and never let down against a pretty good team."

St. Johns has a BYE week for week one with the Spartans hosting Robert Munroe out of Quincy on September 2 for their regular season opener.

Led by senior quarterback Joshua Sherrill who patrolled the Spartan backfield looking for ace wideout Cade Walden, the Spartans opened scoring with a defensive steal from linebacker Evan Engelbrecht.

"He was in on a read option and literally stole the lateral and took it the opposite way for the score," said Sellinger. "I like aggressive defense and they scored and really boosted the team."

Sherrill had his share of opportunities with Walden, but the two could not get con-



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY DONNA J. CONVERSANO

St. Johns quarterback Joshua Sherrill bursts through gaping hole in Branford defense.

nected in the first half.

"I hit him a couple of times and he just dropped them, but I stayed with him as this was just our first game," said Sherrill. "Him and I will get that rapport together during the season and big things will happen."

Sherrill became a passcatching target

on his own with eighth grader Max Monroe stepping in for some reps and finding the 6-foot-5 Sherrill for a second half score.

"He's a player, Max is," said Sellinger. "He gives the offense another dimension when he gets in as quarterback."

Eagles

from page 27

Two newcomers in critical skill positions shined. At running back, Chauncey Garrison, who moved to Fleming Island from Alabama over the summer, ran for 114 yards and three touchdowns to spearhead the Golden Eagles' offense. The junior showed good speed and toughness, rarely going down upon first contact.

"Chauncey is a hard runner," said Fleming Island's Damenyum Springs, who is in his first full season as the head coach. "He is willing to put the team on his back."

Freshman quarterback Dean Hyams

also excelled. Forced to play when Brian Brown, a transfer from Orange Park who was expected to start, was held out of the game, Hyams showed no nerves in orchestrating the Golden Eagles offense. The ninth grader picked up 45 yards rushing on six carries and completed an efficient five of eight passes for 66 yards with no interceptions.

"He did a wonderful job for a freshman," said Springs of his quarterback. "He's a baller."

Springs said that next week's starter would be determined in practice this week.

Junior Anfernee McCaskill, a Golden Eagle track 100 meter specialist, got the

hosts off to a great start with a 64 yard return on the opening kickoff. On the next play, Garrison took a hand-off, saw nothing up the middle, cut left, broke a tackle and sprinted 23 yards to the end zone. The Golden Eagles never looked back, scoring on their next three possessions to take a 28-0 lead into halftime.

In contrast to last October, when Westside racked up 517 yards of offense in a 42-33 loss to the Golden Eagles, the Fleming Island defense stymied the Wolverines, forcing three turnovers and holding the visitors to just five first downs and 62 total yards. The Golden Eagles secondary, consisting of safeties Isaiah Walker, K.B. Ashe and Dede Grey and cornerbacks Naji Inman and Ozzie Ramirez, shadowed Wolverines receivers all over the field. As a result, Wolverines quarterback Winston Sweeting, who has drawn interest from several college programs, completed only two passes in 12 attempts for a paltry 12 yards. Walker was also effective in coming up to support the run defense.

Jackson Bull excelled at outside linebacker, sacking Sweetman twice and making two other tackles for losses, one of them a hit on Wolverines punter Dale George that forced a fumble recovered by

Golden Eagles tackle Darius Gooden at the Wolverines 11 yard line. Fleming Island converted the turnover into points on a four yard run by Walker.

The Wolverines' deepest penetration came late in the second quarter on a drive that reached the Fleming Island 34. Golden Eagles linebackers Brandon Mackey and Zach Dawsey made sure the visitors got no closer, sandwiching Sweeting at the line of scrimmage on fourth and four to preserve the shutout.

"Our philosophy is to get 11 hats to the ball," said Fleming Island defensive coordinator Stephen Creech, an assistant coach at Oakleaf last season.

One of those hats rests on the head of reserve linebacker Marquavin Wright, who punctuated the host's feel-good evening by reading Westside's intent to set up a middle screen, jumping in front of the intended receiver, swiping Sweetman's pass and rumbling 43 yards to the goal line for the game's final score.

Noah Hamlett, a converted soccer player, showed off a strong leg while going a perfect six for six on extra point attempts and splitting the uprights from 22 yards out on his lone field goal attempt.

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CORRESPONDENT PHOTOS BY TONYA GIBBS

Ridgeview High running back Kyle Turner gets taken down by Keystone Heights tacklers Blake Sanders and Sawyer Maxwell.

Panthers win 10-7 over Indians

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – In a varsity first half highlighted by strong defense from both teams, Ridgeview High held a 10-7 halftime lead off varsity play, but Keystone Heights wound up with a 30-17 final score after a junior varsity second half.

“The guys played hard and we had lots of positives,” said first year Ridgeview High coach Cameron Porch. “We had three possessions offensively and scored on two.”

Porch started with sophomore Tyler Huff at quarterback with sophomore Chandler Cole getting varsity time near the end of the half.

“Keystone was physical up front and had one decent drive, but fumbled,” said Porch.



Keystone Heights running back Alex Cruz tries to break grasp of Panther tackler.

Ridgeview opens regular season play with 5A-Yulee while Keystone Heights opens with a road trip to 4A-Fernandina Beach.

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CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY DON A. LONG
Oakleaf High ballcarrier Keshawn King hands ball to official after 57 yard score.

Knights

from page 28

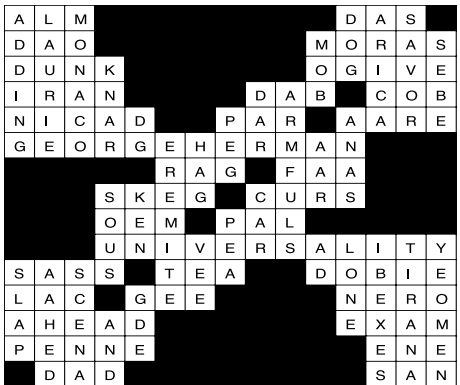
until five minutes remained in the game and Oakleaf had benched most of the starters.

On defense, Reynolds liked the play of sophomore middlelinebacker Dexter Moore and freshman defensive end Chantz Williams, who had two sacks and a fumble recovery.

"Both of those guys are young guys who have come here to fill some pretty big shoes," said Reynolds. "Dexter and our outside linebacker Anthony Norris hit for 24 tackles out there. Chantz is an enormous football talent for a young kid."

On the offensive line, with another freshman, Jalen Rivers, a 6-2, 300+ pound tackle, manning one side of the five-man rotation, Reynolds liked the decrease in mental mistakes as his been an Achilles Heel for the Knights offense in past years.

"Our system is a little complex and sometimes the guys up front get ahead of themselves, but we saw good production on the line," said Reynolds. "Jalen is one of the smartest young guys to be able to step in and get a game's worth of looks in his first year."



SOLUTION:

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9	2	7	6	1	3	5	8	4
8	3	1	5	9	4	6	7	2
7	6	3	1	2	8	9	4	5
2	1	4	7	5	9	3	6	8
5	9	8	3	4	6	7	2	1
3	5	9	8	6	2	4	1	7
4	7	2	9	3	1	8	5	6
1	8	6	4	7	5	2	9	3

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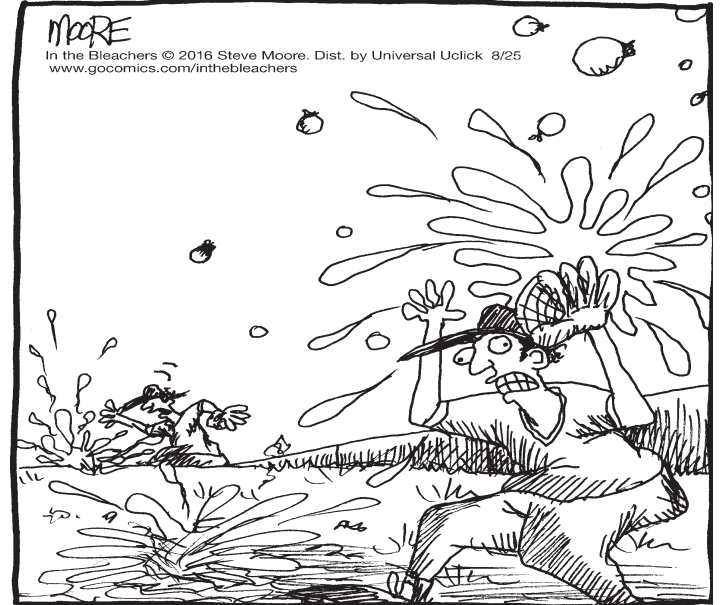
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6			2				4	
		7		9				
9			4				2	
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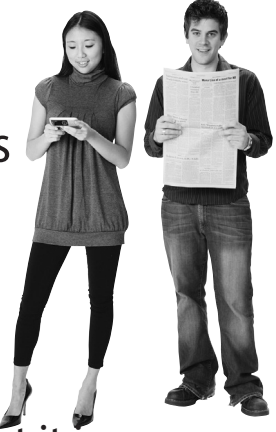
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To inquire about placing an ad in this section, call 579-2154

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 Payment must be made before ad will be published.
 We accept Cash, Check, Major Credit & Debit Cards.

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- Private Party (TVs, Sofas, Household, etc.)**
 - 1 Week \$14.50 2 Weeks \$24.50
 - 3 Weeks \$32.50 4 Weeks \$39.00
- Commercial (Rentals, Cars, Advertise your business.)**
 - 1 Week - \$23 2 Weeks - \$40
 - 3 Weeks - \$57 4 Weeks - \$72
- Garage Sales**
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Ad Copy One Letter, Number, Punctuation Mark or Space Per Box

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

ADDITIONAL LINES are \$2.15 each.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
 PROBATE DIVISION
 FILE NO: 2016-CP-216
IN RE: ESTATE OF ROBERT CHIN, Deceased.
 The administration of the estate of ROBERT CHIN, deceased, whose date of death was May 4, 2016, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clay County Circuit Court, Probate Division, P.O. Box 698, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043. The name and address of the Personal Representatives and the Personal Representatives' attorney are set forth below.
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:
 All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this Probate court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
 All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
 NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
 The date of first publication of this Notice is August 25, 2016
 Attorney for Personal Representative:

Legal Notice
 WILLIAM A. HAMILTON, III, P.A.
 Florida Bar 108052
 4729 Highway 17, Suite 203
 Fleming Island, FL 32003
 904-278-3888
 wahamilton@bellsouth.net
 Personal Representatives:
 ANN MARIE VARSOBIA
 369 Oldfield Drive
 Fleming Island, FL 32003
Legal 37834 published Aug 25 and Sept 1, 2016 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

LEGAL NOTICE
 Sealed bids will be received by the School District of Clay County until **September 14th, 2016 at 2:00 PM** in the Business Affairs Conference Room 925 Center Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida at which time and place all bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud for furnishing all labor and materials for the construction of: **LAKE ASBURY ELEMENTARY /LAKE ASBURY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL LIGHTNING PROTECTION**
SDCC Project No. C1-16/17
 All work shall be done according to the plans and specifications prepared by:
Haddad Engineering, Inc.
 2955 Hartley Rd., Suite 205
 Jacksonville, Florida 32257
 Main Contact: Roger Smith
 Phone: 904/262-5066
 Plans are on file and open to inspection at the office of the Architect/Engineer and are also on file in the following Plan Rooms:
LDI Reproprinting Center
 550 Wells Road, Suite 100
 Orange Park, FL 32073.
 Tel: 904/579-4027
 (Email: orangepark@ldireproprinting.com)
 Prime bidders, who will be submitting a bid to the owner, are required to register with the engineer their intention to bid and as a plan holder. Any addenda will be sent automatically (electronically) to the known plan holders.
 There will be Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting at the site on September 12th at 2:00 P.M. Per Section 00100, Part 9, 9.2. Bidders not attending the pre-bid meeting will not be permitted to submit a bid. Meeting will begin at the Elementary School.
 Only Contractors having been pre-qualified by the School District

Legal Notice
 of Clay County are eligible to submit bids for this project. (Florida Statutes)
 Florida Statutes require that all contractual personnel who are permitted access on school grounds when students are present must meet Level 2 screening requirements as described in S1012.32, Florida Statutes.
DISCRIMINATION: An entity or affiliate who has been placed on the discriminatory vendor list may not submit a bid on a contract to provide goods or services to a public entity, may not submit a bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work, may not submit bids on leases of real property to public entity, may not award or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity.
 The Owner reserves the right to waive any irregularities and minor technicalities or to reject any and all bids. Each bidder must deposit with his bid, a Bid Bond or Cashier's Check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Base Bid price, payable to the Owner.
 The successful bidder will be required to provide a Performance, Labor, and Material Bond in the amount of 100% of the accepted Bid amount.
 No bidder may withdraw his bid within (60) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.
 Any actual or prospective bidder who disputes the reasonableness or competitiveness of the terms and conditions of the Invitation To Bid, Contract Award, or Recommendation for Contract Award, shall file a Notice of Protest with the Superintendent of Schools within 72 hours of receipt of the bid solicitation, posting of the bid tabulations, or posting of the bid award, and must file a formal written protest within ten (10) days following the filing of the Notice to Protest. Failure to observe such timelines will constitute a waiver of proceedings and of right to protest as stipulated in Chapter 120 of the Florida Statutes. The School Board requires a protestor to post bond in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 255.0516 F.S.
Bond Requirement:
 Should a contractor wish to protest the bid recommendation, the protestor shall be required to post a bond as follows:
 1. Five percent (5%) of the recommended award for all projects valued less than \$500,000.00; and
 2. Twenty-five thousand (\$25,000.00) for all projects in excess of \$500,000.00.
 Conditioned upon payment of all costs and fees which may be adjusted against the protestor in the Administrative Hearing. If at the Hearing the School Board prevails, it may recover all costs and attorney's fees from the protestor; if the protestor prevails, the protestor shall recover from the School Board all costs and attorney's fees.
 Bid Tabulations shall be posted outside the Reception area at 925 Center Street, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 after the intended recommendation is announced on or about four (4) days after the bid opening and after the Board's decision is made. The Bid Tabulation will remain posted for a minimum period of 96 hours.
 Charles Van Zant, Jr., Superintendent
 School District of Clay County
Legal 37852 published Aug 25, Sept 1 and Sept 8, 2016 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

Thinking of Advertising in the Clay Today?
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Put the classifieds to work for you, and inch even closer to your goals.

CLAY TODAY
 3513 US Highway 17
 Fleming Island, FL 32003
 904.579.2154

Legal Public Notice
Clay County School Board
 The School District of Clay County will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, September 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Teacher Inservice Center at Fleming Island High, 2233 Village Square Parkway, Orange Park, Florida, for the purpose of amending **School Board Policy 6GX-10-5.08C.6., Food and Nutrition Services, General Program Policies, Additional Food Service.**
 Authority for the adoption of this policy is title 7, Code of Federal Regulation Section 210.11, Competitive Food Service and Standards. Anyone having any legal objection to the substance or propriety of this action is encouraged to notify the Superintendent's office prior to the Public Hearing. All persons wishing to speak on this amendment may do



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