

CLAY TODAY



DRESS A GIRL
Ministry makes 2,000 plus dresses – Page 10



EXPLORE CLAY – INSERT

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School board looks at forming police department

By Wesley LeBlanc
Staff Writer

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – As budget planning discussions begin for the 2019-20 school year, the Clay County School District is preparing for a potential change in the way it handles and funds school security.

After the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting, it was mandated

across Florida that every school must have at least one officer of sorts present on the grounds. This officer could be hired private security, police officers or guardians, which are citizens trained for the position. Clay County became one of the first counties in the state to get an officer in every single school and they did so through a mixed use of local law enforcement agencies and guardians.

“The board directed me to give them a number of options so they can really determine what’s the best for this organization and I look for their lead to give me direction so I can look to begin to put the puzzle pieces in place and make sure that we have the right articulation agreements and personnel in order to make this happen for the community,” said Clay County School District Superintendent Addison Davis.

Davis said he is happy and grateful for the partnerships the district has had with the Clay County Sheriff’s Office, the Green Cove Springs Police Department and the Orange Park Police Department, but that it is the will of the board to explore other options.

SEE POLICE, 11



STAFF PHOTO BY NICK BLANK

From left, Superintendent Addison Davis, winner Erik Williams, second place Maddy Justino and third place winner Ameera Usman at the Jan. 24 Clay County Spelling Bee. Williams now goes on to the 75th Regional Spelling Bee in Jacksonville on Feb. 19.

Spelling Bee Piazza for the win!

By Nick Blank
Staff Writer

OAKLEAF – With poise, Erik Williams took to the microphone, asked the word’s country of origin and how it could be used in a sentence. He said he knew how to spell “Piazza,” – a public square or marketplace in a town, usually Italian – but he wanted to check.

The St. Johns Country Day School sixth-grader won his second Clay County Spelling Bee title in a row after 17 rounds last week at Discovery Oaks Elementary.

Williams faced four rounds of sudden death with Lake Asbury Junior High’s Maddy Justino.

A 59-round slugfest from last year’s edition this was not. Audience members heard more than 150 words and the Bee lasted less than two hours.

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Clay County Memories



By Mary Jo McTammany tamctammany@comcast.net

Orange Park pulled out all the stops to welcome electricity to town

It officially all started back in November of 1922 and didn't end until dusk Feb. 28, 1928, when the town's longest resident, Mrs. Anna R. Marson, 82, flipped the switch in the community center to allow power to rush from the Jacksonville power plant on Tallyrand.

That night in 1922, town commissioners accepted Jacksonville Electric Co.'s proposal to bring service south and into the city limits if the town enlisted sufficient subscribers to guarantee production of a monthly income of \$150. Moosehaven representatives stepped up to the plate and pledged to assume one third of that amount. The Woman's Club canvassed residents to produce the remainder.

In return the electric company provided and erected main lines and poles ready for connections to homes and businesses and installed streetlights on River Blvd. and part of Kingsley Ave.

After a little over five years, the grand plan neared completion and locals began planning a celebration. The ladies of the Woman's Club appointed a trio of Mrs.

Anna Allen, Mrs. Carrie Clarke and Mrs. Carnes to organize the event. This triumvirate pretty much guaranteed a successful event because they had already nursed, cajoled and dragged the town through the depression years of near disaster.

As it turned out, guests arrived from Illinois and almost every state in the Union because that weekend coincided with a Loyal Order of Moose Regents gathering at Moosehaven.

When the big day arrived, on the 28th of Feb., 1928, Orange Park's population swelled from almost 700 to a little over 2,000 to attend the opening program at 3 p.m.

The speakers were impressive and included the father of state representative Arthur M. Milam. Jacksonville was represented by Frank Owen commissioner of public utilities and the chairman of Duval County board of commissioners, R.H. Carswell. The Green Cove board of trade was represented by Rev. G.R. Wilson. Rounding out the movers and shakers were U.S. Secretary of Labor E.J. Hennings and Rodney



This ladies drill team from a northern lodge marched in the Orange Park parade to celebrate the Feb., 1928, arrival of electricity. The group was in town for a Loyal Order of Moose Annual Convention. In the background note the triple row of oak trees extending west along Kingsley Ave.

H. Brandon supreme secretary of the Loyal Order of Moose.

The parade was a major success and included bands, Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls and a special marching routine by a Loyal Order of Moose women's drill team.

Then, at 5 p.m., the Times Union reporter was impressed by an "oyster roast de luxe with all the fixings on the main street" As the light was leaving the western sky, Mrs. Marson threw the switch.

When the streetlights came on enthusiastic cheers erupted and Orange Park was officially "lit".

The party began with the dancing of the Virginia Reel by Moosehaven couples and continued into the wee hours with music by a popular Jacksonville band, The Aggravators. At 1 a.m., exhausted parents gathered up children sleeping to strains of Home Sweet Home on quilts and coats in the corners.

Veterans clinic on track for Doctors Inlet Center

By Nick Blank
Staff Writer

DOCTORS INLET — Construction of the planned Clay County Veterans Affairs clinic is expected to begin construction this summer, U.S. Rep. Ted Yoho said.

A 10-year lease for the clinic, at the Doctors Inlet Center on College Drive was announced in August. A dollar amount has not been released for the project.

Yoho said the long three-year process



Rep. Ted Yoho

was still waiting on some design approvals and would be a boon to the county's estimated 30,000 veterans.

"We're ecstatic with it, No. 1 and going through that process," Yoho said. "Our team has pulled a lot of strings to keep that at the forefront of the VA."

Yoho added that his office had to be proactive given Florida's population growth and the large number of retired and active duty military in the area.

"People are living around the coasts of our state, Florida is the third largest in the union. The corridor with I-95, I-75 and I-10 and the 23 military bases you have in the state," Yoho said. "The need is going to continue to grow, you don't want to wait until the need outpaces your ability, that's why we didn't

wait and that's why we pushed so hard." The North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System is one of the largest in the country as it serves about 11,000 veterans. Clay's Vietnam Veterans of America President David Treffinger said most veterans' options for care have them traveling to Duval, Alachua, Putnam or Columbia counties.

"I think it's long overdue and a pretty good central location," Treffinger said. "It's pretty substantial because it's going to save veterans time and money."

Clay County Commissioner Gayward Hendry, a former Marine, said the VA clinic is an important way to serve the community in addition to the County's Veterans Services Office.

"Clay County has always been proud of

our military heritage and honored those who defend our country," Hendry said.

It was exciting to see the progress on the project, County Commission Chairman Mike Cella said.

"With the growing population of active duty families and nearly 30,000 veterans in our community, this is a welcomed resource for our community," Cella said. "It is projects like this that drive economic development and improve our quality of life."

The clinic will offer primary care, mental health services, lab services and some remote care. The process for the VA Clinic began in 2015.

"That just shows you how long it takes," Yoho said. "We have to juggle everything and make sure the momentum doesn't stop and then you have to start all over."

CLAY TODAY

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Students learn possibilities in coding class

By Wesley LeBlanc
Staff Writer

MELROSE – Puzzled looks filled the faces of more than 20 kids as they peered from behind their laptops at the Melrose Public Library recently.

It wasn't books they were crinkling their eyebrows over, it was the first session of a six-week course on coding taught by Melrose physician Joseph Rush.

On Jan. 17, sixth-grade students from Melrose Elementary School got a chance to learn some of the ins and out of coding through an interactive module that resembles a video game.

"I've been a lifetime teacher," Rush said. "I love children. I went into family medicine because I love kids, and this is an opportunity to teach them an important skill."

Melrose Library Branch Manager Sherree Sims said Rush set up the class up almost single-handedly. The library asked for him to come and teach a course and Rush showed up, ready to teach with dozens of laptops for students to use, free of charge.

When asked if this is a way to give back to his community, he declined the notion of the term "give back," and instead said it's a way for him to teach, something he loves to do.

In the first week of coding, students



Melrose Physician Joseph Rush provided the knowledge base and laptops for the coding class.



Students jumped in to the 6-week course where they learned coding at the library.



played games online that taught them how to code. Specifically, they had to build code blocks that when applied together would make an object move from one side of a maze to the destination at the end. On its surface, it seemed like a simple game, but a deeper look reveals that what this program is doing is teaching kids how computer codes dictate what a program can and can't do.

One of the coding rules the class learned to make the maze game work was

SEE CODING, 13



Clay County Property Appraiser's Office Roger A. Suggs, CFA, AAS, CCF

** Hurricane Property Tax Abatement **

The 2018 Florida Legislature enacted a law providing a reimbursement of property taxes for homesteaded property damaged or destroyed by Hurricanes Hermine or Matthew in the 2016 calendar year or Hurricane Irma in the 2017 calendar year. To be eligible, the property must be determined **"uninhabitable"** for a period of **30 days or more** during the calendar year that the hurricane occurred as evidenced by documentation. The property owner must file an *Application for Abatement of Taxes for Homestead Residential Improvements* (and provide supporting documentation) no later than **March 1, 2019**. Failure to timely file an application waives the claim for abatement.



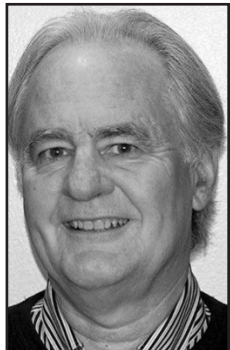
For more information, visit www.ccpao.com or contact the Clay County Property Appraiser's Office at (904) 269-6305.

Bill would protect military spouses from deportation

By **Scott Powers**
FloridaPolitics.com

Trying again under a U.S. House of Representatives that now has Democratic control, Kissimmee's U.S. Rep. Darren Soto introduced two bills last week aiming to prevent immigration deportations of military spouses such as Alejandra Juarez, a Polk County U.S. Marine's wife who was deported to Mexico last year for being an undocumented immigrant.

Soto was joined out front of the U.S. Capitol by Pamela Juarez, the 17-year-old daughter of Alejandra and Sgt. Cuauhtemoc "Temo" Juarez. Alejandra Juarez was deported last year in a nationally-observed case as Democrats railed unsuccessfully against President Donald Trump's "zero tolerance" policy toward illegal immigration.



Scott Powers

Last year, Soto's bills to address her status and that of other U.S. Military spouses who face similar situations went nowhere.

"There are over 11,800 active U.S. military service members who are dealing with family members facing deportation. That's 11,800 too many, for folks who are defending our country," Soto said. "This is not just an isolated incident. This happens, and this has happened for generations. It was heartbreaking to be there that day when literally the Juarez family was divided, split up, because of this zero-tolerance policy."

They were joined by U.S. Rep. Ruben Gallego of Arizona, who is a Marine veteran; U.S. Rep. Joaquín Castro of Texas; and U.S. Rep. Mark Takano of California, who chairs the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs; as a show of support for the bill among Democrats who control the House.

"Working to assure veterans and their families can remain together should be a top priority," Takano said.

Takano said he also is awaiting a report on deported American veterans and will pursue legislative solutions to keep them in the United States as well.

Soto's bills are the House Resolution 557, entitled the "Protect Patriot Spouses Act," and House Resolution 591, a separate bill specifically to allow the return of Alejandra Juarez, who now lives in Mexico

SEE SPOUSE, 5

OPINIONS



Hands off the hair, please

By **Wesley LeBlanc**
Staff Writer

Before I jump into this story, I want to make it clear that I hold the utmost disdain for the TSA. It's an annoying governmental process that not only uses (and wastes) our tax dollars but does nothing more than some smoke and mirror tricks to fake security in an area where the likelihood of another attack akin to 9/11 is less likely than another school shooting.



Wesley LeBlanc

I could write an entire column – heck, I could write an entire newspaper – about why the TSA is a waste of money, but I'll just leave you with a study that I think everyone should read up on.

Three years ago, the Department of Homeland Security pretended to be terrorists that were attempting to smuggle guns and bombs onto planes 70 different times. Of those 70 attempts, the TSA stopped them three times.

Three times. That's 67 terrorist attacks the TSA failed to stop.

Now, we'll probably never see 67 terrorist attacks via planes in America ever happen, but it won't be because of the TSA.

And look, I get it. People were quite scared to go on a plane after 9/11 and for good reason. That day was a dark

day in history. But, in their concern to prevent another terrorist attack, the government should create a security force for air travel actually capable of stopping threats.

Oh, and less prejudice would be great too.

A few weeks ago, I flew to San Francisco to cover another big release in the video game industry. It was great and San Francisco and the greater California is awesome, but that's not what this column is about.

Before my incredible work trip to San Francisco, I had to endure the most obnoxious display of theatrics I'd ever been a part of thanks to the TSA.

I took off my shoes, my belt, my jacket, my bag and opened up all of my electronics as usual. I walked through the strange x-ray machine that reveals way too much to the person looking at the nearby screen – seriously, look into how much of your body this machine reveals.

After getting the greenlight, I walked through only to be stopped by one last TSA agent.

He grabbed my arm and pulled me aside and didn't say a single word either. He then turned my body around and told me he needed to check my hair.

My hair is long. It goes down to my shoulders. Some of it flows down my shoulders on the back of my head and the rest is usually tied up in a bun.

This TSA agent immediately began combing my hair with a comb and I immediately had so many questions.

Did I have a gun tied up in my hair? Was there some kind of weapon hidden

SEE HAIR, 5

Word OF THE WEEK

Word of the Week is a feature that aims to help readers boost their vocabulary in a meaningful way that has practical application. Each week, our editorial staff presents a word, its definition and its use in a sentence.

Etymology: A noun meaning "the study of the origin of words and the way in which their meanings have changed throughout history."

"Kathryn searched and searched for the etymology of a word but gave up after a day of looking."

This Week In History

5 years ago, 2014

Green Cove Springs Junior High eighth grader Aubrey Townsend spelled the word picaresque to beat 33 fellow students in her fourth straight appearance in the Clay County Spelling Bee.

Citizen-members of the Town Manager Applicants Review Committee narrowed the original field of 44 applicants to 10 candidates to pass along to the Orange Park Town Council for further consideration and possibly interviews.

Barco-Newton YMCA children's sports coach Jimmy Laverne Holmes of Fleming Island pleaded guilty to federal charges of receiving child pornography over the internet.

10 years ago, 2009

More than 150 people turned out for a Clay County School Board budget workshop in which Superintendent Ben Wortham suggested making \$23 million in budget cuts in the aftermath of losing \$10 million in state funds with more state cuts pending.

The community mourned the death of 56-year-old William "Billy" Powell, the original keyboardist for Lynyrd Skynyrd, who survived the 1977 plane crash that killed band founder Ronnie Van Zant.

SEE HISTORY, 5

Send us a letter ...

We'd like to hear from you. Perhaps you are concerned about the county commission, the school board or your city council or commission, sit down and take a few moments to write us a letter.

All we ask is that you keep it civil, no name-calling and write

no more than 600 words. All we ask is that you stick to local issues, be clear and make a point. We reserve the right to edit for AP Stylebook errors, grammar and spelling. In your email, type Letter to the Editor in your subject and send it to Managing Editor Eric Cravey at eric@opcl.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Opinions

The views and opinions expressed on this page are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Clay Today.

Hair

from page 4

in it? Where did this comb come from? Was this comb sanitary? Why haven't I seen this happen to anyone else before?

Then, after combing my hair, which is so awkward and intrusive mind you, he began squeezing my hair bun as if it were a sponge. He squeezed it over and over again.

Was there a miniature gun hidden in my bun? Had I soaked my hair in enough liquid that if the TSA squeezed the hair, the liquid would drip out and reveal I had,

in fact, taken more than three ounces of liquid with me? Was my hair a weapon?

After squeezing my hair bun around 10 times, the TSA agent told me I was good to go. At the time, I was so flabbergasted that I didn't say anything. I was truly surprised.

Looking back today, I can only come to one of two conclusions.

This man desperately needed a promotion and I looked like the perfect suspect for his next-level investigation.

"Hey boss, I found an AK-47 in this man's hair! Can I get that promotion now?"

ero escaped from the Clay County Jail, newly-sworn in Sheriff Dalton Bray told the Board of County Commissioners he needs 10 additional corrections officers to fully meet the department's needs.

The Orange Park Police Department charged Edward Grady Smith of Jacksonville Beach, with two counts of armed robbery after allegedly holding up a Days Inn and a Best Western along Park Avenue within an hour using a .25-caliber handgun.

The Clay County Dental Society held its Fifth Annual Tooth Trot 5K road race on Loch Rane Boulevard with 37 students from S. Bryan Jennings Elementary School taking part in its 1-mile Fun Run.

40 years ago, 1979

Board of County Commissioners member Frank Bruning convinced his fellow commissioners to stop spending on the county jail expansion project until construction problems on the site could be resolved.

Orange Park Town Manager Richard Fellows presented town council with a proposal to annex into the town land from Interstate 295 to Bellair Boulevard.

Officials at Moosehaven prepared for the spring completion of its three-hole miniature golf course named Indiana Fairways, which will average 150 yards a hole, including a dog-leg on No. 3.

any committees, but Soto said he has had initial discussions and is encouraged it has support, saying, "I view this new Congress as being fertile ground for a bill like this."

Scott Powers is an Orlando-based political journalist with 30+ years' experience, mostly at newspapers such as the Orlando Sentinel and the Columbus Dispatch. His career earned numerous journalism awards for stories ranging from the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster to presidential elections to misplaced nuclear waste. Email him at scott@floridapolitics.com. He appears courtesy of FloridaPolitics.com.

Wouldn't have mattered anyway because promotion or not, that agent wasn't getting a paycheck because our government was shutdown for...reasons.

The only other conclusion I can come up with is that this man saw the most beautiful hair he's ever seen – I do, admittedly, take great care of my hair and in the most humble way, it is quite fabulous

– and took the only chance he had to caress said hair.

Regardless, in classic TSA fashion, I found myself laughing at their operation, disturbed by their level of intrusion and furthermore convinced that the TSA is the most useless level of security ever installed in America.

Clay grads complete U.S. Air Force basic training

SAN ANTONIO, Texas – Three former Clay County students just finished training with the U.S. Air Force.

U.S. Airman 1st Class Jacob K. Bolena, Mikayla Cardona and Airman Michael L. Carroll II graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland at San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Bolena is the son of Michelle Bolena of Waukesha, Wisconsin, and Derek Bolena of Middleburg. He is the husband of Taylor Bolena of Middleburg. Bolena is a 2013



Jacob Bolena graduate of Middleburg High and a 2018 graduate of Jacksonville's Trinity Baptist College, where he received a bachelor's degree.

Cardona, the daughter of Mayra Bayon of Lake Asbury, is a 2018 graduate of Clay High.

Carroll is the son of Michael Carroll of Ormond Beach and nephew of Bailey Carroll of Raytown, Missouri. He is a 2017 graduate of Middleburg High.

History

from page 4

The Paul E. and Klare N. Reinhold Foundation announced the Reinhold Community Service Awards would be replaced in 2009 with the Celebrate Clay awards program to honor nonprofit organizations that improve the quality of life in Clay County.

20 years ago, 1999

A judge in Tallahassee ruled a petition filed by the North Green Cove Springs Civic Association against the Clay County School District was without merit and would not be heard. The civic group accused the school district of not following proper procedure when it bought land for School Q.

Orange Park Postmaster Rick Hull told Clay Today the U.S. Postal Service planned to build a new Post Office on South Blanding Boulevard and one on Fleming Island within the next two years to handle growth.

Merchant members of the Wells Road Task Force told the Board of County Commissioner's Transportation Committee that road construction on the thoroughfare was causing them to lose customers they many never get back.

30 Years ago, 1989

A day after 37-year-old Nydia C. Mar-

Spouse

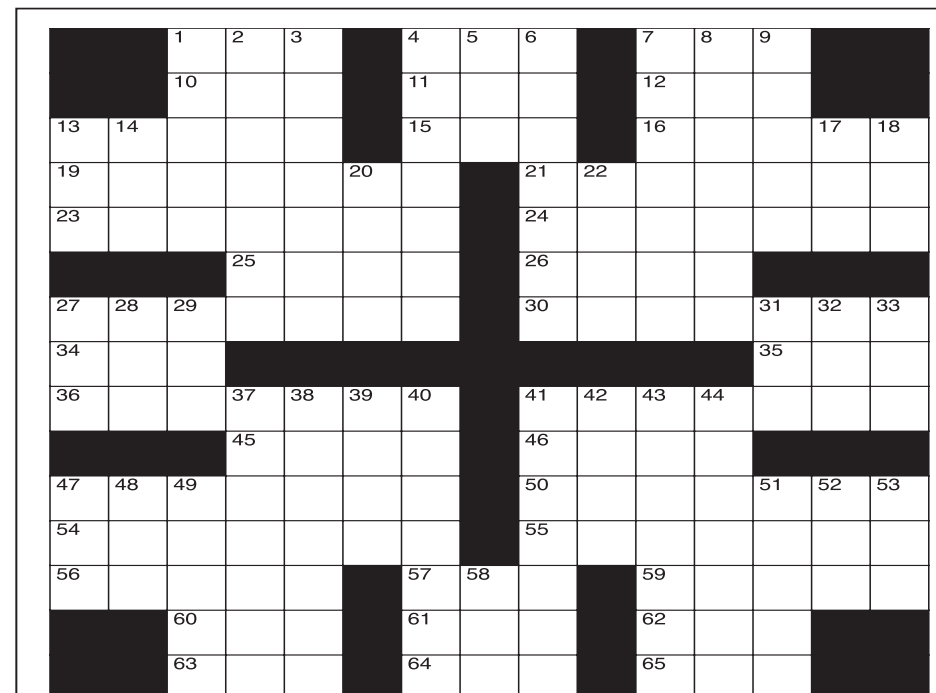
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with her 8-year-old daughter Estela while Pamela lives with her father in Polk County.

HR 557 would give priority for green cards to spouses of military service members and also would allow for discretion to be practiced in deportation procedures involving immigration violations.

"The bill is more generous this year than last year's bill because it's a new Congress. And because we believe strongly in second chances. So, this bill would specifically address Alejandra's specific situation and many others," Soto said.

The bills have not yet been assigned to



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Chop or cut
- 4. Political action committee
- 7. Male parent
- 10. Doctors' group
- 11. Ottoman military commander
- 12. A metal-bearing natural material
- 13. Lively ballroom dance
- 15. Male Gypsy
- 16. Once-popular card game
- 19. Occurred just once
- 21. ___ Streisand, singer
- 23. Shiny yellow minerals
- 24. Get hitched again
- 25. See (Latin)
- 26. Lies between the Caspian and Persian Gulf
- 27. Scourges
- 30. Sentence
- 34. Supervises flying
- 35. Bar bill
- 36. Alfalfa
- 41. Type of dishwasher soap
- 45. Witnesses
- 46. Ancient Italian-Greek colony
- 47. Newspapers need them
- 50. Discuss again
- 54. Small group with shared interests
- 55. Support
- 56. Wool
- 57. Take hold of
- 59. Likely the first Meso-American civilization
- 60. Woman (French)
- 61. Automobile
- 62. Popular Georgia rockers
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. A major division of geological time
- 65. Make an effort

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Czech monetary unit
- 2. Able to arouse feeling
- 3. Elk
- 4. Muscular weaknesses
- 5. Earlier
- 6. Lightweight fabric
- 7. One who greets
- 8. Soldiers sometimes wear one
- 9. Officially prohibit
- 13. US political party
- 14. Used of a number or amount not specified
- 17. Make a mistake
- 18. Biopic starring Jamie Foxx
- 20. Ancient Media inhabitant
- 22. About aviation
- 27. Popular American sports league
- 28. Cologne
- 29. Partner to cheese
- 31. When you'll get there
- 32. Not pleased
- 33. One point east (clockwise) of due north
- 37. Respects
- 38. Shake up
- 39. Ethiopian river
- 40. Intrinsic nature of something
- 41. Principal parts of the brain
- 42. Brews
- 43. Where ships dock
- 44. One who wasalls
- 47. Shock treatment
- 48. Popular average
- 49. Things
- 51. A type of 'bear'
- 52. Utilize
- 53. European Economic Community
- 58. Swiss river

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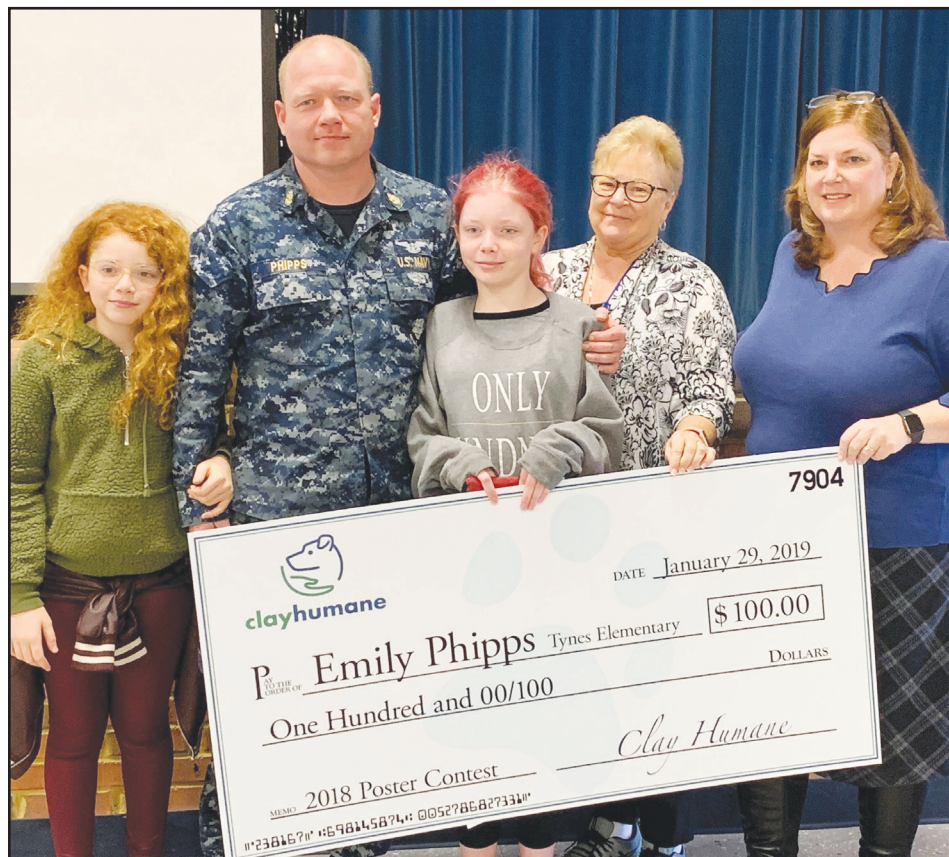
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From left, Jenna Phipps, Andrew Phipps, Emily Phipps, Jennifer Warren, Laura Fogarty celebrated Jan. 29 as Emily was announced the winner of Clay Humane's annual spay and neuter awareness poster contest. Students enter the contest after hearing a presentation about why spay and neuter is important.

Nonprofit wraps up spay and neuter poster contest

By Nick Blank
Staff Writer

MIDDLEBURG – Thousands of drivers who venture on Blanding Boulevard every day will see a Tynes Elementary's student's creation.

A billboard sandwiched between Maaco Auto Paint and Collision Repair and a SunTrust Bank showcases fifth-grader Emily Phipps' winning art from Clay Humane's annual contest in which kids try to educate pet owners about the importance of spaying and neutering pets.

Phipps' winning entry, a dog with a floaty, and the message "Beat the heat," will be on the billboard. Phipps received \$100 and four tickets to SeaWorld.

She said it felt cool to win the contest and she thought her design was funny.

"I'm surprised I won," Phipps said, before she thanked the Clay Humane, which runs a low-cost nonprofit animal clinic near Orange Park.

School administrators, teachers and students cheered as Clay Humane's Executive Director Linda Welzant presented Phipps the check Tuesday.

"As a part of our ongoing mission to foster humane attitudes through education, the Society brought its annual poster contest to Clay County Schools," Welzant said.

Phipps' father Andrew, who is stationed at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, applauds Emily's win.

"She did a good job," said Andrew Phipps. "She deserves everything she

gets."

More than 800 fifth graders across multiple schools participated in the contest. Second place went to RideOut Elementary's Rylie Mason and Chloe Toney, who also attends RideOut, won third place.

"We had a lot of super duper entries, it was very difficult to decide three winners for the grade level," fifth-grade teacher Jennifer Warren said. "Don't forget why we entered the competition, that spaying and neutering our animals is so important."

Tynes' Principal Laura Fogarty said the contest is an excellent chance for students to bring attention to the importance of spaying and neutering animals. Clay Humane offers free spay and neuter services, as well as urgent pet care and surgeries at a low cost. "Spay it Forward" is the organization's slogan on the issue.

"The fact that she gets to have a billboard on Blanding is an incredible opportunity, probably a once in a lifetime opportunity," Fogarty said. "She's a very creative student, is very intelligent and always thinks outside the box. I was glad those talents were able to be recognized."

Clay Humane's clinic has neutered over 96,000 animals since 1991, the organization claims. According to Clay Humane, most offspring of unneutered pets end up overburdening shelters or become homeless.

More information about spaying and neutering pets can be found at clayhumane.org/spay-or-neuter.php.

Bee

from page 1

Before the competition started, School Superintendent Addison Davis said students who put effort into the Spelling Bee improve their grammar, vocabulary, and competitive spirit, things that help students later in life.

"The parents and staff being here, this signifies how much you care about education," Davis told the crowd of about 100. "We know that individuals that participate in events such as this develop a number of skills inside and outside of our classrooms."

Williams, 11, was the 32nd competitor, which meant he went toward the end of each round. The first two rounds of the 38-student field shed 11 students per round on words ranging from "haberdashery," to "vexation," to "cliques." Round three bounced three on "tofu," "cameo," "denim," and then concluded with three consecutive misses with "homonym," "seersucker," and "fathom."

Now Williams, who asked for the definition and country no matter the word, would go last.

Round four and five bounced one student each on "maraca," and "muumuu," respectively. Three students would exit in rounds six, nine and 10 on "daffodil," "morgue," and "mantilla." The crowd gave contestants applause after each round.

Round 11 saw the elimination of So-



STAFF PHOTO BY NICK BLANK

Erik Williams, 11, a student at St. Johns Country Day School, takes to the microphone at Discovery Oaks Elementary during the Clay County Spelling Bee, which is open to all schools. Williams would go on to successfully spell piazza to win the bee, which lasted 17 rounds. He now goes on to compete in the 75th Annual First Coast Regional Spelling Bee to be held at Jacksonville University on Feb. 19.

phia Cheshire, who attends R.M. Paterson Elementary, on the spelling of credenza. Judges deliberated over whether they heard a "z," or a "c," before deciding on the latter. St. Johns Classical Academy's Davin Smiley, who may have endured the toughest series of words in the competition, saw his run end on "tortilla."

Down to three: Erik Williams, Justino and Ameera Usman from Oakleaf Junior High. Usman was eliminated by incorrectly spelling "desperado." In rapid-fire fashion, Justino barreled through "buccaneer," "amnesia" and "pochismo," and last year's winner countered with correct spellings of

"ravioli," "vogue" and "synopsis."

Justino had a problem with another Italian word, libretto – an opera's text. Williams landed "vulcanize," and finally, "piazza." (No word if Williams, 11, was a fan of the 1990s New York Mets teams and 2016 Hall of Fame inductee Catcher Mike Piazza.)

"Well I knew the word, and I just wanted to slow it down and make sure I didn't miss it," Williams said. "I got a couple of really hard ones – it was probably boutique (in round five). It was just weird and French."

He said there wasn't much room for error. His mother Annica Williams, who said

the family had Swedish heritage, joked how there weren't any Swedish words.

"There's so many contestants and they all did great," Erik Williams said.

"(Smiley) was knocking out long words," said Erik's father Alan Williams. "My wife (Annica) is the one who coaches him. They practice together and it's kind of their thing. I'm just proud of him. He loves it and he puts the time in."

Erik Williams will go to the 75th Annual First Coast Regional Spelling Bee at Jacksonville University in February. He was runner-up in the 2018 competition.



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MM1481

Norma Jones' legacy honored with Arbor Day tree planting

By Nick Blank
Staff Writer

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The crowd of 30 who attended the recent Arbor Day celebration at the Green Cove Springs Public Library didn't show up for just for the trees.

Government officials, friends and family members remembered Norma Jones, a well-admired librarian and avid gardener in the community. She died last April at 92.

An Arizona Blue Ice Cypress was planted in her memory. Care Valteau, Garden Club of Green Cove Springs president, said it was fitting Jones' tree was planted next the Magnolia that looms above the library that was planted in 2008 for Arbor Day, a ceremony Jones attended.

"Her life to our community has been a blessing," Valteau said.

For a city to earn and keep its designation as a "Tree City," it has to meet four requirements:

maintain a city tree board or department, a public tree care ordinance, a community forestry program and hold a city-proclaimed Arbor Day celebration annually. This year marks Green Cove Springs' 30th year with the designation.

Library Branch Manager Jennifer Parker said Jones' activity was as energetic as it was varied. Jones worked with the Early Florida Village at the Clay County Agricultural Fair, the Clay County Historical Society, the garden club, the Village Improvement Association, in addition to serving 28 years with the county library system.

"This particular type of tree was well



STAFF PHOTOS BY NICK BLANK

City officials, members of the VIA, and family members of former librarian and gardener Norma Jones, celebrated Jones' legacy of loving gardening and books Jan. 18 at the City of Green Cove Springs' official Arbor Day event. Jones' life work was remembered in conjunction with the city celebrating its 30th year of membership in the Tree City USA program.

chosen because Norma's was a life well and truly lived, the impact of which can still be felt through so many enterprises for which she was there at the start, labored so faithfully and for which she would be glad to see continue on to the benefit to her community," Parker said.

Norma Jones began as a clerk at the library in 1964 and Parker spoke about how Jones had been with the library system in its infancy. Parker said Jones touched children's hearts and minds with the books she bought for the library and programs she presented

"The Green Cove Library was in a

storefront on Walnut Street with a collection of materials that have been donated by the VIA in 1961," Parker said. "Librarians became leaders within the system with Norma's guidance. Much like dropping a stone in a pond, the effects of her efforts ripple out to the lives we serve."

Norma Jones' son Ronald Jones told the crowd for years his mother was known for an impeccable yard at her Myrtle Avenue home. She was honored by the city and other organizations for her lawn numerous times.

"When she received a lifetime achievement award, she was relieved she could be excluded from future competitions,"

Ronald Jones said as the crowd laughed. "She just laughed and went on working in her yard."

Even when Norma Jones broke her hip in 2009, she worked on her lawn while in a wheelchair. Her son said she would have appreciated the tree planting.

"She would have loved a tree planted in her honor. She also said, 'Any shrub or tree you planted made a yard more beautiful,' Ronald Jones said. "I know whenever we see this tree, to each of you who made this tribute to Norma happen, she would have been delighted. Thank you on behalf on the family."

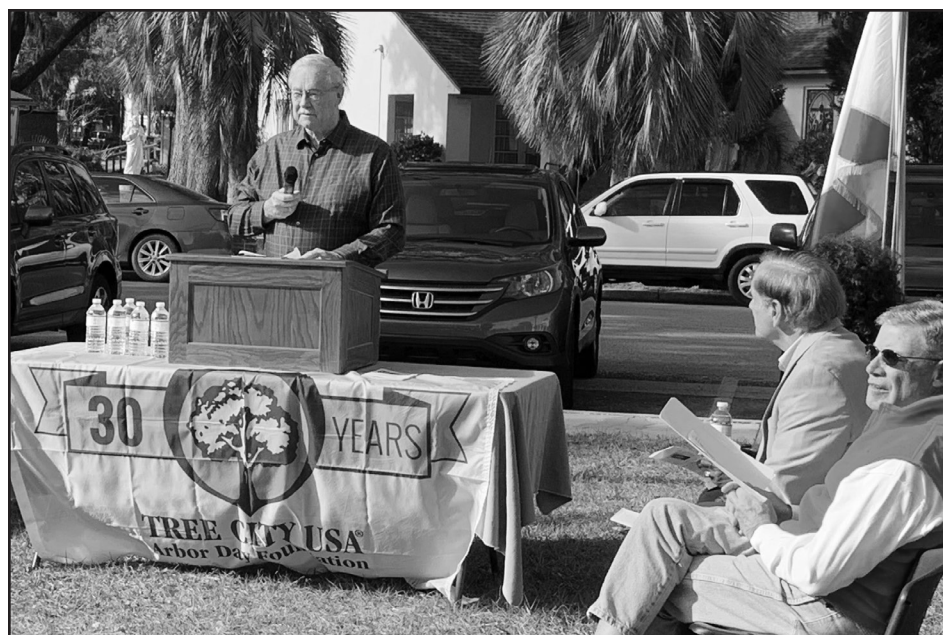
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Ronald Jones told attendees about how his mother, Norma Jones, would care for her yard even until she broke her hip in 2009 at the Jan. 18 Arbor Day celebration in which officials planted an Arizona Blue Ice Cypress in Norma Jones' honor.



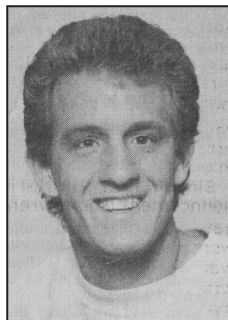
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Obituaries

Robert Perreault Hoff

Robert Perreault Hoff, age 55, departed this earthly realm and joined his Lord and Savior on Sunday, January 20, 2019 after a long battle with cancer. He was born on December 9, 1963 in Lemoore, California to the late Michael and Mary Hoff.

Robert graduated high school from St. Johns Country Day in Orange Park, Fla. where he excelled in soccer, and helped his team capture two state championships. His love for soccer continued at Mercer University for two years before transferring to Florida State University, where he graduated with a degree in business.



Robert Perreault Hoff

Upon moving back to Orange Park, Robert obtained his MBA from the University of North Florida. He started a career in banking with Barnett Bank, but set his eyes on becoming an FBI agent. In 1989, Robert was diagnosed with a very aggressive form of brain cancer, so severe the doctors' gave him six months to live. He had others plans – living a very active life filled with trips to such places as Russia, Alaska, Hawaii, Ireland and the Holy Land. Robert also became very active in the church, which included volunteer work in the soup kitchen at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in downtown Jacksonville, where he attended Mass. Robert lived his last days in hospice under the careful watch of his brother Charles and a truly incredible group of nurses and caregivers. He was awake and alert to the end, with his family around him and his favorite music in the air. Rest easy, brother, leave your pain and suffering behind you, and know that you will be truly missed by all who knew and loved you.

Robert was preceded by his mother, Mary Helen Hoff, and his father, Michael George Hoff. Robert is survived by his sister, Suzanne; his brothers Michael, Charles, and Joseph; and eleven nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the following organizations: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis

TN 38105; St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, 1649 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park, Fla. 32073; Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, 121 East Duval St., Jacksonville, Fla. 32202. Fischer Funeral Care, Atlanta, Ga.

Doran 'Chip' Dean Yelton, II

Doran (Chip) Dean Yelton, II passed away peacefully in his sleep January 27, at Noon surrounded by family after a long battle with cancer.

He is survived by his beloved girlfriend Holly Doucette, his sons Lewis Taylor Yelton, Andrew Garrett Yelton, his mother Eleanor Yelton Blackmon, his siblings Leland (Twig) Marshall Yelton and David (Woody) Brentwood Yelton, Holly Yelton, brother in law Roy Paul Miller, his nephew Christian Marshall Yelton, his niece Lucy Doran Yelton and nephew Samuel Brentwood Yelton.

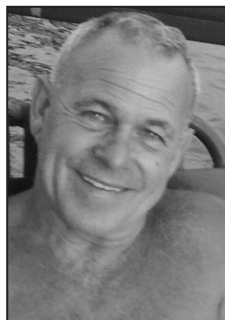
He was born in Maryville, Tennessee on July 6, 1955. He graduated from The Bolles School and Delta State University in Mississippi. He owned and operated the largest marine contracting company in St. Johns County, Yelton Construction Company.

He was known for his vibrant and loving personality. He was always there to help others and never met a stranger. He lived life to the fullest. He enjoyed fishing, water skiing diving, snowboarding, hunting and had an adventurous spirit. He was truly one of a kind and will be missed by all that knew him.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to the local St. Augustine Humane Society, P.O. Box 133, St. Augustine, Fla. 32085.

A visitation was held from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at Craig Funeral Home. Funeral Services were held on Wednesday, January 30, 2019 at Anastasia Baptist Church with reception that followed. Burial was on Wednesday, January 30, 2019 at Craig Memorial Park.

Craig Funeral Home, Crematory and Memorial Park (www.craigfuneralhome.com) is in charge of arrangements.



Doran 'Chip' Dean Yelton II

Gloria Jeanette Gainey

Gloria Jeanette Gainey, 86, was born on May 27, 1932 in Argyle, Kentucky. She was the daughter of William (Mack) McKinley and Hazel Watson Ralston.

She went home to be with the Lord on January 26, 2019 in Fleming Island, Fla. surrounded by her family.

Gloria attended Berea College Preparatory School and graduated from Eastern Kentucky University, with a Teaching Degree.

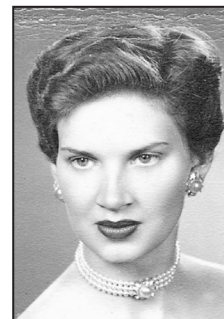
Gloria taught school for over 30 years in Clay County, mostly second grade at Charles E. Bennett Elementary School in Green Cove Springs. She had a love and passion for teaching and spent countless hours making sure her students had all the necessary tools and skills to achieve success in life, and was always willing to help anyone who needed it.

Gloria loved her Lord and was a member of the Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Green Cove Springs, Fla. and taught Sunday School for many years.

Gloria was predeceased by her parents; her brother, William McKinley Ralston, Jr. and his wife Juanita Ralston. Gloria is survived by two sons, Charleton Kevin Gainey and his wife Kathryn, and Christopher Keith Gainey and his wife, Kyra; four grandchildren, Jimmy, Christopher, Patrick and Collin, as well as many other loving family members and friends.

Graveside services will be held Privately. The family invited friends to gather with them Wednesday, January 30, 2019 in the chapel at Jacksonville Memory Gardens Funeral Home, 111 Blanding Blvd, Orange Park, Fla. from 1 -2 p.m. Gloria touched the lives of many and will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

The family requests in lieu of flowers donations in Gloria's name be made to the American Cancer Society.



Gloria Jeanette Gainey

Billie Gayle Constant

Billie Gayle Constant, 38 of Middleburg, Fla. passed away January 19, 2019.

Russell Haven of Rest Cemetery, Funeral Home and Cremation Center 2335 Sandridge Rd., Green Cove Springs, Fla. 32043 904-284-7720 www.RHRFH.com.



Shirley Baker

Shirley Baker, 79, of Green Cove Springs, Fla., passed away January 22, 2019.

Broadus Raines Funeral Home, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, Fla. (904) 284-4000.



Margaret W. Carr

Margaret W. Carr, 97, of Orange Park, Fla., passed away January 25, 2019.

Broadus Raines Funeral, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, Fla. (904) 284-4000.



John 'Bob' Juliana

John "Bob" Juliana, 75, of Middleburg, Fla., passed away January 28, 2019.

Broadus Raines Funeral Home, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, Fla. (904) 284-4000.



Susan Elaine Layfield Cooper

Susan Elaine Layfield Cooper, 65, of Green Cove Springs, Fla., passed away January 26, 2019.

Broadus Raines Funeral Home, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, Fla. (904) 284-4000.



SEE OBITUARIES, 11

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Ministry makes 2,000-plus dresses for girls

By Wesley LeBlanc
Staff Writer

ORANGE PARK – When Wendy Keeling joined Pinewood Presbyterian Church four years ago, she set out to become part of a ministry that made a difference in the world.

Wanting to get involved, Keeling used her sewing skills to join a ministry called Dress a Girl Around the World, which provides dresses to children in developing countries and impoverished communities in the U.S.

“Not only is this a way to use the skills God has given me to help others around the world and show them His love, but it’s a way to spend time with these wonderful women,” Keeling said.

“What an incredible way to spend a Saturday.”

Keeling and other members of the organization are celebrating a milestone this month after having sewn 2,286 dresses for children in need of appropriate clothing.

Fellow parishioner Holly Scheff started the Dress a Girl Around the World chapter in 2015 with hopes of sewing and shipping dresses to girls in countries around the globe.

“I never thought we’d be what we are today,” Scheff said. “When I first started our group, my goal was just, ‘well, I’ll do this by myself and I’m sure I’ll get some help,’ but as I’ve talked to more and more people, more and more people want to get involved.”

What started as just Scheff and a few other women has grown into Saturday morning gatherings of nearly two dozen women ranging from children to adults.



Dress A Girl Around the World is a ministry at Pinewood Presbyterian Church on Knight Boxx Road near Orange Park. The group recently reached a sewing milestone by surpassing 2,000 dresses it has sewn for children who live in impoverished communities around the world.

have to be delivered because we don’t want them confiscated and sold,” Scheff said.

Scheff said she prefers when a missionary hand delivers the dresses because it allows for an interaction that might change the girls life. According to Scheff,

for many girls, this dress might be the first dress they’ve ever owned. It also allows Scheff and her team of sewing women to

see the seeds they’ve sown.

“We always ask the missionaries to take a picture of the girl in the dress so we back home can see,” Scheff said. “Nothing warms your heart more than the smile they always have on their face.” While these dresses are simple in design, with each costing roughly \$10 a piece, there is a lot of love and thought that gets

put into each one. Each dress is made in such a way that it can be washed in a source of water such as a river because many of the girls won’t have access to washing machines. Each dress is marked with a Dress a Girl Around the World tag to help prevent the girl from being picked up and placed into slavery or human trafficking.

“When someone sees the tag with the dress, it tells them that the girl belongs somewhere, that she’s cared for, that she has somebody looking out for, and that might stop [a would-be kidnapper] from

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Obituaries

from page 9

Michael C. Short

Michael C. Short, 60, of Green Cove Springs, Fla., passed away January 26, 2019.

Broadus Raines Funeral Home, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, Fla. (904) 284-4000.



Darlene Bernice Hill

Darlene Bernice Hill, 74, of Green Cove Springs, Fla., passed away January 25, 2019.

Broadus Raines Funeral Home, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, Fla. (904) 284-4000.



C.A. "Al" Marshall

C.A. "Al" Marshall, 86, of Green Cove Springs, Fla., passed away January 22, 2019.

Broadus Raines Funeral Home, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, Fla. (904) 284-4000.



Ruthie F. Stokes

Ms. Ruthie F. Stokes, 81 of Green Cove Springs, Fla., passed away on Saturday, January 26, 2019.

Broadus Raines Funeral Home, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, FL (904) 284-4000.



Sylvia C. Smith

Sylvia C. Smith, 94, of Green Cove Springs, Fla., passed away January 28, 2019.

Broadus Raines Funeral Home, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, FL (904) 284-4000.



Dorothy Jean Speights

Dorothy Jean Speights, 75 of Green Cove Springs, Fla. passed away January 23, 2019.

Russell Haven of Rest Cemetery, Funeral Home and Cremation Center 2335 Sandridge Road Green Cove Springs, Fla. 32043 904-284-7720 www.RHRFH.com



Jacob Harwell Baker

Jacob Harwell Baker of Middleburg, Fla. passed the weekend of January 26, 2019. Jacob was born on November 19, 1991 to loving parents, Andrew K Baker (Deceased) and Tina Hacker Baker and a brother, Andrew (Drew) K. Baker II.

Jacob graduated from Middleburg High School in June of 2010 where he excelled in soccer. He attended St. Johns River College earning an Associate Degree and was actively pursuing his B.S. at Florida State College at Jacksonville.

Jacob will be missed by his mother, his brother Drew (Deanna) Baker, niece Alice and nephew Andy. Jacob leaves behind his grandparents, Charles and Loretta Baker of W.Va;

grandmother, Mary Hacker of Middleburg; Aunt, Amy (Ken) Ellenburg, Uncles, Phil (Sonya) Hacker, Thomas Hacker, Greg (Tammy) Hacker, Jeff (Cindy) Baker, Doug Baker, and Jason (Regina) Baker. Jacob is preceded in death by his father Andy and his grandfather, Claude Hacker.

Jacob's life was blessed by many friendships though his short life. He also leaves behind his faithful friend, Choby.

His service will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 11 a.m. located in the Middleburg United Methodist Church's Fellowship Hall. A gathering of family and friends will be held prior to the service at 10 a.m. Interment will follow in the cemetery. All guests are invited to have lunch and fellowship with the Baker Family in the Family Life Center.

Myron Melvin Schoenfeld

Myron Melvin Schoenfeld, 89, of Orange Park, Fla., passed away January 29, 2019.

Broadus Raines Funeral Home, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, Fla. (904) 284-4000



Jacob Baker



Police

from page 1

During the Jan. 29 school board workshop, the board indicated an interest in two of five different options presented that day.

Option B sees the board maintaining and extending current interlocal agreements with GCSPD and OPPD. Currently, officers from GCSPD serve as resource officers for Charles E. Bennett Elementary and Green Cove Springs Junior High. The resource officers at Grove Park Elementary, Orange Park Elementary and Orange Park Junior High are officers from OPPD. The resource officers at other schools are made up of CCSO officers and guardians trained by CCSO.

Option B would allow the interlocal agreement with CCSO to expire. As a result, the district would have to work with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to set up what would basically be a Clay County School District Police Department. This means that the district would need to hire a police chief, a lieutenant, a training lieutenant, four sergeants, 36 police officers, three relief officers and one detective. The district would also need to purchase vehicles, badges, weapons, uniforms and more.

Between those costs and start-up costs, Option B would cost the district roughly \$6.1 million in year one and roughly \$4.2 in year two. The reason year one is more expensive is because it comes with initial capital costs that aren't present in the cost for year two. According to school board chairwoman Carol Studdard, while these costs are high, the recent millage increase would make these costs affordable.

"We got the millage passed," Studdard said. "What do our [constituents] expect us to do? They want, and we want, to see that money put an officer in every school."

School board members Janice Kerkes and Tina Bullock were in favor of

Option B.

The other option that the school board took interest in was Option D, which called for renewing existing interlocal agreements with CCSO, GCSPD and OPPD. This option would see the district hire more school resource officers to replace guardians currently employed in schools. These guardians wouldn't necessarily be let go of, though. Instead, this option sees those guardians moving into a supportive role to the School Resource Officers.

Like Option B, though, Option D calls for the district to file with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to create its own law enforcement agency.

Option D would cost roughly \$6.8 million in year one with a cost of \$5.4 million in year two.

School board members Ashley Gilhousen and Mary Bolla were in favor of Option D. Studdard didn't declare which option she favored.

Both options, despite their differences, point toward a future where the Clay County School District has its own police department that handles school security.

"Every option does lead to hire a police chief and to start to file the paperwork [to create a law enforcement agency] just in case there ever arises a need to do so," Davis said. "And then that individual can really be our conduit whether it be leading the work between us and the sheriff's department, us and Green Cove or us and Orange Park, and it would allow us to really have certificated personnel on site to continue the beautiful partnerships we currently have with the single goal of protecting our kids."

Gilhousen, who said she favors Option D, said she likens Option B to ripping off a band aid and that doing so isn't necessarily something she wants to do. While the board differed on this analogy, all five women agreed that this discussion should take place before the public, with all five options presented for further talks.

This discussion will take place at the next regular school board meeting on Feb. 7, at 6 p.m. in the Teacher Inservice Center located on the campus of Fleming Island High.



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Breaking the bottleneck?

Henley/220 intersection plan to bring relief

By Wesley LeBlanc
Staff Writer

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The bottlenecked intersection at Henley Road and County Road 220 could drastically change in the near future due to a plan approved this month to construct what's called a quadrant intersection.

The plan, presented at the BCC's Jan. 22 meeting by Jim Knight, an Urban Transportation Development Manager for Florida Department of Transportation, was initially brought up last Sept. 11. When presented by Clay County Engineering and Public Works Director Dale Smith, commissioners asked for more information before committing to the project.

"Initially our plan was to put a normal intersection, but we weren't seeing good results so we looked at what is called a quadrant intersection," Knight said. "In a quadrant intersection, we take some of the moves out of the main intersection and spread them out over an adjacent intersection...and this makes the [traffic] signal work better."

The intersection is prone to bottleneck daily as CR 200 narrows from four lanes to two in a curve just east of Henley, which is now four lanes. The bottleneck is exacerbated going west as drivers are forced to pile on to the two-laned remainder of CR 200 as it travels west to Blanding Boulevard.

According to Knight, when FDOT ran its analysis for a 2040 prediction, which sees Clay County's population and traffic grow tremendously, the numbers were quite telling. If no changes were to be made to this

intersection at Henley Road and County Road 220, by 2040, it would take a vehicle 548 seconds – roughly 9 minutes – to move through this area via the intersection signal.

With an expanded intersection, which would see the area become a four-lane area but not feature a quadrant intersection, that time drops to 140 seconds per vehicle, which is a little longer than two minutes. With a quadrant intersection put in place, though, this time drops significantly to just 36 seconds per vehicle.

While the quadrant intersection costs more than other potential intersection options, and uses more right-of-way, Knight said, it is best the way forward if the county wants to solve the issue.

"At right-of-way ongoing, the four-lane up to the intersection is funded for construction in fiscal year 2021," Knight said. "We have all of the right-of-way through the intersection funded and we're working on trying to get the funding lined up for the intersection area."

Right now, the intersection will cost \$7.8 million. Of that \$7.8 million, \$2.6 million has already been funded. Knight said the funding is a combination of local county funds, federal funds directed by the Transportation Planning Organization and state funds.

BCC Chairman Mike Cella, who was admittedly the most skeptical of this idea last September, said he recently got the chance to drive on a quadrant intersection and said that although he thinks it will take some time for drivers to learn how it works, once understood, this type of intersection is markedly better than the other proposed solutions.

"So I think what we need to do here today is I think approve the concept so we



Here is an example of what a quadrant intersection could look like in Clay County's future. This one in Virginia shows how traffic is re-routed to the busiest road in the four-way intersection. As proposed, the quadrant intersection would relieve traffic for drivers heading east on CR 220 who want to turn south on to Henley Road.

can send that off to design," Cella said. "We can approve that contingent on you holding that public hearing sometime in the near future with citizens to get their input on it and then we can start design work and keep the flow of this steady and ready."

"As the one who was most skeptical, I'm ready to jump on the quadrant train," Cella said before calling for a vote on this intersection.

When it came time for the vote, the BCC approved the quadrant intersection with a 4-1 vote, with County Commissioner Gayward Hendry dissenting. Hendry didn't comment afterward why he dissented, but during Knight's presentation, Hendry did ask questions that indicated he was skeptical of the 36 seconds per vehicle statistic for the quadrant intersection.

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Coding

from page 3

something Rush called the Left-Hand Rule.

“Do you guys know how Batman escapes?” Rush asked the class. “He used the Left-Hand Rule. He puts his hand on the wall to his left and keeps running his hand along the wall as he moves forward until he finds an exit.”

As one would expect in a group of over two dozen kids, some students were better than others. One sixth-grader, 12-year-old Keagun Hughes, stayed a few steps ahead of the class almost the entire time.

The coding program consisted of 10 levels and if the class was working through level five, Hughes was on level seven and so on. Hughes said he might’ve been ahead because in the past, he’s done this before. He also said that going hands-

“[Coding] is an additional aspect of the curriculum that we don’t have right there [Melrose Elementary School] so we get to walk over here and do six weeks of walking field trips here...to code with Dr. Joe. They’ll also get to have this tangible technological experience while interacting with their peers, which is great.”

- Laurén Morgan

on with coding is a lot of fun.

“It’s so much fun,” Hughes said. “I think I like being able to do it hands on so we can actually experience what it’s like and how it works.”

Despite the fun he has coding, though, Hughes’ dreams lie elsewhere. He wants to be a professional baseball player. When he retires, though, he might put coding to use because after baseball, Hughes wants to become an astronomer, something he says he thinks he could use coding in.

Hughes’ teacher, Laurén Morgan, said his future is bright, in part, due to programs like this. According to Morgan, last year, the library hosted an art program that allowed the kids to go hands-on with art. This year, the class traded paint brushes for laptop trackpads.

“[Coding] is an additional aspect of the curriculum that we don’t have right there [Melrose Elementary School] so we get to walk over here and do six weeks of walking field trips here...to code with Dr. Joe,” Morgan said. “They’ll also get to have this tangible technological experience while interacting with their peers, which is great.”

Morgan said these kinds of experiences are of the utmost importance.

“These are honor students and I’m teaching them all...of the standards, but this can push them in another direction to see what they can do in the future,” Morgan said. “There are endless possibilities for them. Each and every one of my kids has the potential to be whatever they want to be.”

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Hospice receives grant to aid first responders

GAINESVILLE – Haven Hospice recently received a \$15,000 grant from the Appleton, Wisc.-based Thomas A. Plein Foundation to help fund veteran and first responder programs.

The grant will go toward funding Haven's We Honor Heroes program, which shows appreciation for military and first responder patients the hospice's 18-county service area, including Clay County.

The Plein Grant will also establish a fund to grant wishes specifically for military and first responder veterans who are in hospice care.

"The Plein Foundation gift is especially meaningful to patients and families that Haven serves," said Gayle Mattson, Haven president. "The important veterans program now can be more fully developed and expanded to include first responders' recognition."

Haven plans to install a memorial in remembrance of Thomas A. Plein at its E.T. York Care Center in Gainesville.

Also referred to as The TAP Foundation, the Thomas A. Plein Foundation was established by Thomas A. Plein in the 1980s to advance his family's philanthropic interests. The family owned 7-Up bottling plants in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and other Midwest cities. Grateful for their business success, the Pleins believed in giving back to their community.

Hall to be honored as of 12 'Women with Heart'

JACKSONVILLE – A Clay County woman is one of 12 Northeast Florida women to be recognized at the third annual Women with Heart Luncheon to benefit Volunteers

in Medicine. Virginia Hall, senior director for advocacy and community engagement for Ascension/St. Vincent's Healthcare, will be honored on Feb. 6 at the Florida Blue conference center on their Deerwood Campus.

The 12 nominees are being honored for their commitment to leadership, advocacy, passion and hard work.

"We are honoring them for their dedication to the health and well-being of our community," said Jennifer Ryan, CEO of Volunteers in Medicine.

The "Women with Heart" Luncheon will kick off a year-long signature awareness and fund raising campaign for Volunteers in Medicine. Each honoree has committed to a month of advocacy for, and service to the clinic. During their month of service, Women with Heart honorees will wear the new 2019 "Heart of Jacksonville" – a \$15,000 diamond necklace custom designed by Allen's Jewelers. The necklace will serve as a conversation starter to further increase awareness of the mission of Volunteers in Medicine.

Tickets for the drawing are still available for only \$100. Only 150 tickets will be sold, and you need not be present to win.

Limited tables and tickets for the luncheon are available. Call (904) 399-2766 for sponsorship and ticket information.

Two Clay Ace Hardware stores honored

JACKSONVILLE – You know them as the place of the helpful hardware pro and know two Clay County Ace Hardware stores have the chops to prove it.

Ace Hardware Corp. recently honored Hagan Ace Hardware stores in Orange Park and Green Cove Springs with its "Pin-

nacle Performance Retailing" designation for outstanding performance. The Pinnacle program measures how well Ace stores on doing to maintain what the promise in their brand – be helpful, provide quality products and provide a good customer experience.

The Hagan Ace Hardware team is one of only a few hundred Ace retailers to achieve this prestigious Pinnacle status. To achieve this Pinnacle Performance Retailing, the team at Hagan Ace Hardware successfully completed a number of key performance drivers that will help them provide a better overall shopping experience in their local communities.

"Achieving Pinnacle Performance Retailing is a tremendous accomplishment for an Ace store," said John Tovar, vice president for retail operations and new business, Ace Hardware Corp.

"The team at Hagan Ace Hardware is incredibly pleased to have earned the status as a Pinnacle Performance Retailing store," said Jacob Hagan, director of store operations at Hagan Ace Hardware. "What this means for our customers is that we are more committed than ever to providing our loyal shoppers with the best possible retail experience; from customer service to product offerings and more, we're taking 'Ace helpful' to a new level."

Celebrate Clay application deadline is Feb. 5

FLEMING ISLAND – The Paul E. and Klare N. Reinhold Foundation Inc. is accepting applications for the 2019 Celebrate Clay awards, a community service awards program that recognizes remarkable organizations and individuals serving the Clay County community. Applications will be reviewed by a panel of community judges and cash awards will be presented at the Awards Breakfast to those nonprofit groups providing outstanding services during calendar year 2018. Up to \$75,000 in cash awards, ranging from the \$750 Category Awards to the \$10,000 Paul E. Reinhold Community Service Award, will be presented at the 2019 Awards Breakfast on April 23. The 2019 program will bring the total cash awards to \$765,000 pre-

sented to Clay County area nonprofit organizations since Celebrate Clay's inception in 2009.

All 501(c)3 nonprofit groups including school and church outreach groups that provided services to Clay County residents in 2018 are encouraged to apply. Details and applications are available at www.reinhold.net. The application deadline is Feb. 5.

Deadline for property tax exemptions is March 1

CLAY COUNTY – Clay County Property Appraiser, Roger A. Suggs, wants to inform the citizens of Clay County that the statutory deadline to apply for property tax exemptions is Friday, March 1, 2019.

Homestead exemption applicants must have legal or equitable title to the property as of January 1, 2019, provide two documents to establish proof of residency (i.e., driver's license or identification card, voter registration card, utility bill, etc.) and provide the social security numbers of all applicants. Mobile home owners should also bring the title(s) or registration(s) to the mobile home.

Applications may be filed at the main office in Green Cove Springs (located on the second floor of the Administration Building) or at the Orange Park branch office located at 1518 Park Avenue (Park Central Plaza). Qualified applicants who fail to apply by March 1, may still file an application with the Property Appraiser's office on or before the 25th day following the mailing of the Notice of Proposed Property Taxes, which typically occurs in mid-August.

However, applicants must provide sufficient evidence or documentation to demonstrate extenuating circumstances as to why the application was not filed in a timely manner.

Florida law provides for a number of ad valorem property tax exemptions, classifications and assessment reductions which will reduce the taxable value of property. For more information, please visit our website at www.ccpao.com, or contact our office at (904) 284-6305 to speak with an exemptions specialist.

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<p>For More Information Contact:</p>			<p>904-703-5445 www.TFP-Clay.org</p>

State grant allows Keystone to expand airport

By Nick Blank
Staff Writer

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — The Keystone Heights Airport intends to find more tenants and a \$2.3 million federal grant for an access road and broadband improvements, one of the last moves by former Gov. Rick Scott, certainly doesn't hurt.

The state provided the Bradford Board of County Commissioners a Florida Job Growth Grant for the road in the hopes of freeing up about 1,300 acres for industrial, commercial or manufacturing development.

A press release referred to the installation of broadband as a "recruiting tool" for potential tenants. The grant for the airport

was a part of a \$18 million package given to six different organizations.

"For the past eight years, we have fought for every family in all of Florida's 67 counties to have the opportunity to live their dreams in our state," Scott said. "I'm proud that every part of our state has experienced a drop in its unemployment rate as nearly 1.7 million private-sector jobs have been created since December 2010. With these additional awards through the Job Growth Grant Fund, we are making targeted investments that will create even more jobs."

Keystone Heights Airport representatives presented the legislative delegation a list of needed improvements in December. The biggest was water and sewer, improved

telecommunication and accessibility.

Months after applying, Keystone Heights Airport Chairman David Kirkland said airport board members and Bradford commissioners hadn't heard back when they applied for the funds.

"Basically we said, 'Well I guess all the money got allocated elsewhere.' Then (Bradford) County received the information and passed it on to us," Kirkland said. "Obviously we're excited about it. It'll be beneficial in us putting in a road and also infrastructure like hi-speed internet."

Kirkland said the strip of land west of the airport is ideal for development and the financial impact would be felt throughout the area, from the airport to residents. A timeline for the road's construction or installation of broadband has not been determined.

"Providing this kind of infrastructure, that's going to bring companies. In turn, it

brings jobs, which brings revenue to the local community and the county and taxable income," Kirkland said. "I think it's a win-win for a lot of different entities."

Proposals were reviewed by the Department of Economic Opportunity and chosen by Scott based on the best economic projections and need for infrastructure.

Scott's DEO Executive Director Cissy Proctor said \$170 million had been administered with the Florida Job Growth Grant since 2010. "We have worked with local governments, community colleges, chambers of commerce and technical institutes to review hundreds of Florida Job Growth Grant Fund proposals to enhance infrastructure and workforce training," Proctor said. "It has been a pleasure to work with Governor Scott and our partners at Enterprise Florida to evaluate and recommend proposals that will provide countless opportunities for Florida families."



Second from left, Wendy Keeling joined other women in a recent sewing and cutting session for Dress A Girl Around the World.

Girl from page 10

taking the girl," Scheff said.

If possible, Scheff said the group tries to send items such as sanitary napkins, underwear and other items a girl might not have access to in her home country.

"Often, these dresses go to the poorest of the poor and we try to help them out in any way we can," Scheff said.

While a lot of the work happens within Pinewood Presbyterian Church on Knight Boxx Road, a lot of fabric or even full dresses comes from outside the church. For example, one of the group's busiest dressmakers is a 91-year-old South Carolina woman who sends the group 25 complete dresses every three months.

Another woman in Washington state sends the chapter fabric regularly and sometimes, random strangers in stores such as Hobby Lobby or Michael's offer their help.

Scheff remembers being in a Hobby Lobby with fabric in hand waiting to check out. The woman in line behind her asked what the fabric was for and, after explaining to her what Dress a Girl Around the World is, Scheff was given \$10 by the woman to help pay for the fabric.

"It's little interactions like that one that let you know you're doing something

good in this world," Scheff said.

One dress came from an unlikely giver recently. Peggy Myers, one of the women who's been with the chapter since the start, made a dress with her granddaughter a few years ago.

"We have sewing sessions at my house where we make dresses together and one day, we made one for [Myers' granddaughter, Eleanor Myers]," Myers said.

Naturally, Eleanor grew out of the dress and instead of parting ways with it like any child normally would, she asked her grandmother if she could give it to a girl around the world. Boiling over with excitement, Myers sent the dress off with missionaries who also took a picture of the girl wearing it.

"She shrieked with excitement," Myers said. "She could see the impact of her work, her benevolence."

Myers' sentiment is shared among the group.

"It's such a blessing to my spirit, to our spirits, to be able to do this and to know that some girl is out in the world wearing a dress we made, a dress that will hopefully not only keep her safe, but smiling, too," Keeling said. "That's what all of this is about."

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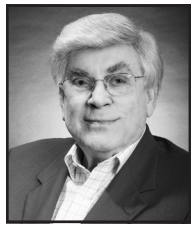
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When we speak of God's having human characteristics, we are looking for a way to describe Him with our limited human vocabulary. Because we speak of God's hands or His arm or His heart does not mean that we believe God has these physical attributes. These "anthropomorphisms" are just to help us speak of a heavenly, eternal God in words that we understand. It helps us to visualize Him.

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Ezra was an Old Testament prophet of God. He was called by the Lord to return from Babylonian captivity to his homeland and his beloved city of Jerusalem. The great city had fallen into ruins while the men of Israel were captives in a foreign land.

Then God called Nehemiah and Ezra as heroes of the homeland to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Ezra speaks of the enablement God gave him to accomplish his commission to rebuild. In fact, the theme of Ezra's life and work could be stated as "the Hand of the Lord my God was upon me." Six times in two chapters of the Book of Ezra he gave this as the reason for his success.

When Moses needed a miracle for God's people who were wandering through the wilderness, God reassured him with His statement: And the Lord said to Moses, "Is the Lord's hand shortened? Now you shall see whether my word will come true for you or not."

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www.firstagcc.org Write the Pastor at PastorBill@firstagcc.org

Community Briefs

Church takes it to the streets

FLEMING ISLAND – A county park on County Road 220 will become transformed into a place of renewal and fellowship next month.

Fleming Island United Methodist Church presents "A Good Place," which is a Fresh Expression of church, where a team of people from the church provide a free meal each week out in the community, sing praise songs, and have a 5 to 7-minute Jesus talk.

The fellowship is followed by group discussion at each table. The people serving also share meals at the table and build relationships with the guests who attend.

The fellowship takes place at 4 p.m. Feb. 9 at Armstrong Park and the dinner is free.

Nominate your senior for a Golden Years Service Award

ORANGE PARK – The 12th Annual Golden Years Gala is currently accepting nominations for its 2019 Service Awards.

Center Director Christy Fitzgerald said the awards are a "wonderful way to say thank you" to a senior adult for all of their community involvement and service.

The categories for 2019 are Volunteer Senior Man of the Year, Volunteer Senior Woman of the Year and Lifetime Achievement.

Senior adults are important to the community. They are a generation of high values, strong work ethic, commitment, integrity, generosity and loyalty. Seniors are a wonderful example to all, showing that true fulfillment is to share their time and talents through serving. Nominee must be 60 years of age and volunteer in Clay County.

Deadline is now extended until Feb. 5 and the nomination form is online at <https://www.tscoop.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Nomination-Letter.pdf>

This year's Golden Years Gala will be held at historic Club Continental on the St. Johns River on Wednesday, May 1, 2019. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. with live and silent auction. The awards program will follow.

The event will be hosted by Elder

Source to benefit The Shepherd's Center of Orange Park, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit which provides services to improve the quality of life and longer independence of hundreds of senior adults in Clay County through award-winning educational programming and events focused on health and wellness.

Visit the SCOOP website or call the office, (904) 269-5315 to purchase tickets or donate to the event.

College presents Commemoration of 400 Years of African American History

ORANGE PARK – In recognition of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Africans in the English colonies at Point Comfort, Virginia in 1619, St. Johns River State College is participating in the "2019 Commemoration of 400 Years of African American History."

The college will host a series of community events, including The Whole Staircase Film Festival: "The Black Atlantic, 1500 - 1800," Black History Month trivia, a Commemoration speaker series, poetry slams, Juneteenth celebrations and more.

The 400 Years of African American History Commission Act, which Congress passed last year, established 2019 as a year-long Commemoration "to recognize and highlight the resilience and contributions of African Americans since 1619; to acknowledge the impact that slavery and laws that enforced racial discrimination had on the United States; and to educate the public about the arrival of Africans in the United States; and the contributions of African Americans to the United States."

The celebration kicked off this year with "Walk a Mile in My Shoes," a virtual-reality experience that takes participants on a time-travel journey to the Harlem Renaissance, as well as to Memphis in 1968 as witnesses to the Sanitation Worker's Strike, and the aftermath of the assassination of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King.

Information for upcoming events and resources can be found at <https://libraries.sjrstate.edu/400>.

Scholarship applications being accepted

JACKSONVILLE – The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida administers at least two college scholarships that are open to students who attend Clay County Schools and their deadline dates are coming soon.

The Byon M. Morris Scholarship will provide up to \$5,000 and disbursed until graduation or a period up to 4 years to support tuition, books, fees, room and board and degree-related expenses for two graduating seniors who have attained Scouting's highest ranks.

One Eagle Scout from the Boy Scouts of America and one Gold Award winner from Girl Scouts, will receive the scholarship. Both students must demonstrate an apti-

tude and desire to succeed. In selecting the successful candidate, the review committee will consider academic achievements, leadership experience, desire for personal growth and financial need. All applicants must have at least a cumulative 3.0 grade point average (weighted) and plan to attend an accredited post-secondary institution on a full-time basis.

Housed at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, the Byon M. Morris Scholarship application and supporting documentation requirements are available at <http://bit.ly/2019TCFscholarship> and due by March 4.

The other scholarship is the Sam and Lydia Payne Scholarship, which provides financial assistance to a student graduating from a North Florida public or private school who demonstrates an aptitude and desire to succeed.

The scholarship will support tuition and books, up to \$18,000 and disbursed until graduation or a period up to 5 years, provided the recipient continues to meet the eligibility requirements. All applicants must have a cumulative 2.2-3.5 (weighted) grade point average and plan to take a full-time course load in pursuit of a bachelor's degree.

In selecting the successful candidate, the review committee will consider a desire for personal growth and financial need. Housed at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, the Sam and Lydia Payne Scholarship application and supporting documentation requirements are available at: <http://bit.ly/2019TCFscholarship> and due by March 4.

Summer science camp sign-ups underway

GAINESVILLE – The UF/IFAS College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and The World Food Prize Foundation are offering summer science camp.

Registration is \$350 per participant and application must be turned in by Feb. 28 online at <http://www.cpet.ufl.edu/students>.

The camp is for rising Florida high school juniors and seniors for the 2019-2020 school year. Students are encouraged to apply for the Florida Youth Institute, a week-long summer residential camp hosted at the University of Florida. Participants experience college life at UF while learning how the agricultural, natural and life sciences impact their families and communities around the world.

Students will take part in hands-on activities and demonstrations, indoor and outdoor laboratories and campus facilities, meet CALS Dean Elaine Turner, representatives from FDACS, and current CALS students and staff. Students will also examine issues in agriculture, life sciences and natural resources, experience living in a campus residence hall and reflect on

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Worksite wellness: A novel approach to employee health

By Annie Sheldon
Family & Consumer Sciences
Extension Agent

Many of us spend 40 hours or more each week at our workplace. Not all work environments are created equal, but it is usually difficult to meet our goals of eating healthy and exercising while on the job. Often our offices are filled with candy, donuts, soda, chips, and the never-ending birthday and holiday celebrations with plenty of additional high-fat and high-sugar foods. The average worker eats an additional 1,300 calories per week from these types of food which are often readily available at the office. Both employees and employers should be concerned about the unhealthy habits that are encouraged in the workplace.



Annie Sheldon

Workplace wellness programs are one way to improve employee health and wellness. Most business leaders will tell you their most valuable asset is their people. And savvy employers know that happy, healthy employees demonstrate increased productivity, higher morale and have lower

health care costs.

The prevalence of adult obesity is at an all-time high with 30 percent of adults being obese and 35 percent overweight. The obesity epidemic is due to a variety of factors which include increase intake of high-calorie foods, decreased fruit and vegetable consumption, and decreased physical activity. All factors that are very visible at many of our worksites.

Worksite wellness programs can improve the health of employees while also reducing health care costs for employers and improving worker productivity. Maintaining a healthy workforce can lower direct costs, such as insurance premiums and worker compensation claims, and have a positive effect on many indirect costs, such as absenteeism and worker productivity. Participants in worksite wellness programs have 25-30 percent lower medical or absenteeism expenditures than non-participants.

Responding to the need to address employee health, UF/IFAS Extension Clay County partners with local employers to provide wellness programs to their employees. Worksite wellness programs can make it easier for employees to make voluntary behavior changes to improve their health.

Worksite wellness programs help promote a healthy lifestyle for employees, maintain or improve health and wellbeing,



and prevent or delay the onset of chronic disease.

This is accomplished through raising awareness about the importance of pursuing healthy behaviors and providing programs that encourage these behaviors or slow the progression of chronic disease. These programs include nutrition education, healthy cooking, stress management, blood pressure management, physical ac-

tivity, tobacco cessation, financial education, and more.

As both employees or employers, we have an opportunity to help change some of the unhealthy habits in our workplaces. If you are interested in more information on how to take some small steps toward creating a healthier worksite contact UF/IFAS Extension Clay County at (904) 284-6355 to help you get started.

Briefs

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worldwide challenges such as food security.

Applicants can choose to attend one of two session weeks – July 14-19 or July 21-26.

Ridgeview High teacher nominated 'Lifechanger'

ORANGE PARK – Ridgeview High special education teacher Stephanie Collins has been nominated for the 2018-2019 national LifeChanger of the Year award.

Collins was nominated by her friend, Jason Woodard, for her work improving the

lives of special needs students, particularly those with autism. She teaches 20 students on the autism spectrum, and she differentiates her instruction to meet each student's individual needs. Many of her students are triggered by different sounds, colors, and textures and Collins goes above and beyond to make sure they succeed, both inside and outside the classroom, according to Woodard.

As part of her instruction, Collins teaches her students life skills such as cooking and interviewing for jobs, so they



Stephanie Collins

can be independent after graduation.

"I have one student who is currently working at McDonalds now. I visited him at work and cried in my car when I left because I was so overwhelmed with pride for him and thankful for McDonalds for hiring my 'kid,'" Collins said.

Recently, her students have been introduced to aquaponics and agriculture, so they can learn about having a self-sustaining life. Her long term-goal is to secure a greenhouse and chicken coop for her school, so that her students can apply what they've learned.

Sponsored by the National Life Group Foundation, LifeChanger of the Year recognizes and rewards the very best K-12 educators and school district employees across the United States who are making a difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence and leadership.

The grand prize winner will receive \$10,000 to be shared with their school. Grand prize finalists will receive \$5,000 to be shared with their school or district. The LifeChanger award winners will receive \$3,000 to be shared with their school or district.

The Spirit Award is given to the nominee whose community demonstrates the most support for their nomination and has a \$5,000 prize to be shared with their school or district. The Spotlight Award is given to a nominee in a specific discipline, which this year, is guidance counselor or social worker. The winner receives \$5,000 to be shared with their school or district.

Winners are announced via surprise award ceremonies held at their schools. The grand prize finalists will also be honored at a national awards ceremony in April 2019 in Hawaii, where the Grand Prize Winner will be revealed.

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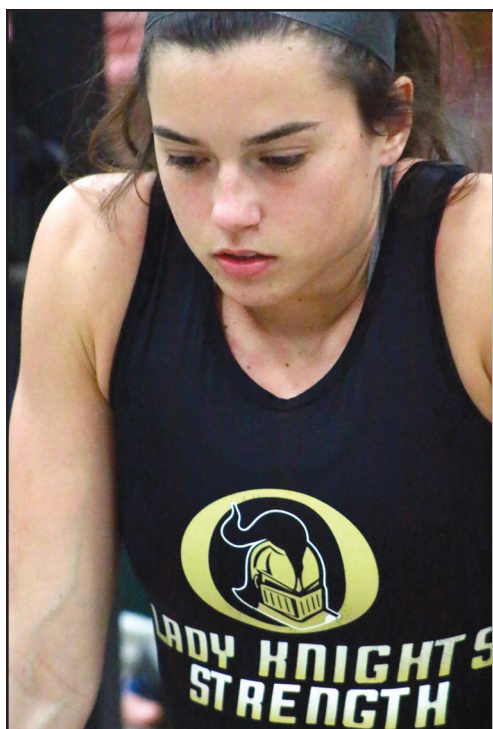
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Region 3-2A Weightlifting



STAFF PHOTO BY RANDY LEFKO

Oakleaf High senior Lexi Perez gets into the zone before the bench press at the region 3-2A championships.

Perez, Griffin take region lift titles

Perez top-ranked at 154

By Randy Lefko
 Sports Editor

PALM COAST – Oakleaf High senior Lexi Perez and Middleburg High's Katlyn Griffin both powered to Region 3-2A weightlifting titles Thursday at Flagler Palm Coast.

Perez' region total of 375 pounds is top-ranked statewide by five pounds with region champions from Wellington and Sunlake high schools both at 370.

Griffin's 330 region total is ranked sixth statewide with Ocoee's Samantha Jefferson

SEE LIFT, 27

Wrestling Duals State Championship

Eagles nearly upset South Dade

By Randy Lefko
 Sports Editor

KISSIMMEE – Fleming Island High wrestling was supposed to take a step back after graduating two state champions that fueled three runner-up finishes to 3A powerhouse South Dade High the past two years; two state meet finishes and one duals state meet finish, but someone forgot to tell the new names on the roster that they were supposed to wait until next year to excel.

"I've said we were going to have great depth this year after last year's team graduated a handful of seniors including two champions," said Fleming Island High coach P.J. Cobbert, who got second to South Dade by just 27 points two weeks ago in a south Florida tournament. "This team is young and learning

SEE EAGLES, 25



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY RICKI NIX

Fleming Island High 195 pound wrestler Nick Janssen, right, goes heads over against South Dade's Todd Perry in match at FHSAA Duals State Championships won by South Dade.

Raiders shocked by Knights comeback

By Ray DiMonda
 Correspondent

ORANGE PARK – If Clay Electric could find a way to store the energy that was built up at tip-off in the Raiderdome for the Oakleaf versus Orange Park High basketball clash on Friday, they could have powered all of Clay County for the evening. Oakleaf guard Kenny Thomas' game-ending dunk with five seconds left in the game was the final lightning bolt of a second half comeback for the folklore book as the Knights took a 49-44 non-district win amidst the frenzied atmosphere.

"I told my guys, it's only seven,



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY RAY DIMONDA

Orange Park's Jeremy Monterola avoids defense of Oakleaf defender Dewane Copeland.

then it's only six, we can keep fighting, we can keep grinding, our defense can wake

up and our competitive play will not let us go down without swinging," said Oakleaf High coach Jason Price, as he watched his Knights rise like the Phoenix to finish off a scintillating fourth quarter for the win as playoffs loom in two weeks.

With the Raider Band up in the corner belting out the ESPN theme, the Knight's Road Crew brought it and stacked the north end bleachers near capacity. Not to be outdone, the Raider side was standing room only! The teams didn't let anyone down for excitement all game.

A pre-game ceremony to celebrate 1,000 career points for Raider guard John Abate was the final stab at any kind of adrenaline push and, with it, Abate opened the first quarter with 11 points getting the Raiders up 27-19 by halftime.

"We were dead" said Price, who had

SEE HOOPS, 30



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Tigers take Northeast Florida wrestling title

Green Cove Springs Junior High's Jhoel Robinson named Most Outstanding Wrestler

Team Scores

1 Lake Asbury	213.0
2 Wilkinson	208.5
3 Green Cove	178.0
4 River Springs	133.5
5 Lake City	123.0
6 Suwannee	101.0
7 Episcopal	99.0
8 Lakeside	91.0
9 Orange Park	88.0
10 Oakleaf	82.0
11 Wakulla	56.5
12 Bolles	54.0
13 Florida High	10.5
14 MACLAY	0.0

77 Guaranteed Places

- 1st Place - Eli Jolicouer of Suwannee
- 2nd Place - Colin Edwards of Green Cove Springs
- 3rd Place - Shane Jourdan of Lake Asbury
- 4th Place - Taylor Jones of Florida High

1st Place Match

Eli Jolicouer (Suwannee) 2-0, . over Colin Edwards (Green Cove Springs) 1-1, . (Fall 0:00)

3rd Place Match

Shane Jourdan (Lake Asbury) 1-1, . over Taylor Jones (Florida High) 0-2, . (Fall 0:00)

82 Guaranteed Places

- 1st Place - Connor Brown of River Springs
- 2nd Place - Xzander Boehm of Suwannee
- 3rd Place - KJ Rheume of Lake Asbury
- 4th Place - Harper Merrick of Wakulla

1st Place Match

Connor Brown (River Springs) 2-0, . over Xzander Boehm (Suwannee) 2-1, . (Fall 0:00)

3rd Place Match

KJ Rheume (Lake Asbury) 2-1, . over Harper Merrick (Wakulla) 2-2, . (Fall 0:00)

87 Guaranteed Places

- 1st Place - Caiden Berg of Wilkinson
- 2nd Place - Nick Pressley of Episcopal
- 3rd Place - Caleb Orr of Wakulla
- 4th Place - Andrew Brandt of Oakleaf

1st Place Match

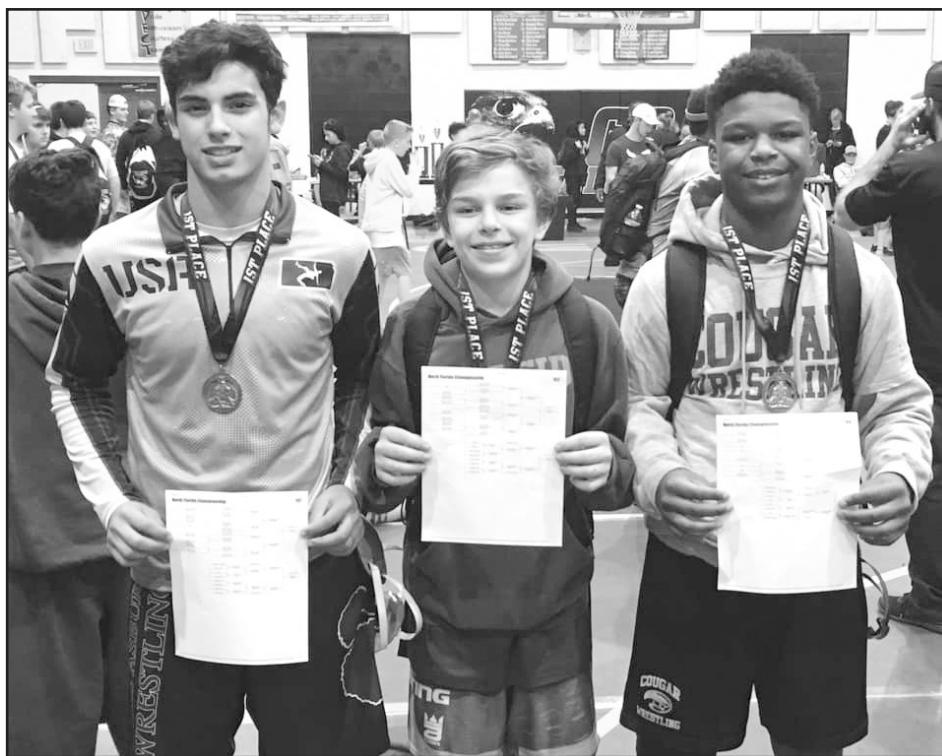
Caiden Berg (Wilkinson) 3-0, . over Nick Pressley (Episcopal) 2-1, . (Dec 9-3)

3rd Place Match

Caleb Orr (Wakulla) 4-1, . over Andrew Brandt (Oakleaf) 2-2, . (Fall 0:00)

92 Guaranteed Places

- 1st Place - Nate Jacobs of River Springs
- 2nd Place - Grady Woodard of Wilkinson



Northeast Florida wrestling champions; left to right, Lake Asbury's Joshua Sandoval at 147, Lakeside's Kaden Schaefer at 102 and Green Cove Springs' Jhoel Robinson at 154 show off their medals and certificates. Robinson was tournament Most Outstanding Wrestler.

- 3rd Place - R Pimienta of Orange Park
- 4th Place - Scott Busey of Episcopal

1st Place Match

Nate Jacobs (River Springs) 2-0, . over Grady Woodard (Wilkinson) 2-1, . (Dec 8-1)

3rd Place Match

R Pimienta (Orange Park) 3-1, . over Scott Busey (Episcopal) 3-2, . (Fall 0:00)

97 Guaranteed Places

- 1st Place - Austin Mckinney of Suwannee
- 2nd Place - K Barrientos of Orange Park
- 3rd Place - Jeff Parker of Wilkinson
- 4th Place - Angelo Bajandos of Green Cove

1st Place Match

Austin Mckinney (Suwannee) 3-0, . over K Barrientos (Orange Park) 2-1, . (Fall 0:00)

3rd Place Match

Jeff Parker (Wilkinson) 5-1, . over Angelo Bajandos (Green Cove Springs) 4-2, . (Fall 0:00)

102 Guaranteed Places

- 1st Place - Kaden Schaefer of Lakeside
- 2nd Place - C Wilson of Orange Park

- 3rd Place - Zane Raulerson of Wilkinson
- 4th Place - Joey Gomery of Green Cove Springs

1st Place Match

Kaden Schaefer (Lakeside) 3-0, . over C Wilson (Orange Park) 2-1, . (Fall 0:00)

3rd Place Match

Zane Raulerson (Wilkinson) 3-1, . over Joey Gomery (Green Cove Springs) 2-2, . (Fall 0:00)

108 Guaranteed Places

- 1st Place - Chandler Thomas of Wilkinson
- 2nd Place - Dylan Gorman of Wakulla
- 3rd Place - Bradley Martin of River Springs
- 4th Place - Matthew Kotler of Green Cove

1st Place Match

Chandler Thomas (Wilkinson) 3-0, . over Dylan Gorman (Wakulla) 3-1, . (Fall 0:00)

3rd Place Match

Bradley Martin (River Springs) 4-1, . over Matthew Kotler (Green Cove Springs) 2-2, . (Fall 0:00)

115 Guaranteed Places

- 1st Place - Egan Gustillo of Oakleaf
- 2nd Place - B Pu of Orange Park
- 3rd Place - JT Thaxton of River Springs
- 4th Place - JJ thomas of Lake City

1st Place Match

Egan Gustillo (Oakleaf) 4-0, . over B Pu (Orange Park) 2-1, . (Fall 0:00)

3rd Place Match

JT Thaxton (River Springs) 4-1, . over JJ thomas (Lake City) 3-2, . (Fall 0:00)

122 Guaranteed Places

- 1st Place - Liam Mckenzie of Green Cove Springs
- 2nd Place - Thomas Stokes of Wilkinson
- 3rd Place - Ben Helton of Episcopal
- 4th Place - Reese Brewer of Lake Asbury

1st Place Match

Liam Mckenzie (Green Cove Springs) 3-0, . over Thomas Stokes (Wilkinson) 2-1, . (Fall 0:00)

3rd Place Match

Ben Helton (Episcopal) 5-1, . over Reese Brewer (Lake Asbury) 3-2, . (Fall 0:00)

128 Guaranteed Places

- 1st Place - Gunner Ivey of Green Cove Springs
- 2nd Place - cooper mote of Lake City
- 3rd Place - Hayden Meszaros of Lake Asbury
- 4th Place - Caiden Kowal of Lakeside

1st Place Match

Gunner Ivey (Green Cove Springs) 3-0, . over cooper mote (Lake City) 2-1, . (Fall 0:00)

3rd Place Match

Hayden Meszaros (Lake Asbury) 3-1, . over Caiden Kowal (Lakeside) 4-2, . (Fall 0:00)

134 Guaranteed Places

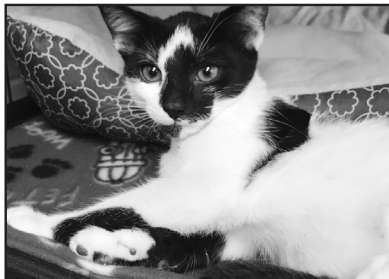
- 1st Place - Gavin Rossow of Lake Asbury
- 2nd Place - Aidan Chupp of Episcopal
- 3rd Place - Ian Finnorn of Wilkinson
- 4th Place - Skylar Malone of Bolles

SEE JUNIOR, 28



Oakleaf Junior High's Esaiiah Shevchook, aka Porkchop, won the 197 pound weight class with a 5-2 decision over Wilkinson Junior High's Lee Register.

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Broncos stun Panthers

By Mike Zima
Correspondent

ORANGE PARK – Middleburg High point guard Jordan Robinson scored 15 of his 18 points in the second half as Middleburg rallied from an 18 point deficit to stun host Ridgeview 58-52 in a non-district game Friday night.

The Broncos scored the first basket of the game, but the early edge was their only lead until senior Layton Veon nailed a three-pointer from the left wing with 53 seconds remaining to put the visitors ahead 54-52. Led by Robinson and center Edgardo Enriquez, Middleburg ended the game on a furious 13-2 run to claim just their third victory against 14 losses.

Robinson scored on an array of drives to the basket and running floaters and made two jumpers from beyond the arc to go along with a six for eight performance at the free throw line. The junior sank two free throws and a trey on consecutive possessions to pull the Broncos within 52-50 with 1:44 remaining.

“Jordan has developed into that guy that I trust on the court,” said Middleburg coach Travis Tipton. “He is very cerebral, and once he figured out how to handle the pressure, it did not phase him.”

Without the hustle of Enriquez, Middleburg likely would not have completed the comeback. The junior secured an offensive rebound and fed Robinson for his late three-pointer. He muscled his way to the basket on Middleburg’s next possession, drawing a foul that led to free throws. He made the first and rebounded his miss on

the second. The extra possession led to Veon’s game-winner.

“Edgardo is stronger than anyone,” said Tipton. “He is relentless around the blocks.”

Enriquez finished with 13 points and a game-high 10 rebounds.

Veon, Middleburg’s most accurate long range shooter, was stymied by the Panthers for most of the game, unable to even attempt a three-point shot in the face of constant pressure. But given the opportunity in the final minute, the senior came through.

“We have lost a lot of close games,” said Veon, who finished with 10 points. “It feels good to finally pull one out.”

Ridgeview opened the game with a full court press, forcing six Middleburg turnovers that the Panthers converted into points. Moses Balanga scored 10 points from the lane and Parker Whitaker made all three of his three-point attempts as Ridgeview seized a 22-13 lead by the end of the first period. When Parker converted a free throw to cap an 11-2 run to start the second quarter, it appeared the Panthers would cruise to the win. But Tipton changed the man guarding Balanga, told the Broncos to deny Parker the basketball and instituted a full court press of his own, and the Broncos changed the momentum.

“We were sharing the ball well, and then we got a little selfish,” said Ridgeview coach Jerome Clyburn. “Guys started rushing and went away from what got us the big lead.”

SEE BRONCOS, 29



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Middleburg High guard Jordan Robinson flies over Ridgeview’s Jaquan Johnson in game action earlier this season won by Ridgeview. Middleburg won rematch on Friday.

Astor puts Eagles in district top spot

By Dennis Bergin
Correspondent

BARTRAM TRAIL – Every time the Fleming Island boys basketball team enters a gym they know they have a bullseye on their backs.

Friday night at Bartram Trail the bullseye got a little bigger.

“We need to be ready to play every night,” said Golden Eagle head coach Traavis Chandler. “We know that everyone looks at our game on the schedule as a big one.”

Junior point guard Sebastian Astor scored a game high 22 points and Jordan Miles scored 21 points to power Fleming Island to a 56-41 victory over host Bartram Trail in a 4-8A game.

Fleming Island, the winner of six straight games, improves to 15-1 on the season and remains undefeated 8-0 in Dis-

trict play. Bartram Trail falls to 11-8 on the year and 5-3 in the District.

The Golden Eagles last lost on December 22nd on a buzzer-beater at the hands of University Christian in a Holiday Tournament.

Fleming Island moved out to a 26-22 advantage at halftime with Astor (11 points) and Miles (15 points) accounted for all of the teams points.

“We got after them pretty good at halftime about picking up the defensive intensity,” said Chandler.

The Golden Eagles outscored the Bears 18-5 in the pivotal third period to grab a 44-27 lead. Astor, who was eight of 10 from the foul line for the game led his team with nine points including a 3-pointer and Miles added five points.

“Our defense wore them down in the third,” said Chandler. “We sped up the



Fleming Island guard Sebastian Astor goes up against Bartram Trail defender Hassan Guilaid. Astor was top scorer at 22 points in Eagles district win Friday night.

game and I think it tired them out.”

Bartram Trail, who was led by senior center Tim Plish’s 11 points, cut the Fleming Island lead 47-37 with 2:44 left in the game but senior guard Khalid Pogue drilled a dagger 3-pointer from the left wing and then scored on a beautiful back door layup off a feed from Astor to grab a 52-37 lead

to ice the game.

“Khalid is our X Factor on offense,” said Chandler. “We need him to get him going on offense because he is another weapon to defend.”

The Golden Eagles will host county rival Clay on Friday, February 1st.

Lady Spartans ends regular season with 4A-win

Playoffs open with 8-0 win

By Ray DiMonda
Correspondent

ORANGE PARK – Steel sharpens steel was the thought St. John's Country Day Spartans Head Coach Mike Pickett had for scheduling the 4A-Creekside Knights as their last regular season game.

"This is going to be the playoffs," said Pickett, who embarks on a tenuous journey to take a fairly young and fresh-faced team into the Class 1A playoffs that the Spartans have dominated for the past seven years with seven titles. "That's why I schedule this team. Much bigger team, much more athletic than us, that's why I schedule them the last game of the season."

Note: St. Johns, the seven time defending Class 1A champions, defeated Christ's Church Academy 8-0 in their district tournament opener and will host St. Joseph on Tues., Jan. 29 in the district final. St. Johns boys defeated University Christian 3-0 with two goals from Matthew Stratton and will play Tues., Jan. 29 against Christ's Church Academy, the defending district champions and region semifinalist.

The Creekside game provided Pickett much needed data to ensure he is ready for post-season as the Spartans quickly got

to 2-0, then gave up the single goal on the evening. Once tested, his team drove two more home before the half to go into post-season Friday night with a confident 4-1 Senior night victory against a very physical Creekside team.

"I like where we're at," said Pickett afterward.

Within the first minute, the home crowd knew this was going to be a bare knuckles type fight as the contact started immediately. Several times the referee would pull players aside and provide warnings. It didn't take the Spartans five minutes and they found a chink in the Knights armor as Creekside attempted a clear that was broken up.

St. Johns forward Paige Crews stole the ball and fed Kamy Loustau for the first goal at 35:16.

Not four minutes later, Loustau would rack up number two as the Knights keeper made a save, but couldn't hold on to the ball. Loustau took a near no angle shot just inside the end line, hooked the ball around the keeper and cashed in goal number two for the Spartans.

Four minutes before the water break, Creekside was awarded a kick as one of the Spartans made a blocking error.

"Unfortunately, we made a bad foul," said Pickett. "My kid tackled with the wrong



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY RAY DIMONDA

St. Johns Country Day School forward Gaby Loustau, in net, scored in Spartans's 4-1 win over Creekside. Lady Spartans had district championship game set for Tues., Jan. 29 against St. Joseph Academy. Spartan boys also play for district title against Christ's Church Academy.

foot and was late getting there to press her. It was a good shot. I don't know too many girl keepers that could have saved that." The kick sailed just out of the reach of the defender's heads and Spartan's keeper Maddie Wilkes hands. Even with Wilkes climbing the ladder, the ball was perfectly placed just under the crossbar to cut the lead in half. The jubilation for the Knights would only last three minutes as this time Loustau would find Kamryn Towers in the open who blasted the ball past the Knights once again. The final dagger to the Knights would come just a minute and change after the water break as Loustau again proved why she is the team's captain. Off a corner throw-in, Loustau positioned herself in front and nudged the ball past the Knights keeper for the final goal of the evening. The entire second half remained scoreless on both sides, but it wasn't for not trying.

"To give Creekside credit, they came out in the second half and pressed us," said Pickett. "They moved their formation

forward. We didn't do a good enough job of just connecting one or two passes. Credit to them for changing the game."

With the playoffs set to start Fri., Jan. 25 with St. Johns hosting district 2-1A as the top seed, Pickett kept most of his starting lineup in as they continued to work on their plays and positioning ensuring his team is ready for another run.

"We're a small team but I'm proud of my kids for digging in and fighting," said Pickett. "It wasn't pretty in the second half, but I'm proud of the way they fought and played."

In other districts, Fleming Island's girls travel to Nease for district 4-4A semifinals on Tues., Jan. 29, Fleming Island's boys take on Oakleaf in district 4-4A semifinals on Wed., Jan. 30, Clay High's girls soccer played Menendez in district 4-3A at Ponte Vedra on Mon., Jan. 28, Keystone Heights girls soccer travel to Santa Fe for district 4-5A second rounds and Keystone Heights' boys soccer hosts Interlachen in district 4-5A round two games on Mon., Jan. 28.

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Sisterly header

CORRESPONDENT PHOTO
BY RAY DIMONDA

St. Johns Country Day School sisters, Gaby, left, and Kamy Loustau battle for a header in Spartans' win over Creekside.

SJRAC girls basketball showcases four state powers

Lady Raiders fall twice; Broncos runner-up

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

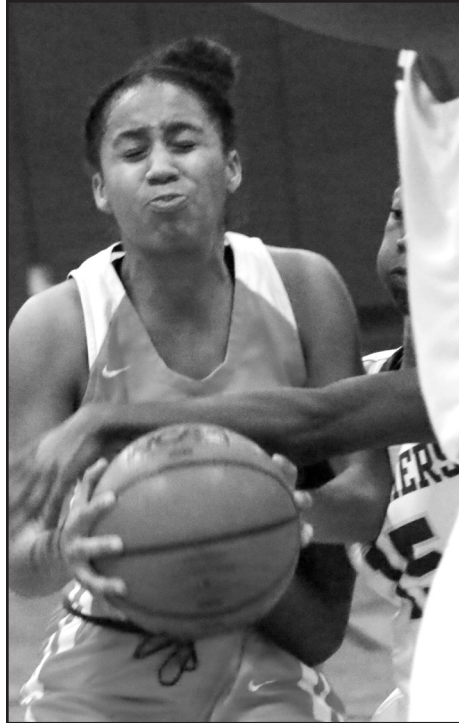
PONTE VEDRA BEACH – Orange Park High's girls basketball team got a quick jolt in the St. Johns River Athletic Conference tournament held Jan. 22-26 at Nease High School. Four teams in the SJRAC conference; Nease, Bartram Trail, Middleburg and Orange Park, all hold top 15 rankings in their respective classes.

In their SJRAC semifinal Thursday at Nease, the Lady Raiders, ranked ninth in Class 6A, lost 56-14 to No. 1 7A Nease on Thursday then taking a 50-45 loss to No. 13 8A Bartram Trail on Saturday. Middleburg, ranked fifth in 7A, lost to Nease in the final 55-19.

"Tough day at the office," said Orange Park coach Fred Cole, after the Nease game. Orange Park falls to 18-4, still 8-0 in district 4-6A.

Nease, 22-1, ranked fourth in Florida and tops in Class 7A, clogged the middle of the Raiders offensive strike zone with all-everything center Camille Hobby, a 6'-3" powerhouse who finished with 17 points and 10 rebounds. Hobby also powered her stat package against Middleburg (17-5) in the SJRAC final; a 55-19 win for Nease also on Saturday. Hobby had 15 points against Middleburg.

"Nease is on another planet from any team around here and no one can do what they can do, they are a great team," said Cole. "Nease can close out on the three and funnel you to 6'4 and 6'3 (in the middle) and that is a great luxury to have."



Orange Park High guard Nayeli Williams grimaces with arm of Nease High defender on her chest as she drives to the basket.

Orange Park was held to single digit quarters against Nease with the second quarter an unforgiving zero points. Nia Brown was top scorer with four points with Sydney Rowland adding three.

Against Bartram Trail, Cole noted the Lady Raiders had their chance to get the victory.

"Bartram Trail just played good basketball and we got down early due to mistakes and we had a chance in the fourth to win the game and we didn't capitalize," said



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Orange Park High center Sha'Mia Capers has company as she tries to get a hook shot off in Lady Raiders loss to 7A-Nease High School on Jan. 24.



Cole. "It's on me as the coach to lead us to those victory in close games and I failed. We always self scout ourselves and we will be ready for the playoffs."

In their semifinal win over Bartram Trail, 58-46, Middleburg was led by Malory Roney's 18 points with center Skylar Baltezegar adding 17 and Britany Range putting in 10. Baltezegar also snagged 18 rebounds with Range blocking four shots.

Against Nease, Middleburg fell behind with a 12-3 first quarter and a 14-2 second quarter.

Middleburg and Orange Park meet in their season finales on February 1 with the Broncos taking on Bradford County on Mon. Jan. 28. Orange Park finishes their regular season with Atlantic Coast on Tues., Jan. 29 then away games at Oakleaf and Middleburg.

District tournaments open on February 4 with Nease hosting 3-7A (Middleburg; Nease defeated St. Augustine in 2018) and Ridgeview hosting 4-6A (OPHS, RHS; Westside defeated OPHS). Clay hosts 5-6A (Ponte Vedra defeated Menendez). Bartram Trail hosts 4-8A (Fleming Island,

Orange Park High guard Yoly Rosado looks for opening to drive around Nease guard Tia Robinson in Nease SJRAC semifinal. Lady Raiders lost to Bartram Trail in the third place game to finish fourth.

Oakleaf; Bartram Trail defeated Fleming Island). Fort White hosts 4-5A (Keystone Heights; Newberry defeated Bradford) and Trinity Christian Deltona hosts 2-3A (St. Johns Country Day School; Trinity defeated SJCDS).

Fleming Island rebounded from a 73-38 trouncing by Terry Parker on Mon., Jan. 21 in a Martin Luther King Tournament at University Christian with a 56-42 win over The Rock in Gainesville at the Wolf Pack Challenge Tournament. Fleming Island, 13-7, 6-2 in district 4-8A, takes on 1A-Hawthorne (16-2, region finalist in 2018) on Mon., Jan. 28 and 5A-Bolles (12-7) on Thurs., Jan. 31 in the season finale.

Keystone Heights, 14-9, 6-2 in district play, finishes with Clay on Mon., Jan. 28 and Ridgeview on Thurs., Jan. 31.

Ridgeview (13-6, 6-2), stealthily sitting in the second spot behind Orange Park in 4-6A, finishes at Clay on Tues., Jan. 29 and at Keystone Heights Thurs., Jan. 31.

St. Johns Country Day School (14-6, 5-0) finishes at Florida Deaf on Thurs., Jan. 31 then home against Bishop Snyder on Fri., Jan. 31 (5:30 pm). St. Johns lost 29-17 to 4A Oak Hall on January 18, beat 3A St. Francis 43-10 on January 19 in the NFBB Conference Tournament, lost 40-25 to 1A-Hilliard on January 22 and beat 7A-Ed White 36-28 on January 24.

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Boys and girls soccer earn district titles for St. Johns

Girls: 6-0 over St. Joseph Academy
Boys: 3-1 over Christ's Church Academy

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

ORANGE PARK — The St. Johns Country Day School girls and boys soccer teams both won district 2-1A titles Tuesday night with the girls winning 6-0 over St. Joseph Academy with goals from Paige Crews, Kamy Towers, Payton Walton, Lauryn Ma-

teo, Kamy Loustau and Lauren Weiss. The girls will be attempting an eighth straight Class 1A title.

The boys team defeated defending district champion Christ's Church off three goals from forward Max Monroe; all with feeds from Dru Detlefsen. The boys title has not been at St. Johns in 14 years.



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO
Above: St. Johns forward Kamy Loustau eyeballs loose ball in front of St. Joseph Academy net.



Left: St. Johns forward Lauren Weiss breaks along the sideline in front of Spartans bench to deep corner of St. Joseph Academy defense. Weiss scored one goal in the second half.



Right: St. Johns teammates Max Monroe, center, celebrate with goalie Jared Jarsano after final whistle of Spartans 3-1 win for district title.

Left: St. Johns forward Matt Wolf gets slashed across the chest by cleat of St. Joseph Academy defender.

Eagles

from page 19

championship wrestling, but last night, they grew up real fast.”

Growing up including a sensational 10-point early lead that turned to a 29-28 gap to South Dade with just one match remaining before the Golden Eagles succumbed by just a takedown in the final match; Gannon Janssen versus South Dade's Eric Temes, that left Fleming Island in the runnerup spot at 32-28.

“I hugged their coach, Victor Balmece-da (now with 13 wrestling state titles; including two duals and two team titles in two years over Fleming Island) and he said to me ‘This is what it is all about,’” said Cobbert. “A match like this, with the entire gym done and watching us is an experience these kids will never forget. We just came up short.”

Fleming Island torched all comers to get to the finals against South Dade with Windermere and Buchholz falling in the district duals by lopsided scores; a somewhat surprisingly ferocious 36-25 win over Hagerty High in the region final and a 53-5 smokeout of Ft. Pierce Central in the state semifinal. Hagerty finished third behind Fleming Island at last year's state championship. Ft. Pierce Central made the region finals at last year's duals tournament beating Royal Palm Beach, but losing to Wellington. Hagerty also got to the region round two matches before losing to Winter Springs. Hagerty beat Winter Springs in this year's region round two match to face Fleming Island for the region final.

“The difference this year is that these kids are busting their butts to win the state title from top to bottom,” said Cobbert. “Last year, we had some hammers that won everything, but the rest of the team did not go in expecting to beat South Dade. This team got emotional after the loss and that says a lot about their toughness. They are expecting to win the state title.”

South Dade, with a handful of returning state champions; at 195, 170 and 132 was expected to get those points in hand from the start, but Cobbert anticipated his depth to be his strength.

“We got two or three guys that I know can step in at different weights and be strong,” said Cobbert. “I learned a lot from my coach Jim Reape (retired Clay High coach) about shuffling the lineup and I've been around a while to know which kids match up. We got some outstanding performances from kids South Dade was not anticipating. And, we'll shuffle the deck even more the next time we get them.”

Fleming Island opened with senior Luke Chop pulling out a 1-0 win at 152 and Tanner Hill blasting Ralph Clemente at 160



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY RICKI NIX
Fleming Island High wrestling coach P. J. Cobbert, with back to camera, consoles senior wrestler Briar Jackson after hard-fought 32-28 loss to South Dade in state duals final.

with a 16-7 major decision to set the tone for the Golden Eagles.

“They started the other matches at 145, but told us 152 was going first in the final,” said Chop, who has won 20-plus straight matches thus far. “I got an escape in the final period and just wrestled on top of him to get us started with a win. Tanner came in next and knocked his guy out and that pumped up the team.”

At 170, three time state champin Brevin Balmece-da ran into Gavin Smith and found out how tough Smith was unwilling to get pinned and give South Dade six points back. Balmece-da won 17-0 for five team points.

“That was the first victory of the night,” said Cobbert. “We train so hard in positioning and getting out of bad spots. Gavin has been strong all season.”

In one of Cobbert's biggest shuffles of the night, Anthony

Breeden in at 182 popped off a 30 second pin that exploded the Golden Eagle

bench.

“He was pumped up to wrestle one of their best guys; Todd Perry at 195, the 170 champion last year, but I told him this was about points and not individual,” said Cobbert. “I told him he could wrap this guy up and he did.”

Perry, against Nick Janssen, did his duty with a pin, but Chad Nix got a forfeit six at 220 to set up a light Jeffrey Lascano for a 285 showdown that took normal heavy Raul Gonzalez out.

“Jeffrey is that pitbull on the team,” said Cobbert. “He is mentally tough and he just irritates guys who look at him and think he is easy.”

Lascano gutted out a 5-3 win over a much-heavier Kenneth Crouse to push the Fleming Island lead to 22-11 lead before Hunter Herrington at 106 continued the pile-on with an upset 2-1 win over Adrian Morales.

“His best match of the year,” said Cobbert. “He's the guy that gets jacked up by



Fleming Island High wrestler Ryan Hobson battles for arm position against South Dade's Tyler Orta, the 3A runner-up in 2018.

the crowd around him.”

At 113, Riley Holton lost a 10-5 decision that was more a victory by only allowing three points as defending champion Briar Jackson, at 120, stormed to a 9-2 win to push the Fleming Island lead to 28-14 with four matches to go.

“They had three studs in a row coming and we needed just a little luck to stay ahead,” said Cobbert.

A 23-8 win by 126 runnerup Tyler Orta over Ryan Hobson at 126 added five and a pin by 120 champion Bretli Reyna over Garrett Cole at 132 added six as Fleming Island would turn to 138 state qualifier Tyler Williams (0-2) at 138 against 132 third placer Joshua Swan and Gannon Janssen at 145 against South Dade newcomer Eric Temes to stave off the South Dade surge.

“We knew Tyler's match would be a battle and we needed any kind of win to win,” said Cobbert. “Gannon was going to be the wild card if Tyler lost.”

Williams lost an 18-4 major to add four points to put the score at 29-28 for Janssen.

“Both the 1A and 2A matches were over and the whole gym was around our mat to watch,” said Cobbert.

In an action-filled first period that saw Janssen get the first takedown and Temes answering with a quick escape setting up two more Temes takedowns and one more Janssen escape, the score stood at just 5-3 for Temes.

“I started thinking about my match when Hunter got done (at 106) and I was just trying to stay focused,” said Janssen, a recent transfer with brother Nick from 2A-Nease High School. “I was confident I could wrestle with him, but I made a mental mistake that he got two points off and that was the difference.”

Janssen got out quickly to open the second period and Temes was tagged with a stall caution as the score stuck at 5-4 going into the final period.

“We had a some chances,” said Cobbert. “Gannon was wrestling tremendous and keeping the match intensity very high. We train for that kind of effort.”

From the bottom position, Temes escaped to go up 6-4 with just 18 seconds off the clock and both wrestlers battled to a scoreless effort to keep the score at 6-4.

“I told Gannon to keep his chin up,” said Cobbert. “Kids like him take the loss very hard, but his effort was way above anything he could ever believe he could do. Both teams got a little taste of what championship level wrestling is all about.”

In Class 1A, Clay lost 59-4 to Wakulla in that semifinal with Wakulla losing to Lake Highland Prep in the final; the second in a row for Prep. Sophomore Cale Hoskinson at 138 was Clay lone winner against Wakulla.




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Blue Devils bid for district top spot falls to threes



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Clay High senior guard Cedrick Brown is catalyst of Blue Devils' fast-moving attack.



Clay High guard Brishaun Britt sprints past Palatka High defender in Clay's district loss to Panthers. Clay traveled to Orange Park a day later and lost.

Third in a row vs. OPHS

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Three three pointers in the last three minutes doomed the Clay High boys basketball team in their attempt to wrestle a district top seed away from Palatka on Tues., Jan. 22 as the Blue Devils lost 55-47 to the sixth-ranked in Class 6A-Panthers (16-2) in the Clay High gym.

"I just talked to them and they are in great spirits despite the score," said Clay coach Jared Moses. "We had an off night on Friday (loss to Ridgeview) and to come back from a poor shooting performance there and have Palatka on the ropes, their heads are still high and we missed too many at the end."

With a 39-36 lead going into the fourth quarter, the Blue Devils, again, looked like giant-killers much same as when Fleming Island, sixth-ranked in 8A (13-1) visited the Clay gym on January 11. Fleming Island got a dunk from senior guard Gianfranco Grafals that ignited a three steals to three layups scoring run by the Golden Eagles that led to a 66-61 win for Fleming Island.

"I don't think that guy had any shots all game," said Moses. "He got hot and we were holding off the other guys. That's why they have a good season going."

With the Clay season (10-7, 6-2 in district 5-6A) teetering precariously with legitimacy off a 6-2 district 5-6A record, the near-miss against 8A-Fleming Island, ranked sixth in 8A (13-1) and recent district wins over Matanzas and Pedro Menendez, Moses called back-to-back losses; an upset 44-38 loss to district 4-6A's Ridgeview and the Palatka loss, as a test of tenacity for his team with the district tournament looming.

"They will be the outright number one in the district tournament with our two

losses to them," said Moses, who had Clay within two at the half on December 13 before seeing a disastrous 24-8 third quarter en route to an 81-51 district loss. "I hope people keep sleeping on us. My guys know what they are capable of."

Clay employed a similar attack up front as they did with a three-quarter lead over the top-ranked (13-1) Fleming Island Golden Eagles in their January 11 66-61 loss, but, just like Fleming Island, Palatka guard Luke Martin DeShawn Shaw came up with the momentum-stealing plays with his third of three straight three-point shots turning a 43-43 tie at 4:05 to go to a dagger-like 52-43 gap in a flash. Shaw had just one point prior to the final four minutes of play.

"It felt the same as when Fleming Island dunked," said Moses. "They got the shot that woke them up and we were missing shots."

In the first quarter, behind slashing play into the paint from guards Cedrick Brown, Brishaun Britt and Jaylin Copeland, Clay bolted to an 11-3 lead that forced the glassy-eyed Panthers to call a timeout to figure out what was going on. Brown hit his first jumper before Britt stole a pass and raced downcourt for a layup for a quick 4-0 lead with Brown driving across the baseline for another layup as the Blue Devils were able to penetrate the inside defense of Palatka.

Near the end of the first quarter, Britt and center Cooper Vaughan combined for reciprocal give-and-go layups to push the Clay lead to 13-3. A Copeland no-look feed to Vaughan after a Britt drive ended the first stanza at 17-7 as the Panthers seemed shocked by the full frontal assault by the Blue Devil scheme.

"We were going to go right at them and their strength which is running the court," said Moses. "We don't necessarily fear anybody and we were stopping them for 75 percent of the game by limiting their pos-

sessions."

Clay stayed the course to a 22-10 lead off with guard Tre Griner snaring three rebounds off Panther shots and hitting a breakaway layup. Copeland also hit a layup.

With 3:10 to the half, Palatka locked down on defense and turned up the offense to outscore Clay 8-0 and end the half ahead 23-22 off a buzzer-beater dunk.

Griner opened the third period with two layups as Clay looked to avoid a third quarter lull before hitting Vaughan under the basket for a 32-27 lead that got to 35-27 on a Griner three-pointer at 3:41.

Clay stayed just out of reach of the Panther offense to lead 39-36 after three quarters.

In the fourth, Copeland got a nifty behind-the-back save of a ball heading out of bounds that Griner got a layup with Brown sinking two free throws to push Clay up 42-36 with six minutes to go.

From there, Clay seemed intent of giving the Palatka the ball with errant passes and miscues getting the score tied 43-43 with 4:05 to go.

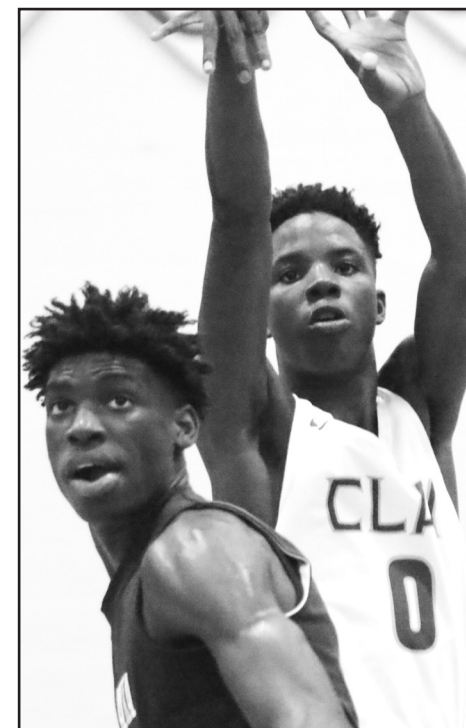
"We tried to slow it down a bit, but Palatka because I thought we hit them with their own game; running up and down the court," said Moses. "We just missed too many at the end."

Clay got in deep with forward Richard Feliciano getting behind the Palatka defense for an open layup, but Feliciano double dribbled to set up Shaw's first three at the other end of the court.

Two missed threes by Copeland and Griner were answered with Shaw's second three at 2:18 as Clay lost a step in their game watching the game go in the opposite direction.

"We had the looks at the end, but the shots were not falling," said Moses.

Palatka took a missed three from Vaughan and slowed their game down to set up Shaw's third three as the death knell



Clay High guard Tre Griner puts final touch on three pointer against Palatka.

for the game.

Copeland was off on two more threes, but Brown sunk two free throws to the final buzzer.

Clay, a third time, got to a 21-20 lead at halftime in Wednesday's match with Orange Park High only to lose 52-47. Clay led 39-37 off two Vaughan free throws, but Orange Park guard Kadin Elmore hit a three pointer to put the Raiders up 40-39. Clay fought back to 46-45 with 2:01 to go and 48-47 off a Cedrick Brown layup, but free throws dunked the Blue Devil effort.

For Orange Park coach Derek Kurnitsky, the tough win was much-needed for the Raiders.

"We have had a bunch of blowout wins lately and this one was a tough game," said Kurnitsky. "We needed to dig down a bit to get the win."

Region 3-1A weightlifting

Clay snags 4 titles in region weightlifting

Berger, James get third tickets

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

MACCLENNY – Clay High girls weightlifting put up as good a fight as they could to thwart the Baker County juggernaut at the region 3-1A weightlifting championships held Saturday in the Wildcats' gym and got four titles and 10 top six finishers, but the effort fell just short as Baker County got six titles to win with 70 points with Clay at 56 and Ridgeview at 30.

In 2018, Union County won the Class 1A team title with Baker County second and Clay fourth.

At 101, Clay sophomore Kira Boone joined seniors Katie James, Brooke Berger and junior Lindsay Brooks as region champion with Berger getting her second region title in two years in two different weight divisions. Berger and James will both be three-time state meet qualifiers with James going; no clean and jerk in 2017 and fifth in 2018; both at 119. Berger finished 11th at 129 in 2017 and second last year at 129.

"The goal was to go bigger, get stronger," said Berger. "At 129, I was thinking about my weight all the time. At 154, I

could eat."

Boone, Berger and Brooks added region titles to last week's district titles with James upending Ridgeview's Aysia Hill, third at state last year, for the region title with a 270 total; five points up on her district runnerup total. Hill, did not get a clean bench press, but teammate Emma Bonifacio, third at district, claimed second at the region meet with a 235 total; five pounds more than her region total.

Finishing in the top six and with a shot at a state meet berth based on statewide region results were, at 101, Daniella Kraus, Ridgeview, second at 155 (winner at 210); at 110, Sam Migliore, Clay, second at 225 (winner at 245); Shaniya Chery, Ridgeview, fourth at 205; at 119, Megan Ferer, Clay, third at 225 (winner at 270); at 129, Ramsy Phillips, Orange Park, third at 240 (winner at 265); Nadyia Jones, Clay, fourth at 240; Julia Sowers, Clay, fifth at 230; Kayla Saunders, Orange Park, sixth at 225; at 139 Jenna Henderson, Ridgeview, fourth at 235 (winner at 275); Marina Kaericher, Clay, fifth at 215; at 154, Nayeli Trejo, Clay, fourth at 235 (winner at 365); at 169, Tania McCormick, Ridgeview, second at 300 (winner at 320), Abigail Hawkins, Clay, third at 290; Jayla



THREE-TIMERS

Clay High seniors Brooke Berger, right, and Katie James earned their third trip to the Class 1A weightlifting championships with region titles at Baker County on Jan. 26.

Hall, Ridgeview, fourth at 290; at 183, Allie Holyfield, Ridgeview, fourth at 245 (winner at 295); Kalli Winder, Orange Park, fifth at 240; at 199, Grier Burrows, Ridgeview, fourth at 285 (winner at 355), Morgan Silvis, Clay, fifth at 270, and, at Unlimited, Kaila McKean, Clay, fourth at 380 (winner at 440). Burrows was 12th in 2017 at 199.

On Mon., Jan. 28, the FHSAA released their Class 1A state meet qualifiers.

At 101, Boone, with her 210 region total, is ranked fourth. At 110, Migliore ad-

vances. At 119, James, with her 270 total, is ranked third. At 154, Berger's 365 total is ranked number one with 340 the second highest lift totals. At 169, Ridgeview's Tania McCormack, and Jayla Hall join Clay's Abigail Hawkins with all three advancing. At 199, Brooks, at 355, is second ranked behind a 360 total from Baker's Junee French (fourth at 183 in 2018) with Ridgeview's Grier Burrows also advancing. In the Unlimiteds, Clay's Kaila McKean's 380 advances with top total at 540 pounds.

Lift

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top-ranked with a 475 total.

The two region champions both automatically advance to the Feb. 8-9 state championships in Panama City Beach while the remaining top six finishers await statewide results to determine the rest of the respective fields. Class 2A will compete Fri., Feb. 8. Class 1A will compete Sat., Feb. 9. Navarre is the defending 2A champion with New Smyrna Beach third and Flagler fourth by a point.

New Smyrna Beach, Spruce Creek and Flagler Palm Coast recorded the rest of the region champions field with New Smyrna Beach fielding three champions; at 110, 119 and 129, with Flagler snaring titles at the opposite end at 199 and Unlimited. Spruce Creek won at 101 and 139.

Perez, second at 154 last year, won the region title with a 375 total; 20 pounds above her district title a week ago. Perez bettered her bench press to 165 from 160 while popping a 210 from 195 at district in the clean and jerk to finish 20 pounds up on runner Marr Desvarieux of New Smyrna Beach.

Griffin, on to her first state meet at 183 pounds, hoisted a 330 total, same as her district title total, with a 165 bench press and a 175 clean and jerk to top the field by just five pounds with Spruce Creek's Aaliyah Battle second at 325. Griffin bettered her district totals by five pounds in both the bench and clean and jerk.

One notable absence from the meet was Oakleaf's Hadassah Davis, who won the 139 pound district title with a 290 total, but was overweight by 0.1 pounds. Oakleaf teammate Nicole Masters finished sixth in 139 with 285 total; equal to her

runnerup district spot to Davis last week. Spruce Creek's Kiara Akuna won the 139 region title at 335.

Finishing in the top six of their respective weights and capable of advancing to the state meet based on statewide region totals were, at 110, Tamira Briley, Oakleaf, fourth at 250 (winner 310); at 119, Atlantis Clinkscale, Middleburg, third at 255 (winner 345); at 169, Jaeden Fernandez, Fleming Island, second at 315 (winner 365); at 183, Gabby Willitiz, Oakleaf, fifth at 320 (winner 330); also at 183, Britney

Payne, Fleming Island, sixth at 315, and in the Unlimited, three area lifters; Emily Georgiades, Middleburg; Markayla Green, Oakleaf, and Madison Barnard, Middleburg, finished fourth, fifth and sixth with respective totals of 325, 315 and 295 (winner at 500).

From the FHSAA on Mon., Jan. 28, advancing to state will be Oakleaf's Tamira Briley at 110; Fleming Island's Jaeden Fernandez at 169; Oakleaf's Gabby Willitiz at 183 and Fleming Island's Britney Payne at 183.

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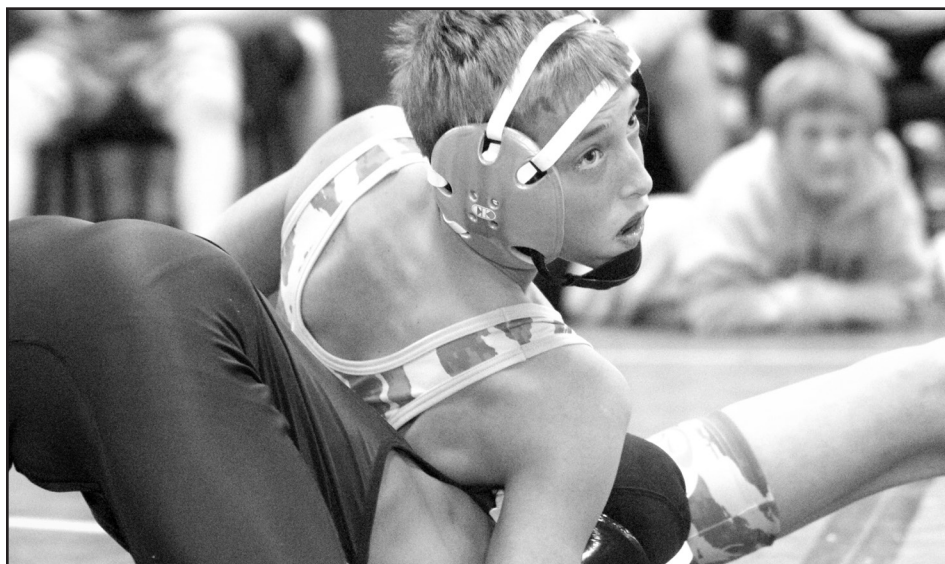
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Green Cove Springs Junior High's Joey Gomery took fourth at 102 pounds with a pin over Wilkinson's Zane Raulerson.

STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Junior from page 20

1st Place Match

Gavin Rossow (Lake Asbury) 3-0, . over Aidan Chupp (Episcopal) 2-1, . (Fall 0:00)

3rd Place Match

Ian Finnorn (Wilkinson) 4-1, . over Skylar Malone (Bolles) 4-2, . (Fall 0:00)

140 Guaranteed Places

1st Place - Austin Howard of Suwannee
2nd Place - Taylen Bader of Lake Asbury
3rd Place - Aiden Thornton of Wilkinson
4th Place - Brennan Doherty of Episcopal

1st Place Match

Austin Howard (Suwannee) 3-0, . over Taylen Bader (Lake Asbury) 2-1, . (Dec 4-3)
3rd Place Match
Aiden Thornton (Wilkinson) 3-1, . over Brennan Doherty (Episcopal) 2-2, . (Dec 7-4)

147 Guaranteed Places

1st Place - Josh Sandoval of Lake Asbury
2nd Place - Dominic Martin of Green Cove Springs
3rd Place - Trevion Sermons of Lakeside
4th Place - Brooks Baker of Bolles

1st Place Match

Josh Sandoval (Lake Asbury) 3-0, . over Dominic Martin (Green Cove Springs) 2-1, . (Dec 9-2)
3rd Place Match
Trevion Sermons (Lakeside) 3-1, . over Brooks Baker (Bolles) 4-2, . (Fall 0:00)

154 Guaranteed Places

1st Place - Jhoel Robinson of Green Cove Springs
2nd Place - Bryan Prince of Lake Asbury
3rd Place - Jackson Brill of Bolles
4th Place - tyrell peterson of Lake City

1st Place Match

Jhoel Robinson (Green Cove Springs) 3-0, . over Bryan Prince (Lake Asbury) 2-1, . (Fall 0:00)

3rd Place Match

Jackson Brill (Bolles) 3-1, . over tyrell peterson (Lake City) 2-2, . (Dec 12-6)

162 Guaranteed Places

1st Place - jordan jones of Lake City
2nd Place - Hunter Huckleberry of Lake Asbury
3rd Place - K Bingham of Orange Park
4th Place - Jackson Baker of Wilkinson

1st Place Match

jordan jones (Lake City) 2-0, . over Hunter Huckleberry (Lake Asbury) 1-1, . (Fall 0:00)

3rd Place Match

K Bingham (Orange Park) 2-1, . over Jackson Baker (Wilkinson) 2-2, . (Fall 0:00)



Orange Park Junior High coach Evan McCall smiles with team after a ninth place finish at McCall's first NEFAC final as a coach. McCall is a Fleming Island High state runner-up wrestler from 2015.

172 Guaranteed Places

1st Place - ma`lique macon of Lake City
2nd Place - Jacob Baxley of Lake Asbury
3rd Place - Taj Ellington of River Springs
4th Place - Jayden Longoria of Wilkinson

1st Place Match

ma`lique macon (Lake City) 3-0, . over Jacob Baxley (Lake Asbury) 2-1, . (Dec 6-5)

3rd Place Match

Taj Ellington (River Springs) 3-1, . over Jayden Longoria (Wilkinson) 2-2, . (Fall 0:00)

184 Guaranteed Places

1st Place - Jhace Edwards of Lake Asbury
2nd Place - nicholas moreland of Lake City
3rd Place - Todd Williams of River Springs
4th Place - Zeth Wager of Green Cove Springs

1st Place Match

Jhace Edwards (Lake Asbury) 3-0, . over nicholas moreland (Lake City) 2-1, . (Dec 11-6)

3rd Place Match

Todd Williams (River Springs) 2-1, . over Zeth Wager (Green Cove Springs) 2-2, . (Fall 0:00)

197 Guaranteed Places

1st Place - Isaiah Shevchook of Oakleaf
2nd Place - Lee Register of Wilkinson
3rd Place - Kedtric Wilbourn of Lake Asbury
4th Place - travis matthews of Lake City

1st Place Match

Isaiah Shevchook (Oakleaf) 3-0, . over Lee Regis-

ter (Wilkinson) 2-1, . (Dec 5-2)

3rd Place Match

Kedtric Wilbourn (Lake Asbury) 3-1, . over travis matthews (Lake City) 2-2, . (Fall 0:00)

222 Guaranteed Places

1st Place - Ethan Hoffstetter of Lakeside
2nd Place - John Fernandez of Episcopal
3rd Place - Jordan Mitchell of Oakleaf
4th Place - Josiah Pierre of Wilkinson

1st Place Match

Ethan Hoffstetter (Lakeside) 2-0, . over John Fernandez (Episcopal) 2-1, . (Dec 4-0)

3rd Place Match

Jordan Mitchell (Oakleaf) 3-1, . over Josiah Pierre (Wilkinson) 2-2, . (Fall 0:00)

285 Guaranteed Places

1st Place - Anthony Graziano of River Springs
2nd Place - Lukas Carubello of Green Cove Springs
3rd Place - Bryce Meldrum of Lake Asbury
4th Place - De`andre Kennerson of Wakulla

1st Place Match

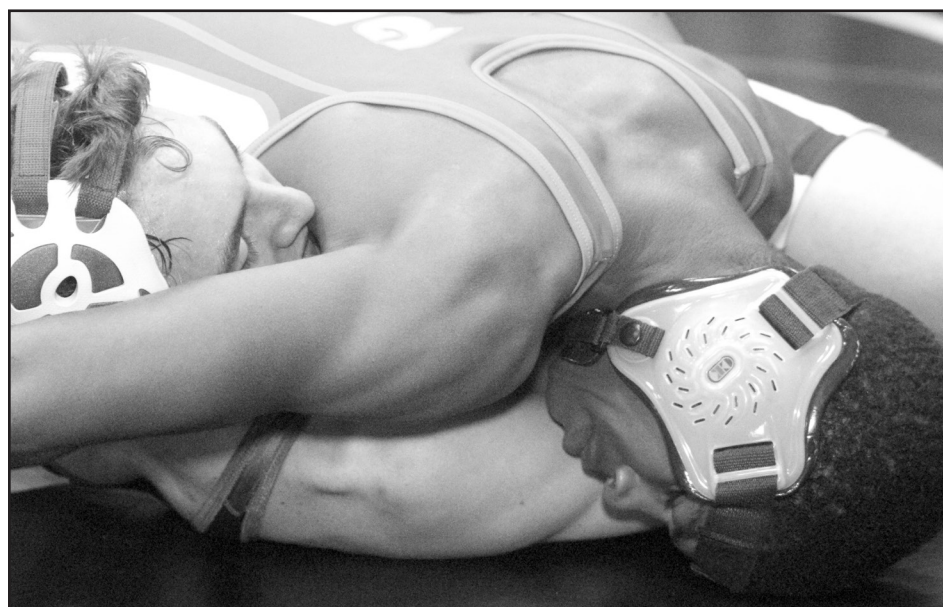
Anthony Graziano (River Springs) 3-0, . over Lukas Carubello (Green Cove Springs) 2-1, . (Fall 0:00)

3rd Place Match

Bryce Meldrum (Lake Asbury) 3-1, . over De`andre Kennerson (Wakulla) 2-2, . (Inj. 0:00)



Lake Asbury Junior High's Joshua Sandoval, top, powered through a 9-2 win over Green Cove Springs' Dominic Martin to win the 147 pound title. Sandoval is younger brother to Jacob Sandoval, a state medalist for fifth place at 126 for Fleming Island High School in 2018.



Lakeside Junior High's Trevion Sermons, younger brother of Orange Park High football standout Zykiem Sermons, finished third with a pin over Bolles' Brooks Baker at 147 pounds.

Broncos

from page 21

With Balanga on the bench with two fouls for the final 2:33 of the second quarter, Middleburg closed the half on a 13-2 run to trim the Panthers' lead to 35-28. The Broncos forced 17 Ridgeview turnovers, including takeaways on the first six Panthers possessions of the second half. Parker, who had 16 points in the first half, did not score in the second. The Broncos held Balanga to a modest six points over the final two quarters. With their power duo shut down, the rest of the Panthers struggled to find offense. Sophomore Augie Kingambe finished with 13 points, but the six other Panthers who played in the game combined for only one field goal and five total points.

The Broncos overcame more than just the Panthers and the deficit. The game was scheduled to have been played at Middleburg, but the discovery of bats in the Broncos' gymnasium forced the Broncos to travel to Ridgeview.

Tipton likes the way his team is trending as they head into the St. John's River Athletic Conference tournament.

"My kids just need confidence," said Tipton. "They gained a lot of it tonight."

The Broncos take on Palatka in the opening round on January 28.

Clyburn, a former assistant coach under Tipton at Middleburg, hopes that his Panthers, now 7-11, also profit from the experience.

"It is good as a learning tool," said Clyburn. "When you have got a team down, you have got to learn how to close the deal."

Ridgeview travels to Jacksonville Episcopal on January 29 for their next game.

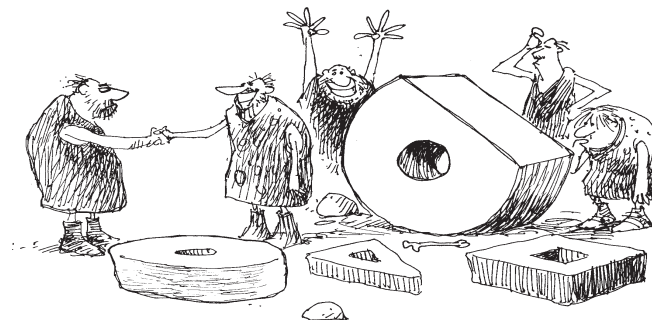
Fun AND Humor

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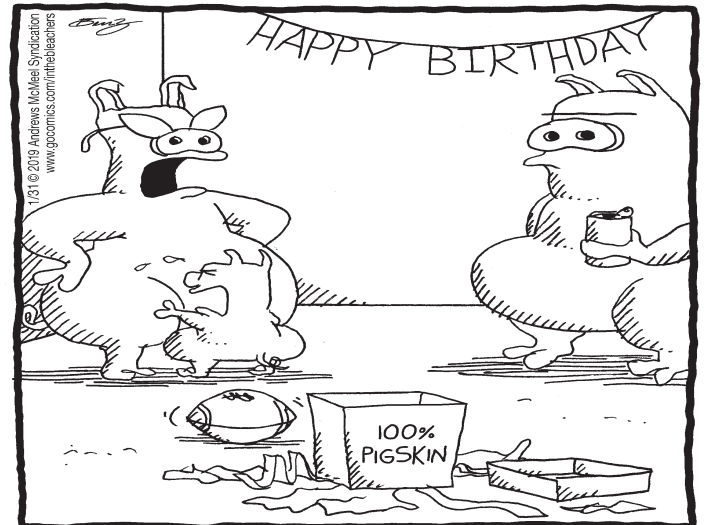
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SOLUTION:

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

Real Life Adventures



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Hoops

from page 19

“We were dead” said Price, who had beaten the Raiders by 20 in December. “In the locker room at the half, they were sitting on the floor, they were just completely done. Last night (Thursday), we put everything on the line against Buchholz, then to come back tonight and play against a really terrific team just wore them out.” But the Knights didn’t take on their third game in the week just to get blown out, and slowly and methodically reeled in the Raiders as they committed several mistakes in the third quarter. After Abate was recognized, Orange Park had the mojo and was hitting driving the lane, from outside, and just about anywhere they wanted. After the wild first quarter, the pace slowed to an 8-8 second quarter tie, but, with the eight points, the Raiders built over the Knights in the first, it looked like nothing could stop this steamroller.

“We just gave it away,” said an emotionally drained Orange Park Head Coach Derek Kurnitsky, at 12-7 overall, who ended an eight game win streak. “Bad shot selection, bad turnovers, we just gave it away. We gift wrapped it and gave them a Christmas present. If we don’t learn from that, we’ll get beat in the playoffs.”

After halftime, it seemed like two different teams on the court.

“They came out in the third quarter and immediately they started to play the way we’re capable of playing” said Price. “But it was a slow grind.”

Oakleaf smelled blood in the water and outscored the Raiders by five points in the third.

“We just kept chipping away,” said Price. “It was good that it wasn’t a 10 or 15 point lead like it could have been. We managed it enough early so that we could come back.”

That little bit of gas on the fire was all the Knights needed. Instead of Orange Park going back to what worked, Kurnitsky was beside himself as he barked out plays and watched his team make the wrong choice on shots.

“We tried playing hero ball in the fourth quarter,” said Kurnitsky.

The Knights were quick to come down with the rebounds, fast-break to their end and waste no time draining another basket. By the end of the third, Oakleaf was only down by three.

In the fourth, it took Oakleaf under five minutes to tie the game at 40. With a three-pointer, the game was locked at 40.

As the game began going back and forth, Orange Park could not hit anything from outside, and the inside lanes were



CORRESPONDENT PHOTOS BY RAY DIMONDA

Oakleaf High guard Kenny Thomas, here putting in a breakaway layup, got a steal and dunk in the final moments of the Knights’ come-from-behind win over Orange Park.



Two big men in the middle; Oakleaf’s Chantz Williams, left, and Orange Park’s Kenneth Banks fight for loose ball in Knights win over Orange Park on Friday.

smothered by the Knights. Meanwhile, the Knights were getting the boards, and turning them into valuable points. At 2:07, Oakleaf went ahead on a Quintez Johnson 1 and 1 free throw, 41-40, then 42-40. Orange Park tied it at 42, only to have Oakleaf go back 44-42 and see John Abate get fouled out with a minute left to play. The charge that got Abate his final personal foul, allowed Oakleaf to put yet another point on the board, 45-42. With 43.6 left, Orange Park’s Dialo Bryant worked an inside layup 45-44, for what would end up being the final Raider basket. Orange Park went to intentional fouling to get the ball back, which worked, except the Raiders couldn’t drain the shots. On the return, again intentional foul. Oakleaf hit the first one, missed the second. 46-44, 30.2 seconds left. Orange Park again intentionally fouled. Corey Humbles missed the first, drained the second to put his team up 47-44. Only needing a 3-pointer to tie,

the Raiders were not folding. That was until Oakleaf’s Kenny Thomas stole the ball, went coast to coast and slammed dunked the final dagger that slayed the Raiders. With only five seconds on the clock, the Raiders tried a desperation 3-pointer that missed and sent to crowd into a frenzy as the buzzer sounded on one of the best Friday night comebacks all season.

“I just love our toughness” said Price. “They weren’t just going to go out softly. If it was going to be taken from us, it was going to be taken. Just not tonight. This bodes well for the tough games we’re going to face in the districts. You know it’s going to be grinding.”

Orange Park, twice the district 4-6A champions, travels to Matanzas Jan. 29-Feb. 2 for the St. Johns River Athletic Conference tournament before two more Clay County clashes; Feb. 6 at Clay and Feb. 8 against Fleming Island, to end the regular season.

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Area tracksters get preseason looks

JTC hosts Bartram Trail preseason track January 19



Fleming Island High hurdler Glenn Rodgers powered through a 15.20 win in the 110 high hurdles. STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO



St. Johns Country Day School hurdler and sprinter Courtney Sage clocked a 1:03.96 for third in the 400 meter dash.



Fleming Island High cross country and track ace Kameron Wallizada forced a fast pace for third in 1600 in 4:39.11.



Lakeside Junior High track runner Shakeab Wllizada hit a 7:42.82 1600 with warmups.



St. Johns Country Day School 400 meters runner Jett Isley hit 52.14 for second with Fleming Island's Austin St. Laurent taking fourth in 54.62.



Left: Fleming Island High freshman distance runner Mei Chiang ran two fast preseason times in the 800 (2:29.13) and the 1600 (5:24.30) while Golden Eagle teammate Emma Millson, above, ran a 5:58.97 for the 1600.



Oakleaf High sprinter Tajha Peoples, right, blasted a 1:01.01 split to win the 400 meter dash.

ORANGE PARK MALL

Police Briefs

Middleburg man dies in Putnam crash

GRANDIN – A Middleburg man died in a traffic crash between two dump trucks at the Vulcan Grandin Sand Plant on State Road 100, according to The Florida Highway Patrol.

FHP said William Brathwaite, 59, of Middleburg, was driving a dump truck Jan. 28 at 5:54 p.m. heading eastbound on SR 100 when the front of his dump truck collided with the left side of a trailer being pulled by a dump truck driven by Willie Williams, 58, of Live Oak.

According to the FHP investigation, Brathwaite's dump truck rotated before coming to a final rest facing north with its left wheels off the ground. Williams' vehicle came to final rest on SR 100 facing northwest.

Williams was transported to UF Shands hospital in Gainesville for treatment of minor injuries, while Brathwaite was dead at the scene.

DUI Manslaughter charge in 2017 fatal crash

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – A Middleburg man remains in the Clay County Jail fol-

lowing his Jan. 23 arrest for DUI Manslaughter.

According to the arrest warrant from the Florida Highway Patrol, Jason Craig Osborne, 42, ran his 2009 Pontiac G6 sedan head-on into a 1996 Ford Ranger truck on Nov. 9, 2017 at the intersection of State Road 21 and County Road 352, about three miles north of Keystone Heights.

FHP pronounced Timothy Curtis Meek, 58, of Keystone Heights, dead at the scene. Meek was driving northbound on SR 21 when Osborne's vehicle veered into the northbound lane and struck Meek's truck head-on.

Prior to the crash, witnesses told FHP they saw Osborne driving erratically, traveling off the road and passing into oncom-



Jason Osborne



Timothy Meek

ing lanes.

The night of the crash, which occurred at 10:20 p.m., Osborne was taken to Orange Park Medical Center where officials took a voluntary blood sample that was sent off to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Crime Lab for testing.

The lab tests, which FHP received on Jan. 1, 2018, showed a toxic level of the Schedule IV Narcotic Alprazolam in Osborne's bloodstream, which caused him to be impaired.

Osborne remains held with his bond at \$75,003.

Battery charge for striking senior

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – A Jacksonville woman faces charges of battery on a person 65 years or older.

According to police, Helen Elaney Seroki, 26, hit a man in the face at the Clay County Courthouse on Jan. 29 at approximately 4 p.m.



Helen Seroki

The Clay County Sheriff's Office reported that Seroki and the man are "in a custody dispute over her child."

According to the police report, witnesses told police the man's right ear was swollen after the alleged attack.

At press time, Seroki remains at the Clay County Jail with a bond set at \$7,503.

Man caught with burglary tools

ORANGE PARK – A Jacksonville man faces charges of grand theft auto and possession of burglary tools.

According to the police report, Clay County Sheriff's officers interviewed Jonathan Edwin Simms, 31, on Jan. 29 in relation to a separate burglary.

CCSO reported that an investigation revealed Simms was driving a stolen vehicle.

At press time, Jonathan Simms remained in the Clay County Jail where his bond is set at \$40,009.



Jonathan Simms

Arrests & Bookings

Tuesday, January 29

Jacquel Rice, 30, Orange Park, Possession of Not More Than 20 g. Cannabis, Drug Equipment Possession

Cecil Saunders, 28, Middleburg, Two Counts of Methamphetamine Possession, Drug Paraphernalia Possession, Resisting an Officer

Kristen Leino, 34, Middleburg, Methamphetamine Possession, Drug Equipment Possession

Fadarrell Johnson, 20, Orange Park, Two Counts of Burglary

Edwin Gustafson, 26, Green Cove Springs, Fleeing & Eluding Police

Brandie Hamilton, 26, Middleburg, Possession of Not More Than 20 g. Cannabis, Drug Equipment Possession

Aje Cobb, 24, Orange Park, FTA-Possession of Less Than 20 g. Cannabis

Restricted Arrest, Two Counts of Sexual Battery on a 12 or Older & Younger Than 16 By an Offender 18 or Older, Conduct by Person Less Than 18, Causing Minor to Become Needy Delinquent Dependent

Brenton Edward Horne, 33, Green Cove Springs, VOP-Grand Theft, Two Counts of VOP-Dealing Stolen Property & Giving False Info to a Pawn Dealer, VOP-Giving False Owner Info to a Pawn Broker

Gary Simmons, 42, Green Cove Springs, DWLSR

Jaimickel Florence, 22, Green Cove Springs, FTA-No Valid Driver's License

Matthew Kirby, 25, Green Cove Springs, VOP-Attempted Burglary, VOP-Possession

of Ammunition by a Convicted Felon

Joel Batdorf, 36, Middleburg, Simple Domestic Battery

Jeffrey Polcyn, 55, Orange Park, Trespassing

Anthony Fischer, 26, Middleburg, Domestic Battery

Emerald Lee, 29, Orange Park, Drug Equipment Possession, Trespassing

Heather Kaminsky, 37, Orange Park, Drug Equipment Possession, Possession of Fentanyl, Trespassing

Ryan Moreland, 21, Middleburg, Possession of Marijuana With Intent to Sell, Drug Equipment Possession, DWLSR

Jonathan Simms, 31, Orange Park, Burglary, Grand Theft Auto, Possession of Burglary Tools

Kenneth Dames, 54, Green Cove Springs, Resisting an Officer, Fleeing and Eluding Police

Dana Davis, 26, Green Cove Springs, Failure to Appear for Court

Helen Seroki, 26, Green Cove Springs, Battery on Person 65 or Older

Restricted Arrest, Simple Domestic Battery

Joshua Roberson, 36, Orange Park, Grand Theft

Monday, January 28

Joseph Noyer, 35, Green Cove Springs, VOP-Reckless Driving, VOP-Domestic Battery

Jason Reinhart, 46, Orange Park, DWLSR, Failure to Appear for Court

Gary Desimone, 37, Orange Park, Cocaine Possession, Drug Equipment Possession, DWLSR

Melvin Ricks, 37, Green Cove Springs, Fugitive from Justice

Dana Davis, 26, Green Cove Springs, FTA-Petit Theft, FTA-Drug Paraphernalia Possession

Joshua Frazier, 40, Green Cove Springs, Domestic Battery

Heather Brunson, 35, Green Cove Springs, Failure to Appear for Court

Jesse Hars, 22, Middleburg, VOP-Credit Card Fraud

Jeanson Dorsainvil, 20, Doctors Inlet, Burglary

Kenneth Ingram, 59, Orange Park, Roadway Money Solicitation

George Fant, 67, Orange Park, Aggravated Battery

Sunday, January 27

Khiry, Lindsey, 26, Middleburg, Possession of a Controlled Substance Without a Valid Prescription, Resisting an Officer

Thomas, Ferrell, 50, Middleburg, DWLSR

Saturday, January 26

Dustin Wright, 31, Keystone Heights, Violating Injunction for Protection for Domestic Violence, Simple Battery

Micah Maleckar, 18, Middleburg, Violate Probation-Community Control

Wendy Pettit, 53, Middleburg, Simple Domestic Battery

Friday, January 25

Garth Testani, 26, Lake Asbury, Possession of Not More Than 20 g. Cannabis

Linda Coviello, 32, Middleburg, Drug Equipment Possession

Cynthia Whitehair, 35, Middleburg, Methamphetamine Possession, Drug Equipment Possession

Ja Monique Greenfield, 27, Green Cove Springs, Two Counts of FTA-DWLSR, FTA-Failing to Redeliver Hired or Leased Property

Demond Roberts, 43, Orange Park, Out-of-County Warrant

Christopher Brown, 39, Orange Park, FTA-DUI, FTA-DWLSR

Casey Carver, 37, Orange Park, Possession of Not More Than 20 g. Cannabis

Horace Durham, 50, Orange Park, Failure to Appear for Court

Diane Lyvers, 54, Orange Park, Violate Probation-Community Control

Gina Hansen, 35, Orange Park, Trespassing

Trevor McCoy, 31, Middleburg Arrest, Possession of Not More Than 20 g. Cannabis, Drug Possession

Dennis Swann, 66, Orange Park, Failure to Appear for Court

Michael Bush, 34, Orange Park, Simple Domestic Battery

Clem Jackson, 37, Orange Park, DUI, DWLSR

Calendar

FREE PLAY: Lost Sock Laundromat by Ivan Faute, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. at the VIA 17 N. Palmetto Ave., Green Cove Springs. This play about immigration is a work-in-progress from Clay & Water 2019, Clamour Theatre Company's Inaugural Playwrights' Retreat. Free, but reservations recommended at (917) 902-7210 or reservations@clamourtheatre.org.

VVA MONTHLY MEETING: Vietnam Veterans of America Col. William G. Byrns Chapter 1059 in Clay County meets Feb. 4 at 11 a.m. at the American Legion Post 250, 3939 County Rd. 218, Middleburg. The VVA meets the first Saturday of each month.

ASK A LAWYER FOR FREE: Jax Area Legal Aid, the Clay County Bar Association, Clay County Veterans Services and other organizations are offering Ask a Lawyer 2019 in Clay on Feb. 5 at the Orange Park Library, 2054 Plainfield Ave., from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. In this free seminar, guests can ask about such topics as contracts, family law, foreclosure, real estate, probate, disability, personal injury, criminal law, bankruptcy, immigration, wills, landlords and income taxes.

INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Meets Feb. 5 & Feb. 19 at 4 p.m. in the BCC Meeting Room, fourth floor, Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs. Open to the public.

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE: Meets Feb. 5 at 3 p.m. and Feb. 19 at 3 p.m. in the BCC Meeting Room, fourth floor, Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs. Open to the public.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Meets Feb. 5 at 7 p.m., in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, fourth floor, Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs. Open to the public.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE: Meets Feb. 7, Feb. 14, Feb. 21 and Feb. 28 at 10 a.m. in the Zoning Department Conference Room, 3rd floor, Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs. Open to the public.

QUIT SMOKING: Free Tools to Quit class will be at St. Vincent's Medical Center Clay in Middleburg on Feb. 7 from 5:30 p.m.-

7:30 p.m. Free patches, lozenges and gum, a free quit plan, workbook, water bottle, stress ball and more. Call Northeast Florida AHEC at (904) 482-0189 to register.

SCIENCE CAFÉ: Presented by St. Johns River State College, a discussion of the film, "The Smog of the Sea," Feb. 12 at 7 p.m., Orange Park campus, Room D14, 283 College Dr. Florida Sea Grant Agent Maia McGuire leads the free showing and discussion. Info at http://www.sjrst.edu/speaker_series.html

PRINCESS PARTY: Just Us Girls presents a "Princess Party Luncheon" Feb. 14 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Moosehaven, 1701 Park Ave., Orange Park. \$16.50 inclusive Must RSVP by Feb. 8. Payment required for every reservation. Door prizes, lunch and inspirational speaker. Pay at the door. Sharon (904) 571-4236 or e-mail Grammaf@bellsouth.net.

QUIT SMOKING: Now is the time to become Tobacco Free! Join us for a FREE Tools to Quit class at Baptist Medical Center-Fleming Island Feb. 23 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE patches, lozenges, and gum! FREE quit plan, workbook, water bottle, stress ball and more! Call Northeast Florida AHEC at (904) 482-0189 to register and learn more about classes near you.

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Meets Feb. 27 at 3:30 p.m. at the Clay County Library Administration Office located at the Fleming Island Headquarters Library, 1895 Town Center Blvd. Open to the public.

GARDENING SEMINAR: March 15 from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at the Orange Park Masonic Lodge, 511 Kingsley Ave. The annual horticulture program "Gloves on! Let's Get Digging," presents four experts for a day of fun and education. Info, Linda Fonferek, (904) 803-4599.

BASS TOURNAMENT: to benefit Clay County-based The Father's Heart, a nonprofit that helps needy families in Northeast Florida. March 23 at first safe light, Palatka City Dock, 309 River St., \$110 per boat. 3 p.m. weigh in. More info on entering or sponsoring, Nate Dowd (904) 716-0304 or Daniel Greene at (904) 449-9691.

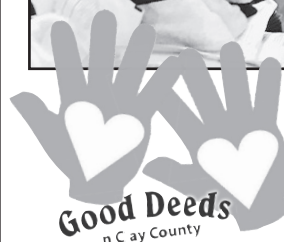
MILITARY COLLECTORS SWAP MEET:

April 13 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., The Military Museum of North Florida, 1 Bunker Ave., Green Cove Springs. A one day event for military collectors to buy, sell, and trade their stuff. Enjoy military vehicles and reenactors too.

WINE TASTING GALA: to benefit Quigley House, the domestic violence shelter for Clay County, April 13 from 6-8:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Sullivan Hall 7190 U.S. Hwy 17. \$50 per person or \$1,000 for table sponsorship. Quigleyhouse.org/ events or (904)284-0340 extension 317 for

more info.

TOUCH A TRUCK: May 18 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Orange Park Mall, sponsored by the Clay County Division of Emergency Management. Kids get to interact with response vehicles, heavy equipment and other unique vehicles and a hazard preparedness event for families and children. The first two hours of the event will be horn and noise free to accommodate children and/or adults with special needs.



Act of holiday kindness

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The Food Pantry of Green Cove Springs recently teamed up with Clay County Firefighters to assist with an act of kindness for a local family.

The story begins with the McRae Elementary School Vice Principal Tracy Burt getting in contact with Clay County

firefighters about a family that was in need over the Christmas holiday season. Some of Clay County firefighters met with Ms. Burt and Social Worker Kathy Hill to discuss what to do for the family in need.

Firefighters sprang into action and started the process to acquire items and planned how to support the family. They focused on the essentials and broadened into items that would enhance their Christmas celebration and spirit for the children.

The school board came together and provided an extraordinary amount of furniture for the family. The fire department focused on presents, house necessities, personal items, many that were acquired with the partnership of Wynema Lovell at Food Pantry. They provided food and personal essentials for this family including a turkey for dinner.

The gifts were wrapped by the firefighters. When all was collected, the firetruck brought Santa in to visit with the children and deliver all the food and gifts. They even helped setup a Christmas tree for the family and 2 bikes. While delivering the gifts, they learned of other children in need in the neighborhood, and they also received some of the gifts.

Arrests

from page 32

Brittany Tate, 31, Middleburg, Simple Domestic Battery

Thursday, January 24

Nikkita Tyler, 32, Orange Park, Resisting an Officer, DWLSR, Giving False Name or ID

Gary Barlow, 43, Orange Park, Aggravated Domestic Battery, Petit Theft, Tampering in Felony Proceeding

Robert Beegle, 29, Middleburg, FTA-

DWLSR

Jerry Blake, 49, Green Cove Springs, VOP-Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon

Justin Fisher, 33, Orange Park, DWLSR
Amanda Williamson, 37, Green Cove Springs, FTA- Cocaine Possession

Thomas Manning, 30, Green Cove Springs, VOP-Possession of Less Than 20 g. Cannabis, VOP- Drug Paraphernalia Possession

Sy Barton, 19, Green Cove Springs, Two Counts of Burglary, Grand Theft \$300-4,999, Petit Theft

Michael Celso, 22, Middleburg, Posses-

sion of a Concealed Weapon by a Convicted Felon

Summer Crawford, 36, Middleburg, Simple Domestic Battery

Wednesday, January 23

Jacquelyn Eremita, 30, Orange Park, DUI, Resisting an Officer

Joseph Mackin, 18, Middleburg, Unlicensed Firearm

Emory Daniels, 26, Middleburg, Simple Domestic Battery

Restricted Arrest, Sell of Fentanyl

Jason Osborne, 42, Middleburg, DUI Manslaughter

Myyani Lampkin, 37, Jacksonville, Failure to Appear for Court

Eric Stone, 27, Green Cove Springs, Non-Support

Brian Frye, 39, Orange Park, Cocaine Possession, Drug Equipment Possession, DWLSR, No Vehicle Registration

Ashley Cerrone, 21, Orange Park, Criminal Mischief

Tamica Sanders, 35, Green Cove Springs, Failing to Redeliver Leased Property

Myles Callahan, 24, Green Cove Springs, Two Counts of FTA-DWLSR

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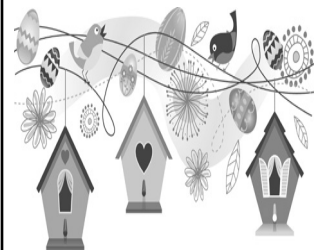
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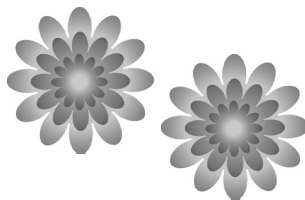
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FLA FRONTIER UNIT 2 AS REC O R 3064 PG 1327
 Parcel ID No.: 230823-007800-023-00
 Opening Bid: \$2,115.75
 Physical Address: 7678 HELENA CT, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS
 Classification: VACANT
 Name in which assessed: STEVEN LEAMING
 Said property being in the County of Clay, State of Florida.
 Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 17th day of April, 2019 at 9:30 AM.
 Dated this 25th day of January, 2019.
 TARA S. GREEN
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 Clay County, Florida
 By: Jewel Baskin
 Deputy Clerk
Legal 43368 published Jan 31, Feb 7, Feb 14 and Feb 21, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

**Public Notice
 Clay County School Board**

The Clay County School Board will hold its Regular monthly meeting on **Tuesday, February 7, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Teacher Inservice Center located at Fleming Island High School, 2233 Village Square Parkway, Fleming Island, Florida 32003. The meeting is open to the public and all interested persons are invited to attend. Any person requiring special accommodations to attend or participate in public meetings should advise the School District at least 48 hours before the meeting by contacting the Superintendent's Office at (904) 336-6508. If you are hearing or speech impaired, you may contact the District by email addressed to Karen.bush@myoneclay.net or by calling (904) 336-6584 (TDD). Copies of the proposed agenda will be available online at www.oneclay.net or by contacting the Superintendent's Office, 900 Walnut Street, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.
Legal 43392 published Jan 31, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

PUBLIC SALE

FIRST COAST TOWING gives Notice of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 02/18/2019 10:00 am at 2905 BLANDING BLVD MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068-6349, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. FIRST COAST TOWING reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
2T3ZF4DV2CW146581 2012 TOYOTA WDDJK7DA9DF004907 2013 MERCEDES
Legal 43342 published Jan 31, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

Bid Notices

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received by the Clay County District Schools until **2:00 PM Thursday, February 28, 2019** in the Purchasing Conference Room, 800 Center Street, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 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 **FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT AT ORANGE PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
CCDS Project No. C-18-18/19
 All work shall be done according to the plans and specifications prepared by:
Haddad Engineering, Inc.
 3030 Hartley Road, Suite 290
 Jacksonville, FL 32257
 Email all questions to nhaddad@haddadeng.com
 Include project number in subject line
 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 Reprinting Center
 550 Wells Road, Suite 100
 Orange Park, FL 32073
 Tel: 904/579-4027
 Fax: 904/579-4154
orangepark@ldireprinting.com
 Prime bidders, who will be submitting a bid to the owner, are required to register with the architect their intention to bid and

Bid Notices

as a plan holder. Any addenda will be sent automatically (electronically) to the known plan holders. Other delivery methods may be arranged with the architect.
 Partial sets of drawings and/or specifications are not advised and neither the architect nor owner will be responsible for partial information given to subcontractors by the general contractors.
There will be Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting at the site on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 9:00 AM per Section 00100, Part 9.2. Bidders not attending the pre-bid meeting will not be permitted to submit a bid.
 Only Contractors having been pre-qualified by the School District of Clay County are eligible to submit bids for this project. **Only pre-qualified Contractors should 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 900 Walnut 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.
 Addison G. Davis., Superintendent
 School District of Clay County
Legal 43390 published Jan 31, Feb 7 and Feb 14, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Bid Notices

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received by the Clay County District Schools until **2:00 PM Thursday, February 28, 2019** in the Purchasing Conference Room, 800 Center Street, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 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 **FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT AT PATERSON ELEMENTARY CCDS Project No. C-16-18/19**
 All work shall be done according to the plans and specifications prepared by:
Haddad Engineering, Inc.
 3030 Hartley Road, Suite 290
 Jacksonville, FL 32257
 Email all questions to nhaddad@haddadeng.com
 Include project number in subject line
 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 Reprinting Center
 550 Wells Road, Suite 100
 Orange Park, FL 32073
 Tel: 904/579-4027
 Fax: 904/579-4154
orangepark@ldireprinting.com
 Prime bidders, who will be submitting a bid to the owner, are required to register with the architect their intention to bid and as a plan holder. Any addenda will be sent automatically (electronically) to the known plan holders. Other delivery methods may be arranged with the architect.
 Partial sets of drawings and/or specifications are not advised and neither the architect nor owner will be responsible for partial information given to subcontractors by the general contractors.
There will be Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting at the site on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 12:00 PM per Section 00100, Part 9.2. Bidders not attending the pre-bid meeting will not be permitted to submit a bid.
 Only Contractors having been pre-qualified by the School District of Clay County are eligible to submit bids for this project. **Only pre-qualified Contractors should 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 900 Walnut 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.
 Addison G. Davis., Superintendent
 School District of Clay County
Legal 43390 published Jan 31, Feb 7 and Feb 14, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Bid Notices

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 900 Walnut 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.
 Addison G. Davis., Superintendent
 School District of Clay County
Legal 43389 published Jan 31, Feb 7 and Feb 14, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

INVITATION TO BID
 Sealed bids will be received by the School District of Clay County until: **2:00 pm on February 14, 2019**
 800 W. Center St.
 Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 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:
 Keystone Heights Elementary School Parking Lot
 335 SW Pecan Street
 Keystone Heights, FL 32656
 All work shall be done according to the plans and specifications prepared by:
Monique Heathcock, P.E.
 11801 Research Drive
 Alachua, FL 32615
 Email all questions to Monique Heathcock, P.E. at moniqueh@chw-inc.com. Include project name in subject line.
 Plans and Specifications are on file and open to inspection at the office of the Engineer by appointment. Digital copies of the Plans and Specifications will be posted at the Construction Bulletin (Construction Journal) and F.W. Dodge Plan Rooms. Paper copies of the Plans and Specifications may be purchased for the cost of printing and assembly (and delivery if desired) from the Engineer.
Prime Bidders, who will be submitting a bid to the Owner, are required to register their intention to bid with the Engineer. Digital copies of the Plans and Specifications will be provided to pre-qualified Prime Bidders at no cost, upon request, after registering. Any Addenda will be sent electronically to registered Prime Bidders, and to the listed Plan Rooms. Prime Bidders are responsible to ensure that all Subcontractor bids used are based upon current Plans, Specifications, and all Addenda.
 Partial sets of drawings and/or specifications are not advised and neither the Engineer nor Owner will be responsible for Subcontractors using partial, incomplete or incorrect information, regardless of source.
There will be Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting at the site on February 7, 2019 at 10:00 AM per Section 00100, Part 9.2. Bidders not attending the pre-bid meeting will not be permitted to submit a bid.
 Only Contractors having been pre-qualified by the School District of Clay County are eligible to submit bids for this project. **Only pre-qualified Contractors should 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

Bid Notices

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 900 Walnut 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.
 Addison Davis,
 Superintendent School
 District of Clay County
Legal 43271 published Jan 17, Jan 24 and Jan 31, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

MBE/WBE Firms
 Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc. is seeking qualified DBE/MBE/WBE firms to participate in the 2019 Peter's Creek WTP Ground Storage Tank and Pump Station in Green Cove Springs, FL (Clay County) which will bid on Thursday, February 14 @ 2:00PM for The Town Green Cove Springs. Possible subcontracting opportunities include: Site work, Erosion Control, Fencing, Grassing, Masonry, Roofing, Interior Finishes and Painting. Quotations must be received by February 13, 2019 by 12:00 pm. Interested bidders should contact:
 Joe Fisher
 Petticoat Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc.
 6380 Philips Highway
 Jacksonville, FL 32216
 Phone (904) 751-0888
 Fax (904) 751-0988
 Or e-mail to jfisher@petticoatschmitt.com
Petticoat Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Legal 43202 published Jan 17, Jan 24, Jan 31 and Feb 7, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
 Sealed bids will be received by the Clay County District Schools until **2:00 PM Thursday, February 28, 2019** in the Purchasing Conference Room, 800 Center Street, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 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 **FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT AT FLEMING ISLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
CCDS Project No. C-17-18/19
 All work shall be done according to the plans and specifications

Bid Notices

prepared by:
Haddad Engineering, Inc.
 3030 Hartley Road, Suite 290
 Jacksonville, FL 32257
 Email all questions to nhaddad@haddadeng.com
 Include project number in subject line
 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 Reprinting Center
 550 Wells Road, Suite 100
 Orange Park, FL 32073
 Tel: 904/579-4027
 Fax: 904/579-4154
orangepark@ldireprinting.com
 Prime bidders, who will be submitting a bid to the owner, are required to register with the architect their intention to bid and as a plan holder. Any addenda will be sent automatically (electronically) to the known plan holders. Other delivery methods may be arranged with the architect.
 Partial sets of drawings and/or specifications are not advised and neither the architect nor owner will be responsible for partial information given to subcontractors by the general contractors.
There will be Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting at the site on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 10:30 AM per Section 00100, Part 9.2. Bidders not attending the pre-bid meeting will not be permitted to submit a bid.
 Only Contractors having been pre-qualified by the School District of Clay County are eligible to submit bids for this project. **Only pre-qualified Contractors should 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

Notice of Sale

OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator; 330 East Bay Street, Suite 507-C, Jacksonville, Florida 32202; (904) 630-1897 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification of the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
(SEAL)
Tara S Green
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
Clay County, Florida
Rebecca Crews
DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT
Legal 43310 published Jan 24 and Jan 31, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper 17-310442

AMENDED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
10-2017-CA-000202
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC,
Plaintiff,
vs.
OLIVER R POWELL, WENDY S POWELL, UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 1, UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 2, UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF OLIVER R POWELL,
Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure filed January 16, 2019, entered in Civil Case No. 10-2017-CA-000202 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTH Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Green Cove Springs, Florida, the Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.Clay.RealForeclose.com in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the 20th day of May, 2019 at 10:00 AM on the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:
Lot 40, Lakeside Estates Unit 10, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 13, Page(s) 27 and 28, of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida.
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Dated this 18th day of January, 2019.
(seal)
TARA S. GREEN
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
As Clerk of the Court
BY: Stacie Towns
Deputy Clerk

If you are a person with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to access court facilities or participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. To request such an accommodation, please contact Court Administration at least three business days prior to the required service by using one of the following methods: Phone - (904) 630-2564; Fax - (904) 630-1146; TTD/TTY - (800) 955-8770 (Florida Relay Service). E-Mail - crtintpr@coj.net.
Legal 43319 published Jan 24 and Jan 31, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper 6012767

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY
CASE NO: 2018-CA-000644
VANDERBILT MORTGAGE AND FINANCE, INC.,
Plaintiff,
vs.
BLAND, ERIC, et al.,
Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Final Judgment entered in Case No. 2018-CA-000644 of the Circuit Court of the 4TH Judicial Circuit in and for CLAY County, Florida, wherein, VANDERBILT MORTGAGE AND FINANCE, INC., Plaintiff, and BLAND, ERIC, et al., are Defendants, I will sell to the highest bidder for cash at www.Clay.RealForeclose.com, at 10:00 AM, on the 28th day of February, 2019, the following

Notice of Sale

described property:
LOT 8, BLOCK 109, JACKSONVILLE SOUTH UNIT TWO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 11, PAGES 1 THROUGH 13 INCLUSIVE, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.
TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN MOBILE HOME BEARING IDENTIFICATION NUMBER WHC014711GAA/B, WITH TITLES RECORDED PURSUANT TO FS 319.261 AS RECORDED IN OR BOOK 2961, PAGE 625 OF SAID PUBLIC RECORDS
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. DATED this 23rd day of January, 2019.
(seal)
TARA S. GREEN
Clerk Circuit Court
By: Marla Albert
Deputy Clerk

IMPORTANT

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at crtintpr@coj.net or (904)630-2564 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
Legal 43382 published Jan 31 and Feb 7, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

NOTICE OF SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION
Case #: 2016-CA-001276
Wells Fargo Bank, NA
Plaintiff,
vs.-
Jason R. Headley; Virginia Headley; United Guaranty Residential Insurance Company of North Carolina; Unknown Parties in Possession #1. If living, and all Unknown Parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named Defendant(s) who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said Unknown Parties may claim an interest as Spouse, Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, or Other Claimants; Unknown Parties may claim an interest as Spouse, Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, or Other Claimants; Unknown Parties in Possession #2, if living, and all Unknown Parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named Defendant(s) who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said Unknown Parties may claim an interest as Spouse, Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, or Other Claimants;
Defendant(s).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to order rescheduling foreclosure sale or Final Judgment, entered in Civil Case No. 2016-CA-001276 of the Circuit Court of the 4th Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein Wells Fargo Bank, NA, Plaintiff and Jason R. Headley are defendant(s), I, Clerk of Court, Tara S. Green, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash using the following method: http://www.clay.realforeclose.com, beginning AT 10:00 A.M. on March 4, 2019, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit:
LOT 33, RIDGECREST UNIT 4, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 15, PAGES 75 AND 76 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.
ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator; 330 East Bay Street, Suite 507-C, Jacksonville, Florida 32202; (904) 630-1897 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification of the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or

voice impaired, call 711.
(SEAL)
Tara S Green
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
Clay County, Florida
Marla Albert
DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT
Legal 43381 published Jan 31 and Feb 7, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper 16-304598

Notice of Sale

voice impaired, call 711.
(SEAL)
Tara S Green
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
Clay County, Florida
Marla Albert
DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT
Legal 43381 published Jan 31 and Feb 7, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper 16-304598

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
Case No. 2018-CA-000192
U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for C-BASS Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-CB4
Plaintiff,
vs.
Dustin Oaks, et al.,
Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 16, 2019, entered in Case No. 2018-CA-000192 of the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for C-BASS Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-CB4 is the Plaintiff and Dustin Oaks; Unknown Spouse of Dustin Oaks; Stacie Oaks; Unknown Spouse of Stacie Oaks; Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC; Ford Motor Credit Company LLC; Clerk of Court, Clay County, Florida are the Defendants, that I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at, www.clay.realforeclose.com beginning at 10:00AM on March 19, 2019 the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
LOT 76, BEAR RUN UNIT 6, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 23, PAGES 49 AND 50 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Dated this 16th day of January, 2019.
(seal)
Tara Green
As Clerk of the Court
By: Alissa Peebles
As Deputy Clerk

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator for the circuit court system at crtintpr@coj.net or (904) 630-2564 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
Legal 43344 published Jan 31 and Feb 7, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

NOTICE OF SALE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2016-CA-000412
BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC
Plaintiff,
VS.
ERIC A. VROBEL; AMANDA N. VROBEL; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ERIC A. VROBEL; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF AMANDA N. VROBEL; UNKNOWN TENANT #1 AND UNKNOWN TENANT #2, AS UNKNOWN TENANTS IN POSSESSION, Defendants.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on June 6, 2018 in the above-captioned action, the following property situated in Clay County, Florida, described as:
LOT 37, BLOCK 1, FOXRIDGE-UNIT 4, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 16, PAGES 17 THROUGH 21, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.
Property Address: 2846 Circle Ridge Drive, Orange Park, FL 32065
Shall be sold by the Clerk of Court, TARA S. GREEN, on the 21st day of February, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. ON-LINE at www.clay.realforeclose.com, to the highest bidder, for cash, after giving notice as required by section 45.031, Florida Statutes. Any person claiming an interest in

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the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. The court, in its discretion, may enlarge the time of the sale. Notice of the changed time of sale shall be published as provided herein.
If you are a person with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at crtintpr@coj.net or (904) 255-1695 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
WITNESS my hand and seal of this court on January 18, 2019.
(seal)
TARA S. GREEN
Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: Marla Albert
Deputy Clerk
Legal 43319-1-1 published Jan 24 and Jan 31, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
IN THE COUNTY COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO: 2018CA000296
BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,
Plaintiff,
vs.
DONALD L. WILSON; DIANE DECKERHOFF; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO.2; AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE, OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED,
Defendant(s)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 16, 2019, entered in Civil Case No.: 2018CA000296 of the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Plaintiff, and DONALD L. WILSON; DIANE DECKERHOFF; are Defendants. I will sell to the highest bidder for cash, at www.clay.realforeclose.com, at 10:00 AM, on the 20th day of March, 2019, the following described real property as set forth in said Final Summary Judgment, to wit:
SEE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"
If you are a person claiming a right to funds remaining after the sale, you must file a claim with the clerk no later than 60 days after the sale. If you fail to file a claim you will not be entitled to any remaining funds. After 60 days, only the owner of record as of the date of the Lis pendens may claim the surplus.
WITNESS my hand and the seal of the court on January 16, 2019.
(seal)
TARA S. GREEN
CLERK OF THE COURT
By: Alissa Peebles
Deputy Clerk
Exhibit "A"
A portion of Government Lot 1, Section 27, Township 4 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida, also being a portion of Lots 5, 6 and 7, Block 2, Section 27, Ridgewood, according to map thereof, as recorded in Deed Book Q, page 663 of the public records of said Clay County, Florida, being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Northwest corner of said Government Lot 1, Section 27, Township 4 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida; thence South 00 degrees 06 minutes 14 seconds East, on the West line of said Government Lot 1, a distance of 678.34 feet to the intersection of the Northeastly right of way line of Washington Avenue, a 50 foot wide right of way (not open) as now established according to map of Ridgewood and recorded in Deed Book Q, page 663 of the public records of Clay County, Florida; thence South 45 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds East, on said Northeastly right of way line of Washington Avenue, a distance of 204.51 feet to the intersection of the Southeastly right of way line of Harrison Avenue, a 50 foot wide right of way as now established, according to said map of Ridgewood; thence North 45 degrees 02 minutes 07 seconds East, on said Southeastly right of way line of Harrison Avenue, a distance of

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**652.21 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continue North 45 degrees 02 minutes 07 seconds East, on said Southeastly right of way line of Harrison Avenue, a distance of 200.00 feet; thence South 44 degrees 57 minutes 53 seconds East, 218.00 feet to a point of the Southeastly line of a 48 foot wide non-exclusive easement for ingress, egress and utilities; thence South 45 degrees 02 minutes 07 seconds West on said Southeastly line of a 48.00 foot wide non-exclusive easement, a distance of 200.00 feet; thence North 44 degrees 57 minutes 53 seconds West, 218.00 feet to the Point of Beginning. Together with and subject to a 48.00 foot wide non-exclusive easement for ingress, egress, drainage and utilities over, under and across a portion of Government Lot 1, Section 27, Township 4 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida, also being a portion of Lots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, Block 2, Section 27, Ridgewood, according to map thereof, as recorded in Deed Book Q, page 663 of the public records of said Clay County, Florida, being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Northwest corner of Government Lot 1, Section 27, Township 4 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida; thence South 00 degrees 06 minutes 14 seconds East, on the West line of said Government Lot 1, a distance of 678.34 feet to the intersection of the Northeastly right of way line of Washington Avenue, a 50 foot wide right of way, (not open), as now established, according to map of Ridgewood, as recorded in Deed Book Q, page 663 of the public records of Clay County, Florida; thence South 45 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds East, on said Northeastly right of way line, a distance of 374.51 feet to the Point of Beginning of aforesaid 48.00 foot wide, non-exclusive easement for ingress, egress, drainage and utilities; thence continue South 45 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds East, on said Northeastly right of way line of Washington Avenue, a distance of 48.00 feet; thence North 45 degrees 02 minutes 07 seconds East, 852.03 feet; thence North 44 degrees 57 minutes 53 seconds West, 48.00 feet; thence South 45 degrees 02 minutes 07 seconds West, 852.07 feet to the Point of Beginning of said 48.00 foot wide non-exclusive easement.
Legal 43316 published Jan 24 and Jan 31, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper 18-46403**

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2018-CA-000898-
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
Plaintiff,
Vs.
JOAN E. GARDNER A/K/A JOAN ELIZABETH GARDNER A/K/A JOAN GARDNER; CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA; FLORIDA HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION; JOHN A. GARDNER; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated the 23rd day of January, 2019, and entered in Case No. 2018-CA-000898-, of the Circuit Court of the 4th Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION is the Plaintiff, and JOAN E. GARDNER A/K/A JOAN ELIZABETH GARDNER A/K/A JOAN GARDNER CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION JOHN A. GARDNER; and UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY are defendants. TARA S. GREEN as Clerk of the Circuit Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash electronically at https://clay.realforeclose.com/ at 10:00 AM on the 5th day of March, 2019, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
LOT 2, BLOCK 11, BELLAIR UNIT NO. 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGES 48 AND 49, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE

Notice of Sale

SALE.
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator for the circuit court system at crtintpr@coj.net or (904) 630-2564 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
Dated this 23rd day of January, 2019.
(seal)
TARA S. GREEN
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
By: Stacie Towns
Deputy Clerk
Legal 43383 published Jan 31 and Feb 7, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
2018-CA-000244
BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC
Plaintiff,
vs.
SHARON D SIMMONS, ROY SIMMONS A/K/A ROY J. SIMMONS, ROY J. SIMMONS, SHARON SIMMONS A/K/A SHARON D. SIMMONS, UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 1, UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 2, UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SHARON SIMMONS A/K/A SHARON SHARON D. SIMMONS,
Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure filed January 23, 2019, entered in Civil Case No. 2018-CA-000244 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTH Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Green Cove Springs, Florida, wherein BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC is Plaintiff and SHARON SIMMONS A/K/A SHARON D. SIMMONS, are Defendants, the Clerk of Court (Tara S. Green), will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.Clay.RealForeclose.com in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the 4th day of March, 2019 at 10:00 AM on the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:
Lot 7, Block 1, Bellair Unit No. 8, according to plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 14, Pages 61 and 62 of the current Public Records of Clay County, Florida.
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was mailed this 23rd day of January, 2019, to all parties on the attached service list.
Dated this 23RD day of January, 2019.
(seal)
TARA S. GREEN
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
As Clerk of the Court
BY: Marla Albert
Deputy Clerk

If you are a person with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to access court facilities or participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. To request such an accommodation, please contact Court Administration at least three business days prior to the required service by using one of the following methods: Phone - (904) 630-2564; Fax - (904) 630-1146; TTD/TTY - (800) 955-8770 (Florida Relay Service). E-Mail - crtintpr@coj.net.
Legal 43380 published Jan 31 and Feb 7, 2019 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper 6127376

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You like to work out and stay active, but sometimes shoulder pain gets in the way. How do you know when it's time to see a doctor?

If you're experiencing any of these symptoms, you could be making your shoulder worse by waiting:

- 1.** Clicking or popping in the shoulder joint
- 2.** Persistent pain that intensifies with use
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- 4.** Stiffness and inability to lift your arm over your head
- 5.** Numbness, tingling or burning sensation

Jacksonville Orthopedic Institute physicians are shoulder pain specialists, offering pain management, physical therapy, non-invasive and minimally invasive procedures.

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