

CLAY TODAY

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021

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Charles E. Bennett makes the grade

Green Cove Springs elementary earns 'C' rating with aspirations of being an 'A' school soon

By Wesley LeBlanc
wesley@opcfla.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Charles E. Bennett is a C-School, which means it's no longer being threatened by a possible state takeover.

Bennett has struggled to show overall improvement in years past. While few placed the blame on lagging scores, teachers, administrators, district leaders, families and students rallying together to improve things. It's tough to get a 'D' grade, and CEBE received a 'D' two years in a row. One more 'D' and the state would have essentially taken over the school in conjunction with the Clay County School District.

That worry is no more. In fact, Bennett now has sights on becoming an A-school in future years.

"I think it was a collective commitment with all parties focused on one goal: providing the best educational experience for all scholars at Charles E. Bennett," CCSD Chief of Elementary Education, Heather



Sheree Cagle

SEE GRADE, 21



The school's Math Team excelled during the 2020-21 school year, which is another example of proof that CEBE students are more than their D school grade standing in year's past would indicate.



Charles E. Bennett has been a D-rated school for two years, but the school has escaped the throes of a potential state takeover by earning a 'C' grade from the state.



The Clay County Sheriff's Office jail has been at or beyond capacity every day since February and Sheriff Michelle Cook is looking to the BCC to approve a budget that includes funding for a jail expansion.

Sheriff Cook makes desperate plea to expand Clay County Jail

By Wesley LeBlanc
wesley@opcfla.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The County Jail has been at or beyond capacity every day since February, and Sheriff Michelle Cook says it's not the result of COVID-19 but instead, is the result of the current facility no longer capable of keeping up with the county's growth and subsequent increases in crime.

When Cook became the sheriff, the

SEE JAIL, 2



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Green Cove Springs City Council moves Ayrshire Development forward

New community to feature construction of 231 homes

By Don Coble
don@opcfla.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The city council approved a plan Tuesday night that could lead to the construction of a new development south of the city.

The Green Cove Springs City Council first voted 5-0 to annex 560.52 acres of the Gustafson's Cattle Inc. property, which allowed it to move forward toward allowing Ayrshire Development to create a new community south of Green Cove Avenue and north of Jersey Avenue. The council also approved a request to change land from rural fringe/industrial to residential low density which will allow developer D.R. Horton to push forward with its plans. The land then was rezoned from agriculture to planned unit development.

Before approving the second readings of all four proposals, the council won assurance of several changes to the plan. D.R. Horton wants to build a four-lane roadway to the development that crosses



The Gustafson Farms dairy closed 2013 in Green Cove Springs. The city council approved a plan for the construction of at least 231 new homes as part of the Ayrshire Development on the property south of the city.

city property bought to develop a regional park. Both are in talks with Florida DEP about exchanging the land. If the land ex-

change isn't approved by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, a maximum of only 231 homes can be built

on the property. The development also includes 27 acres of parkland, including a 10-acre public park. D.R. Horton agreed to pay a \$400 a home for capital improvements to parks around the city as well as pay for the construction of a police substation.

The city got an agreement each house will have at least 1,200 square feet and a \$1,000 fee will be issued for city-wide transportation improvements for each home.

The city got assurances no more than 231 homes may be built prior to FDEP approval, construction, and dedication of the four-lane roadway or before an updated traffic study showing the removal of that roadway and the agreement for the park dedication fee is approved.

If D.R. Horton wants to expand the development to as many as 1,200 homes, it first must build an entrance on U.S. Highway 17, which would require another agreement for city-owned property that's currently designated for the development of a regional park. Horton also must get approval from state agencies, including the

SEE HOUSES, 19

Jail from page 1

capacity of the large jail located in Green Cove Springs was already at 80%. The sheriff before her, Darryl Daniels, said on multiple occasions the jail's capacity could not keep up, as did his predecessor. Cook, like those before her, is hoping the Board of County Commissioners' 2021-22 budget gives CCSO the money it needs to expand the jail.

"We've explored every avenue we have but there is no single answer...to fixing it or stopping the capacity issue," Cook said during a special BCC meeting held on Aug. 12. "At this point, we need a jail extension. We've been talking about this actively since the beginning of this year and exploring the opportunities and options out there, and after much discussion with experts, our staff and the county, we believe it's financially and most feasible to expand our current footprint."

Cook said on any given day, the jail exceeds its capacity by 20 to 50 inmates, which presents multiple problems –and even more so in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cook, however, praised her team for working hard to navigate around capacity issues, which has also seen the jail keep

its COVID-19 numbers amongst inmates at just a dozen.

Cook said it's easy to write these capacity problems off as a result of court case delays and COVID-19, but she said that's not the case at all. Her team talks daily with the rest of the jail staff and she said it's simply the reality of the county and its explosive growth.

"To give you a point of reference, one thing we look at is shipping some of our inmates off to other [jails]," Cook said.

"The challenge is that the other facilities themselves are either at capacity or don't have the legally-required staffing levels to house inmates. Putnam County can take 25 of our inmates and that costs \$45,000 per month and they are by far the cheapest in the region. Other counties are about double that price for 25 inmates per month."

She said CCSO thought the pandemic would lead to fewer inmates, but that this hasn't been the case. They were at capacity in February and six months later. Today they often are as many as 50 over its maximum limit. She said if you extrapolate from that month where the jail might be six months from now and even further into the future, things don't look great.

"I would like to commend jail staff because with everything going on, we have to pay the medical bills of sick inmates



The Clay County Sheriff's Office jail has been at or beyond capacity every day since February and Sheriff Michelle Cook is looking to the BCC to approve a budget that includes funding for a jail expansion.

and even with the capacity issue and all the pressures of what these guys have had to put up with, they've done a really nice job of keeping the facility clean and taking care of the inmates in our control and our staff. There is a lot of pride within our staff and the job they do."

As for where the jail might expand, Cook said the Northwest corner would be the ideal place. Such an expansion would likely cost millions, although Cook didn't explicitly state how much. The price would

likely come after a formal bidding process the county goes through with all county-based construction.

One thing is clear however: if capacity numbers are any indication, CCSO is desperately in need of a jail expansion. Whether that happens, though, will be up to the BCC.

"We have to make a decision and move on something because it's going to get very unsafe for staff and inmates," Cook said.

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TODAY**

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2021 TRIM NOTICE INFORMATION

- Understanding Your Notice of Proposed Property Taxes -

Dear Clay County Property Owners,

The 2021 Notice of Proposed Property Tax forms, also known as TRIM (Truth In Millage) notices, will be mailed to Clay County property owners on August 20th. Florida law requires the TRIM notice to be prepared and mailed each year by my office on behalf of the taxing authorities. Although the notice is not a bill, it is intended to notify you of possible changes that may appear on your November tax bill. The TRIM notice displays ***Taxing Authority Tax Information*** and ***Property Appraiser Value Information***. It is important to carefully review each section, but please keep the issues of taxes and value separate.

Property taxes are calculated as follows: **Taxable Value x Millage Rates = Property Taxes**
(the taxable value is estimated by the property appraiser; the millage rates are determined by the taxing authorities)

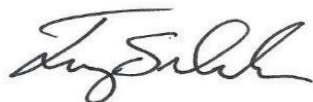
Taxing Authority Tax Information: By law, each taxing authority must establish maximum millage rates necessary to fund their proposed budgets. The notice displays last year's final millage rates and taxes, and this year's proposed millage rates and taxes. Also displayed are the times, dates, and locations of the public hearings for each taxing authority. Questions or concerns of proposed budgets, millage rates and resulting taxation levels should be directed to the respective taxing authorities.

Property Appraiser Value Information: The notice also displays prior and current year data specific to your property such as market value, assessed value, taxable value, and any applicable exemptions, classifications, or assessment reductions. My office is required to annually estimate your property's market value (based on the status of the real estate market on January 1, 2021). The assessed value is generally the market value limited by any assessment reductions, limitations (caps), or agricultural classifications. The taxable value is the assessed value minus any exemptions such as homestead, disability, widow, widower, etc.

Although my office is responsible for mailing the notice, the market, assessed, taxable values, and exemptions are the only issues within my authority to address. Additional information, including detailed **property record cards**, a **TRIM Guide**, **TRIM FAQ's**, and **Taxpayer's Bill of Rights** can be accessed at www.ccpao.com. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Our ultimate goal is to produce fair, accurate assessments and provide you with responsive customer service that exceeds your expectations.

Sincerely,



Tracy S. Drake, CFA, CAE, ASA, RES, AAS
 Clay County Property Appraiser
 State-Certified General Real Estate Appraiser RZ2759



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 Administration Building, 2nd Floor
 477 Houston Street
 Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
 Phone: 904-284-6305



Branch Office:
 Park Central Plaza
 1518 Park Avenue
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Scott calls for 25th Amendment to remove Biden

By A.G. Gancarski
For FloridaPolitics.com

U.S. Sen. Rick Scott reiterated Tuesday that the time had come to consider removing President Joe Biden from office under provisions of the 25th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The Senator had made that call on Monday via press release, and Tuesday was his first media hit in support of the concept.

Scott, on the Panhandle's News Radio 1620, said Biden wasn't "showing up" and there were questions about whether the President was "capable of discharging the duties of his office."

"We have to confront a serious question. Is Joe Biden capable of discharging the duties of his office? He's clearly not showing up to do it, so what's the problem here? And so, I think it's a legitimate question now," Scott said.

When pressed as to how the removal of the President might happen, Scott was somewhat opaque about how the process would move forward in Democratic Washington.

"We've gotta figure out why he is not showing up," Scott said, mentioning that Biden wouldn't go to the Mexican border and has done "nothing to get the internet back on" for Cuban protesters.

"He's making choices to do nothing in this job. He's on vacation. So whatever the reason is, his inability to serve has to be questioned," Scott urged.

Ahead of Biden's speech Monday exonerating himself from blame for what is happening in Afghanistan, Scott tweeted a suggestion that the 25th Amendment may be invoked because of Biden's inaction in the wake of the Taliban toppling the American client government in Kabul this weekend.

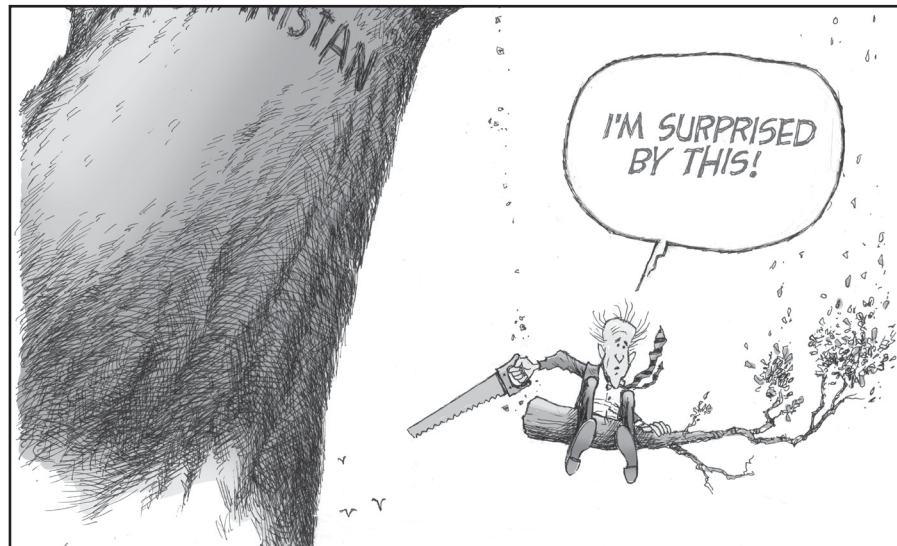
"After the disastrous events in Afghanistan, we must confront a serious question: Is Joe Biden capable of discharging the duties of his office or has time come to exercise the provisions of the 25th Amendment?"

Invoking the 25th Amendment would make Vice President Kamala Harris President. Scott has criticized Harris as well, including attempting to delegitimize her position by asking "what has she ever accomplished" during a Fox News hit earlier this year.

Under former President Donald Trump's administration, some Democrats also called for invoking the 25th amendment after the attack on the Capitol Jan. 6. While those calls were unsuccessful, Democrats did successfully impeach Trump for a sec-

SEE AMMENDMENT, 5

Opinions



My Top-10 bizarre moments from a 43-year career covering NASCAR

By Don Coble
Managing Editor

Imagine driving down the interstate behind a tractor-trailer hauling lumber. Then, without warning, a stack of concrete blocks falls from the bed and you run over them at full speed, forcing you to lose control as the blocks tear your car apart. You see engine parts and fender pieces littering the highway in the rearview mirror. Your ears are ringing from the collision; your confidence is shaken to the bone.

Now you know how many of the drivers in Sunday's road course race at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway felt.

When the curbing lining the right-side of the sixth turn peeled from the pavement, it became racing's version of a lost load. Cars that hit the curbing became airborne. Those a little deeper in the field lost control trying to steer through the debris field. Track workers not only tried a couple times to reattach the curbing, but they also had to replace one of the tire walls after it took a relentless beating from 3,300-pound, four-wheeled wrecking balls.

And while the ending, which included the final four laps of regulation and 13 laps of overtime, will be remembered as one of the most-bizarre finishes in NASCAR history, it pales in comparison to some of the other crazy NASCAR memories. In fact, I saw all 10 of these in person:

10. Dale Earnhardt hits a seagull. The Daytona 500 was elusive to Dale



Don Coble

Earnhardt for most of his career. He always seemed to have the best car, only to have his hopes crushed by some of the strangest circumstance, including his Chevrolet Lumina striking a seagull on the backstretch. The impact punched a hole in the nose near the left headlight area. He fell from the lead to a fifth-place finish. Earnhardt finally got a 500 win in 1998, and it turned out to be his only victory in the Great American Race in 23 attempts.

9. The Pocono Raceway once was a spinach farm built on top of a mountain. Despite the roaring noise and commotion of race cars and thousands of fans, there remains an over-abundance of wildlife at the racetrack, including bears and deer. Neil Bonnett learned that the hard way in 1984. Flagman Harold Kinder stuck his thumbs in his ears at the start/finish line and extended his fingers in the air like antlers to warn drivers of a deer on the track during practice. By then it was too late. Bonnett struck the deer between the tunnel turn and Turn 3. The impact punched a hole in the nose of Bonnett's Chevrolet – and it vaporized the young deer. What was left of the animal was embedded in his grill, and one of its hoofs was stuck in the radiator.

8. A.J. Foyt was a fiery Texan who didn't concern himself with other people's opinions. So, when he felt the urge to relieve himself during 1988 Winston 500 at the Talladega Superspeedway, Foyt pulled onto pit road. He climbed from his Oldsmobile, went into a port-potty and returned to the race a few moments later. He wound up finishing 28th, finishing five laps down.

7. Mark Martin was known for being a calculating, careful and considerate

SEE BIZZARE, 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.

Hagiography: (hag-ee-AH-gruh-fee) a noun that means a biography of saints.

"Ralph is clearly sympathetic to and admires each of his constituents, but this is not a hagiography of anyone."

This Week in History

Five years ago, 2016

- The Florida Department of Education's Inspector General launches an investigation on Superintendent Charlie Van Zant for plagiarism.
- The Town of Orange Park insists it's not going to stop using its red-light cameras to issue traffic tickets.
- The Florida Institute for the Commercialization of Public Research agrees to provide \$300,000 to Keystone Heights' Auxadyne, a company that makes Xyla-foam, a revolutionary foam used in athletic equipment and medical devices.

10 years ago, 2011

- Florida Lt. Gov. Jennifer Carrol said the First Coast Expressway was a bold step for the county's development.
- The BCC agrees to consider a proposal that would shut down the Clay County Victim Services Center in Green Cove Springs.
- The Clay County Sheriff's Office said it would not seek charges in a 10-year-old voyeurism case at Berean Baptist Church on Fleming Island.

20 years ago, 2001

- Stephen Wise celebrates a decisive victory in the Republican Party primary for the Florida Senate.
- Middleburg's Douglas Gibson is shot and killed by a Clay County Sheriff's Office deputy after he pointed a gun at him during an argument.
- The Board of County Commissioners invited United Telesystems of Savannah, Georgia, to meet with them about setting up a possible county-owned telecommunications company.

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 Don Coble at don@opcfla.com.

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.

Bizzare

from page 4

driver. But one night at the Bristol Motor Speedway, he calculated poorly to create one of the most-embarrassing moments in what's now known as the Xfinity Series. In 1994, Martin was leading the Goody's 250 when the caution flag waved after Robert Pressley slammed into the third-turn wall with four laps remaining. Knowing the race would finish under caution, Martin didn't count down the laps properly and pulled off the track toward Victory Lane 300 short of the finish line. David Green inherited the most-unexpected win, leaving Martin to admit the obvious: "That's the dumbest thing I've ever done in my life, I think."

6. We all hate hitting a pothole, but nothing compares to hitting a hole at nearly 200 mph. Daytona International Speedway had several delays to fill holes with Bondo and epoxy during the 2010 Daytona 500. A chunk of concrete ripped the front of Jeff Gordon's car to pieces in 2004 at the Martinsville Speedway. And year the race had to be stopped at the Atlanta Motor Speedway to fix large gaping holes on the frontstretch. Gordon was going for his third consecutive victory at Martinsville with a one-foot square, four inches thick chunk of concrete became dislodged and got airborne by Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s car – and into Gordon's front bumper. Gordon said the impact was so severe it, "jerked the steering wheel out of my hands."

5. Rusty Wallace and Dale Earnhardt loved pranking each other. In 2001, Earnhardt stuffed sardines under Wallace's seat padding before the Southern 500. It was 105-degrees and Wallace had to contend with the smell of rotting fish for more than four hours. A week later at the Bristol Motor Speedway, Wallace stole Earnhardt's steering wheel before the race. He didn't give it back until cars started rolling off pit road for the 500-mile race. Wallace also was credited with putting a bumper sticker on Earnhardt's car during practice at the Charlotte Motor Speedway that read: "How's My Driving? Call 1-800-Eat-\$\$@#t."

4. Drivers generally don't like signing autographs when they're at work at the

racetrack. Maybe that's why Matt Kenseth refused to sign for a fan who jumped the fence at Watkins Glen International during a red-flag period and ran up to Kenseth's window for the bizarre request. Kenseth didn't sign and the fan was "apprehended."

3. The inaugural race at the Chicagoland Speedway in 2004 was sponsored by Tropicana orange juice. PepsiCo decided to install a 20-foot orange balloon at the exit of the fourth turn to promote its product. During qualifying, a gust of wind pulled the balloon from its mooring, and the balloon rolled along the frontstretch as Todd Szegedy tried to qualify for the Xfinity Series race. The balloon eventually deflated and landed on top of some motorhomes.

2. FOX's Skycams provided football fans with some spectacular aerial views during the NFL season, but the cable-operated camera became one of NASCAR's biggest headaches during the 2013 All-Star race. The cable holding the moving camera broke along the frontstretch and fell onto the track. A portion of the cable wrapped around Kyle Busch's rear axle. Ten fans were injured when they grabbed the cable before it was stretched tight by Busch's car. NASCAR gave teams 15 minutes to repair their cars while network and track crews gathered up the quarter-mile cable.

1. Of course, nothing tops Juan Pablo Montoya's fiery exit from the 2012 Daytona 500. The race was pushed back to Monday night by heavy rain. Jet dryers were used to help clean up a mess during a caution period following David Stremme's accident at the end of the backstretch.

Montoya was alone on the backstretch when his Chevrolet suddenly veered into the emergency vehicle, rupturing the fuel tank for the jet engine. Montoya and Duane Burnes, the driver of the truck pulling the jet dryer, escaped ahead of a massive fireball. It took crews more than two hours to make repairs – all while the cars were parked on the backstretch. Brad Keselowski and Dale Earnhardt Jr. used the down time for a foot race to a port-a-potty behind the backstretch wall. Keselowski also used his cell phone to post photos of fire on his social media page. Kenseth eventually took the checkered flag at 1 a.m. Tuesday.

40 years ago, 1981

- The state law creating a taxing authority for Palatka-based St. Johns River Water Management District is ruled unconstitutional by the 5th District Court of Appeals in Daytona Beach.

- Two inmates are caught before they got out of the Clay County Jail after they overpowered a guard and took his keys.

- Green Cove Springs continues to pay for disallowed costs from 1977-78 charged to the Economic Development Administration.

History

from page 4

30 years ago, 1991

- Green Cove Springs installs a whistle on the city's water tank to blow an alert at 10 p.m. ahead of a curfew for minors.

- The county increases the fees to dump trash at the Rosemary Hill Landfill to \$55 a ton.

- The Green Cove Springs Police Department arrest Chet Ryan Stivender following a rash of burglaries at the Revels Nationwide RV Sales on Orange and Magnolia avenues.

Ammendment

from page 4

ond time, though he was not removed from office after a Senate trial.

At the time, Scott said the videos shown during the impeachment trial were "horrible," but ultimately voted not to remove Trump, arguing the process was a "charade."

Scott questioned Biden's ability and acuity before, including during the 2020 campaign where the Senator advocated for President Donald Trump's reelection. Scott likened Biden's favored position with the press to the man he bested in the 2018 General Election.

"You've got to be on your game every day," Scott chided. "The media's all in."

Scott compared the treatment of Trump to his perspective on how media treated him when challenging former U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson, who Scott's campaign contended was too old, ineffectual, and out of touch to remain in

Washington.

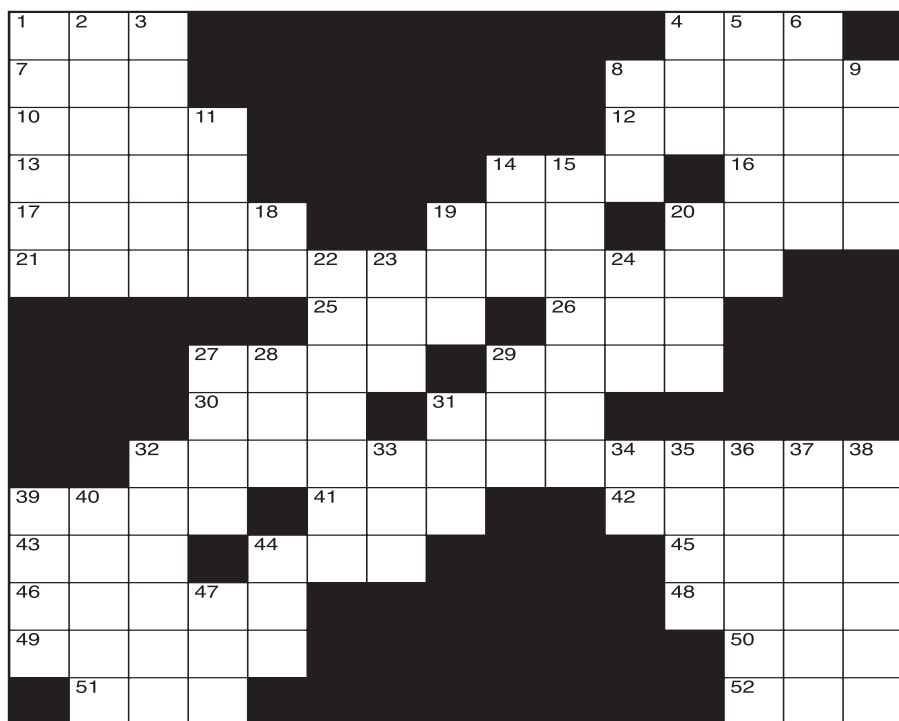
"Look at the standard; it's so different," Scott said, framing a revisionist history that "Nelson would do a gaffe every time he did an interview so he'd stay home."

Scott also offered bruising criticisms of Biden on the radio Monday, telling a Wisconsin audience that Biden's Afghanistan withdrawal and his messaging thereof highlighted a "do-nothing" presidency.

"He's on vacation," Scott groused. "He's been on vacation for six months!"

Scott isn't the only Senator from Florida blasting Biden. U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio offered his own Twitter tirade, though it stopped short of suggesting the 25th Amendment mechanism.

■
A.G. Gancarski has been a correspondent for FloridaPolitics.com since 2014. In 2018, he was a finalist for an Association of Alternative Newsweeklies "best political column." He can be reached at AG@FloridaPolitics.com.



CLUES ACROSS

- Midway between east and southeast
- Sun up in New York
- Japanese honorific
- Czech name for Prague
- Ochocinco's first name
- Steep cliffs (Hawaiian)
- Scots word for "home"
- Upper class young woman (abbr.)
- Monetary unit of Albania
- Raise
- Drain of resources
- Uncultured, clumsy persons
- Hikers use them
- Retrospective analysis (military)
- Tibetan form of chanting
- Influential European statesman
- Soluble ribonucleic acid
- Monetary unit of Romania
- Round green vegetable
- Well acquainted with
- Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- Basics
- "The Godfather" actress Keaton
- Snakelike fish
- Tall deciduous tree
- Russian river
- Long Balkans river
- Ancient Greek coin
- Senegal's capital
- Unwell
- Snout
- Low bank or reef of coral

CLUES DOWN

- Abstain from
- Vast desert in North Africa
- Cover the crown of a tooth
- A major division of geological time
- Urban center
- Crook
- Parts per billion (abbr.)
- Questions
- A pack of 52 playing cards
- Recording of sound
- Pithy saying
- Atomic #22
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Plant with ridged seedpods
- Innate
- Investigative body for Congress (abbr.)
- Soda receptacle
- Spanish stew: ___ podrida
- Viet Cong offensive
- Large body of water
- Beginning military rank
- Dissimilar
- Counteroffensive system (abbr.)
- Shows who you are
- Chinese dynasty
- Type of verse
- African nation
- Quite
- Former Bucks star Michael
- Showed again
- Body part
- Steal

County has given \$1.4 million – and counting – in rental assistance during pandemic

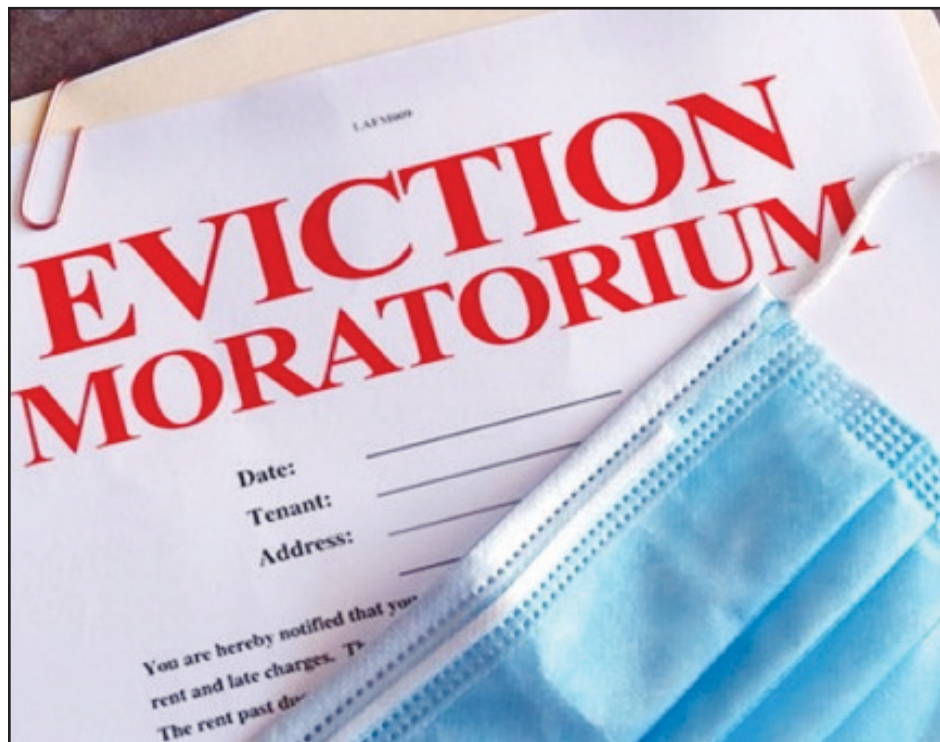
By Wesley LeBlanc
wesley@opcfcla.com

CLAY COUNTY – More than \$1.4 million in rental assistance has been given to Clay families – and more help is on the way.

The county has been running its emergency rental program since March, using federal dollars to keep families affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in their homes. It's made good on that goal so far, but there's still a lot of work to be done. Clay County community and social service manager Victoria Hapner says families can get the money they need fast if they stay on top of their email and phone.

"The process currently takes anywhere between two to six weeks and that variation is based on how responsive the individual is," Hapner said. "Sometimes we just need verification of income, for example, and just need an additional document, and the more responsive they are in monitoring their emails and calls, the faster. If we have everything we need at the beginning, it's very quick."

Hapner said it's when her team has to reach out multiple times to an applicant that the process can become a little slower. She said the team doesn't mind either way – they just want help – but they also want to be able to help people as soon as possible COVID-19 has been problematic



County residents are still benefiting from emergency rental assistance program.

for some. Hapner and her team not only provide families rental assistance, but the rental assistance team is finding new ways to reach those in need. One of the most successful ways so far is how the team is now sitting in on court eviction cases.

"We've partnered with [Judge Timothy

Collins] to be available during his eviction hearings with renters and we're working side by side to prevent the eviction process from happening," Hapner said.

Basically, when Hapner's team sees someone going through the eviction process, they'll pull them aside and have them

apply immediately for the emergency rental assistance.

Hapner said that ideally, both the landlord and the tenants are involved in the overall process. That's because to gain the financial help in most cases, Hapner's team will need documents from both. If the two are already communicating, relief may come quicker. When the assistance is approved, the landlord will receive the money to cover past due charges.

Rental payments are a necessity for many landlords who still have mortgages on the properties.

"We really do encourage them to work together," Hapner said. "It makes the process much easier when they work hand in hand. Plus, it benefits both of them. The landlord gets the money they need and the renter gets the help they need to stay in their home, which is our No. 1 goal."

The team currently has a temporary office set up at 1845 Town Center Boulevard, Suite 505, on Fleming Island. They can be reached at (904) 529-4256.

The applications originally had a deadline, but the Board of County Commissioners voted to keep the applications open. If someone has already applied and is waiting to hear more, they can call to check their status online. If they haven't yet applied, they can apply.

SEE RENTAL, 19



CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER SUMMIT

Saturday, Sept. 11 • 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

604 Walnut Street, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043

Join us at Aging True's Green Cove Springs Senior Center for our Caring for the Caregiver Summit! COVID-19 has without a doubt been a catalyst in changing how we go about our day to day lives, and in the care of our Elders. Compounded by the fact that the ways of care are ever evolving, there are many new challenges caregivers face.

You won't want to miss this event! The registration fee is \$10 and there will be a lunch included. Aging True is also providing free respite care for your loved ones aged 60 & over - reserve before September 8th by calling 904-284-3134.

Tinyurl.com/AgingTrueConf

General Questions: 904-284-3134

Area churches answering the call to fill shoeboxes

Donations being accepted for worldwide program to help children in need

By Wesley LeBlanc
wesley@opcfla.com

CLAY COUNTY – Residents in the county can help out children thousands of miles away thanks to Operation Christmas Child.

The operation is an annual operation that's been around since the early 1990s as an arm of Samaritan's Purse. It provides local partners in nearly 200 countries around the world with shoeboxes full of school supplies for students in need. Northeast Florida has its own chapter and donating in Clay County has never been easier.

"Anyone can pack a shoebox if they'd like or they can build a shoebox online and that will be created by us," Operation Christmas Child volunteer and Northeast Florida area team prayer coordinator, Ola iyewarun, said. "This is an excellent opportunity to share the gospel with people



around the world."

That's because inside each shoebox is what iyewarun said Operation Christmas Child calls the greatest gift: the story of Jesus Christ in the native language of wherever the child who receives the box lives. Part of the operation and Samaritan's Purse's greater message is that no matter who you are, you are loved by Jesus Christ. After receiving the shoe box, the student can enter into 12-lesson discipleship to learn even more about the gospel.

When Operation Christmas Child began it was as a request to send children in a



Operation Christmas Child is an international operation that provides shoeboxes filled with school supplies to children in need around the world, and Clay County residents are encouraged to get involved ahead of the November collection week.

war-torn Bosnia gift inside of shoe boxes. The Samaritan's Purse president reached out to a friend, Evangelist Franklin Graham, in North Carolina to get more help and the rest was history: 11,000 shoeboxes were assembled within weeks.

Locally, Hibernia Baptist Church on

Fleming Island, Oakleaf Baptist Church and Trinity Baptist Church in Keystone Heights have been designated as drop-off locations.

"They went on to send 28,000 shoeboxes

SEE SHOEBOX, 16



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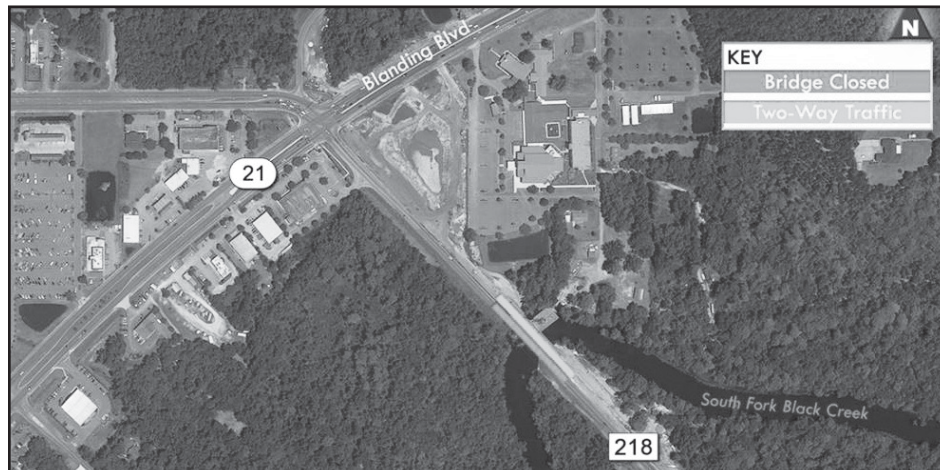
Community Briefs

Clay County offers OnSolve alerts for community updates

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Clay County is now offering the OnSolve community notification system to keep residents informed about non-emergency issues such as updates on large-scale county projects, service interruptions, or curbside collection updates that affect a specific geographic area. This free notification system provides the option to receive telephone calls, text messages or emails to keep the public informed about important local issues.

“The OnSolve community alert system gives us the ability to provide immediate and concise information to those who need it. We know people like to decide what type of information they want to receive and how they receive it, this system gives them the power to do that,” said Mike Cella, Chairman of the Clay County Board of County Commissioners. “This is a great communication tool for our residents, and we look forward to offering this free service to keep them informed.”

To register for Clay County alerts via



FDOT shifting traffic to new lanes on C.R. 218 bridge

MIDDLEBURG – The Florida Department of Transportation will shift traffic on County Road 218 eastbound onto new lanes of the County Road 218 bridge beginning Sunday, Aug. 22 at 6 p.m.

Crews will begin shifting eastbound drivers to the left, just east of the Walgreens parking lot, onto lanes of the new C.R. 218 bridge. This shift will allow crews to close the eastbound lanes to begin

construction of the other half of the new bridge. FDOT hired Sacyr to complete the \$16.4 million project in spring 2022, weather and unforeseen circumstances permitting.

Stay informed about lane closures and roadwork in your area by following FDOT District 2 at @MyFDOT_NEFL on Twitter, at MyFDOTNEFL on Facebook or by visiting nflroads.com.

Sen. Jennifer Bradley to host delegation hearing on Sept. 15

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – State Sen. Jennifer Bradley (R-Fleming Island), Chairwoman of the Clay County Legislative Delegation, will conduct the annual delegation hearing on Wednesday, Sept. 15 from 4-6 p.m. at the Board of County Commissioners meeting room on the fourth floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St. in Green Cove Springs.

Seating at the venue will provide for appropriate social distancing and the use

SEE BRIEFS, 10

Obituaries

Wanda Willis Martin

Wanda Willis Martin, 73 of Middleburg, Florida passed away on August 11, 2021. She was born in St. Augustine, Florida on June 8, 1948 to Edmond Richard Willis and Lettie Lee Irene Pope.

Wanda moved to Green Cove Springs with her family, where she attended and graduated from Clay High School, this is also where she met her husband of 50 years, William “Ed” Martin. Together



Wanda Willis Martin

Wanda and Ed had two daughters, Rebecca and Kimberley. Wanda was a loving and caring homemaker, wife, mother and Giggy to her grandchildren. Her family was

her everything.

Wanda was also a devoted member of First Baptist Jacksonville. She joyfully served the Mandarin Ladies Sunday School class, often planning and decorating for gatherings, and events for her class and through out the church. Wanda lived a selfless life taking care of her family and serving others.

Wanda was preceded in death by her parents, Edmond Willis, Lettie Pope Willis; brother, Frances “Leon” Willis; and sister, Gladys “Juanita” Pascak and brother-in-law, Frank Pascak. She is survived by her loving husband, William “Ed” Edward Martin; daughters, Rebecca M. Braeckel (Douglas), and Kimberley S. Farnsworth (Jeremy); Grandchildren, Taylour Farnsworth, Hallè Farnsworth and Preston Farnsworth; brothers, Edmond “Sonny” Willis (Mary), Carlton Willis (Gayle), Richard Willis (Barb), Walter “Kenny” Willis

(Delama), Vernon Willis, and Ronny Willis (Hattie) and sister-in-law, Delcie Willis.

Services were held at 3:30 p.m., Saturday, August 14, 2021 in the Russell Haven of Rest chapel with Dr. John Sullivan officiating. Burial following service in Russell Haven of Rest Cemetery. Visitation with the family was at 2:15 p.m.

Bonnie Elnor Lambert Beeson

Funeral service for Bonnie Elnor Lambert Beeson will be 2 p.m., Friday, August 20, at Riverwood Family, with interment in Pleasant Grove Church Cemetery. Visitation is from 11:30 a.m. until the time of service.

Ms. Beeson, 88, of Brookhaven, passed away August 14, 2021, in Brookhaven, MS. She was born in Brookhaven July 31, 1933, to Elmer Napoleon Lambert and Lillie Bell Hampton Lambert.

She was a member of Pleasant Grove

Church. She was also a member of VFW, Moose Lodge, and Orange Park Medical Center Auxiliary Volunteers. She worked 25 plus years as Loan Officer with Vystar Credit Union, (formerly Jax Navy C.U.)

She is preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Donald Lambert, and Connie Lambert; and her former spouse, Charles B. Beeson.

She is survived by her son, Charles “Randy” Beeson (Annette); daughters, Cathy Beeson Bridge (Kim), and Vicki Beeson Kelly (John); sisters, Nonnie Crawford, Donnis Holmes; six grandchildren, Joe Kelly, Kristy Perry, Tyler Bridge, Jeff Kelly, Nick Bridge, and Stephanie Beeson. He is also survived by 17 great grandchildren, one great, great grandchild and one sister-in-law, Esta Lambert.

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U.S. District Court, Federal Bar Association offering essay contest

High school winner to receive \$2,000

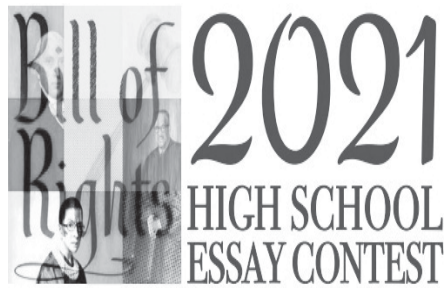
For Clay Today

CLAY COUNTY – The lawyers and judges of the U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, and the members of the Jacksonville Chapter of the Federal Bar Association are pleased to announce the launch of the 2021 high school essay contest commemorating the 230th anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights.

The contest is open to students currently in grades 10 through 12 in the Jacksonville Division of the Middle District of Florida, which includes Clay, Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Duval, Flagler, Hamilton, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee and Union counties. The personal freedoms we cherish as citizens of the United States are set forth in, and protected by, the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Known as the Bill of Rights, these amendments have shaped the nation's democracy for 230 years.

The 2021 Essay Contest prompt asks students to select the amendment most important to students attending public schools and explain how the decisions of the United States Supreme Court have shaped that amendment's meaning.

Student Essays must be submitted via the Middle District website at www.flmd.uscourts.gov under the "Court in the Community" section, no later than noon on Sept. 24. For the past three years essays have been submitted by students residing in nine of the 12 counties of the Jacksonville Division and more than \$17,000 in



cash prizes have been awarded to students and teachers. This year an additional cash prize of \$1,000 will be awarded to the school with the most qualifying essay submissions.

The cash prizes are made possible by the lawyers and judges of the U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida Bench Bar Fund. The prizes are:

First place – \$2,000

Second place – \$1,000

Third place – \$500

Fourth-through 10th places – \$50 each

Classroom grants for teachers of top three winners – a \$500

Grant to school with most qualifying essay submissions – \$1,000

Winners will be recognized in November at a ceremony at the Bryan Simson U.S. Courthouse in Jacksonville. In addition, the first-place winner will be given the opportunity to shadow a federal judge for a day.

For the contest rules and additional information about the Essay Contest and how to enter visit www.flmd.uscourts.gov under the "Court in the Community" section.

Clay County attorney on shortlist for Fourth Judicial Circuit vacancy

For Clay Today

JACKSONVILLE – The Judicial Nominating Commission for the Fourth Judicial Circuit narrowed its list of candidates to four to fill the vacancy on the Circuit Court Bench created by the retirement of the Hon. Karen K. Cole. The commission originally interviewed eight finalists, and now it will send the four names, including James Kallaher, to Gov. Ron DeSantis to fill the vacancy.

The four finalists are: Kallaher, Brooke Brady, London Kite and Kimber Strawbridge. The Fourth Judicial Circuit is comprised of Clay, Duval and Nassau counties.

Kallaher practices law at Kallaher, DeLuca and Naughton in Orange Park.

He is an accomplished trial attorney and has extensive experience representing general contractors and sub-contractors in complex, multi-party litigation, as well as defending automobile dealerships, convenience stores and other businesses against premises and automobile liability claims.

Previously, Kallaher served an internship for the Hon. Ralph Nimmons and the Hon. Timothy Corrigan of the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida. He also worked as an Assistant State Attorney in Duval and Clay counties.

Prior to becoming a lawyer, Kal-



James Kallaher

laher served on active duty in the U.S. Navy, flying the F-14 and F/A-18. He is a graduate of TOPGUN and is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. He served several tours of duty overseas, including in Kuwait and Afghanistan. Kallaher retired from the U.S. Navy Reserve in 2013 as a Commander.

In his free time, Kallaher enjoys fishing and sharing his love of flying with his two children. He is engaged with his local community and has served on several boards, including Crossings at Fleming Island Community Development District, Clay County Victim Services Center and Grace Episcopal Day School Board of Trustees.

Wizards of Winter blows into Thrasher-Horne on Dec. 2

For Clay Today

ORANGE PARK – The Wizards of Winter was originally formed in the winter of 2009 as a way to give back to the band's hometown community food pantry that was in dire need of assistance. What was once simply a group of friends looking to help others in need, has now turned into a musical force that crosses the nation each year. Two of the original founders, Scott and Sharon Kelly still perform in the group till this day. The quality of their original music combined with its message, has attracted world class talent from groups like The Trans-Siberian Orchestra, The Irish Tenors, Blue Oyster Cult, Rainbow, Alice Cooper Band and Broadway who now join them on stage. Audiences ranging in age from 8 to 80 have come to make the band's Holiday Rock Opera part of their family tradition, by coming to see it year after year.

"It truly is a Christmas rock opera," Scott Kelly said. "We take the audience

on a musical journey inside a snow globe aboard a metaphysical vehicle, the Arctic Flyer, in search of the meaning of Christmas. Some parts of the story are happy, some are melancholy; our music encompasses the vast range of feelings people experience during the holiday season. It is an emotional roller coaster ride, told through our original compositions which range from ballads to prog-metal. There is something in the show for everyone in the family."

Indeed, the 12-strong Wizards are starting to make heads swivel with their synergy of the symphonic and the serendipitous, touching hearts and raising a psychic goblet to the roots of progressive rock. Co-founder, lead vocalist/flutist, Sharon Kelly said: "I never anticipated writing and performing our own songs would be so emotional. People in the audience, feeling the same raw emotion that inspired us to write the songs, is very moving. Especially since we see such a wide range of age in



the people that attend our shows. Our music truly crosses generational boundaries."

The Thrasher-Horne Center invites residents to see them as they make their annual trek to spread the Spirit of Christmas. Tickets are available at THcenter.org or at (904) 276-6815. Prices range from

\$29-\$6.

The Thrasher-Horne Center is a performing arts venue and conference center owned and operated by St. Johns River State College. It is located on the Orange Park campus at 283 College Dr.

Briefs

from page 8

of facial coverings is encouraged. The legislative delegation holds a public hearing each year to afford local officials, members of the public, and other interested parties the opportunity to present legislative proposals or express opinions on state issues.

"I am extremely honored to be representing the people of Clay County in the Florida Senate and look forward to discussing issues of importance to the community," Bradley said. "These hearings help us to understand the needs and the goals of the community as we establish our respective legislative priorities."

The Clay County legislative delegation includes Bradley, Rep. Bobby Payne (R-Palatka) and Rep. Sam Garrison (R-Fleming Island).

The next Regular Session of the Florida Legislature will convene on Jan. 11 in Tallahassee.

For additional information or to be placed on the agenda for the hearing, contact Senator Bradley's office at (904) 278-2085, or email her staff at Lee.Mary@flsenate.gov.

Pars for Paws golf tournament tees off for Clay Humane

FLEMING ISLAND – Join Clay Humane, a nonprofit veterinary clinic located in Orange Park, for the 15th annual Pars Fore Paws Golf Tournament on Monday, Oct. 4, at Eagle Landing Golf Club.

The tournament begins with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Registration is \$100 for an individual or \$360 for a foursome and includes 18 holes of golf with cart, bag ser-

vices, complimentary driving range balls, lunch, dinner and prizes.

There is no rain date or refunds as all proceeds help Clay Humane provide low-cost veterinary services including spay and neuter and humane education programs. Register at <http://www.clayhumane.org/pars-fore-paws-2021.php>.

Plotkin selected president of Jewish Federation & Foundation

CLAY COUNTY – Jennifer Plotkin, senior vice president and senior relationship manager at Bank of America, was elected president of the Jewish Federation & Foundation of Northeast Florida. She leads a 10-member executive committee and a prestigious board comprised of Jewish community leaders from various professions.



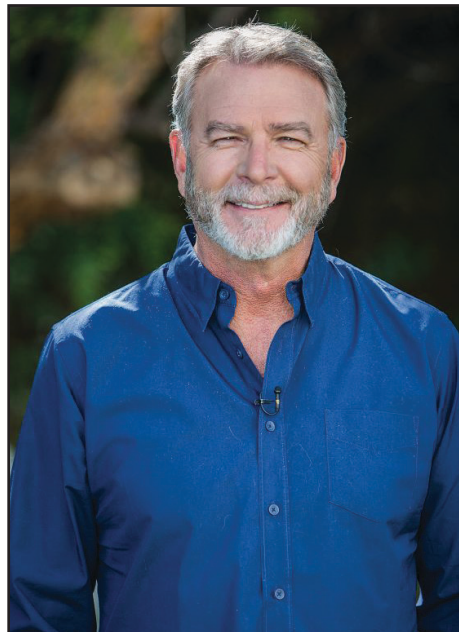
Jennifer Plotkin

Executive committee members include Haley Trager, vice president and campaign chair; Steve Silverman, vice president; Erik Rostholder, vice president; Allison Jacobs, vice president, Diane Rothstein, vice president and Women's Philanthropy president; Michael Setzer, treasurer; Debbie Banks, secretary; Iris Kraemer, immediate past president; and Sandy Zimmerman, president's appointee.

Executive Director Alan Margolies expressed his enthusiasm for the new president and board of directors.

"We are all excited and look forward to

working with our new executive committee and board. Jennifer brings many years of solid experience in volunteer leadership positions to her challenging role as president, having served as treasurer, major gifts chair and campaign chair," he said.



Comedian Bill Engvall coming to Thrasher-Horne Center

ORANGE PARK – Bill Engvall is a Grammy nominated, multi-platinum selling recording artist and one of the top comedians in the country will bring his humor to the Thrasher-Horne Center on Jan. 29.

Bill can regularly be seen in a recurring role on the hit FOX sitcom "Last Man Standing" playing Reverend Paul. He was recently awarded "Casino Comedian" of the year at the 2019 Casino Entertainment Awards in Las Vegas. He is currently on tour and since 2016, Bill has hosted

a weekly podcast "My 2 Cents" with PodcastOne which offers his funny, thought-provoking and unique perspective on just about everything.

Bill's latest comedy special "Just Sell Him For Parts" is currently available on VUDU streaming service. In addition to acting and stand-up Bill is also the spokesperson for the insurance company Health Markets.

Bill recently wrapped production on A New Season where he reprises his role of Coach Z, from "Catching Faith" in 2015. He also had a role in the thriller, "Monster Party," where three teenaged thieves infiltrate a mansion dinner party secretly hosted by a serial killer cult for the social elite.

Bill was part of the enormously successful Blue Collar Comedy concert films, which sold more than nine million units and received a Grammy nomination. He also starred on the WB's hit sketch comedy show Blue Collar TV and in several solo specials for Comedy Central. In 2012 he reunited with Jeff Foxworthy and Larry the Cable Guy on the Them Idiots Whirled Tour, which aired as a special on CMT.

Bill's first album, "Here's Your Sign," is certified platinum and held the No. 1 position on the Billboard Comedy Chart for 15 consecutive weeks. His second album, "Dorkfish," also debuted at No. 1 on Billboard's Comedy Chart, as did his subsequent comedy albums. Bill has written several books, including his 2007 autobiography Bill Engvall – Just A Guy.

Tickets start at \$49 and are available at THcenter.org, or by calling (904) 276-6815 or visiting the Thrasher-Horne Center ticket office at 283 College Dr. in Orange Park on the St. Johns River State College campus.

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f Question of the week

What were your impressions of the first week of the school year?

By Wesley LeBlanc
wesley@opcfla.com

CLAY COUNTY – The first week of the 2021-22 school year came and went and halfway through the second week, things are starting to fall back into their usual place.

COVID-19 still looms large, but the Clay County School District isn't one of the top 10 school districts out of 67 in Florida. The district is ready for another successful school year, both in terms of education and minimizing the virus' impact on that. This new year could be different but CCSD made it through the 2020-21 school year

with minimal COVID-19 outbreaks and it has the same practices in place to come out just as clean this year.

All of that is handled on the district side of things so other than determining whether they'd like to wear a mask or not, and sanitizing often, students can largely focus on school.



David Broskie

"I feel awesome," Broskie said of the district's first day of school. "It's great to have students back and it's great to see parents smiling as they drop their kids off, ready to start the school year."

We asked parents how the first week of school went for their children for this week's Facebook Question of the Week and things seem to have gone as well as Broskie had hoped.

"My son is in high school and he's handling things like he did last year," Jocelyn Alden said.

For her son, that means wearing a mask. He's also vaccinated so his chances of getting COVID-19 are significantly down and even if he did get it, he's likely to experience mild to moderate symptoms of the virus. His chances of ending up in the hospital are almost negligible, most importantly, because of the vaccine.

"I am on an immune suppressor, so he is doing it for him as well as for us at home,"

Alden continued. "He had a good first day. The afternoon bus didn't show the first day, but it was all smooth on the second day."

One student said their elementary teacher was out the entire first week of school due to COVID-19, so they hadn't yet met their teacher. They said they still had a great first week, though, especially when it came to recess and physical education. They also said they already "made a best friend," which is always a great thing.

Kari Woodworth said her fourth grader had a great first day of school and that she had a blast back at school. She was especially excited to see her friends again, Woodworth said.

How did you child's first day of school go last week? Let us know by responding to last week's post and be sure to follow the official Clay Today Newspaper page so that you don't miss this week's Facebook Question of the Week.

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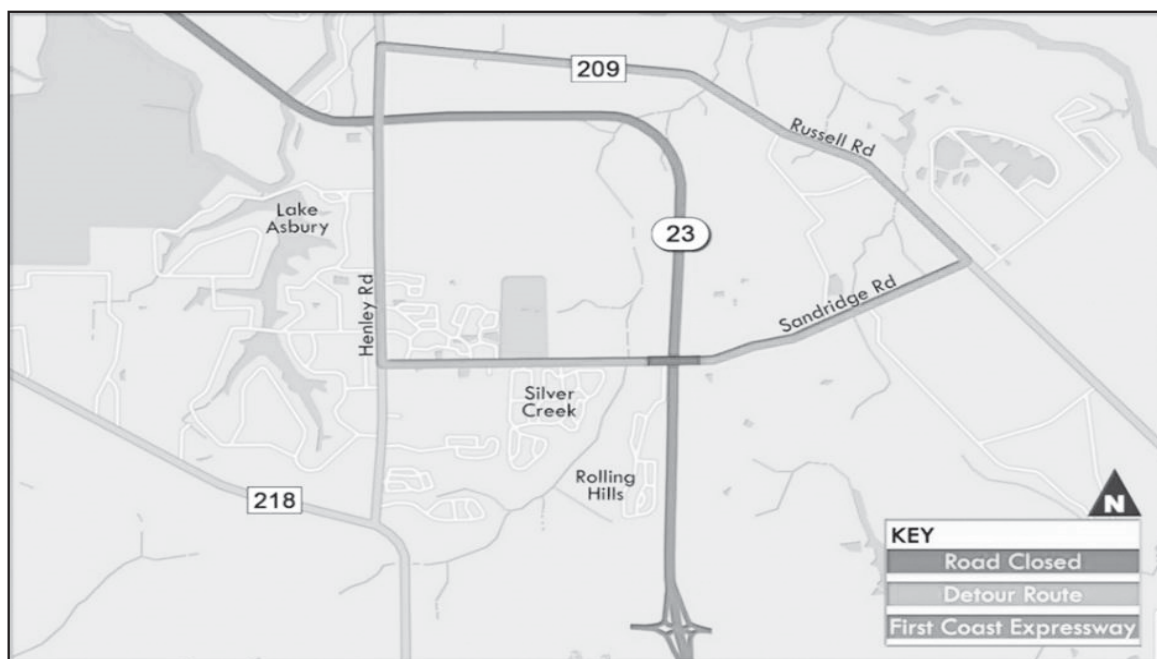
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Overnight detour of Sandridge Road scheduled

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Overnight closures of Sandridge Road at the future First Coast Expressway overpass are planned Monday, Aug. 23 and Tuesday, Aug. 24, weather and unforeseen circumstances permitting. The roadway will close nightly at 9 p.m. and reopen by 5 a.m. the following morning, allowing for the installation of bridge deck framework for the First Coast Expressway. Access will remain available for residents and local traffic.

During the closure, motorists will be detoured via Henley Road and Russell Road as shown in the map above.

Stay informed about lane closures and roadwork in your area by following FDOT District 2 at @MyFDOT_NEFL on Twitter or at MyFDOTNEFL on Facebook.



SJRWMD:

Please don't pick the berries

Conservation group reminds visitors it's illegal to pick saw palmetto berries

CLAY COUNTY – There are a lot of “dos” when visiting public lands owned and managed by the St. Johns River Water Management District, like: do take your time to enjoy natural Florida, do take drinking water and insect repellent, do hike or bike and take advantage of the unspoiled acres.

However, with saw palmetto berry season in full swing, the District wants to remind visitors of an important “don’t.” Harvesting saw palmetto berries, critical to the survival of many native wildlife species, is prohibited on public properties across Florida, including the District’s conservation lands.

“While District lands were purchased for their water resource protection values,

these public lands also provide Florida black bears and other wildlife with food, habitat and refuge,” said St. Johns River Water Management District Executive Director Dr. Ann Shortelle.

The District owns and manages about 782,000 acres of public conservation land, which helps protect and preserve water resources and provides the community with passive recreation opportunities. Black Creek Ravines and Bayard conservation areas are just two of the District’s public conservation areas.

August through October is the harvest season for saw palmetto berries. In recent years, poaching has become a bigger problem as the demand for the berries for pharmaceutical and herbal supplements has increased.

“Saw palmetto berries grow wild in Florida and the southeast United States and are critical to the survival of many



native wildlife species, particularly the Florida black bear,” said Brian Emanuel, chief of the District’s Bureau of Land Resources. “Unfettered harvesting of berries from public lands removes a food source important to bears as well as other species of wildlife. Poaching on District lands also can lead to property

damage, so we take enforcement activities very seriously.”

Report the illegal harvest of saw palmetto berries to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at its 24-hour hotline for wildlife and other environmental and boating violations, 888-404-FWCC (3922).

Community leaders announce formation of Haven Hospice Foundation

For Clay Today

GAINESVILLE – Community leaders from across North Central Florida announced the formation of the Haven Hospice Foundation, a not-for-profit charitable organization dedicated to supporting the work and mission of Haven Hospice, the area’s oldest and only locally governed hospice and palliative care provider, including Haven-Custead Hospice Care Center in Orange Park.

Chairing the nine-member Haven Hospice Foundation Board of Directors is Daniel Martinez of Palatka. Other officers include Vice Chair L. Wayne McClain, also of Palatka, Secretary Darryl Patterson of Jacksonville, and Treasurer John Medina of Lake City. Sharon Jones, FAHP, CFRE, Vice President of Development for Haven, will serve as executive director of the new

foundation.

“Having experienced Haven services, I know the importance of financially supporting a local legacy hospice,” Martinez said. “Healthcare and hospice are on the cusp of significant change in the years ahead. There will be a greater focus on what Medicare is calling value-based care and, at the same time, Medicare Advantage plans will be contracting directly with hospice providers. As a result of these changes, Haven needs to be able to invest and evolve to adapt to these new reimbursement models—all while continuing to meet the needs of a growing North Central Florida.”

For more than 40 years of providing quality, compassionate care to friends and family in the 18-county Haven service area, “The Haven mission of honoring life

by providing comfort, care and compassion to individuals and families we serve is more vital than ever to North Central Florida,” said Pauline Taylor, RN, MHA, President of Haven and a member of the Haven Foundation Board of Directors. She continued, “We are excited to announce the formation of this significant group that will engage with community leaders and supporters representing Haven’s service area.”

Board Vice Chair L. Wayne McClain said: “With the aging of America, Florida and North Central Florida, there is greater need for Haven care and services, a greater opportunity for Haven to fulfill its mission and meet growing community need for hospice and palliative care for patients wherever they reside.”

As a stand-alone organization, the Ha-

ven Hospice Foundation will develop and implement comprehensive fundraising programs targeting specific needs and opportunities and offer a full range of giving options to individuals, corporations and foundations. The foundation will be actively involved in

applying for appropriate grants, offering planned giving and legacy giving opportunities, and ensuring that every donor is recognized for their generosity and community commitment.

“With a separate, independent, community-based Board of Directors, the Haven Hospice Foundation will provide greater transparency, expanded community involvement, enhanced fiscal responsibility and heightened oversight/accountability to the communities Haven is privileged to serve,” Jones said.



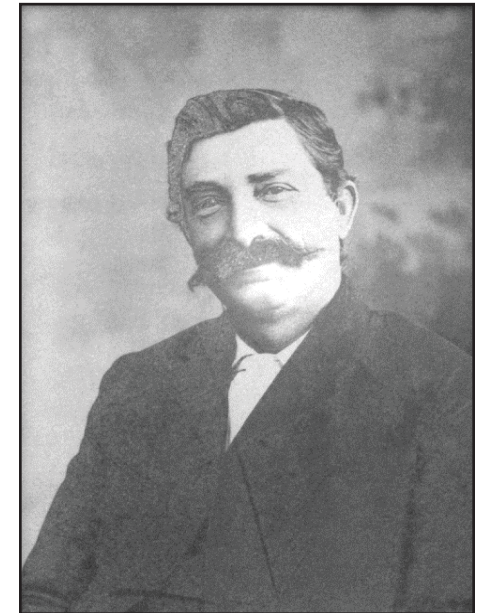
All is fair in love and war

horses with all its scorching power. If I was at Old Middleburg this evening the sun would not shine so hot, nor the time half so long. It appears to me that it has been a month since I left there....Our boys had a little fight with the yanks last Friday. We had two men wounded only, killed 2 yanks, taken 7 prisoners.

*Fondly love my heart is beating
With affection warm and true to thee,
And timely I would send this greeting
Where I fain would wish to be*

October, 12, 1864
(Baldwin, Florida)

My Dear Mattie, Your most affectionate letter of the 6th has been received and perused with the greatest pleasure and satisfaction. I was very sorry to hear of your sad misfortune, but I hope by the time you get this that you will be over that, and enjoying good health. My health is not good, but do not let that trouble you. I hope soon to recover, as I have very good attention. Our duty is very heavy as there is but four Companies of Cavalry here. We have been looking for the remainder of our Regiment some time. If it was all here our duty would be very light. We are getting plenty of corn and long forage for our horses at the present time. As to ourselves we are faring rather bad. We get no meat except fresh beef and that in very small quantities. Corn meal we get a plenty of that. Syrup one pint to the week, etc. & so on. I am very tired of fighting this way. I very often say hard things about our Confederacy and officers. I think if about half of the officers now in the army and in warehouses & ordnance stores was reduced to the rank that we would get along much better. It would be great encouragement to the soldiers. Without some great change we will lose two thirds of our regiment before Christ-



By Archives Specialist Vishi Garig
A Service of Clerk of Court and Comptroller Tara S. Green

Albert Chalker and Martha "Mattie" Bardin were in love. The Civil War loomed large in their young lives and kept the sweethearts separated. The following excerpts are some of the love letters they wrote to each other – a snapshot of a life-long relationship that weathered a war and much more. Albert wrote from Camp Finegan, near Jacksonville. Albert was 19 years old when he mustered into the Confederate Army at Callahan. His commanding officer was Capt. Robert Harrison of Company K of the Second Florida Cavalry.

May 8, 1864

My Dear Mattie, I embrace the earliest opportunity of writing you a few lines, which I hope will be duly received by you. We arrived here this morning where we pitched our tents on a sand hill where the sun is beaming down on ourselves and

mas. There is great dissatisfaction among the men. If McClellan is elected, it will not probably prove so disastrous. I long to see the dawning of peace.....

November 30, 1864
(Baldwin, Florida)

We had been reinforced with two Cavalry Companies last week from Georgia, of Hood's Battalion, but we did not keep them

with us long. They were ordered back to Georgia last night and it is the opinion of a great many that our Regiment will be ordered there, but I do not think so. It appears that Sherman is cutting quite a swell in Georgia, making pretense as though he intended to make us all take to our holes before spring, but it is to be hoped that he will meet up with a disappointment....

SEE LOVE, 14



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Love

from page 13

of our Scouts of Company E, Jefcoat by name, had his left hand shot off a few days ago, by a deserter he says, but it is the general opinion that he did it himself to get out of the army.

(At one point Chalker thought about deserting but Martha didn't approve and he quickly gave up the idea.)

January, 15, 1865

(Sanderson, Florida)

Dear Albert,

I know you will think strange to see this and to learn that yours of the 17th of December has just been received which came safe to hand at last. I hope this may find you enjoying the best of health this life can afford. My health is quite good at this time. I have written to you before nearly two weeks since, and have not heard a word from you yet. Now for your scolding. I want to know why it is you have not written. Have I offended you in any way? If so let me know and not keep me in suspense as I am. I sometimes think you have gone home sick or to the hospital or that I said something in my last letter you did not like, and sometimes I think like the Dutch man's boy. This is another one of them long lonesome Sundays. I think this is the longest day in my life. I wish you was here this evening; the time would not seem half so long and lonesome. I am very sorry you got disappointed in going home Christmas, as you expected to do, but I think if you had you would have got severely punished, and I would not have said as you said. I would give one inch and take two but give an inch and take a mile, don't you agree with me there. I know you do say yes and laugh. I was coming to Baldwin last Wednesday had Father not went up the road to Lake City. I was very uneasy about him until today I heard from him.....

I remain Yours Affectionately, Martha Bardin

February 28, 1865

(Baldwin, Florida)

My Dear Mattie, I seat myself at my writing desk this morning to write you a



few words which I hope will be received by you. These will inform you that a few words has been [received] from you, dated Feb 19th. Mattie, I have no news of interest to write you at this time, only the yanks or deserters killed Wood Ellis of Company F, 2d Fla Cav, one of our best soldiers, last Sunday morning at Hoar's Place, 8 miles this side of Jacksonville. They shot nine balls through him, he turned his horse and rode about three hundred yards before he fell. A scout left here yesterday evening. I do not know where bound to, but I think to the front to kill and capture the enemy's pickets, to retaliate for Ellis. I think in two or three days you will hear of

something being done. They will have satisfaction some way or other. It will be the cause of many pickets.....

March 15, 1865

(Baldwin, Florida)

My Dear Mattie, I about to start on a scout to Middleburg after some Negroes and deserters and did not get to camp until next day, and the following day I was detailed to go to Middleburg as a guard for a wagon, and when I got there I kept on home, and did not return until yesterday. Mattie, I have no news to write you that would be very interesting or amusing. I presume you have heard all about the fight at the natural bridge. We lost a very fine man out of our Co, Corpl Hawkins.....

*The battle at Natural Bridge lasted

Albert Chalker was the postmaster for seventeen years plus served as tax collector for Clay County from 1881 to 1885. He was a businessman, ran a ferry on the south prong of Black Creek, and he managed a general store in Middleburg. The couple's love letter collection is available at Floridamemeory.com.

an entire day. Unable to take the bridge, the Union troops retreated. The battle prevented the Union from capturing the Florida capitol and made Tallahassee the only Confederate capitol east of the Mississippi River not to be captured by Union forces during the war. The battle is described as the last Confederate victory in the Civil War, and it was the second largest battle fought in Florida.

April 2, 1865

(Baldwin, Florida)

...There was eight deserters captured above Waldo the other day by some of Dickinson's men, among them was Wm. Clark and a man by the name of Berry, whom we know was killed. As to the others, not knowing their fate I cannot say. Our Company is recruiting very fast, notwithstanding one deserted night before last, one who came in under Lee's proclamation..... Mattie, you don't know how I would like to see you. If I was with you this pleasant Sunday evening I should be very happy. I think, Mattie, if I could but press my arm around your neck, and press those lips of yours to mine, it would cure those fever blisters on my lips. I hope that I shall see you before a great while. Nothing more at present. I am, Mattie, Your Loving & devoted Albert.

November 25, 1865

(Clay County, Florida)

My Dear Mattie, I find myself seated all alone this evening with pen in hand to write you a few lines, trusting they may reach you safe, and find you in the enjoyment of the best of health. Mattie, I have no news of interest to write you, only I shall go to Middleburg tomorrow, with the expectation of hearing from you. If I do not I shall be sadly disappointed. I hope

to hear from you tomorrow, and hear that you will be at M. soon. The time "thought short" seems long since I saw you. I hope to see you before as much time shall pass as what has. I even flatter myself with the hope that as much more time will make you forever mine. Should we both live, I trust I shall not be disappointed in my expectations. Please excuse my short letter, Mattie, and write soon. Direct your letter to Orilla E. - Stark, Fla. I am, dear Mattie, Your Devoted Albert


After Florida's Confederate forces surrendered, Albert Chalker was honorably paroled on May 17, 1865. He came home to Middleburg and married Martha Ann Bardin in December of 1865. Martha's father, William S. Bardin, gave his Middleburg residence to the couple as a wedding gift. It is the Clark-Chalker House on Main Street in Middleburg. Albert and Martha Chalker settled and remained there for the rest of their lives.

Albert Chalker was the postmaster for seventeen years plus served as tax collector for Clay County from 1881 to 1885. He was a businessman, ran a ferry on the south prong of Black Creek, and he managed a general store in Middleburg. The couple's love letter collection is available at Floridamemeory.com.


There is a marker located on Main Street in Middleburg near the Clark-Chalker home. We encourage citizens to visit the site along with viewing several other homes on the historic registry along the same street.

Families can easily park at the Main Street boat ramp parking lot or Middleburg Civic Center parking lot to take a leisurely stroll along Main Street, where you can imagine a reunited Albert and Mattie walking hand-in-hand in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

PET ADOPTIONS



Geno
Hi! My name is Geno. I am a 4 years old sweet and fun-loving Foxhound. I am VERY handsome, laid back and mild mannered, although I pull a little on a leash and could use some more leash walking training. I love car rides, and playing outdoors chasing tennis balls or hunting lizards therefore I need a large fence yard to stay in shape. I am very affectionate and like being around my family, I really don't want to be alone for long hours in a crate. I do have thunderstorms and fireworks anxiety and summer storms make me nervous. I handle it pretty well if I am wearing my Thunder Jacket and a human companion by my side. I love dog interaction and I am tolerant. I have a high prey drive so I do not get along with cats at all. Better if I don't see them, I am a hound after all! I am a very interesting pooch, so hurry and come meet me at Safe Animal shelter.
Please know that the shelter requires a meet-n-greet with all members of the household for a fur-ever home compatibility encounter (includes children and dogs).



Sheldon
Hi! My name is Sheldon, I am vacationing at Poochies Park while I wait for my forever family. I am just 7 months old. I am up to date on my vaccinations, neutered and microchipped. I am a playful, loving and young pup that will enjoy an active and adventurous family to burn off some of my energy. I am dog friendly and good with kids but not sure about those cat creatures. I am very affectionate and like to be petted. I will love you and be a wonderful family pet, promise! Please call Poochies and make an appointment to meet me!

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TRY IT AGAIN ...

Private casinos file federal suit to rule Florida's Gaming Compact unlawful

By Scott Powers
For FloridaPolitics.com

The companies behind two private Florida casinos are filing suit in federal court to have Florida's Gaming Compact ruled unlawful and have the federal government's approval vacated. The complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, says the federal government illegally approved the Compact on Aug. 7 because it allows gambling – sports betting – to take place on the internet, which the suit says means not on tribal lands.

West Flagler Associates, operating Magic City Casino in Miami and Bonita-Fort Myers Corp., operating Bonita Springs Poker Room, an affiliate of Magic City in Bonita Springs, sued Interior Secretary Deb Haaland and the U.S. Department of the Interior over their approval. Both casinos are controlled by the Havenick family of Miami.

The lawsuit declares that the sports betting components of the Compact and Florida's enabling legislation both are based on a "fiction" that sports betting

could be deemed as taking place on tribal lands because bets will be accepted on servers and devices located on tribal lands, even though the bettors are placing the bets elsewhere in Florida.

The suit even brings up the infamous "betting in your bathtub" comments of Republican Rep. Randy Fine, who chaired the House Select Committee on Gaming in May: "We're going to allow the Seminole Tribe to offer sports betting where you can be sitting in your bathtub or sitting on your couch, thinking about a football game, and you can make a wager, regardless of where you physically are, on your cellphone."

The interests behind Magic City Casino already have sued before to stop the compact, filing against Gov. Ron DeSantis and Florida in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida in July.

DeSantis signed the Compact and enabling legislation in May.

They also have been pursuing a constitutional amendment initiative in Florida to try to stop the compact.

But that was before the federal government gave final approval to the compact

last week.

There was no immediate response Wednesday morning from the offices of DeSantis or Attorney General Ashley Moody.

The suit makes several claims against Haaland's approval, starting with the assertion that the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act allows her to approve such compacts "only to the extent that they concern gaming on Indian lands."

Second, the complaint charges that any betting transactions conducted over the internet would violate federal bank wire laws "by unlawfully permitting internet and bank wire transmission of transactions and payments relating to sports betting between the Tribe's reservations and the rest of Florida, where sports betting is otherwise illegal."

The suit also contends that the federal approval violates the Fifth Amendment's guarantee of equal protection under the law since the tribe would be allowed to run "internet sports gambling throughout Florida" even though it would be a criminal offense for anyone else to do so.

The suit belittles as a weak, semantic

attempt, the wording in the compact and in Florida's enabling legislation approved by the Legislature in Special Session in May.

"[B]ets placed from outside of the Tribe's reservations will be 'deemed' to take place on the reservations so long as the bets are received on 'servers' and 'devices' located on those reservations.

This fiction does not render the Compact lawful, but rather contradicts the federal government's prior position and longstanding precedent interpreting applicable federal law and recognizing that betting or wagering occur where the bettor is located, and where the wager is received," the suit charges.

The suit also notes that this might not be an issue for a federal court to consider — that the compact violates Florida's constitution. It notes the 2018 constitutional amendment approved by statewide voters.

Florida's constitution, the suit advises the court, "prohibits any further expansion of casino gambling except through a citizens' initiative ... and no citizens' initiative (or other constitutional amendment) has authorized sports betting in Florida."

Shoebox

from page 7

es to Bosnia," iyewarun said. "Now, more than 188 million in 178 countries and territories have received a shoebox since 1993 and that number rises each year."

Operation Christmas Child has collected 9.1 million boxes filled with school supplies and gifts from the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany and many other countries.

The prayer coordinator mentioned the story of Olesea Makarets, who was a child

born and raised in a family of nine in Moldova. She received a pack of markers that opened her eyes up to new worlds.

"I couldn't take my eyes off them," Makarets said according to Operation Christmas Child. "I didn't know some of the colors existed. I was so excited I jumped around and started running around the room. The markers my family had at home were dried out. We would dip them in water just to make them last a little longer. I always wished I could color and draw. The markers were exactly what I wanted and I could hardly wait to show my friends at

school the new markers."

Iyewarun said the operation's success stems from its large network of volunteers spread throughout the world be it church groups, community groups or a single person who just wants to help.

"With every shoebox, we encourage them to provide a small toy or gift to really wow the child in each box, as well as hygiene items, school supplies, and other things like that," iyewarun said. "We collect each box during our national collection week, which is Nov. 15 through Nov. 22, and everyone can drop the boxes off at the

different locations we have."

Those who want to build a box can get involved by talking to Tom Dextricks, who is a volunteer coordinator with Operation Christmas Child. He can be reached at tm-dextricks@gmail.com. If you'd like to build a box online, you can visit <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/> and if you're just generally curious to learn more, head to <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>.

"It's simple really," iyewarun said. "We just want to help students in need."

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Water district touts 1.26-foot water level increase for Lake Brooklyn

Rainy July leads to significant water level increases

For Clay Today

CLAY COUNTY – July started with Tropical Storm Elsa making landfall on Florida's northern Gulf Coast, bringing rainy conditions to the St. Johns River Water Management District, and the month wrapped up with above-average rainfall across the District except for its two southernmost counties. Included in the report was a 1.26-foot water level increase for Lake Brooklyn in Keystone Heights.

A full report outlining July's hydrologic conditions was presented at the District's Governing Board meeting Tuesday. Highlights include:

Rainfall

Districtwide, July rainfall averaged 7.89 inches, which is 1.05 inches above the long-term average for the month.

Counties with the highest rainfall totals are Alachua, with 10.7 inches of rain, followed by Baker, Nassau and Seminole counties, which all received between nine and 10 inches. The county with the least rainfall in July was Indian River, with 5.4 inches. Portions of southern Brevard were also drier. Districtwide, the cumulative rainfall total for the past 12 months is 53.65 inches, which is 2.64 inches above the long-term average.

Countywide rainfall totals for the past 12 months range from a high of 59.25 inches in Alachua County to a low of 48 inches in Osceola County.



Groundwater

• Upper Floridan aquifer conditions (groundwater levels) at the end of July were mostly in the normal range, but a large zone of high levels was recorded along the western side of the District and in southern Volusia/northern Brevard counties. In many monitoring wells used for the monthly report, water levels increased more than 10 percentile points in July.

• Groundwater levels are at the 73rd percentile Districtwide. This means that since 1980, aquifer levels have been higher than they currently are about 27 percent of the time.

Surface water flows

• Surface water flow in Upper St. Johns River stations and the Econlockhatchee River station was in the average range, while flow in the Orlando area at the Wekiwa River and the Middle St. Johns River station near DeLand was high.

• On Aug. 1, flow in the St. Johns River's headwaters at the Melbourne station was 355 million gallons per day (mgd) (57th percentile).

• Flows in the Econlockhatchee River near Chuluota were in the average range at 184 mgd (54th percentile).

• Flows in the Wekiva River near Sanford were in the high range at 317 mgd (87th percentile).

• Flows at the DeLand station were in the high range at 2.9 billion gallons per day

(bgd) (77th percentile).

• Flows in the Ocklawaha River, the largest tributary to the St. Johns River, were in the average range at 802 mgd (64th percentile).

• Flows at the Satsuma station were very high range at 8 bgd (92nd percentile).

• Flows in the St. Marys River near Macclenny were in the very high range at more than 1 bgd (94th percentile).

Lake levels

• Lake Brooklyn water levels increased 1.26 feet to 99.6 feet in July.

• Lake Weir increased by 0.3 foot to 53.3 feet.

• Lake Apopka's water level increased 0.2 foot to 65.7 feet and are being maintained at its regulation schedule. Lake Apopka is part of a system with water control structures that are operated by the District to reduce flood impacts, and the lake level is regulated according to a specific schedule.

• Blue Cypress Lake levels increased slightly to 21.4 feet, matching the regulation schedule for the time of year. Blue Cypress is also part of a system with water control structures that are operated by the District. During April and May, the regulation schedule levels begin to drop in preparation for the summer wet season.

Spring flows

• The mean monthly flow at Silver Springs increased to 657 cubic feet per second (cfs), or 425 mgd, which is a 61 cfs increase from June.

• At the Blue Spring station in Volusia County, the mean monthly flow decreased to 134 cfs, or 86 mgd, briefly dropping into the very low range.

• At Rock Springs, the monthly mean flow increased 4 cfs to 62 cfs (40 mgd), which is in the high range for July.

• Mean monthly flow at Wekiwa Springs increased slightly to 66 cfs (43 mgd), which is in the normal range for the time of year.

To learn more about rainfall totals and other hydrologic data collected, visit sjrwm.com.

Visit www.WaterLessFlorida.com for tips to help landscapes thrive while saving water and money. Watch the weather and wait to water during Florida's summer rainy season. Follow the water conservation conversation at [#sjrwm](https://twitter.com/sjrwm) [#waterconservation](https://twitter.com/waterconservation) [#savewater](https://twitter.com/savewater).

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Be mindful of others as our country tries to move away from COVID-19

By **M. K. Leach**
Certified Clinical Medical Assistant

Family and friends are trying to come together, and despite the outbreak of the Delta variant, many Americans are trying to put the pandemic behind them. Unfortunately, however, there is a reoccurring problem during celebrations and get-togethers, and that is excessive substance use or binge drinking. During the pandemic, the rates of substance use and alcohol consumption increased. As a result, millions of Americans became isolated, and many began to suffer from Substance Use Disorder and mental health problems.

This summer was a time for countless people to unwind and finally celebrate without restrictions. We've missed an entire year of traditional gatherings, which are the only times many friends and family members can see each other all year. Yet, it is important to be mindful of substance abuse and excessive drinking. It is also important to stay connected with others who are likely still struggling and ensure they are doing OK.

Isolation during the pandemic caused significant spikes in substance use. This summer is a perfect time to check in on others and make sure they have the support they need. In addition, it is good to know some tips for warning signs of addiction and how to open dialogue with someone who is struggling.

Binge drinking and harmful alcohol use have been on the rise. During the end of June in 2020, 40% of U.S. adults reported struggling with mental health or substance use, per the CDC. In addition, the American Psychological Association reported during the spring of 2021, opioid and stimulant use was on the rise. Overall, there was an increased demand for mental health services. Moreover, overdose deaths, per the CDC, have been steadily increasing with no sign of dropping. The increase in drinking has also been significant. Alcohol sales skyrocketed, and people with mental health problems were more likely to report increased drinking during the pandemic.

Binge drinking is not a new problem. Consuming large amounts of alcohol during summer parties and events is a relatively normal practice. However, these are unique circumstances for many families who may have loved ones struggling in silence with addiction or alcohol abuse during the pandemic. If someone has been isolated, it is essential to check in with them and ensure they are doing all right. Many families will come together in large groups during the summer, and that time should be used to ensure that no one is left out.

However, a family may not notice that their loved one is addicted. Yet, there are some indicators, such as changes in physical appearance, altered behavior, drastic mood changes, an increased desire for privacy, and added financial problems. Alcohol abuse is one of the most common addictions in the United States. Someone struggling with alcohol abuse lacks control over how

Opening dialog with someone who is struggling with alcoholism or drug addiction is not easy, especially after months of isolation. It is important to be kind and act with compassion. Listen more than talking and try not to be judgmental.

much they drink; they prefer to drink alone or continue to drink despite physical and psychological problems and struggle with depression or anxiety. Millions of Americans have been drinking to cope with problems over the past year or to relax, sleep or improve their mood.

Opening dialog with someone who is struggling with alcoholism or drug addiction is not easy, especially after months of isolation. It is important to be kind and act with

compassion. Listen more than talking and try not to be judgmental. Remain consistent in the message and communicate through actions and words – also, be predictable in those actions and words. Show unconditional love and concern and let them know they are loved no matter what is happening. However, do not be afraid to set boundaries and limitations. Finally, offer help and be supportive of their process of change. Unfortunately, not everyone struggling with

addiction has the motivation needed to change. It is often up to friends and family to help them get the help they need. Offer to find and share information on where they can get help. As this summer continues there will be multiple opportunities to help those in need. Let's ensure everyone is doing well and put the insanity of this pandemic in the rearview mirror.

■
Michael Leach has spent most of his career as a health care professional specializing in Substance Use Disorder and addiction recovery. He is a regular contributor to the healthcare website Addicted.org and a Certified Clinical Medical Assistant.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Clay County Utility Authority has tentatively adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Clay County Utility Authority Board Room, 3176 Old Jennings Road, Middleburg, Florida.

BUDGET SUMMARY CLAY COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2021/2022

| | Operating Fund | Capital Fund | Self Insurance Fund | Total Fund Budget |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Revenues: | | | | |
| Projected Cash at October 1, 2021 | \$ 2,000,000 | \$ 81,778,734 | \$ 525,000 | \$ 84,303,734 |
| Water & Sewer Revenue | 57,213,539 | | | 57,213,539 |
| Miscellaneous Revenue/Borrowing | 2,998,956 | | | 2,998,956 |
| Fund Transfers | | 11,792,389 | | 11,792,389 |
| Total Revenues | \$ 62,212,495 | \$ 93,571,123 | \$ 525,000 | \$ 156,308,618 |
| Expenditures: | | | | |
| Debt Service | \$ 9,168,010 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 9,168,010 |
| Fund Transfers | 11,792,389 | | | 11,792,389 |
| Operation Expenses | 36,892,041 | | | 36,892,041 |
| Due in Lieu of Taxes | 2,360,055 | | | 2,360,055 |
| Capital Projects | | 51,377,632 | | 51,377,632 |
| Projected Cash at September 30, 2022 | 2,000,000 | 42,193,491 | 525,000 | 44,718,491 |
| Total Expenditures | \$ 62,212,495 | \$ 93,571,123 | \$ 525,000 | \$ 156,308,618 |

Additional information on the proposed budget is available at www.clayutility.org/rates or you can come to the office of the Clay County Utility Authority at 3176 Old Jennings Road, Middleburg, Florida, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except legal holidays.

Following the public hearing, which may be adjourned from time to time, The Board of Supervisors may adopt or modify the proposed budget.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in this matter, should contact the Clay County Utility Authority by mail at 3176 Old Jennings Road, Middleburg, Florida 32068 or by telephone at (904) 272-5999 x 2464, no later than 7 days prior to the hearing or proceeding for which this notice has been given. Those requiring auditory assistance can access the foregoing telephone number by contacting the Florida Relay service at 1-800-955-8770 (Voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

If any person intends to appeal any decision related to this action, such person will need to provide a court reporter at such person's own expense, for a transcript of the proceedings. All interested persons are invited to attend.

CLAY COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY
 Jeremy Johnston, Executive Director

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF A PROPOSED RESOLUTION AMENDING CERTAIN RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE CLAY COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY.

Clay County Utility Authority ("CCUA") will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 7, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in the Clay County Utility Authority's Board Room, located at 3176 Old Jennings Road, Middleburg, Florida, for the purpose of receiving public comment concerning the adoption of the 2021/2022 budgets.

All service rates are stated as monthly rates. Proposed 2.6% increase to all Base and Consumption charges except Water Consumption over 6,000 gallons increase of 25%. All changes noted below.

| STEM BASE CHARGES: | Water | Wastewater | Reuse |
|--------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Meter Size | | | |
| 5/8" x 3/4" | \$11.14 | \$25.26 * | \$16.85 |
| 3/4" | \$16.71 | \$34.68 | \$25.31 |
| 1" | \$27.92 | \$63.17 | \$42.13 |
| 1 & 1/2" | \$55.78 | \$126.31 | \$84.27 |
| 2" | \$89.27 | \$202.16 | \$134.81 |
| 3" | \$178.51 | \$404.33 | \$269.61 |
| 4" | \$278.94 | \$631.56 | \$421.27 |
| 6" | \$557.87 | \$1,263.13 | \$842.53 |
| 8" | \$892.60 | \$2,021.51 | \$1,348.06 |
| 10" | \$1,283.12 | \$2,904.81 | \$1,937.84 |
| 12" | \$2,396.96 | \$5,431.13 | \$3,622.05 |

*Residential Wastewater will be charged the same rate regardless of meter size

OTHER SURCHARGES:

| | |
|---|--------|
| Alternative Water Supply Surcharge - Per Monthly Water Bill | \$1.12 |
| SJRWMD Black Creek Water Resource Development Project Surcharge | \$1.09 |

CONSUMPTION CHARGES (based on 30 days):

| Water System Consumption Rates: | |
|--|---------|
| Residential Service: | |
| First 6,000 gallons | \$1.54 |
| Next 6,000 gallons | \$3.88 |
| Next 6,000 gallons | \$5.03 |
| All usage over 18,000 gallons | \$6.45 |
| Note: Consumption charge per 1,000 gallons with allowance per meter equivalent ERC | |
| General Service: | |
| All consumption per 1,000 gallons (Excluding Potable Irrigation Meters) | \$2.06 |
| Potable Irrigation Metered Services | |
| First 10,000 gallons | \$1.54 |
| Next 15,000 gallons | \$3.88 |
| Next 25,000 gallons | \$5.03 |
| All usage over 50,000 gallons | \$6.45 |
| Note: Consumption charge per 1,000 gallons with allowance per meter equivalent ERC | |
| Wastewater System Consumption Rates: | |
| Residential Service: | |
| All Meter Sizes (10,000 gallon cap) | \$3.77 |
| Unmetered Flat Rate | \$54.28 |
| Multi-family Unmetered per Unit | \$42.72 |
| Note: Where reclaimed water is available the cap for residential wastewater usage will not apply | |
| General Service: | |
| Consumption charge per 1,000 gallons of metered water, no cap | \$4.60 |
| Reclaimed Water Consumption Rates: | |
| Residential and General Service: | |
| First 15,000 gallons | \$0.83 |
| Next 5,000 gallons | \$1.63 |
| All usage over 20,000 gallons | \$2.46 |
| Note: Consumption charge per 1,000 gallons with allowance per meter equivalent ERC | |

STOMER DEPOSIT: (per ERC)

| Security Deposit Amount: | Water | Wastewater | Reuse |
|---|---------|------------|---------|
| Initial Deposit | \$25.00 | \$50.00 | \$25.00 |
| Initial Deposit for Customers Without SSN | \$50.00 | \$100.00 | \$50.00 |
| Annual Interest Rate of 0.42% will be paid on deposit held at least 6 months | | | |
| Note: A security deposit is required for all new accounts including transfers and existing accounts that become delinquent and require a field visit. An additional deposit will be required for accounts that are disconnected twice in one 12 month period. | | | |

ADDITIONAL CHARGES & MISCELLANEOUS FEES:

| | |
|--|--|
| After Hours Prepayment for New Service | \$225.00 |
| Same Day Service Charge and After Hours Premise Visit Surcharge (Normal Hours 8 AM to 5 PM, M-F) | \$30.00 |
| Initial Connection, Premise Visit Charge, Normal Reconnection, Reconnection due to Repair, and 2nd Trip | \$30.00 |
| Special Meter Rereads, Hydrant Reading Charge and Backflow Test Final Notice | \$30.00 |
| Nonpayment Charge Before 4:00 PM, Monday – Friday | \$30.00 |
| Nonpayment Charge After 4:00 PM and before 9:00 PM, Monday – Friday | \$85.00 |
| Nonpayment Charge on Weekends and Holidays | \$105.00 |
| Nonpayment Charge Flat Rate Sewer Account | \$70.00 |
| Late Notice Charge | \$3.00 |
| Returned Check Charge | \$30.00 |
| Hydrant Meter: Application Set Up, Relocation Charge, and Fee to Replace Cut Meter Lock | \$30.00 |
| Meter Inspection Fee for New Meter Installations | \$30.00 |
| Meter Testing Charge (5/8"x3/4" & 3/4") | (1" & Above Meters: Actual Cost) \$65.00 |
| Meter Reset Fee | \$115.00 |
| Meter Tampering Charge | \$50.00 |
| Replacement of Broken Curb Stop | \$70.00 |
| Lien Charge (Charge does not include any recording costs, additional collection fees or attorney fees) | \$120.00 |
| Violation Reconnection | \$30.00 |
| Monthly Hydrant Base Charge (plus water at metered rates) | \$87.78 |
| Hydrant Meter Deposit per Hydrant Policy | \$500.00 to \$1,100.00 |
| Hydrant Meter One-Time Fill at CCUA Main Office (plus water at metered rates) | \$50.00 |
| Waste Disposal Deposit per Septage Haulers Disposal Deposit Policy | \$50.00 |
| Building Water Monthly Charge All Systems (Un-metered used during construction) | \$63.23 |
| Wholesale Reclaimed Water Usage Charge Per 1,000 Gallons | \$0.47 |
| Waste Disposal From Portable Toilets, Septic Tanks, and Landfill Leachate at Sewage Treatment Plant Per 1,000 Gallons | \$97.78 |
| Processing fees to CCUA for Potable Water (Public Water Supply) Distribution and Transmission System Permits | \$250.00 |
| Processing fees to CCUA for Domestic Wastewater Collection/Transmission System Permits | \$250.00 |
| Processing fees to CCUA for Permit Modifications | \$50.00 |
| Energy Surcharge (to be assessed based on a formula) when actual energy sensitive operating expenses exceed budgeted energy sensitive expenses | |

Account collection fees and/or costs incurred by CCUA in the course of collecting delinquent balances, which may be based on a percentage at a maximum of 40% of the debt, and all costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, which CCUA incurs in such collection efforts, will be paid, in addition to the original balance due, by the customer responsible for the delinquent balance.

ADDITIONAL AVAILABILITY CHARGES:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Water Capacity Charge Per ERC | \$360.00 |
| Alternative Water Supply Charge Per ERC | \$365.74 |
| SJRWMD Black Creek Water Resource Development Project Connection Charge Per ERC | \$100.25 |
| Wastewater Capacity Charge Per ERC excluding Keystone included in FDEP Grant SG481030 and LP0512 | \$3,200.00 |
| Reclaimed Water Capacity Charge Per ERC For Developments with Reclaimed Water Piping Systems | \$300.00 |
| Surcharge for Development of Reclaimed Program (Applicable To All Developments That Do Not Install Reclaimed Piping Systems) | \$410.00 |
| Debt Service Charge Per ERC | \$167.00 |
| Fire Protection - Initial Charge (Per Gallons Per Minute "GPM" Flow) | \$15.81 |
| Inspection, Plan Review, As-built Drafting, and Recording Fees | Actual Cost |
| Potable Water Meter, with Backflow Device (5/8"x3/4" Meter with other sizes at cost) Includes Meter Box | \$391.96 |
| Reclaimed Water Meter (5/8"x3/4" Meter with other sizes at cost) Developments with Reclaimed Water Piping Systems & Includes Meter Box | \$333.91 |
| As defined in Rate Resolution: | |
| Supplemental Developer Agreement Administrative Charge | \$100.00 |
| Financed Developer Agreement Administrative Charge | \$100.00 |
| Flex Space Meter Audit (2nd and subsequent trips) - \$50.00, plus \$75.00, per hour in excess of .75 hours per trip | |
| Master Meter Violation Charge, where applicable | \$500.00 |
| Carrying Charge for Middleburg Service Area Policy and Infill Policy | 2.18% |
| Finance Charge | 2.56% |
| Middleburg Service Area Development Policy – Distribution and Collection Infrastructure Charge Per Acre | |
| Water | \$5,582.00 |
| Wastewater | \$10,684.00 |

Additional information on the proposed rates, charges, and fees is available for inspection in the office of the Clay County Utility Authority at 3176 Old Jennings Road, Middleburg, Florida, Monday through Friday; 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, except legal holidays. Following the Public Hearing, which may be adjourned from time to time, the Board of Supervisors may adopt or modify the proposed rates, charges, and fees.

In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, any person needing special accommodation to participate in this matter, should contact the Clay County Utility Authority by mail at 3176 Old Jennings Road, Middleburg, Florida 68-3907, or by telephone at (904) 272-5999, extension 2464, no later than 7 days prior to the hearing or proceeding for which this notice has been given. Those requiring auditory assistance can access the foregoing telephone number by contacting the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (Voice), or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

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CLAY COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY

Myranda Johnston, Executive Director

Legal 48253 published on August 12, 19 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

Houses

from page 2

FDEP, and win approval for a crossover of a railroad track. In addition, Horton must complete a traffic study for Oakridge Avenue. Until then, construction will be limited to 231 homes.

Council members were told the developer said it is willing to work with city on looking over a traffic study and make an effort to lead construction vehicles away from residential roads.

In other business, the council approved the payment of an additional \$29,417 to Brooks Building Solutions for the installation of generators as part of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program; the payment of \$31,000 to Jax Utilities Management for re-piping the Muirfield Lift Station; the payment of \$331,921 to Williams Industrial Services for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Harbor Road Water Reclamation Facility Expansion; and the payment of \$95,004 to General Underground for water and sewer force main extension on County Road 209 South.

The city council meets every other Tuesday at 7 p.m. at City Hall. The next scheduled meeting is Aug. 31.

Rental

from page 6

"We can currently cover 12 months of back rent, three months of future rent, and then rental utilities and internet services," Hapner said. "We're really able to help so many people in so many ways and it's amazing."

The funding Hapner's team has received has an end date of December 2022.

The other aspect of rent and COVID-19 is the rental moratorium. Clay County Clerk of Courts chief operations officer Tracie McRae said their role has remained the same from the first rent moratorium to the second one recently announced.

"For us in Clay, our role as the Clerk is the same as it was under the original order," McRae said. "It is the responsibility of the tenant, under penalty of perjury, to provide the landlord with the required 'Declaration' to prohibit eviction from going forward. The order provides criminal penalties for a landlord who continues to pursue action if the Declaration is made and delivered."

McRae said they have an affidavit which is provided to every landlord filing an eviction action in their office.

"The landlord duly swears and certifies that the tenant either has or has not filed a Declaration as defined under the CDC rule. If a Declaration has been filed by the tenant, it must be attached to the Complaint filed by the Landlord. The Declaration starts with the tenant, but it is the landlord's responsibility to include a copy with the court record if they have such."

Get healthier by investing in law of compound interest

By William Davis
Steel Mill Fleming Island

CLAY COUNTY – Compound interest and how it works to make you healthier.

The methods and tactics for getting into shape, losing weight or adding muscle are simple. This doesn't mean they are easy to put into practice with a busy life, but the principles work, and they are relatively easy to understand. I am an analogy person. When I give lectures, seminars, or train clients I like to use analogies to describe what needs to happen or how I want them to get where they need to go. One such concept is the law of compound interest.

When you hear the term "compound interest" it conjures up visions of dollars and cents. Most people understand this philosophy. If you put money into an interest-bearing account, it will continue to grow. Not only from the money you stock away but also from the interest it accrues while sitting in the account. The more money stocked into the account the more interest you will receive. It is an easy concept and



William Davis

The weight loss example: Same theory but the math is slightly different. We know that to burn fat and lose weight we must be in a caloric deficit. So, if you are currently eating 2,000 calories a day and you cut it down to 1,500 calories a day, you will begin to lose weight. Want more "interest" with that?

guess what.... the same theory works with health and fitness. I will give you some examples of how this can work for you.

The strength example: To build lean muscle and burn fat you need to lift weights and incorporate resistance training. The stronger you are the more weight you can lift safely and the more repetitions you can complete in a given workout. The result is a more "toned" physique, and yes that is for all those women afraid to lift because they assume it will bulk them up. That isn't true and you were sold a lie for many decades.

So, let's use the example of a bench press. Let's say you lift 100 pounds for five sets of five reps (aka 25 total reps). 25 x 100 pounds equals 2,500 pounds of weight moved in this workout. That total amount is known as volume. So, if after a few weeks you can lift 110 pounds for the same 25 reps your volume goes from

2,500 to 2,750. Same time frame for the workout however your body has adapted to put more work in. Do this over the course of a year and the total volume is staggering. Not to mention the added strength and cosmetic changes to the body.

The weight loss example: Same theory but the math is slightly different. We know that to burn fat and lose weight we must be in a caloric deficit. So, if you are currently eating 2,000 calories a day and you cut it down to 1,500 calories a day, you will begin to lose weight. Want more "interest" with that? Add in more activity with things like walking, exercise, gym classes and swimming and you will burn even more calories than you used to which will aid in your caloric deficit. Do this for a period of time and five pounds lost can become 25 pounds lost. Not only that but you will lose certain cravings for sugar or alcohol. All of these factors will add to your compound

interest.

This method works with anything related to your health and wellness. Want to run a marathon? You should probably learn to run one mile effectively and then repeat this process while slowly adding mileage as your body adapts. You would never try to get off the couch and just run 26.2 miles.

You have to understand that work done over a period of time is what matters. Increasing your stimulus slowly over time through things such as added load, more repetition, more time spent performing a task, shorter rest periods all add the main goal. Every good decision is like money in the bank. Every bad decision is a withdrawal. If you make more deposits than withdrawals, you will end up with a better result. So, take each day to make your good deposits while trying your best to avoid costly withdrawals and you will be a healthier human for it.

William Davis has been in the fitness industry for 10 years and he's run Steel Mill Fleming Island for seven years. He's also a USA weightlifting sport performance and USA powerlifting club coach, a CrossFit Level 2 trainer, PN nutrition coach, CrossFit powerlifting trainer, aerobic capacity trainer, movement and mobility trainer and rowing trainer.

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Grade

from page 1

Teto, said. "I believe that school leaders worked collaboratively with families as well as teachers and support staff to really endure a difficult time with the pandemic to ensure that scholars had everything they needed to be successful at home and in school."

More impressive is the fact Bennett did it during an extremely challenging school year during the COVID-19 pandemic. Teto said that's the result of district leadership, instructional coaches, ongoing support and more within the school's community. Their goal was to remove all obstacles for students and provide a great education. It clearly worked.

"I am so excited for all of the Charles E. Bennett Elementary students, teachers, staff, and parents with the improvement of their state test scores," said Superintendent David Broskie. "This is a testament to the hard work and dedication that the school community has focused on for the past few years. To accomplish such an achievement during a year where students learned while also dealing with a global pandemic is amazing and should be celebrated."

Teto said the grade is determined by Florida Standard Assessments in reading, math and science, as well as learning gains from comparative years. Students simply weren't hitting the grades they needed in the past.

"That's why it was so important to work with scholars to identify their specific needs and provide the support they needed to close the achievement gap," Teto said. "With two D grades, the Department of Education had a team that would come out once a month alongside the district and

school leaders to walk classrooms, identify needs and ultimately pinpoint exactly what was and what wasn't working."

As far as why CEBE was struggling in the past to escape the 'D' grade, Teto said there isn't really wasn't a single issue.

"When you walk through the school, it's beautiful, and when you walk through the classrooms, there are some incredible things happening," Teto said. "I think it's that sometimes when you get knocked out and you have to get back up again, it can take some time to shake that first knock-out off."

CEBE simply needed time. Teto has been in her specific position for about a year and a half so getting CEBE's grade up has been a priority for the length of her time so far in that role.

"I stepped into this role a year and a half ago at the beginning of the pandemic and I think it was a situation where people might have thought [Bennett] was messy inside... but it wasn't," Teto said. "They simply had a couple of rough years. Through this collective effort and high expectations, we made the jump in school grade happen. It wasn't a funding issue or a family issue. They just hit a rough patch and it took some time to shake it off."

Teto said principal Sheree Cagle and her two assistants went a long way to improving the school. Cagle wasn't available for comment during the first week of school. However, Teto said Cagle and the team she's built elevated the CEBE experience to new heights. Cagle worked hard with the district to be transparent in the proceedings at CEBE and she also introduced new ways to incentivize students to work even harder than before. Her "Cagle Bucks" program was very popular. It rewarded students with school dollars that could be spent on items like fun snacks and prizes.



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Arrests & Bookings

(Name, age, location of arrest, charges).
Key: FTA-Failure to Appear; DWLSR-Driving Without a License-Suspended or Revoked; DUI-Driving Under the Influence; VOP-Violation of Probation; BAL-blood alcohol level. There are no assumptions or representations about guilt or innocence. Anyone arrested or booked is presumed innocent.

Tuesday, Aug. 17

Nijel R. Bing, 20, Orange Park, FTA-criminal mischief, FTA-resisting law enforcement, FTA-driving without license

Jamie E.L. Sanders, 28, Keystone Heights, VOP-grand theft auto, possession-controlled substance

Antonio R. Walker, 34, Green Cove Springs, FTA-DWLSR

Lori D. Harris, 46, Middleburg, felony theft

Heather M. McDonald, 35, Orange Park, shoplifting

Crystal G.T. White, 33, Middleburg, aggravated assault on elderly/disabled

person, criminal mischief, possession/use-drug paraphernalia

Monday, Aug. 16

Scott A. Gottesman, 36, Orange Park, two counts battery on law enforcement/firefighter/EMT, making threat to do deadly/serious harm, disorderly intoxication

Rafael D. Soto, 50, Orange Park, molestation of a child 12 or younger

Chaizy K. Brown, 50, Keystone Heights, simple batter, criminal mischief

She'Ron R. Gibson, 22, Green Cove Springs, FTA-DWLSR, FTA-battery on law enforcement/firefighter/EMT, FTA-obstruction

Jakhari D. Turner, 23, Green Cove Springs, VOP-possession-cocaine, VOP-possession-fentanyl

Chad E. Knox, 40, Green Cove Springs, contempt of court-failure to report to serve sentence

Larry W. Hegwood, 40, Middleburg, simple domestic battery

Angela M. Phillips, 46, Orange Park, DUI

Sunday, Aug. 15

Keathly L. Greenway, 34, Orange Park, vandalism

Elizabeth A. Woodham, 32, Orange Park, simple battery

Ciara N. Reffitt-Adorno, 38, Green Cove Springs, DUI

Saturday, Aug. 14

Kaya E. Worley, 37, Fleming Island, DUI, DWLSR

Abraham E. Wooten, 24, Middleburg, aggravated battery on a pregnant woman

Meagan M. Greer, 36, Middleburg, VOP-community control

Lateish Diggins, 32, Orange Park, battery on law enforcement/firefighter/EMT, making deadly threat to law enforcement, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement, trespassing

Brittany N. Hale, 32, Middleburg, shoplifting

Carter W. Strother, 73, Middleburg, FTA-providing false information to pawnbroker, FTA-grand theft, FTA-dealing in stolen property, FTA-burglary

Harold C. Potter, 48, Middleburg, possession-video voyeurism of sexual conduct of child younger than 16, 10 counts possession/control/viewing depiction of child sexual conduct

Joseph M. Peck, 27, Green Cove Springs, DUI

Richard J. Obar, 38, Middleburg, simple battery

Friday, Aug. 13

Blake T. Robinson, 22, Fleming Island,

simple battery

James B. Williams, 39, Orange Park, DUI

Michael L. Gardner, 22, Orange Park,

simple dating battery

Clarence D. Person, 51, Green Cove

Springs, VOP-sexual battery

Edwardo C. Torralba, 82, Green Cove Springs, aggravated assault on law enforcement/firefighter/EMT

Jason R. Hires, 42, Orange Park, two counts shoplifting

James J. Wainwright, 39, Middleburg, VOP-DUI

Thursday, Aug. 12

Roy D. Clark, 45, Middleburg, petit theft, VOP-drug offender probation, FTA-DWLSR

Charles R. Stuckey, 43, Orange Park, simple battery

Ja Wan I. Williams, 24, Green Cove Springs, eight counts burglary, three counts grand theft auto

Chauncey G. Willis, 31, Green Cove Springs, FTA-possession-methamphetamine FTA-possession/use-drug paraphernalia, FTA-DWLSR

Wednesday, Aug. 11

Juan D.F. Cortes, 33, Green Cove Springs, VOP-aggravated battery

Darius E. Evans, 19, Orange Park, armed robbery

Susan J. Six-Hawkins, 51, Orange Park, DUI with property damage/personal injury, leaving scene of accident

Crystal G. Taylor, 33, Middleburg, criminal mischief

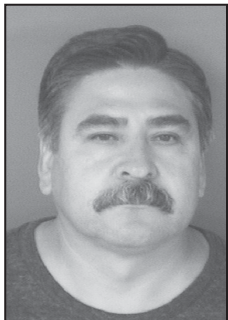
Shane M. Dougherty, 33, Middleburg, two counts simple battery

Police Briefs

Orange Park man charged with molesting 11-year-old girl

ORANGE PARK – An Orange Park man's bond was set at \$250,003 after to admitted to inappropriately touching an 11-year-old girl in a "lustful" manner a year ago.

Rafael Delgado Soto, 50, was charged with molestation of a child 12 or younger after the girl told her mother of Soto's unwanted advance while she slept, according to the Clay County Sheriff's Office.



Rafael Soto

Man arrested for string of 2018 car burglaries on Fleming Island

FLEMING ISLAND – A Jacksonville man was arrested Aug. 13 following a string of car robberies on Fleming Island in 2018.

Ja'Wan Imir Williams, 24, was charged with three counts of grand theft auto and eight counts of burglary after three cars were stolen and others were broken into on the night of May 21, 2018, according to the Clay County Sheriff's Office.



Ja'Wan Williams

Williams' bond was set at \$82,533.

CCSO: Man admits to having, recording, child pornography

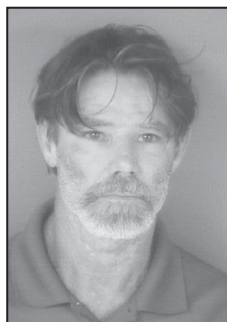
MIDDLEBURG – A man who was threatening suicide was arrested on Aug. 14 after admitting he videotaped a 13-year-old child as she exited the shower, the Clay County Sheriff's Office said.

Harold Clare Potter, 48, of Middleburg was charged with voyeurism of a child, as well as 10 counts of possessing pictures or videos of children having sex.

According to the five-page arrest report, deputies were called to a home on Saunders Drive after Potter told family members he molested a girl on June 1 and was going to hurt himself. He told a family member he was "a victim of sexual abuse when he was a child" and he told her he was a "nasty dirty person."

The video of the girl was taken when he put his cellphone camera under the door, according to the arrest report. He told the family the video had been erased, but he told a CCSO deputy his cellphone also contained child pornography. A subsequent search of his cellphone led to the discovery of other videos or photographs of young girls primarily in the bathtub.

Potter was placed in the Clay County Jail with a \$150,033 bond.



Harold Potter

Calendar

ELDERSOURCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Program and Planning committee will meet virtually on Aug. 19 at 11 a.m. To join Zoom call, visit <http://us02web.zoom.us/j/82714889296?pwd=K3ArR29MNmp6aJAYQTdPblhVWTY2UT09>. The meeting ID is 827 1488 9296. The passcode is 970694. Or call (929) 436-2866. The Advisory Council will meet at virtually at 12:30 p.m. To join the Zoom call, visit <http://us02web.zoom.us/j/86193076742?pwd=Vnlka25Pck5wYjdHRXA5N0xIYOozUTO>. The meeting ID is 861 9307 6742 and the passcode is 385576 or call (929) 436-2866. The Board of Directors' AAA Governance Committee then will meet virtually at 1:30 p.m. To join the Zoom call, visit <http://us02web.zoom.us/j/88420938686> or call (929) 436-2866. The meeting ID is 860 7325 6127 #.

CLAY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE: will meet Aug. 19 at 10 a.m. at the Zoning Department Conference Room, third floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs.

EARLY LEARNING COALITION

TRAINING: is Aug. 19 at 1 p.m. at the Early Learning Center of North Florida Clay County Office, 3620 Peoria Road. Program trains volunteers to help children learn. For more information, contact Lacy Doss at ldoss@elcnorthflorida.org or call (904) 342-2267, extension 202.

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION: will be offered by Challenge Enterprises of North Florida on Aug. 20, 3530 Enterprise Way, Green Cove Springs, from 10-11 a.m.

DOG DAYZ OF SUMMER: will be on Aug. 21 at the River House Private Club, 2137 Astor St., in Orange Park, from 5-9 p.m. The Charity Bow Wow helps benefit the Clay Humane Society, and it will include live music, silent auction, raffle, food and cash bar.

CLEAN & SHINE CARE ASSOCIATION: will hold a community event on Aug. 21 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Orange Park Town Hall, 2042 Park Ave. to support businesses and families need to grow. The free event includes a live DJ,

Calendar

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petting zoo, bounce house, car wash, face painting, door prizes, raffle, school supplies and COVID-19 vaccinations.

FREE GENEALOGY CLASSES: will be held on Aug. 23 at 10 a.m. at the Orange Park Senior Center, 414 Stowe Ave. For more information, called Bill at (904) 803-6312.

TOBACCO FREE CLAY: will offer a workshop on Aug. 24 at 10 a.m. at the Orange Park Town Hall, 2042 Park Ave.

CLAY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: will conduct a workshop on Aug. 24 at 9 a.m. at the District Multi-Purpose Room, at Fleming Island High, 2233 Village Square Pkwy., on Fleming Island.

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: will meet on Aug. 24 at 4 p.m. at the BCC Meeting Room, fourth floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs.

CLAY COUNTY TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL: will meet Aug. 25 at 3:30 p.m. at the BCC Meeting Room, fourth floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs.

CLAY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE: will meet Aug. 26 at 10 a.m. at the Zoning Department Conference Room, third floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs.

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION: will be offered by Challenge Enterprises of North Florida on Aug. 27, 3530 Enterprise Way, Green Cove Springs, from 10-11 a.m.

FREE GENEALOGY CLASSES: will be held on Aug. 30 at 10 a.m. at the Orange Park Senior Center, 414 Stowe Ave. For more information, called Bill at (904) 803-6312.

ORANGE PARK ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: will meet Sept. 2 at 4 p.m. at Town Council Meeting Chambers, 2042 Park Ave.

CLAY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: will meet on Sept. 2 at 6 p.m. at the District Multi-Purpose Room, at Fleming Island High, 2233 Village Square Pkwy., on Fleming Island.

CLAY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW COMMITTEE: will meet on Sept. 2 at 10 a.m. at the Zoning Department Conference Room, third floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St. in Green Cove Springs.

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION: will be offered by Challenge Enterprises of North Florida on Sept. 3, 3530 Enterprise Way, Green Cove Springs, from 10-11 a.m.

GREEN COVE SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL: will meet on Sept. 6 at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 321 Walnut St.

ORANGE PARK TOWN COUNCIL: will meet on Sept. 7 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Council Meeting Chambers, 2042 Park Ave.

CLAY COUNTY FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE: will meet Sept. 7 at 3 p.m. at the BCC Meeting Room, fourth floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St.,

Green Cove Springs.

CLAY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION: will meet Sept. 7 at 7 p.m. at the BCC Meeting Room, fourth floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs.

ORANGE PARK PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD: will meet Sept. 9 at 6 p.m. at Town Council Meeting Chambers, 2042 Park Ave.

CLAY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW COMMITTEE: will meet on Sept. 9 at 10 a.m. at the Zoning Department Conference Room, third floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St. in Green Cove Springs.

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY: is Sept. 10 from 5-9:30 p.m. at Spring Park, 106 St. Johns Ave., Green Cove Springs.

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION: will be offered by Challenge Enterprises of North Florida on Sept. 10, 3530 Enterprise Way, Green Cove Springs, from 10-11 a.m.

FREE GENEALOGY CLASSES: will be held on Sept. 13 at 10 a.m. at the Orange Park Senior Center, 414 Stowe Ave. For more information, called Bill at (904) 803-6312.

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: will meet on Sept. 14 at 4 p.m. at the BCC Meeting Room, fourth floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs.

CLAY COUNTY DELEGATION HEARING: will be hosted by Sen. Jennifer Bradley on Sept. 15 from 4-6 p.m. at the BCC Meeting Room, fourth floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs.

CLAY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW COMMITTEE: will meet on Sept. 16 at 10 a.m. at the Zoning Department Conference Room, third floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St. in Green Cove Springs.

MARY HELEN HOFF ROADWAY DESIGNATION: will be on Sept. 17 at 10 a.m. at Moody Avenue Park, 3510 Moody Ave., Orange Park. Portions of Moody Avenue will be renamed for Mary Helen Hoff, the Orange Park woman who was the inspiration behind the POW/MIA flag.

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION: will be offered by Challenge Enterprises of North Florida on Sept. 17, 3530 Enterprise Way, Green Cove Springs, from 10-11 a.m.

THE FRONTMEN: will perform on Sept. 18 at 8 p.m. at the Thrasher-Horne Center St. Johns River State College campus, 283 College Dr., Orange Park. For tickets, call (904) 276-6815, extension 1, or visit thcenter.org.

THE HERITAGE COMMISSION: will meet Sept. 20 at 9 a.m. at the Keystone Heights City Hall, 555 Lawrence Blvd. For more information, call (352) 473-4807.

GREEN COVE SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL: will meet on Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 321 Walnut St.

SENIORS TOBACCO CESSATION CLASSES: will be Sept. 20 from 6-8 p.m. for residents 60 and older at Mission of the Dirt Road, 115 N.E. Commercial Cr., Keystone Heights. Participants will receive a free four-week supply of nicotine patches,

gum and lozenges. To register, call N.E. Florida Area Health Education Center at (904) 482-0189.

FREE GENEALOGY CLASSES: will be held on Sept. 20 at 10 a.m. at the Orange Park Senior Center, 414 Stowe Ave. For more information, called Bill at (904) 803-6312.

ORANGE PARK TOWN COUNCIL: will meet on Sept. 21 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Council Meeting Chambers, 2042 Park Ave.

FREE ARTHRITIS EXERCISE PROGRAM: will be on Sept. 23 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. for seniors 60 and older. To sign up, contact N.E. Florida Area Health Education Center at (904) 482-0189 or (877) 784-8486.

CLAY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW COMMITTEE: will meet on Sept. 23 at 10 a.m. at the Zoning Department Conference Room, third floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St. in Green Cove Springs.

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION: will be offered by Challenge Enterprises of North Florida on Sept. 24, 3530 Enterprise Way, Green Cove Springs, from 10-11 a.m.

FREE GENEALOGY CLASSES: will be held on Sept. 27 at 10 a.m. at the Orange Park Senior Center, 414 Stowe Ave. For more information, called Bill at (904) 803-6312.

SENIORS TOBACCO CESSATION CLASSES: will be Sept. 27 from 6-8 p.m. for residents 60 and older at Fleming Island United Methodist Church, 7170 U.S. Highway 17, Fleming Island. Participants will receive a free four-week supply of nicotine patches, gum and lozenges. To register, call NE Florida Area Health Education Center at (904) 482-0189.

CLAY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: will conduct a workshop on Sept. 28 at 9 a.m. at the District Multi-Purpose Room, at Fleming Island High, 2233 Village Square Pkwy., on Fleming Island.

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: will meet on Sept. 28 at 4 p.m. at the BCC Meeting Room, fourth floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs.

FREE ARTHRITIS EXERCISE PROGRAM: will be on Sept. 28 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. for seniors 60 and older. To sign up, contact N.E. Florida Area Health Education Center at (904) 482-0189 or (877) 784-8486.

CLAY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW COMMITTEE: will meet on Sept. 30 at 10 a.m. at the Zoning Department Conference Room, third floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St. in Green Cove Springs.

FREE ARTHRITIS EXERCISE PROGRAM: will be on Sept. 30 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. for seniors 60 and older. To sign up, contact N.E. Florida Area Health Education Center at (904) 482-0189 or (877) 784-8486.

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION: will be offered by Challenge Enterprises of North Florida on Oct. 1, 3530 Enterprise Way, Green Cove Springs, from 10-11 a.m.

WINDSOR ZUCCHINI FESTIVAL AND BBQ COOKOFF: is Oct. 2-3 from 9 a.m.-4

p.m. at the Windsor Volunteer Fire Department at 1401 SE. County Road 234 in Melrose. Vendors can call Barbara Franklin at (352) 478-1372 or visit franklin@keystone-heightsins.com for applications.

GREEN COVE SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL: will be offered virtually on Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 321 Walnut St.

PARS FORE PAWS GOLF TOURNAMENT: is Oct. 4 at Eagle Landing Golf Club. The shotgun start is at 1 p.m. Registration is \$100 a player or \$360 for a foursome, and entry includes golf with cart, driving range balls, lunch, dinner and prizes. Proceeds benefit the Clay Humane. To register, visit <http://www.clayhumane.org/pars-fore-paws-2021.php>.

FREE ARTHRITIS EXERCISE PROGRAM: will be on Oct. 5 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. for seniors 60 and older. To sign up, contact N.E. Florida Area Health Education Center at (904) 482-0189 or (877) 784-8486.

ORANGE PARK TOWN COUNCIL: will meet on Oct. 5 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Council Meeting Chambers, 2042 Park Ave.

ORANGE PARK ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: will meet Oct. 7 at 4 p.m. at Town Council Meeting Chambers, 2042 Park Ave.

CLAY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: will meet on Oct. 7 at 6 p.m. at the District Multi-Purpose Room, at Fleming Island High, 2233 Village Square Pkwy., on Fleming Island.

FREE ARTHRITIS EXERCISE PROGRAM: will be on Oct. 7 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. for seniors 60 and older. To sign up, contact N.E. Florida Area Health Education Center at (904) 482-0189 or (877) 784-8486.

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY: is Oct. 8 from 5-9:30 p.m. at Spring Park, 106 St. Johns Ave., Green Cove Springs.

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION: will be offered by Challenge Enterprises of North Florida on Oct. 8, 3530 Enterprise Way, Green Cove Springs, from 10-11 a.m.

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: will meet on Oct. 12 at 4 p.m. at the BCC Meeting Room, fourth floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs.

FREE ARTHRITIS EXERCISE PROGRAM: will be on Oct. 12 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. for seniors 60 and older. To sign up, contact N.E. Florida Area Health Education Center at (904) 482-0189 or (877) 784-8486.

FREE HEALTHY LIVING'S CHRONIC DISEASE SELF-MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: will be offered virtually for seniors 60 and older on Oct. 13 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. To sign up, contact N.E. Florida Area Health Education Center at (904) 482-0189 or (877) 784-8486.

ORANGE PARK PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD: will meet Oct. 14 at 6 p.m. at Town Council Meeting Chambers, 2042 Park Ave.

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION: will be offered by Challenge Enterprises of North Florida on Oct. 15, 3530 Enterprise Way, Green Cove Springs, from 10-11 a.m.

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ARE YOU SMELLING IT YET?

Preseason starts Friday



By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

ORANGE PARK - Cross your fingers and hope to land on a football field somewhere in Clay County and the start of football is about to happen as area teams ramp up practice to start knocking pads with someone else this week.

"It's all about preparation and conditioning, but this week it's anticipation to hit someone else," said Orange Park coach Tom Macpherson. "The kids here, and everywhere, have waited for this week and this Friday through a long hot summer."

Tops on the list though is an away contest with Oakleaf traveling to play at Bolles in a preseason opener that will reveal a lot of new faces for the Knights.

A graduating class that saw the talents of four year quarterback Walter Simmons, an elusive wide receiver in Terrance Anthony and some monster linebacker play from Marcus Anthony and Chrystian Sellers and some pass stealing by secondary ace Larry Smith.

"Terrance Anthony and Cobie Bates (both wide receivers) were both special athletes for us last year that we will have to replace," said Garis. "We don't ask anybody to replace shoes of anybody else, just go out, be yourself and give us everything you have."

Garis top concern, quarterback, becomes the aspiration of former kicker Drew Ammon. Ammon has been taking top reps through the summer at 7 v 7s and



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY RAY DIMONDA

Middleburg High's new look got a chance to show off at their Friday scrimmage as, from left, Dakota Gerber, Austin Dillon, Landon Padgett and Tanner Peery get set for next play. Middleburg travels to Fort White on Friday for preseason action. Up top, Ridgeview High linebacker Hunter Creech got a little nose bloodied in Panthers scrimmage. **Story on page 30.**

has shown a remarkable patience and arm strength from a pocket that is protected by five very large bodies, led by the smallest one, at center, senior Garion Ray, who weighs in at just 205 pounds, but has the keys to the Knights' offensive engine.

"He's one of our smaller guys (205 lbs.), but everything starts with him making calls after he sees what the defense puts in front of him," said Garis. "Before anything happens on any play, Garion makes the calls."

Bolles gets to revamp their offensive style with the return of all state running back Kade Frew, a product of Lakeside Ju-

nior High School, ironically, but a guy with No. 8 worth watching on Friday.

The storied Bolles team, with 11 state titles in their history, was 10-3 last year under coach Matt Toblin and assistant Joshua Hoekstra, both former head coaches at Clay High School. The Bulldogs finished as Class 4A runnerups to Cardinal Gibbons.

Next biggie is the visit to Green Cove Springs of St. Augustine to play the Clay High Blue Devils and the start of coach

SEE FOOTBALL, 27



Middleburg High has height in returner Connor Rahn as preseason action starts at Bishop Kenny on Saturday.

Volleyball fest opens at Kenny Tourney

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

JACKSONVILLE - Area volleyball ramps up this weekend with the Bishop Kenny Preseason Classic set to stage Sat., Aug. 21 at Bishop Kenny High School with three Clay County teams; Middleburg, Fleming Island and Ridgeview expected to be in the mix against some of the best teams returning from last year.

Ridgeview and Fleming Island both have new coaches with the departure of Destiny Brightman at Ridgeview with consecutive district titles to Orange Park High as Athletic Director, and Amy Walker, at Fleming Island, wishing to watch her own kids play; football guy

SEE VOLLEYBALL, 26

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NEW ARRIVALS
BENNINGTON

Volleyball

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Isiah Walker at Wofford College and daughter Maya at University of South Florida.

Longtime Fleming Island assistant coach Jamie Reed takes over for Walker while Stephen Henry, who was Brightmans right hand man, takes over at Ridgeview.

Bishop Kenny Preseason Schedule Sat., Aug. 21

Teams: Bishop Kenny, Ponte Vedra, Ridgeview, Bolles, New Smyrna Beach, Middleburg, Fleming Island, Nease, Episcopal, Creekside

Games

8 a.m.: Bolles vs. Ridgeview, Bishop Kenny vs. Ponte Vedra

9:30 a.m.: Ponte Vedra vs. Bolles, New Smyrna vs. Nease

11 a.m.: New Smyrna vs. Bishop Kenny Ridgeview vs. Nease

2 p.m.: Episcopal vs. Fleming Island, Middleburg vs. Creekside

3:30 p.m.: Episcopal vs. Creekside, Fleming Island vs. Middleburg

At Middleburg, Carrie Prewitt remains as head coach and looks to have some height on her side of the net that has been a slight disadvantage the past few years.

Lost to graduation are lead scorers Jenna Sypniewski, which stops the Sypniewski legacy roster (for now) and Shelby McKinney, with 152 and 104 Kills, respectively, last year. Tamin Trott, a six-footer, returns as a senior with her 97 kills and a team-leading 47 blocks last year tops for returners. Sophomore Connor Rahn, also above six foot, with 60 Kills last year, will be a heavy presence at the net. Two more big hitters should be Allie Cox and Taylor Mills as Prewitt reloads the Bronco attack.

Setter Josie Bemis (47 service aces, 172 assists) finishes off the Bemis legacy with senior Elizabeth Nolan also handling sets.

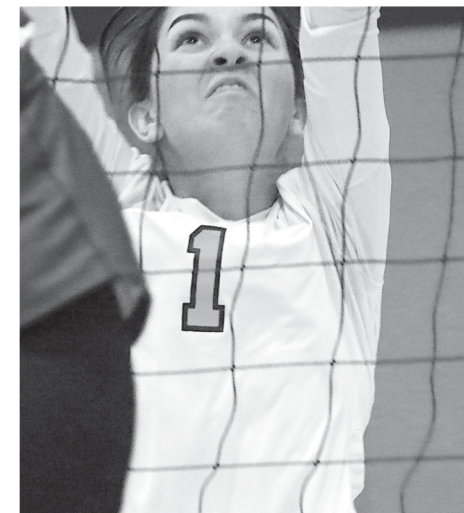
Fleming Island loses a graduating class that included heavy hitters Emma Richards, 131 Kills; Maya Walker, 123 Kills; Sydney Rupert 134 Kills and Jazmine Robinson, 133 Kills. Also, top digger Jangelyz Ramirez (370 digs) is graduated.

Top returner is sophomore Rauly Eason, who put in 71 kills as a freshman last year.

Ridgeview High, with Henry, should not have a major drop off in returning talent with Joi Brightman back as setter and a forceful hitter and senior Zoe Whaley, a state meet high jumper, adding some presence at the net. Brightman left Henry with a big returning class with graduates Ashlyn Halford and Abigail Tennant the only players gone.

One addition to Henry's staff is former Ridgeview stalwart Jauhna Smith, who finished a career at Erskine College, and has returned to offer her expertise on the sidelines.

At St. Johns Country Day School, coach Traci Livingston had an undefeated regular season last year (16-2, both to Christ's

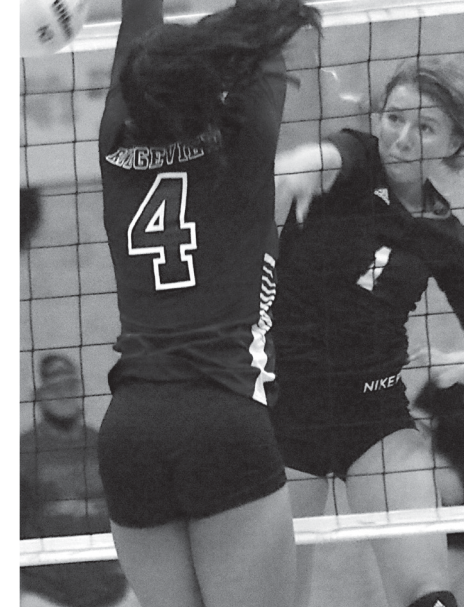


Left: Ridgeview High's Zoe Whaley, a state meet high jumper, will add her vertical to guarding the net for Panther volleyball. Right: Orange Park's Rebecca Ellis is strong net blocker and will lead new coach Scott Conklin's strategy.

STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO



Left: Fleming Island lost a host of senior powerhitters including Emma Richard, now at the Coast Guard Academy. Center: Josie Bemis is final chapter of Bemis family in Bronco volleyball. Right: Keystone Heights has ex-player Kaitlyn Cline back to coach after successful first season with top hitter Rileyh Barry back.



Left: Middleburg high center hitter Taylor Mills will be part of tall bashers for coach Carrie Prewitt. Center: St. Johns Country Day School's Kinley Hall will try to highlight as second unbeaten regular season for Lady Spartans. Right: Middleburg High's Jenna Sypniewski was last of Sypniewski legacy last year with Ridgeview's Elaina Reynolds now one of the top hitters in the county.

Church in district final and region semifinal) and returns much of her squad with Kinley Hall (88 Kills) a major net player and Lauren Mateo (132 kills) bringing her soccer athleticism into the gym.

Gone is Maddy Moody and her 159 kills and Chloe Davis as Livingston only depart-

ed graduates.

St. Johns opens regular season play with a trip to Orange Park on Tues., Aug. 24, then a home match on Wed., Aug. 25 against Peniel Baptist Academy.

Orange Park has a new coach in veteran Scott Conklin who has court time with

Middleburg and Oakleaf in past years. Senior Rebecca Ellis and junior Peyton Hudson are top returning hitters with 35 kills each last year. Ellis also had 118 digs.

Orange Park opens with a triple Clay

Football

from page 25

Kyle Kennard's encore season after a magnificent first year that saw Kennard bull his way to a near unbeaten season, 9-1 with season ending loss to Oakleaf, and two region playoff games.

St. Augustine, a perennial Class 6A powerhouse, was 11-3 last year with Clay 11-2 and this should be a doozy. Power on Power. St. Augustine lost to eventual 6A runnerup Lake Minneola in triple overtime in the state semifinal.

Mention power and two things; Q and Train Depot.

Clay senior running back Al'Querious Ray goes, Clay goes, Train Depot, Clay offensive line led by three returners; Desiron Gantt the ringleader, holds the cards for



Ridgeview defensive back Reyhn Hutchinson snagged a 90 yard pick six interception for Panther defense in scrimmage on Friday.

Blue Devil success.

"Our approach changes from year to year with a new set of kids, but, obviously, we got it turned around pretty quickly," said Kennard. "Now, everybody knows we can play at little bit and now we are the hunted, not the hunter. We played with a chip on our shoulder last year."

Of course, Kennard's worries might, just maybe, have him peeking down the street for a look at Fleming Island as that rivalry clash is what awaits the Blue Devils in the season opener.

"State Final Four team, then Fleming Island, that's a challenge, but we take one game at a time," said Kennard.

So let's see what up down the road on U.S. 17 as Fleming Island plays their pre-season contest against Westside High out of Jacksonville and led by former OPHS and SJCDs coach Rodney Dubose, who has some Amari Dubose on his wing and former Orange Park wide receiver great William White. Both Duboses and White have a knack of liking big play football with the speed athletes normally affiliated with Westside football of which Amari Dubose is a former quarterback.

Springs does have one "Ace-in-the-Hole" in junior running back Sam Singleton.

"He is the only kid in the county to be named to an All American list; one of the



Al'Querious Ray shows off some power with 90 yard opening scoring jaunt in Blue Devil scrimmage.

top 100 players in the country to play in an All America Bowl in San Antonio in January," said Springs, noting Singleton's 274 yard effort against Atlantic Coast as his best game last year en route to 921 yards and seven touchdowns. "On defense, Joe Stephens at defensive back is a lead returner with Ricky Joseph on the defensive line and Hunter Williams at defensive end both senior returners. The team is a whole bunch of new faces."

Beyond Singleton, Springs has implemented a new plan with new coaching faces; some familiar in alums Dante Roberts (QB, standout at Glenville State), Johnathan Jean (DL, an all region DL at Catawba) and Ian Silberman (OL, an NFL player drafted by 49ers) as well as one of the first players to put on a Fleming Island uniform Gio Portobanco (a 1995 teamer coaching wide receivers).



Oakleaf High's Wyatt Nordean is one of five giants on Knights' offensive line.

"It's great to have the alums come back and put their time in out there," said Springs. "The kids get to see what hard work and heart can bring as all the alums have had special careers."

The playmaker on defense could very well be defensive end Hunter Williams who comes in lean and mean after an outstanding wrestling season; third in state, and after an amazing 31 sacks last year. Williams disrupts and that may make the brand new secondary's job a bit easier with hurried quarterbacks throwing weakened passes that could find the likes of Joe Stephens or

Dedric Walker lurking.

One advantage Springs has with his secondary is at coach where former Jacksonville Jaguar Jamaal Fudge, an Ed White High grad, is the teacher.

Another guy Springs tapped as a playmaker is Walker Whiddon, who will be carrying the legacy of Wes Whiddon back to the field with Heath Whiddon, another brother, graduated a few years ago after his outstanding career.

"Walker is the scrappy guy out there not afraid to put his nose in the pile," said Springs. "Him and Jhoel Robinson, and Abram Wright make the linebacker crew very athletic."

Westside finished at 6-4 last year with a first round 28-20 region loss to Raines. Dubose graduates one quarterback of 1000 yards and eight scores, but retains a second that had 850 yards and seven scores, so expect some fireworks in the air.

Same with catching the ball; graduate a 52 catch guy and a 70 catch guy and retain a 43 catch guy; senior Kaloun Walker.

Orange Park with the 1-2 punch of Roderick Kearney at tackle and running back JoJo Restall will be pounding the rock on either side of the ball; Kearney very versatile, against a revamped Bishop Kenny squad. Kenny coach Tim Krause has had back to back 1-8 finishes and had a regular season loss, 38-35, against Orange Park last year.

The Raiders may have some space to flex some muscle here in anticipation of their Bold City Showcase opener on Sat., Aug. 28 against Oakleaf at Bolles and on local TV.

"We're going to show little against Bishop Kenny," said Orange Park coach Tom Macpherson. "The guys want to hit other people, but we're looking for solid execution and a good effort from everyone."

Ridgeview, under new coach Bryan Arnette, has had some personnel upheaval with some key player losses, but Arnette is confident that those who stayed the summer will prevail. Ridgeview travels to Keystone Heights for their preseason classic.

"Any time you have a new coach takes over a program and establishes a new culture, you are going to have those that want to be in and those that don't," said Arnette. "I'm comfortable with the guys we have here now and I'm willing place my trust in the guys we have here to get this program to grow."

Arnette has a good combination of quarterbacks at his behest with Ben Gardiner, a four year Panther, and the probable starter, and Durriente Myrick, a former Orange Park Raider, coming in as a second set of hands.

"They both bring different options to the offense; Ben a bit more cerebral because he's been in the system, Bo (Myrick) adds his dynamic running ability," said Arnette. "We have the same at wide receiver with Miles Burris and Chris Baptiste battling for passes."

Gardiner is confident of the offense and the versatility around him to get the ball downfield.

"We got Chris (Baptiste), Isaiah (Gam-

ble), Kayden Zamor, and a new guy, Miles (Burris) out there," said Gardiner. "We're confident we have the scheme and personnel to move the ball downfield and score points."

Baptiste had a stellar intrasquad scrimmage effort with seven catches and three scores and a de-cleat of a secondary tackler.



Logan Padgett is capable tight end and full back type ball carrier for Broncos.

"He's the kid that epitomizes my program; not the biggest guy out there, but the guy you can count on, on and off the field," said Arnette.

On defense, massive, although slightly slimmed defensive tackle Derrick Mosley is the clogger. Mosley's size and range will keep most plays trying to avoid him although Keystone Heights' offense is predicated on moving people up front and crashing in with hard-running ball carriers.



Clay quarterback Billy Mosley will have Al'Querious Ray as is his main weapon out of backfield.

"On the ball carry front, senior Dalton Hollingsworth may be the crew chief with Kade Sanders, Logan "Rodeo" Williams and Tyler Jenkins the other members of the pounding crew.

"Any one of us is going to hit you and try to run you over," said Hollingsworth. "Our mentality is try and stop us. You can't slow us down because we can interchange the guys to keep fresh legs coming down the line. Kade and I can break away, Logan is

Football

from page 27

the main blocker and Tyler looks like his going be the quarterback start point, but he can run hard also.”

Senior offensive tackle Mason Dicks reiterated that the guys up front, as well as the potential tacklers, all know that impact is forthcoming.

“We have to move our guys and make the hole because those four guys will run right up our back,” said Dicks. “We don’t have to hold blocks for very long to get them downfield.”

At Middleburg, the Padgett and Wolfe show gets a chance to show off some offense against a lively Fort White team that traditionally offers a high-octane offense and some fast moving defense, but Fort White lost long-time coach Demetric Jackson, who returned to his alma mater Columbia Lake City High.

So far, Middleburg has erased the past and Wolfe has ushered in a new wave of enthusiasm and energy on the Bronco sideline with Padgett his point man.

“Luke is as an Alpha player as I’ve ever been with,” said Wolfe. “He’s as good as I’ve ever had. You know a quarterback when you see one. When Luke walks into a room, the room stops.”

With just three scores on the season in 2020 and eight interceptions, Padgett



Ridgeview High first year coach Bryan Arnette gets a word with defensive coach Steven Creech (note sunglass reflection) during Panther scrimmage Friday

is already feeling confident for the 2021 Broncos.

“There is definitely a different vibe,” said Padgett. “The team is held to a higher standard and execution is the big word from coach Wolfe.”

Senior offensive lineman Tanner Peery is a massive 280 pounder with quick feet while Caleb Freytag is a scary fast pass catcher.

One guy on Middleburg’s sideline is

NFL standout Gary Barnidge, a former Bronco All stater, who comes back to coach tight ends.

And, finally, at St. Johns Country Day School, coach Rocky Bantag opens a second season of 8-man football with a better understanding of the shrunk game with hopes of improving on Spartan football. The Spartans host Merritt Island Christian Academy.



Clay coach Kyle Kennard has a double whammy season opener with St. Augustine for preseason and Fleming Island for regular season.

Wake & Surf

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11.18

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12.10

JOE BONAMASSA *LIVE at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre*

Joe Bonamassa is returning to the main stage for a string of concerts in the U.S.! Bonamassa is one of today's top live performers and his enthusiastic shows are one of the biggest parts of his career and a favorite for music lovers worldwide.



02.26

CELTIC THUNDER IRELAND TOUR *LIVE at the Florida Theatre*

Celtic Thunder returns with a new show that revisits their most popular Irish and Celtic songs of the past decade and celebrates the influence of Irish and Celtic music around the world.



03.06

CELTIC WOMAN POSTCARDS FROM IRELAND TOUR *LIVE at the Times Union Center*

Grammy nominated global music sensation Celtic Woman is thrilled to return in 2022 with a brand-new show: Postcards from Ireland which takes audiences on a journey of story and song from across the Emerald Isle.



CORRESPONDENT PHOTOS BY RAY DIMONDA

Middleburg High's swarming defense will be key to answering offensive fireworks expected by new coach Ryan Wolfe.

Broncos chomping at the bit

By Ray DiMonda
Correspondent

MIDDLEBURG - The new look to the Middleburg High Broncos under first year coach Ryan Wolfe, a Fleming Island transfer, was impressive over the last year's team in their Red and Black Scrimmage on Friday.

The obvious look was this team came out in condition and walked away from 90 minutes of alternating between a varsity set of reps, and a junior varsity set with zero injuries. That statistic plagued Bronco Football all last season, but the Wolfe pack seems in outstanding shape in preseason.

“We got out healthy” said an optimistic Wolfe. “Any time you’re banging heads against your own team, you want to make sure you’re crisp, you’re physical, but at the same time we get out of here healthy. It’s the last time we get to face Red on Red and Black on Black. Next week we finally get to line up against somebody. I know our guys are chomping at the bit ready to play somebody. Going against each other, throwing it against each other all summer, they’re ready to face another team.”

And ready they were as the team showed discipline on both sides of the ball. Gone were the regular false starts and miscues. If there were any broken plays, senior quarterback Luke Padgett never let it show as he had clean handoffs, great option reads, and got the ball down field with his throws.

“Luke makes the offense go,” said Wolfe. “We like to run the quarterback. Tonight, we had him in a white jersey and didn’t run him at all.”

Wolfe sat back and watched as his offensive line led by Senior Tanner Perry gave very good protection for Padgett. While the Black Team Defense did get a few short stops and forced a punt, the offense was able to move the ball with Austin Dillon and later Omar Holcomb out of the backfield. On Defense, the team was able to hold the offense to a single runaway touch-



Middleburg High coach Ryan Wolfe will see a fast Fort White team in his preseason game.

down. “We still have a few little mistakes with eye discipline and a couple times they liked to free-lance, but when you get down to it, we really didn’t give up many plays,” said Wolfe. “A few times we went up top on them, but that is when they had backups in. We should be pretty stout on defense.”

Freshman BJ Carter was in the backfield several times and showed his younger age didn’t take away his ability to shake things up. Senior Tyrone Floyd, at defensive tackle, was always in the interior mix, throwing bodies around and finding the ball. Place kick holder Aiden Postemski showed great concentration pulling in snaps for kicker Wade Mathis who made several point after attempts, and was hot and cold as Wolfe backed him up five yards at a time.

Mathis made a nice fake kick, roll out pass to a wide open receiver that had the defense faked out.

“We had 21 guys out for this scrimmage with being sick, didn’t have the amount of days in, and different stuff. We’ll be full healthy on Monday and then it’s game week.”

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Legal Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: **THUNDER CLOUD 87 TAX RE LLC**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:
 Certificate No: **656/2018**
 Legal Description: **LOT 10 BLK 32 HIGHRIDGE ESTATE AS REC O R 2993 PG 1613**
 Parcel ID No.: **200823-002910-000-00**
 Opening Bid Amount: **\$20,142.00**
 Physical Address: **6409 ROWDOIN AVE, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS**
 Classification: **MOBILE HOME**
 Name in which assessed: **RICKY HINKLE & ANITA HINKLE**
 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

Legal Notice

certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder online on the 29th day of September, 2021 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com. Dated this 26th day of July, 2021

TARA S. GREEN
 Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
 Clay County, Florida
 By: Jewel Baskin
 Deputy Clerk
 Legal 48143 published July 29, August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

PUBLIC SALE

We Stor of Middleburg, LLC will conduct a public sale to the highest bidder. The sale will take place online at storagetreasures.com in enforcement of Florida Statutes section 83.806 on Thursday, August 26, 2021 at 1:00 pm on the following units: WE Stor of Middleburg, LLC, reserves the right to reject any bid and withdraw any items from the sale. All units contain household goods unless otherwise noted: Patricia Bullington, Rhea Griffith, Damon Mills, Frank Morabito, Kimberly Noble, Misty Powless, Amanda Stepp
 Legal 48254 published Aug 12 and Aug 19, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: **FIG EL 18 LLC**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:
 Certificate No: **1888/2018**
 Legal Description: **LOT 342 OAK FOREST AS REC O R 3200 PG 1327, 3205 PG 8 & 3299 PG 1422**
 Parcel ID No.: **100824-006919-421-00**
 Opening Bid Amount: **\$4,475.45**
 Physical Address: **5541 INDIAN TRL, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS**
 Classification: **VACANT W/SFYI**
 Name in which assessed: **JOSH PADGETT**
 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 online on the 29th day of September, 2021 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com. Dated this 26th day of July, 2021

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TARA S. GREEN
 Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
 Clay County, Florida
 By: Jewel Baskin
 Deputy Clerk
 Legal 48152 published July 29, August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: **CAZENOVIA CREEK FUNDING II, LLC** the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:
 Certificate No: **142/2018**
 Legal Description: **PT NW 1/4 S35T4R23 AS REC O R 3753 PG 802**
 Parcel ID No.: **350423-000358-001-00**
 Opening Bid Amount: **\$12,381.56**
 Physical Address: **5645 COUNTY ROAD 218, JACKSONVILLE**
 Classification: **VACANT**
 Name in which assessed: **STEPHEN J ROADFELDT & VICTORIA B ROADFELDT**
 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 online on the 13th day of October, 2021 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com. Dated this 26th day of July, 2021

Legal Notice

TARA S. GREEN
 Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
 Clay County, Florida
 By: Jewel Baskin
 Deputy Clerk
 Legal 48167 published July 29, August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO: 10-2021-CP-396
IN RE: The Estate of JACQUELYN C. LANIER, Deceased.
 The administration of the estate of JACQUELYN C. LANIER, deceased, whose date of death was June 10, 2021, and whose last four digits of his social security number are 3565, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 825 N. Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043. The names and addresses of the personal representative and that personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
 All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE TIME OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
 All other creditors of the decedent

Legal Notice

and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of the first publication of this Notice is Aug 19, 2021. Attorney for Personal Representative: SHARON W. EHRENREICH, ESQUIRE Florida Bar No. 259251 303 State Road 26 Melrose, FL 32666 Telephone: (352) 475-1611 Fax: (352) 475-5968 Primary E-mail: sharon@fightingforall.com Personal Representative ROBERT T. LANIER, JR. 2110 Brasstown Lane Young Harris, GA. 30582-1658 Legal 47267 published Aug 19 and Aug 26, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: **MIKON FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC & OCEAN BANK**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate No: **2164/2018** Legal Description: **PT OF W 1/2 A/K/A LOT 21 BUNDY OAKS UNREC AS REC OR 3953 PG 1497** Parcel ID No.: **310824-007852-001-08** Opening Bid Amount: **\$4,316.15** Physical Address: **8136 BLAZING STAR RD, MELROSE** Classification: **MOBILE HOME** Name in which assessed: **DENISE ARNOLD** 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 online on the 29th day of September, 2021 at 9:30 A.M. at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com. Dated this 9th day of August, 2021

Legal Notice

TARA S. GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Jewel Baskin
Deputy Clerk

Legal 48278 published August 12, August 19, August 26 and Sept 2, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: **FRANK T ILES**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate No: **1526/2016** Legal Description: **LOT 37 BLK 77 JACKSONVILLE SOUTH UNIT 2 AS REC OR 909 PG 303** Parcel ID No.: **160524-005954-556-00** Opening Bid Amount: **\$3,720.24** Physical Address: **2321 DAISY ST, MIDDLEBURG** Classification: **VACANT RESIDENTIAL** Name in which assessed: **JOHN T BAKER** Said property being in the County of Clay, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the

Legal Notice

property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder online on the 29th day of September, 2021 at 9:30 A.M. at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com. Dated this 23rd day of July, 2021

TARA S. GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Jewel Baskin
Deputy Clerk

Legal 48161 published July 29, August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: **5T WEALTH PARTNERS LP**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate No: **2374/2014** Legal Description: **LOT 349 BLK 14 FL FRONTIER REPLAT UNIT 1 AS REC OR 2609 PG 654** Parcel ID No.: **130823-007614-000-00** Opening Bid Amount: **\$2,863.73** Physical Address: **5484 CORONADO ST, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS** Classification: **VACANT RESIDENTIAL** Name in which assessed: **MARCIA BARRY SMITH & CHESTER A BISHOP** 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 online on the 13th day of October, 2021 at 9:30 A.M. at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com. Dated this 23rd day of July, 2021

TARA S. GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Jewel Baskin
Deputy Clerk

Legal 48147 published July 29, August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLAY COUNTY COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No. 2021-CP-000372 Division PROBATE

IN RE: ESTATE OF WALTER LEE CLONINGER Deceased.

The administration of the estate of WALTER LEE CLONINGER, deceased, whose date of death was January 1, 2021, is pending in the Circuit Court for CLAY COUNTY County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 825 North Orange Ave., P.O. Box 698, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME

TARA S. GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Jewel Baskin
Deputy Clerk

Legal 48158 published July 29, August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

Legal Notice

PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of first publication of this notice is Aug 19, 2021. Attorney for Personal Representative: SHANNON THOMAS Florida Bar Number: FBN 1022264 ANDERSON AND ASSOCIATES, P.A. 225 NORTH FRENCH AVENUE SANFORD, FLORIDA 32771 Telephone: (407) 843-9901 Fax: (407) 843-9903 E-Mail: Sthomas@consultlawoffice.com Secondary E-Mail: Shannine@consultlawoffice.com Personal Representative: Shannine Anderson 225 N. French Avenue Sanford, Florida 32771

Legal 48275 published Aug 19 and Aug 26, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: **MARK H FINK**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate No: **803/2017** Legal Description: **LOT 4 BLK 67 HIGHLRIDGE ESTATES AS REC OR 1976 PG 51** Parcel ID No.: **220823-003585-000-00** Opening Bid Amount: **\$1,054.66** Physical Address: **LEHIGH DR, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS** Classification: **VACANT RESIDENTIAL** Name in which assessed: **ROBERT E WANTON** 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 online on the 29th day of September, 2021 at 9:30 A.M. at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com. Dated this 23rd day of July, 2021

TARA S. GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Jewel Baskin
Deputy Clerk

Legal 48158 published July 29, August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: **FRANK T ILES**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate No: **1499/2016** Legal Description: **LOT 1 BLK 61 JACKSONVILLE SOUTH UNIT 2 AS REC OR 1130 PG 280** Parcel ID No.: **160524-005954-221-00** Opening Bid Amount: **\$3,720.67** Physical Address: **2111 HIBISCUS AVE, MIDDLEBURG** Classification: **VACANT RESIDENTIAL** Name in which assessed: **REMEDIOS F REYES** 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 online on the 29th day of September, 2021 at 9:30 A.M. at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com. Dated this 23rd day of July, 2021

Legal Notice

TARA S. GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Jewel Baskin
Deputy Clerk

Legal 48162 published July 29, August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION Case No: 2021-CP-000460

IN RE: ESTATE OF PAUL D. NEWELL Deceased.

The name of decedent, the designation of the court in which the administration of this estate is pending, and the file number are indicated above. The address of the court is Clay County Florida, Clay County Court House, Probate Division, the address of which is 825 N. Orange Ave. Green Cove Springs, Florida, 32043. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are indicated below.

If you have been served with a copy of this notice and you have any claim or demand against the decedent's estate, even if that claim is unmaturred, contingent or unliquidated, you must file your claim with the court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF A DATE THAT IS 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER YOU RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS NOTICE. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmaturred, contingent or unliquidated claims, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. EVEN IF A CLAIM IS NOT BARRED BY THE LIMITATIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE, ALL CLAIMS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN FILED WILL BE BARRED TWO YEARS AFTER DECEDENT'S DEATH. The date of death of the decedent is: May 3, 2021. The date of the first publication of this notice is August 19, 2021. Attorney for Personal Representative: William K. Gordon, Esq. Fla. Bar. #0146958 P.O. Box 1017 Office (352)-475-1357 E-mail Address: melroselawyer@aol.com Personal Representative: Marcia L. Hall 6844 Bedford Lake Road Keystone Heights, FL 32656

Legal 48286 published Aug 19 and Aug 26, 2021 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

Legal Notice

AMENDED NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: **5T WEALTH PARTNERS LP**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate No: **4022/2017** Legal Description: **LOTS 1 & 2 BLK 9 LAKE GENEVA AS REC OR 239 PG 293** Parcel ID No.: **280823-021822-000-00** Opening Bid Amount: **\$6,831.72** Physical Address: **7926 LAKE GENEVA LN, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS** Classification: **SINGLE FAMILY** Name in which assessed: **JOEL R SMITH JR (TRUSTEE)** Said property being in the County of Clay, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the


WE ARE HIRING! Call 264-3200 to place your employment spotlight!

Apartment Maintenance Position Available (PART-TIME)

Duties & responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

- Basic knowledge of plumbing, electrical, carpentry, painting & appliance repair
- Order supplies & keep inventory
- Complete assigned work as efficiently as possible
- Check the grounds for major repairs & report any discrepancies to the manager
- Develop, maintain courteous, effective working relationships with clients & vendors

Requires own tools & reliable transportation. References, background check & drug test required. Please apply by sending resume to pinewood@hallmarkco.com THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER



CLAY TODAY

Office Clerical Position

The Official Newspaper of Clay County, the Clay Today is looking to fill a full-time Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 5 pm office/clerical position. Experience in Word, Excel, InDesign, and Acrobat Pro helpful, computer skills a must. We are looking for a multi-tasker that is dependable and willing to learn our systems and help in various categories. We need a team player, a fast learner and someone able to provide exceptional customer service to people both on the phone and in person at our office. We offer competitive pay, a health plan with optional vision and dental, vacation, sick time, holiday pay and 401K. While we prefer someone with experience we encourage all applicants because we will train the right person. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer. Please send a letter of interest with your information and/or resume to accounting@opcfla.com



STARTING A NEW Business

Have you registered your name with the state and now need to run a fictitious name advertisement?

One easy step Email Christie at christie@opcfla.com or call 904-579-2153 to request the necessary form. It will run in our legal section for one week for \$35 Affidavit will be mailed to you.

Excellent orthopedic care. Close to home.



Looking for superior orthopedic care? **Nick Sacksteder, MD**, has recently joined Baptist Clay and is currently accepting new patients.

Dr. Sacksteder is a fellowship-trained orthopedic surgeon who understands the importance of helping others achieve their lifestyle goals. Dr. Sacksteder has completed subspecialty training in minimally invasive surgery and provides personalized care to help his patients pursue an active lifestyle.

His areas of expertise include:

- Minimally invasive surgery of the hip, knee, shoulder and elbow
- Shoulder, hip and knee joint replacements
- Sports medicine
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 904-JOI-2000

 joi.net

Baptist Medical Center Clay
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